

# AK-AL District Primer

In 2024, Republican Nick Begich won this seat by 7,876 votes. Dems lost by 19 votes per precinct. *That's close!* If we can persuade just 20 voters per precinct, we can win this year. With your help, we're going to **FLIP** this key seat and secure a Democratic House majority in 2026.

Key dates
<b>Filing Deadline:</b> June 1
<b>Primary:</b> August 18
<b>Midterms:</b> November 3

## Recent Election Results

2024 Presidential Election	2024 House Election	2022 House Election
<b>Harris:</b> 140,026 (41.4%) <b>Trump:</b> 184,458 (54.5%)	<b>Nick Begich (R): 164,861 (51.2%)</b> <b>Mary Peltola (D): 156,985 (48.8%)</b>	<b>Mary Peltola (D): 137,263 (55%)</b> <b>Sarah Palin (R): 112,471 (45%)</b>

## District Facts & Stats



### Largest Cities

- Anchorage: 286,075
- Fairbanks: 32,242
- Juneau: 31,969

### Geography

AK-AL encompasses the state of Alaska. Due to Alaska's small population, the state is allocated only one congressional seat. More than half of the state is federally-owned land containing national forests, national parks, and wildlife refuges. Approximately forty percent of the state's population lives in Anchorage.

### Citizenry

AK-AL is a socio-economic mix of white and blue collar workers employed primarily in the oil and gas, fishing, tourism, and mining industries. The state is mostly white, with about 15% of the population Native Alaskan. The large cities lean liberal, while the rest of the state is conservative. Since 1976, all eligible residents have received an annual Permanent Fund Dividend (PFD) derived from state oil and gas revenues.

### The Local Vibe

Trump's shifting tariff policies threaten Alaskan seafood, oil, gas, timber, and precious metals industries. Budget cuts are straining the social safety net, halting or delaying critical infrastructure projects, and reducing community programs such as food assistance for Native Alaskan tribes. The federal government is the largest employer in the state, so chaos at the federal level has an outsized impact on Alaskan households.

Since 2025, thousands of Alaskans have participated in demonstrations, including the national Hands Off demonstration and the No Kings protests.

Running for Senate this year is former AK-AL Rep. Mary Peltola, a popular figure sure to draw voters to the polls.

## Key Issues

- **Threats to essential services:** One in three Alaskans relies on Medicaid, and 10% of Alaskans receive SNAP benefits. Cuts to these programs negatively impact Alaskans, especially children and the elderly.
  - **Job uncertainty:** Because the largest employer in the state is the federal government, volatility around contracts and programs threaten Alaskan jobs.
  - **Trade chaos:** Instability in trade and tariff policies hinders the major industries in the state, which rely heavily on international trade, and ultimately harms consumers.
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## About the Candidates

### Nick Begich | GOP Incumbent

Republican **Nick Begich** was first elected to the U.S. House of Representatives in 2024. He is a member of a prominent Alaska political family that has been affiliated with the Democratic Party, although he is a Republican. Begich previously ran for AK-AL in the 2022 special and regular elections. He won his seat in 2024 by about 2%.

Begich is a member of the House Committee on Natural Resources; the House Committee on Transportation & Infrastructure; and the House Committee on Science, Space & Technology.

Begich has voted in lockstep with the Trump administration—earning Trump’s early endorsement—and has done so despite the negative consequences for Alaskans. Despite Alaskans’ widespread reliance on Medicaid and SNAP, Begich voted for the 2025 budget bill, threatening the healthcare and food security of thousands of Alaskans.

Begich’s primary strength is that he is a Republican in a reliably Republican state. His family is well-known in Alaska politics.

### Matt Schultz | Democratic Challenger

Democrat **Matt Schultz** is a first-time political candidate. An ordained Presbyterian minister from Anchorage, Schultz was motivated to run because he felt that daily life had become too difficult for working Alaskans. He supports LGBTQ rights, higher minimum wages, and improved government-backed healthcare.

Schultz’s campaign is focused on affordability. He is especially concerned about the cost and accessibility of health care in Alaska and the country. He wants to bring more jobs to Alaska while protecting the state’s lands, waters, and unique traditions.

He lives with his wife in Anchorage, where they raised their children and have been community leaders for decades.

**The contrast:** A relative unknown, Schultz is a fresh face who offers Alaskans a fresh start in Congress where he will work to advance policies that address the needs of ordinary Alaskans. In contrast, his opponent coasts on family connections and partisan inertia while toeing the extremist MAGA line.