



# 2024 VOTERS GUIDE

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**T**rump and Harris may be competing for voters' attention at the top of the 2024 election ballot.

But two other words also carry importance this election cycle: "yes" and "no."

Those are the options for a proposed constitutional amendment that has the power to drastically change Kentucky's education landscape. Known as Amendment 2, the ballot measure asks voters to decide whether state lawmakers should be able to direct public funding toward nonpublic education.

If it passes, lawmakers could begin crafting legislation to fund charter schools, school vouchers or other programs proponents say would offer families "school choice."

Those supporting the amendment say the change would help Kentucky students have greater access to different educational options that may better suit their needs. However, critics say the amendment would take a devastating financial toll on the state's public school system by diverting dollars to other programs, including private schools with high tuitions.

The measure has become a prominent talking point for candidates in down-ballot races – especially those running for state House and Senate.

Many Democratic candidates have indicated they support public schools, while Republican candidates have promoted charter schools and vouchers through their campaigns.

Ahead of Election Day, Courier Journal reporters put together a guide on candidates running for legislative and local seats around Louisville, as well as in each of Kentucky's congressional districts.

The guide includes information about individual candidates' priorities, along with explanations of two proposed constitutional amendments.

It does not include candidates who are running uncontested, including those in seven state House races, three state Senate races, six Metro Council races and two Jefferson County school board races.

The 2024 election marks the last time voters will see DEM and REP designations next to Louisville Metro Council candidates' names, following a law change that mandated Louisville's mayoral and city council elections become nonpartisan.

**Find a sample ballot for your precinct at [elections.jeffersoncountyclerk.org](https://elections.jeffersoncountyclerk.org).**



Primary election voting took place at Jeffersontown High School on May 21.  
SCOTT UTTERBACK/COURIER JOURNAL

## U.S. House

Four congressional incumbents face opposition in the election. Two other incumbents – Republicans Thomas Massie and Hal Rogers – are running unopposed.

### Kentucky's 1st Congressional District

#### James Comer (R)



Incumbent James Comer, 51, was first elected to Congress in 2016 and previously served six terms as a state representative. He has also served as Kentucky's Commissioner of Agriculture.

Before entering politics, Comer graduated from Western Kentucky University, where he studied agriculture, and earned business experience by purchasing his own farm.

Comer currently serves as chairman of the House Committee on Oversight and Accountability and is a member of the House Committee on Education and Workforce.

Comer is married to TJ Comer. Together, they have three children.

#### Erin Marshall (D)



Erin Marshall, 29, is a single mom who was born and raised in Frankfort. She has previous experience in politics and worked for Hillary Clinton's presidential campaign after graduating from Wake Forest University in 2016.

Marshall credits Drexel Davis Jr., her former golf coach and former Kentucky State Treasurer and Secretary of State, as her mentor and inspiration for pursuing public service and politics.

According to her campaign website, Marshall's platform consists of advocating for abortion rights and reproductive freedom. The overturn of Roe v. Wade in June 2022 is what inspired her to run for office.

### Kentucky's 2nd Congressional District

#### Brett Guthrie (R)



Incumbent Brett Guthrie, 60, was first elected to Congress in 2008. He began his political career in 1998, serving in the Kentucky Senate until he was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives.

Guthrie previously served as a Field Artillery Officer in the 101st Airborne Division. After serving in the military, he joined his father's manufacturing business company, Trace Die Cast, based in Bowling Green.

Guthrie is chair of the House Energy and Commerce Committee's Health Subcommittee. He also serves as a deputy whip within the House Republican Conference for the 118th Congress.

#### Hank Linderman (D)



Hank Linderman was born in Florida and moved to Louisville in 1970 with his family. Linderman's career consists of working as a musician and recording engineer, and he started dating his wife, Pam Hartlage, in 1978.

The couple then moved out west so Linderman could advance his music career and raised two children in Culver City, California. Later on, Linderman and his wife moved back to Kentucky and now live in Grayson County.

Linderman's platform consists of addressing social and economic inequality, including in health care, climate change, and education, and eliminating plastic use. He previously ran campaigns in the 2018, 2020 and 2022 House District 2 elections.

### Kentucky's 3rd Congressional District

#### Mike Craven (R)

Mike Craven previously ran for Congress in 2018, 2020, and 2022 but lost in the primary election each time. He has worked with Ford Motor Company and has served with the United Crescent Hill Food Pantry and Habitat for Humanity, according to a candidate survey.

#### Morgan McGarvey (D)



Incumbent Morgan McGarvey, 44, has served in the U.S. House since 2023. McGarvey was previously a state senator for 10 years and served as the minority leader of the Senate Democratic Caucus for four of those years.

Currently, he is co-chair of the Congressional Bourbon Caucus and is on the House Veterans Affairs and Small Business Committees.

McGarvey met his wife at the University of Missouri, where he studied journalism. He also has a Juris Doctor degree from the University of Kentucky J. David Rosenberg College of Law and resides in the Highlands of Louisville.

### Kentucky's 6th Congressional District

#### Andy Barr (R)



Incumbent Andy Barr, 50, has represented the 6th district since 2013. He is a senior member of the House Financial Services Committee and is chairman of the Influential Financial Institutions and Monetary Policy Subcommittee. Additionally, he is in his second term on the House Foreign Affairs Committee and sits on the Indo-Pacific Subcommittee.

Issues important to Barr include keeping taxes low

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