

Iowa's 2018 gubernatorial election

Details on candidates, campaign spending and more

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Overview of the 2018 Iowa gubernatorial election

Primary election:

June 5, 2018

General election:

November 6, 2018

The governor and lieutenant governor run together on the same ticket



Kim Reynolds

- Republican
- Current Iowa governor
- Assumed office on May 24, 2017, following Terry E. Branstad's resignation to serve as the U.S. Ambassador to China
- **Running for re-election**

The Cook Political Report:

Solid Republican

rating for Iowa's gubernatorial election

Gov. Kim Reynolds has announced that she will be running for re-election in 2018 with current Lt. Gov. Adam Gregg



Kim Reynolds

- Assumed office in May 2017
- Ran for lieutenant governor with former Gov. Terry Branstad, who resigned from office in May 2017 to serve as the United States Ambassador to China

Key policy issues



Creating a competitive business climate. As governor, Reynolds oversaw the Iowa Partnership for Economic Progress, an advisory board of CEOs who focused on job creation in Iowa



Developing the “most innovative energy policy in the country.” Reynolds led the formation of the Iowa Energy Plan during her tenure.



Educating children so that they can help build a knowledge economy. As governor, Reynolds led the creation of the Governor’s STEM Advisory Council, to build a strong STEM education foundation for children

Current Iowa state senator announces he will run for election in 2018



Nate Boulton

- Democrat
- Currently: State Senator for Iowa, representing District 16
- Elected to the Iowa Senate in 2016

Key policy issues



Hopes to raise the minimum wage to \$15 per hour by 2024. Will also prioritize investing in a long-term plan to grow Iowa's economy and issue an executive order allowing for expanded workers rights



Supports reinstating a state-run Medicaid system that "prioritizes Iowa's most vulnerable." Boulton has also stressed the need to reestablish state mental health facilities.



Prioritizing consistent funding for education at all levels, from universal pre-K to community colleges and public universities. Boulton has also supported restoring teachers' rights.



By 2025, Boulton hopes to produce 50% of Iowa's energy from renewable fuels, clean up the state's waterways and protect its natural resources

Former candidate for California House rep announces intent to run for governor of Iowa



Brent Roske

- Independent
- Currently: Filmmaker, creator and co-executive producer of “Chasing the Hill,” a fictional show about life on Capitol Hill
- Ran for representative of California’s 33rd Congressional District in 2014

Key policy issues



Prioritizes cleaning up Iowa’s water, saying he “won’t sign any bill until a clean water bill makes it to my desk”



Supports a single-payer health care system, and would advocate for a “Medicare For All” type of program in Iowa



Seeks to improve American government by re-examining the role of the executive branch and both the state and national levels, as well as arbitrating between “the warring factions in the legislatures”

Libertarian activist Jake Porter announces candidacy for Iowa's governor



Jake Porter

- Libertarian
- Currently: Employed by Yahoo, in Omaha, Nebraska

Key policy issues



As a pro-life supporter, Porter hopes to reduce the number of abortions by educating teenagers about the permanent consequences of sex. He also supports funding adoption agencies to “make it easier for good parents to adopt children”



Supports criminal justice reform by decriminalizing marijuana possession, prioritizing support for individuals with mental health issues and tracking traffic stop data by race in order to “bring an end to disparate treatment and perverse, racially prejudiced outcomes”



Hopes to increase Iowa's economic prosperity by ending welfare to large corporations and phasing out the Iowa sales tax

14 candidates total are running for Iowa governor

In addition to Kim Reynolds, Nate Boulton, Brent Roske and Jake Porter, the following individuals have also announced their candidacy for Iowa's governorship

Democratic

Cathy Glasson

Fred Hubbell

Andy McGuire

Jon Neiderbach

John Norris

Gary Wells

Republican

Ron Corbett

Steven Ray

Libertarian

Marco Battaglia