



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 25, 2022

MEDIA CONTACT: Chair Clay Breece
484-300-0344

Press Release No. 2022-01

Berks County Republican Committee Endorses Barnette for U.S. Senate, Mastriano for Governor, Saccone for Lt. Governor.

Apr. 23, 2022, Leesport, Pa.—The Berks County Republican Committee (BCRC) held its annual Endorsement Convention. On the Second Ballot, the BCRC endorsed Kathy Barnette for U.S. Senate, Doug Mastriano for Governor and Rick Saccone for Lt. Governor. 107 members appeared for the Convention from among the precincts of Berks County.

U.S. Senate.

Prior to voting, Dr. Mehmet Oz gave a speech before the Convention and played a prerecorded message from President Donald J. Trump, describing his decision to endorse Dr. Oz.

“President Trump’s endorsement is very important to us and I strongly believe Dr. Oz solidified many undecided members of the Convention,” said County Chair Clay Breece, “That allowed Dr. Oz to squeeze out David McCormick, Jeff Bartos, and Carla Sands on the First Ballot.”

On the Second Ballot, however, many members of the Convention switched their votes for Barnette, Breece observed. “Barnette had 56 votes on the First Ballot, and that jumped to 73 on the Second Ballot, whereas Oz did not make any gains on the Second Ballot.”

“This is now truly a contest between Kathy Barnette and Dr. Oz,” Breece added, “The difficulty for Dr. Oz is that Barnette has, over the course of several years, built a strong base of loyal support in Berks County.”

Barnette and Oz are both residents of neighboring Montgomery County.

On the First Ballot:

Barnette	52.3%
Oz	17.8%
McCormick	9.3%
Bartos	3.7%
Sands	0.9%
Abstentions	15.9%

On the Second Ballot:

Barnette	84.9%
Oz	15.1%

The following candidates did not win a single vote on the First Ballot:

- George Bochetto
- Sean Gale

Governor.

Doug Mastriano drew more than half of the votes-cast of the Convention on the First Ballot but did not secure the mandatory 60% under the Bylaws of the BCRC, thereby requiring the Second Ballot. Lou Barletta outperformed the remaining candidates and also proceeded to the Second Ballot with Mastriano.

“Mastriano and Barletta are fantastic candidates,” said Breece, “Many members of the Convention have come to see Mastriano as the standard-bearer for election integrity because he fought the Harrisburg establishment for a forensic investigation of the 2020 General Election. If Barletta wants to win, he has to compete with that view of Mastriano.”

Breece noted that Barletta gained momentum after giving a speech before BCRC members at Stokesay Castle (Lower Alsace Township) on April 4th.

“On the Second Ballot, Mastriano and Barletta each picked-up half of the members of the Convention who initially voted for someone else,” said Breece, “This means the other candidates for Governor could tap the winner, if they suspend their campaigns and endorse either Mastriano or Barletta.”

On the First Ballot:

Mastriano	50.6%
Barletta	17.3%
White	13.8%
McSwain	6.9%
Gerow	5.7%
Zama	5.7%

On the Second Ballot:

Mastriano	67.4%
Barletta	32.5%

The following candidates did not win a single vote on the First Ballot:

- Jake Corman
- Joe Gale
- Melissa Hart

Lieutenant Governor.

On the First Ballot, Rick Saccone garnered 37%, Russ Diamond garnered 25.9%, Clarice Schillinger garnered 16%, and 21% of votes were scattered among the other candidates.

On the Second Ballot, nearly all members who voted for someone else threw their support behind Saccone, giving him 68.4% of the vote.

“Rick Saccone’s victory should be attributed to the hard work of Dean Klopp, a highly respected member of our Committee and a leader in the Pennsylvania Liberty Alliance,” Breece said, “But this contest is far from over, because Clarice Schillinger has grassroots support here.”

Breece noted that, last year, Schillinger helped numerous parents form local political action committees and obtain funding for school board elections from Back to School PA PAC. Schillinger then served as executive director in that PAC.

The following candidates did not win a single vote on the First Ballot:

- John A. Brown
- Carrie Lewis DelRosso
- Chris Frye

Supermajority Rules for Endorsements.

The Bylaws of the BCRC require a candidate to receive at least 60% of the vote by members who are constituents of the office being sought. The top two vote-getters on the First Ballot proceed to a successive ballot. If no candidate receives 60% by the Third Ballot, then the top two vote-getters are deemed to be “recommended” by the BCRC.

Related Press Releases.

Berks County Republican Committee Endorses David Golowski for State Representative, District 5, over Incumbent Barry Jozwiak, Press Release No. 2022-02 (Apr. 25, 2022).

For Congress, Berks County Republican Committee Recommends Regina Mauro and Ron Vogel, Endorses Dan Burton and Dan Meuser, Press Release No. 2022-03 (Apr. 25, 2022).

Berks County Republican Committee Believes a Competitive Primary Will Benefit Republicans in State House 124, Press Release No. 2022-04 (Apr. 25, 2022).

Berks County Republican Committee Endorses Tracy Pennycuick and Chris Gebhard for State Senate, Press Release No. 2022-05 (Apr. 25, 2022).

State House Challengers Enjoy Unanimous Support from Berks County Republican Committee, Press Release No. 2022-06 (Apr. 25, 2022).

Fact Sheet on Endorsements.

Public Office	Candidates	Outcome
U.S. Senate	Kathy Barnette Jeff Bartos George Bochetto Sean Gale David McCormick Mehmet Oz Carla Sands	Barnette is endorsed on the Second Ballot.
Governor	Lou Barletta Jake Corman Joe Gale Charlie Gerow Melissa Hart Doug Mastriano Bill McSwain David White Nche Zama	Mastriano is endorsed on the Second Ballot.
Lt. Governor	John Brown Jeff Coleman Teddy Daniels Carrie DelRosso Russell Diamond Chris Frye James Jones Rick Saccone Clarice Schillinger	Saccone is endorsed on the Second Ballot.

U.S. Representative, Congressional District 4	Dan Burton Christian Nascimento	Burton is endorsed on the First Ballot.
U.S. Representative, Congressional District 6	Guy Ciarrocchi Steve Fanelli Regina Mauro Ron Vogel	Mauro and Vogel are recommended after the Third Ballot.
U.S. Representative, Congressional District 9	Dan Meuser (i)	Unanimously endorsed.
State Senate, District 24	David Moyer Tracy Pennycuick	Tracy Pennycuick is endorsed on the First Ballot.
State Senate, District 48	Chris Gebhard (i)	Unanimously endorsed.
State Representative, District 5	Barry Jozwiak (i) David Golowski	Golowski is endorsed on the First Ballot.
State Representative, District 99	David Zimmerman (i)	Unanimously endorsed.
State Representative, District 124	James Barton Ellen Rulavage Jill Saunders	No endorsement is made.
State Representative, District 126	James Oswald	Unanimously endorsed.
State Representative, District 127	Vincent Gagliardo	Unanimously endorsed.
State Representative, District 128	Mark Gillen (i)	Unanimously endorsed.
State Representative, District 129	Barry Llewellyn	Unanimously endorsed.
State Representative, District 130	David Maloney (i)	Unanimously endorsed.
Note: (i) means incumbent.		

Party Office Endorsements.

The BCRC endorsed the following candidates as the Berks County delegation in the Republican State Committee of Pennsylvania:

Annette Baker
Linda Brancadora

Kelly Lee Held
Donna Merritt
Lisha Rowe
John Fielding
Shawn Gamble
Dean Klopp
Dwight Wegman
John Wojcik

* * *