

JUNE PRIMARY TO FEATURE RACES FOR THREE VACANT CONGRESSIONAL SEATS

COLLEEN O'DEA | APRIL 1, 2014

Party votes will winnow down ballots for general election votes in November for House, Senate



State Sen. Donald Norcross (D-Camden)

The resignations of three sitting congressmen -- two from South Jersey and one from Central Jersey -- are making for an exciting primary season in New Jersey this year.

The deadline for filing to run in the June 3 congressional primary was Monday.



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Philadelphia Eagle Garry Cobb should win the primary, it provides the Republicans with a high-profile candidate."

According to data supplied by the state Division of Elections, only the three Democrats filed petitions to run in a special primary to fill Andrews' unexpired term.

Although Gov. Chris Christie last year chose to conduct special primary and general elections to fill the US Senate vacancy when Lautenberg died, this year Andrews' seat will remain open for almost nine months as Christie has scheduled the special elections to coincide with the regular elections.

Whoever wins the June primary could still face independent -and even Republican -- opposition from write-in candidates in November, but the winner of the Democratic primary is likely to win the seat. The GOP primary in the 3rd District, which leans Republican, features a battle between two former North Jersey mayors.

Steve Lonigan, former mayor of Bogota and unsuccessful Republican candidate for US Senate last year, moved to Lavallette in hopes of succeeding Jon Runyan. But former Randolph Mayor Tom

