

ALASKA

Voters in Alaska this year will elect a Governor and Lt. Governor. The office of Attorney General is appointed by the Governor and confirmed by the state legislature. All 20 seats in the Senate and all 40 seats in the House of Representatives will be on the ballot. Republicans are expected to maintain control of the Governor's office and the legislature.

Governor

Governor Mike Dunleavy

Governor Mike Dunleavy (R) is seeking his second term as Alaska's head of state after defeating Mark Begich (D) in the 2018 general election. Before being elected governor, Dunleavy served in the Alaska State Senate from 2013-2018. He served on the Mat-Su Borough School Board from 2009-2012.

In 2019, he [announced](#) a "war on criminals" by proposing four bills that would increase penalties, give judges more discretion in releasing suspects before trial, and reduce parole.

Dunleavy employed an [administrative order](#) to scrap the state's Climate Action for Alaska Leadership Team put in place by his predecessor. Press secretary Matt Shuckerow stated that this and other similar policies were "no longer relevant, have fulfilled their intended purpose, are not aligned with the Governor's policy direction, and/or appear to have been made primarily for political or public relations purposes".

Dunleavy has [proposed](#) three amendments to the Alaska constitution that bar all new taxes without a vote of the people, cap spending by the state, and guarantee that the Permanent Fund Dividend (PFD) remains in place. The PFD, established in 1976, pays out an average of \$1,600 to Alaska residents each year and has been a topic addressed in the campaigns of many seeking office in the state. Dunleavy promises to protect the PFD.

If reelected, he [pledges](#) to prioritize public safety. He supports giving parents a stronger say in their children's' education.

Dunleavy has received an [endorsement](#) by former President Donald Trump. By July 22 he had raised \$1.23 million for his campaign.

Trivia: Dunleavy spent nearly 20 years in education as a teacher, principal, and superintendent.