

Ohio Secretary of State Frank LaRose running for auditor in 2026

LaRose is latest GOP politico making moves in a game of musical chairs as they look to change jobs. Current officeholders face term limits in 2026.

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Ohio Secretary of State Frank LaRose, who ran for U.S. Senate last year in the GOP primary, has now set his political sights on another statewide office: auditor.

LaRose is on his second, four-year term as secretary of state. Term limits block him from running for a third term in that office.

LaRose announced Thursday that many of his supporters asked him to consider serving as state auditor.

"I want you to know I've heard you. I've always answered the call of duty, and I'm ready to take on this important assignment," he said in a fundraising email.

LaRose's announcement is part of a game of political musical chairs playing out in Ohio. The pace of the game ramped up once JD Vance became vice president and Gov. Mike DeWine appointed Jon Husted, who was serving as lieutenant governor, to Vance's U.S. Senate seat.

Who is running for statewide office in Ohio in 2026?

Governor: DeWine is term limited. Attorney General Dave Yost is running for governor. Entrepreneur Vivek Ramaswamy, who left the Trump administration's government efficiency effort, is expected to join the race soon. He lives in suburban Columbus and grew up in the Cincinnati area. Morgan County resident Heather Brazell-Hill, a Republican, is also running. Former Ohio Department of Health Director Dr. Amy Acton is running as a Democrat.

Secretary of State: LaRose holds the job now. Treasurer Robert Sprague, a Findlay Republican who had his eye on running for governor, and former state senator Niraj Antani, a Dayton area Republican, are running for the job. Like

LaRose, Sprague is blocked by term limits from seeking a third term for his current post. Dr. Brian Hambley, a Cincinnati area Democrat, is running as well.

Auditor: Celina Republican Keith Faber holds the job now but is term limited. LaRose is running for it.

Attorney General: Yost holds the job now but is term limited. Faber is running for AG.

Treasurer: Sprague is treasurer now but running for secretary of state. No one has announced their candidacy for the treasurer post yet.

Election of statewide officers will be in November 2026. Their four-year terms start in January 2027.

The Ohio Democratic Party currently has just one statewide officeholder – Ohio Supreme Court Justice Jennifer Brunner.