

ARIZONA

Voters in Arizona this year will elect a governor, lieutenant governor, and attorney general. All 30 seats in the State Senate are on the ballot as well as all 60 seats in the State House. All executive level races are expected to be competitive. Republicans have an edge in legislative contests.

Governor

Republican Nominee

Kari Lake

Kari Lake (R) is seeking her first position in public office after working for 22 years as a news anchor for Phoenix TV station KSAZ-TV. Lake messaged herself as the "Trump candidate" in the Republican primary and received an enthusiastic endorsement from the former president. Her campaign has paralleled Trump's, as both were celebrities who had never run for office, and both maintained positions as outsiders hoping to shake up the establishment.

Lake has <u>announced</u> several immigration policies. She hopes to create an interstate compact for border states to join: Compact member states will create a boarder security force, share law enforcement resources, and "invalidate" regulations on border enforcement administered by federal agencies. Lake has also pledged to finish building the border wall and enhancing Arizona National Guard presence at the border.

She plans to <u>address</u> homelessness in Arizona by expanding temporary shelter facilities and investing in long-term facilities. She has stated that organizations that do not adopt an approach of leading with services will no longer receive state grants. She has pledged to direct DPS to engage in a "Broken Windows" approach to policing, and to tie state funding for counties and municipalities to the same. Lake has also promised to ban urban camping statewide once the state crosses a threshold of shelter bed availability.

Lake <u>advocates</u> for ending annual state-mandated testing in schools, instead replacing them with every student taking the National Assessment of Education Progress (NAEP) in the 4th, 8th, and 12th grades. She wants to align state standards to the Hillsdale 1776 curriculum, strengthen the state's ban on critical race theory, and prohibit Social-Emotional Learning and Diversity Equity and Inclusion programs.

Lake believes potential water shortages may be the most critical issue facing Arizona. She <u>proposes</u> increasing storage capacity on the Salt and Verde River system and pipelining water from the Missouri and Mississippi River Basins.

She additionally <u>plans</u> to work with the state legislature to attract both existing and startup firms in the commercial space sector in the hope that this will create high paying jobs for all skill levels.

Trivia: During her time as a news anchor, Lake interviewed both former President Barack Obama and former President Donald Trump.