

## COLORADO

Voters in Colorado will elect a governor, lieutenant governor and attorney general this cycle. All 65 House seats will be on the ballot, as well as half of the Senate seats (17). Democrats are expected to maintain control of the Governor's Office, the Office of Attorney General, and the legislature.

## Governor

## **Republican Nominee**

Heidi Ganahl

Heidi Ganahl secured the Republican nomination to challenge incumbent governor Jared Polis (D). Ganahl is an entrepreneur and founder of Camp Bow Wow, a pet care franchise. She also founded the charity, the Bow Wow Buddies Foundation, which has rehomed over 10,000 dogs and helped fundraise raise over a million dollars for animal health causes. She was also elected as a regent at the University of Colorado in 2016.

Ganahl's top priorities are infrastructure investment, reducing the size of the state's government, and criminal justice reform. She has released a transportation <u>plan</u> that allocates a \$10 billion investment to improve highways, bridges, tunnels, and safety over the next ten years.

Criminal justice reform is also a large part of Ganahl's platform. She has promised to reduce fentanyl use by recriminalizing possession, bolstering the police force, and providing additional training to officers. She has also pledged to remove the sanctuary state designation, and curb homelessness.

Ganahl would like to see the reduction of state government and has pledged to eliminate 40% of state government positions in her first term in office. She has also stated she would eliminate the individual state income tax and cut gas taxes in half.

The <u>Cook Political Report</u> has rated Colorado as solidly Democrat for the Governor's race this cycle. <u>Polls</u> conducted in mid-September show her opponent incumbent governor Jared Polis (D) is leading by 17 points.

*Trivia:* Ganahl founded a digital and live community that aims to impact young female entrepreneurs called SheFactor.