

SOUTH DAKOTA

Voters in South Dakota will elect a Governor and Lt. Governor this cycle. All 70 House seats will be on the ballot as well as all 35 Senate seats. Republicans are expected to maintain control of the Governor's Office as well as the legislature.

Governor

Democratic Nominee

[State Representative Jamie Smith \(D\)](#)

Jamie Smith assumed office in the South Dakota House of Representatives in 2017, where he serves as Minority Leader representing part of Minnehaha County. Smith, a realtor and former educator, does not [describe](#) himself as a career politician.

He supports marijuana legalization in the state of South Dakota, a measure which incumbent Governor Kristi Noem (R) has [opposed](#).

Smith hopes to bring more high-paying jobs into South Dakota if elected, stating that there is an abundance of untapped potential in the state and that he will prioritize sustainable job growth.

He pledges to expand access to Medicaid in South Dakota, [maintaining](#) that it is crucial for protecting the state's rural communities and essential workers.

Smith has [accused](#) opponent, Governor Noem, of breaking her oath of office and betraying the public trust by giving preferential treatment to a family member through a state agency.

Smith and Governor Noem will debate on September 30.

Trivia: Jamie Smith has a Goldendoodle named Maggie.