

NORTH CAROLINA

Voters in North Carolina will elect a governor, Lt. governor, attorney general, and treasurer this cycle. All 120 house seats will be on the ballot as well as 50 senate seats. The governor and attorney general seats are open, and these races are widely considered tossups. The Republicans are expected to maintain control of the legislature.

Attorney General

Republican Nominee

U.S. Representative Dan Bishop

U.S. Representative Dan Bishop (R) currently represents North Carolina's 8th Congressional District. He was elected to the seat after narrowly winning a special election in 2019. He also served in the North Carolina House of Representatives and the North Carolina Senate. He raised his profile in state politics in 2016 when he was the main sponsor of North Carolina House Bill 2, nicknamed the "Bathroom Bill", that made waves nationally and led to several boycotts by entertainers and businesses in the state.

Bishop is framing himself as a law-and-order candidate, placing emphasis on his support for **law enforcement**. He has also campaigned on the promise to address **federal overreach, immigration, and border security** if elected.

Bishop debated his Democratic opponent, U.S. Representative Jeff Jackson (D), at a forum hosted by the North Carolina Bar Association. Both candidates found themselves on opposite sides of the issues and aimed to paint the other as extremists in their respective parties.

During the forum Bishop said that the key role of the attorney general in the state is to enforce the law, regardless of opinion. He pledged to work closely with district attorneys at every level of the criminal justice system.

At the end of the second quarter reporting period, his campaign had \$2.6 million cash on hand after bringing in \$1.4 million and spending \$225,000.

Although the state has historically elected republican presidential candidates, Democrats are often elected on a state-level. The last time a Republican was elected attorney general in North Carolina was 1896, but recent elections for the attorney general position have been exceedingly close in the state. During the 2020 election, current Attorney General Josh Stein (D) defeated Jim O'Neill by just 13,622 votes.

Sabato's Crystal Ball has rated this race as a tossup.

Trivia: Before entering politics, Bishop was a business litigator for nearly three decades.