

Larry Barnett

Virginia House of Delegates District 27

ABOUT THE CANDIDATE



LEARN MORE

LARRY BARNETT
www.barnett4delegate.com

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Larry has a commitment to Chesterfield County that runs deep. He has served its residents for three decades. As a leader with Chesterfield County Mental Health Support Services, he developed and implemented innovative, caring, and effective programs for those affected by mental illness. He developed a reputation as a skilled collaborator and problem-solver who got things done. He was a key player in various projects that improved access to mental health and substance abuse services. These projects involved partnerships with schools, hospitals, advocacy groups, and law enforcement and other first responders.

With a proven record of improving the lives of some of the community's most vulnerable residents, Larry decided to continue his public service to Chesterfield by running for the Virginia House of Delegates in the 27th District. In 2017, he ran a spirited, grassroots campaign and finished very close as a first-time candidate, shocking many by coming within 128 votes of winning.

Larry's hard work and intelligence, coupled with his open, collaborative, and caring spirit, showed voters that he was someone who would effectively represent them in the General Assembly. In 2019, he is bringing his talent and enthusiasm to bear as he runs again to represent the citizens of Chesterfield County.

Larry's Coast Guard family provided him with a strong example of service. His family, like many in the military, moved around the US before planting roots in Virginia. He received his undergraduate degree from Virginia Commonwealth University before earning a master's degree in Rehabilitative Counseling from VCU. He is a licensed professional counselor.

Larry and his wife Pat live in Midlothian. Their daughter Eileen attended Chesterfield public schools and now lives in Charlottesville.

SOCIAL MEDIA + LINKS

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[INSTAGRAM](https://www.instagram.com/larrybarnett4va) www.instagram.com/larrybarnett4va

DATA ABOUT THE DISTRICT

Population	Households	Over 65	White	Black	Latinx	Median Income	Below Poverty Line	Unemployed	College Grads	HS Grads	No HS Grad
84,290	31,007	13.6%	64.3%	22.1%	6.5%	74820	6.40%	3.40%	47.3%	45.7%	7%

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PAST RACES

Congressional Districts

Nested Congressional Districts: CD7 (Cook PVI: R+6); CD4 (Cook PVI: D+10)

Learn more about Cook Political Ratings (Partisan Voting Index): <https://cookpolitical.com/ratings>

2017 House of Delegates Election Results

Larry Barnett	49.78%	14,333
Roxann Robinson (Incumbent)	50.22%	14,461

2017 House of Delegates Fundraising

* Via Virginia Public Access Project (VPAP)

Democrat	\$227,188
Republican	\$237,001

2017 Gubernatorial Results

Ralph Northam	50.89%	14,138
Ed Gillespie	47.63%	13,232

2018 Congressional

Democrat	52.95%	18,645
Republican	45.56%	16,042

2016 President

Hillary Clinton	45.81%	20,070
Donald Trump	48.16%	21,098

2012 President

Barack Obama	45.26%	19,784
Mitt Romney	53.32%	23,309

ON THE ISSUES:

Healthcare

Larry supports expanding affordable access to essential healthcare for all Virginians. One in four people are directly affected by mental illness and addiction. Larry has devoted his life to public service in the mental health field and will advocate for community-based mental health and substance abuse services throughout the Commonwealth.

Education

Larry is a steadfast supporter of public schools and believes investing in our children is the best way to prepare for a better future. Most families want excellent public schools and hope their children have an equal opportunity to obtain a first-rate education. To recruit and retain top-notch teachers who can provide this education, he believes we need to pay them well - at least at the national average. To maintain high quality schools, Larry thinks we need to lower student/teacher ratios and

empower teachers to have greater classroom autonomy, while reducing the focus on standardized testing. A strong, vibrant public education system attracts families to Chesterfield, ensuring the future viability of the community, and helps to power the local economy with well-educated young people.

Environment/Energy

Larry was endorsed by the Sierra Club in the 2017 campaign for his positions on safeguarding our clean air and water and protecting the environment for future generations. He will work tirelessly to protect and preserve Virginia's valuable natural resources. Larry fully supports the development of innovative, sustainable, and renewable energy and technology sources, such as solar and wind, that will enable Virginia to move toward a better future. He has pledged to not accept funds from Dominion or Appalachian Power to avoid the appearance of undue influence and focus on serving the people he represents.

Gun Violence Prevention

As a healthcare professional, Larry sees gun violence as an epidemic and a top public health crisis. He supports common sense efforts to effectively reduce gun violence. This includes universal background checks whenever firearms are purchased and emergency protective orders that enable family members to temporarily remove firearms from loved ones during a crisis.

Gerrymandering

Currently, elected representatives can choose their voters rather than voters choosing their representatives. Larry is a member of OneVirginia2021, a group that is working to create fair political boundaries in Virginia. He supports an independent commission as the best route to provide voters with districts that are compact, contiguous, and fairly drawn.

Public Safety

People want to live in a safe community with well-trained police officers who respond with compassion and respect when there is an emergency. As the Chesterfield County Crisis Intervention Training Coordinator for many years, Larry helped plan, develop, and implement a cross-departmental initiative that equipped police officers, sheriffs, fire-fighters, 911 dispatch officers, and other emergency personnel with the skills to safely de-escalate and defuse situations when people are in crisis. His work has made him an even stronger proponent of our local law enforcement.

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Equality

Throughout his career, Larry has worked with individuals from all walks of life, while listening to the issues that are important to the community. These experiences have strengthened his belief in equal treatment for all people, regardless of age, gender, race, sexual orientation, gender identity, income level, or religious belief. Everyone in Virginia should have the opportunity to live, work, and fully participate in society without the fear of discrimination.

Economic Development

Larry believes in the dignity of work and building an economy where all people have an equal opportunity to succeed. Virginia has a low unemployment rate and is one of the best states in which to do business in the nation. Let's keep it that way by making sure we have affordable housing, good job opportunities, and a healthy workforce. Local businesses are vital and contribute a great deal to our community. A well-trained and educated workforce will ensure that established businesses and new, innovative ventures will continue to expand and thrive, sustaining our local economy.

Campaign Finance

Campaign finance regulations in Virginia need to be significantly improved. Our democratic process will be better served if candidates and representatives are prohibited from accepting campaign funds from corporate PACs. In addition, Larry believes we can protect against undue influence on campaigns by capping individual donations at \$10,000. Most importantly, Larry believes candidates and representatives should never be allowed to use campaign funds for personal use.

ABOUT THE STATE

General Demographics

- Virginia is the 12th-most populous state, with over 8 million residents.
- Virginia's non-white citizens represented 38% of the population in 2017, up from 22% in 1990.
- As of 2015, the non-white voter population was 28%, suggesting that people of color are a growing segment of the general population but not growing as fast in the voting population.
- In the last four presidential elections, voter turnout has been greater than 70%. But in the last 4 elections held in the year just prior to the presidential election (which would be a predictor for 2019), turnout has hovered around 30%.
- Turnout among younger voters (18-29 years old) has steadily increased from 17% in 2009 to 26% in 2013 to 34% in 2017. This segment of the population voted heavily Democratic in 2017 --almost 70/30.
- The Commonwealth has elected Democratic governors in four out of the last five gubernatorial elections, and has not voted for a Republican President since 2004.

District Lines

District lines for Congress and state legislature are drawn by the General Assembly (state legislature). There is a bipartisan advisory commission, but the General Assembly is not required to take their recommendations. The governor has veto power over district lines.

The Commonwealth's district boundaries have been a hot topic of conversation in past years. Both Congressional and state legislative district lines in Virginia have been held unconstitutional by federal courts due to racial gerrymandering. Congressional districts were redrawn by court order in 2016, which increased Democratic representation. Currently, a number of districts in the lower chamber are the subject of ongoing litigation, which is currently being heard by the Supreme Court. The new maps for these lower chamber districts will be used in the 2019 general election unless the Supreme Court overturns the new maps. That decision is due over the summer. The redrawn districts (which more accurately reflect the population) lean more Democratic.

Citizens' groups in Virginia have been working to establish fairer districting processes, including pushing for a nonpartisan redistricting commission. In 2019, the General Assembly approved the "first read" of a constitutional amendment to create an advisory commission for Congressional and state legislative lines. The next step would be for the General Assembly to pass an identical resolution during the next legislative session – after the 2019 election. Then the measure would go onto the ballot in November 2020, at which point Virginians could vote to approve the independent commission.

Voter Suppression

Virginia currently has a voter ID law, passed by its Republican state legislature and governor in 2013. In 2016, the Fourth Circuit of Appeals upheld the Virginia Voter ID law, after a suit alleging it violated the 1965 Voting Rights Act. In addition, Virginia's GOP has made it more difficult to register people to vote. In particular, third-party voter registration requires groups receiving 25 or more registration forms to register with the state. Further, Virginia uses both the controversial Crosscheck and ERIC programs to determine if there are duplicate voter registrations.

Voter Registration and Day of Voting

You must provide a photo ID to register to vote and to vote physically at the polls. Acceptable IDs include:

- Driver's license
- US passport
- Tribal ID issued by one of the 11 tribes recognized by the Commonwealth of Virginia
- Student or employee ID from a public or private school in Virginia
- Virginia Voter Photo ID

If you do not have an ID, you may apply for a free Virginia Voter Photo Identification from any general registrar's office.

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ABOUT THE STATE

Last Day:

For the June Primary, you must register by Monday, May 20th, 2019.
For the November Election you must register by Tuesday,
October 15th, 2019.

Absentee Ballots:

For the June Primary, absentee ballots must be requested by Tuesday,
June 4th, 2019.
For the November Election absentee ballots must be requested by
Tuesday, October 29th, 2019.
You can also request a ballot by appearing in person - Request Absentee
Ballot by appearing in person by: 5:00 p.m. Saturday, November 2,
2019.

June 11: Primary election
November 5: General Election

Current State Legislature

Virginia is currently under a divided government: the governor is a Democrat, while Republicans control both chambers of the legislature by an extremely narrow margin—just two seats each. The entire Virginia General Assembly is up for election in 2019, and these are all “Last Chance” races; the legislators elected in 2019 will be serving during the 2021 redistricting process. The state legislature draws district lines, and the governor has the power to veto district maps.

The state Senate is currently comprised of 19 Democrats and 21 Republicans, while the House of Delegates has 48 Democrats and 51 Republicans. Democrats have an incredible opportunity to flip both Virginia state legislature chambers in 2019.

Demographic shifts in Virginia favor Democrats. And a number of badly gerrymandered House districts have recently been fairly redrawn upon federal court order (subject to Supreme Court review). This should give Democrats an opportunity to compete fairly in a broader set of House districts this year.

2019 Executive Controversies

The current Governor, Lt. Governor and Attorney General are all Democrats, and none are up for election in 2019. However, each has been the subject of controversy in 2019. Governor Ralph Northam shocked the Commonwealth when photos surfaced of him in blackface during his years as a medical student. Lieutenant Governor Justin Fairfax seemed poised to transition into the Governor’s seat—until allegations of sexual assault in his past came to light. The third in line for the Governor’s seat, Attorney General Mark Herring, proactively admitted to dressing in blackface as a teenager himself. Ultimately, none of the men have resigned, despite calls to do so from numerous elected officials, organizations, and citizens groups.

At Sister District, these events have underscored the need to build a deep bench of diverse leaders and a strong Democratic majority in the state legislature. Without positive reinforcement from the Governor’s office this year, General Assembly candidates will certainly need our help.

CANDIDATE IN THE NEWS

Voice of Virginia: Why I Love Larry Barnett (for HD 27)

<https://www.dailykos.com/stories/2017/5/14/1661287/-Voice-of-Virginia-Why-I-Love-Larry-Barnett-for-HD-27?>

Larry Barnett for Virginia House of Delegates—Turn District 27 Blue

<https://bluevirginia.us/2017/05/larry-barnett-virginia-house-delegates-turn-district-27-blue>

Democrat Larry Barnett concedes to Del. Roxann Robinson in surprisingly close race for Chesterfield House district

https://www.richmond.com/news/virginia/government-politics/democrat-larry-barnett-concedes-to-del-roxann-robinson-in-surprisingly/article_bfaaec91-7aab-5f73-8078-503651236184.html

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ABOUT THE OPPONENT

Roxann L. Robinson is a Republican member of the Virginia House of Delegates, representing District 27. She was first elected to the chamber in June 2010. She won a special election to replace Sam Nixon, who resigned after accepting the position of commissioner of the Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services. In 2018, House Democrats tried to bring the Equal Rights Amendment (ERA) to the floor for a vote by introducing a rules change; although Robinson was a co-patron of the Senate resolution to ratify the ERA, she voted against bringing it to the floor, essentially killing the ERA's chances for success in Virginia.

2018 Legislator Scorecards

In 2018, the Virginia General Assembly was in session from January 10 through March 10. Special sessions were held from April 11 to May 30 and from August 30 to October 30.

Virginia Chapter Sierra Club

Legislators are scored on their votes on bills related to the climate and energy. Robinson received an F grade for the 2018 session.

Virginia Education Association

Legislators are scored on their votes on bills related to education. Robinson received a score of 50% for the 2018 session.

Virginia League of Conservation Voters

Legislators are scored on their votes on environmental and conservation issues. Robinson has a career score of 51%.

THE DISTRICT

