

# [***George Santos Running For Congress Again After Expulsion Announces In State Of The Union Visit***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:6BH4-9J41-JBCM-F321-00000-00&context=1516831)

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**Length:** 541 words

**Byline:** Joe Walsh, Forbes Staff

**Highlight:** George Santos attended Biden s State of the Union address and plotted a return to ***politics***.

**Body**

**Topline**

Expelled former Rep. George Santos, R-N.Y., will run against a fellow New York Republican in a House primary, heannouncedduring Thursday night s State of the Union address, just months after he was criminally indicted and laterousted from the Houseamid fraud allegations.

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George Santos sits with Rep. Matt Gaetz, R-Fla., ahead of announcing another run for Congress.

Getty Images

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**Key Facts**

Santos, whoattendedPresident Joe Biden s State of the Union, tweeted he will challenge Rep. Nick LaLota, R-N.Y., who represents a House seat on Long Island.

The expelled lawmaker claimed New York hasn t had a real conservative represent them since I left office arbitrarily, thanks to RINO, empty suits like LaLota, whovoted in favorof expelling Santos in December.

Santostold Semaforhe will file with the Federal Election Commission on Friday and later move to LaLota s district, which is east of the one Santos previously represented.

**Crucial Quote**

I look forward to debating [LaLota] on the issues and on his weak record as a Republican, Santos tweeted.

**Chief Critic**

LaLota staunchly supported expelling Santos last year, saying in anOctober statementhe deserves to be in prison, not in Congress. He told CNN on Thursday he viewed defeating Santos as finishing the job.

**What To Watch For**

New York s congressional primaries are scheduled for June 25. The state s first congressional districtnarrowly favors Republicansbut is typically regarded as a swing seat, and it could prove crucial to GOP efforts to defend its thin House majority in the November general election. Democratic challengers include moderateCNN pundit John Avlon**.**

**Key Background**

Santos was elected to Congress in 2022, and was almost immediately beset by scandal after media outletsdiscovered he had liedabout virtually every aspect of his background. Months into his term, federal prosecutorshit himwith a litany of charges all of which he has vehemently denied. The Department of Justice said he conned donors into sending money that he later used onpersonal expenses, made upfake campaign contributions, fraudulently used donors credit cards and applied for unemployment despite having a job. Later, a House Ethics Committee reportallegedSantos blatantly stole from his campaign, and money intended to back his House run was funneled to his bank account through ashadowy Florida LLCand eventually spent on Hermes and OnlyFans. House lawmakers initially hesitated to expel him before a criminal conviction, but eventuallyousted himin a bipartisan 311-114 vote.

**Surprising Fact**

Since his political career stalled, Santos has carved out a handsome living on Cameo, a platform that lets users pay for personalized videos from celebrities. Santos videos whichgo for$350 a pop reportedlylined up six figures in sales within days of his expulsion, likely beating his $174,000-a-year congressional salary.

**Tangent**

Months after his expulsion, Santos congressional seat was won back last month by Rep. Tom Suozzi, D-N.Y., the moderate lawmaker whose 2022 decision to retire cleared the way for Santos. Suozzi defeated GOP nominee Mazi Pilip, flipping the district from Republican to Democratic control and further narrowing the GOP s House majority.

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