



Kathleen J. Murphy for VA-34

WHY IS THIS RACE IMPORTANT?

- * All 100 seats in the Virginia House of Delegates are up for election in 2017.
- * Republicans hold 66 of the 100 seats.
- * Every seat counts towards flipping the Virginia legislature blue.
- * GOP leaders say many districts—including those won by Clinton—remain Republican strongholds for state elections.
- * In 2015, only 21 Democrats ran against GOP lawmakers. This year, Democrats plan to challenge 45 GOP incumbents—including 17 lawmakers whose districts voted for Democrat Hillary Clinton in 2016.

ABOUT THE DISTRICT

Websites

www.loudoundemocrats.org
www.facebook.com/LoudounDemocrats

Newspapers

www.loudountimes.com
<http://potomaclocal.com>
www.insidenova.com

PAST RESULTS

2015 Election Results:

Kathleen Murphy (D)	10,820	50.44%
Craig Parisot (R)	10,632	49.56%

2016 Election Results:

Hillary Clinton (D)	19,558	56.30%
Donald Trump (R)	13,260	38.17%

ABOUT THE CANDIDATE



Candidate: Kathleen J. Murphy (INCUMBENT)
 SDP ActBlue link: https://secure.actblue.com/contribute/page/sd_va34
 Her website: www.murphyfordelegate.com
 Her Facebook: www.facebook.com/KathleenMurphyforDelegate
 Her Twitter: www.twitter.com/kmurphyva
 Ballotpedia: [https://ballotpedia.org/Kathleen_J._Murphy_\(Virginia\)](https://ballotpedia.org/Kathleen_J._Murphy_(Virginia))

2017 TIMELINE

May 22: Deadline to register to vote (primary)
 June 6: Deadline to request absentee ballot (primary)
 June 13: Primary election
 October 16: Deadline to register to vote (general)
 October 31: Deadline to request absentee ballot
 November 7: General Election

BACKGROUND INFO

Delegate Kathleen Murphy represents Virginia's 34th District, located in Fairfax and Loudoun County. The House District includes McLean, Vienna, Wolf Trap, Great Falls and parts of Eastern Loudoun. Delegate Murphy is a member of the House Finance and the Privileges and Elections Committees. She also belongs to the Military and Veterans Caucus and the Virginia Environment and Renewable Energy Caucus. She serves on the

Board of Veterans Services and chairs the Women Veterans Workgroup.

During the Clinton Administration, she worked as a Senior Advisor for International Trade issues at the Department of Commerce and handled Congressional Affairs at USAID. Previously, she was senior staff for Congressman Charlie Wilson (D-TX), where she handled Defense and Foreign Operations appropriations.

Kathleen helped found Salute Our Services, which connected deployed service members to their families, and helped found Kids Serve Too, an organization to honor and support children in military families. Kathleen played a critical role in Women's Campaign International, an organization dedicated to teaching women in developing countries how to become political leaders, and was a founding member of the Congressional Wives Task Force, an advocacy group that focused on ensuring accurate nutrition labeling on food products and decreasing violence in children's television.

Kathleen is a member of the McLean Community Foundation. She served on the Human Services Council for Fairfax County and the Fairfax County Health Care Task Force. She serves on a fundraising board for the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation. She graduated from American University magna cum laude. Kathleen is the mother of four children. She and her husband, Bill Sudow, are long time McLean residents.

KATHLEEN ON THE ISSUES

Education

"Education is an investment in our future. It is key to ensuring that our children will have opportunities to succeed and for building and strengthening a healthy economy. Virginia has consistently been rated as a leader in providing a world-class education for students in our public schools and universities.

We must take measures to ensure that our public schools remain competitive in a changing 21st century economy.

Unfortunately, our schools have been underfunded. As your Delegate, I am committed to making responsible budget decisions that protect funding streams that our communities depend on to support our local schools. We must find and promote innovative opportunities and practical solutions to improve education in Virginia.

I support funding for all day kindergarten and for early childhood development programs. It is essential that our children arrive in kindergarten prepared and ready to learn. These programs improve outcomes for children and are a strong determinant of later success in school and the work place. The investments we make in early childhood education can result in lower spending later on our juvenile justice system, for social welfare, and on prisons.

Our universities are among the best in the country. In order to ensure that they remain among the best we need to support them financially. We can't take our education system for granted. We have to work every day to support it and make it better. As support from the Commonwealth has gone down for our universities, tuition has gone up for our students. We need to restore the traditional role of support for our universities and to our Community Colleges.

An educated workforce is key to our region's economic growth. Our Community Colleges are a great resource for providing workforce training. Building partnerships with local businesses will provide a foundation to help ensure that the education our children receive will lead to jobs."

Economic Development and Growth

"Virginia has many assets that make it attractive to businesses and families. We have excellent schools, a great quality of life and a low corporate tax rate. It is important that we utilize our assets to help Virginia sustain its position as a preeminent place to live, work and do business.

In order to grow our economy we must support our schools, our transportation systems and ensure access to affordable health care. We also must make sure that Virginia is a welcoming community

for all workers and their families.

Sequestration has been bad for business in Virginia where we depend heavily on the Federal Government and especially on the defense industry. Virginia is the number one recipient of federal contracts and with more cuts on the horizon, our economic health depends on our ability to expand and diversify.

As your Delegate, I am working with Governor McAuliffe on his initiatives to diversify our private sector economy by focusing on biotech and health care innovation. Inova Fairfax is a great asset and will be a valuable partner in this effort.

I will work with cyber security companies and local businesses to utilize the existing federal presence to grow jobs in those areas. Additionally, by leveraging our academic and industrial research and scientific assets we can better support a diversified economy in biotechnology, biomedical industries and in green energy to promote a diverse and reliable energy supply.

Recently Virginia was the object of ridicule due to the attempts by some members of the House of Delegates to pass legislation demeaning to women and promoting a radical right-wing social agenda. These legislative efforts were detrimental to Virginia's ability to recruit and retain businesses and grow our economy. I am staunchly against these legislative efforts because they hurt our women, our families and our reputation as a great place to do business."

Transportation and Infrastructure

"Northern Virginia has a transportation problem. We know that transportation, infrastructure and education are key investments that fuel future economic growth and impact our quality of life. We waste hours sitting in traffic. We want real transportation solutions.

I oppose adding tolls to I-66 inside the Beltway. People already pay too much in tolls. The proposed plan to add tolls to I-66 does not adequately address the problems commuters are seeing. Adding tolls to I-66 will just push more traffic into

our neighborhoods, and will act as a tax on already stressed commuters.

It is the failure to enforce existing carpool requirements on I-66 that has exacerbated the problem of crowding. Additionally, adding tolls on I-66 has the potential to negatively impact Dulles Airport as well. And Dulles Airport is a key economic engine for the whole area.

I am working for efficient use of transportation funds and for Northern Virginia to get its fair share. We need to make sure these funds are allocated to the critical projects that will relieve congestion, ensure pedestrian and bike safety and improve intersections.

For too many years we have deferred investments in our infrastructure. This not only impacts our economic growth, it is a safety issue. Our roads and highways are our lifeline. Rebuilding aging roads and bridges must be a priority. This will provide jobs and help our economy."

Protecting Women's Rights

"Women's issues are the issues that impact our day-to-day lives, interfere with our ability to earn a living and that take time away from our families. They include funding for schools, finding transportation solutions, ensuring our children and communities are safe from gun violence, and access to affordable health care.

I support equal pay for women. On average, women earn only 77 cents for every dollar earned by men. The number is even lower for women of color. It has been more than 50 years since President Kennedy signed the Equal Pay Act into law making it illegal to pay unequal wages to men and women who do the same or equal work. It is time to end the wage gap.

I believe we must protect a woman's right to make her own health care decisions, including choices about contraception.

I am a strong voice against the passage of bills that attempt to limit a woman's access to health care or that attempt to close clinics that provide life saving

cancer screenings.

Women should make their health care decisions with their doctors not their legislators.”

Protecting our Communities and our Children

“Gun violence has become all too common in our society. In the wake of recent tragedies it is clear that we need sensible gun solutions that will keep our children and communities safe from gun violence. I support enhanced background checks and closing the gun show loophole, which allows people to purchase guns without a background check. The NRA supported background checks after the tragedy at Columbine High School. It is stunning that they have turned their backs on such sensible regulations.

I lost my brother to gun violence. Two gunmen robbed and murdered him. He was the father of five young children, a loving husband, a thoughtful son and a really fun brother.

I work with local groups, police, and concerned citizens to find reasonable regulations to help prevent these terrible tragedies. We must do our best to stop criminals and the mentally ill from obtaining dangerous weapons. And we must fund programs and services for the dangerously mentally ill.”

ENDORSEMENTS

The Sierra Club Virginia Chapter - 100% rating for 2016 voting record

ABOUT THE DISTRICT

Counties of Fairfax (part) and Loudoun (part). Loudoun County constitutes a part of the 5-million-acre Northern Neck of Virginia Proprietary granted by King Charles II of England to seven noblemen in 1649. This grant, later known as the Fairfax Proprietary, lay between the Potomac and Rappahannock rivers.

Between 1653 and 1730, Westmoreland, Stafford, and Prince William counties were formed within the Proprietary, and in 1742 the remaining land was designated Fairfax County. Settling of the

Loudoun area began between 1725 and 1730,



while it was still owned by Lord Fairfax. Permanent settlers came from Pennsylvania, New Jersey, and Maryland. During the same period settlers from eastern Virginia, of English Cavalier stock, came to lower Loudoun and established large tobacco plantations.

During the War of 1812, Loudoun County served briefly as a temporary refuge for the president and important state papers. The Constitution and other state papers were brought to Rokeby, near Leesburg, for safekeeping when the British burned Washington. President Madison established headquarters at Belmont.

Today, Loudoun county is part of Virginia’s third most populous county. It is part of the Washington/ Arlington/Alexandria area. Loudoun County is home to world headquarters for several Internet-related and high tech companies, including Verizon Business, Telos Corporation, Orbital Sciences Corporation, and Paxfire. Even with the modern focus, Loudoun County retains a strong rural economy. The equine industry in particular has an estimated revenue of \$78 million.

Fairfax was the first U.S. county to reach a six-figure median household income and has the second-highest median household income of any local jurisdiction in the United States after neighbor Loudoun County. The county is home to the headquarters of intelligence agencies such as the Central Intelligence Agency, National Geospatial-

Intelligence Agency, and National Reconnaissance Office, as well as the National Counterterrorism Center and Office of the Director of National Intelligence. The county is also home to seven Fortune 500 companies.

LEGISLATURE

The Virginia General Assembly is the state legislature of the Commonwealth of Virginia. The Virginia General Assembly is the oldest legislative body in the Western Hemisphere. Its existence dates from the establishment of the House of Burgesses at Jamestown in 1619. The General Assembly is a bicameral body consisting of a lower house, the Virginia House of Delegates, with 100 members, and an upper house, the Virginia State Senate, with 40 members.

The House is presided over by the Speaker of the House, who is elected from among the House membership by the delegates. The members are elected for terms of two years; and these elections take place during odd-numbered years. Each member represents about 90,000 residents. District lines are drawn after the Census every 10 years so that each Delegate represents the same number of Virginians. The Speaker is almost always a member of the majority party and, as Speaker, becomes the most powerful member of the House. The House is divided into Democratic and Republican caucuses. In addition to the Speaker, there is a majority leader, majority caucus chair, minority leader, minority caucus chair, and the chairs of the several committees of the House.

The annual salary for delegates is \$17,640 per year. Candidates for office must be at least 21 years of age at the time of the election, residents of the districts they seek to represent, and qualified to vote for General Assembly legislators. The regular session of the General Assembly is 60 days long during even numbered years and 30 days long during odd numbered years, unless extended by a two-thirds vote of both houses.

From 1992-2013, the Democratic Party was the majority in the Virginia State House of Representatives for the first four years while the

Republicans were the majority for the last 14 years. Major issues facing the Virginia General Assembly in 2015 were job creation and education, the latter being especially important to Republicans; Democrats were especially focused on gun control issues. But, both parties expressed their desire to work towards improving Virginia's economy.

REDISTRICTING IN VIRGINIA

The governor signed into law a state legislative redistricting plan (https://www.washingtonpost.com/local/politics/virginia-assembly-approves-new-legislative-maps/2011/04/07/AFRjhrxC_story.html?utm_term=.a4ba10f9b849) on August 29, 2011. In 2014 and 2015, the legislature made attempts to modify the districts that were approved in 2011. The governor vetoed each of these bills.

On December 22, 2014, opponents of the newly drawn map filed suit in the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Virginia, alleging that 12 state legislative districts constituted an illegal racial gerrymander. According to the Oyez Project at the ITT Chicago-Kent College of Law, the district court rejected this argument:

“The district court held that the plaintiffs did not establish that race was the predominant factor in the creation of 11 of the 12 challenged district. The district court also held that, although race was the predominant factor in the creation of one district, in doing so the General Assembly was pursuing a compelling state interest and its use of race was narrowly tailored to serve that interest.”

—Oyez (<https://www.oyez.org/cases/2016/15-680>), ITT Chicago-Kent College of Law

The plaintiffs appealed this decision to the Supreme Court of the United States, which agreed to hear the case (*Bethune-Hill v. Virginia Board of Elections* <http://www.scotusblog.com/case-files/cases/bethune-hill-v-virginia-state-board-of-elections>) on June 6, 2016.

In the 2015, session of the Virginia General Assembly, the state Senate passed three nonpartisan redistricting bills, all of which died in the House.

On March 1, 2017, the Supreme Court of the United States issued its ruling (<https://www.nytimes.com/2017/03/01/us/politics/supreme-court-virginia-house-delegates-gerrymandering.html>) in *Bethune-Hill v. Virginia Board of Elections*, finding that the district court “employed an incorrect legal standard in determining that race did not predominate in 11 of the 12 districts.” For these 11 districts, the high court remanded the case to the district court for reconsideration. The court ruled 7-1 on the case. Justice Anthony Kennedy penned the court’s majority opinion, which was joined by Chief Justice John Roberts and Associate Justices Ruth Bader Ginsburg, Stephen Breyer, Sonia Sotomayor, and Elena Kagan. Associate Justice Samuel Alito concurred in the judgment, filing a separate opinion. Associate Justice Clarence Thomas filed an opinion that concurred in part with the majority opinion and dissented in part. Kennedy wrote the following in the court’s majority opinion:

“The challengers first argue that the District Court misunderstood the relevant precedents when it required the challengers to establish, as a prerequisite to showing racial predominance, an actual conflict between the enacted plan and traditional redistricting principles. The Court agrees with the challengers on this point. ... The challengers submit that the District Court erred further when it considered the legislature’s racial motive only to the extent that the challengers identified deviations from traditional redistricting criteria that were attributable to race and not to some other factor. In the challengers’ view, this approach foreclosed a holistic analysis of each district and led the District Court to give insufficient weight to the 55 percent [black voting age population] target and other relevant evidence that race predominated. Again, this Court agrees.”
—Associate Justice Anthony Kennedy

Meanwhile, the Supreme Court affirmed the district court’s ruling in the case of the remaining challenged district (District 75), arguing that the lower court’s ruling was consistent with *Alabama Legislative Black Caucus v. Alabama* (<https://www.nytimes.com/2015/03/26/us/justices-side-with-black-lawmakers-in-alabama.html>), a case

decided by the high court in 2015. *Alabama Legislative Black Caucus v. Alabama* established that “where a challenger succeeds in establishing racial predominance, the burden shifts to the State to ‘demonstrate that its districting legislation is narrowly tailored to achieve a compelling interest.’”