

The Numbers Add Up: Congressional Districts with the Most Charter Schools and Charter School Students

By Nora Kern | May 2014

Public charter schools have become an increasingly significant part of the public school landscape, providing quality educational options for parents and students in hundreds of communities. In fact, one in 20 students now attends a public charter school. There are more than 2.5 million students enrolled in nearly 6,500 public charter schools across the U.S., and demand has never been higher; over one million student names are on waiting lists to attend a public charter school.

As the leading organization committed to advancing the quality, growth, and sustainability of the public charter school movement, the National Alliance for Public Charter Schools works with the Executive and Legislative branches of the federal government to draw attention to the issues facing charter schools. This report breaks down the number of public charter school students and schools by congressional district and state.

The report's findings show that within the 435 congressional districts throughout the United States:

- 25 congressional districts have over 15,000 students enrolled in public charter schools;
- 67 congressional districts have more than 10,000 students enrolled in public charter schools; and
- 102 congressional districts have 20 or more public charter schools located within the district.

This report uses data from the 2012-2013 school year¹. Table 1 shows the top 25 congressional districts with the most students enrolled in public charter schools located within the district boundaries. The 25 congressional districts with the highest public charter school student enrollment span 12 states. The charter school enrollment for these districts is between 15,000-39,000 students. Twenty



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of the 25 congressional districts with the highest public charter school student enrollment are held by members of the Democratic Party.

Table 1: Number of Public Charter School Students by Congressional District, 2012-2013

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Ranking by Number of Students	Member of Congress	Party	Congressional District	Number of Charter Students	Vote on H.R. 10 ²
1	Brad Sherman	D	CA-30	38,501	YES
2	Eleanor Holmes Norton	D	DC-01	34,554	N/A
3	Cedric Richmond	D	LA-02	31,824	NO
4	John Conyers	D	MI-13	30,468	YES
5	Bobby Rush	D	IL-01	29,568	DID NOT VOTE
6	Gary Peters	D	MI-14	27,164	YES
7	Robert Brady	D	PA-01	26,593	YES
8	Eddie Bernice Johnson	D	TX-30	23,890	YES
9	Chaka Fattah	D	PA-02	22,229	YES
10	Mario Diaz-Balart	R	FL-25	21,407	YES
11	Ed Pastor	D	AZ-07	20,418	YES
12	Karen Bass	D	CA-37	18,987	YES
13	Gwen Moore	D	WI-04	17,722	NO
14	Duncan Hunter	R	CA-50	17,596	YES
15	Ron Barber	D	AZ-02	17,247	YES
16	Matt Salmon	R	AZ-05	17,179	YES
17	John Culberson	R	TX-07	17,018	YES
18	Kyrsten Sinema	D	AZ-09	16,981	YES
19	Joyce Beatty	D	OH-03	16,703	YES
20	Doug Lamborn	R	CO-05	16,504	YES
21	Xavier Becerra	D	CA-34	16,281	YES
22	Lloyd Doggett	D	TX-35	16,025	YES
23	Maxine Waters	D	CA-43	15,714	YES
24	Sheila Jackson Lee	D	TX-18	15,713	YES
25	Marcy Kaptur	D	OH-09	15,640	YES

Table 2 shows the top 25 congressional districts with the most public charter schools located within the district boundaries. The congressional districts ranked among the top 25 for the highest number of public charter schools within the district span 15 states. The number of public charter schools within these districts is between 35 and 105 schools.



Table 2: Number of Public Charter Schools by Congressional District, 2012-2013

Ranking by Number of Schools	Member of Congress	Party	Congressional District	Number of Charter Schools	Vote on H.R. 10
1	Eleanor Holmes Norton	D	DC-01	105	YES
2	Ed Pastor	D	AZ-07	74	YES
2	Ron Barber	D	AZ-02	71	YES
3	Cedric Richmond	D	LA-02	71	NO
4	Joyce Beatty	D	OH-03	68	YES
5	Kyrsten Sinema	D	AZ-09	67	YES
6	Marcy Kaptur	D	OH-09	60	YES
7	Raúl Grijalva	D	AZ-03	58	NO
	Ann Kirkpatrick	D	AZ-01	56	YES
8	Matt Salmon	R	AZ-05	56	YES
	Marcia Fudge	D	OH-11	56	NO
9	Eddie Bernice Johnson	D	TX-30	55	YES
	Michelle Lujan Grisham	D	NM-01	54	YES
10	Sheila Jackson Lee	D	TX-18	54	YES
	Doug LaMalfa	R	CA-01	53	YES
11	Jared Huffman	D	CA-02	53	YES
12	Alcee Hastings	D	FL-20	51	DID NOT VOT
13	John Conyers	D	MI-13	50	YES
14	Karen Bass	D	CA-37	49	YES
	David Schweikert	R	AZ-06	48	YES
15	Gwen Moore	D	WI-04	48	NO
16	Brad Sherman	D	CA-30	47	YES
	Paul Gosar	R	AZ-04	46	YES
17	Xavier Becerra	D	CA-34	46	YES
18	Barbara Lee	D	CA-13	45	YES
	Diana DeGette	D	CO-01	43	DID NOT VOT
19	Gary Peters	D	MI-14	43	YES
	Lloyd Doggett	D	TX-35	43	YES
	Joe Garcia	D	FL-26	42	YES
20	Keith Ellison	D	MN-05	42	YES
21	Danny Davis	D	IL-07	40	NO
	Robert Brady	D	PA-01	38	YES
22	Chaka Fattah	D	PA-02	38	YES
23	Trent Franks	R	AZ-08	37	YES
	Mario Diaz-Balart	R	FL-25	36	YES
24	John Culberson	R	TX-07	36	YES
	Maxine Waters	D	CA-43	35	YES
	Doug Lamborn	R	CO-05	35	YES
25	José Serrano	D	NY-15	35	YES
	Al Green	D	TX-09	35	YES
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Forty-two states and the District of Columbia have laws allowing public charter schools. Table 3 lists these states with the number of charter and traditional school enrollments and schools. Further, the table includes the overall percentage³ of charter schools and students—expressed as the percentage of charter compared to the total public school figure. The District of Columbia, Arizona, and Colorado are the states that serve the largest percentage of public charter school students, while California, Florida, and Arizona have the greatest number of public charter schools.

Table 3: Public Charter Schools and Students by State, 2012-2013

State	U.S. Senators		Number of Charter Students	Number of Non-Charter Students	Percentage of Students in Charters	Number of Charter Schools	Number of Non-Charter Schools	Percentage of Schools that are Charters
AK	Mark Begich (D)	Lisa Murkowski (R)	5,876	132,185	4.4%	27	505	5.3%
AR	John Boozman (R)	Mark Pryor (D)	12,882	482,105	2.7%	32	1,074	3.0%
AZ	Jeff Flake (R)	John McCain (R)	145,273	1,096,040	13.3%	530	2,181	24.3%
CA	Barbara Boxer (D)	Dianne Feinstein (D)	470,578	6,203,492	7.6%	1,065	9,949	10.7%
СО	Michael Bennet (D)	Mark Udall (D)	89,451	862,946	10.4%	184	1,817	10.1%
СТ	Richard Blumenthal (D)	Chris Murphy (D)	6,560	549,689	1.2%	17	1,133	1.5%
DC			34,674	80,231	43.2%	57	225	47.1%
DE	Tom Carper (D)	Chris Coons (D)	10,438	131,514	7.9%	22	232	9.5%
FL	Bill Nelson (D)	Marco Rubio (R)	206,144	2,691,322	7.7%	578	3,966	14.6%
GA	Johnny Isakson (R)	Saxby Chambliss (R)	62,580	1,702,758	3.7%	108	2,275	4.7%
HI	Mazie Hirono (D)	Brian Schatz (D)	9,593	183,251	5.2%	32	286	11.2%
IA	Chuck Grassley (R)	Tom Harkin (D)	352	500,601	0.1%	3	1,742	0.2%
ID	Mike Crapo (R)	Jim Risch (R)	18,782	287,247	6.5%	44	727	6.1%
IL	Dick Durbin (D)	Mark Kirk (R)	54,028	2,064,108	2.6%	58	4,282	3.1%
IN	Dan Coats (R)	Joe Donnelly (D)	33,783	1,039,411	3.3%	73	1,861	3.9%
KS	Jerry Moran (R)	Pat Roberts (R)	3,032	489,448	0.6%	15	1,426	1.1%
LA	Mary Landrieu (D)	David Vitter (R)	48,543	707,466	6.9%	103	1,394	7.4%
MA	Ed Markey (D)	Elizabeth Warren (D)	31,830	954,771	3.3%	77	1,849	4.2%
MD	Ben Cardin (D)	Barbara Mikulski (D)	19,705	859,638	2.3%	52	1,422	3.7%
ME	Susan Collins (R)	Angus King (I)	106	185,033	0.1%	2	602	0.3%
MI	Carl Levin (D)	Debbie Stabenow (D)	129,205	1,535,357	8.4%	276	3,548	7.8%
MN	Al Franken (D)	Amy Klobuchar (D)	41,243	845,177	4.9%	148	2,169	6.8%
МО	Roy Blunt (R)	Claire McCaskill (D)	17,868	918,667	1.9%	38	2,273	1.7%
NC	Richard Burr (R)	Kay Hagan (D)	50,001	1,489,030	3.4%	107	2,528	4.2%
NH	Kelly Ayotte (R)	Jeanne Shaheen (D)	1,740	187,963	0.9%	17	479	3.5%

³ The National Alliance for Public Charter Schools creates an annual report using public school enrollment data to find the school districts with the highest local proportions of students enrolled in public charter schools. The most recent report, A Growing Movement: America's Largest Charter School Communities can be found at: http://www.publiccharters.org/publications/growing-movement-americas-largest-charter-school-communities-8th-edition/.



Table 3 Continued: Public Charter Schools and Students by State, 2012-2013

State	U.S. Senators		Number of Charter Students	Number of Non-Charter Students	Percentage of Students in Charters	Number of Charter Schools	Number of Non-Charter Schools	Percentage of Schools that are Charters
NJ	Jeffrey Chiesa (R) 4	Bob Menendez (D)	29,387	1,368,729	2.1%	86	2,489	3.5%
NM	Martin Heinrich (D)	Tom Udall (D)	19,916	338,223	5.9%	94	997	9.4%
NV	Dean Heller (R)	Harry Reid (D)	21,869	446,848	4.9%	32	650	4.9%
NY	Kirsten Gillibrand (D)	Chuck Schumer (D)	77,354	2,579,813	3.0%	210	4,695	4.5%
ОН	Sherrod Brown (D)	Rob Portman (R)	118,931	1,777,103	6.7%	383	3,605	10.6%
ОК	Tom Coburn (R)	Jim Inhofe (R)	11,756	673,190	1.7%	24	1,779	1.3%
OR	Jeff Merkley (D)	Ron Wyden (D)	27,070	559,132	4.8%	123	1,356	9.1%
PA	Bob Casey, Jr. (D)	Pat Toomey (R)	120,102	1,800,337	6.7%	175	3,048	5.7%
RI	Jack Reed (D)	Sheldon White- house (D)	5,131	142,481	3.6%	16	331	4.8%
SC	Lindsey Graham (R)	Tim Scott (R)	20,186	736,995	2.7%	55	1,192	4.6%
TN	Lamar Alexander (R)	Bob Corker (R)	12,308	947,842	1.3%	47	1,784	2.6%
TX	John Cornyn (R)	Ted Cruz (R)	211,702	5,075,840	4.2%	279	8,572	7.3%
UT	Orrin Hatch (R)	Mike Lee (R)	50,778	601,157	8.4%	88	946	9.3%
VA	Tim Kaine (D)	Mark Warner (D)	399	1,264,383	0.0%	4	1,864	0.2%
WI	Tammy Baldwin (D)	Ron Johnson (R)	45,353	872,436	5.2%	242	2,244	10.8%
WY	John Barrasso (R)	Mike Enzi (R)	369	90,993	0.4%	4	351	1.1%



Appendix

State	Congressional District	Number of Charter Schools	Number of Charter Students	Member of Congress	Party	Vote on H.R. 10
AK	01	27	5,876	Don Young	R	YES
AR	01	11	4,593	Eric Crawford	R	YES
AR	02	15	5,448	Tim Griffin	R	YES
AZ	01	56	10,326	Ann Kirkpatrick	D	YES
AZ	02	71	17,247	Ron Barber	D	YES
AZ	03	58	13,524	Raúl Grijalva	D	YES
AZ	04	46	11,507	Paul Gosar	R	YES
AZ	05	56	17,179	Matt Salmon	R	YES
AZ	06	48	13,263	David Schweikert	R	YES
AZ	07	74	20,418	Ed Pastor	D	YES
AZ	08	37	13,502	Trent Franks	R	YES
AZ	09	67	16,981	Kyrsten Sinema	D	YES
CA	01	53	12,135	Doug LaMalfa	R	YES
CA	02	53	12,261	Jared Huffman	D	YES
CA	03	22	7,746	John Garamendi	D	YES
CA	04	31	11,701	Tom McClintock	R	YES
CA	05	32	11,584	Mike Thompson	D	YES
CA	06	27	12,884	Doris Matsui	D	YES
CA	07	12	9,396	Ami Bera	D	YES
CA	08	21	12,897	Paul Cook	R	YES
CA	09	25	8,912	Jerry McNerney	D	YES
CA	10	30	9,714	Jeff Denham	R	YES
CA	11	10	4,153	George Miller	D	YES
CA	12	13	3,787	Nancy Pelosi	D	YES
CA	13	45	13,861	Barbara Lee	D	YES
CA	14	11	4,395	Jackie Speier	D	YES
CA	16	26	6,783	Jim Costa	D	YES
CA	18	21	13,561	Anna Eshoo	D	YES
CA	19	29	11,829	Zoe Lofgren	D	YES
CA	20	18	4,816	Sam Farr	D	YES
CA	21	24	9,827	David Valadao	R	YES
CA	22	13	3,203	Devin Nunes	R	YES
CA	24	13	4,088	Lois Capps	D	YES
CA	25	12	5,479	Howard McKeon	R	YES
CA	26	13	4,301	Julia Brownley	D	YES
CA	28	17	12,412	Adam Schiff	D	YES
CA	29	20	11,155	Tony Cárdenas	D	YES
CA	30	47	38,501	Brad Sherman	D	YES
CA	31	14	6,169	Gary Miller	R	YES
CA	33	11	8,894	Henry Waxman	D	YES



State	Congressional District	Number of Charter Schools	Number of Charter Students	Member of Congress	Party	Vote on H.R. 10
CA	34	46	16,281	Xavier Becerra	D	YES
CA	37	49	18,987	Karen Bass	D	YES
CA	40	27	11,174	Lucille Roybal-Allard	D	YES
CA	43	35	15,714	Maxine Waters	D	YES
CA	44	13	5,670	Janice Hahn	D	YES
CA	50	22	17,596	Duncan Hunter	R	YES
CA	51	27	11,572	Juan Vargas	D	YES
CA	52	15	6,820	Scott Peters	D	YES
CA	53	30	13,152	Susan Davis	D	YES
СО	01	43	14,315	Diana DeGette	D	DID NOT VOTE
СО	02	18	7,970	Jared Polis	D	YES
СО	03	21	5,411	Scott Tipton	R	YES
СО	04	23	12,087	Cory Gardner	R	YES
СО	05	35	16,504	Doug Lamborn	R	YES
СО	06	15	9,583	Mike Coffman	R	YES
СО	07	25	13,001	Ed Perlmutter	D	YES
DC	01	105	34,554	Eleanor Holmes Norton	D	N/A
DE 5	01	21	10,256	John Carney	D	YES
FL	01	18	3,211	Jeff Miller	R	YES
FL	02	19	6,697	Steve Southerland	R	YES
FL	03	12	1,422	Ted Yoho	R	YES
FL	04	13	4,467	Ander Crenshaw	R	YES
FL	05	29	5,864	Corrine Brown	D	YES
FL	06	17	3,126	Ron DeSantis	R	YES
FL	08	13	4,639	Bill Posey	R	YES
FL	09	14	7,552	Alan Grayson	D	NO
FL	10	31	13,600	Daniel Webster	R	YES
FL	13	14	3,628	C.W. Bill Young	R	YES
FL	14	28	5,944	Kathy Castor	D	NO
FL	15	24	9,731	Dennis Ross	R	YES
FL	16	18	9,018	Vern Buchanan	R	YES
FL	17	14	4,286	Thomas Rooney	R	YES
FL	18	10	5,035	Patrick Murphy	D	NO
FL	19	26	12,332	Trey Radel ⁶	R	N/A
FL	20	51	13,112	Alcee Hastings	D	DID NOT VOTE
FL	21	11	4,998	Theodore Deutch	D	NO
FL	22	25	9,073	Lois Frankel	D	NO
FL	23	24	9,693	Debbie Wasserman Schultz	D	NO
FL	24	29	12,028	Frederica Wilson	D	YES

 $^{^5}$ The 2012-13 enrollment data for Delaware was not available at the time of publication.

 $^{^{\}rm 6}\,\rm Rep.$ Radel resigned. This congressional seat is currently vacant.



State	Congressional District	Number of Charter Schools	Number of Charter Students	Member of Congress	Party	Vote on H.R. 10
FL	25	36	21,407	Mario Diaz-Balart	R	YES
FL	26	42	14,819	Joe Garcia	D	YES
FL	27	33	9,723	Ileana Ros-Lehtinen	R	YES
GA	04	11	2,669	Henry Johnson	D	YES
GA	05	21	7,938	John Lewis	D	NO
GA	06	16	15,304	Tom Price	R	YES
GA	09	14	10,388	Doug Collins	R	YES
HI	02	25	6,705	Tulsi Gabbard	D	YES
ID	01	20	7,658	Raúl Labrador	R	YES
ID	02	18	5,611	Michael Simpson	R	YES
IL	01	31	29,568	Bobby Rush	D	DID NOT VOTE
IL	04	24	2,567	Luis Gutierrez	D	YES
IL	07	40	7,808	Danny Davis	D	NO
IN	01	15	7,192	Peter Visclosky	D	NO
IN	07	26	11,910	André Carson	D	YES
LA	01	11	6,641	Steve Scalise	R	YES
LA	02	71	31,824	Cedric Richmond	D	NO
MA	03	12	5,204	Niki Tsongas	D	YES
MA	07	23	6,709	Michael Capuano	D	NO
MD	03	11	4,053	John Sarbanes	D	YES
MD	07	26	9,596	Elijah Cummings	D	YES
MI	01	17	3,667	Dan Benishek	R	YES
MI	02	18	10,031	Bill Huizenga	R	YES
MI	03	19	7,146	Justin Amash	R	NO
MI	05	19	7,632	Daniel Kildee	D	NO
MI	06	11	2,751	Fred Upton	R	YES
MI	08	12	4,966	Mike Rogers	R	YES
MI	09	14	6,586	Sander Levin	D	YES
MI	12	21	13,931	John Dingell	D	YES
MI	13	50	30,468	John Conyers	D	YES
MI	14	43	27,164	Gary Peters	D	YES
MN	01	12	1,516	Timothy Walz	D	NO
MN	03	12	4,143	Erik Paulsen	R	YES
MN	04	31	11,498	Betty McCollum	D	YES
MN	05	42	11,572	Keith Ellison	D	YES
MN	07	12	1,283	Collin Peterson	D	YES
MN	08	13	2,621	Richard Nolan	D	YES
МО	01	16	8,492	Wm. Clay	D	NO
МО	05	22	9,376	Emanuel Cleaver	D	NO
NC	01	18	8,524	G.K. Butterfield	D	YES



State	Congressional District	Number of Charter Schools	Number of Charter Students	Member of Congress	Party	Vote on H.R. 10
NC	04	12	4,910	David Price	D	YES
NC	06	10	4,468	Howard Coble	R	DID NOT VOTE
NC	12	12	4,322	Melvin Watt ⁷	D	N/A
NJ	01	11	4,256	Robert Andrews 8	D	N/A
NJ	08	12	3,209	Albio Sires	D	NO
NJ	10	25	11,492	Donald Payne	D	YES
NJ	12	12	3,143	Rush Holt	D	YES
NM	01	54	12,452	Michelle Lujan Grisham	D	YES
NM	02	13	2,271	Stevan Pearce	R	YES
NM	03	25	4,279	Ben Luján	D	YES
NV	02	14	3,796	Mark Amodei	R	YES
NY	07	22	7,534	Nydia Velázquez	D	NO
NY	08	29	9,683	Hakeem Jeffries	D	YES
NY	09	12	4,866	Yvette Clarke	D	YES
NY	13	34	13,640	Charles Rangel	D	YES
NY	15	35	11,795	José Serrano	D	YES
NY	20	12	3,465	Paul Tonko	D	NO
NY	26	17	8,759	Brian Higgins	D	YES
ОН	01	29	7,808	Steve Chabot	R	YES
ОН	03	68	16,703	Joyce Beatty	D	YES
ОН	04	13	1,882	Jim Jordan	R	YES
ОН	05	12	1,644	Robert Latta	R	YES
ОН	09	60	15,640	Marcy Kaptur	D	YES
ОН	10	33	7,964	Michael Turner	R	YES
ОН	11	56	15,134	Marcia Fudge	D	NO
ОН	12	12	2,046	Patrick Tiberi	R	YES
ОН	13	22	3,649	Tim Ryan	D	YES
ОН	15	10	1,039	Steve Stivers	R	YES
ОК	05	15	7,213	James Lankford	R	YES
OR	01	13	1,831	Suzanne Bonamici	D	YES
OR	02	31	6,133	Greg Walden	R	YES
OR	03	22	4,919	Earl Blumenauer	D	YES
OR	04	26	4,659	Peter DeFazio	D	YES
OR	05	23	3,616	Kurt Schrader	D	YES
PA	01	38	26,593	Robert Brady	D	YES
PA	02	38	22,229	Chaka Fattah	D	YES
PA	13	10	9,440	Allyson Schwartz	D	DID NOT VOTE
PA	14	16	5,684	Michael Doyle	D	YES
SC	06	12	2,154	James Clyburn	D	YES
TN	09	27	0	Steve Cohen	D	YES

 $^{^{7}\}mbox{Rep.}$ Watt resigned. This congressional seat is currently vacant.

 $^{^{8}\}mbox{Rep.}$ Andrews resigned. This congressional seat is currently vacant.



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State	Congressional District	Number of Charter Schools	Number of Charter Students	Member of Congress	Party	Vote on H.R. 10
TN ⁹	05	13	0	Jim Cooper	D	YES
TX	01	13	2,090	Louie Gohmert	R	YES
TX	06	14	5,139	Joe Barton	R	YES
TX	07	36	17,018	John Culberson	R	YES
TX	09	35	11,170	Al Green	D	YES
TX	10	17	3,321	Michael McCaul	R	YES
TX	11	13	3,284	Michael Conaway	R	YES
TX	12	12	3,608	Kay Granger	R	DID NOT VOTE
TX	14	18	5,132	Randy Weber	R	YES
TX	15	23	8,802	Rubén Hinojosa	D	YES
TX	16	12	4,143	Beto O'Rourke	D	YES
TX	17	15	3,832	Bill Flores	R	YES
TX	18	54	15,713	Sheila Jackson Lee	D	YES
TX	20	27	7,586	Joaquin Castro	D	YES
TX	21	19	2,524	Lamar Smith	R	DID NOT VOTE
TX	24	17	6,842	Kenny Marchant	R	YES
TX	25	15	3,291	Roger Williams	R	DID NOT VOTE
TX	26	13	3,435	Michael Burgess	R	YES
TX	27	12	1,851	Blake Farenthold	R	YES
TX	28	18	4,731	Henry Cuellar	D	YES
TX	29	22	10,369	Gene Green	D	YES
TX	30	55	23,890	Eddie Bernice Johnson	D	YES
TX	31	12	3,310	John Carter	R	YES
TX	33	20	6,644	Marc Veasey	D	YES
TX	34	24	9,248	Filemon Vela	D	YES
TX	35	43	16,025	Lloyd Doggett	D	YES
UT	01	20	11,643	Rob Bishop	R	NO
UT	02	20	10,028	Chris Stewart	R	YES
UT	03	26	14,639	Jason Chaffetz	R	YES
UT	04	18	11,133	Jim Matheson	D	YES
WI	01	17	4,125	Paul Ryan	R	YES
WI	02	16	2,345	Mark Pocan	D	YES
WI	03	28	3,270	Ron Kind	D	YES
WI	04	48	17,722	Gwen Moore	D	NO
WI	05	10	1,841	Jim Sensenbrenner	R	YES
WI	06	32	4,532	Thomas Petri	R	YES
WI	07	35	1,760	Sean Duffy	R	DID NOT VOTE
WI	08	29	2,795	Reid Ribble	R	YES