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| |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | ***Election '22 - Special Update from Your HF Team***    ***Hardwood Champions Poised for Leadership Roles***    In good news for the hardwood sector, many key industry partners will be returning to Washington to kick off the 118th Congress.  Fortunately, these wins translate into delivery of congressional heavy hitters who will carry an outsized voice on key issues in 2023:    Senate side champions include Ag Committee leaders Sens. Debbie Stabenow (D-MI) and John Boozman (R-AR), either of whom will assume the chair depending on final vote tallies.  The party leaders on the Natural Resources Committee offer another win-win scenario, with either Joe Manchin (D-WV) or John Barrasso (R-WV) poised to take the helm next year.    On the House side, the good news is that Hardwood champions will be in leadership roles on key committees regardless of the final vote tally:     * Longtime ally GT Thompson (R-PA) will serve as Chair or Ranking Member of the Ag Committee.  Abigail Spanberger (D-VA) is also a good friend and has chaired the Conservation and Forestry Subcommittee; * Vern Buchanan (R-FL) will play a leadership role on Ways and Means. Influential members Suzanne DelBene (D-WA) and Earl Blumenauer (D-OR) are also well known to the Federation; and * Bruce Westerman (R-AR), will have the one or two spot on the Natural Resources Committee.  Jim Costa (D-CA) also sits on Natural Resources and he and the Federation have developed a good relationship over the years.   ***With Final Tallies Still Up in the Air, HFPAC Delivers 84% Success, and Counting***    Of the 11 HFPAC-supported, senate candidates who were up this year, ten have won or are expected to win their election bid, with only Lisa Murkowski’s (R-AK) race remaining undecided.  On the House side, so far 49 out of 59 PAC picks will be returning to Congress to continue to fight for the industry’s agenda.    ***New Congress Still Taking Shape on Thursday:***    While control over the Senate remains uncertain, with races in Arizona and Nevada still outstanding while Georgia heads to a run-off, the eventual majority will run the agenda with a razor thin majority.  Although the GOP is inching closer to the magic number of 218 to flip the House, the outcome is still far from certain.  What is clear that Republicans failed to ride a “Red Wave” to deliver an overwhelming majority.  With many races still hanging in the balance, HF will keep you posted on major outcomes impacting the industry as ballot counts continue. |  |  | | --- | | **Thoughts on the Cheat Sheet? Let us know at** [Hardwood.Federation@hardwoodfederation.com](mailto:Hardwood.Federation@hardwoodfederation.com)**!**    1101 K Street, NW, Suite 700, Washington, DC 20005 | | |