

Election Day Initial Thoughts



After millions of Americans made their voices heard, patience is needed in determining the outcome of last night's election. The most likely scenario is that we're looking at a period of divided government.

Why it matters: Regardless of who is elected President or which party controls the House of Representatives and the Senate, the Chamber is well positioned to cut through the Washington gridlock and advocate for priorities to restore public health, revitalize our economy, and rebuild American lives and communities.

For starters, we need another pandemic relief bill. Helping small and mid-sized businesses respond to the economic crisis caused by the pandemic will require bipartisan compromise—the type of compromise we didn't have leading up to this election, but that we need going into 2021.

Negotiations that were ongoing before the election must continue, and we welcome Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell's call for [another package to be passed](#) during the lame duck session of Congress. America cannot afford for Congress to wait another three months to act.

Next, we will push for infrastructure modernization. Investing in transportation, energy, water and communications technologies has broad, bipartisan support, can create jobs, drive economic growth, and set the tone for good governance on other essential priorities.

States of play: Looking beyond the federal races, we noted several examples of states voting outside of their traditional “lanes.”

- California, typically a Blue state, approved Proposition 22, allowing ride-sharing and deliveries companies to continue to operate their business models with independent contractors.
- Florida, a Red state, voted to increase their minimum wage.
- An Arizona proposition to raise its state income tax is currently leading.

Why it matters: Increasingly policy battles affecting businesses take place at the state level, and each state is unique. With its policy and advocacy expertise, the Chamber is in a good position to weigh in for our members, ensuring favorable business environments are in place across the country.

Big Picture: Once the election is behind us, much work will go into uniting our country. The Chamber is ready to work with leaders on both sides of the aisle to rebuild our economy and lead America forward.

–Neil Bradley, Executive Vice President and Chief Policy Officer, U.S. Chamber of Commerce

Read more:

- Chamber President Suzanne Clark: [This Election, Americans are Demanding Action. Here's Where to Start on Day One.](#)