

ARKANSAS

Voters in Arkansas will select a governor, lieutenant governor, attorney general, and treasurer. All 100 state house seats and 17 out of 35 senate seats are also up for election. Republicans are expected to maintain control of all executive offices and the state legislature.

Governor

Democratic Nominee

State Senator Fred Love

Frederick “Fred” Love was first elected to the Arkansas Senate in 2022, where he currently serves as Vice Chair of the Public Retirement and Social Security Programs Committee. He previously served in the Arkansas House of Representatives from 2011 to 2022.

During his time in the senate, he spearheaded efforts to build the Forest of Hope Family Justice Center, a space to provide support for victims of domestic violence and human trafficking. He also helped to increase access to health services, leading efforts to build the Southwest Health Unit and an Arkansas Children’s Hospital clinic to southwest Little Rock. In 2026, he delivered the Democratic Party’s response to Governor Sanders’ State of State Address. The **rising cost of living** was the centerpiece of his address, highlighting increased gas, grocery, housing, and childcare costs.

Love plans to invest in **small businesses, expand workforce training, and strengthen infrastructure**. He has called for greater entrepreneurship, apprenticeship, and small business support and wants to establish an Affordable Housing Task Force at ADFA.

His campaign calls **education** “the great equalizer.” He plans to invest in reading specialists and reinforce literacy programs, expand mental health and teletherapy services, limit school vouchers, increase teacher pay and resources, and strengthen adult literacy programs.

Love is a staunch advocate of **criminal justice reform**. He supports prison reforms that prioritize rehabilitation, offer trade programs for incarcerated individuals to help reduce recidivism, and increase staffing at correctional facilities. He has criticized the building of a 3000-bed mega prison in Franklin County.

Under his **healthcare** agenda, he plans to protect Medicaid, expand access to mental health services, launch a mental health app and hotline, and increase the capacity of telehealth services.

Sabato’s Crystal Ball and the Cook Political Report have both labeled this race as **Safe Republican**.

Trivia: Love has a Post Baccalaureate Certificate in Public Health from the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences and attended the Harvard Kennedy School for Senior Executives in State and Local Government.