



NONPARTISAN CANDIDATE GUIDE: 2018 ILLINOIS GOVERNOR'S RACE

	J.B. Pritzker (D)	Bruce Rauner (Incumbent - R)
<p>For mobile-friendly version and other guides, see campuselect.org/guides.html</p> <p>For more detailed candidate information visit their respective votesmart.org pages</p> <p>To volunteer, visit</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • jbpritzker.com or • brucerauner.com 		
Abortion: Mostly ban or mostly legal?	Legal. "An unwavering supporter of women's rights, a woman's right to choose and her right to privacy."	Mixed. Signed bill to expand and protect abortion coverage. Personally pro-choice, but respects religious and moral objections, supports "pro-life" candidates.
Campaign Finance: Support <i>Citizens United</i> decision, allowing unlimited political donations from corporations and unions?	No. Wants to overturn it, and strengthen Illinois campaign finance laws.	Unknown.
Climate Change: Consider climate change a critical threat?	Yes. Considers it "a real threat," wants to move Illinois toward 100% renewable energy.	No public statements. His family foundation supports Heartland Institute, which promotes skepticism that human activities are driving climate change.
Climate Change: Should government limit the levels of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere?	Yes. Supports participation in U.S. Climate Alliance , a coalition of states committed to climate change action	No. Relax emission limits in order to save IL coal-fired power plants. Has not joined Climate Alliance despite Il General Assembly resolution requesting this.
Courts: Support President Trump's choice of Brett Kavanaugh for Supreme Court nominee? (before recent allegations)	No. "Everything is at risk with Brett Kavanaugh's nomination."	Yes. "He is highly experienced, well-qualified...I hope his nomination is voted on and approved expeditiously"
Education: Increase funding for K-12 education?	Yes. Must overcome IL history of underfunding K-12 education and "work to achieve system that both adequately funds and equitably serves every child in Illinois."	Has stated his priority to fully fund K-12 but cut funding several times to balance state budget. Current plan increases funds but also shifts debt burdens such as pensions from state to schools.
Education: Support expansion of charter schools or provide vouchers or tax breaks to parents to send their children to private schools with public money?	No. Will invest in public education & oppose vouchers & charter school expansion.	Yes. Signed bill protecting school choice for parents, including more charter school funding & more access to private schools through tax credit scholarships.
Education: Increase state funding for higher education?	Yes. Need sustained, long-term investment to attract students and businesses dependent on well-educated workforce.	Yes. But vetoed funding bill that he considered an irresponsible way to fund higher education.
Gay Marriage: Support gay marriage?	Yes. Equality Illinois considers his backing for the LGBTQ community as "unprecedented."	In 2014 said he would have vetoed recently-passed state marriage equality bill, but accepts gay marriage as settled law since 2015 Supreme Court ruling.

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Gun Control: Support more restrictive gun control legislation? Restrict semi-automatic weapons?	Yes. Gun violence is “a public health epidemic.” Supports banning assault weapons, bump stocks, and high capacity magazines; requiring gun licensing; and implementing universal background checks.	Mixed. Supports some restrictions on access for criminals and the mentally ill, and ban of bump stocks. But vetoed bill on state licensing of gun sellers.
Healthcare: Support or Repeal Affordable Care Act (ACA), known as Obamacare? Accept ACA's Medicaid expansion to subsidize low-income participants?	Yes. Support ACA; expand Medicaid.	Mixed. Did not publicly oppose repeal, although said expressed concerns privately. In 2014 opposed Medicaid expansion; now wants to move more Medicaid recipients to managed care programs.
Healthcare: Require people to work to receive Medicaid?	No. Administration’s attempt to add work requirement would impose “additional, unnecessary barriers to vital healthcare services for those who need access the most.”	Yes. Supports concept of a work requirement.
Immigration: Support path to citizenship for America’s 11 million illegal immigrants, including "DACA" recipients or "Dreamers," who grew up in the US after being brought here as children?	Yes.	Mixed. Wants to see “comprehensive immigration reform at the federal level” but has dropped earlier support for pathway to citizenship. Says DACA is up to Congress.
Labor: Support “right to work” law, eliminating the right of unions to mandate dues for workers they represent?	No.	Yes. Has historically opposed required dues for public unions. Supports allowing cities and counties to declare themselves “right to work” zones.
Marijuana: Legalize or decriminalize marijuana?	Legalize.	No to legalization. Signed bill to decriminalize small amounts.
Minimum Wage: Raise the minimum wage?	Yes. Favors raise to \$15.	No. Vetoed bill to raise to \$15 in 4 years.
Net Neutrality: Support requiring internet providers to provide equal access to all users?	Yes. Net neutrality is “vital to free expression, online innovation, and public safety.”	Unknown.
Renewable Energy: Government support for renewable energy?	Supports increasing requirements for percentage of renewable energy produced by utilities.	Supports all energy sources. Signed bill to promote “unprecedented” renewable energy sources, but considers fossil fuels to be “massive job creators.”
Taxes: Support President Trump’s tax cuts ? Increase or cut taxes on high-income Illinois earners.	Opposes Trump tax cuts. Would raise IL taxes on higher-income earners.	Supports Trump tax cuts. Opposes taxing IL higher-income earners.
Voting Rights: Support stricter voting rules such as voter ID requirements or reduced registration times, even if they prevent some people from voting?	No. Running mate supports process to expand voting rights of prisoners who haven’t yet been convicted.	No. But vetoed legislation that would have expanded rights to prisoners who haven’t yet been convicted.

Other gubernatorial candidates include [Kash Jackson](#) (L), [William Kelly](#) (Constitution Party), and [Sam McCann](#) (Conservative Party). Due to limited space, we can only include candidates who poll 15% or higher, but encourage you to check out their websites.

Created by the [Campus Election Engagement Project](#), a nonpartisan effort to help college and university administrators, faculty, and student leaders engage their schools in the election. Key sites consulted included [Votesmart.org](#), [OntheIssues.org](#), [FactCheck.org](#), [Politifact.com](#), and public candidate statements. For guides to local races, see [Vote411.org](#) from the League of Women Voters and [Ballotready.org](#).