



## **For Immediate Release**

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### **NWPC-VA Announces Endorsements for the November House of Delegates Race**

The National Women's Political Caucus of Virginia has endorsed a new round of 19 candidates for the House of Delegates, ahead of the November 2nd general election. This additional round adds to the organization's original slate of endorsed House candidates from the June primary races. NWPC-VA interviewed a number of qualified and impressive women throughout the summer and aims to increase the number of female-held seats in the House of Delegates, which currently stands at 30 out of 100.

Candace Graham, VP of Endorsements for NWPC-VA, spoke enthusiastically about this group of candidates. "It's very gratifying to be endorsing women for election who we have worked with for years, at the state and local level. They promote the key issues for which the National Women's Political Caucus-Virginia advocates, including the Equal Rights Amendment, reproductive rights, childcare and healthcare equity, environmental justice, criminal justice reform, and education equity. Of the 19 candidates NWPC-VA endorsed this cycle for delegate, 13 are incumbents and 6 are challengers. Combined with the 15 candidates we endorsed before the primary, that would make 34 delegates who identify as female. Their success in November will bring us much closer to our goal of having half of the seats at the table."

In light of recent events in other regions of the country, immediate support for women's reproductive freedom is critical. NWPC-VA strongly believes in having more women in decision-making positions at the state level. Our elected leaders must protect Virginia women's access to the full, safe, and affordable reproductive care that we need, and which has a positive and significant effect on our lives.

NWPC-VA's new endorsements for the House of Delegates are as follows:

HD19 Wendy Rowden  
HD31 Elizabeth Guzman  
HD34 Kathleen Murphy

HD38 Kaye Kory  
HD41 Eileen Filler-Corn  
HD51 Brianna Sewell

HD61 Trudy Berry  
HD62 Jasmine Gore  
HD63 Lashrecse Aird  
HD69 Betsy Carr  
HD70 Delores McQuinn  
HD75 Roslyn Tyler

HD78 Melanie Cornelisse  
HD83 Nancy Guy  
HD90 Angela Williams-Graves  
HD91 Martha Mugler  
HD92 Jeion Ward  
HD95 Cia Price  
HD100 Finale Norton

They are joining the following candidates who NWPC-VA endorsed before the primary:

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 a total of 98 applications this year, to incumbents and challengers alike. Those who returned the application and completed the interview process were considered for endorsement. The organization decided that the accomplished and determined women listed above best exemplify the mission and goals of NWPC-VA, and we look forward to helping get them elected to the Virginia House of Delegates.

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 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.

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