

# [***Arizona Sen. Kyrsten Sinema Says She s Not Running For Reelection***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:6BGP-C2R1-JBCM-F2F0-00000-00&context=1516831)

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**Length:** 495 words

**Byline:** Ana Faguy, Forbes Staff

**Highlight:** Sinema said she will leave the Senate at the end of the year.

**Body**

**Topline**

Sen. Kyrsten Sinema, I-Ariz., will not run for reelection and will leave the chamber at the end of the year, sheannouncedTuesday in a video on social media.

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Sinema said she will leave the Senate at the end of the year.

AP/Matt York

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**Key Facts**

In the announcement video, Sinemasaidshe did her best to work through the partisanship but that compromise was now a dirty word, and her approach was not what America wants right now.

Sinemasaidthe constant pull to the extremes by both political parties and government dysfunction has weakened democracy, though Sinema notably thwarted Democrats efforts to pass voting rights protections in 2022 by blocking filibuster reform, claiming that changing filibuster rules would lead to further political tensions.

Sinematoutedher bipartisan work in the Senate during his announcement, including getting the bipartisan infrastructure law passed.

**What To Watch For**

This leaves Democratic Rep. Ruben Gallego and Republican Kari Lake as the major candidates competing for the seat Sinema occupies in the upcoming election. GallegothankedSinema for her service to the state in a statement Tuesday. LakewishedSinema well and said she knows the senator shares her love for Arizona. Sinema did not offer an endorsement in her video announcement.

**Big Number**

37%. That s the percentage of support Lake has in the latest Rasmussen Reports poll done at the end of February,according toFive ThirtyEight. That s three percentage points more than Gallego, who polled at 34%. The poll showed Sinema in third at 21%.

**Key Background**

Sinema surprised many at the end of 2022 when sheswitchedher party affiliation from Democratic to independent. When sheannouncedher decision she said it was a natural extension of her time in office, noting she has joined the growing number of Arizonans who reject party ***politics*** by declaring [her] independence from the broken partisan system in Washington. Her political stance specifically her objection to eliminating the filibuster caused headaches for Democrats agenda during President Joe Biden s first two years in office, when major pieces of legislation passed the then-Democratic-controlled House only to be stonewalled in the Senate. . Her 2022 stance against filibuster reform that ended up blocking voting rights protections led the Arizona Democratic Party s executive board to formallycensureher. Had Sinema and fellow retiring centrist Democratic Sen. Joe Manchin supported the effort, Democrats would have been able to accomplish more of their agenda. Sinema alsoobjectedto Democrats $3.5 trillion spending bill in 2021, which sought to pass a number of Democratic priorities, angering many members of her former party in the process. Sinema was elected to the Senate in 2018. Before that, she represented Arizona s 9th Congressional District for six years. She also served in the Arizona House of Representatives for three terms.

**Further Reading**

**Load-Date:** March 6, 2024

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