

Primary Election: May 12, 2026
General Election: November 3, 2026

GOVERNOR

Jim Pillen : Republican : Incumbent → Primary Election: 76% in Republican race

Lynne Walz : Democratic → Primary Election: 91% in Democratic race

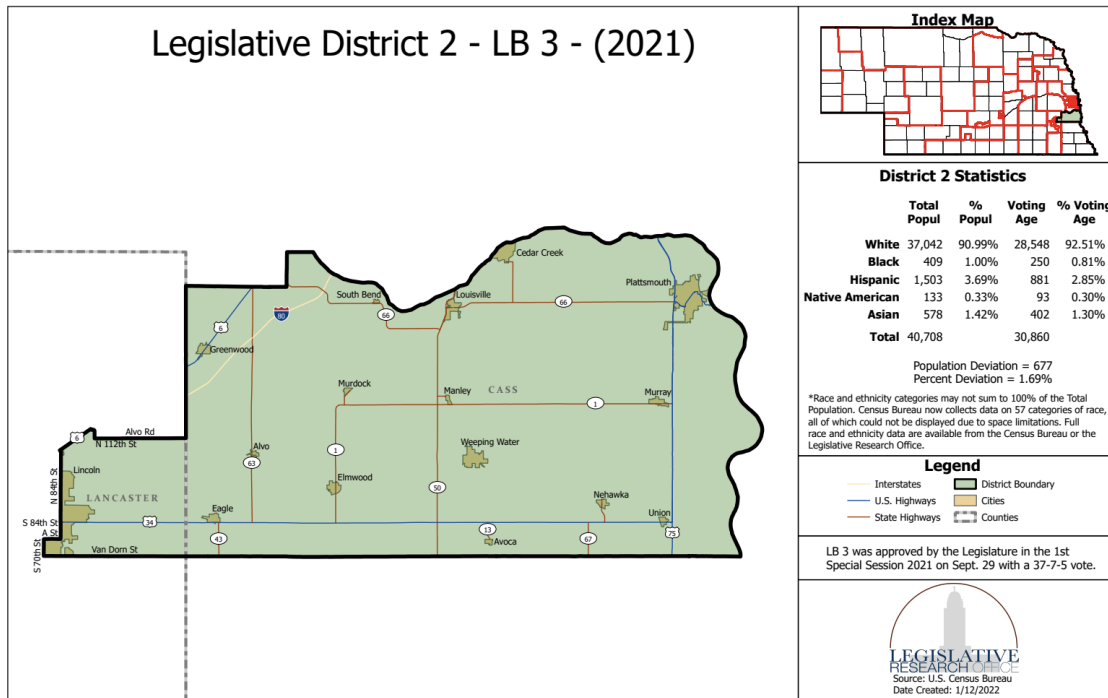
Rick Beard : Legal Marijuana Now → Primary Election: 69% of Legal Marijuana Now race

ATTORNEY GENERAL

Mike Hilgers : Republican : Incumbent → Primary Election: 100% in Republican race

Jocelyn Brasher : Democratic → Primary Election: 100% in Democratic race

DISTRICT 02 – INCUMBENT – ROBERT CLEMENTS – REPUBLICAN – TERM-LIMITED



Dean Helmick – Republican – Plattsburgh

[WEBSITE](#) : Primary Election → 49%

Dean Helmick is a retired Air Force veteran with over four decades of service and later worked in a civilian role at Offutt Air Force Base. He holds a Bachelor of Science in Aeronautics from Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University and a Master of Public Administration from the University of Montana.

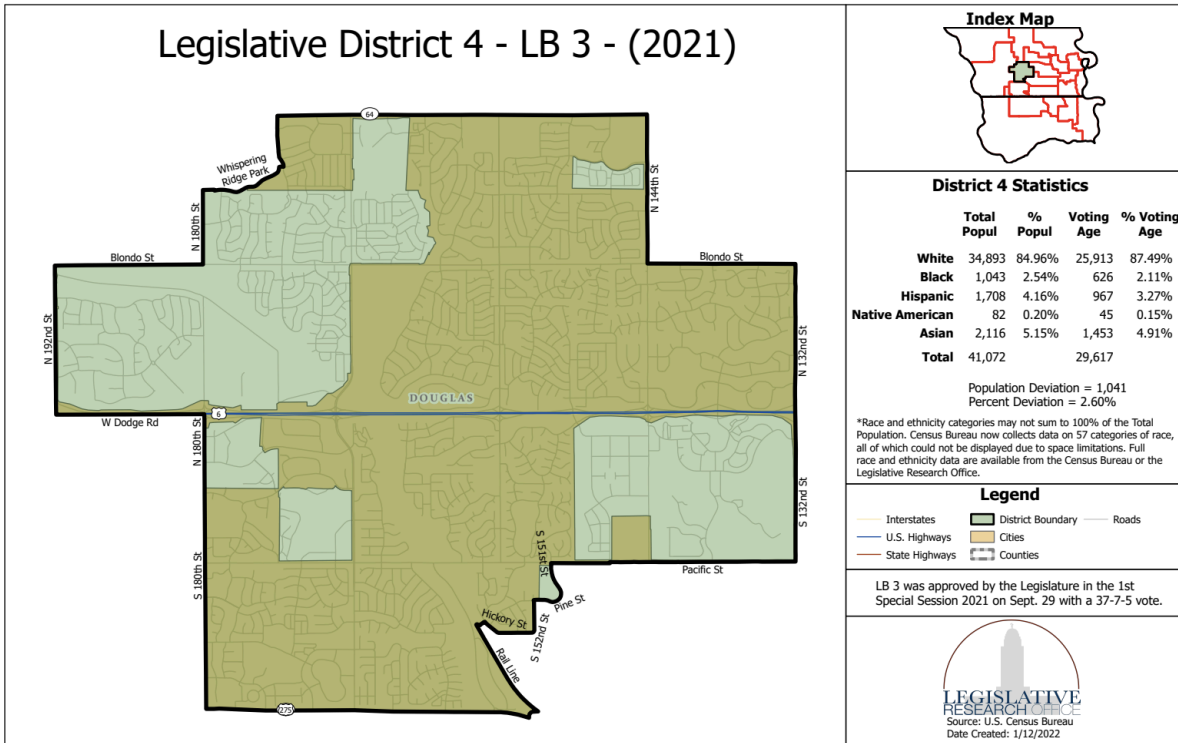


Caitlin Knutson – Democratic – Lincoln

[WEBSITE](#) : Primary Election → 34%

Caitlin Knutson is a former special education teacher with over 15 years of experience in Nebraska public schools. She holds a Bachelor’s degree in History and a Master’s in Education from Creighton University, along with additional graduate training in special education from the University of Nebraska at Omaha.

DISTRICT 04 – INCUMBENT – R. BRAD VON GILLERN – REPUBLICAN



Cindy Maxwell-Ostdiek – Independent – Omaha : Primary Election → 52%

[WEBSITE](#)

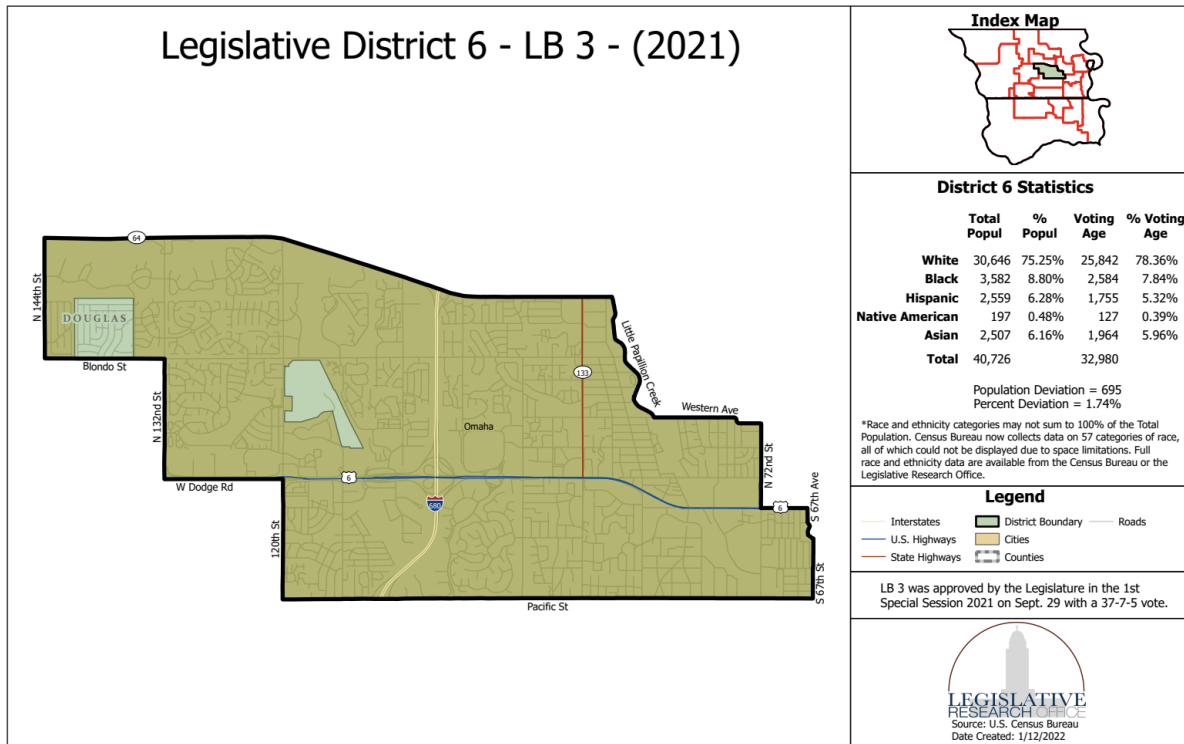
Cindy Maxwell-Ostdiek is a small business owner and longtime community leader with a background in human resources and recruitment. She and her husband run an insurance and financial services business, and she is actively involved in civic organizations like Better Ballots Nebraska.



R. Brad von Gillern – Republican – Elkhorn [WEBSITE](#) : Primary Election → 48%

Brad von Gillern is a longtime business leader who served as President and CEO of Lueder Construction before transitioning into public service. He holds a Bachelor of Science in Construction Management Engineering from the University of Nebraska–Lincoln and has decades of experience in the construction industry.

DISTRICT 06 – INCUMBENT – MACHAELA CAVANAUGH – DEMOCRATIC – TERM-LIMITED

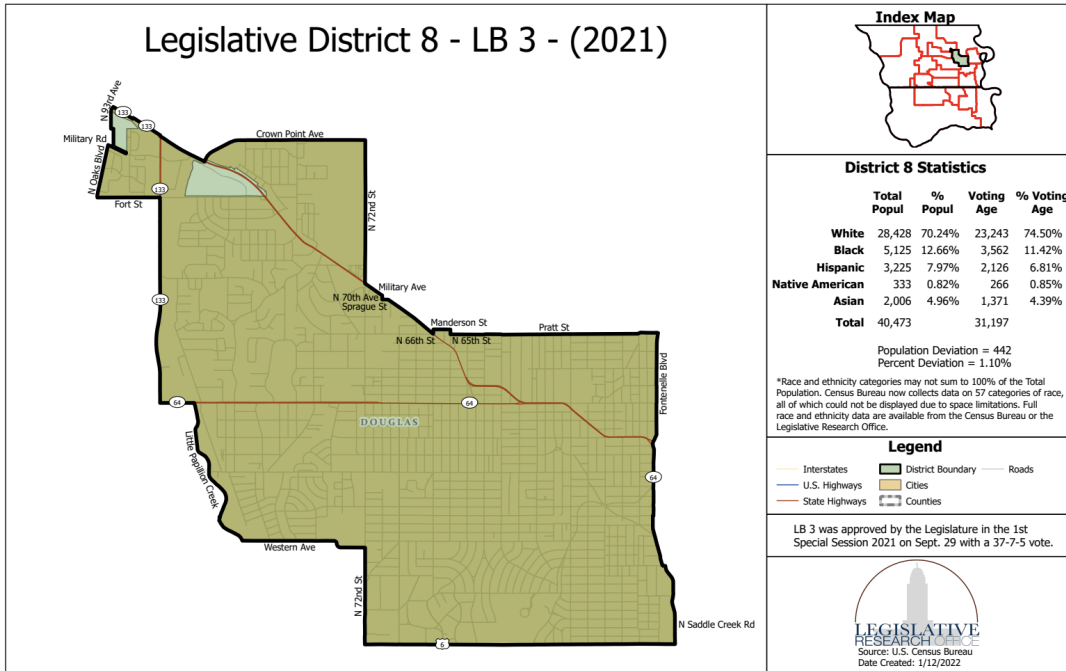


Patrick Leahy – Democratic – Omaha
[WEBSITE](#) : Primary Election → 60%
 Patrick Leahy is a business executive who currently serves as CEO of First Star Recycling and has a background in public service, including work for U.S. Senator Ben Nelson and service as an officer in the U.S. Army Reserve. He holds a Bachelor’s degree in Political Science from the University of Nebraska and a Master’s in International Relations from Creighton University.



Nate Ostdiek – Democratic – Omaha
[WEBSITE](#) : Primary Election → 40%
 Nate Ostdiek is a graduate student at the University of Nebraska at Omaha and a young civic leader with experience in political engagement and policy advocacy. He previously studied political science at UNO and has worked on research and public policy initiatives through internships and community involvement.

DISTRICT 08 – INCUMBENT – MEGAN HUNT – DEMOCRATIC – TERM-LIMITED



Josh Livingston – Democratic – Omaha

[WEBSITE](#) : Primary Election → 19%

Josh Livingston is a family law attorney who previously served as a Deputy County Attorney, helping families navigate issues like child support and custody. He earned his law degree from Creighton University School of Law and continues to work closely with Nebraska families through his legal practice.

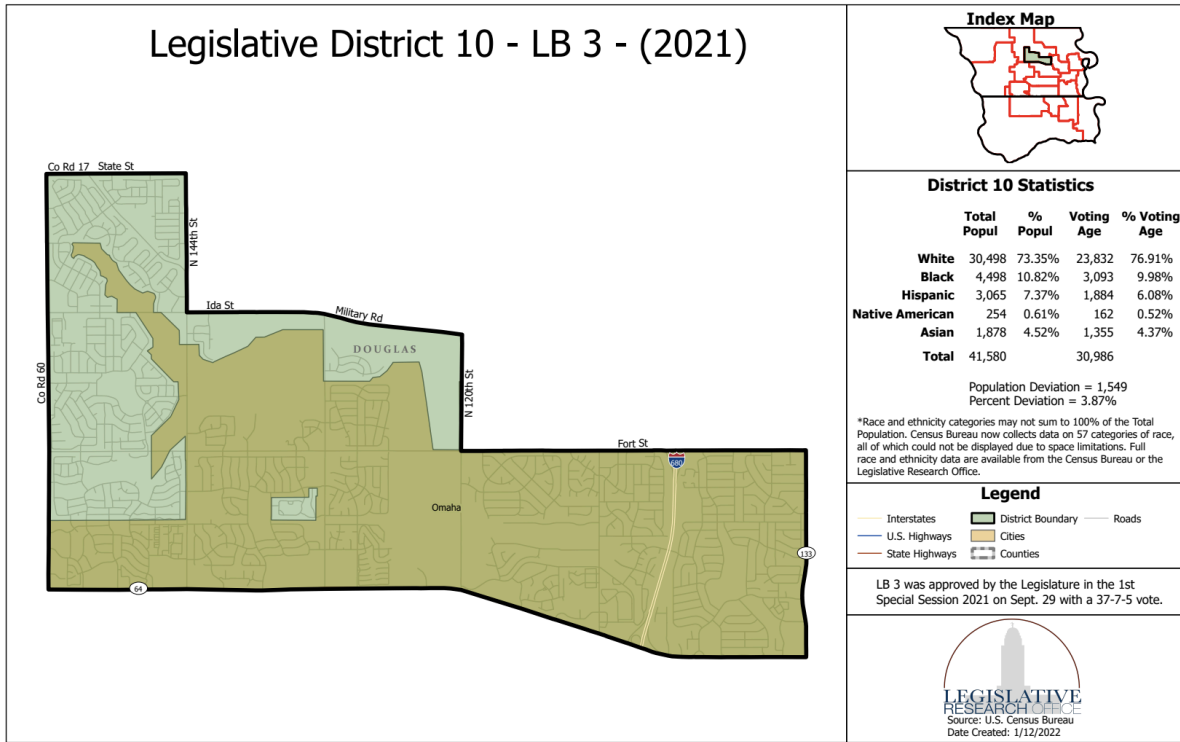


Erin Feichtinger – Democratic – Omaha

[WEBSITE](#) : Primary Election → 65%

Erin Feichtinger is a policy leader and advocate who currently serves as Policy Director for the Women’s Fund of Omaha, with extensive experience in housing and economic policy. She holds a Ph.D. in History and a Bachelor’s degree in Special Education from Loyola University Chicago.

DISTRICT 10 – INCUMBENT – WENDY DEBOER – DEMOCRATIC – TERM-LIMITED



Cindy Johnson – Democratic – Omaha

[WEBSITE](#) : Primary Election → 59%

Cindy Johnson is an audiologist and longtime healthcare professional who has owned her own practice and spent 15 years working at Children’s Hospital Omaha treating and advocating for children with hearing needs. She earned a Bachelor’s degree in Education from the University of Nebraska–Lincoln, along with a master’s degree and a doctorate in audiology.

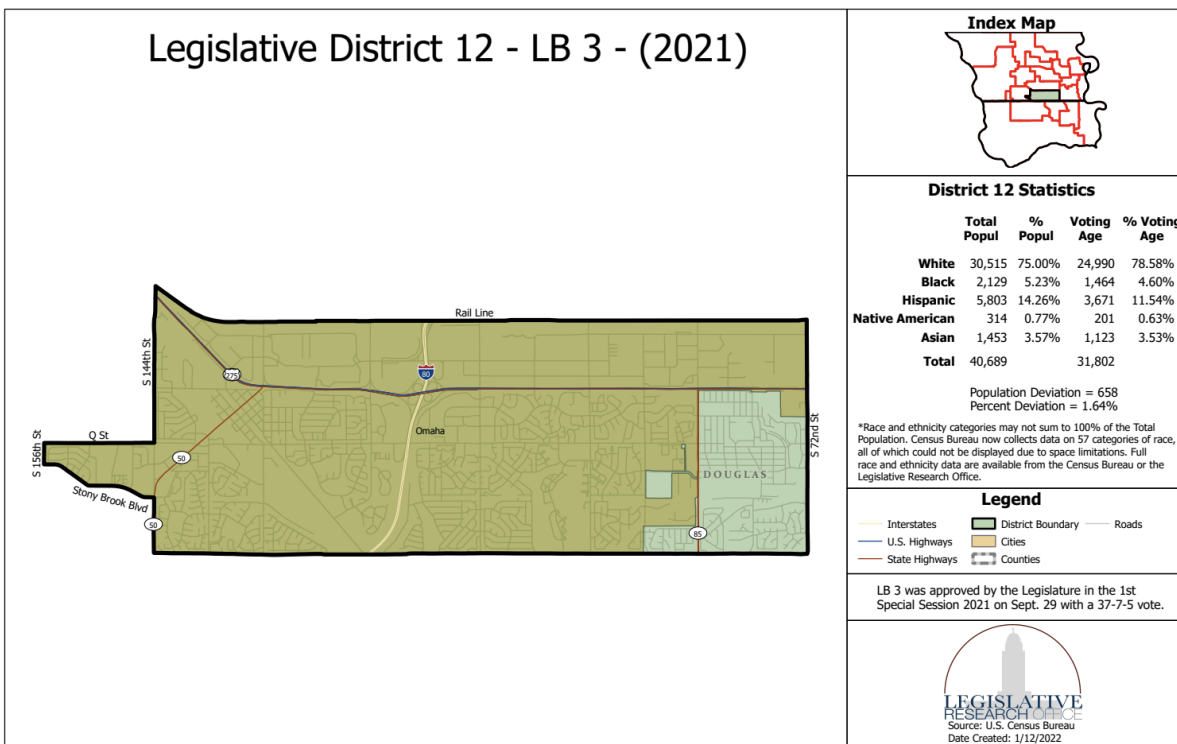


Rebecca Rens – Republican – Bennington

[WEBSITE](#) : Primary Election → 41%

Rebecca Rens is a longtime business leader who spent over 30 years as the owner and president of a concrete construction company and now works as a business consultant and leadership coach. She has also served as an assistant professor of business, helping develop and mentor future professionals.

DISTRICT 12 – INCUMBENT – MERV RIEPE – REPUBLICAN



Merv Riepe – Republican – Ralston

[WEBSITE](#) : Primary Election → 40%

Merv Riepe is a longtime healthcare administrator who spent over 30 years in leadership roles at major hospitals, including Bergan Mercy and Children’s Hospital in Omaha. He holds a Bachelor’s degree in Finance from the University of Nebraska at Omaha and a Master’s in Health Policy and Management from the University of Iowa, and also served in the U.S. Navy as a hospital corpsman.

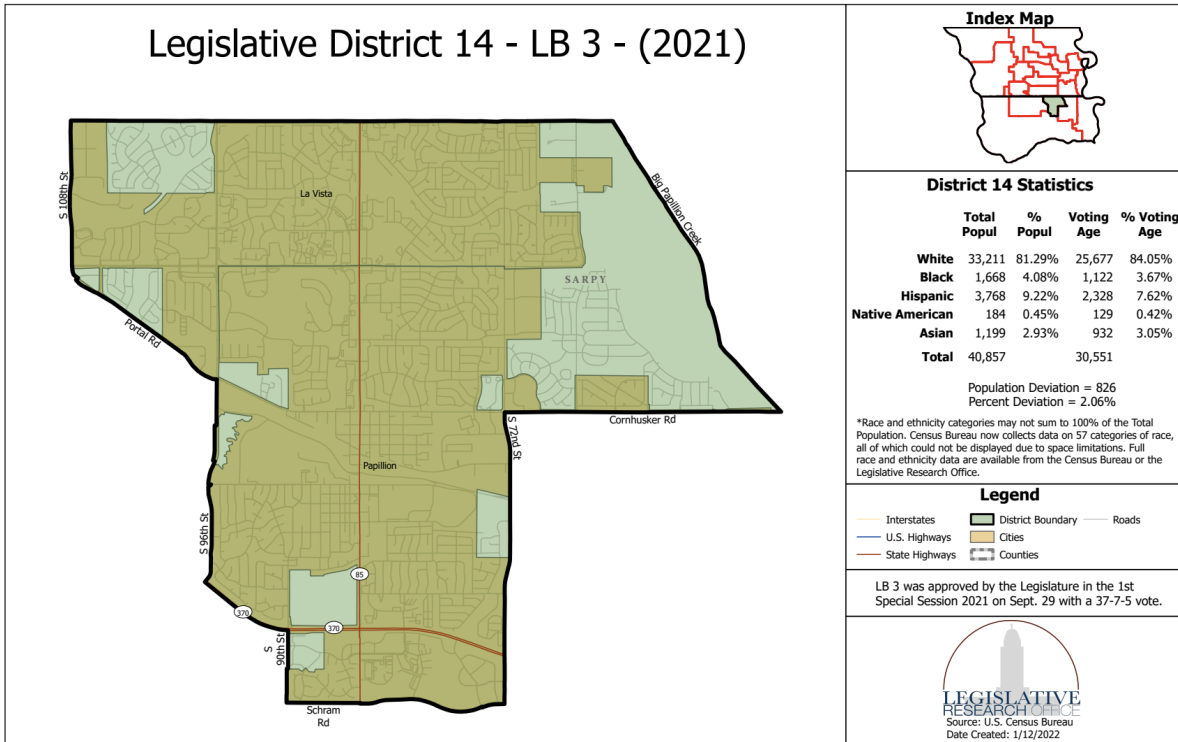


Christy Knorr – Democratic – Omaha

[WEBSITE](#) : Primary Election → 36%

Christy Knorr is a hospice nurse and community advocate with firsthand experience working with patients and families in healthcare settings. She has built her career in nursing, focusing on patient care and advocacy within the community.

DISTRICT 14 – INCUMBENT – JOHN ARCH – REPUBLICAN – TERM-LIMITED



Bill Bowes – Republican – La Vista

[WEBSITE](#) : Primary Election → 34%

Bill Bowes is a retired fire chief who spent nearly 40 years in public safety, including serving as Chief of the Papillion-La Vista Fire Department. He also previously worked as a math and science teacher and has been actively involved in community leadership and service.

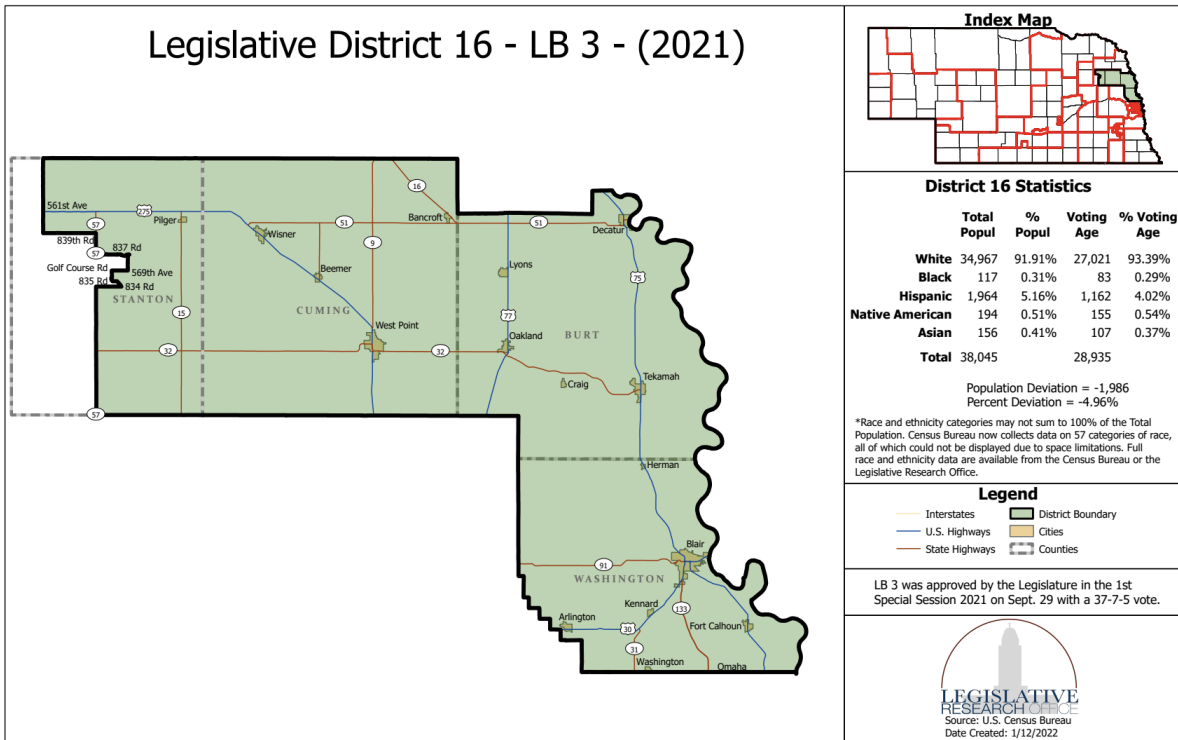


SuAnn Witt – Democratic – Papillion

[WEBSITE](#) : Primary Election → 42%

SuAnn Witt is a longtime education professional who spent over 35 years with Omaha Public Schools and later worked for the Nebraska Department of Education managing statewide technology and funding programs. She also serves as President of the Papillion La Vista School Board, bringing extensive experience in budgeting, education policy, and public service.

DISTRICT 16 – INCUMBENT – BEN HANSEN – REPUBLICAN – TERM-LIMITED



Ted Japp – Republican – Blair

[WEBSITE](#) : Primary Election → 63%

Ted Japp is a longtime public servant who previously served on the Papio-Missouri River Natural Resources District board, where he worked on environmental and water management issues in the Omaha area. He has a background in community leadership and natural resource management, with years of experience working on local infrastructure, conservation, and public safety initiatives.

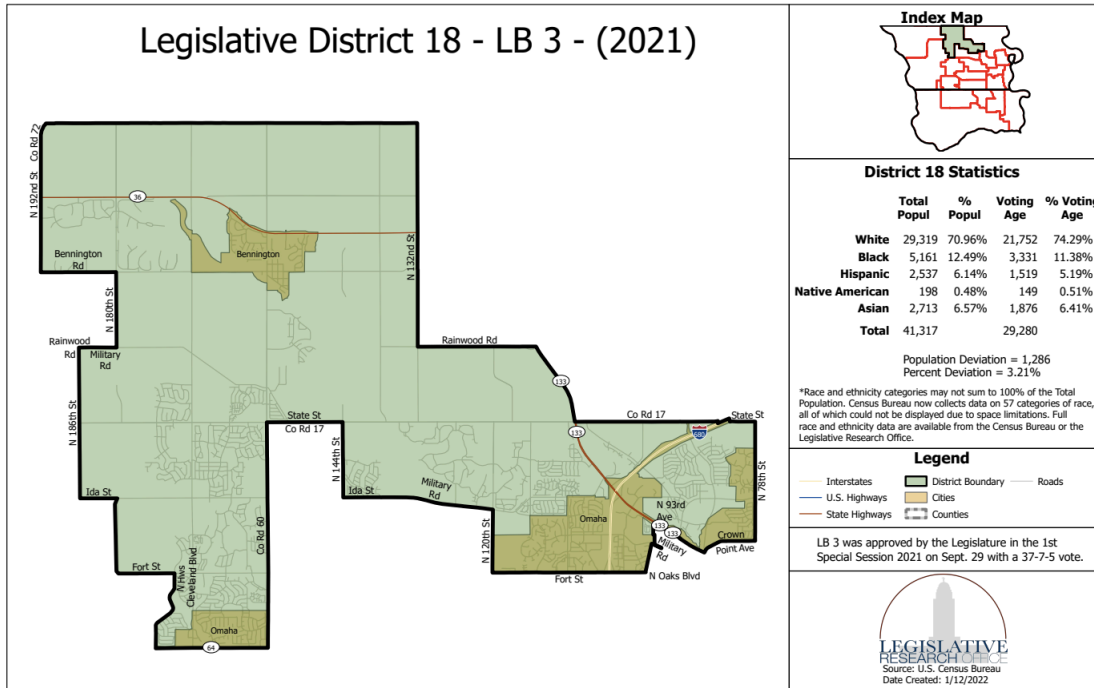


Cindy Chatt – Tekamah

[WEBSITE](#) : Primary Election → 37%

Cindy Chatt is the Executive Director of Burt County Economic Development, where she focuses on growing local businesses and promoting tourism in northeast Nebraska. She has a background in economic development and community leadership, working closely with local organizations and government partners.

DISTRICT 18 – INCUMBENT – CHRISTY ARMENDARIZ – REPUBLICAN – TERM-LIMITED



Taylor Royal – Republican – Bennington

[WEBSITE](#) : Primary Election → 34%

Taylor Royal is a Nebraska-based financial professional and partner at Royal Wealth Partners, where he manages client assets and works in private wealth advising. He earned a double major in accounting and finance from the University of Nebraska–Lincoln and a Master of Science in Accounting from Southern Methodist University, and is also a CPA.

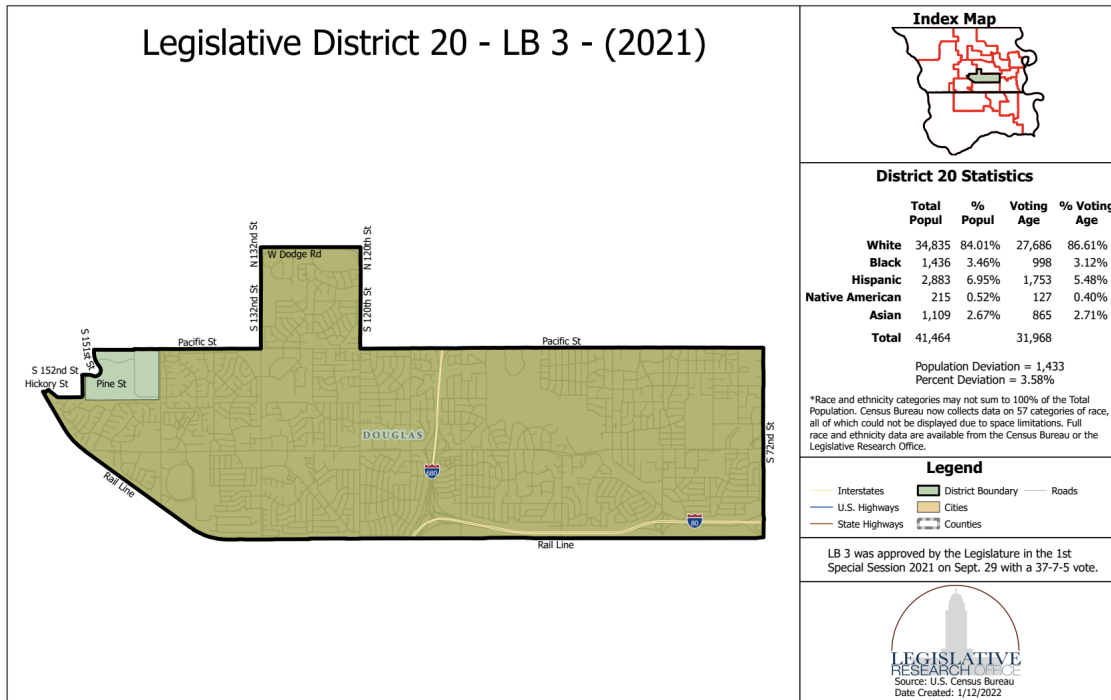


Jess Goldoni – Democratic – Bennington

[WEBSITE](#) : Primary Election → 43%

Jess Goldoni is an Omaha-based entrepreneur and AI strategist who co-founded the Nebraska-based firm Nebrask.AI and has built a 20-year career across healthcare, law, finance, and technology. She put herself through college and has extensive experience managing large budgets, leading teams, and helping businesses grow.

DISTRICT 20 – INCUMBENT – JOHN FREDRICKSON – DEMOCRATIC



John Fredrickson – Democratic – Omaha

[WEBSITE](#) : Primary Election → 59%

John Fredrickson is a licensed clinical social worker and adjunct professor who also serves in the Nebraska Legislature, with a background in mental health and community advocacy. He earned a Bachelor’s degree in Social Work from New York University and a Master’s in Social Work from Columbia University.

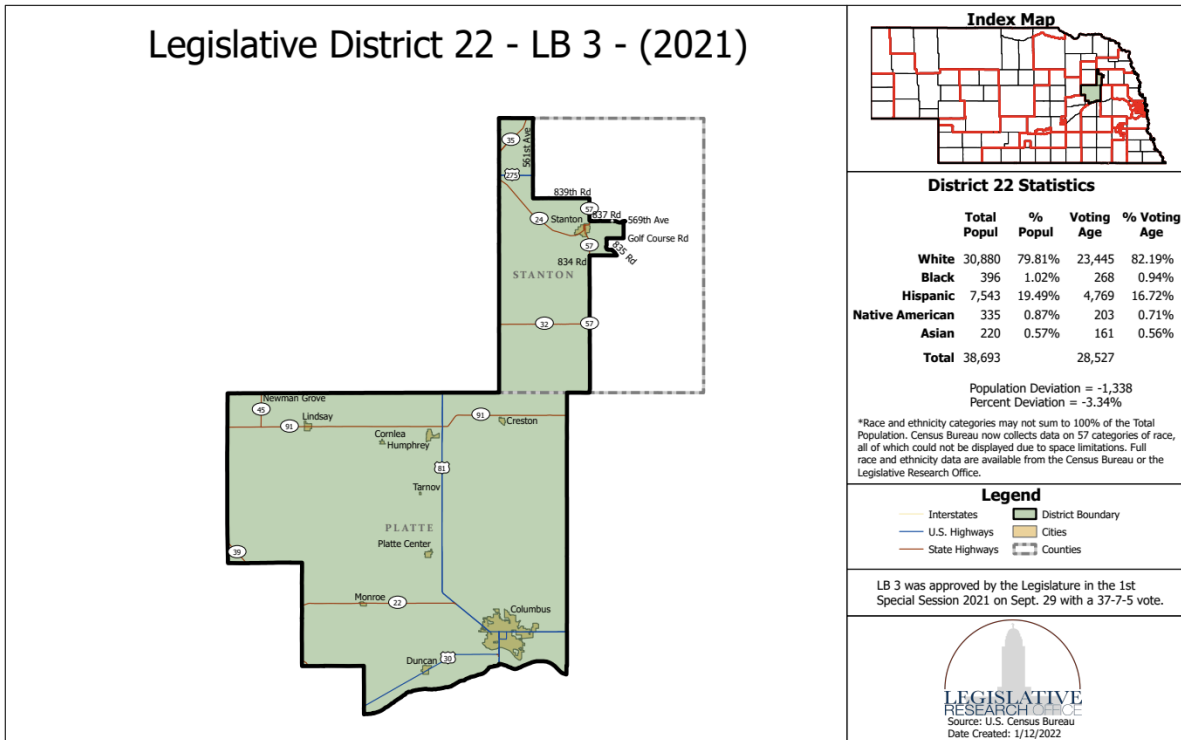


Chris Anderson – Republican – Omaha

[WEBSITE](#) : Primary Election → 26%

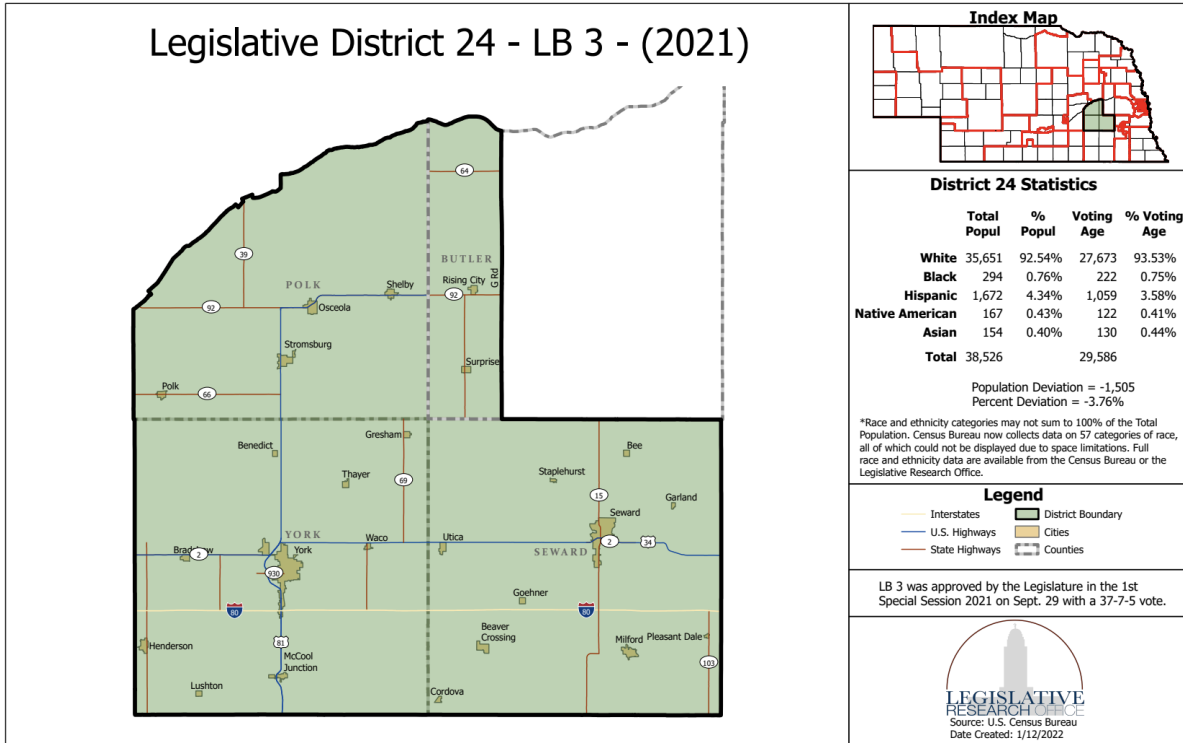
Chris Anderson is a retired U.S. Air Force colonel and business consultant with over 15 years of experience in the aerospace and defense industry, including roles at companies like BAE Systems and Saab. He holds a Bachelor’s degree in Economics from Indiana University and an MBA from the Indiana University Kelley School of Business.

DISTRICT 22 – INCUMBENT – MIKE MOSER – REPUBLICAN – TERM-LIMITED



Dawson Brunswick – Republican – Columbus
[WEBSITE](#) : Primary Election → 100%
 Dawson Brunswick is a business and community leader who serves as President of the Columbus Area Chamber of Commerce, where he focuses on economic growth and job creation.

DISTRICT 24 – INCUMBENT – JANA HUGHES – REPUBLICAN



Jana Hughes – Republican – Seward

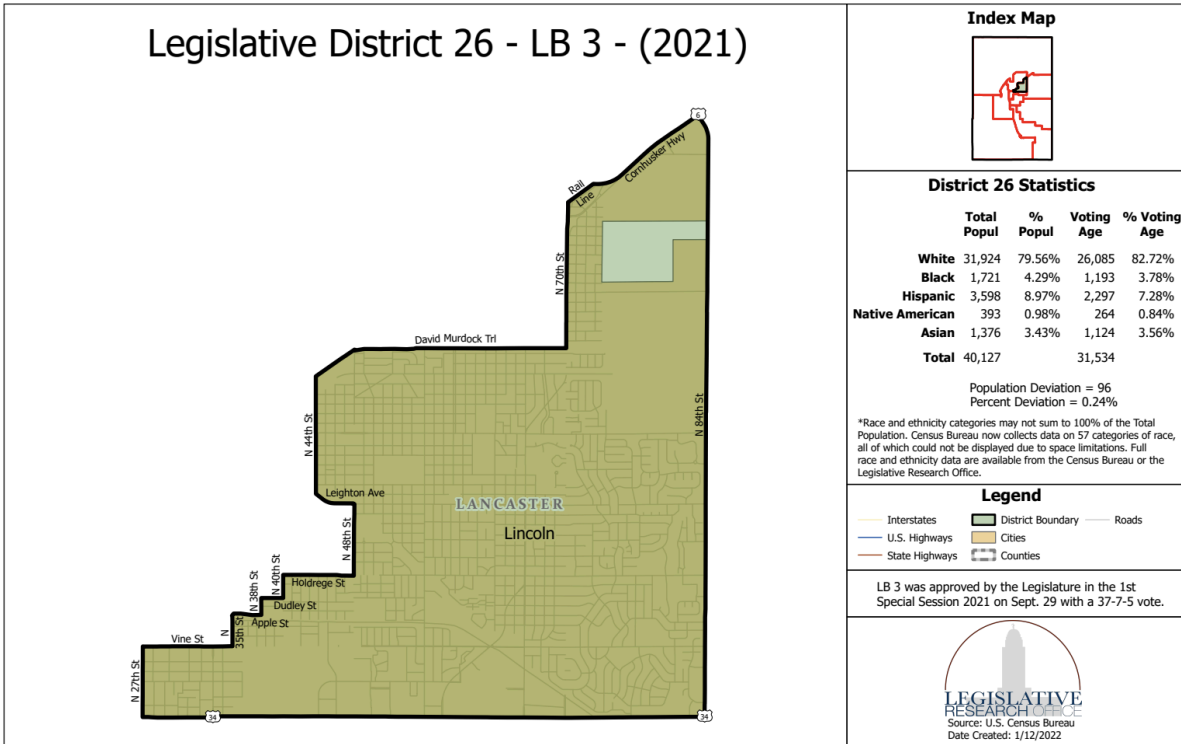
[WEBSITE](#) : Primary Election → 75%

Jana Hughes is a Nebraska state senator and former engineering consultant who also works as a substitute teacher and exercise instructor. She earned a Bachelor of Science in Industrial Engineering from Texas A&M University and has been active in local leadership, including serving on the Seward Public Schools Board.

Dan Winter – Democratic – Seward

Primary Election → 25%

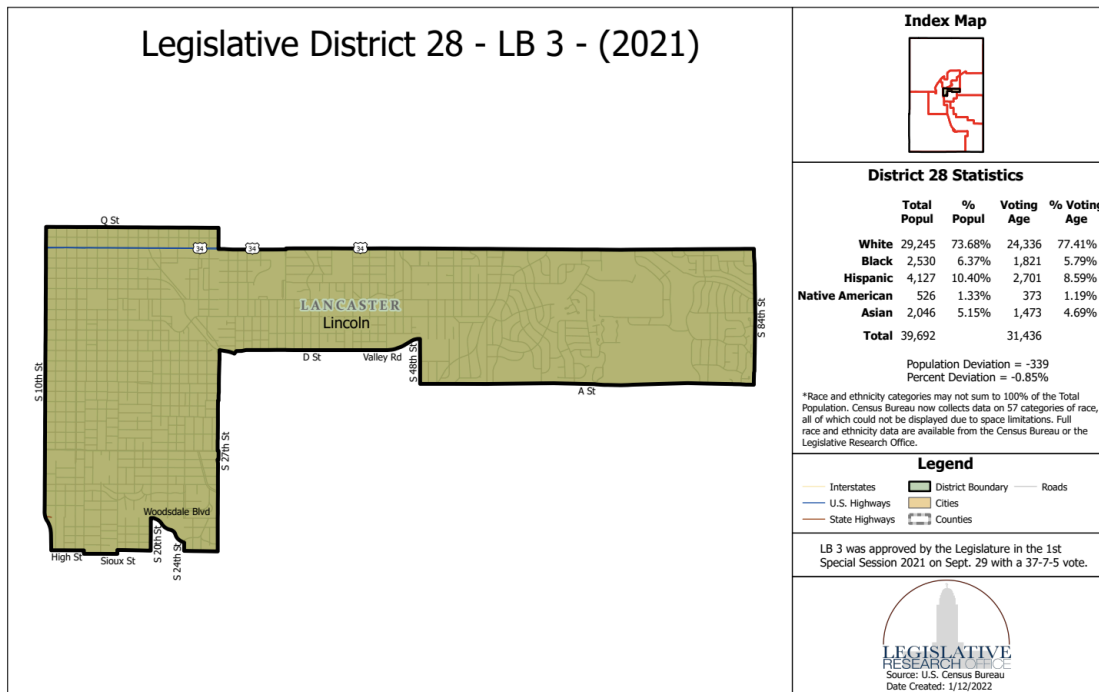
DISTRICT 26 – INCUMBENT – GEORGE DUNGAN – DEMOCRATIC



George Dungan – Democratic – Lincoln
[WEBSITE](#) : Primary Election → 72%
 George Dungan is an attorney and Nebraska state senator who previously worked as a deputy public defender, focusing on representing individuals in the legal system. He holds a Bachelor’s degree in Political Science from the University of Kansas and a Juris Doctor from American University Washington College of Law.

Tobias Howard – Republican – Lincoln
 Primary Election → 28%

DISTRICT 28 – INCUMBENT – JANE RAYBOULD – DEMOCRATIC – TERM-LIMITED



Patty Pansing Brooks – Democratic – Lincoln

[WEBSITE](#) : Primary Election → 79%

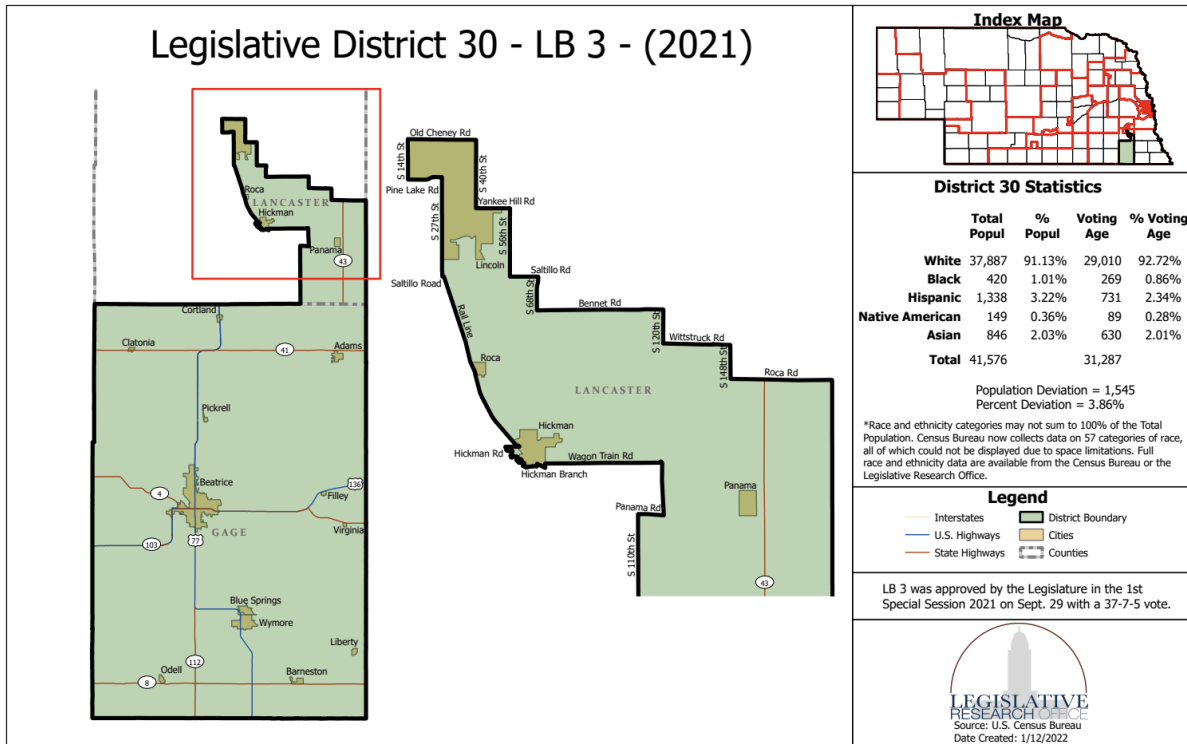
Patty Pansing Brooks is an attorney and former Nebraska state senator who served from 2015 to 2022, with a background in public policy and community leadership. She holds a Bachelor’s degree in Political Science from Colorado College and a Juris Doctor from the University of Nebraska College of Law.



Colby L. Woodson – Lincoln

Primary Election → 14%

DISTRICT 30 – INCUMBENT – MYRON DORN – REPUBLICAN – TERM-LIMITED



Cally Ideus – Republican – Filley

WEBSITE : Primary Election → 57%

Cally Ideus is a small business owner, nonprofit founder, and U.S. Army veteran who served as an intelligence NCO during Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom. She founded her own insurance and consulting businesses and leads a nonprofit focused on providing therapeutic services for veterans and first responders.

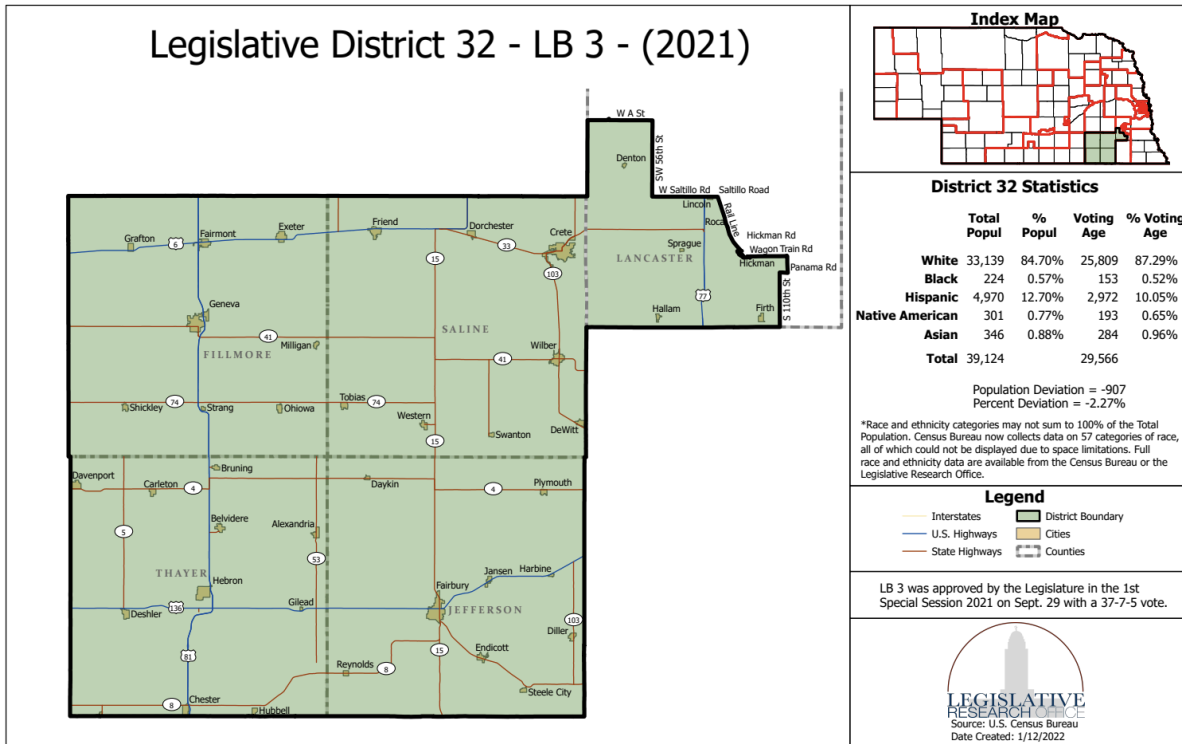


Janet M. Bock – Beatrice

WEBSITE : Primary Election → 43%

Janet Bock is an advanced practice registered nurse with experience in private practice, rural hospitals, and the Lincoln VA, specializing in both family and psychiatric care. She earned her RN, BSN, and MSN from Bryan School of Nursing and the University of Nebraska Medical Center and has also owned a behavioral health clinic.

DISTRICT 32 – INCUMBENT – TOM BRANDT – REPUBLICAN – TERM-LIMITED

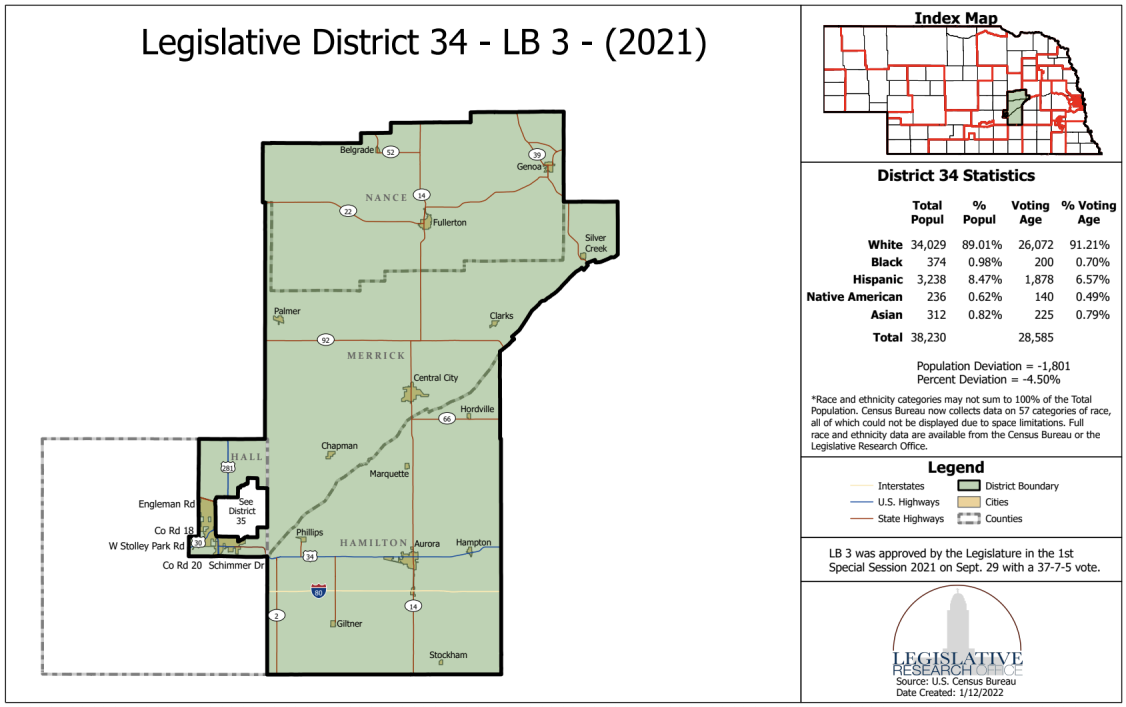


Mark Schoenrock – Republican – Diller
[WEBSITE](#) : Primary Election → 61%
 Mark Schoenrock is a longtime public servant who has served nearly a decade as a Jefferson County Commissioner and was named Nebraska County Official of the Year in 2023. He is a graduate of Fairbury High School and the University of Nebraska College of Agriculture, and also served as a U.S. Army officer and civilian logistician.



Shay Smith – Independent – Crete
[WEBSITE](#) : Primary Election → 39%
 Shaylene “Shay” Smith is a longtime attorney and small business owner based in Crete, Nebraska, with over 30 years of legal experience serving individuals, farms, and local businesses. She earned her undergraduate degree from Doane University and her law degree from the University of Nebraska–Lincoln College of Law.

DISTRICT 34 – INCUMBENT – LOREN LIPPINCOTT – REPUBLICAN



Loren Lippincott – Republican – Central City

[WEBSITE](#) : Primary Election → 56%

Loren Lippincott is a Nebraska state senator, farmer, and former U.S. Air Force F-16 fighter pilot and instructor, who later spent 30 years as an international captain with Delta Air Lines. He earned a Bachelor of Science in Broadcast Journalism from the University of Nebraska–Lincoln.

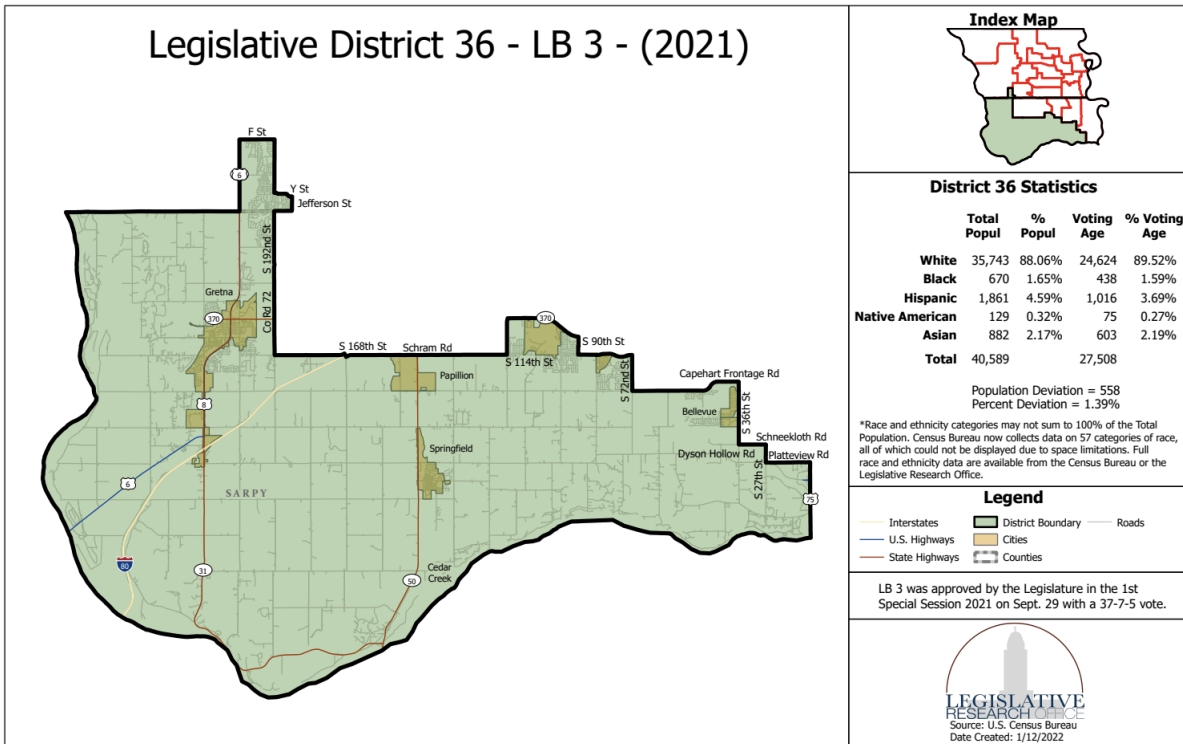


Ben Blodgett – Democrat – Central City

[WEBSITE](#) : Primary Election → 27%

Ben Blodgett is a longtime electrician who has spent over 26 years working as an inside wireman, building and maintaining infrastructure across Nebraska. He brings hands-on, blue-collar experience and a background in the skilled trades, along with a focus on supporting local workers and communities.

DISTRICT 36 – INCUMBENT – RICK HOLDCROFT – REPUBLICAN



Darin Tompkins – Democratic – Papillion

[WEBSITE](#) : Primary Election → 53%

Darin Tompkins is a business leader with over a decade of experience in animal health vaccine manufacturing, where he helped secure major investments and support job growth in Nebraska. He also has a strong background in community service, volunteering with organizations like Habitat for Humanity and local food drives.

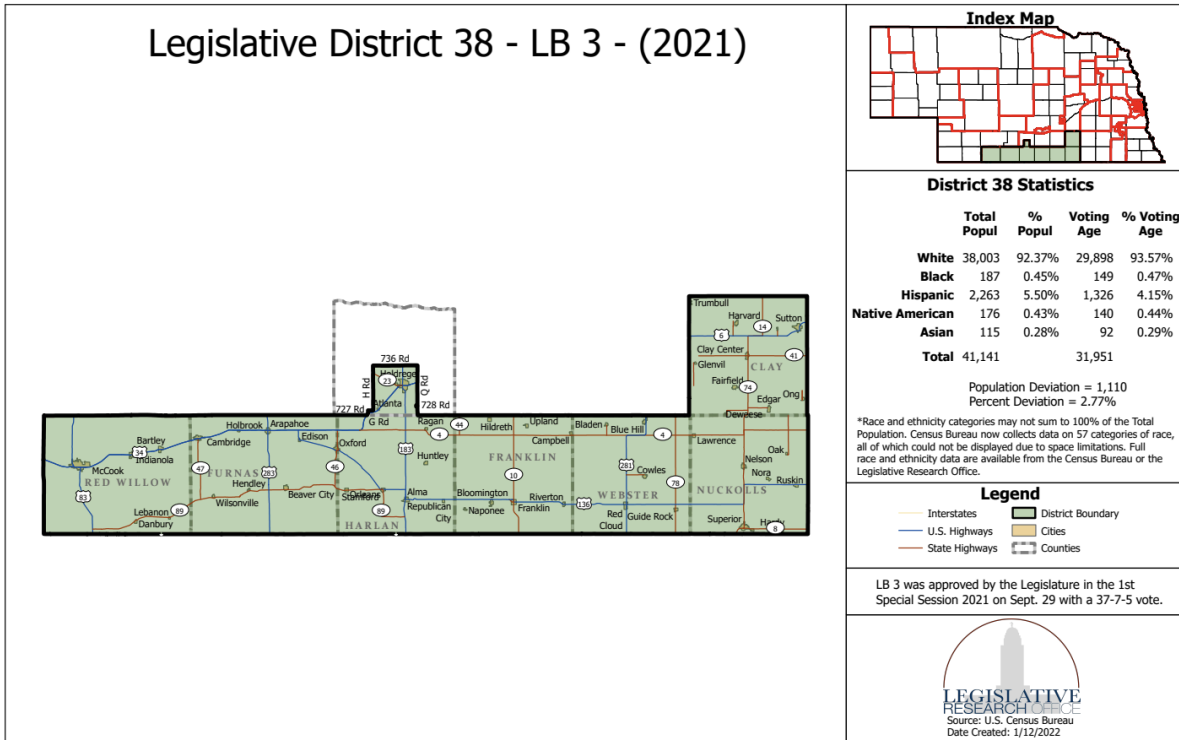


Rick Holdcroft – Republican – Bellevue

[WEBSITE](#) : Primary Election → 47%

Rick Holdcroft is a retired U.S. Navy officer who served 28 years, including leadership roles at U.S. Strategic Command, and later worked as an aerospace executive. He holds a Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering from the University of Nebraska–Lincoln and a master’s degree from the Naval Postgraduate School.

DISTRICT 38 – INCUMBENT – DAVE MURMAN – REPUBLICAN – TERM-LIMITED



Tim Anderson – Republican – Sutton

[WEBSITE](#) : Primary Election → 35%

Tim Anderson is a farmer, former volunteer firefighter, and current Mayor of Sutton, Nebraska, with a background in local government leadership and rural community service. He is a lifelong Nebraskan who has led efforts in budgeting, infrastructure, and disaster recovery while raising a family and working in agriculture.

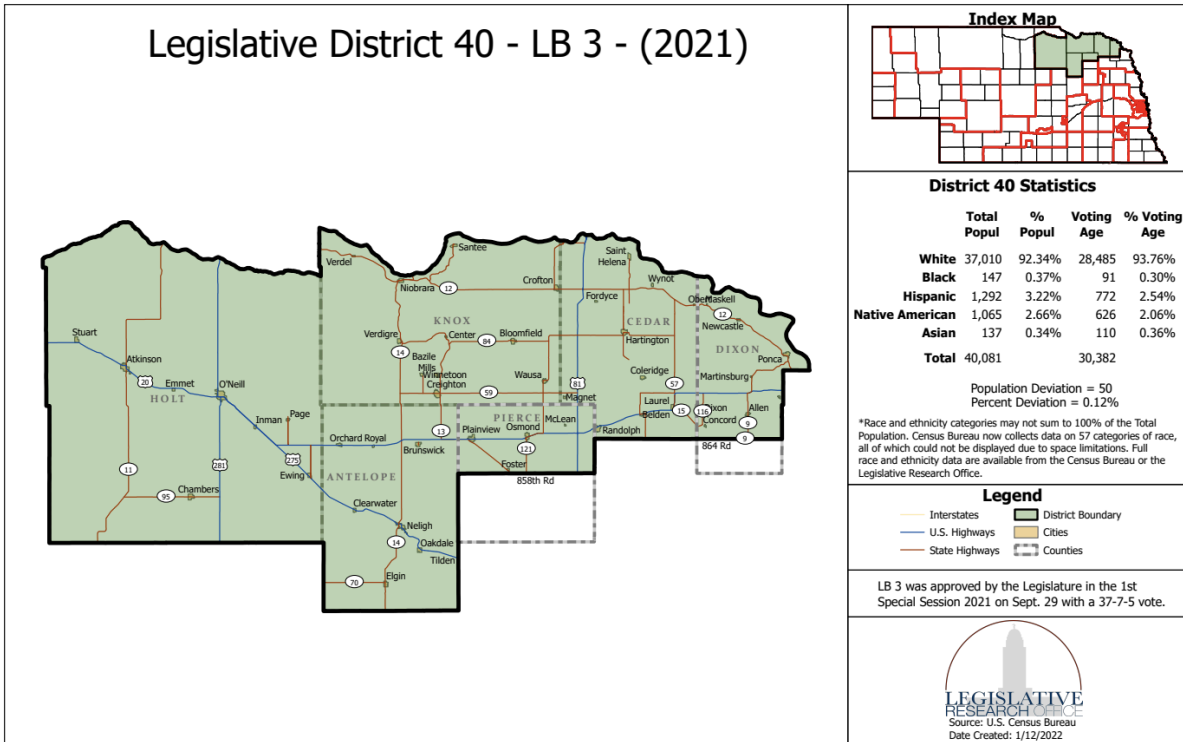


Janell Anderson Ehrke – Republican – Orleans

[WEBSITE](#) : Primary Election → 31%

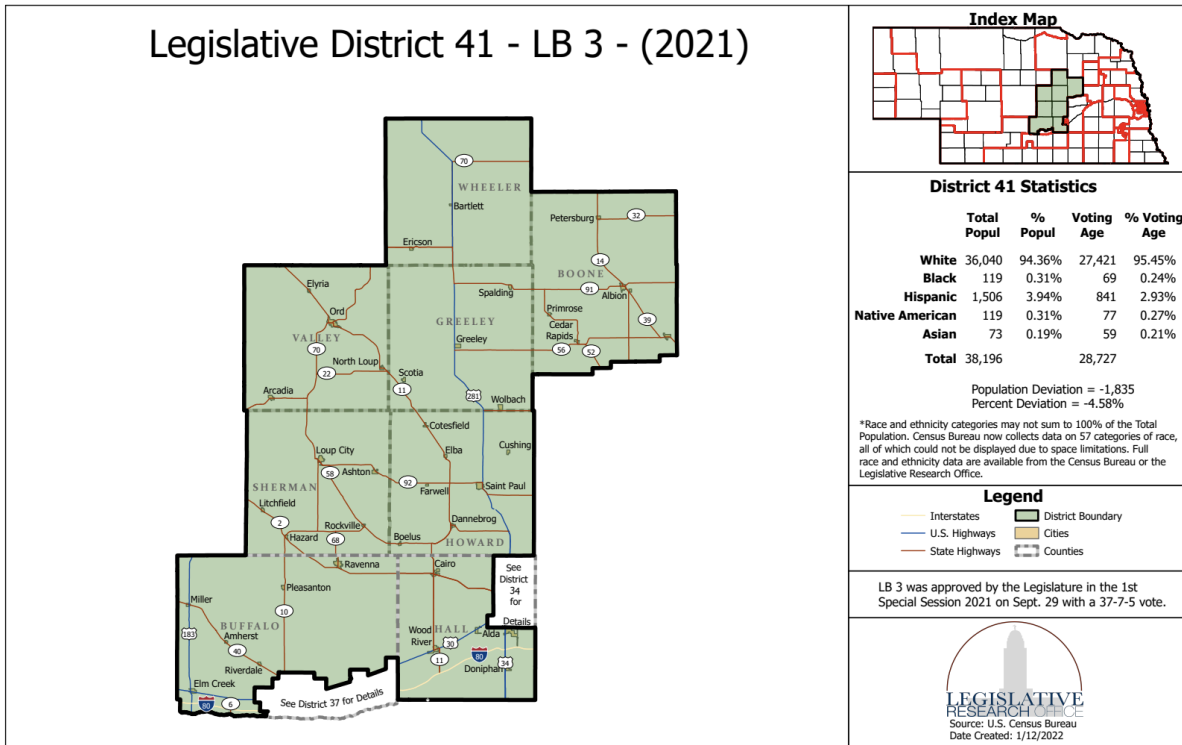
Janell Anderson Ehrke is the founder and CEO of GROW Nebraska, a nonprofit she launched in 1998 to support and grow small businesses across the state. She studied at the University of Nebraska–Lincoln and has spent decades working in economic development, entrepreneurship, and rural business advocacy.

DISTRICT 40 – INCUMBENT – BARRY DeKAY – REPUBLICAN



Barry DeKay – Republican – Niobrara
[WEBSITE](#) : Primary Election → 100%
 Senator Barry DeKay is a farmer and rancher from Lynch who was elected to the Nebraska Legislature in 2022. He graduated from Lynch High School and attended Wayne State College.

DISTRICT 41 – INCUMBENT – FRED MEYER – REPUBLICAN – TERM-LIMITED



Joe Johnson – Republican – Kearney

[WEBSITE](#) : Primary Election → 45%

Joe Johnson is a business development professional for a Nebraska-based engineering firm and a former city administrator with over 25 years of experience working with communities on infrastructure and economic growth. He is also a small business owner in Kearney and has spent his career focused on local development and planning across Nebraska.

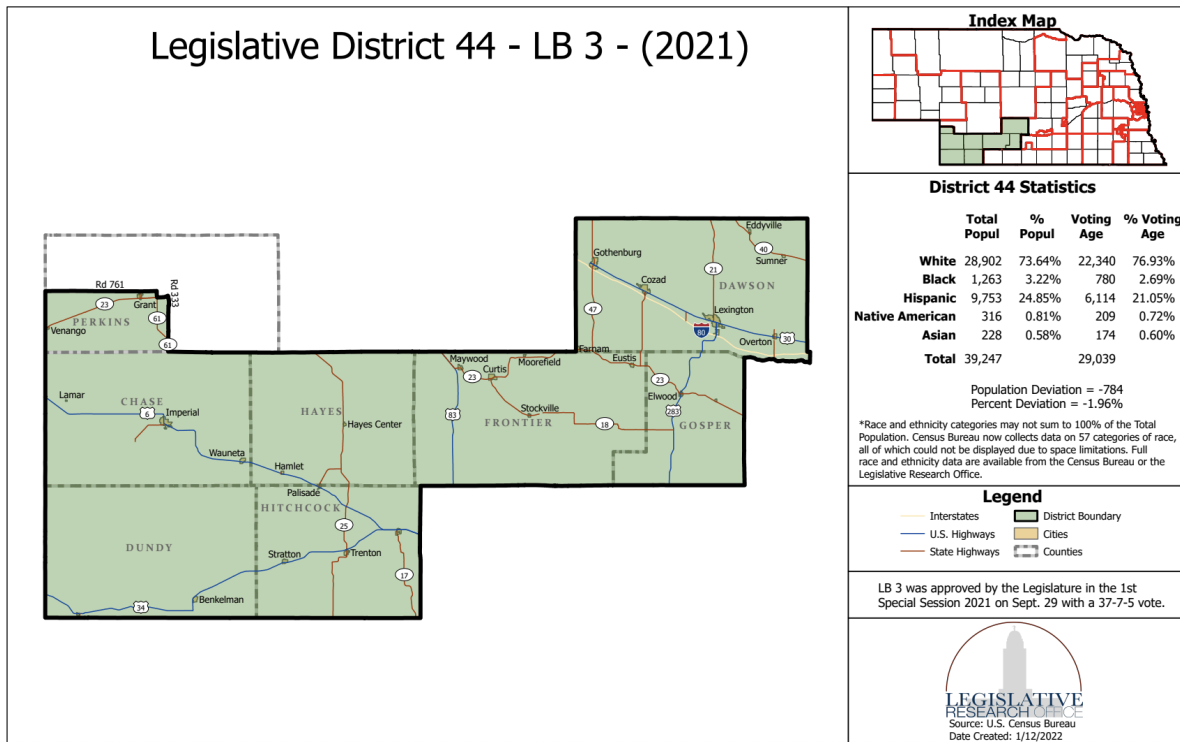


Jeremy Heneger - Democratic – Cairo

[WEBSITE](#) : Primary Election → 29%

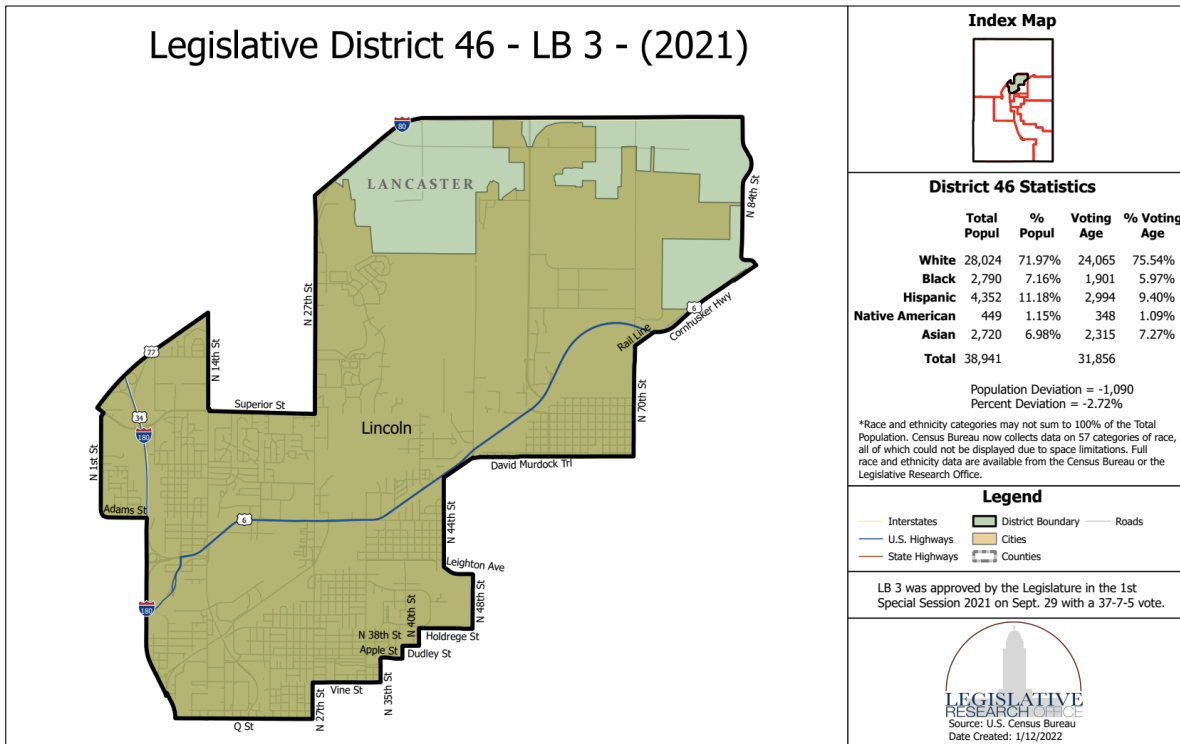
Jeremy Heneger is a Nebraska business owner and community leader with a background in agriculture and local economic development. He has been involved in supporting rural communities and brings hands-on experience in small business and farming to his work.

DISTRICT 44 – INCUMBENT – TERESA IBACH – REPUBLICAN



Teresa Ibach – Republican – Sumner
[WEBSITE](#) : Primary Election → 100%
 State Senator Teresa Ibach is a farmer and rancher from central Nebraska who was elected to the Legislature in 2022. She holds a Bachelor of Science in Human Resources and Family Sciences from the University of Nebraska–Lincoln and has also worked as a property manager.

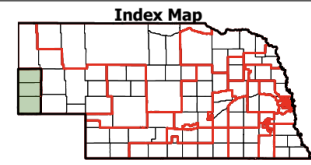
DISTRICT 46 – INCUMBENT – DANIELLE CONRAD – DEMOCRATIC



Danielle Conrad – Democratic – Lincoln
[WEBSITE](#) : Primary Election → 100%
 Danielle Conrad is a civil rights attorney and Nebraska state senator with years of legislative experience, first elected in 2006 and again in 2022. She earned a Bachelor’s degree and a Juris Doctor from the University of Nebraska–Lincoln and has worked extensively in public interest law and policy.

DISTRICT 48 – INCUMBENT – BRIAN HARDIN – REPUBLICAN

Legislative District 48 - LB 3 - (2021)



District 48 Statistics

	Total Popul	% Popul	Voting Age	% Voting Age
White	32,001	79.62%	25,097	81.90%
Black	288	0.72%	200	0.65%
Hispanic	8,516	21.19%	5,458	17.81%
Native American	815	2.03%	540	1.76%
Asian	299	0.74%	234	0.76%
Total	40,192		30,644	

Population Deviation = 161
Percent Deviation = 0.40%

*Race and ethnicity categories may not sum to 100% of the Total Population. Census Bureau now collects data on 57 categories of race, all of which could not be displayed due to space limitations. Full race and ethnicity data are available from the Census Bureau or the Legislative Research Office.

Legend

- Interstates
- U.S. Highways
- State Highways
- District Boundary
- Cities
- Counties

LB 3 was approved by the Legislature in the 1st Special Session 2021 on Sept. 29 with a 37-7-5 vote.



Brian Hardin – Republican – Gering

[WEBSITE](#) : Primary Election → 61%

Brian Hardin is a Nebraska state senator, business consultant, and former farmer, rancher, pastor, and insurance broker with a background in agriculture and small business leadership. He holds a bachelor’s degree from Chadron State College and a Master of Divinity from Denver Seminary.



Jessica M. Landers – Republican – Scottsbluff

[WEBSITE](#) : Primary Election → 19%

Jessica Landers is an attorney and former police officer with experience in both the legal system and public safety. She brings a background in law enforcement and legal advocacy to her work in public policy.

