

Rubio, Cruz vie for Mormon support in Nevada

By Kurtis Lee, Los Angeles Times

Deep divisions among Nevada Republicans over a \$1-billion tax increase pushed by the state's Republican governor are helping to shape the battle between Sens. Marco Rubio of Florida and Ted Cruz of Texas

to win this state's presidential caucuses – the first nominating contest in the West.

Rubio's backers are eagerly eyeing Nevada as they look for an early-voting state the candidate could win. Although Rubio is widely seen as one of the leading contenders for the GOP nomination, the early primary states mostly look unpromising for him.

Cruz, by contrast, leads the polls in Iowa, which holds the first contest of the season on Feb. 1, and is well-positioned in several other conservative states that hold early contests.

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