

## **ArlDems Steering Committee Activity & Appointments (January 2019)**

- ArlDems Steering Committee has approved the creation of a new special committee for Voter Support, which will provide a new home for certain activities previously included in Precinct Ops:
  - Absentee In Person Promotion & Poll Greeting
  - Voter Registration
  - Absentee Ballot Chase
  - Senior Calls
  - Rides to the Polls
  - Lit Translation
  - Voter Ed
  
- Motion to appoint new ArlDems Steering Committee Members:
  - Voter Support Chair: Marsha Johnston
  - Voter Support Vice Chair for Voter Registration: Cristina Diaz-Torres
  - New Press & PR Chair: Rebecca Theim
  - 2019 Joint Campaign Co-Chairs: Tannia Talento, Cat Alston, Kassi Yukevich, Kei Helm, and Alex Zins
  - Beyond Arlington Vice Chairs: Andrew Reighart and Paul Ashin
  
- ArlDems Chair has appointed the following members to the ArlDems Nominations & Election Committee, for the purpose of representing Arlington on multi-jurisdictional committees that will determine the method of nominating Democratic candidates (i.e., primary, caucus, convention) in 2019 races:
  - State Senate 30 (Ebbin): Tania Bougebrayel
  - State Senate 31 (Favola): Maggie Davis
  - State Senate 32 (Howell): Heather Keppler
  - House of Delegates 45 (Levine): Fran Jackson
  - House of Delegates 48 (Sullivan): Cristina Diaz-Torres
  - House of Delegates 49 (Lopez): Corey Barton
  - Commonwealth's Attorney for Arlington & Falls Church: Jill Caiazzo

**RESOLUTION BY THE ARLINGTON COUNTY DEMOCRATIC COMMITTEE**

***Supporting Non-Partisan Redistricting***

**WHEREAS** gerrymandering, the deliberate manipulation of legislative districts to advantage a particular party or group, distorts the electoral process and undermines democracy;

**WHEREAS** Virginia's Congressional and state districts are redrawn every ten years to account for population changes reflected in the national census;

**WHEREAS** the Virginia Legislature historically has redrawn district lines, resulting in the party in power gerrymandering districts to retain power;

**WHEREAS** the Supreme Court of the United States held that racial gerrymandering is unconstitutional, but recently declined to rule on the constitutionality of political gerrymandering;

**WHEREAS** one independent assessment found that Virginia was the fifth most gerrymandered state in the country, both on the congressional and state levels, based on lack of compactness and contiguity of its district, before a federal panel of judges struck down several of Virginia's House of Delegate districts in 2018 and several congressional district maps in 2016 due to racial gerrymandering;

**WHEREAS** judicial intervention for racial gerrymandering is an ineffective solution due to its time-intensive nature and fact that districts are redrawn every ten years;

**WHEREAS** an independent redistricting commission, such as the one supported by OneVirginia2021, would promote district maps where voters could elect their politicians rather than politicians selecting their voters;

**WHEREAS** the Arlington Democrats support redistricting reform in Virginia for state legislative and federal congressional districts;

**WHEREAS** the Arlington Democrats maintain that transparent and non-partisan redistricting reform is essential to build a more trustworthy, accountable, and healthy democracy for our state and nation; and

**WHEREAS** amending the Virginia Constitution to institute redistricting reform is a multi-year process that must begin in the 2019 legislative session so a commission can begin by the next redistricting period in 2021.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, be it resolved that the Arlington Democrats fully support an independent redistricting commission to protect and promote democracy in Virginia and call for all members of the 2019 Virginia Legislature to pass a Constitutional Amendment establishing a non-partisan redistricting commission.

Passed and Approved this Resolution on the [ ] day of [ ], 2019.