

MINNESOTA

Voters in Minnesota will elect a new governor as Governor Tim Walz (D) did not run for re-election as well as attorney general in November. All seats in the legislature are also on the ballot. While Democrats are expected to maintain control of the Governor's Mansion and the legislature, the attorney general race is expected to be competitive.

Governor

Republican Nominee

Minnesota House Speaker Lisa Demuth

Speaker Lisa Demuth was first elected to the house in 2018 and was selected by her colleagues as minority leader in 2022. Before entering public service, she ran a small business and spent 11 years on the Rocori School District School Board.

Her campaign priorities include **increasing investments in public safety resources, promoting an all-of-the-above energy approach, and cutting business permitting timelines.**

To address affordability, she has proposed providing \$150 million in property tax cuts, establishing a \$99 maximum car tab fee, reducing the lowest two tax brackets, removing automatic gas tax increases, eliminating state tax on Social Security benefits, and signing state conformity legislation to match the state tax code to the federal tip and overtime deductions dollar-for-dollar.

If elected, she has pledged to issue an executive order on day one to cut **permitting** timelines by at least 25%. She would also direct commissioners to find a total of \$1 billion in savings across all agencies.

A centerpiece of Demuth's campaign is her **Fraud Prevention Plan**, a direct result of reports of Medicaid fraud under the oversight of the Walz administration. She plans to centralize program eligibility determinations within a state-run entity and will push for the creation of an independent Office of Inspector General.

The Cook Political Report and Sabato's Crystal Ball have rated this race as Safe Democratic.

Trivia: Demuth is the first Black lawmaker and Republican woman to serve as Minnesota Speaker.