

## NORTH DAKOTA

Voters in North Dakota will elect a governor and treasurer this cycle. Forty-seven (47) out of the 94 house seats are on the ballot as well as 23 out of the 47 senate seats. The governor seat is open, and Republicans are expected to maintain control of this office as well as the legislative chambers.

### Governor

### Republican Nominee

### Kelly Armstrong

U.S. Representative Kelly Armstrong (R) is the Republican candidate for governor looking to replace Governor Doug Burgum (R), who opted not to seek re-election. Armstrong is North Dakota's lone member in the U.S. House representing the At-Large Congressional District. He previously served in the state senate from 2012 to 2018. During this time, he served as the Chairman of the Judiciary Committee, the Chairman of the Justice Reinvestment Committee, and a member of the Energy and Natural Resources Committee.

**Armstrong has released several priorities for his gubernatorial campaign, including the opioid crisis, border security, sentencing reform, Second Amendment Rights, agriculture, and tax reform.**

During a Republican governor primary debate held in May, Armstrong said if elected, his first priority would be reducing **property taxes**. He also stated he does not support a proposed November ballot measure that would eliminate taxes based on property value in North Dakota.

To address the **opioid crisis**, he is promoting a policy plan that emphasizes education and treatment. During his time in Congress, he cosponsored the State Opioid Response Grant Authorization Act to allow the use of grant funds for recovery support services and establish a funding methodology and minimum funding allocations. He has also named addressing addiction as a priority of his campaign, and says he supports providing tools and treatments for addiction programs.

If elected governor, Armstrong hopes to roll back government regulation and advocate for **local control**, prioritizing the work of county and city governments.

During the primary election, Armstrong was endorsed by the North Dakota Republican Party but did not receive endorsement from incumbent Governor Burgum. Burgum endorsed current Lt. Governor Tammy Miller (R). Armstrong defeated Miller in the June Republican primary by over 40,000 votes.

Polling shows Armstrong is significantly favored against his opponent, State Senator Merrill Piepkorn (D), by at least 35 points. The Cook Political Report and Sabato's Crystal Ball have rated this race as Solid Republican.

*Trivia: Kelly served as a volunteer fireman for the Dickinson Fire Department from 2005 through 2012.*