



## ELECTION GUIDE – NOVEMBER 3, 2009

### GOVERNOR

**Bob McDonnell (R):** Bob McDonnell most recently served as Attorney General of Virginia; he also spent 14 years in the Virginia House of Delegates representing the Virginia Beach area. After graduating from Notre Dame, McDonnell spent five years on active duty with the United States Army and an additional 16 years as a reservist, retiring as a Lieutenant Colonel. After his active duty, he went to work for American Hospital Supply Corporation, a Fortune 500 company. He then returned to school and received his law degree from Regent University before entering into politics.

McDonnell has centered his campaign on creating jobs in Virginia. He has proposed a \$1,000 per job tax credit to companies that create at least 50 jobs, and wants to make it easier for small businesses to get permits. McDonnell has proposed drilling for oil and natural gas off the shores of Virginia and has promoted charter schools as a way to improve education in the state. He supports an amendment to Virginia's constitution that would prevent money allocated for transportation from being used for other purposes.

McDonnell has argued for stricter penalties for sex offenders who fail to register. McDonnell supports a ban on political contributions during the procurement process, bipartisan redistricting, and a two-term governorship. He also supports a constitutional amendment to give disabled veterans an exemption from real estate taxes.

**Creigh Deeds (D):** Creigh Deeds has spent the past 18 years in the state legislature, serving ten years in the House of Delegates and the last eight years as a State Senator. He is a graduate of Concord College and Wake Forest University School of Law. As a legislator, he wrote "Megan's Law," which allows public access to the state sex offender registry, and worked with law enforcement to fight against methamphetamine drug labs. Earlier in his career, Deeds served as a prosecutor in Bath County.

Deeds supports a small business tax credit for every job created, providing an additional \$10 million dollars for job training and making it easier for small businesses to get permits. In addition, he supports a ban on predatory mortgage lending practices and proposed a plan to make health care more affordable for small businesses.

Deeds has emphasized plans to improve education in Virginia by raising teachers' salaries to meet the national average, conducting school efficiency audits, and establishing a college scholarship program for students who commit to two years of public service after graduation. Deeds has put forward plans for increasing the number of police in communities and for providing tax relief to disabled veterans. He supports a bipartisan redistricting policy. Deeds has also proposed cutting the state energy cost by 20 percent, and implementing state agency efficiency audits.

### LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

**Jody M. Wagner (D):** Jody M. Wagner, a small business owner and attorney residing in Virginia Beach, has served as the Treasurer of the Commonwealth of Virginia under Governor Mark Warner and Secretary of Finance under Governor Tim Kaine. She is a former vice chair of the Democratic Party of Virginia and current member of both the Virginia Economic Development Partnership and the Virginia Small Business Authority. Wagner's campaign is largely focused on creating jobs and improving the economy.

Wagner advocates better utilization of entities like the Virginia Small Business Finance Authority, the Virginia Public School Authority, and the Community Capital Bank of Virginia to tap new resources for low-cost investments for businesses, local governments, and non-profit organizations. Further, she supports tax incentives and regulations to encourage the creation of green jobs.

Wagner also supports increased funding for education, larger enrollment of children into Family Access Medical Insurance (FAMIS), and a comprehensive transportation plan that includes public transit.

**William T. “Bill” Bolling (R):** Bill Bolling currently serves as Lieutenant Governor and as the Vice President of an insurance agency, Riggs, Counselman, Michaels & Downes. Prior to assuming the office of Lieutenant Governor, Bolling served in the Senate of Virginia from 1995 until his election in 2005. As Lieutenant Governor, Bolling sponsored legislation to repeal the estate tax and to implement a back-to-school tax holiday. He also supported an amendment to the Virginia constitution to define marriage as between a man and a woman, and started the “100 Ideas for the Future of Virginia” initiative, which focused on ideas for tackling problems with health care, education, public safety, and transportation.

Bolling’s campaign centers on creating jobs through an expansion of the Governor’s Economic Opportunity Fund, business regulatory reform, and the implementation of green job tax credits. He also advocates for increases in teacher pay and higher classroom spending. His energy priorities include the development of offshore resources, clean coal, and nuclear power sources, along with the expansion of alternative energy sources.

#### **ATTORNEY GENERAL**

**Ken T. Cuccinelli II (R):** Ken Cuccinelli, a partner in the law firm Cuccinelli & Day, has been a member of the Senate of Virginia since 2002, where he represents the 37<sup>th</sup> District, encompassing Fairfax County. As a member of the Senate, he serves on several committees, including the Courts of Justice Committee, the Transportation Committee, the Local Government Committee, and the Rehabilitation and Social Services Committee. Since his election to the state senate, Cuccinelli has advocated for the passage of stricter eminent domain laws to prevent the seizure of land for development programs, and has supported legislation preventing the exploitation of overtime by police officers.

Cuccinelli’s top priority is a commitment to public safety with a focus on gang violence, sex crimes, the death penalty, identity theft, illegal drugs, and human trafficking. Cuccinelli is committed to preserving Second Amendment rights, upholding the right to life, and defining marriage as between a man and a woman. Finally, Cuccinelli advocates for a constitutional amendment preserving property rights, an online publication of state expenditures, and the promotion of a pro-business atmosphere in Virginia.

**Stephen C. Shannon (D):** Stephen Shannon, a former Fairfax County prosecutor, is currently the delegate for the 35<sup>th</sup> District in the Virginia House of Delegates. In the House, Shannon serves on the Appropriations, Education, and Agriculture committees. While in office, Shannon backed the passage of the Higher Education Bond Package, legislation that increased capital investment in the facilities of the state’s higher education institutions. Along with his wife, Abby, Shannon facilitated the implementation of the Amber Alert system in Northern Virginia.

His work on the Amber Alert system led him to serve on Governor Tim Kaine’s Commission on Sexual Violence, where he chaired the committee on treatment and rehabilitation. Shannon’s campaign highlights a host of related issues, including combating illegal drug usage by supporting drug prosecutions, fighting methamphetamine production, and encouraging rehabilitation. He also seeks to combat payday-lending practices through more aggressive enforcement of lending laws and increased efforts toward financial literacy. Shannon is also concerned with protecting the community from Internet predators and gang-related crime, with plans to address each problem from both a rehabilitative and a punitive perspective.

## HOUSE OF DELEGATES (64<sup>TH</sup> DISTRICT)

**Albert P. Burckhard (I-Green):** Albert Burckhard is a retired U.S. Army Colonel, and a graduate of the Virginia Military Institute. The main issue that the Independent Greens of Virginia are focusing on this year is high-speed rail. Col. Burckhard supports the construction of high-speed magnetic levitation rail throughout the Commonwealth of Virginia. He describes himself as for “more trains, less traffic.” The Independent Green party considers itself “fiscally conservative, socially responsible.”

**William K. “Bill” Barlow (D):** Barlow’s plans for education include fighting for increased pay to attract talented teachers; Barlow also wants to increase access to vocational training for high school students. His plan is to secure sufficient state funding for local colleges and universities, and ensure the 64th district receives a cut of the \$1.5 billion in funds for capital construction within Virginia’s public higher educational system. Barlow’s plans for health care include working at the state level to increase access to health care, particularly by giving tax incentives to small businesses that insure their employees. Barlow also supports a public-private partnership to expand health insurance for low-income workers employed by small businesses. Barlow helped pass and obtain funding for comprehensive mental health care reform measures to increase patient and public safety.

Barlow supports moving decisions from the state to the local level, giving local governments the tools and power to effectively manage their own growth. Barlow also supports giving communities the power to hold developers responsible for some of the municipal costs that come with increased development, including new roads or schools. According to Barlow, by giving local communities the tools to manage their own growth, they can institute effective policies that will balance development with access to transportation. Barlow believes that the operation of the Jamestown/Scotland Ferry is vital to the local economy and to the accessibility of transportation. Barlow also supports the construction of the Surry Coal Plant.

Barlow supports the Water Quality and Improvement Fund, which is used to clean up and protect the Chesapeake Bay and surrounding waters, and agricultural management practices that balance the needs of farmers with the local environment. Barlow also supports policies for cleaner, renewable energy.

**Stan Clark (R):** Clark says he favors “balanced budgets, reduced government spending, making individuals responsible for their actions, reducing welfare expenditures, and encouraging private industry development and private sector job growth.” Clark supports right-to-work laws and believes that the key to economic prosperity in Virginia is to attract new business to the area and to minimize taxes and government spending. Clark opposes unfunded federal and state education mandates and supports a plan to reprioritize spending to provide essential funding for public schools.

Clark cites improved transportation as a top priority, including the upgrading and maintenance of the Jamestown/Scotland Ferry. Clark supports “common sense environmental policies” in order to balance energy and environmental needs. Clark endorses the use of alternative energy, including nuclear, solar and wind power; he does not support the construction of the Surry Coal Plant. Clark espouses government reform by lowering taxes, decreasing and reprioritizing spending, and working across party lines to meet challenges. He has also expressed a commitment to safeguarding Second Amendment rights, advocates traditional marriage values, and supports the “protection of Virginia’s unborn children.”

\* \* \*

Founded in 2001, the American Constitution Society’s mission is to ensure that fundamental principles of human dignity, individual rights and liberties, genuine equality, and access to justice enjoy their rightful, central place in American law. ACS is a non-partisan, non-profit, 501(c)(3) organization. We do not lobby, litigate or take positions on specific issues, cases, legislation or nominations.

\* \* \*