



2010 Political Outlook September 23, 2009

Governors

In 2010, 37 states will hold gubernatorial elections.

Of the 2010 races, Democrats have an incumbent running for re-election in nine states, and Republicans have an incumbent running for re-election in eight states. This includes the special election that will be held in Utah for the second half of former Governor Jon Huntsman's (R) term.

There are 20 open seats, 10 of which are seats occupied by a Democrat and 10 of which are seats filled by a Republican.

State	Type of Race
Alabama	Open seat held by Republican
Alaska	Republican incumbent race
Arizona	Republican incumbent race
Arkansas	Democratic incumbent race
California	Open seat held by Republican
Colorado	Democratic incumbent race
Connecticut	Republican incumbent race
Florida	Open seat held by Republican
Georgia	Open seat held by Republican
Hawaii	Open seat held by Republican
Idaho	Republican incumbent race
Illinois	Democratic incumbent race
Iowa	Democratic incumbent race
Kansas	Open seat held by Democrat
Maine	Open seat held by Democrat
Maryland	Democratic incumbent race
Massachusetts	Democratic incumbent race
Michigan	Open seat held by Democrat
Minnesota	Open seat held by Republican
Nebraska	Republican incumbent race
Nevada	Republican incumbent race
New Hampshire	Democratic incumbent race

New Mexico	Open seat held by Democrat
New York	Democratic incumbent race
Ohio	Democratic incumbent race
Oklahoma	Open seat held by Democrat
Oregon	Open seat held by Democrat
Pennsylvania	Open seat held by Democrat
Rhode Island	Open seat held by Republican
South Carolina	Open seat held by Republican
South Dakota	Open seat held by Republican
Tennessee	Open seat held by Democrat
Texas	Republican incumbent race
Utah	Republican incumbent race
Vermont	Open seat held by Republican
Wisconsin	Open seat held by Democrat
Wyoming	Open seat held by Democrat

The GOP considers many of the Republican incumbent seats to be safe with the exception of Nevada given Governor Jim Gibbons' troubles. U.S. Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid's son Rory, who is the Clark County Commission Chairman, will be on the Democratic gubernatorial ticket. Having both Reids on the ticket may prove helpful to the Democrats. Las Vegas Mayor Oscar Goodman (D) and state Assembly Speaker Barbara Buckley (D) may also decide to run for governor. Former U.S. District Judge and former state Attorney General Brian Sandoval has stepped down from the federal bench in order to run for governor and face Gibbons in the GOP primary.

Alaska Governor Sean Parnell (R), who replaced former Governor Sarah Palin (R), will run for the office in 2010.

Utah Governor Gary Herbert (R) plans to run in the 2010 gubernatorial special election. He took over as governor when Governor Huntsman resigned to become Ambassador to China.

Texas Governor Rick Perry (R) plans to run for re-election. However, U.S. Senator Kay Bailey Hutchinson will primary Governor Perry. Senator Hutchinson raised over \$6.7 million in the first half of 2009 for her bid for Governor. A July 16, 2009 Rasmussen poll indicated that Governor Perry had a 46 percent to 36 percent lead over Hutchinson. On the Democratic side, former ambassador Tom Schieffer and former gubernatorial candidate Kinky Freidman have announced they will run. Though Schieffer has been a lifelong Democrat, he partnered with George W. Bush in the Texas Rangers, supported him in his runs for governor and for president, and served as an ambassador during President Bush's Presidency.

In Nebraska, Governor Dave Heineman (R) will run for re-election and will face United States Marine Corps Veteran Christopher Geary (R) in a primary. There are no confirmed

Democratic candidates; however, there is strong speculation that state Senator Steve Lathrop will face the Republican candidate.

On the Democratic side, Arkansas and New Hampshire are likely safe seats, though New Hampshire Governor John Lynch (D) has not officially announced that he will seek a fourth term. Businessman Jack Kimball is the only confirmed Republican candidate in the New Hampshire gubernatorial race. While former Senator John Sununu (R) has been encouraged to run, he has not expressed interest in the position.

In Illinois, Governor Pat Quinn (D) will run for his first full term and will face state Comptroller Dan Hynes in the primary. State Senators Kirk Dillard, Matt Murphy, and Bill Brady; County Board Chairman Bob Schillerstrom; political operative and pundit Dan Proft; and transparency advocate Adam Andrzejewski have announced their candidacies for the Republican nomination.

In Iowa, the following individuals are vying for the Republican nomination to challenge Governor Chet Culver (D): state Senate Minority Leader Paul McKinley, state Senator Jerry Behn, state Representative Christopher Rants, businessman Bob Vander Plaats, and businessman Christian Fong. State Representative Rod Roberts (R) has also been considering a run.

In Massachusetts, Governor Deval Patrick (D) has faced declining approval ratings. Massachusetts State Treasurer Timothy P. Cahill has left the Democratic Party to possibly run as an independent candidate for governor. Harvard Pilgrim Health Care CEO Charlie Baker and businessman Christy Mihos have announced they will run for governor on the Republican side. Other potential Republican candidates include: Michael Sullivan, the U.S. attorney from Massachusetts; Christopher Egan, President of Carruth Capital, a real-estate investment/development firm; state Senator Scott Brown; and Kerry Healey, the lieutenant governor under Mitt Romney, who lost to Patrick by a wide margin as the 2006 nominee for governor. Some of these candidates may also be interested in running in the special election in January to fill U.S. Senator Edward Kennedy's seat.

According to the August 14-16 job approval rating poll conducted by the Public Policy Polling group, Colorado Governor Bill Ritter's (D) approval rating stands at 40 percent, with 45 percent of respondents replying unfavorably regarding the job the governor has done. Although it is unlikely that a Democratic challenger will emerge as a possible primary opponent for Governor Ritter, the 2010 race has seen a number of Republicans already file for a shot at the Democratic incumbent. Republicans who have officially thrown their hat in the ring include state Senate Minority Leader Josh Penry, former U.S. Representative Scott McInnis, and Employment Agency Executive and GOP Activist Dan Maes. Aside from those who have officially started the campaign process, there are a number of GOP names commonly mentioned as possible candidates, including former Congressman Bob Beauprez and the outspoken former Congressman and former presidential candidate Tom Tancredo. Should Beauprez run and receive the GOP nomination, it would be a rematch of the 2006 race in when Governor Ritter defeated Beauprez with 57 percent of the vote. According to the Public Policy Polling group, only

McInnis has polled higher than Governor Ritter in a theoretical matchup of potential opponents by garnering 46 percent of the vote to Ritter's 38 percent, with 26 percent undecided. The rest of the abovementioned names either tied or polled worse than Governor Ritter when considered for a potential 2010 contest. On the whole, a majority of nationally known political operatives consider the Colorado gubernatorial race to be a toss up or leaning towards the incumbent Ritter.

Ohio Governor Ted Strickland (D) is running for re-election against former U.S. Representative, and Fox News Channel host, John Kasich (R).

In New York, Rudy Giuliani is the unknown factor for the GOP. He will likely get the nod if he wants it. He is also more likely to run if Governor David Paterson (D), and not Attorney General Andrew Cuomo (D), is the nominee. The other Republican candidate is former U.S. Representative Rick Lazio. In a poll released by the Siena Research Institute July 20, only 22 percent of voters said Paterson was doing an excellent or good job. An August 2009 Quinnipiac poll indicated that 61 percent of the Democratic voters polled would vote for Cuomo while 15 percent would vote for Paterson if the election were held at that time. To date, Cuomo says he will run if Paterson does not. Cuomo has spent considerably on fundraising consultants and has raised over \$5 million in the first half of 2009 alone.

On September 20, *The New York Times* reported that the Obama White House was encouraging Governor Paterson to not seek re-election. Since then, Governor Paterson has stated that he still plans to run. However, the New York high court decision on September 22 allowing Governor Paterson's appointment of Lt. Governor Richard Ravitch (D) has eliminated a possible question of succession, which some Albany politicians are already suggesting may help President Obama ease Governor Paterson out by giving him a plum Administration appointment or ambassadorship.

Arizona will be a competitive state. Attorney General Terry Goddard (D), the Democratic favorite, will run. Phoenix Mayor Phil Gordon and former U.S. Senate candidate and shopping center developer Jim Pederson may primary Goddard. Governor Jan Brewer (R), who took over for former Governor Janet Napolitano (D), has not yet announced if she will run and former state Senator Karen Johnson (R) may primary her. Arizona has one of the biggest budget deficits per capita.

In Pennsylvania, based on recent history (since World War II), the same party does not stay in power three terms in a row. Attorney General Tom Corbett and U.S. Representative Jim Gerlach have formally announced their candidacies in the GOP race. On the Democratic side, candidates include Philadelphia businessman Tom Knox; Allegheny County Executive Don Onorato, the frontrunner; and state Auditor General Jack Wagner. Scranton Mayor Chris Doherty (D) has also indicated his interest in running.

In Michigan, Attorney General Mike Cox, U.S. Representative Peter Hoekstra, Oakland County Sheriff Mike Bouchard, state Senator Tom George, and businessman Rick Snyder

are the Republican candidates. Bouchard announced that Secretary of State Terri Lynn Land, who endorsed Bouchard in June after deciding not to run for governor, will be his running mate. The Democratic candidates include Lt. Governor John Cherry, who is likely to announce his candidacy, state Representative Alma Wheeler Smith, and former state Representative John Freeman. Given the state's economic troubles under Governor Jennifer Granholm (D), and the number of strong candidates on the Republican side, this seat may be one the Republicans win.

California will likely also be a competitive race with strong candidates on both sides. The announced Democratic candidates are Attorney General Jerry Brown and San Francisco Mayor Gavin Newsom, whom former President Bill Clinton endorsed in September. On the Republican side, former eBay CEO Meg Whitman, state Insurance Commissioner Steve Poizner, and former U.S. Representative Tom Campbell are running.

In New Mexico, Lt. Governor Diane Denish (D) will run to replace Governor Bill Richardson (D). The announced GOP candidates are state Representative Janice Arnold-Jones and County District Attorney Susanna Martinez.

In Oklahoma, candidates Lt. Governor Jari Askins (D), Attorney General Drew Edmondson (D), Congresswoman Mary Fallin (R), and state Senator Randy Brogdon (R) are vying to replace outgoing Governor Brad Henry (D). The state has never had a Republican governor in office when Republicans held a majority in both chambers of the legislature. However, President Obama won only 34 percent of the vote in Oklahoma in 2008.

In Tennessee, an open seat, the announced Republican candidates are Lt. Governor and state Senate Speaker Ron Ramsey, County District Attorney Bill Gibbons, Knoxville Mayor Bill Haslam, and U.S. Representative Zach Wamp. The announced Democratic candidates are Nashville businessman Ward Cammack; state Senator Roy Herron; former state House Majority Leader Kim McMillan; Jackson businessman Mike McWherter, who is the son of former Governor Ned McWherter; and state Senate Minority Leader Jim Kyle.

U.S. Senator Sam Brownback (R) is the favored candidate in Kansas, an open seat. Other possible Republican names include state Senator Tim Huelskamp, U.S. Representative Jerry Moran, and Insurance Commissioner Sandy Praeger. The potential Democratic candidates are U.S. Representative Dennis Moore and Treasurer Dennis McKinney.

In Maine, also an open seat, former Attorney General and Speaker of the House Steven Rowe (D) has registered as a gubernatorial candidate.

Minnesota Governor Tim Pawlenty's (R) June 2 announcement that he will not run for re-election has prompted several candidates to announce their intentions to run in the 2010 contest. Current Democratic-Farmer-Labor Party (DFL) front-runners include Minneapolis Mayor R.T. Rybak, St. Paul Mayor Chris Coleman, Speaker of the House Margaret Anderson Kelliher, state Senators Tom Bakk and John Marty, former

House Minority Leader Matt Entenza, and former U.S. Senator Mark Dayton. With the exception of Dayton and Entenza, all of these candidates have pledged not to run if they do not win the DFL primary race. House Minority Leader Marty Seifert (R) has indicated he plans to run for governor. Other potential Republican candidates include former U.S. Senator Norm Coleman, state Senators David Hann and Mike Jungbauer, state Representatives Tom Emmer and Paul Kohls, Lt. Governor Carol Molnau, and former State Auditor Pat Anderson. In a poll conducted by Public Policy Polling in July, a hypothetical matchup between Coleman and several DFL candidates indicated early support for Rybak and Dayton, with less favorable numbers for Kelliher. Although several recent statewide elections have all seen narrow Democratic victories, including Secretary of State Mark Ritchie (2008), Attorney General Lori Swanson (2006), and U.S. Senators Al Franken (2008) and Amy Klobuchar (2006), a member of the DFL has not held the Governor's office since 1991.

Wyoming could potentially flip to an incumbent race depending upon what Governor Dave Freudenthal (D) does with respect to term limits. The Wyoming Supreme Court has declared term limits for state legislative seats to be unconstitutional. If the governor successfully challenges the constitutionality of the term limits imposed on his office, he could easily win re-election.

In Alabama, U.S. Representative Artur Davis (D) has announced his candidacy. Agriculture Commissioner Ron Sparks (D) is a likely candidate and Alabama Supreme Court Chief Justice Sue Bell Cobb may enter the Democratic primary as well. On the Republican side, state Representative Robert Bentley; former state Senator Bradley Byrne; businessman Tim James, the son of former Governor Fob James; and former Alabama Supreme Court Chief Justice Roy Moore will face one another in the primary.

In Georgia, announced candidates include former Governor Roy Barnes (D), Attorney General Thurbert Baker (D), retired Georgia National Guard Adjutant General David Poythress (D), House Minority Leader DuBose Porter (D), U.S. Representative Nathan Deal (R), Secretary of State Karen Handel (R), state Senator Eric Johnson (R), and state Insurance Commissioner John Oxendine (R).

In South Carolina, there are five announced or potential GOP candidates: U.S. Representative Gresham Barrett, Lt. Governor Andre Bauer, Attorney General Henry McMaster, state Senator Larry Grooms, and state Representative Nikki Haley. Four Democrats have announced their candidacies or are considering a run: state Senator Robert Ford, state Superintendent Jim Rex, attorney Dwight Drake, and attorney Mullins McLeod.

The GOP candidate in Rhode Island is state Representative Joseph Trillo, while the leading Democratic candidates are Attorney General Patrick Lynch and state Treasurer Frank Caprio. Former U.S. Senator Lincoln Chafee is expected to run for governor as an independent. He has good name recognition in the state and could prove a viable candidate.

In Vermont, Governor Jim Douglas (R) has announced that he will not seek a fifth consecutive two-year term in 2010. Despite the state's Democratic leanings, Douglas' seat was considered safe if he ran for re-election. Lt. Governor Brian Dubie (R) will likely run with the support of the majority of the Republican Party. Secretary of State Deb Markowitz (D) and state Senator Susan Bartlett (D) have announced their candidacies, and state Senator Doug Racine (D) is considering a run.

Florida Governor Charlie Crist (R) announced in May 2009 that he will run for U.S. Senate, leaving his post open. Attorney General Bill McCollum (R) has announced his intention to run for the gubernatorial seat. McCollum lost two bids for a U.S. Senate seat, in 2000 and 2004. He will be joined in the race by Chief Financial Officer Alex Sink (D), an early favorite to win the Democratic nomination.

In Hawaii, Lt. Governor Duke Aiona (R) will run to replace Governor Linda Lingle (R). U.S. Representative Neil Abercrombie is the announced Democratic candidate and Honolulu Mayor Mufi Hannemann (D) has established an exploratory committee.

Attorneys General

There are 30 attorneys general offices up for election in 2010.

State	Type of Race
Alabama	Republican incumbent race
Arizona	Open seat held by Democrat
Arkansas	Democratic incumbent race
California	Open seat held by Democrat
Colorado	Republican incumbent race
Connecticut	Democratic incumbent race
Delaware	Possible open seat held by Democrat
Florida	Open seat held by Republican
Georgia	Open seat held by Democrat
Idaho	Republican incumbent race
Illinois	Democratic incumbent race
Iowa	Democratic incumbent race
Kansas	Democratic incumbent race
Maryland	Democratic incumbent race
Massachusetts	Possible open seat held by Democrat
Michigan	Open seat held by Republican
Minnesota	Democratic incumbent race
Nebraska	Republican incumbent race
Nevada	Democratic incumbent race
New Mexico	Democratic incumbent race
New York	Possible open seat held by Democrat
North Dakota	Republican incumbent race
Ohio	Democratic incumbent race
Oklahoma	Open seat held by Democrat
Rhode Island	Open seat held by Democrat
South Carolina	Open seat held by Republican
South Dakota	Open seat held by Republican
Texas	Possible open seat held by Republican
Vermont	Democratic incumbent race
Wisconsin	Republican incumbent race

The Attorneys General in Arizona, Michigan, and South Dakota are term limited. In Arizona, the seat is currently held by a Democrat, and in Michigan and South Dakota, the seats are currently held by Republicans. In Arizona, the following individuals have filed exploratory campaigns for Attorney General: state Representative Sam Crump (R), Superintendent of Public Instruction Tom Horne (R), and state Representative David Lujan (D). In Michigan, state Senator Bruce Patterson (R) and state Senate Majority Leader Mike Bishop (R) have established campaign committees to run for attorney general. A possible Democratic candidate is state Senator Gretchen Whitmer. In South

Dakota, former Attorney General Larry Long (R) left his post September 4 and Governor Mike Rounds (R) appointed Marty Jackley, the top federal prosecutor in the state, to replace Long. Jackley will have approximately one year in the job before the 2010 election.

Seven attorneys general – so far – are planning to run for governor. They include: Terry Goddard (D-Arizona), Jerry Brown (D-California), Bill McCollum (R-Florida), Thurbert Baker (D-Georgia), Drew Edmondson (D-Oklahoma), Patrick Lynch (D-Rhode Island), and Henry McMaster (R-South Carolina).

Democratic candidates for attorney general in California are: former Los Angeles City Attorney Rocky Delgadillo; Facebook executive Chris Kelly; San Francisco District Attorney Kamala Harris; state Assemblyman Ted Lieu; state Assemblyman Pedro Nava; and state Assembly Majority Leader Alberto Torrico. The three Assemblymen are all termed out. The possible Republican candidates are: state Senator Tom Harman, former state Senator Chuck Poochigian (who ran in 2006), and former U.S. Attorney McGregor Scott.

In Florida, the announced candidates for the open seat are state Senator Dave Aronberg (D), state Senator Dan Gelber (D), Lt. Governor Jeff Kottkamp (R), and attorney Jim Lewis (R). Gelber was endorsed by Fort Lauderdale Mayor Jack Seiler in June and former U.S. Attorney General Janet Reno. Palm Beach County Sheriff Ric Bradshaw and Chairman of the Port of Palm Beach's Board of Commissioners Ed Oppel have announced they will endorse Aronberg for the office.

In Georgia, the first official candidate for attorney general is state Representative Rob Teilhet (D).

In South Carolina, First Circuit Solicitor David Pascoe (D) is considering a run for attorney general.

Massachusetts Attorney General Martha Coakley (D) announced her plans to run in the special election for the U.S. Senate seat left vacant after the passing of Senator Edward Kennedy. She will face U.S. Representative Michael Capuano and Alan Khazei, known advocate of volunteer service, in the Democratic primary. Other potential candidates include U.S. Representative Stephen Lynch (D), Boston Celtics co-owner Stephen Pagliuca (D), and state Senator Scott Brown (R). The primary will be held December 8 and the special election will be held January 19, 2010. If Attorney General Coakley does not win the special election, she will likely be re-elected to her post.

The offices in Delaware, New York, and Texas could also become open if those attorneys general seek higher office. Beau Biden (D-Delaware) may run for U.S. Senate, Andrew Cuomo (D-New York) may run for governor, and Greg Abbott (R-Texas) has not indicated whether he will run for re-election.

Former New York Superintendent of Insurance Eric Dinallo (D) has announced his intention to run for attorney general if Cuomo decides not to run for re-election. He worked under former Governor Eliot Spitzer (D) when Spitzer served as attorney general. He has name recognition given his role in the bailout of American International Group, Inc. and in his handling of credit crisis issues with MBIA, Inc. and Ambac Financial, among others.

In Texas, if Kay Bailey Hutchison resigns from the U.S. Senate before the end of the year and Governor Perry appoints Lt. Governor David Dewhurst (R), one of two rumored choices, to her Senate seat, Abbott would seriously consider running for the lieutenant governor position. Depending on how close that happens to the filing deadline, it could cause a last minute scramble for a number of seats as some state legislators try to run for attorney general, which means others will jump in the race for their seats. Barbara Ann Radnofsky (D) is the only announced Democratic candidate for the office of attorney general. Ted Cruz (R), Dan Branch (R), and state Senator Royce West (D) are also considering running if Abbott does not seek re-election.

In Alabama, Attorney General Troy King (R) is running for re-election, and he will face Luther Strange (R) in the primary.

In Illinois, Lisa Madigan (D) announced her plans to run for re-election rather than for governor or for the U.S. Senate, which caused DuPage County State's Attorney Joe Birkett (R) to drop out of the race since he determined he could not beat her. State House Minority Leader Tom Cross (R) may also run for the office.

Former U.S. Senator Mike DeWine (R), who lost his re-election bid in 2006, will oppose the Attorney General Richard Cordray (D) in Ohio. DeWine is well known in the state. In the primary, DeWine will face Delaware County Prosecutor Dave Yost, who has received endorsements from the majority of Republican prosecutors in the state.

City prosecutor Ralph DeZago will run for the Republican nomination to oppose the incumbent Steve Six (D) in Kansas. Senate Majority Leader Derek Schmidt (R) will also run.

Incumbent Republican Attorneys General John Suthers, Colorado; Jon Bruning, Nebraska; and J.B. Van Hollen, Wisconsin, will run for re-election in 2010. Former state Department of Natural Resources Secretary Scott Hassett (D) plans to run against Attorney General Van Hollen.

STATE LEGISLATURES

In 2010, 46 states will hold legislative elections. Democrats currently control 61 of the 99 chambers. In 2009, Democrats will vie to gain control of the Republican-held Virginia House of Delegates, in which the split is currently 53-45 with two Independents.

The following is the list of the state legislative chambers that could switch partisan control with a switch of five or fewer seats:

Alaska House (R)
Alaska Senate (D)
Arizona Senate (R)
California Senate (D)
Colorado Senate (D)
Indiana House (D)
Kentucky Senate (R)
Maine Senate (D)
Michigan Senate (R)
Montana House (Tied)
Montana Senate (R)
Nevada Senate (D)
New Hampshire Senate (D)
New Jersey Senate (D) - 2009 election
New York Senate (D)
North Dakota Senate (R)
Ohio House (D)
Oklahoma Senate (R)
Oregon Senate (D)
Pennsylvania House (D)
Pennsylvania Senate (R)
South Dakota Senate (R)
Tennessee House (R)
Tennessee Senate (R)
Texas House (R)
Texas Senate (R)
Virginia House (R) - 2009 election
Virginia Senate (D) - 2009 election
Wisconsin House (D)
Wisconsin Senate (D)