



## **NAMES IN THE NEWS: GOV. KATHLEEN SEBELIUS**

**SHE MIGHT NOT BE IN KANSAS ANYMORE**

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## NAMES IN THE NEWS: GOV. KATHLEEN SEBELIUS SHE MIGHT NOT BE IN KANSAS ANYMORE

**A**fter a twenty-year career in state-level politics, Kansas' Democratic governor, Kathleen Sebelius, who is being courted by the Obama administration as the next Secretary of Health and Human Services, may soon be headed to Washington.

Gov. Sebelius began her political career in 1987 as a Kansas state representative. In 1995, she was elected insurance commissioner; after eight years in that post she became Kansas' 44th governor.<sup>1</sup>

Sebelius proved adept at raising large sums of money for her state election campaigns.

The National Institute on Money in State Politics' campaign finance data for Kansas candidates dates back to the 1998 election cycle. Those records show that during Sebelius' 1998 campaign to retain her position as the state's insurance commissioner, she raised \$308,250 in contributions — nearly 15 times more than the money raised by the two Republican opponents combined. Dan A. Martinez, who lost in the Republican primary in spite of raising more than his opponent, Bryan Riley, raised \$11,091 — \$8,756 of which came out of his own pocket. Riley, whom Sebelius handily defeated in the general, raised \$9,932 — \$1,063 of which was his own money.

Unlike her opponents, Sebelius did not contribute to her own campaign. However, individual donors provided 73 percent (\$225,000) of the money Sebelius raised during her 1998 re-election campaign.<sup>2</sup>

In 2002, when Sebelius ran for the state's open governor's seat, she once again out-raised her six opponents, garnering \$4.8 million to their combined total of \$4.6 million. That fund-raising prowess was repeated during her 2006 re-election campaign, when she raised \$5.6 million — more than triple the money raised by all nine challengers. While not up for re-election in 2004, Gov. Sebelius raised \$663,000.

Sebelius raised \$5.6 million during her 2006 gubernatorial re-election campaign — more than triple the money raised by all nine challengers

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<sup>1</sup> Peter Baker and Robert Pear, "Kansas Governor Seen as Top Choice in Health Post," *The New York Times*, available from [http://www.nytimes.com/2009/02/19/us/politics/19health.html?\\_r=1&hp](http://www.nytimes.com/2009/02/19/us/politics/19health.html?_r=1&hp), accessed Feb. 19, 2009.

<sup>2</sup> Kansas campaign finance laws impose the same limit on all contributors (except political party committees) of \$2,000 in the primary election and another \$2,000 in the general election.

**TOTAL RAISED  
BY KANSAS GUBERNATORIAL CANDIDATES, 2002-2006**

CANDIDATES	PARTY	ELECTION OUTCOME	TOTAL
<b>2002 Election</b>			
Sebelius, Kathleen & Moore, John	Democrat	Won	\$4,810,262
Shallenburger, Tim & Lindstrom, David	Republican	Lost general	\$2,429,592
Knight, Bob & Glasscock, Kent	Republican	Lost primary	\$1,275,271
Kerr, Dave & Birch, Mary	Republican	Lost primary	\$895,009
Pettibone, Ted & Wilson, Mike	Reform	Lost general	\$10,519
Bloom, Dan & Bloom, Eric	Republican	Lost primary	\$4,673
<b>2002 Total</b>			<b>\$9,425,327</b>
<b>2004 Election</b>			
Sebelius, Kathleen & Moore, John	Democrat	Not up for re-election	\$663,348
<b>2004 Total</b>			<b>\$663,348</b>
<b>2006 Election</b>			
Sebelius, Kathleen & Parkinson, Mark	Democrat	Won	\$5,688,753
Barnett, Jim & Wagle, Susan	Republican	Lost general	\$1,286,477
Canfield, Ken R. & Decker, Kathe	Republican	Lost primary	\$268,226
Jennison, Robin & Wilson, Dennis	Republican	Lost primary	\$194,157
Pickell, Timothy V. & McCalmon, Jeffrey A.	Republican	Lost primary	\$27,008
Ranzau, Richard Lee & Verell, Ellen L.	Reform	Lost general	\$4,406
Kramer, Carl & Hebron, Kalor A.	Libertarian	Lost general	\$3,704
Crowell, Rex & Shepherd, Brian D.	Republican	Lost primary	\$2,951
Rodewald, Richard & Kanzig, Helen	Republican	Lost primary	\$2,388
Trackwell, Randall G & Willeman, Thomas M.	Write-In	Lost general	\$143
Hawver, Dennis & Landrith, Bret	Republican	Lost primary	\$0
<b>2006 TOTAL</b>			<b>\$7,478,213</b>

During her gubernatorial campaigns, individual donors once again provided the bulk of the money to Sebelius, providing 52 percent of her funds in 2002, and 56 percent in 2006.

Contributions from businesses and special interest groups accounted for 15 percent of her funds during her 2002 gubernatorial campaign, and jumped to 25 percent during her 2006 re-election campaign. The top three contributors in this group were YRC WorldWide at \$16,000 (all given in 2006); Payless ShoeSource, \$12,000; and the Kansas Health Care Association, \$9,000.

Sebelius raised another \$261,000 in 2007. Because the state's term limits prohibit her from seeking re-election in 2010, Sebelius has terminated her gubernatorial committee.

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