

MAINE

Voters in Maine this year will elect a Governor and Lieutenant Governor. All 151 seats of the Maine State House of Representatives will be up for reelection, as well as all 35 Senate seats. All races are expected to be competitive. The House and Senate are legislative chamber battlegrounds as well.

Governor

Republican Nominee

[Former Governor Paul LePage \(R\)](#)

Paul LePage (R) served two terms as Governor of Maine from 2011-2019. He was unable to run for again in 2018 due to term limits. This cycle, he was the lone Republican to enter the gubernatorial race setting him up to take on incumbent Governor Janet Mills (D).

While serving as governor, LePage [vetoed](#) a record number of bills during the legislative session from 2012-2013. These bills included attempts to increase the state's minimum wage, increase punishments for animal cruelty, and change health insurance laws.

LePage [withdrew](#) the state's membership from the NGA, stating he did not receive enough value out of NGA meetings to pay the yearly membership fee of \$60,000.

LePage stated that welfare reform was one of his top issues for the state, and he reintroduced bills in 2013 to limit welfare benefits. Welfare reform continues to be a priority in LePage's 2022 campaign: He supports implementing work requirements and instituting a tiered benefit system. He [supports](#) banning the purchase of tobacco, alcohol, lottery tickets, bail, and tattoos with TANF cash.

He claims that the Mills' Administration has out-of-control spending policies, promising, if elected, to rein in spending and reduce the state's dependence on federal money.

He [proposes](#) that all state taxes and fee increases instituted by Governor Mills be suspended until the state's inflation drops back below two percent annually. He plans to phase out state income tax completely, [stating](#) that it hinders the state's economic growth.

LePage [urges](#) the repeal of the state's current cap for the number of charter schools and supports the enactment of a Parents Bill of Rights in Maine. He also supports investing more in the state's technical, trade, and vocational programs for middle and high school students.

LePage's campaign has [raised](#) about \$1.8 million, trailing his opponent by about \$2 million. However, he was [outspent](#) by his opponents in both of his successful runs for governor.

Trivia: LePage is the eldest of eighteen children born to Theresa and Gerard LePage.