

NORTH CAROLINA

Voters in North Carolina will elect a Governor, Lt. Governor, and Attorney General this cycle. All 120 House seats will be on the ballot as well as all 50 Senate seats. Both chambers are targets for the Democrats to flip; Republicans will be playing defense. Democrats will be defending the Governor's Office and Office of the Attorney General while both incumbents are targets for the Republicans. This is one of a handful of states that will be heavily watched for state level elections on November 3.

Governor

[Lt. Governor Dan Forest \(R\)](#)

Lt. Governor Dan Forest (R) has served eight years in the Office of Lt. Governor. He holds traditional conservative values and was a staunch supporter of the now infamous Bathroom Bill that arguably helped a Democrat secure the Governor's Mansion four years ago. He is the founder and former president of the faith-based Triangle Leadership Forum.

The Lt. Governor has been a loud [critic](#) of the Cooper Administration's response to the coronavirus pandemic, which included a Stay At Home Order as well as the current facemask and social distancing mandates. Forest sued the Governor in response to myriad executive orders issued since March that have restricted activities and shuttered the state's economy. Forest eventually [dropped](#) the suit but has pledged to lift the facemask mandate should he be elected.

He has vowed that rebuilding the state's economy will be a top priority and if elected he would invest in a new apprenticeship initiative while focusing on recruitment of higher paying industries to the state.

The Lt. Governor supports school voucher programs and has pledged that he will put an armed security officer inside every school. He has also repeatedly called for all schools to physically reopen and [without](#) statewide guidelines.

He is against expanding Medicaid in the state and wants to work with the General Assembly and the State Treasurer to ensure more pricing transparency for prescription drugs.

Lt. Governor Forest [has hit](#) the Governor's response to the social justice demonstrations that resulted in property damage in downtown Raleigh. The Forest campaign has been hammering that narrative since late May/early June.

He and Governor Cooper currently have one televised debate on the books – [tune in October 14](#). At the end of Q2, the Forest campaign had nearly \$2 million cash on hand and it has been [reported](#) that the Republican Governors Association is planning to spend \$3 million in the state in the run-up to Election Day.

Trivia: Lt. Governor Forest is only the second Republican elected to the office since 1897.