

## ILLINOIS

Voters in Illinois will elect a Governor, Lt. Governor, and Attorney General this cycle. All 118 House seats will be on the ballot as well as Half (39) of the Senate seats. Democrats are expected to maintain control of the Governor's Office, Office of the Attorney General, and the legislature.

### Governor

#### Republican Nominee

##### [State Senator Darren Bailey \(R\)](#)

State Senator Darren Bailey (R) was first elected to the Illinois House of Representatives 109<sup>th</sup> district in 2018, where he served for two years before becoming a member of the Illinois State Senate representing District 55. Bailey is a third-generation farmer and has served 17 years on the North Clay Unit 25 Board of Education.

Bailey has a [list](#) of issues he would prioritize as governor, including policies to address crime rates, taxes, and the reopening of the state. If elected, he has [vowed](#) to repeal the no cash bail policy and the SAFE-T Act on day one in office. A vocal supporter of law enforcement, he has promised to prioritize police funding in the budget to address crime.

Bailey has been outspoken about Governor Pritzker, often referring to him as an “out of touch billionaire” and criticizing his out of state travel. He put himself on the state political radar when he sued Pritzker’s administration over its stay-at-home order.

He publicly pressured Governor Pritzker to hold a special assembly session to discuss anti-violence measures and mental health programs following the Highland Park Parade attack. Bailey [suggested](#) that mental health in young men was made “immeasurably worse” during the months when the state was under strict COVID-19 mitigation measures. He supports increased funding for mental providers at all levels, with emphasis on psychiatrists.

Former President Donald Trump visited Illinois in June for a rally, where he gave his full endorsement for Bailey just three days before the six-way Republican gubernatorial primary. Bailey had previously visited Trump at his Mar-a-Lago resort for fundraisers the weeks leading up to the rally. Trump’s support undoubtedly had an affect on the Republican primary base helping Bailey defeat the state Republicans’ establishment pick.

At the end of Q2, the Bailey campaign [spent](#) nearly \$9.3 million, leaving a little over \$350,000 in the bank. [\\$3.5 million](#) of his campaign funding comes from conservative megadonor Richard Uhlein.

*Trivia: A fourth-generation farmer, Bailey’s family farm is known for growing corn, soybeans, and wheat.*