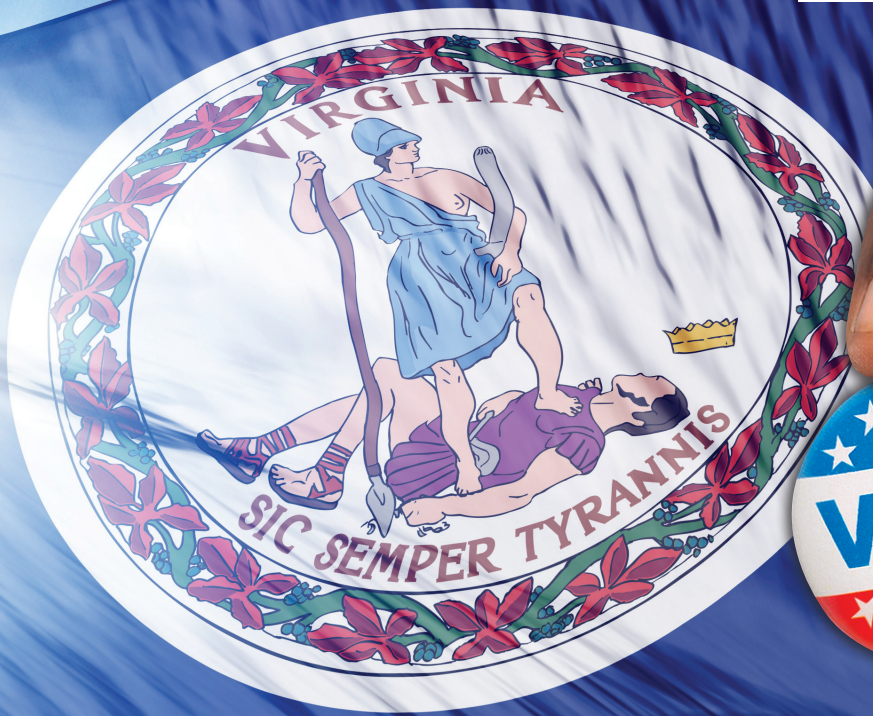


JCRC 
JEWISH COMMUNITY
RELATIONS COUNCIL
OF GREATER WASHINGTON

WJW
Washington Jewish Week



2024 NORTHERN VIRGINIA CONGRESSIONAL JEWISH VOTERS' GUIDE



Dear Members of the Northern Virginia Jewish Community:

The Jewish Community Relations Council of Greater Washington (JCRC) and the Washington Jewish Week have produced this Northern Virginia Jewish Voters' Guide for the 2024 Congressional races to help you become a more informed voter.

The US-Israel relationship, antisemitism and many domestic concerns are front and center in the minds of Jewish voters. Hearing directly from the candidates seeking elected office on these important issues is paramount as you consider how to vote.

This guide provides information about the candidates running for US Senate and for Congressional seats representing Virginia's 7th, 8th, 10th, and 11th Districts. Each candidate was asked to introduce themselves and to present their positions on important issues facing the Jewish community.

We hope you find this a valuable resource and encourage all Virginians to vote.

Ron Halber, Chief Executive Officer, JCRC of Greater Washington

Important dates to know:

- **Friday, September 20:** The first day of in-person early voting at your [local registrar's office](#).
- **Tuesday, October 15:** The deadline to [register to vote, or update an existing registration](#).
(Voters may register after this date, including on Election Day, and vote using a provisional ballot.)
- **Friday, October 25:** The deadline to [request an absentee ballot](#) by mail.
(Your request must be received by your local voter registration office by 5:00 p.m.)
- **Saturday, October 26:** Voter registration offices are open for early voting.
- **Saturday, November 2:** The last day of in-person early voting at your [local voter registration office](#).
(Offices close at 5 p.m.)

The [Virginia Department of Elections](#) provides comprehensive information, including how and where to cast your ballot. Register to vote or apply for an absentee ballot online using the [Citizen Portal](#).

This Voters' Guide was compiled by sending survey questions to each candidate. Responses are published in full.

We hope you find this resource useful as you consider your vote. For additional information, contact JCRC Virginia Director of Government and Community Relations [Vicki Fishman](#).

Resources to specific localities can be found below:

Alexandria City: (alexandriava.gov)

[Voter Registration & Elections | City of Alexandria, VA](#)
[Voting Resources Viewer | City of Alexandria, VA](#)
[Key Absentee Voting Dates & Deadlines | City of Alexandria, VA](#)
[Voter Services for Persons with Disabilities | City of Alexandria, VA](#)

Arlington County: (arlingtonva.gov)

[Home – Arlington County VA Voting and Elections](#)
[Polling Places – Arlington County VA Voting and Elections](#)
[Early Voting – Arlington County VA Voting and Elections](#)
[Vote by Mail – Arlington County VA Voting and Elections](#)
[Disability Services – Arlington County VA Voting and Elections](#)

Fairfax City: (fairfaxva.gov)

[City Polling Locations | City of Fairfax, VA](#)

Fairfax County: (fairfaxcounty.gov)

[Office of Elections | Elections](#)
[In-Person Early Voting | Elections](#)
[Vote by Mail | Elections](#)
[Disability Services and Elections | Elections](#)
[Frequently Asked Questions | Elections](#)

Falls Church City Resources: (fallschurchva.gov)

[Voter Registration & Elections Office | Falls Church, VA - Official Website](#)
[Polling Locations | Falls Church, VA - Official Website](#)
[Early Voting | Falls Church, VA - Official Website](#)

Loudoun County: (loudoun.gov)

[Elections & Voter Registration | Loudoun County, VA - Official Website](#)
[Find Your Polling Place | Loudoun County, VA - Official Website](#)
[Vote on Election Day Information | Loudoun County, VA - Official Website](#)
[Early Voting Information | Loudoun County, VA - Official Website](#)
[Vote at Home Information | Loudoun County, VA - Official Website](#)
[My Elected Representatives, Loudoun County, VA](#)

Manassas City Resources: (manassasva.gov)

[Elections Manassas, Virginia](#)
[Polling Places](#)
[Vote by Mail](#)
[Early Voting](#)
[Ballot Drop Box Manassas, Virginia](#)

Prince William County Resources: (pwcva.gov)

[Office of Elections](#)

Northern Virginia Voters' Guide

Candidate for U.S. Senate – Democrat

Tim Kaine



What qualifications make you the best candidate for the office?

I have dedicated my life to helping others as a missionary, civil rights lawyer, and public servant. Throughout my career, I have traveled throughout the Commonwealth listening to Virginians about the issues that matter most to them, whether it be creating good-paying jobs, protecting reproductive freedom, making healthcare more affordable, keeping Virginians safe, or standing up for our military families.

I know there is more to be done—that's why I'm committed to lowering everyday costs, protecting democracy at home and abroad, and safeguarding our freedoms. Throughout my career, I have made a difference for Virginia with common-sense leadership and focusing on getting real results. I'm running for re-election to continue standing up for Virginia against those who would tear us down or hold us back.

Antisemitism has reached an unprecedented level in the United States, what do you think Congress' role in fighting this age-old hatred is and how will you fulfill that role?

We have seen an alarming rise in anti-semitism and Islamophobia in the wake of October 7th. Religious freedom has long been the bedrock of who we are as Americans. As someone who takes my own faith very seriously, I am determined to fight back against the evils of hatred.

I am pleased to be a member of the Senate Bipartisan Caucus on Antisemitism, co-led by Senators Jacky Rosen and Jim Lankford. In 2022, I successfully urged the Biden Administration to develop a national strategy to combat antisemitism. We must embrace a

whole-of-government response to antisemitism by working to implement the recommendations contained in the U.S. National Strategy to Counter Antisemitism announced by the Biden Administration in June 2023. Senator Warner and I also wrote to Education Secretary Miguel Cardona to ask the Department to use its resources and influence to do more to combat antisemitism and Islamophobia on college campuses.

And in the wake of the recent disturbing rise in antisemitism, I urged the DHS and FBI to do more to combat hate. I also helped pass the National Security Supplemental earlier this year, which included \$400 million for the Nonprofit Security Grant Program to provide security improvements and training to organizations and places of worship, including Jewish institutions.

Finally, I also believe in highlighting not just the darkness but also the light. I am proud to have joined Senator Bill Hagerty on a bipartisan measure posthumously awarding the Congressional Gold Medal to a group of 60 diplomats from some two dozen countries that used their influence to help Jews escape Nazi-occupied Europe during World War II.

Religious freedom is a fundamental American principle, and we must never stop fighting for a society where people of different religious faiths can live in the same neighborhoods, attend the same schools, work side by side, and do so as friends — without fear of religious discrimination.

As we approach a year since the October 7th massacre, what role do you think Congress should play in the Israel-Hamas war and its resolution?

The acts of terror on October 7th were horrific. For the last nine months, I've worked with Democrats, Republicans, and the

administration to ensure that Israel has the support it needs. At the same time, much more must be done to protect civilian life in Gaza. That's why I've pushed to prevent civilian casualties, supported the safe and swift delivery of humanitarian assistance to civilians in Gaza and the West Bank, and advocated for finding long-term solutions that allow Palestinian and Israeli communities to live alongside each other in peace. We must secure both a hostage release deal and a ceasefire to put an end to the immense suffering in the region.

What do you believe are the three top issues facing Virginians? How would you address them?

The economy, reproductive freedom, and affordable healthcare are issues that I hear about all across Virginia.

Our economy is strongest when workers and families have access to good-paying jobs, higher wages, and the skills to succeed and get ahead. I've proudly helped pass legislation to create good-paying manufacturing jobs, supercharge the green energy sector, and rebuild our infrastructure. As a result, jobs are up, 401ks are up, and unemployment is near

historic lows. But we must do more to continue lowering costs for Virginians. Our American Rescue Plan ushered in the strongest jobs recovery on record and expanded the Child Tax Credit, a tax cut for working families in Virginia that benefited 1.7 million Virginia children and cut child poverty to its lowest rate ever. Now, I'm working to bring that tax cut back and make it permanent.

Right now, women are facing threats to reproductive freedom around the country with new draconian abortion restrictions and extremist legislatures plotting to rip away even more reproductive rights following the Supreme Court overturning Roe v. Wade. Virginia is the last state in the South without an extreme abortion ban — and I'm fighting in the U.S. Senate to stand up for women across the country so they can make their own health care decisions without interference from out-of-touch politicians. After an extreme majority on the Supreme Court overturned Roe v. Wade, I introduced the bipartisan Reproductive Freedom for All Act, which would enact the core holdings of Supreme Court cases, including Roe v. Wade, which established and affirmed the rights to abortion and contraception. We must get this bill passed and signed into law.

In 2017, I cast the deciding vote in the Senate to preserve the Affordable Care Act, protecting the health care coverage of 1.3 million Virginians with a pre-existing condition. In 2022, I took on Big Pharma to lower the cost of insulin, so now drug companies cannot charge more than \$35 for this life-saving medication. I cast one of the deciding votes to pass the American Rescue Plan, which included a provision from my Medicare-X plan to lower health care premiums and included funding to speed up the distribution of life-saving vaccines and to reopen schools safely, and have enacted bipartisan bills expanding access to medical products and accelerating FDA processes for approvals of certain drugs.

Rapid and free dissemination of information has come to define the digital age, making the spread of false or misleading information a growing concern in the formation of public opinion and policy. How can this issue be addressed and prioritized?

Countering misinformation and disinformation is one of the most pressing challenges of the digital age. We must not only prioritize civic education to foster a better understanding of the media ecosystem but also partner with digital platforms to address widespread disinformation efforts. For instance, in 2022, I called on Meta, Twitter, and Telegram to substantially increase their efforts to address Russian Spanish-language disinformation efforts targeting the Western Hemisphere. I also have a bill, the Safeguarding Against Fraud, Exploitation, Threats, Extremism and Consumer Harms (SAFE TECH) Act, that would reform Section 230 and allow social media companies to be held accountable for enabling harmful misinformation on their platforms.

What, if any, role should Congress have in addressing reproductive healthcare in the wake of the Dobbs decision?

After the devastating Dobbs decision that opened the door for draconian abortion bans across the country, I introduced the bipartisan Reproductive Freedom for All Act, which would enact the core holdings of Supreme Court cases, including Roe v. Wade, which established and affirmed the rights to abortion and contraception. We must get this bill passed and signed into law.

Candidate for U.S. Senate – Republican

Hung Cao



What qualifications make you the best candidate for the office?

I am running for U.S. Senate to save the country that saved my life. I spent twenty-five years in Navy Special Operations with combat in Iraq, Afghanistan and Somalia, while Tim Kaine spent thirty years in elected office. The taxpayers signed the front of our paychecks for the same amount of time. The difference is this: Tim Kaine got rich while I got scars.

During my non-combat tours, I was part of the FBI's Joint Terrorism Task Force, working with federal, state and local law enforcement. I also spent time at the Pentagon balancing the Navy's \$140 Billion Budget. I have a Bachelor's in Engineering and a Masters in Applied Physics and I currently work as an executive in a Fortune 500 technology company developing signal intelligence and electronic warfare equipment, some of which were used to protect Israel in past 8 months against drones and medium range cruise missiles.

Antisemitism has reached an unprecedented level in the United States, what do you think Congress' role in fighting this age-old hatred is and how will you fulfill that role?

This is what has become of our country under Joe Biden and Kamala Harris. Never did I think I would see vicious anti-Semitic rioting in America like we have seen in recent months and years. Let me be clear: Jewish Americans have the right to live free from harassment, and Israel has the right to defend itself. Congress must stand by our ally and remind our Jewish friends and neighbors that we will not tolerate antisemitism in

any form, and when I'm elected to the U.S. Senate, I promise to support Israel in every way possible, as I did in uniform. In 2003, one of my team's missions was to respond to any possible SCUD attack from Iraq during our initial invasion. Sadly, my opponent Tim Kaine thinks pro-Hamas, pro-Hezbollah rioters have a point and a voice that needs to be heard. I completely disagree.

As we approach a year since the October 7th massacre, what role do you think Congress should play in the Israel-Hamas war and its resolution?

The United States has provided Israel with a lot of support for many years and it is more important than ever to continue to support Israel in every way that we can. We have always been friends of Israel through the Iron Dome and in return, they have provided us with critical intelligence from the region. Israel is the ONLY Jewish state in the world. Israel has never asked for a single American to come on their land to protect them. They only ask that we stand by them. Israel's equivalent of 9/11 came on their Sabbath and the 50th anniversary of the Yom Kippur War. The world watched in horror as Hamas launched its latest reign of terror, launching upwards of 5,000 rockets into Israel and killing thousands of men, women, and

children. It's Congress' responsibility to ensure we continue to partner with them, while also shoring up our military resources and securing our border.

What do you believe are the three top issues facing Virginians? How would you address them?

#1 The border. #2 The border. #3 The border. Everything that's going wrong in our country right now stems from our wide-open southern border. Housing costs are at an all-time high because we have tens of millions of people here that were not here just a few years ago for which we need to provide housing. To make matters worse, the Biden-Harris administration is spending a billion dollars a day which includes free cell phones with service and \$5000 gift cards upon arrival, driving up cost of living for everyone else. Our wide-open southern border is a huge national security threat with tens of thousands of military-aged males from countries like China, Yemen and Syria entering each day. When I am elected to the U.S Senate, my first priority will be to secure our border by supporting efforts to finish the wall system and root out the Islamic terrorists that we know have illegally entered this country. We also need to make American energy independent again to lower energy costs and gas prices, but equally important is ending our reliance on countries in the Middle East that hate us.

Rapid and free dissemination of information has come to define the digital age, making the spread of false or misleading information a growing concern in the formation of public opinion and policy. How can this issue be addressed and prioritized?

The problem is: misinformation is coming from the media, from the government, and from people who call themselves misinformation experts. We need free speech and critical thinking, not a top-down censorship by the elites. These are the same people who turn a rocket attack by Hezbollah on a bunch of children into an example of 'both sides did something.' We can't trust them to filter our information for us.

What, if any, role should Congress have in addressing reproductive healthcare in the wake of the Dobbs decision?

As a Christian, I believe that life begins at conception. The Dobbs decision was clear that abortion belongs to the states so I oppose a federal ban on abortion. I don't believe it is an issue that should be addressed by the United States Senate. I think the decision to have this issue be handled in each individual state was the correct one, and Virginia voters can decide for themselves what the laws should be in our Commonwealth by electing state legislators who reflect their priorities.

Candidate for Congressional District 7 – Democrat

Eugene Vindman



What qualifications make you the best candidate for the office?

I did not take the decision to run for Congress lightly, but was compelled to serve again as I saw continued attacks against the very foundations of our democracy. In my 25 years in the Army, I served across the country and around the globe, defending the rights and freedoms of the American people. I served alongside men and women of

all types of backgrounds from across the U.S. and we never let our differences - be it religious, geographic, racial, or political - stop us from accomplishing the mission. In Congress I will bring this same mission-first focus to delivering for the people of Virginia's 7th Congressional district. I will fight for our most central freedoms, chief among them the right for women to make their own healthcare decisions without interference from politicians. I will work across the aisle to pass common sense legislation to improve our schools, strengthen our infrastructure, and grow our economy. Finally I will always hold those in power accountable just as I did as a Army JAG Prosecutor or at the White House Security Council.

Antisemitism has reached an unprecedented level in the United States, what do you think Congress

role in fighting this age-old hatred is and how will you fulfill that role?

As a proud Jewish-American whose family came to America fleeing the Antisemitism of the Soviet Union, I know firsthand the dangers of this rising hatred. Combating antisemitism, and all forms of bigotry, requires resources to us to identify these hate-based acts, track their spread, and go after the sources instigating this hate. In Congress I will work to join the House and Senate Bipartisan

Task Force to Combat Anti Semitism, and ensure every community has both the tools and resources to combat these acts of hate.

As we approach a year since the October 7th massacre, what role do you think Congress should play in the Israel-Hamas war and its resolution?

We must have an end to the Israel-Hamas war that sees the return of every hostage held by Hamas, the end of large-scale military operations in Gaza, and a plan to rebuild the region and create a lasting peace. I have long supported a two-state solution, and while I believe that any lasting peace plan must be driven by stakeholders in the region - the U.S. and Congress have a critical role to play in supporting this process. I am committed to doing whatever it takes to end the suffering experienced by civilians in Israel and Palestine, including but not limited to, dramatically increasing the humanitarian aid we are bringing to the region.

What do you believe are the three top issues facing Virginians? How would you address them?

I have spent the better part of the past year traveling across the 7th District, and in almost every room I'm in, the top concerns I hear from Virginians are: Defending access to abortion care and restoring reproductive freedoms, improving our schools, and being able to keep up with the cost of living.

To defend access to abortion care, and restore reproductive freedoms like access to IVF and contraceptives, I will first vote to pass the Women's Health Protection Act, which will restore the protections of Roe nationwide. I will also work to codify the right to access IVF and contraceptives so that no government official is able to control reproductive decisions.

In Congress I will work with local community leaders, school boards, and families to identify how best the federal government can support our students by ensuring they have the tools and resources to succeed. Education can and will be a mostly local issue, but I believe that there is an important place for directing federal resources, establishing baselines for pay and facility standards, and opportunities to encourage unique problem solving for niche local issues supported by the weight of the federal government.

Lastly we must work to both combat the cost of living, and ensure that we are growing our economy and wages so that working families are able to not only survive but thrive. I will work to pass legislation going after price gouging, promote competition, prevent monopolies and prevent other inflationary practices. To grow the economy of our entire region I will work to secure funding for critical infrastructure like increasing rail access so that more business will move into the region, and it is easier for workers to get to work.

Rapid and free dissemination of information has come to define the digital age, making the spread of false or misleading information a growing concern in the formation of public opinion and policy. How can this issue be addressed and prioritized?

We have seen an exponential growth in false and misleading information over the past few years, a problem that the AI revolution has escalated even further. To combat this I believe we need to take a three step approach: first we need to increase media literacy so false information is less likely to be believed. Second we need to provide funding for local news so that less information vacuums are created that misinformation has the opportunity to takehold. Third, we need to pass legislation that will directly combat the creation of knowing defamatory materials, or the use of deep-fake technology to steal an individual's voice or likeness. As a national security matter we should also be prepared to counter disinformation from foreign sources.

A tangential problem related to this rise in misinformation is the deeply concerning increase of digital sexual exploitation, including the use of deep-fake technology to create sexually explicit materials of individuals without their consent. In these cases I strongly support passing legislation to make these actions punishable as a criminal act, and hold those who use technology to exploit others accountable.

What, if any, role should Congress have in

addressing reproductive healthcare in the wake of the Dobbs decision?

The Dobbs decision was an attack on every woman and girl's freedom, and in Congress I will work to restore the protections of Roe nationwide. Simply put: politicians should not have the power to control women's healthcare decisions no matter what state they live in. In Congress I will work to pass the Women's Health Protection Act to make sure that women and girls are able to make their own healthcare decisions across the county. I will also work to protect IVF and contraceptives from attacks by extreme right-wing politicians. My opponent unfortunately supports allowing politicians to control women's healthcare decisions, banning abortions with no exceptions in lockstep with his MAGA extremist caucus.

Candidate for Congressional District 7 – Republican

Derrick Anderson



What qualifications make you the best candidate for the office?

As a native of the 7th district, I owe this area everything. Holding this seat is personal because I am representing my home, the people that raised me and the place that shaped me into the person I am today. My wide range of leadership experience stemming from my time as a Special Forces Green Beret, leading teams in some of the most dangerous and violent places in the world, to law school at Georgetown, to clerking for two federal judges, makes me uniquely qualified to fight for every single person in this district daily. I believe that the American dream is still very real, and while my opponent in this race is focused on the past, I am focused on bettering the future of my home district.

Antisemitism has reached an unprecedented level in the United States, what do you think Congress' role in fighting this age-old hatred is and how will you fulfill that role?

Congress should fight Anti-Semitism like it would any other form of racism or hate. More recently, it seems that hatred towards Israel, and in turn the Jewish people, has been given a pass. Congress can do its part in publicly condemning these acts, such as those seen across our college campuses. Additionally, Congress can show leadership and support for the Jewish people as it supports Israel, one of the United States' strongest allies. Unfortunately, many candidates and elected officials are staying silent in the face of growing anti-Semitism and that's unacceptable to me.

As we approach a year since the October 7th massacre, what role do you think Congress should play in the Israel-Hamas war and its resolution?

Israel deserves our full and unimpeded support as it works to defend against the Iranian-backed terrorist groups laser-focused on eliminating Israel. There can be no daylight between the US and one of our most important allies. Congress must be efficient and focused on approving legislation that supports Israel by whatever means necessary, but doing so with spending accountability in place. Destroying Hamas protects Israel and keeps Americans safe.

What do you believe are the three top issues facing Virginians? How would you address them?

- Securing the border - Congress must immediately act to empower DHS to secure the border, build a wall where necessary, and then, and only then, can we reform our immigration system. We owe to those who came here legally, to guarantee those here illegally take the proper protocols to leave and then apply for entry like everyone else. At the end of the day, the border should have high walls, but wide gates. The American dream is still alive and well, however weak policies of the current administration have led to record illegal immigration, crime rising, national security threats increasing, and communities being ripped apart by fentanyl. Recently, two Jordanians who came here illegally tried to breach the gates of Marine Corps Base Quantico. - Reducing the cost of living - Life is too expensive for every American, including those in VA-07. We must curb inflation and reduce government spending, in order to get this under control. I pledge to do just that. - Stand up for our veterans - Our veterans, both old and young, deserve the best possible care. I will make sure

the inefficiencies at the VA are addressed immediately, especially with a new clinic being built in the 7th District.

Rapid and free dissemination of information has come to define the digital age, making the spread of false or misleading information a growing concern in the formation of public opinion and policy. How can this issue be addressed and prioritized?

We must educate Americans to take the necessary steps to always trust but verify what they see online. The internet provides access to just about everything, so it is on each of us to do our own research, not for what we want to believe, but for the truth. Additionally, our elected officials must set

a strong standard and be honest, truthful, and open, with their constituents, in an effort to restore trust in our institutions. Lastly, it is no secret that China, Russia, and Iran are actively trying to sow dissent amongst Americans. We must combat this cyber-aggression relentlessly.

What, if any, role should Congress have in addressing reproductive healthcare in the wake of the Dobbs decision?

The Dobbs decision returned the issue of abortion back to the states to decide. Congress has no say in the issue. I will respect the Dobbs decision and that of the respective states.

Candidate for Congressional District 8 – Democrat

Don Beyer



What qualifications make you the best candidate for the office?

I have five decades of public service & business experience. I have 10 years in the US House, chairing Joint Economic Committee, and serving on Ways & Means and Science. 8 years VA Lt Governor, 4 years US Ambassador to Switzerland & Liechtenstein. I have the trusted relationships (across the aisle), knowledge, and passion to continue working for a more

just and prosperous America. I lead the fights for fusion energy, for suicide prevention, and for robust, equitable economic growth. I have made the fight for climate change solutions the centerpiece of my leadership and my team.

Antisemitism has reached an unprecedented level in the United States, what do you think Congress' role in fighting this age-old hatred is and how will you fulfill that role?

Congress, and every US citizen, must fight antisemitism every day. I have led passage of the No Hate Act, and work to fulfill its promise. We have the power of the purse, and must use it to call out and discourage any and all instances of anti-semitism. We must also lead by example, in the people we hire, the friends we cherish, and the communities we lift up.

As we approach a year since the October 7th massacre, what role do you think Congress should play in the Israel-Hamas war and its resolution?

October 7 was one of the saddest days in recent history. Congress must work closely with our national leaders to craft a meaningful, practical end to the war and avoid the escalation of the conflict into a regional war that could ultimately be more costly for Israel and the United States than these past terrible 300 days. The United States should continue to support Israel defensively against Iran and its proxies, but at the same time not extend a blank check to the current Israeli government. We must swiftly secure an end to the war that returns the hostages to their families and secures Israel's long term safety. We must craft a post-war peace that allows for a reconstructed, demilitarized Gaza, where its people can live in peace with Israel and have hope for their futures. As bleak as that prospect now seems, a path to a two state solution remains the only means of averting a state of perpetual conflict between Israel and its neighbors.

What do you believe are the three top issues facing Virginians? How would you address them?

#1 is climate change -- Virginia's location means the extraordinary heat does not affect us as seriously as many places, but the costs are still very real; and we are affected by what happens everywhere #2 is the cost of housing -- rents and home purchase prices have made economic progress very difficult for the next two generations; interest rates must fall, permitting must be streamlined, and communities must come together on zoning decisions. #3, for me, is the painful political and cultural divides in our Commonwealth and country. We need leaders who will heal us, bring us together, remind us daily of our common values and heritage -- and always look for solutions that unite us.

Rapid and free dissemination of information has come to define the digital age, making the spread of false or misleading information a growing concern in the formation of public opinion and policy. How can this issue be addressed and prioritized?

I am the lead sponsor of legislation on digital literacy, creating K - 12 curricula to educate our children to be skeptical of what they read and hear, to seek secondary and tertiary sources, to always look for other opinions and perspectives. I serve on the House AI Taskforce, and am pushing legislation to prohibit and punish malicious deep fakes. I value Freedom of Speech, but recognize some speech is evil and cannot be tolerated. I support removing legal immunity from social media sites (and others) so that the purveyors of clearly damaging and destructive information can be held accountable.

What, if any, role should Congress have in addressing reproductive healthcare in the wake of the Dobbs decision?

I very much support legislation that makes the Roe v Wade decision permanent, and will work to make this happen. I support a similar amendment to the Virginia Constitution, which may happen more quickly. Congress, wherever we can, must work to make reproductive healthcare available -- in our defense budget, for federal employee families, and anywhere else we have leverage.

Candidate for Congressional District 8 – Republican

Jerry Torres



What qualifications make you the best candidate for the office?

One word: service. I understand what it means to serve and, most importantly, who I serve. That's you, the American people. I served this nation for 30 years as a Green Beret; I served my hometown of Arlington as an entrepreneur; and I've tried to serve the most vulnerable people in the world as a donor to worthy causes, very much including

Jewish causes. I believe that the American government has become increasingly out-of-touch and unaccountable to the voters. I'm running because I'm worried for the future of our country and want to set an example for how an elected official is supposed to behave - someone who puts YOU first, instead of lobbyists or big donors. Service should be a sacrifice, not a path to personal enrichment or glory. In supporting the Jewish community, I'm carrying on the legacy of my late father Juan Manuel Torres - a Korean and Vietnam War veteran as well as a U.S. Marshal, originally from Puerto Rico. When he passed away during COVID and buried at Arlington National Cemetery, my good friend Rabbi Jeff Ifrah gave the eulogy as a testament to his enduring friendship with the Jewish people. My foreign policy experience would also be an asset to Virginia voters. For instance, in 2023 I sponsored a congressional fact-finding mission to Israel to study Israeli border security solutions and their applicability to America's border crisis.

Antisemitism has reached an unprecedented level in the United States, what do you think Congress' role in fighting this age-old hatred is and how will you fulfill that role?

As a first step, our government must stop funding and promoting antisemitic "White Fragility" propaganda that says Ashkenazi children should feel guilty for being "white". Far-Left academics recently fought all the way to the Supreme Court to preserve their

ability to discriminate against Jews, Asians and white gentiles in college admissions. Even if pro-Latino discrimination would help my family, I wouldn't want your family to pay the price for it. We also need to hold elected officials accountable and make politicians pay a price for associating with vile antisemites like Louis Farrakhan. For instance, my opponent shamefully voted against accountability for Ilhan Omar after her disgusting smears against American Jews. This is part of a disturbing pattern where powerful liberals in minority communities are increasingly getting away with rhetorical murder, so long as they cloak their antisemitic slime in the guise of "social justice".

As we approach a year since the October 7th massacre, what role do you think Congress should play in the Israel-Hamas war and its resolution?

Unlike my opponent, who bragged about voting against military aid for Israel after 10/7 and insulted Israeli leaders, I have the guts to say: I unreservedly support Israel's right to exist, I salute the brave sacrifice of IDF soldiers fighting to defend Jewish lives and I am calling explicitly for a one-state solution to ensure lasting security for Israel, as well as the wider region. Among the many victims of the 10/7 massacre was the hope of a two-state solution and, hopefully, the pathetic excuse of "But Bibi!" from fair-weather friends of Israel. Whether or not you personally like Prime Minister Netanyahu or agree with his policies... this is no longer about the support for one man, but the survival of the Jewish people. I wish to see nothing less than complete victory for the mothers, fathers and children of Israel. This means: strengthening border protection and management technologies; intelligence collection; analysis and dissemination. It also means the ability to respond to threats militarily without concern for whether fair-weather friends in the US will provide immediate and direct support.

What do you believe are the three top issues facing Virginians? How would you address them?

1) Crime: The double-digit increase in violent crime in the 8th District is completely unacceptable. If elected with your support, I will support more funding and training for police departments - something I'm very familiar with from my law enforcement work. I will also work to hold rogue prosecutors accountable for their abuses of discretion in ignoring entire categories of crime, intentionally setting free deportable illegal alien criminals and abusing the plea bargain system to extort innocent people. 2) Affordability: We are in a deep affordability crisis for everything from housing, to healthcare, to education and even groceries. The average cost of a home in the 8th District is nearly a million dollars, while wages stagnant and interest rates are so high that financing is out of reach for most working families. To combat this, I will support increased energy production and oppose inflationary government spending. 3) Education: While educational achievement is in freefall, out-of-touch activists are increasingly obsessed with indoctrinating children into their political ideologies. I will oppose systemic racial discrimination against your children and support targeted funding to make sure all our children have a shot at the American Dream.

Rapid and free dissemination of information has come to define the digital age, making the spread of false or misleading information a growing concern in the formation of public opinion and policy. How can this issue be addressed and prioritized?

There is one tactic that has always failed to protect Jewish lives: censorship. As the scholarship of former ACLU chair Nadine Strauss shows, the surprisingly robust hate speech laws in Weimar Germany did nothing to prevent the Shoah and may have even contributed to it. The research is clear that conspiracy thinking is caused by feelings of powerlessness, so attempts to silence the speech of uneducated and morally weak people will only make the problem worse. The sad truth is there is no easy answer to the problem of antisemitism, only the very hard work of building bridges with people who are very different from us. More dialogue, not less, is the answer. I pledge to walk that road with you and dedicate my voice unbreakably to the defense of the Jewish people. With that said, the opposite is sometimes true: that there are clear violations of the law that go unpunished, such as the many clear cases of criminal intimidation against Jewish students on college campuses and the recent disgusting Pro-Hamas display at Union Station. Outside of First-Amendment-protected activity, federal prosecutors should come down on them with the full force of the law to protect vulnerable Jews.

What, if any, role should Congress have in

addressing reproductive healthcare in the wake of the Dobbs decision?

I believe that local communities should democratically decide their own abortion policy according to their own cultures and consciences. I agree with the Supreme Court that we should let the individual states decide and, therefore, I will vote against any federal abortion legislation - from *either* side of the issue. If the federal government should be involved at all, it should be in providing better education and resources which are proven to prevent unplanned pregnancies. Personally, I believe that an abortion a last resort and we should always support alternatives, though sometimes abortion is a tragic necessity.

Candidate for Congressional District 10 – Democrat

Suhas Subramanyam



What qualifications make you the best candidate for the office?

I am a State Senator who currently represents a third of VA-10 and has represented this area since 2020. In that time, I have fought hard battles on issues important to my district and won, passing legislation to lower the cost of prescription drugs, return over \$300 million to VA utility ratepayers, and curb tolls on the Dulles Greenway.

Antisemitism has reached an unprecedented level in the United States, what do you think Congress' role in fighting this age-old hatred is and how will you fulfill that role?

In the General Assembly, I introduced a bill requiring localities to take down hate speech graffiti after an incident involving antisemitic graffiti in my district. Congress's role should be to publicly denounce antisemitism when it happens, promote initiatives and education on combating antisemitism, support legislation to counter antisemitism, and engage with other leaders and the community. I would support and take part in those efforts.

As we approach a year since the October 7th massacre, what role do you think Congress should play in the Israel-Hamas war and its resolution?

Congress should continue to recognize that Israel is our ally and has the right to defend itself, and we should support a long-term solution in the region that includes returning the hostages and the defeat of Hamas.

What do you believe are the three top issues facing Virginians? How would you address them?

The first issue facing Virginians is rising costs and the economy. I want to make sure we do everything to address high housing costs, grocery and gas prices, and utility costs, just like I did in the General Assembly. I also want to bring jobs and opportunities to our community and protect federal workers. The second issue is the ongoing attack on women's health and reproductive rights, as well as health care generally. I support federal legislation to protect reproductive rights, IVF, access to contraceptives, and women's

health choices. I would also work to protect and expand care for people with preexisting conditions and support making Medicare a health care option for everyone so we can reduce costs for working families. The third issue is the threat to our democracy, as well as the rise in hate speech and political violence. Whether it's January 6th, election deniers, violent protests, the rise in antisemitism, or the recent assassination attempt, there have been many concerning developments in recent years. We must protect our democracy, promote unity, and lower the temperature.

Rapid and free dissemination of information has come to define the digital age, making the spread of false or misleading information a growing concern in the formation of public opinion and policy. How can this issue be addressed and prioritized?

Misinformation is dangerous to our democracy and should absolutely be prioritized. Especially with the growth of AI, the financial issues facing credible news outlets and local media, and rise in social media propaganda, misinformation is easier than ever to create. We should take steps at the federal level to promote good media literacy habits and punish bad actors, and we must ensure that people are held accountable and flagged for spreading false information.

What, if any, role should Congress have in addressing reproductive healthcare in the wake of the Dobbs decision?

Congress needs to ensure that everyone has access to reproductive healthcare, no matter their state, by passing legislation to protect reproductive rights, IVF, and contraceptives. I proudly sponsored a constitutional amendment that would protect reproductive freedom in Virginia and fought to protect access to abortion and reproductive healthcare with several different bills, and I would do the same in Congress.

Candidate for Congressional District 10 – Republican

Mike Clancy



What qualifications make you the best candidate for the office?

Mike Clancy is: — the principled leader and man of faith, family and integrity, who truly cares about you and your family; — the servant leader on a mission to restore America (including, securing the border, revitalizing the economy, ensuring excellence in education, parents' rights, school choice and protecting girls' sports; and fighting antisemitism); —

who, as your congressman, will serve and be a powerful voice for all constituents in Congress; — the candidate with deep experience and expertise in national security, cybersecurity (served on Governor Youngkin's Cybersecurity Transition Team), constitutional law and business; and — the candidate who is committed to reign in reckless government spending. For more information, see <https://www.mikeclancyforcongress.com>.

Antisemitism has reached an unprecedented level

in the United States, what do you think Congress' role in fighting this age-old hatred is and how will you fulfill that role?

We cannot let the seeds of antisemitism take root in the U.S. I have been a steadfast, vocal opponent of antisemitism during my campaign for Congress and, as your Congressman, will continue to be a staunch opponent in Congress. Among other things, Congress should: -- Enact legislation making it clear that antisemitism violates the Civil Rights Act, and incorporating the IHRA working definition of antisemitism; --Fund and empower a Department of Justice and FBI task force to investigate and prosecute antisemitism as a hate crime; --Conduct oversight hearings to expose antisemitism, as Congress did with universities.

As we approach a year since the October 7th massacre, what role do you think Congress should play in the Israel-Hamas war and its resolution?

As your Congressman, I will support a strong U.S.-Israel relationship that includes military cooperation and support for Israel in the Israel-Hamas war.

What do you believe are the three top issues facing Virginians? How would you address them?

Three top issues: 1. Border security and the fentanyl crisis. Too many lives have been lost. We must protect our community and children. In Congress, I will work with my fellow members to enact legislation that will secure the border and ensure collaboration between federal and local law enforcement to shut down the fentanyl pipeline into our community and schools as well as fund school education programs at the state level. 2. The economy: People are struggling in this economy, including with the rapid rise in food and gas prices, and being shut out from being able to buy a home. Congress must restore order and common sense to the federal budget and spending programs. Prolific government spending fuels inflation that leaves families and businesses struggling. 3, Education: We must strive for excellence in education; address COVID learning loss; ensure parents' rights, including school choice options. Congress, through federal grants, should link federal funding for the states to addressing these issues.

Rapid and free dissemination of information has come to define the digital age, making the spread of false or misleading information a growing concern in the formation of public opinion and policy. How can this issue be addressed and prioritized?

Since colonial days, political opponents and activists have been spreading false and misleading information. Of course, the Internet and social media have made that speech more prolific. That said, free speech is a bedrock principle of our Constitutional government and is protected by the First Amendment. Speech, however, can be curtailed where it constitutes a threat or targeted harassment or hostile environment, threatens serious bodily harm, or involves the intentional incitement of imminent violence or unlawful activity.

What, if any, role should Congress have in addressing reproductive healthcare in the wake of the Dobbs decision?

In light of the Dobbs decision, abortion legislation reverts to the individual states.





Candidate for Congressional District 11 – Democrat

Gerald Connolly



What qualifications make you the best candidate for the office?

I have been involved in our community at every level – from a community activist, to local government, to serving in Congress. From my first day in public office, I’ve made being responsive to my constituents my top concern. I am an advocate for the issues our district cares about: restoring women’s rights, fighting for democracy, and ensuring our country offers an equal opportunity for everyone.

Antisemitism has reached an unprecedented level in the United States, what do you think Congress’ role in fighting this age-old hatred is and how will you fulfill that role?

I’ve joined the JCRC at vigils when the JCC was defaced with swastikas, and firmly believe antisemitism in any form must be condemned. I’ve voted to condemn the slogan “from the river to the Sea” as anti-semitic. Equality for all religious groups is an American value and opposing discrimination of all kinds is a vital part of Congress’s role. I serve as a member of the Bipartisan Task Force for Combating Antisemitism, and have called on Congress to implement the U.S National Strategy to Counter Antisemitism. The safety of the American Jewish community is critical, and I strive to ensure it through my work in Congress. I’ve partnered with the JCRC to advocate for the Non-profit Security Grant Program, which provides organizations like the JCRC federal funding for security upgrades.

As we approach a year since the October 7th massacre, what role do you think Congress should play in the Israel-Hamas war and its resolution?

I’m one of the few members of Congress with a professional background on the Middle East. Before serving in Congress, I was a Senate Foreign Relations Committee Staffer for Joe Biden specializing on the Middle East. I’ve spent my professional career working on these issues and trying to bring a lasting peace to the region. The October 7th massacre was the worst attack on the Jewish people since the Holocaust and I’ve always supported the right of Israel to defend itself. I’ve consistently condemned Hamas as a terrorist organization that is an impediment to peace in the Middle East. We all can see that the daily carnage must end. I’ve done everything in my power as a member of Congress to make sure the victims of this war get the humanitarian aid they need and we get the hostages held by Hamas returned safely.

What do you believe are the three top issues facing Virginians? How would you address them?

The three issues most important to constituents in my district are reproductive rights, lowering healthcare costs, and safeguarding our democracy. Virginia is one of only a few southern states that has not banned abortion, and I am committed to making sure a woman’s right to choose is maintained here in Virginia and that Roe v. Wade is restored. Because of the historic legislation Democrats have passed in Congress, seniors now pay less for prescription drugs and Medicare can finally negotiate the price of prescription drugs. But that’s only the first step: every American should be able to get insulin for \$35. Finally, in this critical time for our democracy, we must prioritize

securing the right to vote for all Americans. Free and fair elections are a cornerstone of American democracy, but around the country we are seeing attacks on voting rights.

Rapid and free dissemination of information has come to define the digital age, making the spread of false or misleading information a growing concern in the formation of public opinion and policy. How can this issue be addressed and prioritized?

The threat of misinformation is real and pressing, and it’s an especially pernicious threat to religious minorities. The federal government must take steps to manage the risks of this new technology and combat the spread of misinformation and disinformation. Congress and the private sector should work together to lay out comprehensive policies on how to identify and flag misinformation, and educate the public on signs of untrustworthy media. Immense harm can be done by the spread of deepfakes and other forms of misinformation, and ensuring Americans have access to authentic information is crucial.

What, if any, role should Congress have in addressing reproductive healthcare in the wake of the Dobbs decision?

I have always been a strong supporter of reproductive rights and recognize Congress’s responsibility to restore Roe v. Wade and guarantee a federal right to abortion as soon as possible. The right to make decisions about your own body is a vital Constitutional right that should never have been taken away. The government has no place restricting these decisions and interfering in matters that should remain between a woman and her doctor. Congress must work to ensure that all reproductive care, including abortion, birth control, and IVE, is available to anyone who needs it. I am firmly committed to fighting hard for this issue and making sure that we protect women’s rights in this country.

Candidate for Congressional District 11 – Republican

Michael Van Meter



What qualifications make you the best candidate for the office?

I believe my love for the Commonwealth of Virginia and desire to make it a better place for all Virginians qualifies me as the right candidate for Virginia’s 11th congressional district. I served my country for years in the navy and wish to continue doing so in the halls of Congress. My background extends into law enforcement, the FBI, and National

Joint Terrorism Task Force’s Civil Aviation Security Program; I currently work as a behavioral therapist in a hospital, helping those that struggle with addiction to drugs and alcohol. As someone who has served the country I love and has dedicated years to helping others, I believe I am the perfect candidate to represent the people of Virginia’s 11th congressional district.

Antisemitism has reached an unprecedented level in the United States, what do you think Congress’ role in fighting this age-old hatred is and how will you fulfill that role?

Congress should pass and enforce laws that add protections for those who experience antisemitism, such as Jewish students who feel unsafe

on college campuses due to the anti-Israel rhetoric that continue to plague our public institutions. As a member of Congress, I will continue to spread awareness of the dangers that both Jewish college students and Jews of everyday life face from pro-Hamas radicals that have turned against them. I will also draft bills that add protections for American Jews and punish those who violate their safety, I will then push for these bills to pass and become law.

As we approach a year since the October 7th massacre, what role do you think Congress should play in the Israel-Hamas war and its resolution?

Congress should continue to support Israel in any way possible, she is our historic ally in the Middle East and has been a defender of our interests in the region for decades. A well-armed Israel is essential for fighting global terrorism and ensuring the world’s civilian population remains safe from terrorist attacks both at home and abroad. Congress must continue passing aid and support to our ally to ensure a safer and brighter future for all peoples around the world.

What do you believe are the three top issues facing Virginians? How would you address them?

One of the biggest issues is the economy, which has been in a dire state the past few years, as the price of food, clothing, gasoline, housing and other essentials have drastically increased under high levels of inflation; to solve this issue I believe we need to cut taxes and reduce government spending, practice fiscal restraint until we can improve economic conditions. Another issue I believe we face is the fentanyl crisis, killing thousands of Americans, I work in addiction services and see the issue firsthand; we must close and secure our border, while figuring out the background information of all individuals who have already crossed, we must deport those who are trying to harm us. One final major issue is the rising levels of crime, I have worked in law enforcement and I know that a well-funded police department and well-trained officers are what we need to bring crime levels down and promote a safer community for everyone.

Rapid and free dissemination of information has come to define the digital age, making the spread of false or misleading information a growing concern in the formation of public opinion and policy. How can this issue be addressed and prioritized?

We must encourage the American people, especially younger generations to learn from each other rather than from words on screen. You can learn a lot more by talking to everyday people and engaging in a variety of different perspectives on different issues, this is something we must encourage. One of my favorite things to do while campaigning is talking to everyday people and hearing about the issues that matter the most to them. We as human beings can learn a lot more from each other than from any news article or social media post, we must promote habits that encourage community building and social settings to break the addiction many have with the digital age.

What, if any, role should Congress have in addressing reproductive healthcare in the wake of the Dobbs decision?

The Dobbs decision was made for the purpose of bringing back the issue of abortion to the states and allowing the states and the people to decide for themselves. While I value life and believe we must do what we can to protect it, as a member of Congress I believe in leaving that issue to be decided by the people as intended in the framework of the Constitution, Congress should not be the decider of what is done with the issue, there is a reason the supreme court ruled for the issue to be brought back to the states.

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