

News From The States

COUNTDOWN '24

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

While experts say that Iowa often breaks late, some experts are questioning whether there's enough time for other Republican presidential candidates to jump ahead of former President Donald Trump.

- Kansas political scientist, Bob Beatty, a professor of political science at Washburn University in Topeka, [told the Kansas Reflector](#) that because the Republican field remains splintered, Trump has the option of concentrating on a rematch with President Joe Biden.
- Political analyst Charlie Cook, founder of the Cook Political Report, [said at an Iowa event](#) that he believes the 2024 presidential election will be a Trump-Biden rematch – but that both parties would be better off nominating a different candidate.
- Still, influential conservatives who want a Trump alternative on the ballot are putting their support behind other candidates. Reporters and political commentators on a ["Meet the Press" panel](#) said Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis' important Iowa endorsers may help him, but that anything less than an Iowa win could mean the end of his campaign.

TOP IMPACT *What to read this week*

Dozens of state AGs, GOP officials tell Colorado Supreme Court to keep Trump on ballot



(Photo via Jack Dempsey/AP)

More than a dozen attorneys general from Republican-controlled states topped a long list of parties who have filed briefs in a legal challenge to former President Donald Trump's constitutional eligibility to appear on Colorado's 2024 ballot.

The Colorado Supreme Court will hear oral arguments in the case this week, after a Denver District Court judge last month ruled against six voters who argue that Trump's role in inciting the Jan. 6 attack on the U.S. Capitol disqualifies him from office under a Civil War-era insurrection clause. | [Colorado Newsline](#)

Republican presidential candidates take on 'parental rights,' LGBTQ issues



(Photo by Spencer Platt/Getty Images)

Most Republican presidential hopefuls share the same views on so-called “culture war” issues, including prohibiting transgender women from participating in women’s sports, opposing LGBTQ materials in K-12 schools and supporting police forces against protesters – but candidates argue their specific approaches will help them win the nomination and beat President Joe Biden.

In the months ahead of the 2024 Iowa Republican caucuses, presidential candidates have emphasized their experience implementing socially conservative policies in office. | [Iowa Capital Dispatch](#)

BIG PICTURE *Election coverage across the country*



(Photo by Robin Opsahl/Iowa Capital Dispatch)

- **Donald Trump calls for Iowa supporters to caucus, says ‘nothing’s over’ for 2024** | [Iowa Capital Dispatch](#)
- **DeSantis touts completion of 99-county Iowa tour as measure of leadership** | [Iowa Capital Dispatch](#)
- **President in stop at Pueblo wind tower factory touts ‘Bidenomics,’ blasts Boebert** | [Colorado Newsline](#)
- **Nikki Haley wins support of conservative network founded by Koch brothers** | [South Carolina Daily Gazette](#)

Campaign trail

- **DeSantis and Newsom clash in TV debate, charging each other with lies and bullying** | [Florida Phoenix](#)
- **North Dakota Gov. Doug Burgum suspends 2024 presidential campaign** | [Iowa Capital Dispatch](#)

- **DeSantis talks about differences with California governor at SC stop** | [South Carolina Daily Gazette](#)
- **Chris Christie on brink of missing next debate** | [Politico](#)

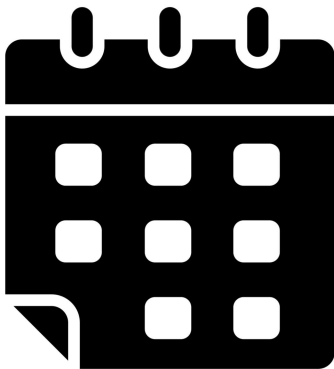
Elections

- **Arkansas AG rejects proposed measure to conduct elections via hand-marked paper ballots** | [Arkansas Advocate](#)
- **State board works to train election officials on threats before 2024 election** | [Maryland Matters](#)
- **Democratic presidential candidates left off the FL ballot are digging in; party is standing by the process** | [Florida Phoenix](#)
- **This is who will appear on Maine's presidential primary ballots in March** | [Maine Morning Star](#)
- **Pennsylvania redesigns its mail-in ballots for the 2024 election** | [Pennsylvania Capital-Star](#)
- **Secretary of state releases election integrity brochure, urges voters to trust officials** | [South Dakota Searchlight](#)
- **Michigan board nixes citizen veto initiatives, punts on property tax elimination measure** | [Michigan Advance](#)

Voting rights

- **In face of threats, election workers vow: 'You are not disrupting the democratic process'** | [Stateline](#)
- **Louisiana Legislature gets time to draw congressional map in third redistricting session** | [Louisiana Illuminator](#)
- **At Detroit NAACP, Whitmer signs voting rights bills** | [Michigan Advance](#)
- **State appeals court upholds diminishment of Black voting strength in North Florida** | [Florida Phoenix](#)
- **Georgia lawmakers exchange sharp words as GOP-drawn political maps clear key vote Friday** | [Georgia Recorder](#)

COMING UP Calendar of events



- **Dec. 6, 2023, TUSCALOOSA, AL** | The fourth Republican presidential debate.
- **Dec. 6, 2023, COLORADO** | The Colorado Supreme Court [will begin to hear oral arguments](#) in the a case over whether Trump should be barred from the state's 2024 primary ballot.
- **Dec. 9, 2023, SIOUX CENTER, IA** | Four presidential candidates [will speak at a fundraiser](#) for U.S. Rep. Randy Feenstra.

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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