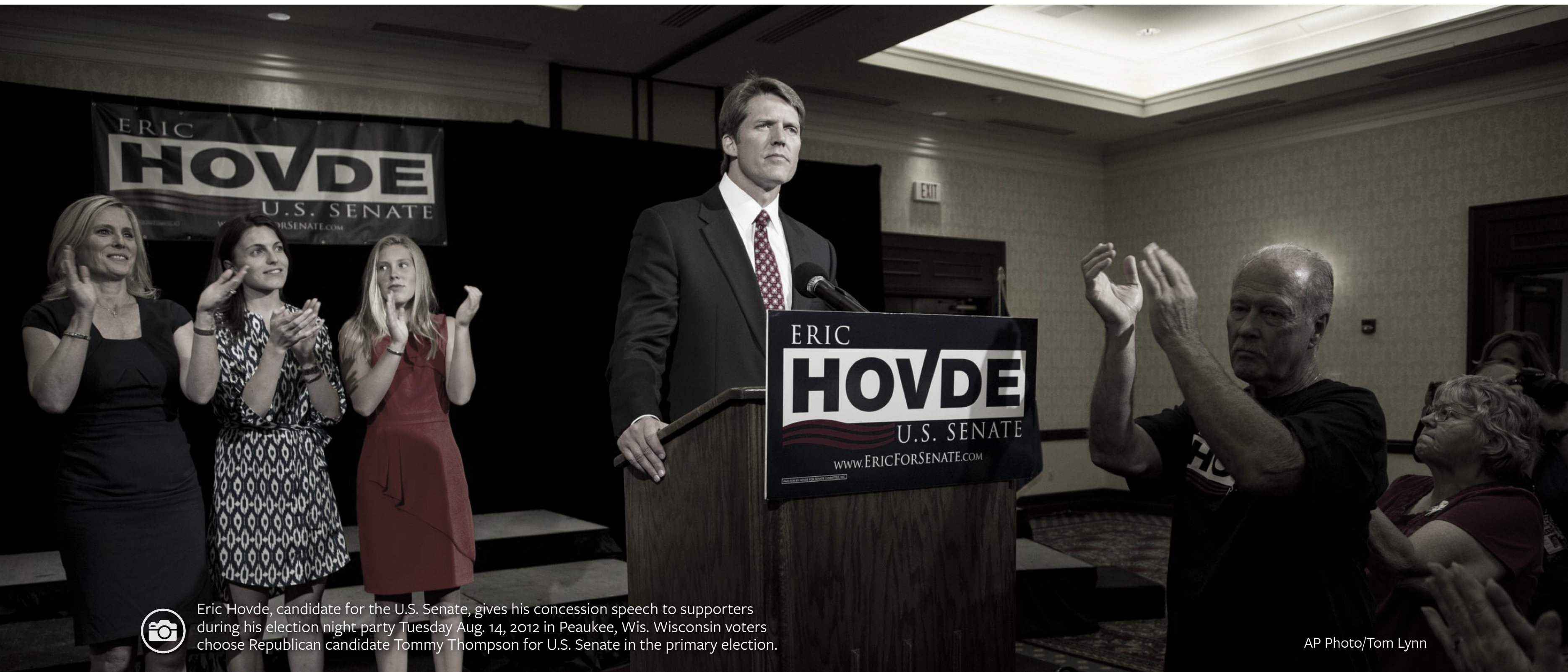


HOTLINE LATEST EDITION | [MT-SEN](#) | [NJ-SEN](#) | [PA-SEN](#) | [WI-SEN](#)

Eric Hovde could be TBD on a run possibly till next year



Eric Hovde, candidate for the U.S. Senate, gives his concession speech to supporters during his election night party Tuesday Aug. 14, 2012 in Peaukee, Wis. Wisconsin voters choose Republican candidate Tommy Thompson for U.S. Senate in the primary election.

AP Photo/Tom Lynn



Sydney Kashiwagi

@SYDNEYKASHIWAGI

SHARE

TWEET

EMAIL

ADD TO BRIEFCASE

See more stories about...

Elections

Hotline

Senate Races

Oct. 12, 2023, 11:37 a.m.

MONTANA: Matt Rosendale Losing the Cash Game as He Mulls Run

Rep. Matt Rosendale (R-02), who is considering a run against Sen. Jon Tester (D), said he raised just \$335,000 in Q3 and entered October with \$1.7 million cash on hand. *(Daily Caller)*

- **LOW ON CASH.** Rosendale’s Q3 fundraising numbers dwarf in comparison to Tester, who said he raised more [than \\$5 million](#) with \$13 million cash on hand heading into October, and also to former Navy SEAL Tim Sheehy (R), who raised \$2.8 million in Q3.
- **HOTLINE ANALYSIS.** Rosendale had been banking on the deep-pocketed conservative group Club for Growth to help him if he ran. But the group was later [noncommittal](#) on whether they would get behind Rosendale and said it plans to now “take a close look at that race and figure out what the best answer is.”

NEW JERSEY: Phil Murphy Won’t Appoint Wife

Gov. Phil Murphy (D) will not appoint his wife to fill Sen. Bob Menendez’s (D) seat if he resigns amid federal bribery charges he’s facing.

- **SHE’S THINKING ABOUT RUNNING.** New Jersey first lady Tammy Murphy (D) has been considering getting in the race either challenging Menendez in a primary or running for an open seat if he does. *(New Jersey Globe)* Since Menendez’s indictment, Rep. Andy Kim (D-03) jumped in the race joining real estate lender Kyle Jasey (D).
- **ON THE GOP SIDE.** Rep. Jeff Van Drew (R-02), a former Democrat, has not closed the door on a run and has said former President Trump would back him if he decides to run. If he enters the race he would join Mendham Mayor Christine Serrano Glassner (R), who jumped in last month and a few other lesser known Republican contenders.

PENNSYLVANIA: Casey Leads David McCormick in Early Poll

An Emerson College [poll](#) (Oct. 1-4; 430 RVs; +/-4.7%) found Sen. Bob Casey (D) leading 2022 candidate David McCormick (R) in a hypothetical matchup, 41%-33%. 18% were undecided. Casey also led McCormick in support among women, 44%-26%. Casey performed better among Hispanic, Black, and Asian voters. (release)

- **HOTLINE ANALYSIS.** This is now the second recent poll that found Casey leading McCormick. In the last poll, Casey polled at 50% and led McCormick by a smaller margin. But the large share of undecided voters means this is far from over.

WISCONSIN: The World Waits for Eric Hovde

Real estate executive Eric Hovde (R), who is seen as Republicans’ best contender to take on Sen. Tammy Baldwin (D), has been meeting with prospective campaign staff who could serve on his team if decides to enter the Republican primary.

- **WAITING GAME.** However, he appears to be in no rush to jump in the race, a move that may not happen until later this year or even next year if he does decide to run, Republican sources in Wisconsin say.
- **TBD.** Hovde did not return requests for comment about his plans, but he [told Hotline](#) at the end of August he was “seriously considering” a run and would make a decision in “the next couple months.” But Republicans in Wisconsin have said a late entry into the race would not necessarily impact a candidate like Hovde, who could partially self-fund his race and still be running relatively early considering the state holds late primaries in August. *(Hotline reporting)*
- **IF IT LOOKS LIKE A DUCK.** Though he hasn’t made a decision on a run, he does appear to be getting closer to a campaign. He recently [sold off millions](#) of dollars worth of stocks. He also sounded like a candidate running for high office this week [when he criticized Baldwin](#) for supporting the Iran Nuclear Deal after she called on the Biden administration to refreeze the \$6 billion the White House planned to release to Iran amid the deadly attacks in Israel.
- **OTHER GOPs.** Republicans’ top recruits, Reps. Tom Tiffany (R-07) and Mike Gallagher (R-08), passed on running for the seat and only two little known challengers have entered the race since then. Other than Hovde, controversial former Milwaukee County Sheriff David Clarke (R) and businessman Scott Mayer (R) could also get in the race. Mayer has kept a low profile in recent months while Clarke has been active on social media teasing plans for a possible run and taunting the NRSC.

SHARE

TWEET

EMAIL

MOST READ

- 1 As doctors leave the House, Congress scrambles on Medicare pay
- 2 Hotline’s Q4 Senate fundraising roundup
- 3 Capitol Hill moderates push back against progressive New Jersey candidate
- 4 Larry Hogan puts new pressure on Maryland Democratic primary
- 5 Q+A with Artak Beglaryan

WHAT WE’RE FOLLOWING SEE MORE »

griffinkyle

BREAKING:

2c

The Wisconsin Ethics Commission has recommended felony charges against one of Trump’s fundraising arms and other Republicans in a scheme they say was meant to circumvent campaign finance laws to take out a GOP lawmaker who turned against Trump. [washingtonpost.com/polit...](#)

[washingtonpost.com](#)
Wisconsin ethics co...

60 replies · 3.4K likes

RECOMMENDED FOR YOU

Tester narrowly leads Tim Sheehy but many voters still undecided

BY SYDNEY KASHIWAGI

Montana GOP shelve top two primary plan

BY MATT HOLT

Tom Tiffany weighs running for Senate against Tammy Baldwin

BY MATT HOLT

Daines says Eric Hovde will enter the race

BY SYDNEY KASHIWAGI

Eric Hovde expected to make a late plunge, but can he pull off?

BY SYDNEY KASHIWAGI

Kari Lake wins more GOP support as she tries to mend old fences

BY SYDNEY KASHIWAGI

Facebook
LinkedIn
Twitter
Podcasts

Presentation Center
Race Tracker
Almanac
Daybook

Government Affairs Insights
Daily
Hotline
Magazine Archives
Advertise With Us
Reprints & Permissions

Washington in the Information Age
Gravity Research
Vignette
FAQs
NJ and CPR Partnership

About
Press
Staff
Privacy Policy
Terms & Conditions
Careers