

Jevin Hodge: U.S. House of Representatives, Arizona

Recommendation Level: High Priority



A 27-year-old first-time candidate wouldn't normally be a great bet to knock off a long-term incumbent. But Jevin Hodge, a business consultant running to unseat David Schweikert, has a real chance, even in a tough year for Democrats. If Hodge wins, he'll be Arizona's first-ever Black member of Congress. It's a plausible place for a Democrat to win, and Hodge deserves attention.

Blue Tent views giving to Hodge's campaign as a **high priority**. Below, we explore three key questions that small and medium donors should answer before supporting candidates. ([See how we evaluate candidates.](#))

Is this race important?

We're still operating from the assumption that it's likely Democrats will lose the House this year. But for a chance to regain a majority in 2024, Democrats will likely need this seat. And replacing Schweikert, a fairly [corrupt](#) Republican, with a young Black legislator would be a big achievement.

Can Hodge win?

Schweikert is a battle-tested incumbent who has won some close elections in the past. But the newly redrawn 1st District is a little more favorable to Democrats – Biden won there by 1.5% – and Schweikert is coming off a [tough GOP primary](#) that involved a lot of negative ads. If that hurts him in the general, Hodge could have a path to victory. Public polling is pretty scarce, but one [August poll](#) found the candidates in a dead heat.

Does he need money?

The last campaign finance reports show Hodge at a slight fundraising advantage, \$1.8 million to \$1.4 million as of the end of September. This is good news, as Hodge has closed a fundraising gap in the last quarter and is in a decent position money-wise. But it's still an important race, and Blue Tent is rating Hodge a priority for donors.

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