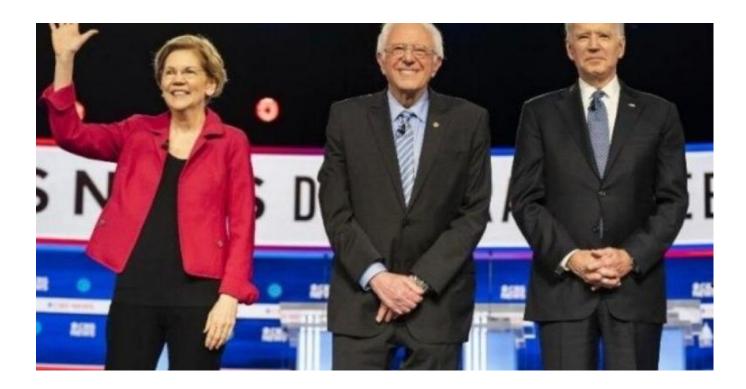


Sanders Raised \$46.5m in February, Warren \$29m, Biden \$18m

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Democratic United States presidential front-runner Bernie Sanders raised US\$46.5 million in February, his campaign confirmed Sunday and will launch new television ad buys in nine states with primaries later this month after this week's Super Tuesday contests.

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The announcement came the day after former Vice President Joe Biden scored an important <u>victory</u> over Sanders in South Carolina, who came in second. That was the fourth nominating contest in the state-by-state Democratic race to pick a challenger to Republican President Donald Trump in the Nov. 3 election.

Despite Biden's win in South Carolina, Bernie Sanders is leading the delegate count ahead of Super Tuesday with 48, followed by Biden with 34.

Meanwhile, Biden's campaign reported raising US\$5 million on the day of the South Carolina primary. His February haul was US\$18 million, spokesman Michael Gwin said.

Rival Elizabeth Warren, who struggled to a fifth-place finish in South Carolina, raised more than



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US\$29 million in February, her campaign manager Roger Lau said in a memo to supporters on Sunday. That figure, which was driven by a pair of strong debate performances last month, is more than Warren's previous total for any quarter.

The fundraising haul for Sanders, a U.S. senator from Vermont, came from more than 2.2 million donations and surpassed what any Democratic candidate had raised in any full three-month quarter last year.

Looking to reclaim momentum after the South Carolina result, the Sanders campaign said he had raised US\$4.5 million on Saturday alone - the best fundraising day since he launched his campaign.

"It is not only the amount of money that we raised, and that is a phenomenal amount, it's how we raised it," Sanders said in an interview Sunday with CBS in which he criticized Biden for taking money from billionaires. "This is a campaign of working people and by working people."

Michael Bloomberg, the billionaire former mayor of New York, is self-funding his campaign and has spent a half-billion dollars to compete in the nominating contests beginning in March; yet underperforming in most polls.