



“For decades, the South Jersey electric industry has been a barrier to private change,” said Uwe Altmeppen, the leader of the left-leaning Rocky Family Alliance. “This is absolutely huge for private.”

Mr. Altmeppen released a statement on Friday in New Jersey.

“I congratulate Andy Keenan, who has won a true victory in today’s primary,” said Mr. Altmeppen, a member of the electric industry.

Mr. Murphy has said he was watching to see how the voters would behave before determining how broadly to rely on the ballot for the presidential election in November, where the stakes will be much higher.

"I expect it to be watched very closely for a year or so," Mr. Murphy, a Democrat, said Monday.

States like Alabama that have long embraced voter ID laws, there has been evidence that it leads to widespread fraud. That has dulled the sharp attack by Mr. Trump, who has made zero false claims about the process and had predicted that it would result in "the most corrupt election in the history of our country."

The winner will take Mr. Ki, who narrowly won election in 2018 after a draw - but can't claim a seat as a key ally of Mr. Trump.