

Nebraska Legislature 2024 Primary Candidates

- ◆ District 1 Incumbent Senator **Julie Slama**: Peru. Republican. Announced she will not run for another term.
 - **Glenda Willnerd**: Unadilla. Democrat
 - **Dennis Schardt**: Steinauer. Republican. Former county commissioner, city council member, and volunteer fire chief. Owns Den's Country Meats in Table Rock.
 - **Bob Holman**: Auburn. Republican. Retired
 - **Bob Hallstrom**: Syracuse. Republican. Attorney and Lobbyist representing NE Bankers Association and other business groups

- ◆ District 3 Incumbent Senator **Carol Blood** is term-limited
 - **Felix Ungerman**: Bellevue. Republican. Don Bacon's Deputy Chief-of-Staff
 - **Victor Rountree**: Bellevue. Democrat. Pastor and Service Leader. Substitute teacher. Retired US Air Force Chief Master Sergeant.

- ◆ District 5 Incumbent Senator **Mike McDonnell** is term-limited.
 - **Flint Harkness**: Omaha. Democrat. Special Education resource teacher.
 - **Margo Juarez**: Omaha. Democrat. OPS Board member. Retired federal tax examiner.
 - **Gilbert Ayala**: Perennial candidate for Legislature and Omaha City Council in 2021.

- ◆ District 7 Incumbent Senator **Tony Vargas** is term-limited.
 - **Tim Pendrell**: McDonnell AA
 - **Dunixi Guereca**: Former union organizer. Executive Director of Stand for Schools
 - **Christopher Geary**: Martial Arts instructor/studio owner. Former Marine. Ran unsuccessfully for Omaha Mayor in 2017 and Legislature in 2012.
 - **Ben Salazar**: Omaha Attorney and businessman. Native of Scottsbluff. Chicano Activist. Publisher of Nuestro Mundo, a Spanish newspaper in Omaha.

- ◆ District 9 Incumbent Senator **John Cavanaugh**: Democrat; Asst. Douglas County Public Defender, Former aide to Senator Ben Nelson and Omaha Mayor Mike Fahey, Brother of Senator Machaela Cavanaugh
 - **Julia Palzer**: Omaha. Republican. Attorney. Lifetime Midtown resident. Former Dean of Admissions at Creighton Law School. Managing partner at Kellogg & Palzer. Father was Omaha Police Chief.

- ◆ District 11 Incumbent Senator **Terrell McKinney**: Democrat; Community Activist, Creighton law student, Masters in BA from Midland University. Former UNO wrestler, Coaches at Omaha North HS and Ready RP National Wrestling, Black Men United Board member, Nebraska Democratic Party's Black Caucus member.
 - **Ernie Chambers**: Omaha. Independent. Longest serving Nebraska State Senator (46 years)
 - **Calandra Cooper**: Omaha. Democrat. Metropolitan Community College Instructor

- ◆ District 13 Incumbent Senator **Justin Wayne** is term-limited.
 - **Tracy Hightower Henne**. Omaha. Democrat. Attorney and Executive Director of Nebraska Innocence Project.
 - **Nick Batter**: Omaha. Omaha Native. Attended Harvard and UNL Law, Army Engineer. In Leadership at Hawkins Construction. Serves on NE State Chamber Board.
 - **Matthew Clough** Republican
 - **Ashlei Spivey**: Omaha. Democrat. Founder of I Be Black Girl. ALCU Board.

- ◆ District 15 Incumbent Senator **Lynne Walz** is term-limited.
 - **Dave “Woody” Wordekemper**: Fremont. Republican. Firefighter and paramedic.
 - **Roxie Kracl**: Fremont. Republican. Former Chair of Dodge County Republicans. Bar Owner
 - **Peter Mayberry**: Valley, Democrat. Ran in District 31 in 2016.
 - **Scott Thomas**: Fremont.
 - **Anthony D. Hanson**: Fremont. Republican. Mechanical Engineer.

- ◆ District 17 Incumbent Senator **Joni Albrecht** is term-limited.
 - **Glen Meyer**. Pender. Republican. Farmer. Chair of Thurston County Board
 - **Cindy Kai**: Thurston
 - **Mike Albrecht**: Thurston. Farmer. Husband of current senator Joni Albrecht.

- ◆ District 19 Senator **Robert Dover**: Norfolk. Republican. Realtor and developer. Appointed to seat in 2022. Realtor® and developer.
 - **Jeanne Reigle**. Madison. Republican. Family owns Reigle Cattle Company and several other Madison area businesses. Serves on Northeast Community College.
 - **Melissa Temple**: Norfolk. Serves on Lower Elkhorn NRD.

- ◆ District 21 Senator **Beau Ballard**: Lincoln. Republican. Appointed to replace Senator Mike Hilgers in 2023 after Hilgers was elected Attorney General. Graduate of Colorado Christian College and UNL.
 - **Seth Derner** Lincoln. Democrat. Originally from Wheeler Co. Founded Vivayic, a customized skill assessment/training tech firm.
 - **Bryan Paseka**

- ◆ District 23 Incumbent Senator **Bruce Bostelman** is term-limited.
 - **Alan Zavodny** David City. Republican Former Mayor of David City. CEO of NorthStar Services which provides services to people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Endorsed by Deb Fischer, David City Mayor, Schuyler Mayor, County Supervisor Scott Steager.
 - **Jacob Wolff**. Colon. Republican.
 - **Jared Storm**. David City. Republican. Crop Duster. Farmer.
 - **Larissa Schultz**. Yutan. Democrat. Yoga Instructor. Chair of NE Young Democrats and Chair of the Saunders County Democrats.
 - **Allie French**. Prague. Republican. Member of Nebraskans Against Government Overreach.
 - **Dennis Fujan** Prague. Republican. Farmer. Past President of the Nebraska Soybean Association.

- ◆ District 25 Senator **Carolyn Bosn**: Lincoln. Republican. Appointed in 2023. Former prosecutor.
 - **Nicki Behmer Popp**. Lincoln. Democrat. Realtor® Member of Lincoln Airport Authority. Former legislative staffer.
 - **Maher Aurang Zeb**: Lincoln. Small business owner. Ran for City Council in 2021.

- ◆ District 27 Incumbent Senator **Anna Wishart** is term-limited.
 - **Jason Prokop** Lincoln. Democrat. Head of First Five Nebraska. Former Staffer Endorsed by Senator Wishart.
 - **Dawn Liphardt**: Lincoln. Republican. Executive Director of Nebraska GOP

- ◆ District 29 Incumbent Senator **Eliot Bostar**: Democrat; Executive director of the Nebraska Conservation Voters and Conservation Nebraska and a member of the Lincoln Electric System's board of directors. Grew up in NY, but spent time on family farm in Bradshaw

- ◆ District 31 Incumbent Senator **Kathleen Kauth**: Republican. Appointed in 2022. Elected in 2022.
 - **Mary Ann Folchert**. Omaha. Democrat. Former educator. Senator Carol Blood is running campaign.

- ◆ District 33 Incumbent Senator **Steve Halloran** is term-limited
 - **Dan Lonowski**, Hastings. Republican. Retired teacher & wrestling coach from Adams Central. Retired National Guard Colonel. Serves as project coordinator for a substance abuse prevention program.
 - **Paul Hamelik**, Hastings. Republican. Owns a cigar bar in Hastings. Served on Hastings City Council. Instructor and consultant with National Center for Housing Management. Former administrator with Good Samaritan Senior Living in Hastings. Endorsed by Mike Flood.
 - **Michelle Smith**, Hastings. Democrat. Mental Health Practitioner.
 - **Joshua Frederick**. Juniata. Republican. Veteran who was dismissed from service for refusing Covid vaccine. 2019 UNL graduate. An architectural designer and project manager at a construction company. Supports EPIC Option Consumption Tax.

- ◆ District 35 Incumbent Senator **Ray Aguilar**: Republican; Former Senator from 1999-2008. Former owner of a commercial cleaning business.
 - **Dan Quick**; Democrat; Retired; worked at City of Grand Island's Power Plant for 30 years. Member of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 1597. Former Senator from 2016-2020.

- ◆ District 37 Incumbent Senator **John Lowe** is term-limited
 - **Lana Peister Kearney**. Republican. Registered Nurse
 - **Stan Clouse Kearney**. Republican. Kearney Mayor since 2006.
 - **Nathan Leach**: Kearney. Founder of Nonpartisan Nebraska

- ◆ District 39 Incumbent Senator **Lou Ann Linehan**, is term-limited
 - **Allison Heimes**: Elkhorn. Democrat. Associate Attorney with Marks Clare & Richards LLC; Creighton law graduate; Practices immigration and criminal law. Ran against Linehan in 2020. Carol Blood is managing campaign
 - **Tony Sorrentino**: Omaha. Republican. Attorney and CPA. President of Health Plan Fiduciary Compliance. Adjunct law professor and volunteer track coach at Creighton University.

- ◆ District 41 Senator **Fred Meyer**, St. Paul, was appointed on November 15, 2023, to replace Incumbent Senator **Tom Briese** after Briese was appointed as NE State Treasurer. At time of appointment, Meyer stated he would not run for election in 2024.
 - **Ethan Clark**. Ord. Republican. Marketing and Communications for AKRS Equipment. Former US Senator Deb Fischer staffer, and NE legislative staffer. Volunteers with Teammates. Senator Meyer has said he supports Clark.
 - **Daniel McKeon**: Amherst. US Army veteran. Former high school wrestling official. Farmer. Self-proclaimed constitutional conservative and defender of traditional values.
 - **Nadine Bane**. Scotia. Republican. Vice-Chair Greeley County GOP

- ◆ District 43 Incumbent Senator **Tom Brewer** is term-limited
 - **Tanya Storer**: Whitman. Republican; Cherry County Commissioner, Cattle producer; Served on the Blueprint Nebraska Board, the Nebraska DOT Innovation Task Force, the UNMC Advisory Board, the Region 4 Behavioral Health Board, and the Niobrara Council Executive Board. Endorsed by Kay Orr in 2020 race.
 - **Tony Tangwall**: Whitney. Republican. Founder and Senior Pastor of Spirit of Faith Church in Chadron. Chair of Dawes County Republican Party.

- ◆ District 45 Incumbent Senator **Rita Sanders**: Republican. Bellevue Mayor for two terms. Owns a retirement home in Bellevue. Endorsed by Governor Ricketts, US Sen. Deb Fischer, Rep. Jeff Fortenberry and Rep. Don Bacon.
 - **Sarah Centineo** Bellevue. Democrat. Nurse, Attorney. Bellevue School Board member.

- ◆ District 47 Incumbent Senator **Steve Erdman** is term-limited.
 - **Larry Bollinger**. Alliance. Marijuana Now. Has run for numerous offices, never elected.
 - **Paul Strommen**: Sidney. Member of the Sidney City Council and the NE Oil and Gas Commission. Owns a liquor store.

- ◆ District 49 Incumbent Senator **Jen Day**: Democrat; fitness facility owner; BS in Political Science from UNO.
 - **Bob Anderson** Omaha. Republican. US Air Force veteran. Owns a childcare business.
 - **Caleb Muhs** Omaha. Republican. Financial consultant. Has degrees in law and finance. Former FBI counterterrorism analyst. Former CFO for insurance company subsidiary. Grew up in Grand Island.