

VOTER GUIDE

NOVEMBER 2017 ELECTIONS – HOUSE OF DELEGATES RACES

League of Women Voters of the Richmond Metropolitan Area, Inc.

P.O. Box 25492

Richmond, VA 23260-5492

www.richmond.va.lwvnet.org

The information in this Voter Guide was obtained by the League of Women Voters (LWV) using www.Vote411.org
(Downloaded October 12, 2017)

The League of Women Voters of the Richmond Metro Area obtained information for all races and candidates. Questions were formulated. Candidates were contacted by email and they submitted their answers electronically in their own words. No editing was done by the League. Follow up was done by both email and phone to all candidates. If a candidate did not respond, their name is still shown as being in the race.

The League of Women Voters does not support or oppose any candidate or political party. The League is nonpartisan. The League hopes this information is helpful to citizens as they prepare to vote on November 7, 2017.

Virginia House of Delegates

Description: Duties - The House of Delegates, with the Senate, has legislative power to enact laws. The House of Delegates has 100 members who are elected from separate districts.

Term - 2 years

Salary - \$17,640

Virginia House District 27 - Candidates (choose 1):

Larry V. Barnett



Party: Dem

Biographical Info:

Campaign Phone: (804) 601-4422

Web Site: <http://www.barnett4delegate.com>

Email: campaign@barnett4delegate.com

Age: 9/11/1954

Twitter page: <https://twitter.com/Barnett4Del>

Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/pg/Barnett4Delegate>

Questions:

Q: *What are the most important changes needed in Virginia to ensure election integrity and voting access for all qualified Virginians?*

A: We need to bring an end to gerrymandering in Virginia. This undermines our democracy, enabling politicians to pick their voters, rather than letting voters choose their representatives. As a member of One Virginia 2021, I have taken a pledge to

fight against gerrymandering. Virginia has a long tradition of voter suppression, creating obstacles to voting rather than encouraging full participation in the democratic process. I will fight against every effort to suppress voter turnout.

Q: *How would you promote health care coverage--physical and behavioral--that is adequate, affordable, and accessible for all Virginians?*

A: Access to healthcare is an issue that is important to the voters in this district and around the Commonwealth. Currently over 700,000 Virginians can't access affordable care, and I will work to expand coverage to as many people as possible. As a next step, I support Medicaid expansion. This will bring coverage to over 400,000 Virginians. States that have expanded healthcare coverage have better health outcomes, and an economic boom from the addition of healthcare jobs - over 15,000 in VA.

Q: *In the Richmond region a police officer or nurse must spend over 30% of their income to rent the average home. What policy initiatives or investments would you support to meet housing challenges for working families in the region?*

A: Good jobs and access to affordable housing are two key concerns for most people. Our communities all benefit when we have investment and planning decisions that consider the importance of affordable housing with proximity to employment, enabling workers to live and work close to their jobs.

Q: *Two additional states are needed to ratify the Equal Rights Amendment. Will you vote yes or no on a resolution in the General Assembly to ratify the E.R.A.?*

A: I will vote yes on a resolution to finally ratify the Equal Rights Amendment.

Q: *What is your position on rail transportation in Virginia?*

A: It is important to look at the cost, how much it will burden the taxpayers, and the impact on people in this region. Connecting the major urban centers through a high speed rail system has many potential benefits: reducing congestion on Interstate 95, providing another option to cars and planes, sharing economic growth with less affluent residents, and enabling commuters to rapidly travel between urban hubs. It is drawing serious thought and analysis and should be considered for future planning.

Q: *What are your legislative priorities?*

A: My top priority is securing affordable healthcare for all Virginians. Medicaid expansion is the next step forward, bringing coverage to over 400,000 people. Secondly, I will support investing in our public education system. Diverting public funds from our schools, as some have proposed, does not do this. Third, I will fight to end gerrymandering to give Virginians a fair way to elect their officials. Finally, I will fight for the families who struggle with mental illness and addiction.

Roxann L. Robinson

Party: Rep

Did not reply.

Virginia House District 55 - Candidates (choose 1):

H.F. "Buddy" Fowler Jr.

Party: Rep

Did not reply

Morgan K. Goodman



Party: Dem

Biographical Info:

Campaign Phone: (703) 599-4878

Web Site: <http://goodmanfordelegate.com>

Email: morgan@goodmanfordelegate.com

Age: 11/24/1981

Twitter page: <https://twitter.com/MorganGoodmanVA>

Facebook page: www.facebook.com/MorganGoodman4Virginia/

Questions:

Q: *What are the most important changes needed in Virginia to ensure election integrity and voting access for all qualified Virginians?*

A: Virginia needs to overturn bills that are aimed at suppressing voting rights, including those that require government-issued photo IDs, to ensure all registered voters have the ability to cast their ballots. I also believe that Virginia needs to work to reduce lines on Election Day by allowing early voting, extending the hours the polls are open, and moving to a system of “no-excuse” absentee voting.

Q: *How would you promote health care coverage--physical and behavioral--that is adequate, affordable, and accessible for all Virginians?*

A: I believe that all Virginians deserve access to affordable healthcare and I support expanding Medicaid and increasing the Medicaid eligibility in Virginia. Physical, mental health, and dental services should be included in the Medicaid expansion. Virginia needs a healthy workforce to ensure a healthy economy.

Q: *In the Richmond region a police officer or nurse must spend over 30% of their income to rent the average home. What policy initiatives or investments would you support to meet housing challenges for working families in the region?*

A: I support provisions to ensure that working families, especially those in professions essential to the health, safety, and well-being of our communities, can earn a living wage and afford to live in the areas they serve. I also support providing low interest loans with flexible financing for down payment assistance for home buyers. I also support efforts to increase grants to local teachers, police, nurses, and first responders to purchase homes in the area that they are serving.

Q: *Two additional states are needed to ratify the Equal Rights Amendment. Will you vote yes or no on a resolution in the General Assembly to ratify the E.R.A.?*

A: I will vote yes to a resolution to ratify the E.R.A.

Q: *What is your position on rail transportation in Virginia?*

A: I believe that rail transportation is an important part of Virginia’s transportation portfolio and that the reliability of rail in Virginia needs to be improved. In addition to improved reliability the current infrastructure for Virginia’s rail needs improvement to increase safety.

Q: *What are your legislative priorities?*

A: My priorities are: • Restoring funding for environmental protections and increasing the Commonwealth’s resiliency to climate change. • Ensuring schools and teachers have the resources they need to fulfill their mission and that teachers make a competitive salary so Virginia can attract and retain the best teachers. • Protecting the rights of all Virginians to be treated equally by their government, regardless of race, religion, gender, sexual orientation, or country of origin.

Virginia House District 56 - Candidates (choose 1):

Melissa M. Dart



Party: Dem

Biographical Info:

Address: PO Box 6000 Glen Allen, VA 23058

Campaign Phone: (216) 280-5661

Web Site: <http://www.dartfordelegate.org>

Email: melissa@dartfordelegate.com

Age: 5/17/1971

Twitter page: www.twitter.com/melissamdart56

Facebook page: www.facebook.com/dart4delegate

Questions:

Q: *What are the most important changes needed in Virginia to ensure election integrity and voting access for all qualified Virginians?*

A: There's a number of policies that Virginia legislators should pursue that will maintain election integrity and improve access to the ballot for a broader group of Virginians. There should be no excuse absentee voting and expanded dates for in person absentee voting. Many states have implemented these policies and have been able to expand their electorate. In addition, we must implement non partisan redistricting in order to ensure that our representative truly reflect the residents of Virginia.

Q: *How would you promote health care coverage--physical and behavioral--that is adequate, affordable, and accessible for all Virginians?*

A: First, we must pursue policies that will allow the broadest number of people possible to have access to insurance. We can do this by expanding Medicaid. Covering more people under Medicaid will mean that fewer people go to the emergency room when they're sick and those savings can be passed on to Virginians through lower premiums. Secondly, we must push insurance companies and hospitals to move away from fee based models of billing towards rewarding health systems for keeping people healthy.

Q: *In the Richmond region a police officer or nurse must spend over 30% of their income to rent the average home. What policy initiatives or investments would you support to meet housing challenges for working families in the region?*

A: Between 2000 - 2015, the average rent in Louisa County grew by 86%, from \$504 to \$936. At the same time, median household income only increased 47%. In Henrico County, the income needed to afford a median rental is \$42,442 while the average police officer makes \$25,850. I pledge to continue the General Assembly's commitment to invest in the Virginia Housing Trust Fund which has shown successes in allowing individuals to afford quality housing and prompting millions of dollars in regional growth.

Q: *Two additional states are needed to ratify the Equal Rights Amendment. Will you vote yes or no on a resolution in the General Assembly to ratify the E.R.A.?*

A: I will vote YES to ratify the ERA.

Q: *What is your position on rail transportation in Virginia?*

A: I am in favor of rail expansion in Virginia where it does not disrupt community development.

Q: *What are your legislative priorities?*

A: My first priority is Medicaid expansion. I will also push to expand funding for public schools, improve the Standards of Quality formula, and reform the use of SOLs to measure success. And third, I will work to boost infrastructure investment in our rural communities - particularly broadband expansion.

John J. McGuire III

Party: Rep

Did not reply

Virginia House District 62 - Candidates (choose 1):

Sheila Bynum-Coleman



Party: Dem

Biographical Info:

Address: 7639 Hull Street Road, Suite 105 North Chesterfield, VA 23235

Campaign Phone: (434) 987-9672

Web Site: <http://www.sheilafordelegate.com>

Email: info@sheilafordelegate.com

Age: 1/8/1972

Twitter page: <https://twitter.com/sheilabcoleman>

Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/sheilafordelegate/>

Questions:

Q: *What are the most important changes needed in Virginia to ensure election integrity and voting access for all qualified Virginians?*

A: I believe that the Commonwealth should establish a system of early voting. I think that we must have automatic voter registration, and we must eliminate barriers to voting. I want to simplify and streamline the system for the restoration of rights.

Q: *How would you promote health care coverage--physical and behavioral--that is adequate, affordable, and accessible for all Virginians?*

A: I firmly believe that Virginians should have access to accessible, affordable healthcare. We should expand Medicaid under the Affordable Care Act. Under the ACA, the Commonwealth can expand eligibility for Medicaid using a federal funding to those earning up to 138 percent of poverty, or around \$26,000 for a family of three according to the Commonwealth Institute. This would expand coverage to over 400,000 Virginians. There should also be additional funds available for mental health.

Q: *In the Richmond region a police officer or nurse must spend over 30% of their income to rent the average home. What policy initiatives or investments would you support to meet housing challenges for working families in the region?*

A: In order to address this issue, we need to increase take-home pay. We can do this by increasing the minimum wage. We can start paying our law enforcement and teachers in a manner that is competitive with other states. Virginia is lagging behind in teacher pay. Virginia is lagging in law enforcement pay. We also need to lower the cost of housing. I think we can address this through a refundable tax credit.

Q: *Two additional states are needed to ratify the Equal Rights Amendment. Will you vote yes or no on a resolution in the General Assembly to ratify the E.R.A.?*

A: I believe that men and women are equal, and this should be enshrined as an amendment to the United States Constitution. Women have fought for centuries to be on an equal footing with men. There have been legislative victories such as the Equal Pay Act and the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act. However, female wages have lagged behind that of men. This is precisely why we need to pass the ERA amendment.

Q: *What is your position on rail transportation in Virginia?*

A: Rail transportation is vital to Virginia's economy. We are able to connect workers from Richmond to Washington DC, getting workers to their jobs on time. This industry is vital to creating good-paying jobs in construction and engineering. Unfortunately, most American passenger trains run at speeds that are far slower than the superfast European and Japanese trains that can travel at 200 miles per hour or more. The main reason is lack of investment. We need to tackle this issue.

Q: *What are your legislative priorities?*

A: My top three issues include: criminal justice reform, education, and the economy. We need to tackle the school-to-prison pipeline. We need to focus on restorative justice, not mass incarceration. Our schools and teachers need adequate funding. Our SOLs need to be reformed so that teachers spend time actually teaching instead of test prep. We need to cut regulations and taxes for small businesses and increase access to capital. It is vital that we raise the minimum wage for working families.

Riley Edward Ingram

Party: Rep

Did not reply

Virginia House District 63 - Candidates (choose 1):

Lashrecse D. Aird

Party: Dem

Did not reply

Virginia House District 65 - Candidates (choose 1):

Francis M. Stevens



Party: Dem

Biographical Info:

Address: 14011 Sagebrook Road Midlothian, VA

Campaign Phone: (804) 433-3527

Web Site: <http://www.stevens4delegate.com>

Email: stevens4delegate@gmail.com

Age: 7/4/1962

Twitter page: Francis Stevens@Stevens4Dist65

Facebook page: Francis Stevens for Delegate

Questions:

Q: *What are the most important changes needed in Virginia to ensure election integrity and voting access for all qualified Virginians?*

A: I would propose repealing Virginia's Photo I.D. law that requires voters to show a Photo I.D. to vote. I would seek to improve polling and early voting hours. I would propose universal voter registration and most importantly, I would ensure that voting rights for ex offenders, who have served their time, are restored.

Q: *How would you promote health care coverage--physical and behavioral--that is adequate, affordable, and accessible for all Virginians?*

A: As a House of Delegate member, I would vote for expanding Medicaid. I would also look into proposing a single payer system, that would guarantee a minimum level of health insurance service for all Virginians.

Q: *In the Richmond region a police officer or nurse must spend over 30% of their income to rent the average home. What policy initiatives or investments would you support to meet housing challenges for working families in the region?*

A: Affordable housing is an issue here in the Richmond region. Rental cost are rising, homelessness is on the rise, and foreclosures have devastated families and communities. Senator McClellan has co-sponsored several legislation concerning affordable housing in the Richmond region. I would definitely support and ensure that her proposals are being executed.

Q: *Two additional states are needed to ratify the Equal Rights Amendment. Will you vote yes or no on a resolution in the General Assembly to ratify the E.R.A.?*

A: I would vote "Yes."

Q: *What is your position on rail transportation in Virginia?*

A: I definitely support rail transportation, especially in the Northern Virginia corridor, to help alleviate traffic.

Q: *What are your legislative priorities?*

A: . A. Expand Medicaid – 500,000 eligible Virginians will have access to health insurance. B. Broadband Expansion – look at ways to access broadband in rural areas through legislation, funding at state level, grants at the federal level. C. Jobs – expanded and a diversified industry, not just retail or fast food, but an industry that pays a living wage.

R. Lee Ware Jr.

Party: Rep

Did not reply

Virginia House District 66 - Candidates (choose 1):

M. Kirkland "Kirk" Cox

Party: Rep

Did not reply

Katie A. Sponsler

Party: Dem

Did not reply

Virginia House District 68 - Candidates (choose 1):

Dawn M. Adams



Party: Dem

Biographical Info:

Address: P.O. Box 25331 Richmond, VA 23260

Campaign Phone: (844) 384-5922

Web Site: <http://adamsfordelegate.com>

Email: info@adamsfordelegate.com

Age: 11/6/1964

Twitter page: <https://twitter.com/AdamsForDel>

Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/Adams4Delegate68th/>

Questions:

Q: *What are the most important changes needed in Virginia to ensure election integrity and voting access for all qualified Virginians?*

A: I believe that the most important changes needed in Virginia to ensure the integrity of our elections, to ensure voting access for all qualified Virginians, and for strengthening our representative democracy are non-partisan re-districting, campaign finance reform, and the repeal of restrictive voter ID laws. We should no longer allow legislators to draw the lines of their own districts and should instead appoint a non-partisan redistricting commission to ensure state house and congressional dis

Q: *How would you promote health care coverage--physical and behavioral--that is adequate, affordable, and accessible for all Virginians?*

A: As a clinician I believe that physical and behavioral health are inextricably linked; likewise our health care coverage should be comprehensive, accessible, and affordable. Accessible means more than available; it means that people have the means to engage in care, and there are providers who will see them. I plan to work alongside my Democratic and Republican colleague bring a new patient-centered perspective to the on-going dialog concerning expansion and cost reducing ways to increase care.

Q: *In the Richmond region a police officer or nurse must spend over 30% of their income to rent the average home. What policy initiatives or investments would you support to meet housing challenges for working families in the region?*

A: Richmond metro region faces an annual housing affordability deficit of \$862 million, averaging \$6,422 per cost burdened household. Income/housing affordability is expected to grow worse. As Delegate, I will provide leadership and work to collaborate with the Virginia Housing Development Authority, local Boards of Supervisors and business leaders to investigate and advocate for the most effective methods for spurring more affordable housing in the Richmond metro region.

Q: *Two additional states are needed to ratify the Equal Rights Amendment. Will you vote yes or no on a resolution in the General Assembly to ratify the E.R.A.?*

A: We came close here in Virginia in 2014 when the Senate passed the Equal Rights Amendment for our state constitution for the first time, but the heavily conservative House of Delegates Privileges and Elections committee blocked it. Virginia has been making progressive strides in the past decade and I would work to push progress on the ERA forward in the Virginia House of Delegates.

Q: *What is your position on rail transportation in Virginia?*

A: Rail transportation is important for travel as well as for economic development in Virginia. The 68th District is home to both CSX and Norfolk Southern carrying freight through Chesterfield and Richmond each day and it's important that elected officials within the district ensure these lines are maintained to the safest standards to continue to protect that economic engine as well as the residents in communities surrounding the tracks. We should continue to study its overall impact, then act.

Q: *What are your legislative priorities?*

A: Throughout my election campaign, my policy focus has centered primarily on access to quality, affordable healthcare, strengthening our system of public education, protecting our environment and natural resources, and attracting high-paying jobs to the 68th District. I have listened to the citizens of this district and they have stressed to me that these are their priorities, so they have become my priorities. I look forward to further opportunities to listen to the voters of the 68th district.

G.M. "Manoli" Loupassi



Party: Rep

Biographical Info:

Address: P.O. Box 17384 Richmond, Va. 23226

Campaign Phone: (804) 440-6223

Web Site: <http://www.gomanoli.com>

Email: manoli@delegatemanoliloupassi.com

Age: 6/8/1967

Facebook page: Delegate Manoli Loupassi

Questions:

Q: *What are the most important changes needed in Virginia to ensure election integrity and voting access for all qualified Virginians?*

A: We need to make sure that the people who go vote, are the actual people who are registered. Additionally, we need to make sure that the voting machines cannot be hacked.

Q: *How would you promote health care coverage--physical and behavioral--that is adequate, affordable, and accessible for all Virginians?*

A: In the last 10 years, we have increased mental health "ID" waivers each year that I have been there. I will continue to support and advocate for this population and their families. I would also like to see greater increases to drug treatment programming.

Q: *In the Richmond region a police officer or nurse must spend over 30% of their income to rent the average home. What policy initiatives or investments would you support to meet housing challenges for working families in the region?*

A: We have created a Housing Trust Fund at the state level, and Richmond has one also. I am very much an advocate for its continued funding and have promised housing advocates that I know that I am willing to be their Champion if called upon.

Q: *Two additional states are needed to ratify the Equal Rights Amendment. Will you vote yes or no on a resolution in the General Assembly to ratify the E.R.A.?*

A: I will vote "yes" if I have the opportunity and will strongly advocate for its adoption.

Q: *What is your position on rail transportation in Virginia?*

A: I would like to see the construction of a new primary Station for Richmond on Broad Street near the Boulevard. I am supportive of greater train speeds to Washington and points North. We need to get the best speed improvements in the most cost effective way.

Q: *What are your legislative priorities?*

A: I am hopeful that citizens of Richmond will adopt the charter change proposal for School Modernization and I will be the Chief Proponent of this proposal in the General Assembly. I will fight for greater school funding and accountability of our spending.

Virginia House District 69 - Candidates (choose 1):

Betsy B. Carr



Party: Dem

Biographical Info:

Address: Post Office Box 14625 Richmond, Virginia 23221

Campaign Phone: (804) 767-7530

Web Site: <http://www.betsycarr.org>

Email: delegate.carr@betsycarr.org

Age: 7/26/1946

Facebook page: facebook.com/delegatebetsycarr

Questions:

Q: *What are the most important changes needed in Virginia to ensure election integrity and voting access for all qualified Virginians?*

A: Non-partisan redistricting that would allow voters to choose their representatives, rather than the other way around, which would be an important step. We also need no-excuse absentee voting and to research voting by mail. Furthermore, we need to invest more resources so that we can have more voting machines and better trained personnel to reduce lines and back up.

Q: *How would you promote health care coverage--physical and behavioral--that is adequate, affordable, and accessible for all Virginians?*

A: We should expand Medicaid which would provide affordable quality health care for up to 400,000 additional Virginians. The US Congress needs to work in a bipartisan manner to make changes and tweaks to the ACA, and not throw it away in its entirety, leaving folks with less access to healthcare.

Q: *In the Richmond region a police officer or nurse must spend over 30% of their income to rent the average home. What policy initiatives or investments would you support to meet housing challenges for working families in the region?*

A: We need more affordable housing. We should encourage infill development and allow for smaller lots in places to make homes more affordable. Moreover, we should work to reduce the density of poverty. Public servants like nurses, public safety officers and teachers should be paid as the professionals they are and we should consider providing some housing allowance to encourage them to stay in this area and serve our community.

Q: *Two additional states are needed to ratify the Equal Rights Amendment. Will you vote yes or no on a resolution in the General Assembly to ratify the E.R.A.?*

A: I support the ERA and have co-sponsored legislation for its passage in Virginia.

Q: *What is your position on rail transportation in Virginia?*

A: I support rail transportation. We need more options for mass transit.

Q: *What are your legislative priorities?*

A: My legislative priorities are to create and maintain good-paying jobs, have the best public schools throughout the Commonwealth and to ensure Virginians have access to affordable quality healthcare.

Jacob A. "Jake" Crocker

Party: L

Did not reply

Montigue T. Magruder



Party: Grn

Biographical Info:

Address: 2201 McDonough St. Trlr 2 Richmond, VA 23225

Campaign Phone: (804) 573-4173

Web Site: <http://magruder69.com/>

Email: MontigueM@gmail.com

Age: 1/22/1987

Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/MMagruderHOD2017/>

Questions:

Q: *What are the most important changes needed in Virginia to ensure election integrity and voting access for all qualified Virginians?*

A: End the use of all electronic machines in Virginia. Paper ballots should be hand-counted while the local press and citizens can observe and record live-stream video of the process. Abolish Voter ID, which was based on the "Voter Fraud" strawman. Abolish Lifetime Felon Disenfranchisement, a racially-motivated policy. Enter Virginia into the Potomac Fair Representation Compact to take the task of redrawing districts out of the General Assembly's hands.

Q: *How would you promote health care coverage--physical and behavioral--that is adequate, affordable, and accessible for all Virginians?*

A: I will introduce legislation that creates a universal single-payer healthcare system in Virginia. The system would be funded using already existing funding sources for Medicare, Medicaid, and FAMIS, and will provide full coverage of medical, optical, dental, and mental health services. A possible additional funding source is a 25% penalty imposed on large businesses (e.g. Wal-Mart, Target, etc.) that refuse to pay their employees minimum wages.

Q: *In the Richmond region a police officer or nurse must spend over 30% of their income to rent the average home. What policy initiatives or investments would you support to meet housing challenges for working families in the region?*

A: I believe housing is a human right and will fight to establish such in the Virginia Human Rights Act, which I will seek to incorporate into the Virginian Constitution.

Q: *Two additional states are needed to ratify the Equal Rights Amendment. Will you vote yes or no on a resolution in the General Assembly to ratify the E.R.A.?*

A: Yes

Q: *What is your position on rail transportation in Virginia?*

A: I believe passenger rail transportation should be expanded in certain areas. I support the construction of intercity high-speed rail.

Q: *What are your legislative priorities?*

A: Worker's Rights: I will introduce legislation that repeals Right To Work, abolishes At-Will Employment, and lifts the restrictions on collective bargaining and strikes. Electoral Reform: I will fight for the abolition of Lifetime Felon Disenfranchisement and Voter ID. Criminal Justice Reform: I will introduce legislation that checks police power and takes the profit out of policing and the judicial process.

Virginia House District 70 - Candidates (choose 1):

Delores L. McQuinn

Party: Dem

Did not reply

Virginia House District 71 - Candidates (choose 1):

Jeff M. Bourne

Party: Dem

Did not reply

Virginia House District 72 - Candidates (choose 1):

Schuyler T. VanValkenburg



Party: Dem

Biographical Info:

Address: 3002 Maplewood Road, Henrico, VA 23228

Campaign Phone: (804) 629-9656

Web Site: <http://vanvalkenburg4va.com>

Email: vanvalkenburg4va@gmail.com

Age: 6/5/1982

Twitter page: @VVforDelegate

Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/VanValkenburg4VA/>

Questions:

Q: *What are the most important changes needed in Virginia to ensure election integrity and voting access for all qualified Virginians?*

A: One of the biggest challenges to our democracy is gerrymandering. We need a nonpartisan commission that is responsible for drawing district lines. We should have a system where voters choose their politicians, not where politicians choose their voters. Furthermore, we must make it easier to vote rather than harder to vote by expanding early voting, vote by mail, and voter registration windows.

Q: *How would you promote health care coverage--physical and behavioral--that is adequate, affordable, and accessible for all Virginians?*

A: The most important thing we can do to expand access to health care is to expand Medicaid as allowed by the ACA. Such a move would allow 2,200 additional people to buy health insurance and create 150 new jobs in the 72nd district alone according to The Commonwealth Institute for Fiscal Analysis.

Q: *In the Richmond region a police officer or nurse must spend over 30% of their income to rent the average home. What policy initiatives or investments would you support to meet housing challenges for working families in the region?*

A: As a Public School teacher, I know how important keeping the cost of housing affordable is to families in Henrico County. As Delegate, I will work closely with local government to make sure mixed-income housing rather than highly polarized low and high-income housing predominates. I will also make sure to address economic factors such as wage laws and healthcare costs that make high rents even more crippling.

Q: *Two additional states are needed to ratify the Equal Rights Amendment. Will you vote yes or no on a resolution in the General Assembly to ratify the E.R.A.?*

A: Yes, I will support a resolution in the General Assembly to ratify the E.R.A. I am a father of three, and I want to make sure my two daughters have the same rights and opportunities as my son.

Q: *What is your position on rail transportation in Virginia?*

A: I favor increasing rail transportation in Virginia as part of an "all of the above" plan for infrastructure investment. Such a move would connect the suburbs to the cities, as well as connect Richmond to cities up and down the east coast. I will also invest in roads, bike lanes, and other forms of public transportation.

Q: *What are your legislative priorities?*

A: My legislative priorities are education, jobs, and healthcare. I will fight to make sure the General Assembly provides its fair share of funding for public education and I will make sure we implement testing that measures student progress rather than their ability to fill in bubbles. We need to make sure that we are training all citizens who want to work hard for jobs in the new economy, and we need to expand access to quality, affordable healthcare.

Edward S. Whitlock III



Party: Rep

Biographical Info:

Address: P.O. Box 29882 Henrico, Va 23242

Campaign Phone: (804) 545-6244

Web Site: <http://whitlockfordelegate.com>

Email: ewhitlock@lawplc.com

Age: 9/20/1962

Twitter page: [Eddiewhitlockfordelegate](https://twitter.com/Eddiewhitlockfordelegate)

Facebook page: www.facebook.com/FriendsofEddieWhitlock/

Questions:

Q: *What are the most important changes needed in Virginia to ensure election integrity and voting access for all qualified Virginians?*

A: The right to vote in a free and fair election is one our most basic civil rights, and is the foundation underlying every other right and freedom enjoyed by Americans. Every fraudulent vote effectively cancels out the vote—and the voice—of a legitimate voter and adds to the skepticism many Americans have in their government. I support state laws that require proof of citizenship at the time of voter registration to protect our electoral system against a significant and growing form of voter fraud.

Q: *How would you promote health care coverage--physical and behavioral--that is adequate, affordable, and accessible for all Virginians?*

A: Everyone wants quality health care at a reasonable cost, the question is how to get there. Expanded government involvement in health care has driven up the cost of coverage, created additional red tape and increased costs for both doctors and patients. I will work hard to get the cost of insurance under control by supporting policies that give consumers more choices. Above all, I will always push for solutions that give patients, not the government, control over their health care.

Q: *In the Richmond region a police officer or nurse must spend over 30% of their income to rent the average home. What policy initiatives or investments would you support to meet housing challenges for working families in the region?*

A: The high cost of housing is a function of a lot of things like housing inventory, the cost of borrowing, the quantity and quality of jobs in the area and even local zoning policies. Less restrictions on building homes and a better economy can contribute to lowering housing costs. Higher taxes can hurt family buying power, make it harder for small businesses to succeed, kill jobs and undermine the American dream. The GA can help most by creating a stable, successful economy with low state taxes

Q: *Two additional states are needed to ratify the Equal Rights Amendment. Will you vote yes or no on a resolution in the General Assembly to ratify the E.R.A.?*

A: Equal rights for all Americans is a worthy goal, and is already written into our state and national constitutions. The problem is not in our laws but in how they are interpreted and enforced, and how people treat one another. The ERA cannot fix any of those challenges. I am not in favor of amending the constitution unless is it necessary. Also, it is generally accepted that it is now long past the legal deadline to pass the ERA and Cong. would need to pass it again for any state action to be valid

Q: *What is your position on rail transportation in Virginia?*

A: I support improvements in our transportation infrastructure. Efficient rail transportation should be a part of a mix of roads, water, air and rail travel for both people and commodities. Projects that relieve congestion and maintain safety should be

given priority. Rail can take a lot pressure off our roads, but investments must be considered against other transportation spending priorities and goals.

Q: *What are your legislative priorities?*

A: I have several ideas I am interested in. First, I want to ensure that Virginia continues to live within its means. That means no deficit spending and less borrowing. Second, I want to improve education. I believe every child in Virginia deserves access to world-class public schools but also believe that parents should have the widest range of education options because one-size-fits-all academics do not work for every child. Third, I want to make Virginia as job friendly as possible.

Virginia House District 73 - Candidates (choose 1):

Christopher P. Cowger

Party: I

Did not reply

John M. O'Bannon III

Party: Rep

Did not reply

Debra H. Rodman



Party: Dem

Did not reply to questions

Biographical Info:

Address: 6744 Wilber Circle Henrico, VA 23228

Campaign Phone: (804) 723-1299

Web Site: <http://www.rodmanfordelegate.com>

Email: rodmanfordelegate@gmail.com

Age: 8/29/1972

Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/rodmanfordelegate>

Virginia House District 74 - Candidates (choose 1):

Lamont Bagby

Party: Dem

Did not reply

Preston T. Brown



Party: I

Biographical Info:

Address: 3203 Hull Street Richmond, Va 23224

Campaign Phone: (804) 386-5950

Web Site: <http://prestonbrownforhouseofdelegates.com>

Email: mrptbrown@aol.com

Age: 3/20/1954

Facebook page: Preston Brown for House of Delegates

Questions:

Q: *What are the most important changes needed in Virginia to ensure election integrity and voting access for all qualified Virginians?*

A: It's needed but not sure at this time how to get us there.

Q: *How would you promote health care coverage--physical and behavioral--that is adequate, affordable, and accessible for all Virginians?*

A: Most small businesses will access the health benefit exchange through the internet. It is critical that Virginia's exchange be user-friendly and displays health insurance options transparently. Each health insurance option should contain basic and easily presented information on price and quality, so people have enough information to make informed choices. Additionally, many consumers accessing the exchange will be eligible for Medicaid or FAMIS.

Q: *In the Richmond region a police officer or nurse must spend over 30% of their income to rent the average home. What policy initiatives or investments would you support to meet housing challenges for working families in the region?*

A: I will support Affordable Housing

Q: *Two additional states are needed to ratify the Equal Rights Amendment. Will you vote yes or no on a resolution in the General Assembly to ratify the E.R.A.?*

A: yes

Q: *What is your position on rail transportation in Virginia?*

A: I look to improve our railway transportation but don't have a position at this time

Q: *What are your legislative priorities?*

A: Improving the Composite Index Formula, so more priority is given to the poorer schools Protecting Health Care & Medicaid Enforcement of the HUD ACT of 1968 Section 3, which will provide jobs/training for the low and very low income persons. Enforcement/oversight of VPPA also provides jobs for SWAM & MBE.

Virginia House District 97 - Candidates (choose 1):

Cori E. Johnson



Party: Dem

Biographical Info:

Address: PO BOX 142 New Kent, VA 23124

Web Site: <http://johnsonfordelegate.com>

Email: staff@johnsonfordelegate.com

Age: 4/16/1984

Twitter page: <https://twitter.com/Johnson4VAHouse>

Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/Johnsonfordelegate/>

Questions:

Q: *What are the most important changes needed in Virginia to ensure election integrity and voting access for all qualified Virginians?*

A: The voter ID law should be temporarily suspended until remedies can be put into place for situations in which the law blocks qualified voters from participation. Legislation and process improvements should increase- not decrease- participation of qualified voters in Virginia. I am in favor of automatic restoration of felon voter rights after their sentences have been served.

Q: *How would you promote health care coverage--physical and behavioral--that is adequate, affordable, and accessible for all Virginians?*

A: There is simply too much at stake to have our healthcare determined by partisan politics or campaign contributions. It is the responsibility of the General Assembly to promote policy that meets the needs of Virginians- not the health insurance industry. Medicaid expansion and a single-payer system are both imperfect, yet viable solutions. Fixing our broken system will take persistence and compromise, and I will diligently work to bring solutions that focus on improving the health of Virginians.

Q: *In the Richmond region a police officer or nurse must spend over 30% of their income to rent the average home. What policy initiatives or investments would you support to meet housing challenges for working families in the region?*

A: As a working mother, firefighter, and current renter, I am intimately familiar with housing challenges faced by working families. Since I have refused corporate donations I am not beholden to the real estate or development industries and am free to boldly advocate for the expansion of affordable housing programs, and defend regulations which protect residents and renters. Additionally, I will advocate for fair housing laws that prohibit discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender.

Q: *Two additional states are needed to ratify the Equal Rights Amendment. Will you vote yes or no on a resolution in the General Assembly to ratify the E.R.A.?*

A: I will vote YES. This will be a top legislative priority for me.

Q: *What is your position on rail transportation in Virginia?*

A: I am in favor of rail transportation for its environmental and economic benefits. These benefits must be considered in addition to the need to maintain current infrastructure, respect landowner's rights, and maintain fiscal responsibility.

Q: *What are your legislative priorities?*

A: Campaign finance reform: our democracy is being auctioned off to the wealthiest donor and this must stop. Protect women: repeal the section of our criminal justice code that gives a pass to convicted rapists who are married to their victims, include consent education in comprehensive sex education in public schools, and ratify the Equal Rights Amendment. Opioid crisis: present bold solutions that align with public health best practices and produce measurable results.

Christopher K. Peace



Party: Rep

Biographical Info:

Address: PO Box 819 8101 Vanguard Drive Ste. 150 Mechanicsville, Virginia 23111

Campaign Phone: (804) 730-3737

Web Site: <http://www.chrispeace.com>

Email: info@chrispeace.com

Age: 11/16/1976

Twitter page: @DelCPeace

Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/DelegatePeace/>

Questions:

Q: *What are the most important changes needed in Virginia to ensure election integrity and voting access for all qualified Virginians?*

A: It is important that we continue to insist on accountability and transparency from our Virginia Department of Elections. There has been too much political gamesmanship over the past four years. Elections are all local and we need to find ways to continue to support our system of registrars. And finally, qualified Virginians means those whose rights have been restored, not otherwise registered in another jurisdiction and citizens.

Q: *How would you promote health care coverage--physical and behavioral--that is adequate, affordable, and accessible for all Virginians?*

A: There is a better way to expand access to healthcare. Instead of expanding government-run entitlement programs, we should strengthen our health care safety net to care for our most vulnerable citizens. The House has invested over \$200 million in the health care safety net over the last three years, including significant funding for mental health coverage, funding for free clinics and community health centers. As a member of the House Appropriations committee, I'm proud to have led on these issues

Q: *In the Richmond region a police officer or nurse must spend over 30% of their income to rent the average home. What policy initiatives or investments would you support to meet housing challenges for working families in the region?*

A: The Virginia Housing Trust Fund is intended to create and preserve affordable housing and to reduce homelessness in the commonwealth. The biennium budget for fiscal years 2015-16 allocated \$4,000,000 in the first year and \$4,000,000 in the second year to fund activities through the Virginia Housing Trust Fund. This follows the 2013-14 biennium budget, which allocated \$8,000,000. We are seeing results already. As a member of the House Appropriations committee, I'm proud to have led on this issue.

Q: *Two additional states are needed to ratify the Equal Rights Amendment. Will you vote yes or no on a resolution in the General Assembly to ratify the E.R.A.?*

A: I would like to know more about this issue.

Q: *What is your position on rail transportation in Virginia?*

A: I am the Chairman of the sub-committee on Transportation in House Appropriations. In that role, I support freight and passenger rail enhancements. Further, I also requested a prioritization of transit capital funds through VDOT/CTB. I look forward to seeing how we can further invest in these critical components of our statewide infrastructure system.

Q: *What are your legislative priorities?*

A: I remain focused as I always have been on important youth and family issues including but not limited to juvenile justice reform, foster care services and additional investment in supportive services for victims of domestic violence and sexual assault. In addition, I will look for ways that we can improve opportunities for investment in jobs and the economy including working towards a system where all people are paid based on merit, not their gender.