



For Immediate Release

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NWPC-VA Endorses Haya Ayala for Lt. Governor of Virginia

The National Women's Political Caucus of Virginia has endorsed Delegate Haya Ayala for Lt. Governor, ahead of the November 2nd general election.

Candace Graham, VP of Endorsements for NWPC-VA, is thrilled about the historic nature of Delegate Ayala's candidacy. "If elected, Hala Ayala would be the first woman and the first woman of color elected to the office of Lieutenant Governor of Virginia. That is something that all of Virginia should be proud of," Ms. Graham stated. Delegate Ayala herself is well aware of the unique moment, stating recently, "This campaign is historic no doubt, but it's bigger than me, it's bigger than an individual. It's a 'we,' it's an 'us,' it's about planning for the future and fighting for representation at all levels of government."

Delegate Ayala speaks often of the challenges faced by many Virginians as they work to provide for their families, struggle to make ends meet, and worry about paying for healthcare. As a single mother of a son who had serious health issues as a newborn, Del. Ayala knows what it is like to fight for the people you love. If elected to the office of Lt. Governor, she intends to continue that fight until every Virginian, regardless of race or economic background, has the opportunity not just to survive, but to thrive in the Commonwealth. She has proven herself while serving in the House of Delegates, sponsoring bills which created a state agency to review fetal and infant mortality, offered tax credits to teachers and small businesses, and set up mechanisms to monitor public water supply from coal ash. She voted to protect women's access to safe reproductive healthcare and to eliminate the gender pay gap. She helped propel the Equal Rights Amendment toward full Constitutional recognition by advocating for and voting to ratify the ERA in Virginia in 2020. The NWPC-VA is proud to support such a proven leader and a candidate who champions many of the organization's key issues.

In light of recent events in other parts of the country, immediate support for women's reproductive freedom is critical. As Del. Ayala has said, "If we can't count on the Supreme Court to protect Roe, our state legislatures will have to. Here in Virginia, our Senate is tied when it

comes to choice and that means protecting it will come down to the Lieutenant Governor's vote."

The NWPC is the only national organization dedicated exclusively to increasing women's participation in all areas of political and public life. The NWPC has a significant history in this country, dating back to its founding in 1971 at the National Women's Political Conference in Washington, D.C. NWPC-VA is proud to continue this tradition in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

NWPC-VA is excited to endorse Del. Ayala, who will be a true leader for all Virginians.

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