

Colorado

Voters in Colorado will elect a Governor and Lt. Governor, Attorney General, and state legislators in the 2018 election cycle. All 65 seats in the State House are up as well as 17 seats in the 35-member State Senate. Democrats are expected to maintain control of the lower chamber. The Senate is a target for a Democratic pick up and a target for a defensive hold for Republicans.

Governor

Republican Nominee

[State Treasurer Walker Stapleton](#)

Walker Stapleton has served two four-year terms as the state's Treasurer. His pet project has been overhauling the Colorado Public Employee's Retirement Association. He also was a chief [opponent](#) of Amendment 66 in 2013 – the proposed billion-dollar tax increase.

Stapleton did not run away from President Trump in the primary – one of his televised ads featured images of the president while Stapleton touted that he was the only state treasurer to publicly support the Trump tax cut. However, he recently stated in an interview after the primary the many ways he differs from the president.

Stapleton is making infrastructure improvements a focus of his campaign. He has hit the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) in ads over its use of tax payer dollars to build new office buildings instead of roads. He is a proponent of giving CDOT more resources but is opposed to accomplishing that via a tax increase.

He believes small businesses are the driving force of the Coloradan economy. His education plan is solely shaped around school choice and voucher programs. He will protect the rights of gun owners. He opposes sanctuary localities.

Stapleton pledges to tackle healthcare while acknowledging its strain on the state's budget. He supports incentives and the creation of new care delivery models. He wants to incorporate mental health as a component of primary care. He wants to seek a 1332 Waiver to allow for more types of coverage.

Trivia: Stapleton and U.S. Senator Chris Murphy (D-CT) were once suitemates at Williams College in Connecticut.