

SARAH CRAWFORD

NORTH CAROLINA STATE SENATE | DISTRICT 18



Sarah, the daughter of a public-school teacher and a state employee, was raised in Eastern Wake County and attended East Wake Middle and High School. Early on, Sarah learned the value of hard work and the importance of a quality education. Sarah worked her way through college, obtaining her Bachelor of Arts from North Carolina State University. She has dedicated her career to serving the people of Wake and Franklin Counties through her work in nonprofits, working with organizations in higher education and health and human services.

Sarah is currently National Director of Partnerships and Programs at Single Stop, where she helps families work towards the American Dream by connecting them to resources to put them on a path to economic stability and prosperity. Prior to that, she was Director of Development at Tammy Lynn Center for Developmental Disabilities in Wake County. Sarah has been active in her local community, serving on the Ministry Leadership Team at Hope Lutheran Church in Wake Forest, and on the Board of Directors at Safe Space in Louisburg, working to reduce relationship violence and sexual assault in Franklin County. Sarah and her husband Dan live in Eastern Wake County where they're raising their two daughters, Emily (10) and Abby (8), and five dogs.

WEBSITE

sarahfornc.com

FACEBOOK

[@sarahcrawfordnc](https://www.facebook.com/sarahcrawfordnc)

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ACTBLUE DONATE LINK

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ON THE ISSUES

EDUCATION

Sarah knows that education is where we deliver on the promise of equal opportunity and a brighter future for our children. To deliver on this promise, we must invest in our classrooms, reduce class size and raise teacher pay to ensure that every child in North Carolina receives a world-class education. For nearly a decade, politicians in Raleigh have slashed funding for our local public schools, making it nearly impossible to retain excellent teachers, cutting funding for teaching positions and school supplies, and forcing our kids into larger class sizes.

Education is the number one predictor of social and economic mobility. Sarah will fight to ensure that North Carolinians have affordable opportunities to obtain a higher education, whether that's a degree from a 4-year institution or a community college. Students willing to work hard to earn a degree shouldn't face massive debt after graduation. That's why Sarah will fight to address all the barriers to success, including food and housing insecurity as well as tuition costs.

HEALTHCARE

Politicians in Raleigh have repeatedly refused billions of dollars to extend healthcare coverage to more than 500,000 North Carolinians through Medicaid expansion. This has cost the state \$6 billion and countless jobs. From her experience at Tammy Lynn Center, Sarah has seen firsthand the important role that this needed coverage plays in providing families the care they need and deserve. Sarah will stand for North Carolinians and fight to protect families from the partisan politics that have denied healthcare coverage to hundreds of thousands.

JOBS/ECONOMY

Growing our economy means investing in our current and future workforce. Yet, Raleigh politicians continue to slash education funding, making it harder to recruit and attract new businesses. Sarah will work to reverse these reckless cuts to our schools. She knows that growing a strong workforce, recruiting new companies, and supporting small businesses means putting our tax dollars back into our local schools, universities and colleges. We also need to target resources in rural counties that are being left further behind.



SISTER DISTRICT
PROJECT

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As Senator, Sarah will work to make it easier to start and manage a small business by streamlining processes and reducing burdens on small businesses. Sarah will also reinforce smart investments that bring good jobs to North Carolina.

PROTECTING THE ENVIRONMENT

North Carolinians deserve to have access to clean water and clean air and lawmakers who will protect our state's natural heritage. Sarah will stand up to corporate polluters and politicians in Raleigh who allow polluters to pass the costs of clean-up to hard-working families.

Sarah will also prioritize clean energy, which not only benefits our state's environment and the health of our citizens, but also creates thousands of good jobs in North Carolina. Climate change is real and we need to make sure our coastal communities are prepared for the effects -- there is too much at stake to stand by any longer.

ABOUT THE DISTRICT

Nested Congressional Districts

CD2: D+19 and CD4: D+29

As of the 2010 census, a total of 189,405 civilians reside within North Carolina's eighteenth state senate district. North Carolina state senators represent an average of [190,710 residents](#). The state has grown - after the 2000 Census, each member represented [160,986 residents](#). This district is located in the Raleigh area, in Wake and Franklin Counties.

DISTRICT DEMOGRAPHICS

Population	White	Black	Latinx	Asian	Other
189,405	65.9%	26.6%	3.8%	1.2%	2.5%

PAST RESULTS IN THE DISTRICT

2018 STATE HOUSE

Democrat: 52%

Republican 48%

2018 COURT OF APPEALS

Democrat: 53%

Republican: 47%

2016 GUBERNATORIAL

Democrat: 51.6%

Republican: 48.4%

2016 PRESIDENTIAL

Democrat: 50.2%

Republican: 49.8%

2012 PRESIDENTIAL

Democrat: 49.0%

Republican: 51.0%

ABOUT THE OPPONENTS

Republican John Alexander currently represents North Carolina [State Senate District 18](#). Alexander was first elected to the chamber to represent District 15 on November 8, 2016. Due to redistricting, Alexander ran for re-election in 2018 in [District 18](#). In September 2019, Alexander announced that he would not seek re-election in 2020.

Republican Larry Norman is running for election to the North Carolina State Senate to represent District 18. He advanced from the Republican primary on March 3, 2020. He is running on a right-wing platform including support for charter schools and vouchers, and the [entreaty](#) that "we must ensure that correct history should be taught in our schools, not the radical ideas of liberal educators with political agendas." [Norman](#) was born in Henderson, North Carolina. He has a BA from North Carolina State University and a J.D. from Campbell College School of Law. Norman previously served as deacon chairman of First Baptist Church in Spring Hope, North Carolina. He has also served as an executive committee member of the Franklin County



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GOP and is affiliated with North Carolina Sons of Confederate Veterans and the Louisburg Moose Lodge.

WHY NORTH CAROLINA IS IMPORTANT

NORTH CAROLINA FAST FACTS

- **Current Control:** Divided. Governor - D; Senate - R; House - R
- **Gubernatorial Election:** Up in 2020
- **Length of State Senate and House Terms:** 2 years
- **Candidate Filing Deadline:** December 20, 2019
- **State Legislative Primary Date:** March 3, 2020
- **Redistricting:** Congressional and state legislative lines drawn by state legislature; Governor does not have veto power
- **Electoral College Votes:** 15

BROADER 2020 OPPORTUNITIES

North Carolina is a battleground presidential state this year. Obama carried NC in 2008 before Romney won in '12 by 2 points, and Trump won it by just 3 points. Democrats have a tremendous opportunity to claim NC's 15 Electoral College votes this year.

Democratic Governor Roy Cooper is up for re-election in 2020. It'll be a very competitive reelection race.

There is also an important, very competitive Senate race in North Carolina this year (R-Tillis), as well as competitive Congressional races (including NC-02, NC-06, and NC-09).

Working to support NC state legislative candidates will be instrumental in helping drive turnout up and down the ticket in this historic election year.

WHY THIS RACE IS IMPORTANT

To flip this chamber, Democrats need to win 5 senate seats. In 2018, Democrats broke Republican supermajorities in both chambers. We can build on this energy to flip at least one chamber in NC's legislature this year.

Flipping a chamber would give Democrats a critical seat at the redistricting table. As in many states, Republicans in North Carolina brutally gerrymandered the maps in their favor in the last round of redistricting.

As [one example](#), 2018 Democratic candidates for NC House received 51% of the vote, but only won 45% of the seats.

We can prevent this by flipping a chamber and ensuring that Democrats have a voice in the next round of redistricting. This is particularly important because the Governor in NC does not have veto power over the maps. So even when Democratic Governor Roy Cooper wins re-election, we will still need Democratic control of a chamber to have a say in redistricting.

As happened in Virginia in 2019, a number of NC districts have recently been redrawn, after courts held they were illegally gerrymandered in favor of Republicans. The new maps are not a slam-dunk for Democrats, but they do provide some new opportunities.

North Carolina's state senate contests are 'last chance' races: whoever is elected in 2020 will draw the next round of district lines.

REDISTRICTING & GERRYMANDERING

North Carolina's congressional and state legislative districts are epic, infamous examples of Republican gerrymandering. [In 2018](#), Republicans won 50 percent of the vote but held on to a whopping 10 of North Carolina's 13 congressional seats.

The congressional and state legislative gerrymandering by Republicans has been the subject of extensive litigation. In 2019, a state court panel threw out the [state legislative maps for being unconstitutionally gerrymandered](#), and they were redrawn. The new districts are a mixed bag for Democrats - they create some new opportunities for Democratic gains, but also place certain incumbents in a fragile position.

