



THE TIMES

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Most voters skip primary election

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Most Northwest Indiana residents decided last month to let others select who should represent their preferred political party on the Nov. 3 general election ballot.

State election results show more than 4 out of 5 registered voters in Northwest

Indiana counties opted not to cast a ballot in the May 5 primary election — despite 28 days of early voting and 12 hours to vote on Election Day.

Voter turnout in the Region was lowest in Porter County, where just 14.5% of the county's voters participated in either the Democratic or Republican primary.

That equates to 19,249 total ballots cast

by the 132,756 registered voters living in Porter County, results show.

Incredibly, that's an improvement from Porter County's dismal 13.9% combined turnout in the 2024 Republican and Democratic primaries.

But this year's turnout was down compared to Porter County's 16.5% primary turnout in the 2022 midterm elections

— the most similar to this year when neither the presidency, nor the governor's office, are on the ballot.

Lake County, on the other hand, this year bested its 2022 and 2024 turnout by attracting 16.3% of its registered voters to the polls.

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FAMILIAR FAMILY NAME



VON SMITH, INDYSTAR

Democratic Indiana Secretary of State candidate Beau Bayh delivers his final speech before voting during the Indiana Democratic State Convention at the Indiana Convention Center on Saturday.

Bayh defeats Potter for Democratic secretary of state nomination

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Hoosier Democrats are hopeful a familiar family name once again can lead the party out of the political wilderness in Indiana.

Delegates attending the Democratic State Convention on Saturday in Indianapolis nominated Beau Bayh for secretary of state.

Bayh, pronounced “bye,” is the son of Evan Bayh, a former Indiana governor (1989-1997) and U.S. senator (1999-2011), and the grandson of Birch Bayh, who also represented Indiana in the U.S. Senate from 1963 to 1981.

His nomination comes at a time when Democrats haven't won a statewide election in 14 years. His

father's initial election as secretary of state in 1986 eventually turned into 16 years of Democratic control of the governor's office following two decades of electoral futility.

But Beau Bayh isn't looking that far ahead. He's focused on giving

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Trump pardons former Ind. lawmaker

USA TODAY NETWORK

President Donald Trump has pardoned former Indiana Congressman Steve Buyer, a Republican who represented portions of Northwest Indiana and who had been convicted of insider trading.

The White House announced the pardon on June 5, just days after Trump had teased the possibility in a May 31 post on Truth Social.

In a June 4 proclamation granting the pardon, Trump cited Buyer's service as a judge advocate general in the Army and as a member of the U.S. House from 1993 to 2011. He also listed the names of more than 50 people who gave their “complete and total endorsement for the pardon.”

The list included high-profile politicians such as Sen. Lindsey Graham of South Carolina and former House Speaker John Boehner. It also included current and former Indiana officials: U.S. Rep. Marlin Stutzman, former Indiana Attorney General Curtis Hill, and former reps. Dan Burton, Luke Messer and Ed Pease.

In a statement issued after the pardon, Buyer said the Justice Department had determined he was unfairly targeted and called it “horrific to be imprisoned for a crime I did not commit.”

“I have maintained my innocence and was wrongfully convicted in New York before an all Democrat jury,” Buyer said. “I was, in effect, a political prisoner. This pardon corrects a politically motivated prosecution.”



Buyer

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