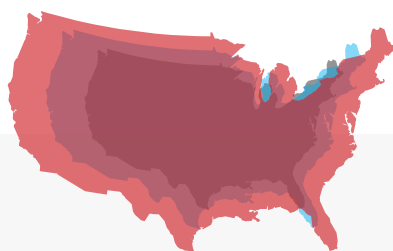




ELECTION 2018

RACES TO WATCH

THE POWER OF LATINO CANDIDATES



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In Election 2018, Latinos will continue their progress as leaders of their communities by seeking positions in Congress, statewide offices, and state legislatures across the nation. Latino candidates are demonstrating that they can successfully pursue seats in the executive and legislative branches of government throughout the country, where some of the most important decisions are made about the policies that affect the lives of all Americans. Additionally, Latinos are achieving new milestones in their efforts to attain full representation at the federal and state level. This *Election Profile* focuses on key federal and state races involving Latino candidates in the general election on November 6, 2018.

Latinos are running for top offices in 36 states. The geographic diversity of Latino candidates demonstrates that Latinos are mobilizing for political progress in both the traditional Latino population centers, and in regions with emerging Latino communities such as the Plains States, the Midwest, the Deep South, and New England.

Latinos in the U.S. Senate:

In Election 2018, U.S. Senate races are considered particularly crucial to either retaining or gaining partisan in advantage in Congress' upper chamber. In New Jersey, incumbent Senator Robert Menendez (D) has good prospects for victory in his fight against biotech and business executive Bob Hugin (R). In Texas, incumbent Senator Ted Cruz (R) is facing a strong challenge from U.S. Rep. Beto O'Rourke (D) in a contest that both political parties have made a priority. In California, State Senate President pro Tempore Emeritus Kevin de León (D) faces a tough race against incumbent U.S. Senator Dianne Feinstein (D). Incumbent Latino Senators Marco Rubio (R) and Catherine Cortez Masto (D) are not up for re-election in 2018.

Latinos in the U.S. House of Representatives:

The number of Latinos in the U.S. House could increase by as many as seven from 34 to 41. Additionally, there are likely to be several new Latinos in the U.S. House of Representatives. In Texas, two candidates are poised to make history as the first Latinas to represent the state in the U.S. House: former El Paso County Judge Veronica Escobar (D), who is running in the 16th Congressional District; and State Senator Sylvia Garcia (D), who is running in the 29th Congressional District. Other Latino candidates with strong prospects of winning include former National Football League wide receiver and businessperson Anthony Gonzalez (R) who could become the first Latino Member of Congress from Ohio if he wins his 16th Congressional District race; Jesus "Chuy" Garcia (D), who is likely to prevail in his race for the 4th Congressional District seat being vacated by retiring Illinois U.S. Rep. Luis Gutierrez (D); and New York community organizer and educator Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez (D), who faces no serious opposition in her 14th Congressional District contest.

In Florida, Latinos are involved in two of the most competitive U.S. House races in the nation. In the 26th Congressional District, U.S. Rep. Carlos Curbelo (R) is facing a serious challenge from non-profit leader Debbie Mucarsel Powell (D). The 27th Congressional District race for the seat held by retiring U.S. Rep. Ileana Ros-Lehtinen (R) is a hotly-contested battle between former broadcast journalist Maria Elvira Salazar (R) and former U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services Donna Shalala (D).

Latinos in tough but competitive races include Tucson Hispanic Chamber of Commerce Chief Executive Officer Lea Marquez Peterson (R), who is battling former U.S. Rep. Ann Kirkpatrick (D) in Arizona's 2nd Congressional District; veterans' advocate Gil Cisneros (D), who faces former State Assemblymember Young Kim (R) in California's 39th Congressional District; Mike Levin (D), the grandson of Mexican immigrants, who faces Diane Harkey (R), Chair of the California Board of Equalization, in California's 49th Congressional District; attorney Xochitl Torres Small (D), who faces State Rep. Yvette Herrell (R) in New Mexico's 2nd Congressional district; and West Virginia State Senator Richard Ojeda (D), who faces small business owner and farmer Carol Miller (R) in the 3rd Congressional District. In the Wisconsin 1st Congressional District seat being vacated by retiring Speaker of the House Paul Ryan (R), Latino ironworker Randy Bryce (D) is battling University of Wisconsin Regent Bryan Steil (R).

Latinos in Statewide Office:

An unprecedented 23 Latinos are running for statewide executive offices, including three who are in gubernatorial contests. In New Mexico, U.S. Rep. Michelle Lujan Grisham (D) has good prospects of victory in her race against U.S. Rep. Steve Pearce (R). Latinos who are trying to unseat incumbent governors have more difficult races, including Army veteran and professor of education David Garcia (D), who faces Arizona Governor Doug Ducey (R), and former Dallas County Sheriff Lupe Valdez (D), who faces Texas Governor Greg Abbott (R).

In other statewide races, several Latinos are running mates of gubernatorial candidates and will become Lt. Governor if those candidates prevail. In Illinois, incumbent Latina Lt. Governor Evelyn Sanguinetti (R) is seeking re-election on the ticket with Governor Bruce Rauner (R). In Florida, State Representative Jeanette Nuñez (R) is on the ticket with gubernatorial candidate Ron DeSantis (R). In New Mexico, State Senator Howie Morales (D) is the running mate of U.S. Rep. Michelle Grisham (D), and Michelle Garcia Holmes (R), former Chief of Staff for the New Mexico Attorney General's office, is the running mate of U.S. Rep. Steve Pearce (R). Thus, no matter who prevails in the gubernatorial contest, New Mexico's next Lt. Governor will be Latino.

Several Latino incumbent statewide officials face good prospects of re-election, including California Attorney General Xavier Becerra (D), California Secretary of State Alex Padilla (D), New Mexico Attorney General Hector Balderas (D), Illinois State Comptroller Susana Mendoza (D), Rhode Island Secretary of State Nellie Gorbea (D), and Texas Land Commissioner George P. Bush (R). In both California and New Mexico, several Latinos are new contenders in their statewide contests. These California candidates include three California state legislators who are pursuing higher office: State Senator Ed Hernandez (D), who is running for Lt. Governor; State Senator Ricardo Lara (D), who is running for Insurance Commissioner; and State Assemblymember Tony Thurmond, who is running in the non-partisan race for Superintendent of Public Instruction.

In New Mexico, Latinos in statewide contests include attorney Brian Colón (D), who is running for State Auditor; former State Treasurer's Office Chief Financial Officer Arthur Castillo (R), who is running for State Treasurer; and State Rep. Stephanie Garcia Richard (D) who is running for Commissioner of Public Lands. Other Latinos pursuing statewide seats include former state prosecutor and federal government executive January Contreras (D), who is running for Arizona Attorney General; Nevada State Assemblymember Nelson Araujo (D), who is running for Secretary of State; and former Indiana State Rep. John Aguilera (D) who is running for State Treasurer.

Latinos in State Senates:

There could be a modest net decrease in the number of Latinos in State Senates after Election 2018, from 82 to 79. This is due in part to six Latino State Senators who are not running for re-election to pursue higher office. If these candidates prevail, in some cases, it is possible that other Latinos will fill the vacancies in their State Senate seats through special elections or by other means.

Latinos in state lower houses:

In state lower houses, there could be a modest net decline in the total number of Latinos from 248 to 244. As is the case with state senate races, this is due in part to 14 Latino State Representatives who are not running for re-election to pursue higher office.

This *Profile* includes a state-by-state description of the key federal and state legislative races involving Latino candidates (an analysis of the growing number of Latinos running for local offices, such as county, municipal and school board seats is beyond the scope of the *Profile*). On pages 4-7, the *Profile* sets forth tables which include the number of Latino candidates for federal and state legislative offices, and potential Latino electoral gains for each state.

U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

The following table sets forth for each state: the number of Latinos currently serving in the U.S. House of Representatives, the number of Latinos running for the U.S. House, the potential net gain or loss of Latino seats, and the potential composition of the U.S. House after the November 2018 election. In determining the potential gain of Latino seats, the table projects that strongly competitive Latino candidates will win their elections.

State	Number of Latinos Currently in U.S. House		Latinos Running in November 2018		Potential Net Gain or Loss	Potential Number of Latinos After Election
	DEM	GOP	DEM	GOP		
AZ	2	0	2	1	1	3
CA	12	0	15	4	2	14
FL	1	3	2	3	0	4
ID	0	1	0	0	-1	0
IL	1	0	1	0	0	1
IN	0	0	0	1	0	0
NV	1	0	0	0	-1	0
NH	0	0	0	1	0	0
NJ	1	0	1	1	0	1
NM	2	0	2	0	0	2
NY	3	0	5	1	1	4
OH	0	0	0	1	1	1
PA	0	0	0	1	0	0
TN	0	0	1	0	0	0
TX	4	1	9	2	2	7
UT	0	0	1	0	0	0
WA	0	1	0	1	0	1
WV	0	1	1	1	1	2
WI	0	0	1	0	1	1
Total	27	7	41	18	7	41

See "Methodology" on page 29 for more information.

STATE SENATE

The following table sets forth for each state: the number of Latinos currently serving in State Senates; the number of Latinos running for State Senates, the potential net gain or loss of Latino seats, and the potential composition of State Senates after the November 2018 election.

In determining the potential gain of Latino seats, the table projects that strongly competitive Latino candidates will win their elections.

State	Number of Latinos Currently in State Senate		Latinos Running in November 2018			Potential Net Gain or Loss	Potential Number of Latinos After Election
	DEM	GOP	DEM	GOP	IND		
AZ	7	0	7	0	0	0	7
CA	5	0	8	1	0	-1	4
CO	4	1	4	2	0	0	5
CT	0	2	3	2	0	1	3
DE	0	1	0	1	0	0	1
FL	3	2	3	2	0	0	5
HI	4	0	2	1	0	0	4
IL	5	0	3	0	0	0	5
KY	0	1	0	1	0	0	1
MD	1	0	0	1	0	-1	0
MA	1	0	1	0	0	0	1
MI	0	0	3	0	0	2	2
MN	2	0	0	0	0	0	2
MO	1	0	0	0	0	-1	0
NE	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
NV	2	0	2	0	0	0	2
NJ	3	0	0	0	0	0	3
NM	14	1	0	0	0	0	15
NY	6	0	6	2	1	-1	5
OK	1	0	1	0	0	0	1
OR	0	0	0	2	0	1	1
RI	2	0	2	0	0	0	2
TN	0	1	1	0	0	0	1
TX	6	1	2	0	0	-1	6
UT	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
WA	1	0	3	0	0	0	1
WV	1	1	0	0	0	-2	0
Total	71	11	51	15	1	-3	79

See "Methodology" on page 29 for more information.

STATE HOUSES OF REPRESENTATIVES

The following table sets forth for each state: the number of Latinos currently serving in the State lower house, the number of Latino candidates running for the State lower house, the potential net gain or loss of Latino seats, and the potential composition of the State lower houses after the November 2018 election.

In determining the potential gain of Latino seats, the table projects that strongly competitive Latino candidates will win their elections.

State	Number of Latinos Currently in State House		Latinos Running in November 2018			Potential Net Gain or Loss	Potential Number of Latinos After Election
	DEM	GOP	DEM	GOP	IND		
AZ	14	2	17	2	0	0	16
CA	22	2	26	8	0	-1	23
CO	5	2	10	2	0	4	11
CT	12	0	11	0	0	-1	11
DE	0	1	1	0	0	0	1
FL	7	11	9	14	0	-1	17
GA	3	1	3	1	0	-1	3
IL	7	1	9	1	0	1	9
IN	2	0	3	0	0	0	2
IA	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
KS	4	0	7	0	0	0	4
LA	1	0	0	0	0	-1	0
MD	5	0	4	0	0	-2	3
MA	7	0	7	0	0	0	7
MI	4	2	3	2	0	-2	4
MN	1	2	3	3	0	1	4
MO	0	1	1	1	0	1	2
NV	7	0	7	0	0	0	7

CONTINUED BELOW ON PAGE 7

STATE HOUSES OF REPRESENTATIVES (CONT.)

State	Number of Latinos Currently in State House		Latinos Running in November 2018			Potential Net Gain or Loss	Potential Number of Latinos After Election
	DEM	GOP	DEM	GOP	IND		
NH	1	1	4	1	0	-1	1
NJ	7	0	1	0	0	0	7
NM	24	6	27	6	0	-1	29
NY	14	1	16	4	1	1	16
OH	1	2	1	2	0	-1	2
OK	0	2	0	2	0	0	2
OR	3	1	3	2	0	-1	3
PA	2	0	3	0	0	0	2
RI	5	0	5	1	0	0	5
TN	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
TX	34	2	44	8	0	1	37
UT	3	0	4	0	0	-1	2
VT	1	0	1	0	0	0	1
VA	3	1	0	0	0	0	4
WA	4	0	5	1	0	0	4
WV	0	1	0	1	0	0	1
WI	1	1	4	2	0	1	3
WY	0	1	1	1	0	0	1
Total	204	44	240	67	1	-4	244

See "Methodology" on page 29 for more information.

LATINO CANDIDATES FOR STATEWIDE OFFICE

GOVERNOR

State	Candidate	Party
AZ	David Garcia	DEM
NM	Michelle Lujan Grisham	DEM
TX	Lupe Valdez	DEM

OTHER OFFICES

State	Candidate	Office	Party
AZ	January Contreras	Attorney General	DEM
CA	Ed Hernandez	Lt. Governor	DEM
CA	Xavier Becerra (I)	Attorney General	DEM
CA	Alex Padilla (I)	Secretary of State	DEM
CA	Ricardo Lara	Insurance Commissioner	DEM
CA	Tony Thurmond	Superintendent of Public Instruction	N-P
FL	Jeanette Nuñez	Lt. Governor*	GOP
IL	Evelyn Sanguinetti (I)	Lt. Governor*	GOP
IL	Susana Mendoza (I)	State Comptroller	DEM
IN	John Aguilera	State Treasurer	DEM
NV	Nelson Araujo	Secretary of State	DEM
NM	Howie Morales	Lt. Governor*	DEM
NM	Michelle Garcia Holmes	Lt. Governor*	GOP
NM	Hector Balderas (I)	Attorney General	DEM
NM	Brian Colón	State Auditor	DEM
NM	Arthur Castillo	State Treasurer	GOP
NM	Stephanie Garcia Richard	Commissioner of Public Lands	DEM
RI	Nellie Gorbea (I)	Secretary of State	DEM
TX	George P. Bush (I)	Land Commissioner	GOP
TX	Miguel Suazo	Land Commissioner	DEM

“(I)” denotes incumbent.

*Candidate is running on ticket with gubernatorial candidate.

ARIZONA

U.S. House of Representatives

Arizona's two incumbent Latino U.S. Representatives, Raul Grijalva (D) and Ruben Gallego (D) are both running for re-election, and face excellent prospects of victory.

In the 2nd Congressional District, Tucson Hispanic Chamber of Commerce Chief Executive Officer Lea Marquez Peterson (R) faces a tough race against former U.S. Rep. Ann Kirkpatrick (D), who previously served in the 1st Congressional District.

Statewide Races

Army veteran and professor of education David Garcia (D) faces a difficult race in his bid to unseat incumbent Arizona Governor Doug Ducey (R). Former state prosecutor and federal government executive January Contreras (D) will also have a tough contest against incumbent Attorney General Mark Brnovich (R).

State Senate

Four of Arizona's seven Latino incumbent State Senators are running for re-election, and none face serious opposition: Democrats Lupe Contreras, Juan Mendez, Lisa Otondo and Martin Quezada. They are likely to be joined in the State Senate by three Democratic Latinos who are likely to emerge victorious in the general election: State Rep. Sally Ann Gonzales (3rd Senate District); Arizona House Minority Leader and former State Senator Rebecca Rios (27th Senate District); and State Rep. Tony Navarrete (30th Senate District).

State House of Representatives

In Arizona, each lower state house district is represented by two State Representatives, and both major political parties can field as many as two candidates for those two seats. The two candidates who win the most votes are elected to serve as State Representatives from each district. Thus, candidates in these contests may face as many as three other opponents.

Ten of Arizona's incumbent Latino State Representatives are running for re-election. Nine face excellent prospects of victory: Democrats Richard Andrade, Isela Blanc, Cesar Chavez, Diego Espinoza, Charlene Fernandez, Rosanna Gabaldón, Daniel Hernandez, and Athena Salman; and Republican Tony Rivero. In the 8th House District, Thomas "T.J." Shope (R) faces more competitive challengers.

Several Latinos are likely to prevail in other state house contests, including: community leader Andres Cano (D) and public health professional Alma Hernandez (D) in the 3rd House District; Avondale City Councilmember Lorenzo Sierra (D) in the 19th House District; attorney Diego Rodriguez (D) in the 27th House District; and State Senator Robert Meza (D) and community leader Raquel Teran (D) in the 30th House District.

Candidates with tougher contests include former Globe City Councilmember Carmen Casillas (D) who is running in the 8th House District; educator Marcela Quiroz (D) who is running in the 11th House District; and community organizer Gilbert Romero (D), who is running in the 21st House District.

CALIFORNIA

California Congressional, state legislative and statewide contests are held under the “top two primary” system, where all candidates running in the primary election – regardless of their party preference – appear on a single primary election ballot, and people can vote for any candidate. The top two overall vote-getters (not the top vote-getter from each political party) move on to the November general election. On the ballot, candidates can list their affiliation with a political party or indicate “No Party Preference” (NPP). As a result, two candidates from the same political party may face each other in the general election.

U.S. Senate

California State Senate President pro Tempore Emeritus Kevin de León (D) faces a tough race against incumbent U.S. Senator Dianne Feinstein (D).

U.S. House of Representatives

All twelve of California’s incumbent Latino U.S. Representatives are running for re-election and all face good prospects of re-election: Democrats Pete Aguilar, Salud Carbajal, Tony Cardenas, J. Luis Correa, Nanette Diaz Barragan, Grace Flores Napolitano, Jimmy Gomez, Lucille Roybal-Allard, Raul Ruiz, Linda Sanchez, Norma Torres and Juan Vargas.

Other Latinos who are running in competitive contests for U.S. House seats include veterans’ advocate Gil Cisneros (D) who is facing former State Assemblymember Young Kim (R) for the 39th Congressional District seat being vacated by U.S. Rep. Ed Royce (R). In the 49th Congressional District, Mike Levin (D), the grandson of Mexican immigrants, is battling Diane Harkey (R), Chair of the California Board of Equalization, for the seat being vacated by U.S. Rep. Darrell Issa (R).

Latinos challenging incumbents are facing difficult contests, including Omar Navarro (R), who is trying to unseat U.S. Rep. Maxine Waters (D) in the 43rd Congressional District; and former Obama Administration official Ammar Campa-Najjar (D), who is facing U.S. Rep. Duncan Hunter (R) in the 50th Congressional District.

Statewide Officials

California’s two Latino incumbent statewide officials face excellent prospects of re-election: Attorney General Xavier Becerra (D) and Secretary of State Alex Padilla (D).

Several other Latinos are strong contenders for statewide positions. In the Lt. Governor race, State Senator Ed Hernandez (D) is facing former U.S. Ambassador to Hungary Eleni Kounalakis (D), for the seat being vacated by Gavin Newsom (D), who is running for Governor. State Senator Ricardo Lara (D) is battling Steve Poizner (NPP) for Insurance Commissioner, a position Poizner held between 2007 and 2011. Latino State Assembly Member Tony Thurmond is facing educator Marshall Tuck in the non-partisan contest for Superintendent of Public Instruction.

State Senate

Of California's four incumbent Latino State Senators, only one is running for re-election – State Senator Ben Hueso (D), who has excellent prospects of victory.

In the 24th Senate District, labor union executive Maria Elena Durazo (D) has excellent prospects of prevailing against Peter Choi (D), the President and CEO of the Temple City Chamber of Commerce. In the 32nd Senate District, former Pico Rivera Mayor Bob Archuleta (D) is likely to win his race against attorney Rita Topalian (R). In the 12th Senate District, State Assemblymember Anna Caballero (D) is in a competitive contest against Madera County Supervisor Rob Poythress (R).

Latinos who will have more difficult races include businessperson Paulina Miranda (D) who faces Fresno County Supervisor Andreas Borgeas (R) in the 8th Senate District; health care advocate Melissa Hurtado (D) who is trying to unseat incumbent State Senator Andy Vidak (R) in the 14th Senate District; Baldwin Park City Councilmember Susan Rubio (D) who faces former State Assemblymember Mike Eng (D) in the 22nd Senate District; and businessperson Marggie Castellano (D) who is trying to unseat incumbent State Senator Patricia Bates (R) in the 36th Senate District.

State Assembly

Of California's twenty-four Latino incumbent State Assemblymembers, twenty-one are running for re-election, and eighteen do not face serious opposition: Democrats Cecilia Aguiar-Curry; Dr. Joaquin Arambula; Ian Calderon; Wendy Carrillo; Eduardo Garcia; Cristina Garcia; Todd Gloria; Lorena S. Gonzalez Fletcher; Monique Limón; Jose Medina; Anthony Rendon; Eloise Reyes; Luz Maria Rivas; Freddie Rodriguez; Blanca E. Rubio; Rudy Salas, Jr.; Miguel Santiago; and Susan Talamantes Eggman. Incumbents with competitive challengers include Dante Acosta (R), who faces Newhall School Board Member Christy Smith (D) in the 38th Assembly District; Sabrina Cervantes (D), who faces former federal attorney Bill Essayli (R) in the 60th Assembly District; and Sharon Quirk-Silva (D), who faces former Orange County Board of Education President Alexandria Coronado (R) in the 65th Assembly District.

Two Latinos with good prospects of prevailing in their open seat contests include San Benito County Supervisor Robert Rivas (D), who faces rancher Neil Kitchens (R) in the 30th Assembly District; and San Bernardino County Supervisor James Ramos (D), who faces Henry Gomez Nickel (R) in the 40th Assembly District.

Latinos who are trying to unseat incumbents will have more difficult races, including nurse and educator Lisa Romero (R), who faces Jim Frazier (D) in the 11th Assembly District; small business entrepreneur Alejandro Fernandez (D) who faces David Chiu (D) in the 17th Assembly District; Tulare City Councilmember Jose Sigala (D) who faces Devon Mathis (R) in the 26th Assembly District; and community activist Socorro Cisneros (D) who faces Jay Obernolte (R) in the 33rd Assembly District.

State Board of Equalization

Santa Monica City Councilmember Tony Vazquez (D) would become the first Latino to serve as a member of the State Board of Equalization if he prevails in his District 3 contest against information technology executive G. Rick Marshall (R).

COLORADO

State Senate

Two of Colorado's five incumbent Latino State Senators are running for re-election. In the 3rd Senate District, Leroy Garcia (D) does not face serious opposition. In the 24th Senate District, Beth Martinez Humenik (R) has a competitive challenger, State Rep. Faith Winter (D).

Latinos who have good prospects of victory open seat contests include business manager Robert Rodriguez (D), who faces commercial realtor Mark Calonder (R) in the 32nd Senate District; and community organizer Julie Gonzales (D) who faces Pastor Gordon Alley (R) in the 34th Senate District. Latinos with tougher races include Gil Armendariz (D), who faces State Rep. Paul Lundeen (R) in the 9th Senate District, and Tony Sanchez (R) who faces State Rep. Brittany Pettersen (D) in the 22nd Senate District.

State House of Representatives

Three of Colorado's seven incumbent Latino State Representatives are running for re-election, and all have good prospects of winning: Democrats Adrienne Benavidez and Donald Valdez, and Republican Dave Williams.

Several Latinos are making strong bids for seats in the Colorado House of Representatives. These competitive contenders include: Serena Gonzales-Gutierrez (D), director of the Denver Collaborative Partnership, who faces Dave John (R) in the 4th House District; business person Alex Valdez (D), who faces attorney Katherine Whitney (R) in the 5th House District; businessperson and community activist Sonya Jaquez-Lewis (D) who is very likely to prevail in her 12th House District contest; Wheat Ridge City Councilmember Monica Duran (D), who faces human resource director Arthur Erwin (R) in the 24th House District; Latina attorney Kerry Tipper (D), who faces educator Kristina Joy Alley (R) in the 28th House District; pediatrician Yadira Caraveo (D), who faces non-profit leader Rico Figueroa (R) in the 31st House District; and former Greeley City Councilmember Rochelle Galindo (D), who faces U.S. Army veteran Michael Theuner (R), in the 50th House District.

Educator Brianna Buentello (D) will have a more difficult contest in her race against author Don Bendell (R) in the 47th House District.

CONNECTICUT

State Senate

Incumbent Latino State Senator George Logan (R) faces a competitive challenge from union organizer Jorge Cabrera (D) in the 17th Senate District. Two Latinos with good prospects of prevailing in their open seat contests include Latino State Representative Matthew Lesser (D) who faces business owner Ed Charamut (R) in the 9th Senate District; and Bridgeport Public School Board Member Dennis Bradley (D) who faces John Rodriguez (R) in the 23rd Senate District.

State Representatives

Eleven of Connecticut's twelve incumbent Latino State Representatives are seeking re-election, and all are likely to prevail in their contests: Democrats Juan Candelaria, Julio Concepcion; Minnie Gonzalez, Geraldo Reyes, Jr., Jason Rojas, Christopher Rosario, Robert Sanchez, Hilda Santiago, Ezequiel Santiago, Chris Soto and Edwin Vargas.

DELAWARE

State Officials

Delaware Insurance Commissioner Trinidad Navarro (D) is not up for re-election in 2018.

State Senate

Incumbent State Senator Ernesto Lopez (R) has good prospects for re-election.

State House of Representatives

Former non-profit executive Guillermina Gonzalez (D) is in a tough but competitive race against University of Delaware Director of Strategic Initiatives and Partnerships Michael Smith (R) in the 22nd House District.

FLORIDA

U.S. Senate

Incumbent U.S. Senator Marco Rubio (R) is not up for re-election in 2018.

U.S. Representatives

Three of Florida's Latino incumbent U.S. Representatives are running for re-election, and two do not face serious opposition: Democrat Darren Soto and Republican Mario Diaz-Balart. In the 26th Congressional District, U.S. Rep. Carlos Curbelo (R) is facing a competitive challenge from non-profit leader Debbie Mucarsel-Powell (D).

The 27th Congressional District race for the seat held by retiring U.S. Rep. Ileana Ros-Lehtinen (R) is a hotly-contested battle between former broadcast journalist Maria Elvira Salazar (R) and former U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services Donna Shalala (D).

Statewide Officials

State Representative Jeanette Nuñez (R) is running for Lt. Governor on the ticket with gubernatorial candidate Ron DeSantis (R). DeSantis' opponent is Tallahassee Mayor Andrew Gillum (D), and Gillum's running mate is business person Chris King (D). Political observers believe this is one of the most competitive gubernatorial races in the nation.

State Senate

One of Florida's five Latino incumbent State Senators is running for re-election. In the 40th Senate District, incumbent Annette Taddeo (D) faces a competitive challenge from former Miami Dade College Trustee Marili Cancio (R).

In the 36th Senate District, State Rep. Manny Diaz, Jr. (R) has good prospects of victory over firefighter David Perez (D). In the 18th Senate District, State Rep. Janet Cruz (D) will have a tougher race against incumbent Dana Young (R).

State House of Representatives

Fourteen of Florida's 18 incumbent Latino State Representatives are running for re-election: Democrats Robert Asencio, John Cortes, Nicholas Duran, Javier Fernández, Amy Mercado, Carlos Guillermo Smith; and Republicans Bryan Avila, Robert Cortes, Mike La Rosa, Jose Oliva, Daniel Anthony Perez, Rene 'Coach P' Plasencia, David Santiago and Jackie Toledo. Incumbents with competitive challengers include Javier Fernandez (D), who faces attorney Javier Enriquez (R) in the 114th House District, and Robert Asencio (D), who faces business owner Anthony Rodriguez (R) in the 118th House District.

Three Latinos with good prospects of prevailing in their open seat contests include Hillsborough County School Board Member Susan Valdes (D), who is unopposed in the 62nd House District; Doral Vice Mayor Ana Maria Rodriguez (R) who faces Javier Estevez (D) in the 105th House District; and attorney Juan Fernandez-Barquin (R) who faces Heath Rassner (D) in the 119th House District. Latinos with more difficult races include software support professional Alanis Garcia (D), who is trying to unseat incumbent State Rep. Dane Eagle (R) in the 77th House District; and Joseph Anthony Cruz (R) who faces attorney Michael Gottlieb (D) in the 98th House District.

GEORGIA

State House of Representatives

Three of Georgia's Latino incumbent State Representatives are running for re-election, and two face no serious opposition: Democrats Brenda Lopez and Pedro Marin. In a rematch of the 2016 contest for the 117th House District, incumbent Deborah Gonzalez (D) is in a competitive contest with financial services advisor Houston Gaines (R). Information technology professional Leonard Gomez (R) will have a tough race in his bid to unseat Georgia House Minority Leader Bob Trammell (D) in the 132nd House District.

HAWAII

State Senate

Two of Hawaii's four incumbent Latino State Senators are up for re-election, and both have excellent prospects of victory: Democrats Lorraine Inouye and Michelle Kidani. Diamond Garcia (R) faces a tough contest against incumbent Maile Shimabukuro (D) in the 21st Senate District.

IDAHO

U.S. House of Representatives

U.S. Rep. Raul Labrador (R) is not seeking re-election.

ILLINOIS

U.S. House of Representatives

Cook County Commissioner Jesus 'Chuy' Garcia (D) faces no serious opposition in his bid for the 4th Congressional District seat being vacated by retiring U.S. Rep. Luis Gutierrez (D).

Statewide Officials

Incumbent Latina Lt. Governor Evelyn Sanguinetti (R) is running for re-election on the ticket with Governor Bruce Rauner (R). Rauner's opponent is venture capitalist JB Pritzker (D), and Pritzker's running mate is State Rep. Juliana Stratton (D). Political observers believe that Pritzker is a competitive contender against Rauner.

Incumbent State Comptroller Susana Mendoza (D) is likely to prevail in her re-election bid.

State Senate

Three of Illinois' five Latino incumbent State Senators are running for re-election, and none face serious opposition: Democrats Omar Aquino, Iris Martinez and Martin Sandoval.

State House of Representatives

Seven of Illinois' Latino incumbent State Representatives are running for re-election, and six face good prospects of victory: Democrats Jaime Andrade, Jr., Luis Arroyo, Linda Chapa LaVia, Fred Crespo, Elizabeth Hernandez, and Celina Villanueva. Republican incumbent John Cabello faces a competitive challenge from community leader Jake Castanza (D) in the 68th House District.

Two Latinos are unopposed in their open seat contests: Educator Aaron Ortiz (D) in the 1st House District, and community leader Delia Ramirez (D) in the 4th House District. In the 49th House District, social worker Karina Villa (D) faces a tough contest against DuPage County Board Member Tonia Jane Khouri (R).

INDIANA

U.S. House of Representatives

Carpenter Mark Leyva (R) faces an uphill battle in his 1st Congressional District race against incumbent Peter Visclosky (D).

Statewide Officials

Former Indiana State Rep. John Aguilera (D) faces a tough contest in his bid to unseat incumbent State Treasurer Kelly Mitchell (R).

State House of Representatives

Both of Indiana's incumbent Latino State Representatives are running for re-election and have excellent prospects of victory: Democrats Mara Candelaria Reardon and Earl Harris, Jr. In the 50th House District, educator Jorge Fernandez (D) faces a difficult race against incumbent State Rep. Dan Leonard (R).

IOWA

State House of Representatives

Marine Corps veteran James Perez (R) has an uphill battle in his bid to unseat incumbent State Rep. Mark Smith (D) in the 71st House district.

KANSAS

State House of Representatives

Kansas's four Latino incumbent State Representatives are running for re-election, and none face serious opposition: Democrats John Alcala, Louis Ruiz, Tom Sawyer and Ponka-We Victors.

Latino challengers attempting to unseat incumbents will have more difficult contests including: social worker Susan Ruiz (D), who faces State Rep. Linda Gallagher (R) in the 23rd House District; law enforcement educator Shala Perez (D), who faces State Rep. Blake Carpenter (R) in the 81st House District, and Pedro Rodriguez (D), who faces State Rep. John Wheeler, Jr. (R) in the 123rd House District.

KENTUCKY

State Senate

Incumbent State Senator Ralph Alvarado (R) has good prospects for re-election.

MARYLAND

State Senate

Alirio Martinez (R) faces a tough contest in his 19th Senate District race against Maryland State Delegate Benjamin Kramer (D).

State House of Delegates

Two of Maryland's five Latino State Delegates are running for re-election in 2018, and both face good prospects of victory: Democrats David Fraser-Hidalgo and Joseline Peña-Melnyk.

Community organizer Gabriel Acevero (D) is a competitive contender in his 39th House District race. Community activist Ysela Bravo-Schwetje (D) faces a tougher contest in her 4th House District bid.

MASSACHUSETTS

State Senate

Incumbent State Senator Sonia Chang-Díaz (D) faces excellent prospects of victory in her re-election bid.

State House of Representatives

Five of Massachusetts' seven Latino incumbents are running for re-election, and are likely to prevail in their re-election contests: Democrats Carlos Gonzalez, Frank Moran, Jose Tosado, Andres Vargas, and Aaron Vega. They are likely to be joined in the State House by two Latinos who do not face serious opposition: former State Rep. Marcos Devers (D), who is running in the 16th Essex District, and emergency medicine physician Jon Santiago (D), who is running in the 9th Suffolk District.

MICHIGAN

State Senate

Two Latinos in competitive contests to gain seats in the Michigan State Senate include State Rep. Erika Geiss (D), who faces Brenda Jones (R) in the 6th Senate District, and State Rep. Henry Yañez (D), who faces Mike MacDonald (R) in the 10th Senate District. Public health professional Poppy Sias-Hernandez (D) has a more difficult contest in her race against former State Rep. Jon Bumstead (R) in the 34th Senate District.

State House of Representatives

Three of Michigan's six Latino incumbent State Representatives are running for re-election, and face good prospects of victory: Democrats Darrin Camilleri and Vanessa Guerra, and Republican Shane Hernandez.

Taylor City Councilmember Alex Garza (D) is likely to prevail in his 12th House District open seat race against Michelle Bailey (R). Community leader Rosalinda Hernandez (R) faces a difficult contest against Ingham County Commissioner Sarah Anthony (D) in the 68th House District.

MINNESOTA

State Senate

Minnesota's two incumbent Latina State Senators are not up for re-election in 2018: Democrats Melisa Franzen and Patricia Torres Ray.

State House of Representatives

Minnesota's three incumbent Latino State Representatives are running for re-election, and none face serious opposition: Democrat Carlos Mariani, and Republicans Eric Lucero and Jon Koznick.

In House District 62B, community leader Aisha Gomez (D) has good prospects of victory over Ronald Peterson (R). In House District 60B, operations manager Joseph Patiño (R) faces a more difficult race against community leader Mohamud Noor (D).

MISSOURI

State House of Representatives

Incumbent Latino State Rep. Robert Cornejo (R) has excellent chances of prevailing in his re-election bid. In the 86th House District, State Senator Maria Chappelle-Nadal (D), who is not running for re-election in the Senate because of term limits, will likely emerge victorious in her bid for a state house seat.

NEBRASKA

State Senate

Incumbent State Senator Tony Vargas (D) is not up for re-election in 2018.

NEVADA

U.S. Senate

U.S. Senator Catherine Cortez Masto (D) is not up for re-election in 2018.

U.S. House of Representatives

Incumbent U.S. Rep. Ruben Kihuen (D) is retiring and will not seek re-election.

Statewide Officials

State Assemblymember Nelson Araujo (D) is a competitive contender in his bid to unseat incumbent Secretary of State Barbara K. Cegavske (R).

State Senate

Both of Nevada's Latino incumbent State Senators are running for re-election and face good prospects of victory: Democrats Moises Denis and Yvanna Cancela.

State Assembly

Five of Nevada's seven Latino incumbent State Representatives are running for re-election, and all are likely to prevail: Democrats Teresa Benitez-Thompson, Richard Carrillo, Olivia Diaz, Edgar Flores, and Sandra Jauregui.

Two Latinas running in open seat contests will likely win their races: educator Selena Torres (D), who faces Navy veteran Stephen Sedlmeyer (R) in the 3rd Assembly District, and labor advocate Susan Martinez (D), who faces retired law enforcement professional Richard Fletcher (R) in the 12th Assembly District.

NEW HAMPSHIRE

U.S. House of Representatives

Business owner Steve Negrón (R) faces a difficult race in his 2nd Congressional District bid to unseat incumbent U.S. Rep. Ann McLane Kuster (D).

State House of Representatives

Several Latinos are pursuing seats in New Hampshire's House of Representatives, including: former Franklin School Board Member Carlos Cardona (D), running in Belknap 3; attorney Iz Piedra (D), running in Hillsborough 9; community leader Manny Espitia (D), running in Hillsborough 31; civil rights advocate Alejandro Urrutia (D), running in Hillsborough 37; and former New Hampshire State Rep. Carlos Gonzalez (R), running in Hillsborough 45.

NEW JERSEY

U.S. Senate

Incumbent Senator Robert Menendez (D) has good prospects for victory in his fight against biotech and business executive Bob Hugin (R).

U.S. House of Representatives

Incumbent U.S. Rep. Albio Sires (D) does not face serious opposition in his re-election bid.

New Jersey holds its state legislative races in odd-numbered years, and most of its Latino incumbents are not up for re-election in 2018. However, State Assemblymember Pedro Mejia (D) was appointed to his 32nd Assembly District seat in March 2018 after Assemblymember Vincent Prieto (D) resigned from office, and must run for election in November 2018. Mejia has excellent prospects of winning his bid.

NEW MEXICO

U.S. House of Representatives

One of New Mexico's two incumbent Latino U.S. Representatives is running for re-election, and does not face serious opposition – Democrat Ben R. Lujan.

Attorney Xochitl Torres Small (D) is in a competitive open seat contest against State Rep. Yvette Herrell (R) in the 2nd Congressional district.

Statewide Officials

U.S. Rep. Michelle Lujan Grisham (D) has good prospects of victory in the gubernatorial race against U.S. Rep. Steve Pearce (R). Lujan Grisham's running mate is State Senator Howie Morales (D), and Pearce's running mate is Michelle Garcia Holmes (R), former Chief of Staff for the New Mexico Attorney General's office. Thus, no matter who prevails in the gubernatorial contest, New Mexico's next Lt. Governor will be Latino.

Incumbent State Attorney General Hector Balderas (D) is likely to win re-election. Two Latinos challenging incumbent statewide officials include attorney Brian Colón (D), who faces State Auditor Wayne Johnson (R), and former State Treasurer's Office Chief Financial Officer Arthur Castillo (R), who faces State Treasurer Tim Eichenberg (D). State Rep. Stephanie Garcia Richard (D) is an open seat race against Public Regulation Commissioner Patrick Lyons (R) to serve as Commissioner of Public Lands (Lyons held that office previously between 2003 and 2010).

State Senate

None of New Mexico's 15 incumbent State Senators are up for re-election in 2018.

State Representatives

Twenty-four of New Mexico's 30 incumbent Latino State Representatives are running for re-election: Democrats Eliseo Lee Alcon, George Dodge, Jr., Doreen Gallegos, Miguel Garcia, Harry Garcia, Roberto 'Bobby' J. Gonzales, Patricia A. Lundstrom, Antonio Maestas, Javier Martinez, Rodolpho 'Rudy' Martinez, G. Andrés Romero, Patricia Roybal Caballero, Angelica Rubio, Patricio Ruiloba, Tomás Salazar, Debra M. Sariñana, Christine Trujillo, Jim Trujillo, and Sheryl M. Williams Stapleton; and Republicans Alonzo Baldonado, Kelly Fajardo, David Gallegos, Rodney Montoya, and Monica Youngblood. Most do not face serious opposition. Two incumbents with more competitive challengers include State Rep. George Dodge, Jr. (D), who faces farm and ranch owner Martin Ruben Zamora (R) in the 63rd House District, and State Rep. Monica Youngblood (R), who faces retired faith leader Karen Bash (D) in the 68th House District.

Four Latino candidates in open seat contests have good prospects of victory: Gadsden Independent School District coordinator Raymundo Lara (D), who is running in the 34th House District; engineering and energy executive Joseph Sanchez (D), who is running in the 40th House District; retired non-profit leader Susan Herrera (D), who is running in the 41st House District; and businessperson Andrea Romero (D), who is running in the 46th House District. Latinos with tougher contests include non-profit research director Micaela Lara Cadena (D), who faces former educator and school administrator Charles Wendler (R) in the 33rd House District, and educator Willie Madrid (D) who is trying to unseat incumbent State Rep. Rick Little (R) in the 53rd House District.

NEW YORK

U.S. House of Representatives

New York's three Latino incumbents face excellent prospects of victory in their re-election bids: Democrats Adriano Espaillat, José E. Serrano and Nydia Velázquez. They are likely to be joined in Congress by community organizer and educator Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez (D), who faces no serious opposition in her 14th Congressional District contest. In the 19th Congressional District, attorney Antonio Delgado (D) faces a tougher race in his bid to unseat U.S. Rep. John Faso (R).

State Senate

Four of New York's six incumbent Latino State Senators are running for re-election, and three face no serious opposition in their contests: Democrats Gustavo Rivera, Luis Sepulveda and Jose M. Serrano. State Senator Jose Peralta (IND) faces a competitive 13th Senate District challenge from community leader Jessica Ramos (D), who defeated Peralta in the Democratic primary (Peralta is running in the general election as a third-party candidate).

Community organizer Julia Salazar (D) has excellent prospects of victory in her 18th Senate District open seat race. Latinos with more difficult contests include Suffolk County Legislator Monica Martinez (D), who faces State Assemblymember Dean Murray (R) in the 3rd Senate District, and business owner Anthony Arias (R) who is challenging State Senator Brian Kavanaugh (D) in the 26th Senate District.

State Assembly

All fifteen of New York Latino incumbent State Assemblymembers are running for re-election, and fourteen do not face serious opposition: Democrats Carmen Arroyo, Marcos Crespo, Maritza Davila, Carmen De La Rosa, Erik Dilan, Nathalia Fernandez, Felix Ortiz; Victor Pichardo, Philip Ramos, José Rivera, Robert Rodriguez, Nily Rozic, and David Weprin; and Republican Nicole Malliotakis. In the 39th Assembly District, Aridia Espinal (IND) faces a competitive challenge from attorney Catalina Cruz (D), who won the Democratic nomination for the seat in the primary (Espinal is running as a third-party candidate in the general election).

In the 87th Assembly District, oncology nurse Karines Reyes (D) has excellent prospects of winning her open seat contest against Alpheaus Marcus (R). Business owner Juan Vides (D) will have a tougher race in his 20th Assembly District bid to unseat incumbent Melissa Miller (R).

OHIO

U.S. House of Representatives

Former National Football League wide receiver and businessperson Anthony Gonzalez (R) would become the first Latino Member of Congress from Ohio if he wins his 16th Congressional District race against Susan Moran Palmer (D).

State House of Representatives

Two of Ohio's three Latino incumbent State Representatives are running for re-election, and both face good prospects of prevailing: Republicans George Lang and Rick Perales.

Winton Woods City School Board President Jessica Miranda (D) will have a tough battle against incumbent State Rep. Jonathan Dever (R) in the 28th House District.

OKLAHOMA

State Senate

Oklahoma's Latino State Senate incumbent Michael Brooks (D) faces no serious opposition in his re-election bid.

State House of Representatives

Both of Oklahoma's incumbent Latino State Representatives are running for re-election and are likely to prevail in their races: Republicans Ryan Martinez and Charles Ortega.

OREGON

State Senate

Business owner Jessica Gomez (R) has good prospects of winning her open seat contest against public radio personality Jeff Golden (D) in the 3rd Senate District. Community leader Alexander Flores (R) will have a tougher race in his 15th Senate District bid to unseat incumbent State Senator Chuck Riley (D).

State House of Representatives

Three of Oregon's four Latino incumbent State Representatives are running for re-election, and are likely to win their contests: Democrats Teresa Alonso León, Diego Hernandez, and Andrea Salinas.

Latinos who are attempting to unseat incumbents will have tougher races, including nonprofit leader and veterans advocate David Molina (R), who faces State Rep. Susan McLain (D) in the 29th House District; and Happy Valley Mayor Lori Chavez-DeRemer (R), who faces State Rep. Janelle Bynum (D) in the 51st House District.

PENNSYLVANIA

U.S. House of Representatives

Substance abuse program director David Torres (R) will have an uphill battle in his 2nd Congressional District bid to unseat incumbent U.S. Rep. Brendan Boyle (D).

State House of Representatives

Incumbent State Representative Angel Cruz (D) faces no serious opposition in his re-election contest. Community leader Danilo Burgos (D) is likely to prevail in his 197th House District open seat contest. In the 189th House District, graphic artist Adam Rodriguez (D) will face a tougher race against incumbent State Rep. Rosemary M. Brown (R).

RHODE ISLAND

Statewide Officials

Incumbent Secretary of State Nellie Gorbea (D) has excellent prospects of victory in her re-election bid.

State Senate

Rhode Island's two Latina incumbent State Senators are likely to prevail in their re-election contests: Democrats Sandra Cano and Ana Quezada.

State House of Representatives

Four of Rhode Island's five incumbent Latino State Representatives are running for re-election, and have good prospects of winning: Democrats Grace Diaz, Shelby Maldonado, Carlos Tobón, and Anastasia Williams.

Mario Mendez (D) is likely to emerge victorious in his 13th House District race. David Quiroa (R) faces a more difficult contest in his 73rd House District challenge against incumbent State Rep. Marvin Abney (D).

TENNESSEE

U.S. House of Representatives

Environmental and health care advocate Renee Hoyos (D) faces a tough battle against former Knox County Mayor Tim Burchett (R) in the 2nd Congressional District.

State Senate

Latina incumbent State Senator Dolores Gresham (R) is not up for re-election in 2018. Science professional Gabby Salinas (D) faces a difficult race in her bid to unseat incumbent State Senator Brian Kelsey (R) in the 31st Senate District.

State House of Representatives

Former Montgomery County Commissioner Tommy Vallejos (R) faces a tough race against former Montgomery County Commissioner Jason Hodges (D) in the 67th House District.

TEXAS

U.S. Senate

Incumbent U.S. Senator Ted Cruz (R) is facing a challenge from U.S. Rep. Beto O'Rourke (D). Both political parties have made this contest a priority and believe it is key to retaining or potentially gaining partisan advantage in the U.S. Senate.

U.S. House of Representatives

All five of Texas' incumbent Latino U.S. Representatives are running for re-election, and none face serious opposition: Democrats Joaquin Castro, Henry Cuellar, Vicente Gonzalez, and Filemon Vela; and Republican Bill Flores.

Two candidates with excellent prospects of victory in their contests are poised to make history as the first Latinas to represent Texas in the U.S. House of Representatives: Former El Paso County Judge Veronica Escobar (D), who is running in the 16th Congressional District; and State Senator Sylvia Garcia (D), who is running in the 29th Congressional District.

Latinos involved in tougher races include: communications professional Jana Lynne Sanchez (D) who is facing Tarrant County Tax Assessor-Collector Ron Wright (R) in the 6th Congressional District; Texas Tech University history professor Miguel Levario (D), who faces incumbent U.S. Rep. Jodey Arrington (R) in the 19th Congressional District; and Eric Holguin (D), who faces incumbent U.S. Rep. Michael Cloud (R) in the 27th Congressional District.

Statewide Officials:

Former Dallas County Sheriff Lupe Valdez (D) is seeking to unseat incumbent Governor Greg Abbott (R).

Texas Land Commissioner George P. Bush (R) is likely to prevail in his re-election bid.

State Senate

None of Texas' Latino incumbents are State Senate candidates in 2018. Six are not up for re-election, and Senator Sylvia Garcia (D) is pursuing a seat in the U.S. House of Representatives. Two Latinos who have tough contests include legal professional David Romero (D), who is challenging incumbent Paul Bettencourt (R) in the 7th Senate District; Bridgeport City Councilmember Kevin Lopez (D), who is facing State Rep. Pat Fallon (R) in the 30th Senate District.

State House of Representatives

Thirty-one of Texas' incumbent Latino State Representatives are running for re-election, and most have good prospects of winning: Democrats Carol Alvarado, Rafael M. Anchia, Diego M. Bernal, César Blanco, Terry Canales, Philip Cortez, Jessica Farrar, Mary E. González, Robert 'Bobby' Guerra, Ryan A. Guillen, Roland Gutierrez, Ana E. Hernandez, Abel Herrero, Gina Hinojosa, Celia Israel, Oscar Longoria, Eddie A. Lucio III, Armando 'Mando' Martinez, Ina Minjarez, Joe Moody, Sergio Muñoz, Jr., Poncho Nevárez, Evelina 'Lina' Ortega, Mary Ann Perez, Richard Peña Raymond, Eddie R. Rodriguez, Justin R. Rodriguez, Ramon Romero, Jr., and Armando Walle; and Republican J.M. Lozano. In the 107th House District, State Rep. Victoria Neave (D) is facing a competitive challenge from business owner Deanna Maria Metzger (R).

Latinos who have good prospects of victory in open seat contests include Cameron County Commissioner Alex Dominguez (D), who is running in the 37th House District; social service professional Cynthia Flores (R), who is running in the 52nd House District; attorney Jessica Gonzalez (D), who is running in the 104th House District; community leader Terry Meza (D), who is running in the 105th House District; former State Rep. Trey Martinez Fischer (D), who is running to return to the House in the 116th District; and human resource specialist Leo Pacheco (D), who is running in the 118th House District.

Latinos who face tougher contests include: law professor Lorena Perez McGill (D), who faces former Texas State Rep. Steve Toth (R) in the 15th House District; real estate and business professional Armando Gamboa (D), who faces incumbent State Rep. Brooks Landgraf (R) in the 81st House District; community leader Samantha Carrillo Fields (D), who faces incumbent State Rep. John Frullo (R) in the 84th House District; early childhood intervention therapist Jennifer Cantu (D) who faces incumbent State Rep. Philip Stephenson (R) in the 85th House District; attorney Ana-Maria Ramos (D), who faces incumbent State Rep. Linda Koop (R) in the

102nd House District; community leader Celina Montoya (D), who faces former Alamo Heights School Board President Steve Allison (R) in the 121st House District; and International Management District professional Natali Hurtado (D) who faces small business owner Sam Harless (R) in the 126th House District.

UTAH

U.S. House of Representatives

Social worker Lee Castillo (D) faces a tough race in his 1st Congressional District bid to unseat incumbent U.S. Representative Rob Bishop (R).

Statewide Officials

Incumbent Attorney General Sean Reyes (R) is not up for re-election in 2018.

State Senate

Incumbent State Senator Luz Escamilla (D) is not up for re-election in 2018.

State House of Representatives

Two of Utah's three incumbent Latino State Representatives are running for re-election, and both face good prospects of victory: Democrats Angela Romero and Mark Wheatley. Two Latinos trying to unseat incumbents will have tough contests: attorney Adam Alba (D), who faces State Rep. Timothy Hawkes (R) in the 18th House District; and Debbie Vigil (D), who faces State Rep. Douglas Sagers (R) in the 21st House District.

VERMONT

State House of Representatives

Incumbent State Rep. Diana Gonzalez (D) is likely to prevail in her re-election bid.

VIRGINIA

Virginia holds its state legislative races in odd-numbered years, and none of its four Latino State House incumbents are up for re-election in 2018.

WASHINGTON

Washington Congressional and state legislative contests are held under the “top two primary” system, where all candidates running in the primary election – regardless of their party preference – appear on a single primary election ballot, and people can vote for any candidate. The top two overall vote-getters (not the top vote-getter from each political party) move on to the November general election. As a result, two candidates from the same political party may face each other in the general election.

U.S. House of Representatives

Incumbent Latino U.S. Rep. Jaime Herrera Beutler (R) does not face any serious opposition in her re-election bid.

State Senate

Incumbent State Senator Rebecca Saldaña (D) does not face any serious opposition in her re-election bid. Two Latinos trying to unseat incumbents will have tougher races: Leo Perales (D), who faces State Senator Sharon Brown (R) in the 8th Senate District; and former Sunnyside City Councilmember Bengie Aguilar (D), who faces State Senator Jim Honeyford (R) in the 15th Senate District.

State House of Representatives

All four of Washington’s Latino State Representatives are running for re-election, and have good prospects of victory: Democrats Monica Jurado Stonier, Lillian Ortiz-Self, Kristine Reeves, and Javier Valdez.

Three Latinos will have difficult contests, including Issaquah City Councilmember Bill Ramos (D) who faces former State Rep. Chad Magendanz (R) in the 5th House District; small business owner Maia Espinoza (R) who faces incumbent State Rep. Christine Kilduff (D) in the 28th House District; and community activist Victoria Mena (D), who faces incumbent State Rep. Drew Stokesbary (R) in the 31st House District.

WEST VIRGINIA

U.S. House of Representatives

Incumbent Latino U.S. Rep. Alex Mooney (R) faces no serious competition in his re-election bid. State Senator Richard Ojeda (D) is in a tough but competitive open seat race against small business owner and farmer Carol Miller (R) in the 3rd Congressional District.

State House of Delegates

Incumbent State Delegate Paul Espinosa (R) has good prospects of victory in his re-election bid.

WISCONSIN

U.S. House of Representatives

Latino ironworker Randy Bryce (D) is in a tough race against University of Wisconsin Regent Bryan Steil (R), for the 1st Congressional District seat being vacated by the retirement of Speaker of the House Paul Ryan (R).

State Assembly

Wisconsin's two Latino incumbents face no serious opposition in their re-election bids: Republican Jessie Rodriguez and Democrat JoCasta Zamarripa. In the 9th House District, attorney Marisabel Cabrera (D) has excellent prospects of prevailing in her open seat contest. Jennifer Estrada (D) will have a tough race in her 25th House bid to unseat incumbent State Assemblymember Paul Tittl (R).

WYOMING

State House of Representatives

Incumbent Tim Salazar (R) faces no serious opposition in his 34th House District contest. Marine Corps veteran Sean Castañeda (D) faces a tougher contest in his bid to unseat incumbent State Rep. Bill Henderson (R) in the 41st House District.

METHODOLOGY

In the three tables presented on pages 4-7, potential Latino gains and losses were calculated with reference to the number of Latino incumbents running for re-election, and the number of Latino non-incumbent candidates in very competitive races. In determining which Latino candidates were running in competitive races, we considered a variety of factors including the extent to which candidates were challenging strong incumbents, the party registration of the district, campaign finance information, and information obtained from local political observers. The number of Latino candidates includes all those we could identify as running for legislative office, both incumbent and non-incumbent, and without reference to whether the candidates were running in competitive races. Although we have made every effort to verify that candidates identified as Latino are of Hispanic or Latino origin, it is possible that a small number of candidates have been misidentified and that we may have included or excluded a few candidates incorrectly.

In determining whether a candidate is of Hispanic or Latino origin, we categorize candidates based on their self-identification of ancestry from a predominantly Spanish-speaking country. For the U.S. House of Representatives, we only include candidates from states whose Representatives have voting rights. Thus, our figures for U.S. House candidates may differ from sources which use different criteria.

Generally, this *Profile* only discusses Latinos who are running either as Democrats or Republicans, unless the candidacy of an Independent or third-party Latino will have a major impact on the outcome of the race in which the candidate is involved.