

SOUTH CAROLINA

This cycle, South Carolina's governor and attorney general seats are both open for the first time in years, alongside the state treasurer's race and all 124 state house seats. The state senate is not up for election this year. Republicans are expected to maintain control of all executive offices and the legislature.

Governor

Democratic Nominee

State Representative Jermaine Johnson

Jermaine Johnson is a member of the South Carolina House of Representatives, representing District 52. In 2020, he defeated 22-year incumbent Jimmy Bales to secure his seat. He currently serves on the Labor, Commerce, and Industry Committee and previously chaired the House Legislative Oversight Committee. He currently runs his own firm, Dream Team Consulting, and serves as an adjunct professor at Midlands Technical College.

His [campaign](#) centers on a combination of his legislative record and his vision for the governor's office. He highlights his work passing legislation to lower the sales tax for seniors, his efforts to repair a bridge that had been closed since the 2015 Thousand Year Flood, and his role in expanding broadband access across the state.

On **affordability**, Johnson proposes reducing property and income taxes for working families, expanding access to affordable housing, and improving conditions for workers through the creation of a Labor Advisory Council. The council would be tasked with recommending a state minimum wage, identifying and removing barriers to employment, and addressing corporate wage theft. He would also incentivize employers to offer **paid family leave** for fathers, support **flexible scheduling policies** to allow fathers to attend school events and medical appointments, and establish a Governor's Commission on Fathers and Families to guide related policy and coordination efforts.

On **infrastructure**, Johnson supports legislation that would require the state to achieve and maintain at least 25% in-state production of food, energy, and water resources, as well as legislation that would allow municipalities to fund their own road and bridge repairs using money from the state's Department of Transportation.

The race has been rated Solid Republican by the [Cook Political Report](#) and Safe Republican by the Center for Politics [Sabato's Crystal Ball](#).

Trivia: Johnson played basketball professionally in the NBA's D-League and across the globe.