

About Every Voice

Every Voice is a national, nonpartisan organization working to reduce the power of big money in our politics and to raise the voices of everyday people. Our 100,000 active supporters strongly believe in creating a democracy that works for all of us, not just big campaign donors and they are committed to electing champions to all levels of government to achieve that goal.

Every Voice will use this questionnaire and your stated commitment to fixing our broken campaign finance system to guide our endorsement process.

Candidate Information

Candidate Name: Jennifer Carroll Foy

Chamber: House of Delegates District: 2

Candidate Signature:  Date: 6/31/2017

Questionnaire

1. Do you support or oppose the Supreme Court's Citizens United decision that allowed wealthy special interests to spend unlimited amounts of money on elections?

Support

Oppose

2. Do you support meaningful contribution limits to reduce the power of wealthy corporations and special interests in our elections and will you prioritize working with your colleagues in the legislature to implement them?

Yes

No

3. To reduce the influence of big donors in our politics, will you commit to working to pass legislation such as small donor public financing that incentivizes more participation by everyday Virginians?

Yes

No

4. Our politics has become more divisive with attacks on specific groups, like immigrants, women, and religious minorities, and on some of the pillars of our democratic society, like the ability to protest and the free press. Will you pledge to stand up against these attacks and work to expand democracy and inclusion whenever possible?

Yes

No

5. In the space provided below, please share what steps you will take to engage the public on money in politics and to advance policies to reform Virginia's campaign finance system so that elected officials are more accountable to their constituents and less dependent on wealthy donors.

I will fight for campaign finance reform. Corporations and the wealthy have too much influence in our political system. We must reform our campaign financing system so that all people who run for office have an equal chance of running, regardless of their personal wealth or connections to the wealthy or corporations. Virginia's lack of campaign contribution limits means that corporations, PACs, and wealthy individuals can have outsized influence on politicians. Alongside dozens of delegates running this year, I have pledged not to take money from Dominion Power. My Republican opponent in the 2nd District, Laquan Auston, literally worked for the Koch brothers, who pioneered using dark money to influence politics. He will likely be bankrolled by the Koch brothers and their corporate allies, but we will run a people-powered grassroots campaign to defeat their influence. We won the Democratic Primary by garnering some of the most small-dollar contributions of any candidate in the state and knocking a ton of our neighbors' doors. We will win the General Election with people power, not big money.

6. We understand that reforming the way that money influences politics is an essential but not the only way to improve elections. Please feel free to share any other policy proposals to improve how Virginia's democracy functions.

I care deeply about this issue. I wrote an Op-Ed about defending voters rights in the Potomac Local in March. (You can read it here: <http://potomaclocal.com/2017/03/12/why-is-the-woodbridge-voter-registration-office-on-the-chopping-block>). A few precincts in Woodbridge actually garnered national attention when there were four to five hour long lines for people to cast a vote in the 2012 election. Unsurprisingly, these were also the precincts with the largest percentage of minority voters and the precincts where President Obama was expected to be the strongest.

Expanding voter participation starts with not only offering early voting but making it as accessible as possible. A few months ago, for example, Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) gave notice to terminate its arrangement with the Prince William County Registrar at the Caton Hill DMV Office. As Delegate, I plan to introduce legislation that would force all state agencies to accommodate early voting when requested by the locality.

Virginia should also change its policies around no-excuses absentee voting. Currently, a voter must give a reason for requesting an absentee ballot. Policies like these only dissuade people from voting and must be reversed.

Finally, it would also be beneficial to increase voter education in schools and have voter registration drives at all public high schools. Getting young voters involved in the political process at an early age helps form good voting habits for life.