

VIRGINIA

Voters in Virginia will elect a governor, lieutenant governor, and attorney general this year. All 100 seats in the house of delegates are up for reelection. Democrats are projected to have a slight advantage in the governor's race. The house is considered a battleground chamber and control will hinge on a handful of districts in November.

Governor

Republican Nominee

Lt. Governor Winsome Earle-Sears

Lt. Governor Winsome Earle-Sears ran unopposed in the Republican primary for governor on June 17, seeking to replace outgoing Governor Glenn Youngkin (R) who is unable to seek reelection as governors are limited to one term in Virginia.

Earle-Sears previously served in the Virginia House of Delegates from 2002 to 2004 and on the Virginia Board of Education. She also served in the United States Marine Corps as an electrician. She was elected lieutenant governor alongside Youngkin in 2021, and in her role oversees the state senate during legislative sessions including casting deciding votes in the event of a tie on the floor.

Earle-Sears' campaign [priorities](#) include reducing the **cost of living**, bolstering quality **education**, protecting the **right to work**, and a tough-on-crime approach to **public safety**.

She has made **tax relief** a central focus during her tenure as second in command, and supports repealing the state's car tax if she were to be victorious in November.

To address the cost of living, she has vowed to make common-sense tax cuts and eliminate wasteful government spending. She advocates for **parental rights** and **education** choice.

Earle-Sears made history in 2022 by becoming the first Black woman in the commonwealth to hold statewide office. If she is elected in November, she will become the nation's first Black female governor.

The Cook Political Report and The Center for Politics Sabato's Crystal Ball have rated this race as Lean Democratic.

Trivia: Before running for public office, Earle-Sears directed a Salvation Army homeless shelter.