# West Virginia Senate Primary and Trump Trial Judge’s Election Campaign Impact Political Landscape



**West Virginia Senate Primary and Trump Trial Judge’s Election Campaign**

West Virginia Governor Jim Justice, with endorsements from former President Donald Trump and Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell, is a prominent candidate in the Republican primary for Senate to succeed Sen. Joe Manchin, who is retiring. The primary is set for Tuesday. Justice, a businessman and coal magnate, switched from the Democratic to the Republican Party in 2017 and is now completing his second term as governor.

Representative Alex Mooney, backed by the ultraconservative Club for Growth PAC and Sen. Ted Cruz, is also running. Mooney emphasizes his conservative credentials, contrasting himself with Justice, whom he labels a "Republican in Name Only." Justice and Mooney are among over half a dozen Republicans vying for the seat in a deeply conservative state, where the GOP nominee is heavily favored in November.

In Georgia, Judge Scott McAfee, presiding over Trump’s election interference case, is balancing his judicial responsibilities with campaigning for re-election in Fulton County. Appointed by Governor Brian Kemp, McAfee faces civil rights lawyer Robert Patillo. Despite McAfee's robust fundraising and name recognition from his judicial role, campaigning has slowed case proceedings. Patillo has criticized McAfee's ruling allowing District Attorney Fani Willis to stay on the case despite alleged conflicts of interest.

The outcome of these elections will have significant repercussions both locally and nationally, shaping the political landscape in West Virginia and influencing a high-profile legal proceeding in Georgia.