

## **WEST VIRGINIA**

Voters in the Mountain State will elect a new governor, attorney general, and treasurer in 2024. All 100 seats in the state house as well as 17 of 34 state senate seats will also be on the ballot in November. Republicans are expected to maintain control of all executive offices and the legislature.

## Governor

## **Republican Nominee**

## **Patrick Morrisey**

Patrick Morrisey has served as the West Virginia Attorney General since defeating a five-term incumbent in 2012. Morrisey was the first Republican to win the attorney general's office <u>since 1933</u>. His career includes both private and public sector service. Morrisey previously served as counsel to the Energy and Commerce Committee in the U.S. House of Representatives. In 2000, he ran for a seat in the U.S. House but was defeated in the Republican primary. Morrisey later served as a lawyer and lobbyist in D.C. before moving to West Virginia in 2006. In 2018, he ran for U.S. Senate but was defeated in the general election.

As attorney general, Morrisey has often filed or participated in lawsuits against the federal government and pharmaceutical companies. Morrisey has filed federal lawsuits and submitted amicus briefs regarding federal energy policy and Second Amendment concerns. He established a new policy within his office of hiring outside counsel to **increase transparency** and decrease costs to the state. In 2015, he established a partnership with the Social Security Administration to investigate disability fraud.

Morrisey's <u>campaign platform for governor</u> largely continues his policies and priorities as attorney general. In addition, he hopes to implement the lowest personal **income tax** in the region and expand **broadband access** within the state. He supports **school choice** and charter schools as well as **raising teachers' pay**.

West Virginia's **certificate of need laws** would be eliminated as part of Morrisey's plan to expand health care access alongside a task force to review the state's health care system and expanded **telemedicine** access.

In <u>a recent interview</u>, Morrisey covered plans to reverse inflation by using the state's surplus to give additional **tax relief** to West Virginians, increase workplace participation by **increasing the state's attractiveness to employers**, and classification of **fentanyl** as a weapon of mass destruction as three major goals of his future administration.

The Cook Political Report and Sabato's Crystal Ball have ranked this race as Solid Republican.

Trivia: Morrisey is a native of Edison, New Jersey.