

## Democrats: We won the Virginia Senate

*by UPI*

RICHMOND, Va. -- Virginia Democrats claimed victory early Wednesday in their quest to win control of the state Senate, although several races were still up in the air. Democrats had picked up at least three seats, The Richmond Times-Dispatch reported. They needed at least four to gain clear control of the upper house, which Republicans now control 23-17. Gov. Tim Kaine, a Democrat who has been struggling to get legislation through a Republican-controlled legislature, called the race even earlier. He and former Gov. Mark Warner appeared at 11 p.m. at a victory party in McLean. "We made history tonight by taking back the state Senate," Kaine said. The Democrats picked up some seats in the Assembly but not enough to oust the Republicans. If the Senate is divided 20-20, the Republican lieutenant governor, Bill Bolling, will cast tie-breaking votes.

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