

SOUTH CAROLINA

Voters in South Carolina will elect a Governor, Lt. Governor, and Attorney General this cycle. All 124 House seats will also be on the ballot. Republicans are expected to maintain control of the Governor's Office, Office of the Attorney General, and the legislature.

Governor

Republican Nominee

Governor Henry McMaster (R)

Governor Henry McMaster (R) is seeking his second term as head of state after serving two years as lieutenant governor, eight years as attorney general, and four years as a United States Attorney.

In South Carolina, governors are only permitted to serve two four-year terms, but with reelection in November, he will have the opportunity to hold office for an unprecedented ten years. Former Governor Nikki Haley's (R) resignation to join the administration of then-President Donald Trump in January 2017 resulted in his automatic promotion from lieutenant governor to the position. McMaster completed Haley's final two years in office before winning his own election in 2018.

On the campaign trail he is <u>touting</u> his pro-life policies produced in his time as governor and his refusal to close South Carolina during the height of the pandemic.

The Governor <u>sued</u> the Biden Administration over vaccine mandates, while he himself has been sued by the Administration for his executive order preventing tax payer dollars from funding Planned Parenthood. Last year he was also <u>sued</u> by some South Carolina residents over his decision to exit the federal unemployment programs in the state during the pandemic.

In his State of the State <u>address</u> earlier in the year, he emphasized three priorities for the upcoming year that will likely continue through to another term, including plans to address income tax, infrastructure, and election integrity.

Governor McMaster is also concentrating his campaign on education policies and has released plans to reform the way in which the state funds public education. He is <u>promising</u> to raise teacher pay and bring more transparency in to the process of school funding.

The Governor has <u>raised</u> more than \$5 million in his pursuit of a second full term, bringing in more than \$600,000 in the first fundraising quarter of this year.

Trivia: McMaster was the first U.S. attorney appointed by President Ronald Reagan.