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RE The Easy Button Strategy

STRATEGY MEMO

The 2026 races that matter most for *free and fair* elections

— THE THREAT

An Unprecedented Threat to Free and Fair Elections

Free and fair elections in America are under attack. Anticipating electoral losses under fair conditions, President Trump and his allies are using fear, intimidation, and the machinery of the federal government to distort the electorate, silence critics, and shape outcomes before ballots are cast.

This effort is not episodic or rhetorical; it is a coordinated, multi-pronged strategy to discredit and destabilize the electoral process itself and undermine the will of the voters. Trump has called on his party to “nationalize” voting and “take over” elections in states he claims cannot be trusted. The Trump Administration has sued 30 states over voter rolls, introduced sweeping federal legislation that would create the most restrictive barriers to voting ever passed by Congress, and appointed prominent election-deniers to a new federal “Election Integrity” office.

This escalating multi-year campaign has two aims: to create the political and institutional permission structures for otherwise extraordinary interventions, and failing that, to undermine the legitimacy of the other side’s victory. The pattern is a clear attempt to replace the democratic principle, “elections decide power,” with Trump’s own, “power decides elections.”

— THE RESPONSE

Fighting Back: Electing Pro-Democracy Candidates

But public officials are pushing back, led by pro-democracy governors, attorneys general, secretaries of state, and state supreme court justices. These are the officials who administer elections, certify results, litigate disputes, and set the rules for how votes are cast and counted.

Across the six battleground states most likely to decide 2028, hundreds of state and local races will appear on the ballot in 2026. These elections receive a fraction of the attention and funding of marquee federal campaigns, yet many of the officials elected in these races will play an essential role in how the 2028 presidential election is administered.

Will Trump have a friendly election-denier ally – or a pro-democracy champion – in these critical offices?

— THE SOLUTION

The Easy Button

To simplify the process for donors, a team of seasoned election and pro-democracy campaigners has vetted which offices and officials have a direct impact on voter registration, election administration, vote counting, and — ultimately — who certifies the results.

Because these races can be easily overlooked and are too often underinvested in relative to their importance, the Easy Button allows donors to make direct contributions to more than a dozen pro-democracy candidates running for these key offices across the battleground states most likely to decide 2028.

In states where margins are razor-thin, who holds these offices matters enormously. If we're successful, as we were in 2022, our collective resources will help ensure pro-democracy officials — not MAGA-aligned election deniers — hold these important offices when it matters most.

— THE SLATE

Priority Candidates

A hand-picked slate of pro-democracy candidates across battleground states, plus two PACs working to elect pro-democracy candidates. We are actively monitoring additional races and will add candidates as the electoral landscape clarifies.

01 **Katie Hobbs** AZ

GOVERNOR • \$5,500

Hobbs was the central target of efforts to overturn Arizona's 2020 results as secretary of state and didn't blink. Her reelection is one of just five pure toss-up governor's races in the country.

02 **Kris Mayes** AZ

ATTORNEY GENERAL • \$5,500

Mayes won in 2022 by just 280 votes — the closest AG race in state history — and has since become a national leader challenging federal overreach in court. Her reelection is another toss-up.

03 **Adrian Fontes** AZ

SECRETARY OF STATE • \$5,500

Arizona's chief elections officer is running for reelection in a state where the FBI subpoenaed election records earlier this year.

04 **Keisha Lance Bottoms** GA

GOVERNOR • \$8,000

Bottoms is running for governor, where this executive office controls election-related legislation and appointments.

05 **Tanya Miller** GA

ATTORNEY GENERAL • \$8,000

Miller — a state representative and former prosecutor — is running for AG in a state where federal agents raided election offices earlier this year.

06 **Penny Brown Reynolds** GA

SECRETARY OF STATE • \$8,000

A former Fulton County judge and Biden administration appointee, Reynolds is seeking to be the first Democrat to hold the office in more than 25 years and put a pro-democracy official in charge of Georgia's elections.

07 **Jocelyn Benson** MI

GOVERNOR • \$8,325

As secretary of state, Benson held the line against Trump's post-2020 pressure campaign in Michigan — including efforts to block certification and deploy fake electors. She's now the frontrunner for an open-seat governor's race.

08 **Eli Savit** MI

ATTORNEY GENERAL • \$8,325

Savit is running in an open-seat race to lead the office on the front lines of defending Michigan's elections against federal overreach — in a state that could decide 2028.

09 Garlin Gilchrist MI

SECRETARY OF STATE • \$8,325

Michigan's current lieutenant governor won the nomination for secretary of state — the office that directly administers how votes are cast and certified in one of the most competitive battleground states in the country.

10 Aaron Ford NV

GOVERNOR • \$10,000

Ford spent two terms as Nevada's attorney general defending election integrity and pushing back against federal overreach. Now he's running for governor in one of the most competitive states in the country.

11 Nicole Cannizzaro NV

ATTORNEY GENERAL • \$10,000

Nevada's Senate majority leader and a seasoned prosecutor, Cannizzaro is running for AG in an open-seat race in a state the Trump administration has repeatedly targeted over 2020 election claims.

12 Cisco Aguilar NV

SECRETARY OF STATE • \$10,000

When the FBI came for Nevada's voter data in 2025, Aguilar said no. Now he's running for reelection against the same election denier he defeated in 2022.

13 Anita Earls NC

SUPREME COURT • \$6,800

Republicans hold a 5–2 majority on the North Carolina Supreme Court — and have already used it to reverse prior rulings on voter ID and redistricting. Justice Earls' reelection in 2026 sets a pathway to flip the court to a pro-democracy majority in 2028.

14 David Crowley WI

GOVERNOR • \$10,000

Crowley is the former Milwaukee County Executive and is running to succeed outgoing Gov. Tony Evers in the closest presidential state in the country — where the governor's office is a critical check on election administration heading into 2028.

15 Josh Kaul WI

ATTORNEY GENERAL • \$10,000

Kaul is running for his third term and is currently prosecuting Wisconsin's fake electors from 2020 — in one of the closest battleground states in the country.

ORGANIZATIONS**The Justice Project** PAC

ALLIED ORGANIZATION • \$50,000

The leading campaign operation for pro-democracy state supreme court candidates. In 2026, they're focused on defending Anita Earls in North Carolina and protecting pro-democracy majorities in Michigan and Montana.

PAC for America's Future PAC

ALLIED ORGANIZATION • \$50,000

Builds Democratic power in state legislatures by identifying and funding the most competitive races in battleground states. This cycle, Democratic trifectas are on the table — and winning them means the power to pass pro-democracy legislation and hold the line through 2030 redistricting.