

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

[Bill Walker \(I\)](#)

Bill Walker (I) served as Governor of Alaska from 2014-2018. He initially sought reelection in 2018 but, facing low polling numbers, he suspended his campaign. He went on to endorse the Democratic candidate, Mark Begich, who lost to Governor Mike Dunleavy (R) in the general election.

Walker [states](#) that one of the reasons he is running for governor again is because of the bipartisan infrastructure bill. He claims Governor Dunleavy has shown little interest in competing for available funds. Walker supports creating an Office of Infrastructure at the executive level to ensure rural communities can maximize benefits of grants.

If elected, he [hopes](#) to find common ground with the Republican-controlled legislature that he struggled with during his previous tenure as governor. When Republicans [opposed](#) Walker's efforts to expand Medicaid, he used his executive authority to do so.

Walker promises to propose financial incentives to employers to help them ensure employees have access to affordable childcare. He [supports](#) making teacher salaries and benefits more competitive.

Walker [pledges](#) to grow the Permanent Fund Dividend (PFD), though not at the [expense](#) of other state government services such as education or public safety. As governor, he [reduced](#) annual payments by nearly 50% in a partial veto of legislation pertaining to the PFD.

Walker has [reportedly](#) raised over \$1.5 million for his campaign.

Trivia: Early in his career, Walker worked in his family's construction business as a carpenter, laborer, and teamster on the Trans-Alaska Pipeline.