

California

Voters in California will elect a Governor and Lt. Governor, Attorney General, and state legislators in the 2018 election cycle. All 80 seats in the State House are up as well as 20 seats in the 40-member State Senate. Democrats currently dominate state politics – California is a Democratic trifecta and should remain so after November.

Governor

Democratic Nominee

[Lt. Governor Gavin Newsom](#)

Lt. Governor and former San Francisco Mayor Gavin Newsom got a head start on his competition and launched his candidacy for head of state in 2015.

Newsom has a long record of supporting liberal causes. In his first term as mayor of San Francisco, he presided over 4,000 same-sex marriage – going against state law. He spearheaded universal health care in the city and a plan to abolish homelessness in the city.

Newsom has made health care a major part of his campaign – he wants to implement a single-payer system and expand access to mental health treatments.

He wants to work on reducing the cost of tuition at state universities and has a plan that guarantees two years of free community college. Newsom believes that for-profit colleges harbor predatory financial practices and wants the state to retain oversight of lending.

It has been widely [reported](#) that the Lt. Governor would push developers to build 3.5 million homes in the state and to increase a state tax credit to finance low-income housing fivefold. He also wants to create a state bank to provide small business loans and establish innovative micro-lending programs to assist the growth of minority and women-owned firms.

Newsom has set a goal of zero diesel pollution by 2030. He opposes new oil and gas development in the Pacific Outer Continental Shelf as well as fracking. He also wants to get the state running on 100% renewable energy.

***Trivia:** When Gavin was mayor of San Francisco, he stated that he would support breed-specific legislation that would regulate the ownership of pit bulls.*