Ex-Ohio Gov. John Kasich once again won't vote for former President Donald Trump

By JESSIE BALMERT
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Former Ohio Gov. John Kasich once again won't vote for former President Donald Trump, his one-time presidential primary foe.

Kasich, who led the Buckeye State from 2011 to 2019, wrote on social media Wednesday that Trump "fuels grievances to divide us and doesn't have a hopeful vision for our future." But, Kasich said, he doesn't hate Trump.

Kasich ran unsuccessfully for president in 2016 against Trump and a slew of other candidates. Kasich was the last candidate to drop out of the GOP primary despite winning just one state: Ohio. Kasich skipped Trump's Republican National Convention in Cleveland and wrote in Arizona Sen. John McCain's name for president that November.

In the years since, Kasich has continued to disavow Trump. In 2020, Kasich endorsed President Joe Biden, a Democrat, over Trump at the Democratic National Convention. “The stakes in this election are greater than any in modern times," Kasich said in a prerecorded statement.

So, it should come as no surprise that Kasich isn't voting for Trump in 2024. It's not clear whether Kasich will vote for Vice President Kamala Harris instead. Kasich said on MSNBC that he hasn't endorsed Harris and has problems with her economic policies.

"I'm frustrated with the choices that we're facing in this election," Kasich said on MSNBC. Kasich now serves as a political analyst for NBC, CNBC and MSNBC.

Detractors have called Kasich a RINO or Republican in Name Only for his stance on Trump (along with his decision to expand Medicaid in Ohio). Kasich remains a registered Republican, pulling a GOP primary ballot earlier this year.

Ohio's Republican current governor, Mike DeWine, does plan to vote for Trump and his running mate Ohio Sen. JD Vance – even after DeWine denounced the ticket's anti-Haitian rhetoric that led to a firestorm in Springfield last month.