

Lt. Gov. John Fetterman announced that the special election to replace Folmer in the 48th senatorial district will be Jan. 14, 2020. It includes all of Lebanon County and parts of York and Dauphin counties.

The respective Republican and Democratic party chairs in the respective counties will choose the candidates that will appear on the ballot in January, the voters will not.

“There’s a lot that could go wrong here,” Brouillette said. “There’s a lot that could be rigged for a favorite candidate of a party chairman, but I’m hopeful we’ll see an open and transparent process.”

Brouillette is not the only candidate interested in replacing Folmer. State Reps. Tom Mehaffie (R-Dauphin) and Russ Diamond (R-Lebanon) are mulling a run. Lebanon County GOP Chairman Casey Long said Wednesday that at least a dozen others have called expressing interest.

Long is likely the king-maker in the process because Lebanon County has 41 of the 72 total votes to be cast in the process. York has 17 votes and Dauphin has 14, representing their proportional size within the district. The nominee who gets a majority, 37 votes, will be the GOP candidate. The district is overwhelmingly Republican.

(Source: ABC News on Line)