



Minnesota

Voters in Minnesota will elect a Governor, Lt. Governor, Attorney General and state legislators in the 2018 election cycle. All 134 seats are up in the state House. One State Senate special election will also take place. Democrats will be defending both the Governor's Mansion and Office of Attorney General. Republicans are defending both chambers of the legislature.

Governor

Democratic Nominee

[Congressman Tim Walz](#)

Congressman Tim Walz has represented Minnesota's 1st congressional district since 2006. He is a former teacher and he also has served 24 years in the Army National Guard retiring as a Command Sergeant. He's been outspoken of President Trump and is featuring prominently progressive values in his campaign.

He supports universal pre-K. He wants to eliminate private charter school vouchers. He supports two years tuition-free education at state institutions for individuals whose families make less than \$125,000.

Congressman Walz has pledged to increase the Child and Dependent Care Tax Credit and to fully fund the Child Care Assistance Program. He also supports parental leave policies. He supports increasing the minimum wage to \$15 an hour, implementing fair scheduling rules, and expanding safe and sick leave.

He supports a ban on assault style weapons, a ban on bump stocks, and universal background checks.

Congressman Walz has made LGBTQ issues a focus on the campaign and has promised to oppose "bathroom bills" and to build on already-passed anti-bullying laws.

Congressman Walz has pledged to expand agriculture markets and invest in ag-related research.

He wants to invest more in mental health care and while he supports the idea of a single-payer system, he believes MinnesotaCare is adequate for right now.

Congressman Walz is advocating to increase the state's renewable energy standard to 50% by 2030.

He has pledged to create a taskforce on the future of transportation that would include a focus on autonomous vehicles. He wants to invest more in high speed commuter rail, light rail and bus rapid transit projects. To pay for these, he recently suggested an increase in the gas tax.

Trivia: In 1996, Congressman Walz formed the Gay Straight Alliance at his school after one of his students came out as gay.

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