



For Immediate Release

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NWPC-VA Endorses an Exciting and Diverse Group of Candidates for the House of Delegates Ahead of the June 8 Primaries

The National Women’s Political Caucus of Virginia has endorsed 21 candidates for the House of Delegates, ahead of the June 8th primaries.

“It is a new day in Virginia; the challenges are complex and we need the right leaders across the commonwealth to tackle them. Until we expand affordable childcare and dependent care, ensure full access to health care for all women, and reach full equity, all Virginians won’t have the opportunities they need to succeed. Our endorsed candidates know the issues, are ready to find solutions to our most persistent problems, and have the passion and the experience to ensure that the voices of all Virginians are represented in Richmond,” said NWPC-VA President, Krysta Jones.

Candace Graham, VP of Endorsements for NWPC-VA, is excited about this slate of candidates. “We have a powerhouse of endorsed candidates in the House. The incumbents we endorsed are fully aligned with the mission and focus of NWPC-VA. The newcomers we spoke with are so impressive. Their tireless work in the public and private sectors and advocacy experience is amazing. Our endorsement team and interviewers have dozens of combined years of experience in Virginia politics, and were so pleased these women chose to run.”

NWPC-VA’s endorsements are as follows:

HD 7 - Tara Orlando
HD10 - Del Wendy Gooditis
HD13 - Del Danica Roem
HD 21 - Del Kelly Convirs-Fowler
HD 25 - Jennifer Kitchen
HD 27 - Debra Gardner
HD 30 - Annette Hyde
HD 34 - Jennifer Adeli

HD 39 - Del Vivian Watts
HD 42 - Del Kathy Tran
HD 45 - Elizabeth Bennett-Parker
HD 49 - Karishma Mehta
HD 50 - Michelle Maldonado
HD 55 - Rachel Levy
HD 66 - Katie Sponsler
HD 67 - Del Karrie Delaney
HD 68 - Del Dawn Adams
HD 84 - Kimberly Melnyk
HD 94 - Del Shelly Simonds
HD 97 - Sarah Sams
HD 99 - Jolicia Ward

NWPC-VA mailed out 65 applications to incumbents and challengers alike. Those who returned the application and completed the interview process were considered for endorsement. The organization decided that the impressive and determined women listed above best exemplify the mission and goals of NWPC-VA as stated in its charter: to protect women's rights to safe, reproductive healthcare; increase women's participation in the political process; increase the number of women in elected and appointed positions; support candidates who will prioritize women's issues and who will employ women in decision-making roles in their campaign and office staffs; work for the repeal of discriminatory laws, especially laws that discriminate on the basis of gender; and draft and support legislation that complies with the principles of human equality and that concerns the needs of women.

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

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