

## Oregon

Voters in Oregon will elect a Governor, Lt. Governor, and state legislators in the 2018 election cycle. All 60 seats are up in the House and 15 out of 30 seats are up in the Senate. Democrats currently have a trifecta in the state and are expected to maintain control of the legislature.

## Governor

## Republican Nominee

## **State Representative Knute Buehler**

State Representative Knute Buehler has represented the 54<sup>th</sup> House district since 2015. Unlike the vast majority of his Republican gubernatorial candidate counterparts, Representative Buehler holds liberal positions on abortion and marriage equality and is running as a moderate against the incumbent governor.

He has pledged to balance with budget without raising taxes however he has also stated that he is in favor of raising the cigarette tax and creating a vape tax. He is a vocal opponent of the state's new energy tax.

Representative Buehler favors improving the state's forests' health and wants to tie job creation in with it. He wants to put Oregonians to work harvesting trees from overcrowded forests and sequester carbon as manufactured wood products.

If elected, he has pledged that he will not sign a budget unless pension reform is in it; he wants to use pension reform to fund education. He wants to extend the school year to 180 days and fully fund the state's career and technical education initiative approved in Ballot Measure 98.

Representative Buehler supports a statewide Child Savings Account program funded with public and private dollars. Funds deposited in CSAs can only be spent on expenses related to post-high school education and would incentivize saving for college or technical training with matching deposits.

Representative Buehler aims to reduce opioid epidemic deaths by 50% with a combination of enhancing treatment, advancing prevention efforts, and restricting prescriptions.

**Trivia:** Buehler's favorite dessert is warm Marionberry Cobbler with Eberhard's or Umpqua's Vanilla Ice Cream. Marionberries were cultivated at Oregon State University.

<sup>\*</sup>Information is heavily borrowed from campaign websites, social media, and news and blogs.