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— News From The States —

COUNTDOWN '24

By **Robin Opsahl**, [Iowa Capital Dispatch](#)

Can the 14th Amendment keep former President Donald Trump off the ballot because of his alleged role in the Jan. 6 Capitol insurrection?

- The watchdog group Citizens for Responsibility and Ethics in Washington [filed a lawsuit in Colorado](#) arguing Trump was disqualified from appearing as a presidential candidate on ballots in the state.
- Lawsuits have been filed in [Michigan](#) and [Florida](#) also calling for his removal from state ballots, invoking the Civil War-era amendment that prevents those who “engaged in insurrection or rebellion” against the U.S. from holding office.
- A suit may be filed in Arizona, but legal experts and the Arizona Secretary of State's office are [currently weighing whether the argument would stand](#) following an Arizona Supreme Court ruling that constitutional provision didn't matter because there is no corresponding federal statute to enforce it.

Trump still holds a sizable lead ahead of other 2024 Republican presidential candidates. In Iowa, [a new poll found](#) more than half — 51% — of Republican and independent poll respondents planning to attend the Iowa Republican caucuses said Trump is their top choice for the Jan. 15, 2024 contest.

TOP IMPACT *What to read this week*

[Challenge to political maps to proceed with state's claim](#)
[Black voting power isn't diluted](#)



(Photo by Ross Williams/Georgia Recorder)

A federal trial that could force state lawmakers to redraw Georgia's political maps ahead of next year's election will enter its second week Monday.

So far, action in the five lawsuits has centered on the attorneys for the plaintiffs who are trying to show that the maps dilute the Black vote and violate Section 2 of the Voting Rights Act. This week, lawyers representing the state will have a chance to present their defense of the maps, which they acknowledge were designed to protect the Republican majority but say they are fair to Black voters. They have so far framed the legal challenges as a veiled attempt to elect more Democrats, and they say the alternative district lines offered up by the plaintiffs are overly focused on race. | [Georgia Recorder](#)

[Trump rally highlights Republican division with booing of absent Thune, Rounds, Johnson](#)



(Photo by Seth Tupper/South Dakota Searchlight)

A Friday event intended to rally the South Dakota Republican Party around Donald Trump's visit to the state instead showcased division at the party's highest levels.

The state's all-Republican, three-member congressional delegation — Sens. John Thune and Mike Rounds, and Rep. Dusty Johnson — did not attend the event in the ice arena at The Monument. Gov. Kristi Noem took what some in the audience appeared to interpret as a veiled jab at the delegation during her speech, after reciting a portion of former President Teddy Roosevelt's famous "Man in the Arena" oration. | [South Dakota Searchlight](#)

BIG PICTURE *Election coverage across the country*



(Photo by Susan J. Demas/Michigan Advance)

- Meet the parents who say their rights are ignored by the ‘parental rights’ movement | [Michigan Advance](#)
- Parents rights issue motivates New Hampshire Republicans | [Boston Globe](#)
- DeSantis names Moms for Liberty co-founder to Florida ethics panel | [AP News](#)

Candidates

- Trump, DeSantis, Vivek Ramaswamy and other GOP hopefuls tailgate at Cy-Hawk football game | [Des Moines Register](#)
- Gov. DeSantis urges Americans to defy public-health guidance; attacks Trump on COVID | [Florida Phoenix](#)
- Vivek Ramaswamy, Asa Hutchinson among Republican presidential candidates to speak at Cy-Hawk tailgate | [The Daily Iowan](#)
- Ron DeSantis and Trump get ready for a fight at California’s GOP convention | [NBC News](#)
- In Post-Roe America, Nikki Haley Seeks a New Path on Abortion for G.O.P. | [New York Times](#)
- Tim Scott suggests rivals for 2024 GOP nomination are planting stories about his unmarried status | [Fox News](#)

Nominating contests

- Iowa GOP Chair Jeff Kaufmann says concerns remain about Iowa Democrats’ caucus plan | [Iowa Capital Dispatch](#)
- Idaho Senate reaches support for special session on presidential primary | [Idaho Capital Sun](#)
- Sponsor of ballot measure aimed at protecting open primaries reacts to its disqualification | [Alaska News Source](#)

Courts

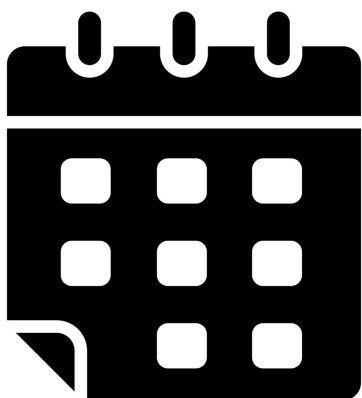
- Fulton grand jury recommended charges against current, former U.S. senators | [Georgia Recorder](#)

- **Judge rejects Meadows' bid to move Georgia 2020 election racketeering case to federal court** | [Georgia Recorder](#)
- **Fake electors group was 'guided' by Trump attorneys, former Michigan GOP co-chair said** | [Michigan Advance](#)
- **Federal court dismisses second challenge over boundaries of Washington legislative district** | [Washington State Standard](#)
- **Former R.I. congresswoman plaintiff in Colorado lawsuit seeking to bar Trump from ballot** | [Rhode Island Current](#)

Commentary

- **Do unbiased jurors exist to serve at Trump's trials in the age of social media?** | [The Conversation](#)
- **Trump's trial will be televised. That transparency comes with a cost.** | [Arizona Mirror](#)
- **Bookman: More evidence for Tooth Fairy than Georgia 2020 election fraud** | [Georgia Recorder](#)
- **Breaking down barriers to voting for people with disabilities** | [Michigan Advance](#)

COMING UP *Calendar of events*



- **Sept. 16, 2023, DES MOINES** | Seven presidential candidates are slated to speak at the [Iowa Faith and Freedom Coalition's Fall Banquet](#).
- **Sept. 27, 2023, SIMI VALLEY, CALIFORNIA** | The second GOP presidential debate.
- **Sept. 30, 2023, COLORADO** | Colorado Republican Party votes on whether to opt out of open primary elections for non-presidential races.

Follow state-level coverage of Election 2024 anytime at [News From The States](#). Send tips and thoughts to ropsahl@iowacapitaldispatch.com, and follow them on Twitter [@robinlopsahl](#)

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