

## News

## Obama Announces Major Midterm Endorsements

By Stacy M. Brown  
NNPA Newswire

Former President Barack Obama and First Lady Michelle Obama were recently caught on video dancing at a Beyoncé and Jay-Z concert in Landover, Md.

Now, the Obamas are back to business, announcing that they've endorsed dozens of candidates in advance of November's all-important mid-term elections.

This large, diverse contingent comprises 81 candidates from across the country in federal, state and down-ballot races.

"I'm proud to endorse

such a wide and impressive array of Democratic candidates—leaders as diverse, patriotic, and big-hearted as the America they're running to represent," Obama said in a statement. "I'm confident that, together, they'll strengthen this country we love by restoring opportunity that's broadly shared, repairing our alliances and standing in the world, and upholding our fundamental commitment to justice, fairness, responsibility, and the rule of law."

Obama continued: "But first, they need our votes—and I'm eager to

make the case for why Democratic candidates deserve our votes this fall."

Obama said he and his wife believe the country's long-term challenges can be addressed best when all Americans take a more active role in democracy. That's why he is dedicating his post-Presidency efforts to identifying and elevating the next generation of leaders, he said.

In issuing this first round of endorsements, Obama said he also hopes to help current and aspiring Democratic leaders establish themselves, build their profiles, and

lead their communities.

This fall, Obama promises to prioritize supporting redistricting targets recommended by the National Democratic Redistricting Committee (NDRC), taking back control of the U.S. House of Representatives, and growing the U.S. Senate Democratic Caucus.

The round of endorsements also includes several promising Obama Administration and campaign alumni who heeded the former president's call in his farewell speech to "grab a clipboard, get some signatures, and run for office yourself," Obama



Former President Barack Obama has issued a wave of endorsements ahead of the midterm elections. In this photo, President Barack Obama delivers the 2011 State of the Union Address while standing in front of President of the Senate Joe Biden and Speaker of the House John Boehner.

said.

Both Barack Obama and Michelle Obama said they expect to campaign in several states this fall and to issue a second round of endorsements in advance of November 6.

Here's a list of endorsements issued by the Obamas:

#### California

Gavin Newsom (Gov.)  
Eleni Kounalakis (Lt. Gov.)  
Josh Harder (U.S. House, CA-10)  
TJ Cox (U.S. House, CA-21)  
Katie Hill (U.S. House, CA-25)  
Katie Porter (U.S. House, CA-45)  
Harley Rouda (U.S. House, CA-48)  
Mike Levin (U.S. House, CA-49)  
Ammar Campa-Najjar (U.S. House, CA-50)  
Buffy Wicks (State Assembly, Dist. 15)

#### Colorado

Jared Polis (Gov.)  
Dianne Primavera (Lt. Gov.)  
Phil Weiser (Attorney General)  
Jena Griswold (Secretary of State)  
Tammy Story (State Senate, Dist. 16)  
Jessie Danielson (State Senate, Dist. 20)  
Brittany Pettersen (State Senate, Dist. 22)  
Faith Winter (State Senate, Dist. 24)  
Dylan Roberts (State House, Dist. 26)  
Dafna Michaelson Jenet (State House, Dist. 30)  
Shannon Bird (State House, Dist. 35)  
Rochelle Galindo (State House, Dist. 50)  
Julie McCluskie (State House, Dist. 61)

#### Georgia

Stacey Abrams (Gov.)  
Sarah Riggs Amico (Lt. Gov.)  
Matthew Wilson (State House, Dist. 80)  
Shelly Hutchinson (State House, Dist. 107)

#### Illinois

J.B. Pritzker (Gov.)  
Juliana Stratton (Lt. Gov.)  
Kwame Raoul (Attorney General)  
Sean Casten (U.S. House, IL-6)  
Brendan Kelly (U.S. House, IL-12)  
Lauren Underwood (U.S. House, IL-14)

#### Iowa

Deidre DeJean (Secretary of State)  
Tim Gannon (Secretary of Agriculture)  
Kristin Sunde (State House, Dist. 42)  
Jennifer Konfrst (State House, Dist. 43)  
Eric Gjerde (State House, Dist. 67)  
Laura Liegois (State House, Dist. 91)

#### Maine

Louis Luchini (State Senate, Dist. 7)  
Laura Fortman (State Senate, Dist. 13)  
Linda Sanborn (State Senate, Dist. 30)

#### Nevada

Jacky Rosen (U.S. Senate)  
Susie Lee (U.S. House, NV-3)  
Steven Horsford (U.S. House, NV-4)

#### New Jersey

Andy Kim (U.S. House, NJ-3)  
Tom Malinowski (U.S. House, NJ-7)

#### New Mexico

Debra Haaland (U.S. House, NM-1)  
Daymon Ely (State House, Dist. 23)  
Natalie Figueroa (State House, Dist. 30)

#### New York

Antonio Delgado (U.S. House, NY-19)  
Anna Kaplan (State Senate, Dist. 7)

#### North Carolina

Wiley Nickel (State Senate, Dist. 16)  
Ron Wesson (State House, Dist. 1)  
Terence Everitt (State House, Dist. 35)

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Career Paths in Transportation and Maintenance

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Maintenance Opportunities Information Session

1-2 p.m.



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