

DCCC Political Memo

To: Leader Nancy Pelosi
From: DCCC Political Department – *Ian Russell, Campaign Director* (cell: 402-429-7941)
Date: January 24th, 2013
District: Alison Lundergan Grimes (KY-06, Barr)

Purpose of the call:

Thank you for calling Kentucky Secretary of State Alison Lundergan Grimes. Please encourage her to run for Congress in KY-06 (Barr).

Cell: 859-948-1647

Talking Points:

- Please encourage Alison Lundergan Grimes to run. A young and energetic statewide officeholder, she is a very impressive individual and would be a top recruit for us. Chairman Israel met with her and guaranteed her first-round Red to Blue status if she runs.
- If Lundergan Grimes is the candidate, we believe this district will be competitive – especially in a mid-term election. She has a good, localized brand, and that is what it will take to win in a part of the country that is not particularly supportive of national Democrats (Obama received 42.4% here in 2012). Rep. Chandler won the district by huge margins prior to the Republican wave of 2010. His lowest margin of victory prior to 2010 was 55%.
- In 2014, Rep. Andy Barr will have a voting record that will likely include deep cuts to Medicare and other programs important to this district. Rep. Ben Chandler's 2012 loss was due to his vulnerability in a Presidential year and Republican efforts to paint him as anti-coal – a serious hit in this district. As a fresh face, Lundergan Grimes does not have that kind of baggage.
- At age 34 and in her first term in statewide office, Lundergan Grimes is considering her many political options. Please make the case to her that service in the House provides the best way to help her community and her country, as well as something that opens up opportunities at the federal level. Her top priority right now is working with the Kentucky Legislature to pass a bill making both registering to vote and voting easier for active duty military personnel and their families.
- She will be able to retain her seat while running for office in 2014 (she was elected in 2011), but would like to wait until the Kentucky legislative session is over at the end of February before making any decision on a run for higher office. Please urge her to commit to running and announce in early March. DCCC staff are available to help set up the campaign.

Background:

- *You met Alison Lundergan Grimes and her husband Andrew Grimes at the Candlelight Ball on Sunday evening. She came up to you and introduced herself, and said she is considering running for Congress in Rep. Chandler's old seat. She and Andrew also attended the Speaker's Cabinet Luncheon at the Italian Embassy.*
- Lundergan Grimes is Kentucky's only current female Constitutional Officer. She was elected in 2011. She received a higher percentage of the vote than any other Kentucky statewide Democratic candidate during the 2011 elections and won an impressive 67.4% of the vote in the lines of KY-06.
- Lundergan Grimes is rumored to want to be Governor one day. She is considering several options including a U.S. Senate run in 2014 as well as a future run for Kentucky Attorney General in 2015.
- Her father Jerry Lundergan served as Chair of the Kentucky Democratic Party and is a close ally of the Clintons. He has a significant voice in her decision process.
- Lundergan Grimes met with Chairman Israel during her visit. He guaranteed first-round Red to Blue status if she runs.
- Chandler has expressed no interest in running again. We are in regular contact with his former staff.

Alison Lundergan Grimes bio:

Alison Lundergan Grimes (born November 23, 1978) is an attorney and the Secretary of State of Kentucky. Grimes is the daughter of former Kentucky Democratic chairman Jerry Lundergan and was born in Maysville, Kentucky. She went to Lexington Catholic High School in Lexington, Kentucky and then went on to graduate from Rhodes College where she was a member of Chi Omega sorority and graduated from the Washington College of Law at American University in Washington, D.C. Grimes was a practicing attorney in Lexington, Kentucky before running for Secretary of State.

In 2010, Grimes announced her candidacy for the office of Secretary of State of Kentucky, left open by term-limited incumbent Republican Trey Grayson. When Grayson resigned to accept a position at Harvard University, Democratic Governor Steve Beshear appointed Bowling Green Mayor Elaine Walker over Grimes to fill the rest of Grayson's term in office. Despite this, Grimes stayed in the race and defeated Walker by a double-digit margin in the May Democratic primary.

She went on to face Republican businessman and former Senate candidate Bill Johnson. A main aspect of the campaign was Grimes' opposition to Johnson's proposal to require an address in order to vote. Grimes argued this would take away voting rights from the homeless among others. She also became well known through commercials that showed her elderly grandmothers.

Grimes defeated Johnson with over 60% of the vote. She received a higher percentage of the vote than any other Kentucky statewide Democratic candidate during the 2011 elections and has received much speculation over her possible political future.

Her term as Secretary of State began on January 2, 2012.

KY-06 DISTRICT INFO

FINANCIAL INFO

2012 Candidate Cycle Summary

Name	Party	Cycle Raised	Cycle Spent	Ending COH
Ben Chandler	D	\$2,395,340	\$2,515,236	\$11,739
Garland "Andy" Barr	R	\$2,133,374	\$2,121,251	\$37,619

2012 Major Democratic v. Republican IE Spending

(Groups spending over \$50,000)

Name	Party	IE
DCCC	D	\$330,948.94
Center Forward	D	\$184,245.00
NRCC	R	\$1,152,042
American Society of Anesthesiologists Political Action Committee	R	\$198,078.25
AMERICANS FOR TAX REFORM	R	\$321,400.00
Center for Individual Freedom	R	\$116,059.46
FREEDOMWORKS FOR AMERICA	R	\$78,646.00
All Democratic Spending (Includes spending under \$50,000)		\$562,962.55
All Republican Spending (Includes spending under \$50,000)		\$1,797,684.91
		\$2,360,647.46

2012 DCCC Itemized Spending

Name	Field	IE	Other Spending	Total	
DCCC		\$23,000.00	\$330,948.94	\$95,038.57	\$448,987.51

ELECTION RESULTS

Congressional Statistics

(2 Party Only)

Cycle	W/L	Candidate	Party	Vote
2012	L	Chandler	Dem	48%
2012	W	Barr	Rep	52%
2010	L	Barr	Dem	~49.82%
2010	W	Chandler	Rep	~50.08%
2008	W	Chandler	Dem	64.66%
2008	L	Larson	Rep	35.34%

Presidential Statistics

(2 Party Only)

Cycle	Candidate	Party	Vote
2012	OBAMA	DEM	43%
2012	ROMNEY	REP	57%
2008	OBAMA	DEM	43.8%
2008	McCAIN	REP	56.2%

DISTRICT DATA

DPI	51.4%
AfAm	8.4%
Hispanic	4%
Other	1.8%
Total Minority	14.2%

MAJOR CITIES

Lexington

MEDIA MARKETS

Lexington (100%)
\$85 (Political) / \$105 (Issue)

