

ABC's Good Morning America

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7:00:40 a.m. [TEASE]

23 seconds

[ON-SCREEN HEADLINE: Final Midterms Push; 6 Days to Go]

MICHAEL STRAHAN: Six days until the final votes in the fight for Texas heating up. President Trump back in the state for the fourth time, campaigning for Ken Paxton for Senate, as James Talarico tried to turn the seat blue for the first time in decades, with early voting surging across the country and gas prices on track to be the highest ever on Election Day.

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7:03:05 a.m. [TEASE]

10 seconds

[ON-SCREEN HEADLINE: Vote 2026; The Midterm Elections; Countdown to Midterms; 6 Days]

GEORGE STEPHANOPOULOS: We're also going to have a lot more on the midterms. Six days until the final votes. The battle for Texas is one of the big ones for the Senate right now, and the President has gone to Texas now for the fourth time. That's a state he won three times.

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7:04:33 a.m.

3 minutes and 52 seconds

[ON-SCREEN HEADLINE: Final Midterm Push]

GEORGE STEPHANOPOULOS: Now to the midterm elections. Just six days until the final votes, but over 35 million Americans have already cast their ballots. President Trump was out on the campaign trail in Texas, a key state that could decide control of the Senate. Jay O'Brien is in Nebraska, another red state where Democrats are hoping Republicans could be vulnerable. Good morning, Jay.

JAY O'BRIEN: George, good morning to you from the campaign trail in Nebraska. Six days out from Election Day, early voting is exploding across the country. More than 35 million Americans have already cast a ballot. That's breaking records in some key states, as well as critical parts of Texas, where the battle for that Senate race is heating up. Overnight, a showdown in the Lone Star State: President Trump and Democratic Senate candidate James Talarico holding dueling rallies just miles apart in Lubbock, Texas. Back in a state he won by double digits, Trump appearing for the fourth time this cycle to give a last-minute boost to Republican Attorney General Ken Paxton and attacking Talarico.

PRESIDENT DONALD TRUMP: The other guy does not deserve it. He doesn't represent your values.

O'BRIEN: But Paxton comes with a suitcase of scandals, and Democrats are hoping Talarico can become the first Democrat to win a Texas Senate seat in more than 30 years. Talarico, holding his own packed rally just miles away, poking fun at the President's nickname for him.

STATE REPRESENTATIVE JAMES TALARICO (D-TX): I know that we're not the only show in town tonight, and I appreciate all 4,000 of you that showed up here this evening. That — that's a lot of Talafreakos in one room.

O'BRIEN: Texas voters telling us the economy is their top issue. Single mom Patrice Deadrick emotional when we asked about rising prices. [TO DEADRICK] You're working more than one job?

PATRICE DEADRICK: I do. I have multiple streams of income, and every day I have to get up. I dread getting up sometimes because of the amount of work I have to put in just to pay for the minimum of things, of gas.

O'BRIEN: And again, George, in a sign of how close some of these races have gotten, the is barnstorming traditionally red states. He's in Ohio for the third time — the — since this fall today, George.

STEPHANOPOULOS: And Jay, we know Trump's Justice Department is also bringing cases in court. There's a new development in California.

O'BRIEN: That's exactly right, George. After that extraordinary move from the Justice Department demanding that the state of California pull some 20,000 ballots that it claimed likely belong to non-citizen voters, a federal judge yesterday expressing skepticism about that move so close to Election Day and appointing what's called a special master to review how the DOJ came to that conclusion. The department has made a similar demand of at least one other state, Washington state.

STEPHANOPOULOS: And the courts have been pushing back. Okay, Jay, thanks very much. Robin.

ROBIN ROBERTS: And, George, with six days to go, inflation and high gas prices are key concerns for voters. Elizabeth Schulze is at a gas station in Washington to break down those numbers for us. Good morning. Elizabeth.

[ON-SCREEN HEADLINE: Inflation, Gas & the Midterms]

ELIZABETH SCHULZE: Good morning, Robin. Prices across the economy are going up the fastest pace in four months, driven by the spike in fuel costs, and that's putting new pressure on the Federal Reserve. Later this afternoon, the Fed, under Chairman Kevin Warsh, is expected to

keep interest rates on hold. It already hiked rates last month to try to fight high prices, but the Fed can't control the price of oil, which is now close to its highest level since the start of the Iran war. Gas prices averaging \$4.25 a gallon this morning. That means the cost to fill up a Ford F-150, the most popular truck on the road, now about \$100. It's costing drivers \$30 extra every fill up compared to the start of the war. And, in all, American households have now spent an extra \$1,100 in gas and diesel since the war began at the end of February. This is the longest stretch on record, with gas prices averaging \$4 or higher. We are also on track to set an Election Day record too, George.

STEPHANOPOULOS: Elizabeth Schulze, thanks.