Ohio

Voters in Ohio will elect a Governor and Lt. Governor, Attorney General, and state legislators in the 2018 election cycle. All 99 seats are up in the House and 17 out of 33 seats are up in the Senate. Republicans currently have a trifecta in the state and will maintain control of the legislature.

Governor

Democratic Nominee

Richard Cordray

Rich Cordray served as the first director of the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau for five years. He has also served Ohio as State Treasurer and Attorney General.

His message and philosophy is rooted in the work he did as head the CFPB and his years in the Office of Attorney General. Numerous ads and most speeches touch on the millions in tax payer dollars that have been returned due to those entities. As many analysts have noted, Cordray is running as a progressive populist.

Cordray wants to provide incentives for small businesses and set up a Small Business Chief. He is in favor of adapting reform measures from other states to create a retirement savings plan option for those who do not have access through employers. Cordray is in favor of streamlining licensure procedures for transitioning service members and hiring preferences in the private sector.

He is in favor of universal pre-K and he wants to fund it with public and private dollars. Cordray (D) is an advocate for equal pay for equal work and will establish the Ohio Commission on Women & Girls, a permanent body responsible for "advancing the representation of women and girls in state government and making Ohio a state where all women and girls are encouraged, empowered, and able to achieve their full potential." He is in favor of a $1.8 billion-plus bond package ballot measure to upgrade the state's crumbling infrastructure and has stated if the Legislature refuses to put it on the ballot, he would lead the signatures campaign to force the vote.

Trivia: When Elizbeth Warren first called Cordray to recruit him to lead the CFBB, he admitted that he had never heard of her and "didn't know her from Adam." Now a U.S. Senator, she is one of his biggest supporters and was his first endorsement.