

BALLOTPEDIA an interactive almanac of U.S. politics

Laura J. Woods

Laura J. Woods is a Republican member of the Colorado State Senate, representing District 19. She was first elected to the chamber in 2014.

Biography

Woods's professional experience includes working as a freelance court reporter and as the owner of a reporting firm called Avery Woods Reporting.^[1]

Issues

Campaign themes

2014

Woods's campaign has emphasized the following themes:^[2]

- Taxes/Spending and Government:

Excerpt: "I will work to reduce the size and scope of government. This also includes reducing taxes and cutting spending. I am committed to cutting all unnecessary programs in order to free up the budget rather than forcing hard working moms and dads to foot the bill."

- Education:

Excerpt: "I believe Colorado families deserve a broader range of educational choices, including, but not limited to, school vouchers. And I believe parents, not the legislature, have the right to determine at what age their children should be taught sex education. I also believe Common Core is bad for our schools, bad for our kids."

- Guns:

Excerpt: "I am proud to support the right to keep and bear arms. I will fight to repeal the radical gun controls that were forced on Colorado in 2013 and have pledged to sponsor or co-sponsor a "Constitutional Carry" bill if elected."

- Right to Work:

Excerpt: "No one should be forced to join a union in order to secure a job in the state of Colorado. I will be a leader in passing legislation in Colorado to protect the rights of workers and fight against forced unionism."

- Traditional Family Values:

Excerpt: "I believe in the sanctity of the family and support traditional Marriage. I will fight to protect the right of religious conscience for the people of Colorado. No one should have to sacrifice their faith or religious beliefs in order to appease another group of people."

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Laura Woods



Colorado State Senate, District 19

Incumbent

In office

January 7, 2015 - Present

Term ends

January 8, 2019

Years in position 0

Party Republican

Compensation

Base salary \$30,000 per year

Per diem \$45/day in Denver area, \$183/day outside

Elections and appointments

Last election November 4, 2014

First elected November 4, 2014

Next general November 6, 2018

Term limits 2 terms (8 years)

Websites

Campaign website

(<http://www.laurawoodsforsenate.org/>)



Is this your profile?
Verify your resume with
CandidateVerification.

Elections

2014




See also: *Colorado State Senate elections, 2014*



Elections for the office of Colorado State Senate took place in 2014. A primary election took place on June 24, 2014. The general election was held on November 4, 2014. The signature-filing deadline for candidates wishing to run in this election was March 31, 2014. Incumbent Rachel Zenzinger was unopposed in the Democratic primary, while **Laura J. Woods** defeated Lang Sias in the Republican primary. Woods defeated Zenzinger and Gregg Miller (L) in the general election.^{[3][4][5][6]}

This race was picked by analysts as one of two that were important for the control of the Colorado State Senate. The Democrats held the smallest possible majority in the chamber at one seat following the successful 2013 recalls of Senate President John Morse (D) and Angela Giron (D) and later resignation of Evie Hudak (D) after recall petitions were turned in against her. When Zenzinger, Hudak's former campaign manager, was first appointed, some conservatives argued that she would simply continue with Hudak's policies. "Sen. Hudak's constituents were hungry for change and liberal activists served up more of the same. Zenzinger may have a different name, but she's been behind Hudak's policies. Anyone who thinks Zenzinger is going to stand up to her own Democrat majority is fooling themselves," said Kelly Maher of the conservative group Compass Colorado.^[7]

Jefferson County, where this seat is located, was considered by some to be "the epicenter of Colorado politics." Because of Zenzinger's relationship to Hudak, she was considered vulnerable to a Republican challenge.^[8] According to *Chalkbeat*, Zenzinger holds a "substantial fundraising lead" over Woods.^[9]

Colorado State Senate, District 19, General Election, 2014					[hide]
Party		Candidate	Vote %	Votes	
	Republican	✔Laura J. Woods	47.6%	29,907	
	Democratic	Rachel Zenzinger <i>Incumbent</i>	46.6%	29,244	
	Libertarian	Gregg Miller	5.8%	3,664	
Total Votes				62,815	
Colorado State Senate District 19 Republican Primary, 2014					[hide]
Candidate			Vote %	Votes	
✔Laura J. Woods			55.4%	6,813	
Lang Sias			44.6%	5,484	
Total Votes				12,297	

Endorsements

2014

In 2014, Woods' endorsements included the following:^[10]

- The RMGO SuperPac, U.S. Senator Bill Anderson, and Colorado state senators George Rivera, David Schultheis, and Ted Harvey.

Scorecards

See also: *State legislative scorecards* and *State legislative scorecards in Colorado*

Legislative scorecards are used to evaluate elected public officials based on voting record. Some scorecards are created by political advocacy groups with a focus on specific issues, while others are developed by newspapers and are broad in

scope. Scorecards are meant to be used as a tool for voters to have a quick picture of whether their views align with a particular legislator's record.

Because scorecards can be specific to particular issues or general to a state's legislative term, for example, each report should be considered on its own merits. Each entity that publishes these reports uses different methodologies and definitions for the terms used.

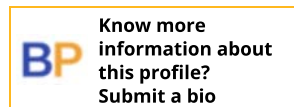
An overview for scorecards in all 50 states can be found on this page. To contribute to the list of Colorado scorecards, email suggestions to scorecards@ballotpedia.org (<mailto:scorecards@ballotpedia.org>).

Please see our writing guidelines if you would like to add results from an individual scorecard to this legislator's profile.

Recent news

This section displays the most recent stories in a Google news search for the term "**Laura + Woods + Colorado + Senate**".

All stories may not be relevant to this page due to the nature of the search engine.



Laura Woods News Feed (<http://news.google.com/news?hl=en&gl=us&q=Laura+Woods+Colorado+Senate&um=1&ie=UTF-8&output=rss>)

- Colorado Legislator Seeks to Abolish Civil Forfeiture - Reason (blog) (1/28/2015)
- Aurora legislator, state Dems, focus on student loans, GOP looks at statewide ... - Aurora Sentinel (1/26/2015)
- Why is the Colorado Legislature Supporting Aliyev's Dictatorship? - Asbarez Armenian News (1/28/2015)
- Colorado lawmakers look to ban asset seizures without convictions - Watchdog.org (1/19/2015)
- Republicans try to repeal Colorado gun-control bills - SFGate (1/9/2015)
- Colorado Republicans Battle Each Other - Huffington Post (1/12/2015)
- GOP Senators celebrate their new majority... - The Colorado Statesman (1/12/2015)
- The ballot and cartridge boxes under attack in Colorado - Communities Digital News (1/4/2015)
- ANCA urges Colorado State Senate to reject resolution supporting partnership ... - Armenpress.am (1/29/2015)
- Bringing Back Discrimination in Colorado - Huffington Post (1/13/2015)

See also

- Colorado General Assembly
- Colorado State Senate
- Colorado Senate Committees
- Colorado state legislative districts

External links

- Profile from the Colorado State Senate (<http://www.leg.state.co.us/CLICS/CLICS2015A/directory.nsf/MemberDetailPage?OpenForm&district=19&chamber=senate>)
- Official campaign website (<http://www.laurawoodsforsenate.org/>)
- Laura Woods on Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/laurawoodsforsenate>)
- Profile from Open States (<http://openstates.org/co/legislators/COL000190/woods-laura-j/>)
- Profile from Project Vote Smart (<http://votesmart.org/candidate/biography/149323/laura-woods#.VLIamYrF-yw>)



References

- ↑ *Laura Woods campaign website*, "About," accessed May 16, 2014 (<http://www.laurawoodsforsenate.org/about-me/>)
- ↑ *Laura Woods campaign website*, "Issues," accessed May 16, 2014 (<http://www.laurawoodsforsenate.org/issues/>)

3. ↑ *Colorado Secretary of State*, "Official primary candidate list," accessed May 1, 2014 (<https://www.sos.state.co.us/pubs/elections/vote/primaryCandidates.html>)
4. ↑ *Colorado Secretary of State*, "Official primary election results," accessed June 25, 2014 (<http://results.enr.clarityelections.com/CO/51557/134927/en/summary.html>)
5. ↑ *Colorado Secretary of State*, "Official general election candidate list," accessed July 23, 2014 (<http://www.sos.state.co.us/pubs/elections/vote/generalCandidates.html>)
6. ↑ *Colorado Secretary of State*, "Official general election results," accessed December 5, 2014 (<http://results.enr.clarityelections.com/CO/53335/149718/Web01/en/summary.html>)
7. ↑ *dailycaller.com*, "Colorado Dems replace state senator with her former campaign manager," December 12, 2013 (<http://dailycaller.com/2013/12/12/colorado-dems-replace-state-senator-with-her-former-campaign-manager/>)
8. ↑ *Denver Post*, "2 Jeffco GOP primary battles could dictate control of Colorado Senate," June 8, 2014 (http://www.denverpost.com/news/ci_25920931/2-jeffco-gop-primary-battles-could-dictate-control)
9. ↑ *Chalkbeat*, "Democrats, unions pour money into key races," September 3, 2014 (<http://co.chalkbeat.org/2014/09/03/democrats-unions-pour-money-into-key-races/#.VAdzOxbzlc8>)
10. ↑ *Laura Woods campaign website*, "Endorsements," accessed May 16, 2014 (<http://www.laurawoodsforsenate.org/category/endorsements/>)

Political offices		
Preceded by Rachel Zenzinger (D)	Colorado State Senate District 19 2015-Present	Succeeded by NA

Categories: Republican Party | Colorado | Current member, Colorado State Senate

State senators first elected in 2014 | 2014 challenger | State Senate candidate, 2014 | 2014 primary (winner) | 2014 general election (winner)