

# Robert F Kennedy will not be on the Ohio ballot after suspending his campaign for president

By Anthony Shoemaker  
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Independent presidential candidate Robert F Kennedy will not be on the ballot in Ohio, according to Ohio Secretary of State Frank LaRose.

Kennedy suspended his campaign on Friday and endorsed former President Donald Trump.

“My office has formally received written confirmation from the Kennedy campaign confirming his withdrawal,” LaRose posted on X. “He will not appear on the Ohio ballot.”

Kennedy had been certified for the Ohio ballot earlier this week along with other independent candidates. The candidates certified for the Ohio ballot for president are:

- Donald J. Trump and JD Vance (Republican)
- Kamala Harris and Tim Walz (Democratic)
- Chase Oliver and Mike ter Maat (Libertarian)
- Richard Duncan and Mitchell Preston Bupp (Independent)
- Peter Sonski and Lauren Onak (Independent)
- Jill Stein and Anita Rios (Independent)

There has not been much public polling in Ohio, but a Rasmussen poll from Aug. 18 showed Kennedy with 4% support. Trump is at 50% and Vice President Kamala Harris is at 42%.

“Robert F. Kennedy, Jr.’s withdrawal is unlikely to affect the outcome of the presidential race in Ohio. Donald Trump was probably going to win the state with RFK Jr. on the ballot, and with him off the ballot the odds of that happening are even greater,” said Christopher Devine, associate professor of political science at the University of Dayton. “The most likely effect of RFK Jr.’s withdrawal is to increase Donald Trump’s margin of victory in Ohio, perhaps to double digits, since he seems to be drawing support from Trump more than Kamala Harris.”

Kennedy's support stood at 4% nationally in an Ipsos poll taken this month, and his campaign appeared to be running out of money, according to Federal Election Commission filings published this week. At the end of last month, Kennedy's campaign owed close to \$3.5 million and had only \$3.9 million on hand.