

ARKANSAS

Voters in Arkansas will elect a Governor, Lt. Governor, and Attorney General this cycle. All 100 House seats will be on the ballot as well as all half (18) of the Senate. Republicans are expected to maintain control of the Governor's Office, Office of the Attorney General, and the legislature.

Governor

Republican Nominee

Sarah Huckabee Sanders (R)

Former White House Press Secretary Sarah Huckabee Sanders is looking to continue the trend of a republican held seat for Governor in Arkansas, taking over current governor Asa Hutchinson, who cannot seek reelection due to term limits. She is not a stranger to the Governor's Mansion, living there when her father Mike Huckabee held the Governor position from 1996 to 2007.

Sanders' campaign <u>focuses</u> strongly on her previous role in the White House and her endorsement by former President Donald Trump as her credentials for the Governor post. This has raised questions for some on the possible intentions for Sanders to aim for a higher office, but she has been <u>adamant</u> that her focus is on the people of Arkansas.

Sanders has, much like other gubernatorial candidates running this cycle, <u>nationalized</u> her race: She consistently warns of federal government overreach and pledges to be the last line of defense against the "radical left" in Washington.

She decried public school closures during the pandemic, and outright opposition to critical race theory in schools in Arkansas.

In her <u>op-ed</u> published in the Arkansas Democrat Gazette, she stated she was reassured after former President Donald Trump and his family received the vaccine, and that being vaccinated would protect her and others as she interacts with thousands of Arkansans on the campaign trail.

Sanders has been <u>publicly</u> critical of the Biden Administration's approach to inflation and is running on a platform of phasing out the state income tax as residents grapple with increased gas and grocery expenses.

Her campaign broke a state record after Sanders <u>announced</u> in January that she had raised \$12.8 million total. Close to <u>two-thirds</u> of the campaign funds were raised outside Arkansas, with \$4.4 million of the donations coming from nearly 11,000 Arkansans.

Trivia: If elected, Sanders would be the first women elected to the seat.