

The PerryScope SPECIAL EDITION (week ending 08/27/18)

NOTE: Although the House is still on its August recess and [will not be back in session until the first week of September](#), so much has been happening that we wanted to post an update. Look for the next regular edition of the PerryScope for the week ending September 9.

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Perry/PA-10 in the News (since our last update)

PA-10 Receiving National Attention

The race between Rep. Perry and George Scott has been receiving national attention, including [this early August Politico report](#).

Outside interest groups, including the [Heritage Action Advocacy Group](#) (the political arm of the conservative Heritage Foundation), have also been paying attention to this increasingly competitive race. According to the Scott campaign, the Heritage Foundation is spending \$200,000 to keep Perry's seat. See [here](#) for a link to a Wall Street Journal article (unfortunately behind a pay wall). Please consider [supporting George Scott's grassroots campaign](#).

In mid-August, the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee (DCCC) added the PA-10 race between Perry and George Scott to the "[Red to Blue List](#)," marking it as one of the most competitive races in the country.

In another major development, [the Cook Political report announced a change in its rating of the race](#), deeming it more competitive than previously believed, switching it from "Likely Republican" to "Lean Republican." According to their press release: "At least several Keystone State Republicans are concerned that Perry, a three-term Freedom Caucus member, remains unprepared for a fight in a Harrisburg district that was redrawn in February to be much more competitive and is 41 percent new to him."

Perry Tele-Town Hall

The audio of Perry's July 24 tele-Town Hall meeting was posted in early August. Click [here](#) to listen. *PennLive*'s John Micek summarized the highlights of the town hall [here](#). Perry responded to questions about Trump's meeting with Putin and criticism of the U.S. intelligence community. For his part, Perry said he accepts the intelligence community's findings, commenting, "Russia has been tampering forever. This is what Russia does. They are opposed the US and always sought to destabilize us." Perry also broke ranks with Trump on the question of tariffs: "I understand what he is trying to do ... but I don't necessarily agree. The tariffs are hurting consumers. I understand the president is trying to get things back in line, I just think there is a better methodology."

TwitterScope

Perry took to Twitter this week several times since our last update (in chronological order):

- As did many of his colleagues, Perry [Tweeted out commemoration of the passing of Sen. John McCain](#) on Aug. 26. Replies, as usual, are worth reading.
- Perry continued to emphasize the positive effects of the tax reform in [this Aug. 13 Tweet](#), and [this Aug. 17 Tweet](#) despite [conflicting reports](#) that recent wage growth is negated by inflation.
- Perry [retweeted Rep Lee Zeldin \(NY-1\)](#) regarding Perry's support of an effort to declassify a report on United Nations-supplied textbooks that were "brainwashing" Israeli school children.
- In early August, Perry Tweeted out about meetings with [a local insurance trade organization](#), [a bank](#), and a [Mechanicsburg business](#) to tout the positive effects of the Trump tax reform.

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Tracking Perry in the Age of Trump

The higher the number, the more the legislator votes in support of the Trump agenda.

[Rep. Scott Perry](#) — **Ranking This Week: 85.4% (unchanged)**

Nate Silver's [FiveThirtyEight](#) website assesses the voting records of our MoCs to provide this index, by comparing any bills where President Trump has stated a position, and comparing the vote of the legislator to that opinion.

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Legislation of Interest:

[H.Res. 1043: Amending the Rules of the House of Representatives to prohibit with limited exceptions the participation of any Member, Delegate, Resident Commissioner, officer, or employee of the House on the board of any publicly held or publicly regulated](#)

This resolution was introduced by Rep. Kathleen Rice (D-N.Y.) on August 21, 2018. It is pending in the House Rules Committee, and it has one co-sponsor (N.Y. GOP Rep. Tom Reed). The resolution calls for a change in the conflict of interest rules in the House. It was clearly composed in response to the recent [indictment](#) of New York Rep. Chris Collins. Rep. Rice said the following about her bill:

There is no reason why Members of Congress should ever be allowed to serve on the boards of publicly-traded companies. If we want to maintain the public's trust in Congress, then we need to change our rules and close gaping ethics loopholes like this one. Our constituents should never have a doubt in their mind that their Representative could be

corrupted, incriminated or conflicted because of their financial interests or their position in a private company.

Consider calling Rep. Perry to ask for his support on this resolution.

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Adapted from the weekly PA-08 MoCTrack report, compiled by Elayne Baker, Gary Garb & Kierstyn Piotrowski Zolfo