

# State of Play OHIO MIDTERMS

The rights of Ohioans are under threat with extremists running up and down the ballot. Abortion rights, book bans, voting rights, and public education are just some of the key issues at stake. Election deniers are running for office, threatening our democracy.

This guide is a snapshot of who is running and why it matters.



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## State Supreme Court

# HOW IT WORKS & WHAT'S AT STAKE:

7 members are elected by Ohio voters for 6-year terms.

Each state's own high court has final authority over how state law and state constitutions are interpreted.

### **Current Situation**

**3 DEMOCRATS** 

Pat

**Fischer** 

**4 REPUBLICANS** 

3 REPUBLICAN-HELD SEATS
ARE UP IN 2022





Sharon

Kennedy

Judge Jennifer Brunner is a current judge running for seat of Chief Justice. She is running against Judge Sharon Kennedy to replace the retiring conservative Chief Justice.

#### Marilyn Zavas





Marilyn Zayas is challenging conservative Judge Pat DeWine, who is up for reelection this year.





Terri Jamison is challenging conservative Judge Pat Fischer, who is up for reelection this year.

### WHY DOES THIS MATTER NOW?

The Supreme Court race in Ohio is literally one of the most important in the country.

Since the Ohio state legislature currently has a Republican supermajority, the court is the only major way to protect abortion rights and the freedom to vote.

In each race a sane, normal mother is running against someone who would take away our freedom to decide when and whether to grow our families. We need to win at least two. If the court stays in Republican hands, our rights are under threat.







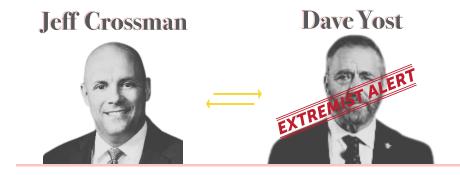
### State Executive Offices

### **Attorney General**

#### HOW IT WORKS & WHAT'S AT STAKE:

The attorney general is the state's top lawyer. Of most notable concern right now, attorney generals can challenge their state's election results, a grave threat to our democracy when in the hands of extremists who are denying the results of free and fair elections.

#### **Current Situation**



The current attorney general is anti-choice extremist David Yost, is running for reelection this year. He is being challenged by State Representative Jeff Crossman.

David Yost filed to enact Ohio's six week abortion ban as soon as the Supreme Court overturned Roe v. Wade. He called the reports of the 10 year old who traveled to Indiana to get an abortion a "fabrication."

### Governor

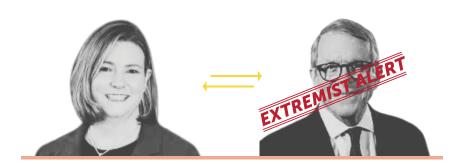
# HOW IT WORKS & WHAT'S AT STAKE:

The governor has the power to veto bills passed by the legislature, sign bills into law, and serves as the state's chief executive. They outline a policy direction for the state. The governor also establishes the cabinet of state officials who will have a large impact on state affairs throughout their term.

#### **Current Situation**

Nan Whaley

Mike DeWine



This year, anti-choice extremist Governor Mike DeWine is running for reelection to his second term. He is challenged by Nan Whaley, the former mayor of Dayton. She is pro-choice, pro-schools, and pro-workers.

Governor DeWine passed one of the most restrictive abortion bans in the country, which forced a 10 year girl to travel to Indiana to access abortion care. He also has refused to support common-sense gun reforms and signed a bill that allows permitless concealed carry without requiring training. He also signed a bill that would arm teachers.



#### HOW IT WORKS & WHAT'S AT STAKE:

Republicans, including extremists, dominantly control both chambers. Right now, the Ohio state legislature is so extreme they will override a Democratic governor, even if we elect one—they will continue pushing guns into our schools and taking away our right to manage our pregnancies.

If GOP loses ground Democrats can challenge bad laws



### **Current Situation**

22 REPUBLICANS 8 DEMOCRATS

All 33 seats are up for election

64 REPUBLICANS
35 DEMOCRATS

All 99 seats are up for election



Republicans need to keep 2 Senate seats and keep 5 House seats to keep their legislative supermajority



### State School Board

#### WHY DOES THIS MATTER NOW?

School boards in Ohio are fighting lawsuits over bans on teaching about race and other identities. Districts are currently deciding whether or not to arm teachers in a response to school shootings, after Governor DeWine signed a bill allowing the practice.

Ohio has a state school board composed of 19 members. These people decide what our children have the freedom to learn and how to keep them safe in schools. Currently, there are sitting members who believe that schools should be forced to teach "both sides" of racism to Ohio children.

Five school board incumbents who all voted to ban lessons opposing racism in our schools are running for reelection. This is our chance to elect common sense parents who care about our kids than politics.

Tim Miller (District 10) and John Hagan (District 9) are two incumbents who voted to abolish a resolution condemning racism in our schools. Tom Jackson is running against Tim Miller, and Robert Fulton is running against John Hagan.







# U.S. Congress

# WHY DOES THIS MATTER NOW?

If Republicans gain control of the House, they will pass a national abortion ban.

House Republicans have also vowed to hold Biden impeachment hearings for the Justice Department's actions to recover classified docs that Trump took to Mar-a-Lago.

They also recently voted against lowering the price of insulin for Americans, protecting birth control and abortion access, marriage equality, and interracial marriage.

#### HOW IT WORKS & WHAT'S AT STAKE:

#### U.S. House

All of the 435 elected officials who represent each state in the U.S. House of Representatives in Washington, DC are up for election every 2 years.

Democrats now have an overall slim majority 220 - 211 in the House (with 4 vacancies). If Democrats keep control of the House, they will work to protect reproductive rights and fight for families.

#### U.S. Senate

2 Senators represent every state and they serve for 6 years. The Senate is split 50-50 but Democrats have a slight majority now because VP Harris can offer a tie-breaking vote.

There are 48 Democrats with 2 Independents who vote with the Democrats and 50 Republicans.

#### **Current Situation**



Ohio has one of the most crucial US Senate races of 2022. Rep. Tim Ryan is squaring off against right-wing JD Vance — one of the most frightening extremists in America.

JD Vance might be the deciding vote for a national abortion ban. He believes that the government should control our pregnancies, what our schools can teach, and what kinds of families are accepted in Ohio. He has called rape "inconvenient" and compared abortion to slavery. He has also said that women should stay in violent marriages.







### Voter Deadlines

#### September 23<sup>rd</sup>:

Military and overseas absentee voting begins.

#### October 11th:

Voter registration ends.

#### October 12th:

Early in-person and absentee voting begins.

#### November 5<sup>th</sup>:

Deadline to request an absentee ballot (noon).

#### **November 7th:**

Mail-in ballots must be postmarked by this date.

**November 8<sup>th</sup>: Election day!** Polls are open from 6:30 am to 7:30 pm. Absentee ballots that are returned in-person must be turned in by 7:30 pm.

#### November 18th:

This is the last day for boards to receive mail absentee ballots postmarked by November 7th.

