



Kate

OUR GOVERNOR

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POLS 4155 | VOTING & ELECTIONS

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SETTING THE STAGE

- The current governor of the State of Oregon is Kate Brown (D).
- Brown, the 38th Governor of Oregon, was sworn into office on February 18th, 2015, succeed John Kitzhaber (D), who was re-elected in 2014 and resigned from office in 2015 due to an ethics scandal.
- The **2016 Oregon special gubernatorial election** took place on November 8, 2016, to elect the Governor of Oregon, concurrently with the **2016 U.S. presidential election**.
- Brown won the election and became the first openly **LGBT** person *elected* to a term as Governor in U.S. history.
- The **2018 Oregon gubernatorial election** will take place on November 6, 2018, in order to elect the Governor of Oregon.



OREGON'S PRIMARY ELECTION

- The 2018 Oregon Democratic primary election takes place on May 15th.
 - This election will determine which candidate will be worthy of running as the party's nominee in the state's November 6, 2018, gubernatorial election.
- At this time, Gov. Kate Brown is facing two Democrats who have filed as primary challengers to oppose her: **Ed Jones**, a Redmond businessman; and **Candace Neville**, a real estate broker from Eugene.
 - However, they are no *credible* primary challengers > no heating primary.
- While Oregon's gubernatorial race has been a relatively low-key affair, a lot of early attention in the governor's race has focused on the incumbent, Gov. Kate Brown, and Rep. Knute Buehler (R)—strongest Republican challenger.

GOV. KATE BROWN'S STRATEGY

- **Gov. Kate Brown (D) Job Approval:**

Approve 45%

Disapprove 37%

(Morning Consult's Governor Approval Rankings; Q4 2017 approval rankings)

- Has raised \$989,000 in 2018 and has \$3.48 million on hand—access to resources.
- Democratic state--the reality; likely Democratic.



RECOMMENDATIONS



Oregon Gov. Kate Brown, at podium, speaks at a cannabis summit in Portland, Friday, Feb. 2, 2018.

- Oregonians familiarity — highly visible.
- Intersectional identities — woman and bisexual.
 - 1 of 4 women governors (Oregon, Rhode Island, Alabama and Iowa).
- A strong off-year election for Democrats. That is, Democrats are fired up in their anger over the current administration.