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There's a lot to unpack after the 2019 gubernatorial election, but the biggest takeaway for me is how every Republican on the ballot out-performed the governor.

While Bevin brought in just a hair over 707,000 votes (at last count), all of his fellow Republicans running for statewide offices reigned in over 748,000 votes, with three of those candidates breaking well past 800,000.

This is an interesting sign, as it shows that Bevin lost because of his own shortcomings in the eyes of Kentucky voters and not because of a fundamental shift in the values held by a majority of the voting populous in the state.

This is an interesting point, as it doesn't necessarily mean anything will change in the state in terms of McConnell or Trump, but it does show that it's possible for voters to put party aside when it comes to certain issues.

Voter turnout was up compared to the last gubernatorial election, and it would seem that voters came out because of the issues at hand, not because they wanted their "team" to win.

In his victory speech, Beshear talked about the importance of "kitchen table issues" in this race. According to Beshear, voters cared about things like good jobs, health care, pensions, and public education and that's why Bevin lost.

But it speaks to something bigger. Perhaps voting blocs aren't as strictly formed as once thought.

Bevin ran on a campaign centered around national issues. He tied himself to Trump and made issues like illegal immigration and abortion the main focus of his cause. Clearly, voters were willing to split from those issues, issues many will be likely to vote for in the 2020 Presidential Election, in favor of Beshear's kitchen table ticket.

What also aided Beshear was the sheer unlikability of Matt Bevin. One of the least popular governor's in recent memory, Bevin clashed with teachers, lashed out in radio interviews, and seemed to just rub people the wrong way at every turn. In many ways, it's surprising Bevin didn't lose by a larger margin. Perhaps those old voting blocs aren't completely dead.

That likability factor will be the biggest difference moving forward for our state's governance. With someone in Frankfort who is less abrasive and less contentious, friction between the governor and the people will subside and perhaps more can actually be accomplished by the state moving forward without upsetting large groups of people.

Ultimately, the Kentucky General Assembly is still held by a Republican majority in both the house and senate. Beshear will have to work with Republicans to accomplish his goals (aside from the executive order route), so it's not like the state will see a radical difference moving forward.

Hopefully with a change in the governorship will come a change in addressing these issues that so many Kentuckians will continue to discuss around their kitchen table.