

## Alabama

Voters in Alabama will elect a Governor and Lt. Governor, Attorney General, and state legislators in the 2018 election cycle. All 105 seats in the State House are up as well as all 35 seats in the State Senate. Republicans currently dominate state politics — Alabama is a deep red Republican trifecta and should remain so after November.

## Governor

## Republican Nominee

## **Governor Kay Ivey**

Alabama Governor Kay Ivey was not elected to the office she holds. She fulfilled a duty in April 2017 after the embroiled former head of state stepped down. But she has won statewide four times – twice as State Treasurer and twice as Lt. Governor. She also has a high approval rating of 67%, according to <u>a poll</u> released in April by Morning Consult.

Governor Ivey established, via Executive Order, the Opioid Overdose and Addiction Council in August 2017. The Council produced an <u>action plan</u> to address prevention, intervention, treatment, and recovery in December 2017. In an interview with the blog, <u>Yellowhammer</u>, Governor Ivey was asked about the state's opioid epidemic and she responded with, "The opioid crisis is an issue that touches all our communities. This isn't a political issue, it's destroying lives regardless of political parties, and we must do everything in our power to stop it."

She currently oversees the lowest unemployment in the state's history. Her administration's top priorities are job creation, education, and infrastructure. She touts her record of creating over 13,000 new jobs and investing over \$6 billion in new business sectors. She wants to focus on adequately funding pre-K and supporting STEM education. Ivey, a former teacher, has created a plan entitled Strong Start, Strong Finish that aims to get every Alabama student reading at grade level by the third grade. She is advocate for high speed internet access statewide.

Ivey's campaign features traditional conservative themes highlighting her defense of the 2<sup>nd</sup> amendment and right to life in addition to promises to stand up for those that feel left behind and to keep the state clean of scandals. She's an ardent supporter of President Trump and unabashedly supported Roy Moore, post-sexual misconduct allegations, in his unsuccessful Senate campaign.

**Trivia:** In 1982, Governor Ivey ran as a Democrat in the State Auditor race. She ultimately lost and then found her way into the Grand Old Party.

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