

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

Democratic Nominee

Governor JB Pritzker (D)

Governor JB Pritzker (D) is seeking his second term as head of state after his election in 2018, where he defeated billionaire incumbent Bruce Rauner. The race was regarded as one of the most expensive statewide races in U.S. history and was one of two races in the nation where the incumbent Republican governor was defeated for reelection.

Pritzker's pandemic response has been the focal point of his reelection campaign. His campaign video features testimonials from Illinois nurses, National Guard members who set up vaccination sights, and distillers who made hand sanitizer. He highlights his pandemic policies of pushing to get personal protective equipment for health care workers and covering emergency childcare for front-line workers.

He is using the recent *Hobbs* decision which reversed *Roe* to <u>amplify</u> reproductive rights policies in Illinois, often taking to his campaign social media platforms to promote his promises to defend reproductive freedoms.

Pritzker recently spoke at various events in Maine, Florida, and New Hampshire, leading some to speculate a presidential run in 2024. When asked about the potential candidacy, he <u>stated</u> that his travels are not related to presidential campaigning and that he has no intentions to run.

He also <u>donated</u> \$24 million to the Democratic Governors Association (DGA) this year, who in turn boosted republican candidate Darren Bailey in the June primary. DGA funded ads labeled Bailey as an extreme conservative, believing that this would make him the easier candidate to beat come November. In his a campaign funding <u>quarterly report</u>, he reported having over \$60 million available for his campaign. Over the course of this campaign, he has spent over \$90 million of his personal wealth.

Trivia: Forbes reported that Pritzker has an estimated net worth of \$3.5 billion, making him the wealthiest politician in the United States.