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Mitt Romney endorses Kay Ivey in 2010 governor's bid: 'She's got the experience'

By [George Talbot](#)

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Former Massachusetts Gov. Mitt Romney today endorsed Alabama State Treasurer Kay Ivey's bid for governor in 2010.



AP/Manuel Balce Ceneta

Former Massachusetts Gov. Mitt Romney speaks at the Heritage Foundation in Washington, D.C., on June 1, 2009. Romney on Monday endorsed Republican Kay Ivey's campaign for governor of Alabama in 2010. Romney, a Republican, said he worked closely with Ivey during his 2008 run for president. Ivey served as state chairwoman of Romney's campaign.

"Having been a governor myself, I know she's got the experience and vision to do a good job," Romney said in a statement released by the Ivey campaign.

"Some candidates may talk about being a conservative, but Kay Ivey is the real thing. I've seen her stay true to her conservative principles as State Treasurer, and I know they will guide her as governor of Alabama."

Ivey said she and Romney "share a passion for making government work better for the people it serves."

"Mitt Romney took office at a time of economic crisis and he turned things around for his state," Ivey said. "I will do the same in Alabama. Mitt Romney was a leader in improving education as governor, and I will be, too. As a candidate for president, Mitt Romney stood up the values of faith and family and defended our cherished way of life. I will do the same here in Alabama as well."



Romney finished third in Alabama's GOP presidential primary last year, trailing former Arkansas Gov. Mike Huckabee and U.S. Sen. John McCain of Arizona. He dropped out of the race two days later, but remains a contender for the 2012 presidential election.

Ivey is one of seven candidates seeking the GOP's nomination for governor in the June primary. Others include state Rep. Robert Bentley of Tuscaloosa, lawyer Bradley Byrne of Montrose, Greenville businessman Tim James, former Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs director Bill Johnson, former Alabama Supreme Court Chief Justice Roy Moore and James Potts of Bibb County.

Democrats running for the office include state Rep. Artur Davis of Birmingham and Alabama Agriculture Commissioner Ron Sparks.