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Republicans claim majority in Alabama House and Senate for 1st time in 136 years

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By **AL.com and Press-Register staff**

ALGOP LEGISLATIVE LEADERS UNVEIL 2010 "REPUBLICAN HANDSHAKE WITH ALABAMA"



The Alabama Republican Party website heralds the party's Handshake

With Alabama, a state version of a nationwide initiative aimed at increasing GOP positions in state and national political offices.

BIRMINGHAM, Alabama -- The



[Alabama Republican Party](#)

on Tuesday evening declared that its candidates had captured a majority of seats in Alabama's House and Senate, ending 136 years of Democratic control.

It marks the first time since 1874 -- the post-Civil War period known as Reconstruction -- that the Republicans have held control of the state Legislature. The Republicans cited unofficial results showing that the GOP will have 60 of 105 seats in the Alabama House and 22 of 35 seats in the Senate.

State Republican Party Chairman Rep. Mike Hubbard of Auburn issued the following statement:



[View full size](#) Mike Hubbard, R-Auburn: Alabama Republican Party chairman heralded the first Republican majority in both the state House and Senate since 1874.

"I could not be more pleased with today's historic results," Hubbard said. "There are many people who played an integral role in helping us to achieve this goal, including Gov. Bob Riley, our hardworking staff who implemented our Campaign 2010 strategy, our donors who believed we would be successful and the candidates who made the decision to be a part of this historic election cycle.

"This is more than just an historic day for the Alabama Republican Party, it is a victory for all Alabamians who believe in cutting wasteful spending, ending corruption and creating a business-friendly Alabama that will foster job growth," Hubbard added. "We look forward to working with Governor-elect Bentley and his administration to change the culture legislature in Montgomery."

Gov. Bob Riley issued the following statement on what he, too, said was a turning point in Alabama history:

"This is a pivotal day in the history of our state," Riley said. "For years, we tried to pass reforms to make government more open and accountable to the people, but every year Democrats killed reform. Tonight, the people of Alabama have spoken and the obstacles to reform have been removed."

"During the 2006 campaign, Republicans and Democrats running for the Legislature campaigned on promises to pass ethics reforms if elected to office. However, Republican attempts to make good on those promises were thwarted at every turn by the Democrats."

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Riley said he believes voters could tell which party was committed to positive reforms and which was "clinging to the old, tired politics of the past."

"Today's vote is a clarion call from Alabamians that they are tired of the backroom deals and broken promises of the Democrats in the Legislature," he said. "The people want results-driven, reform-minded conservatives to lead this state in the right direction. I'm confident they will not be disappointed."

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