

Sarah McBride running to be the first trans state senator in the US

She's currently the national press secretary for HRC

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Transgender activist Sarah McBride announced her **campaign for the Delaware State Senate** on Tuesday (9 July). If elected, she'll be the first openly trans person elected in Delaware — and the **first openly trans state senator** in the whole country.

McBride, 28, is running for the state's 1st senate district, after Democrat incumbent Harris McDowell announced his retirement in 2020.

In McBride's announcement video (seen below), she focuses on the people of Delaware and the district in which she's running.

'This is a special place because we're all neighbors here,' she says. 'We take pride in each other's accomplishments. We feel each other's pain. We're there for each other when it counts.'

She added in the video, and tweet, that she's running for people's 'dignity and peace of mind'.

I've spent my life standing up so that people can have dignity, peace of mind, and a fair shot at staying afloat and getting ahead. Our neighbors still need someone to fight for them. That's why I'm running for State Senate. <https://t.co/09uNOfRDVI>
pic.twitter.com/LXbxvmbGeV

— Sarah McBride (@SarahEMcBride) July 9, 2019

McBride told GSN: 'I was born and raised in Wilmington's Highlands neighborhood. I really love this community – some of my best friends today are the same people that I lived next-door to. I'm running to give back to that community.'

Sarah McBride's years of experience

McBride has had an active political career for over a decade. She worked on both Gov. Jack Markell's 2008 campaign and Beau Biden's Attorney General campaign in 2010 in Delaware.

She was also elected student body president at American University in 2011. During her last week in this role, she publicly came out as a transgender in the school newspaper, The Eagle.

One year later, she interned in the Obama administration's Office of Public Engagement and Intergovernmental Affairs, focusing on LGBTI issues. With this position, she became the first openly trans person to work in the White House.

On 28 July 2016, McBride made history again when she spoke at the Democratic National Convention. With this speech, she became the first transgender person to speak at a major political party's convention.

She's also served on the board of directors for Equality Delaware and is the current national press secretary for the Human Rights Campaign.

'Sarah McBride is a tireless trailblazer and passionate advocate who has changed countless hearts and minds all across this country,' HRC President Chad Griffin said of her candidacy.

'I'm excited to see her launch this historic campaign, and can't wait to watch her help build a better Delaware for all in the State Senate.'