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Wisconsin Supreme Court race becomes most expensive amid Musk's \$2M support

by CORY SMITH | The National News Desk
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A person votes at a polling location at the Waukesha Public Library during statewide elections on April 1, 2025. (Mustafa Hussain/Getty Images)

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(TNND) — Elections on Tuesday in Wisconsin and Florida might President Donald Trump's policies just a couple of months into

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Special elections are being held in two congressional districts in remain in Republican control.

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Meanwhile, the ideological balance of the Wisconsin Supreme C

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[Robert Stein](#), a professor of political Science at Rice University, s Wisconsin as the most consequential of the day.

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That's a nonpartisan election, but voters have a choice between candidate.

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"That state is so evenly divided, so polarized, and one seat on th make an enormous difference, particularly on redistricting," Ste

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Trump has backed conservative Brad Schimel, a former Republi state, for the Wisconsin Supreme Court seat.

And Trump's billionaire ally Elon Musk held a rally in Wisconsin, [checks](#) to voters, in support of Schimel.

Schimel faces liberal judge Susan Crawford.

The [Brennan Center for Justice](#) says this has become the most e American history, with spending [topping \\$90 million](#).

The election will decide if the Wisconsin Supreme Court maintai



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Stein said his sense is that Crawford has the slight edge.

But Stein said there are real questions over how effectively Musk can influence the outcome of an election by leveraging his wealth.

“What happens if Musk succeeds here?” Stein said. “He’s got the potential to win an election that can be very effective. We don’t really have very effective candidates. So, I think the bigger issue is, is this a strategy that works? I think so. I think this micro-targeting, is finding Republican voters who are low-propensity voters, bringing them to the polls. I don’t think the Republicans will be able to do that today.”



Elon Musk presents a check for \$1 million dollars during a town hall Sunday, March 30, 2025, in C

Stein said the Republicans running for U.S. House seats in Florid

But all eyes will be on their margins of victory.

Florida state Sen. Randy Fine is running for the Republicans to r
Trump's national security adviser.

Florida Chief Financial Officer Jimmy Patronis is running for the
Gaetz, who stepped away from Congress for his brief nominatic

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FILE - Florida Chief Financial Officer Jimmy Patronis speaks during a meeting between Gov. Ron DeSantis and members of the Florida House of Representatives in Tallahassee, Fla., on March 5, 2025. (AP Photo/Rebecca Blackwell, File)

Fine is facing Democrat Gay Valimont, while Patronis is facing Democrat

Waltz won his seat in the fall on a 33% margin, while Gaetz won

Assuming both Fine and Patronis win Tuesday, Republicans will control the House.

Control of the House really isn't in question, Stein said.

But a narrower margin of victory in those two districts might incite more Republicans.

"My personal view on this is that this is all about turnout," Stein said. "It's better now in lower-turnout elections."

But if the margins of victory get down around the single digits, and if candidates won by 30-plus percent margins in the fall, the GOP

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FILE - Rep. Randy Fine, R-Palm Bay, answers a question about his House Bill 3-C: Independent Spending, at the Capitol in Tallahassee, Fla. (AP Photo/Phil Sears, File)

Voters were promised a better economy by Trump.

That, along with immigration, were clearly the top issues for voters.

An [AP-NORC poll](#) released Monday showed 40% of Americans are worried about the economy. The poll found 78% Republican support for Trump.

“But voters know that the price of eggs is high, that inflation has made living is still difficult,” Stein said. “Again, it’s only two months.”

A narrow GOP win in the two Florida districts might show voters’ support for Trump’s policies.

But Stein said it could very well just be the result of lower Republican support in the

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interpretation may be that the president's popularity, that the F

My take is it's really about the Republican base. They just don't

special and midterm elections."

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