



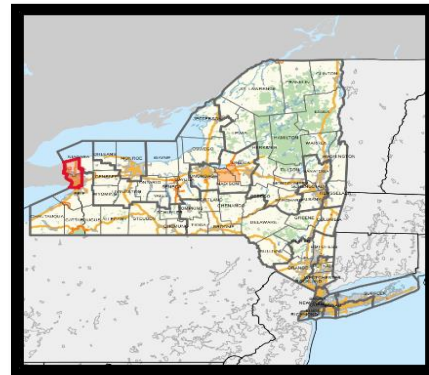
130 Washington Avenue | Albany, NY 12210-2220 | P 518.463.0300 | F 518.462.5474

New York's 26th Congressional District Overview

Special Election April 30, 2024

The District

New York's 26th Congressional District is currently vacant after Brian Higgins resigned on February 2, 2024. The Western New York District includes parts of Erie and Niagara counties including Buffalo, Lackawanna, Niagara Falls, Tonawanda, and North Tonawanda.



The Cook Political Report has ranked the 26th Congressional District as a “Solid Democratic” District.

The Candidates

Tim Kennedy is the Democratic candidate for the 26th Congressional District special election. Mr. Kennedy is currently the New York State Senator for the 63rd District where he serves as Senior Assistant Majority Leader of the NYS Senate. Senator Kennedy has represented the 63rd District since January 2013. He previously represented the 58th Senate District from 2011-2012. Prior to his time in the New York State Senate, Mr. Kennedy served in the Erie County Legislature from 2004-2009. Mr. Kennedy has secured the endorsement of former Rep. Brian Higgins as his successor in this district.

Campaign website: <https://www.kennedyforcongress.com/>

Campaign Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/KennedyforCongress>

Gary Dickson is the Republican candidate for the 26th Congressional District special election. Mr. Dickson is serving his second term as Supervisor of the Town of West Seneca and he is a retired FBI agent.

The winner of this Special Election will serve the remainder of Brian Higgins's House term, through 2024.



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General Election Results for the 26th Congressional District

In the 2022 General Election, Democrat Brian Higgins defeated Republican Steven Sams 63.9% to 36%. This was the first election in the newly drawn 26th District.

Sen. Tim Kennedy Relationship with the REALTOR® Organization

During his time in the Senate, Tim Kennedy has maintained a very strong relationship with the Buffalo Niagara Association and with NYSAR. Senator Kennedy is a thoughtful and moderate member of the Democratic conference in New York. He has been an advocate for private property rights, reducing taxes and continues to be an ally to our REALTOR® organization. Some notable votes on NYSAR Legislative Priorities over the years, include:

- New York's Property Tax Cap Extension: Voted YES
- First Time Homebuyer Savings Account Program: Voted YES
- Prohibition on Private Transfer Fees in New York: Voted YES
- Continuing Education Enhancements for Real Estate Licensees: Voted YES
- Fix to Appraisal Management Companies to comply with federal regulations: Voted YES
- Streamlined process for Real Estate Licensees to switch brokerages: Voted YES
- Ensuring availability of FHA Loans in New York state: Voted YES

RPAC Support to Sen. Tim Kennedy during his time in the NYS Senate: \$49,008

During his time in the NYS Senate, Tim Kennedy has benefited from substantial RPAC support (\$49,000+); reflective of his positive relationship with the REALTOR® organization from 2011 - present.

Independent Expenditure Support to Sen. Tim Kennedy: \$35,000

In 2014, Sen. Tim Kennedy benefited from a \$35,000 Independent Expenditure (IE) campaign on behalf of our REALTOR® organization in support of his Primary race for the Democratic line. The IE campaign included several direct mail pieces, live phone calls and online advertisements. In the end, Sen. Kennedy won the Primary election and secured the Democratic line with 60% of the vote. The REALTORS® were engaged in just five IE campaigns across New York state in 2014, Senator Kennedy was among this small group to benefit from this level of support.

Gary Dickson Overview

NYSAR does not have an existing relationship with candidate Gary Dickson. The Buffalo Niagara Association has had very limited interactions with Gary Dickson. In 2023, RPAC of New York approved a \$250 Local Revenue Sharing (LRS) request from the Buffalo Niagara Association to support Gary Dickson's re-election campaign for West Seneca Town Supervisor.