

South Carolina

Voters in South Carolina will elect a Governor, Lt. Governor, Attorney General, and state legislators in the 2018 election cycle. All 124 seats are up in the House. Republicans have a trifecta the Palmetto State and should continue their dominance after the November elections.

Governor

Republican Nominee

Governor Henry McMaster

Governor Henry McMaster ascended to the Governor's Mansion in 2017. He has served as the state's Lt. Governor and Attorney General and is a staunch conservative.

He supports a 1% rate reduction over five years for all personal income tax brackets. He advocates for full retirement income exemption for military veterans and first responders.

He wants to deepen the Charleston Harbor to the deepest port on the east coast to allow for additional containers. He is in favor of expanding Interstate 526 and completing Interstate 73.

Governor McMaster's workforce development plan would incentivize businesses to participate with local high schools in apprenticeship programs, increase workforce scholarships and grants at technical colleges, and expand workforce-training opportunities for inmates.

Governor McMaster supports school choice. He is in favor of <u>consolidating</u> small districts. He advocates for more coding and computer science classes.

He has been a vocal opponent of the Affordable Care Act. He wants to expand telemedicine in the state. He plans to push for stricter prescription limits on opioids and expanding access to anti-overdose medication.

He wants to strengthen ethics laws in the state including requiring registration for those paid to lobby county councils and school boards. He also wants to require legislators to recuse themselves from participating when conflicts of interest exist.

He is also pushing for pension reform. He favors closing the defined benefit pension plan and create 401(k)style defined contribution retirement plans for new public employees, exploring raising the age of retirement eligibility, and prohibiting unfunded cost of living adjustments.

Trivia: Governor McMaster served in the U.S. Army Reserves in the JAG Corps from 1969 to 1975.

*Information is heavily borrowed from campaign websites, social media, and news and blogs.