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## Virginia General Assembly Election Update



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# 2015 Virginia Elections

## *A Statewide Overview*

On Tuesday, November 3<sup>rd</sup>, Virginians elected individuals to fill all 140 seats in the Virginia General Assembly. Historically, Virginia has had a limited change in the members of General Assembly as a result of Virginia's off year election cycle, but partisan redistricting in 2014, a shift in demographics in parts of the state and the retirement of many long serving incumbents, especially in the Senate, created more competitive races in 2015. In the end, despite the spending tens of millions of dollars, Republicans maintained control of the House of Delegates and the Senate, perpetuating the partisan split between the Executive and Legislative branches of government.

### **The House of Delegates**

Because of their overwhelming existing majority (67 Republican – 33 Democrats), there was no doubt that the Republicans would maintain control of the House of Delegates. Of the 100 seats in the House, there were only eleven seats in which an incumbent was not seeking re-election and in six of those eleven, just a single candidate was running, thus guaranteeing their election. Partisan control of the redistricting process results in the drawing of districts that generally favor most incumbents. Republican control of the last redistricting effort particularly protected Republican incumbents. Democrats won four of the six open seats which were previously held by a Democrat (Delegates Surovell, Krupicka, Preston and Joannou). The two uncontested open seats, previously held by Republicans (Delegates Mark Berg and Ed Scott), were retained by Republicans. Chris Collins, who defeated Delegate Mark Berg in a primary election, will represent House District 29 in the Winchester area and Nick Freitas will succeed Delegate Ed Scott, who did not seek re-election, to represent Culpeper and Orange and Madison counties. Of the five remaining House races in which an incumbent was not seeking re-election, two appeared to be competitive as election-day approached. The three races that were less competitive included House District 2, in Prince William County where Mark Dudenhefer (who previously held the seat just two years ago) won over Democratic candidate Josh King. In Virginia Beach, Republican candidate Jason Miyares defeated Bill Fleming, allowing Republicans to retain the seat previously held By Bill DeSteph who sought (and won) election to the Virginia Senate. House District 86, which was previously held by Del. Tom Rust, was a race between Jennifer Boysko, a Democrat who had previously challenged Delegate Rust, Republican candidate Danny Vargas and Independent candidate Paul Brubaker. Democrat Jennifer Boysko won with 54% percent of the vote, switching control of the seat.

House District 87, was also a competitive House race as a result of the retirement of Republican Delegate David Ramadan. The race between Democrat John Bell, Republican Chuong Nguyen

and Libertarian candidate Brian Suojen resulted in Democrat John Bell winning the seat and the seat also switching from Republican to a Democratic held seat.

55 Incumbent members of the House of Delegates ran opposed and were re-elected to the House of Delegates.

In total, the Republicans lost two open seats to the Democrats and the Democrats lost an open single seat to the Republicans, changing the partisan control to 34 Democrats and 66 Republicans.

### **House Committee Chairs**

A final notable change in the House of Delegates after the 2015 elections will be the change of two committee chairmen. Delegate Rust previously served as Chair of the House Transportation committee. Delegate Ron Villanueva has been named the new Chairman by Speaker Howell. Delegate Ed Scott formerly chaired the House Agriculture, Chesapeake and Natural Resources committee. Speaker Howell has indicated Delegate Danny Marshall will be the new Agriculture, Chesapeake and Natural Resources committee chair. Both will be formally named as Chairman at the start of the 2016 Session.

### **The Senate**

Which political party would control the Virginia Senate after the 2015 election was far less certain, however the election resulted in the same partisan split, 21 Republicans and 19 Democrats.

The retirement of 6 Senators, many who were generally thought of as moderates, and the primary defeat of one Republican incumbent, Senator Steve Martin of Chesterfield left seven open seat, the loss of the chairs of the Senate's most powerful committees and the loss of over 160+ years of collective service in the Senate of Virginia.

Five of the open seats in the Senate were not competitive races, again primarily due to the drawing of partisan districts.

Senate District 8, previously held by Republican Senator Jeff McWaters will be represented by former Delegate Bill DeSteph, the Republican whose House district is part of the Senate district.

Amanda Chase, who defeated incumbent Senator Steve Martin will represent Senate District 11, which is primarily comprised of Chesterfield County. This was one of the most notable primary defeats in the Senate, as Senator Martin had represented the district for over 20 years.

In Senate District 12, Dr. Siobahhan Dunnavent, the Republican candidate defeated Democrat Deborah Repp. Dr. Dunnavent, an Ob-GYN, will succeed Senator Walter Stosch, who announced his retirement from the Senate in 2014 after 23 years in the Senate and 10 years in the House

of Delegates. Senate District 12, which includes most of Henrico County traditionally, elects Republican candidates.

Senate District 19, former represented by Senator Ralph Smith, will be represented by David Sutterline, who was Senator Smith's Legislative Aide. David defeated Democratic candidate Mike Hamlar and Independent candidate Steve Nelson.

Former Delegate Scott Surovell, who announced he would not seek re-election to the House when Senator Toddy Puller announced her retirement from the Senate after 15 years in the Senate, will represent Senate District 36, Fairfax County. Delegate Surovell's House District was a part of Senate District 36, provided him with substantial name recognition in the district.

The two of the seven open Senate seats that were most competitive and considered to be "toss ups" were Senate District 10, previously held by Republican Senator John Watkins of Powhatan and Senate District 29, previously held by Senator Chuck Colgan. Both Senator Watkins and Senator Colgan announced their retirements in 2015. Senator Watkins was first elected to the Senate in 1998 after his service in the House of Delegates which began in 1982. Senator Colgan, has the distinction of the longest serving member of the Senate through his 40 years of service.

Senate District 10 featured the race between Republican candidate Glen Sturtevant and Democrat Dan Gecker to replace Senator John Watkins. Republican candidate Glen Sturtevant won by a narrow margin. Voters from Powhatan and Chesterfield counties overwhelmingly favored Mr. Sturtevant, thus giving him the margin to overcome the strong support Dan Gecker received from voters in the City of Richmond.

In Senate District 29 which consists is comprised of Manassas, Manassas Park and parts of Prince William County, voters chose Jeremy McPike, a Democrat over Republican Hal Parrish. McPike, won with 53% of the vote to Parrish's 46%.

Seats that were being watched as potential toss ups in addition to the two open seats were 3 races in which the incumbent Senator was challenged in a district that changed political control in recent history and/or in which the challenger was considered a serious opponent due to his or her stature in the community. Incumbent Republican Senator Frank Wagner, Incumbent Democrat John Edwards and Incumbent Republican Dick Black faced more serious races.

Senator Frank Wagner whose Senate District 7 includes much of Virginia Beach, faced Democratic challenger, Gary McCollum, a former executive at Cox Communications. This race appeared to be very close until the early fall when media reports disclosed that Mr. McCollum who claimed to be an active Colonel in the Army Reserves had actually been discharged from the Army reserves in 2001. The district is home to a large percentage of active military constituents who consider declaration of military service a serious matter. Senator Wagner retained his seat with 54% of the vote.

Throughout the fall, the Senator John Edwards re-election campaign also became competitive as a result of Republican challenger Dr. Nancy Dye's aggressive campaign and name recognition in the district which includes most of Roanoke. Dr. Dye, a retired surgeon, outraised Senator Edwards through most of the campaign. Independent candidate Don Caldwell entrance into the race in May created even more uncertainty for Senator Edwards. Caldwell, who had been elected to serve as Roanoke's Commonwealth Attorney as a Democratic candidate, drew support from some Democrats. Senator Edwards won re-election with 52% of the vote compared to Nancy Dye's 41% and Caldwell's 6%.

Finally, the race between Senator Dick Black and Democratic challenger Dr. Jill McCabe also drew attention early on, but Senator Black prevailed by winning the more numerous conservative parts of the district.

The 16 incumbent Senators that did not have an opponent were all re-elected as were the 11 remaining incumbent Senators not mentioned above that did face an opponent but were all reelected to their seats.

### **Senate Committee Chairs**

The retirement of Senators Colgan and Stosch will result in the naming of a new Senate Finance committee chairman. This position, which traditionally is bestowed on the member of the majority party with the most Seniority, could go to Senator Tommy Norment. Senator Norment now holds the position of Majority Leader and it is believed that the Republican Caucus will chose to have two different individuals to hold what are the most powerful positions in the Senate. It is not clear yet which position Senator Norment will likely retain and thus who will be Chairman of the Senate Finance committee and Majority Leader. Senator Norment's decision could also result in the naming of a new Chairman of the Courts of Justice committee as he currently is Chairman of the committee and again tradition dictates that a Senator only be Chair of a single committee.

Senator Watkins retirement will result in a new Chairman of the Senate Commerce and Labor committee being named. While not confirmed, speculation is Senator Frank Wagner could be named Chairman.

Senator Martin's primary defeat to Amanda Chase will also lead to the new naming of a Chairman of the Senate Education and Health committee. It is rumored that Senator Steve Newman will assume this role over serving as Chair of the Senate Transportation committee. The Senate Transportation committee chairman may be Senator Carrico or Senator Cosgrove.

Any change in the naming of a Chair can often result in the change of the Chair of other committees and Senators chose to Chair a preferred committee over an existing committee Chair position. Many more potential scenarios could occur as individual Senators make their own decisions.

## House of Delegates Election Results

*Red = Republican    Blue = Democrat    Purple= Other third party*

<u>HOD District</u>	<u>Incumbent</u>	<u>Challenger</u>	<u>Winner</u>
1	Delegate Terry Kilgore	Unopposed	Delegate Terry Kilgore
2 <i>Open Seat (formerly held by Delegate Michael Futrell)</i>		Joshua King  Mark Dudenhefer	Mark Dudenhefer  ** switch in party control**
3	Delegate Will Morefield	Unopposed	Delegate Will Morefield
4	Delegate Todd Pillion	Unopposed	Delegate Todd Pillion
5	Delegate Israel O'Quinn	Unopposed	Delegate Israel O'Quinn
6	Delegate Jeff Campbell	Unopposed	Delegate Jeff Campbell
7	Delegate Nick Rush	Unopposed	Delegate Nick Rush
8	Delegate Greg Habeeb	Unopposed	Delegate Greg Habeeb

9	Delegate Charles Poindexter	Unopposed	Delegate Charles Poindexter
10	Delegate Randy Minchew	Peter Rush	Delegate Randy Minchew
11	Delegate Sam Rasoul	Unopposed	Delegate Sam Rasoul
12	Delegate Joseph Yost	Laurie Buchwald	Delegate Joseph Yost
13	Delegate Robert G. Marshall	Don Shaw	Delegate Robert G. Marshall
14	Delegate Danny Marshall	Unopposed	Delegate Danny Marshall
15	Delegate Todd Gilbert	Unopposed	Delegate Todd Gilbert
16	Delegate Les Adams	Unopposed	Delegate Les Adams
17	Delegate Christopher Head	Unopposed	Delegate Christopher Head
18	Delegate Michael Webert	Unopposed	Delegate Michael Webert
19	Delegate Terry Austin	Unopposed	Delegate Terry Austin
20	Delegate Dickie Bell	William Hammer (L)	Delegate Dickie Bell

21	Delegate Ronald A Villanueva	Susan Hippen	Delegate Ronald A Villanueva
22	Delegate Kathy Byron	Unopposed	Delegate Kathy Byron
23	Delegate Scott Garrett	Unopposed	Delegate Scott Garrett
24	Delegate Ben Cline	Ellen Arthur	Delegate Ben Cline
25	Delegate Steve Landes	Angela Lynn	Delegate Steve Landes
26	Delegate Tony Wilt	Unopposed	Delegate Tony Wilt
27	Delegate Roxann Robinson	Martin Mooradian	Delegate Roxann Robinson
28	Delegate William Howell <i>(Speaker of the House)</i>	Kandy Hilliard	Delegate William Howell
29	Chris Collins  <i>Open Seat (formerly held by Delegate Mark Beg)</i>	Unopposed	Chris Collins
30	Nick Freitas  <i>Open Seat (formerly held by Delegate Ed Scott)</i>	Unopposed	Nick Freitas



31	Delegate Scott Lingamfelter	Sara Townsend	Delegate Scott Lingamfelter
32	Delegate Tag Greason	Liz Miller	Delegate Tag Greason
33	Delegate Dave LaRock	Chuck Hedges Mark Anderson	Delegate Dave LaRock
34	Delegate Kathleen Murphy	Craig Parisot	Delegate Kathleen Murphy
35	Delegate Mark Keam	Unopposed	Delegate Mark Keam
36	Delegate Ken Plum	Unopposed	Delegate Ken Plum
37	Delegate David Bulova	Sang Yi	Delegate David Bulova
38	Delegate Kaye Kory	Unopposed	Delegate Kaye Kory
39	Delegate Vivian Watts	Unopposed	Delegate Vivian Watts
40	Delegate Tim Hugo	Jerry Foltz	Delegate Tim Hugo

41	Delegate Eileen Filler-Corn	Unopposed	Delegate Eileen Filler-Corn
42	Delegate Dave Albo	Joana Garcia	Delegate Dave Albo
43	Delegate Mark Sickles	Anna Urman Paul McIlvaine (I)	Delegate Mark Sickles
44	Paul Krizek  <i>Open Seat (formerly held by Delegate Scott Surovell)</i>	Unopposed	Paul Krizek
45	Mark Levine  <i>Open Seat (formerly held by Delegate Rob Krupika)</i>	Unopposed	Mark Levine
46	Delegate Charniele Herring	Sean Lenehan Andrew Bakker (L)	Delegate Charniele Herring
47	Delegate Patrick Hope	Janet Murphy (I)	Delegate Patrick Hope
48	Delegate Rip Sullivan	Unopposed	Delegate Rip Sullivan
49	Delegate Alfonso H. Lopez	Unopposed	Delegate Alfonso H. Lopez

50	Delegate Jackson Miller	Kyle McCullough	Delegate Jackson Miller
51	Delegate Rich Anderson	Unopposed	Delegate Rich Anderson
52	Delegate Luke Torian	Unopposed	Delegate Luke Torian
53	Delegate Marcus Simon	Unopposed	Delegate Marcus Simon
54	Delegate Bobby Orrock	Unopposed	Delegate Bobby Orrock
55	Delegate Buddy Fowler	Toni Radler	Delegate Buddy Fowler
56	Delegate Peter Farrell	Unopposed	Delegate Peter Farrell
57	Delegate David Toscano	Unopposed	Delegate David Toscano
58	Delegate Rob Bell	Unopposed	Delegate Rob Bell
59	Delegate Matt Farriss	Unopposed	Delegate Matt Farriss
60	Delegate James Edmunds	Unopposed	Delegate James Edmunds

61	Delegate Thomas Wright	Greg Marston	Delegate Thomas Wright
62	Delegate Riley Ingram	Sheila Bynum-Coleman	Delegate Riley Ingram
63 <i>Open Seat (formerly held by Delegate Joe Preston)</i>	Lashrecse Aird	Unopposed	Lashrecse Aird
64	Delegate Rick Morris	Unopposed	Delegate Rick Morris
65	Delegate Lee Ware	Unopposed	Delegate Lee Ware
66	Delegate Kirk Cox	Unopposed	Delegate Kirk Cox
67	Delegate Jim LeMunyon	Unopposed	Delegate Jim LeMunyon
68	Delegate Manoli Loupassi	Bill Grogan Michael Dickinson (I)	Delegate Manoli Loupassi
69	Delegate Betsy Carr	Unopposed	Delegate Betsy Carr
70	Delegate Delores McQuinn	Unopposed	Delegate Delores McQuinn

71	Delegate Jennifer McClellan	Steve Imholt (I)	Delegate Jennifer McClellan
72	Delegate Jimmie Massie	Unopposed	Delegate Jimmie Massie
73	Delegate John O'Bannon	Unopposed	Delegate John O'Bannon
74	<i>Open Seat (formerly held by Delegate Joe Morrisey)</i>	Lamont Bagby David Lambert (I)	Lamont Bagby
75	Delegate Roslyn Tyler	Unopposed	Delegate Roslyn Tyler
76	Delegate Chris Jones	Unopposed	Delegate Chris Jones
77	Delegate Lionell Spruill, Sr.	Unopposed	Delegate Lionell Spruill, Sr.
78	Delegate Jay Leftwich	Unopposed	Delegate Jay Leftwich
79	Steve Heretick	Unopposed	Steve Heretick
	<i>Open Seat (Formerly held by</i>		

<i>Delagte Johnny Joannou)</i>			
80	Delegate Matthew James	Unopposed	Delegate Matthew James
81	Delegate Barry Knight	Jeffrey Staples (G)	Delegate Barry Knight
82  <i>Open Seat (formerly held by Delegate Bill DeSteph)</i>		Bill Fleming  Jason R. Miyares	Jason Miyares
83	Delegate Christopher Stolle	Unopposed	Delegate Christopher Stolle
84	Delegate Glenn Davis	Unopposed	Delegate Glenn Davis
85	Delegate Scott Taylor	Unopposed	Delegate Scott Taylor
86  <i>Open Seat (formerly held by Delegate Tom Rust)</i>		Danny Vargas  Jennifer Boysko	Jennifer Boysko  **switch it party control**
87  <i>Open Seat (formerly held by</i>		Chuong Nguyen  John Bell  Brian Suojanen (L)	John Bell    **switch in party control**

<i>Delegate David Ramadan)</i>			
88	Delegate Mark Cole	Unopposed	Delegate Mark Cole
89	Delegate Daun Hester	Unopposed	Delegate Daun Hester
90	Delegate Joe Lindsey	Unopposed	Delegate Joe Lindsey
91	Delegate Gordon Helsel, Jr.	Unopposed	Delegate Gordon Helsel, Jr.
92	Delegate Jeion Ward	Unopposed	Delegate Jeion Ward
93	Delegate Monty Mason	Lara Overy	Delegate Monty Mason
94	Delegate David E. Yancey	Shelley Simonds	Delegate David E. Yancey
95	<i>Open Seat (formerly held by Delegate Mamye BaCote)</i>	Marcia Price (D) Priscilla Burnett (I)	Marcia Price (D)
96	Delegate Brenda Pogge	Brandon Waltrip (I)	Delegate Brenda Pogge

97	Delegate Chris Peace	Erica Lawler (I)	Delegate Chris Peace
98	Delegate M. Keith Hodges	Unopposed	Delegate M. Keith Hodges
99	Delegate Margaret Ransone	Unopposed	Delegate Margaret Ransone
100	Delegate Rob Bloxom	Willie Randall	Delegate Rob Bloxom



# Senate Election Results

*Red = Republican    Blue = Democrat    Purple= Other third party*

<u>Senate District</u>	<u>Incumbent</u>	<u>Challenger</u>	<u>Winner</u>
1	Senator John Miller	Mark Matney	Senator John Miller
2	Senator Mamie Locke	Unopposed	Senator Mamie Locke
3	Senator Tommy Norment	Hugo Reyes	Senator Tommy Norment
4	Senator Ryan McDougle	Unopposed	Senator Ryan McDougle
5	Senator Kenny Alexander	Unopposed	Senator Kenny Alexander
6	Senator Lynwood Lewis	Richard Ottinger	Senator Lynwood Lewis
7	Senator Frank Wagner	Gary McCollum	Senator Frank Wagner
8 <i>Open Seat (formerly held by Senator Jeff McWaters)</i>		Bill DeSteph  Dave Belote	Bill DeSteph
10 <i>Open Seat (formerly held by</i>		Glen Sturtevant  Daniel Allen Gecker  Carl Loser (L)	Glen Sturtevant

<i>Senator John Watkins)</i>		Marleen Durfee (I)	
11 <i>Open Seat (formerly held by Senator Steve Martin)</i>		Amanda Chase Wayne Powell	Amanda Chase
12 <i>Open Seat (formerly held by Senator Walter Stosch)</i>		Siobhan Dunnivant Deborah Repp	Siobhan Dunnivant
13	Senator Dick Black	Jill McCabe	Senator Dick Black
14	Senator John Cosgrove	Unopposed	Senator John Cosgrove
15	Senator Frank Ruff	Unopposed	Senator Frank Ruff
16	Senator Rosalyn Dance	Unopposed	Senator Rosalyn Dance
17	Senator Bryce Reeves	Ned Gallaway	Senator Bryce Reeves
18	Senator Louise Lucas	Unopposed	Senator Louise Lucas

<u>Senate District</u>	<u>Incumbent</u>	<u>Challenger</u>	<u>Notes</u>
19  <i>Open Seat (formerly held by Senator Ralph Smith)</i>		Dave Suetterlein  Michael Lawrence Hamlar  Steve Nelson (I)	Dave Suetterlein
20	Senator Bill Stanley	Kimberly Adkins	Senator Bill Stanley
21	Senator John Edwards	Nancy V. Dye  Don Caldwell (I)	Senator John Edwards
22	Senator Thomas Garrett, Jr.	Unopposed	Senator Thomas Garrett, Jr.
23	Senator Steve Newman	Unopposed	Senator Steve Newman
24	Senator Emmett Hanger	Unopposed	Senator Emmett Hanger
25	Senator Creigh Deeds	Unopposed	Senator Creigh Deeds
26	Senator Mark Obenshain	April Moore	Senator Mark Obenshain
27	Senator Jill Vogel	Unopposed	Senator Jill Vogel
28	Senator Richard Stuart	Unopposed	Senator Richard Stuart

<u>Senate District</u>	<u>Incumbent</u>	<u>Challenger</u>	<u>Notes</u>
29  <i>Open Seat (formerly held by Senator Chuck Colgan)</i>		Hal Parrish  Jeremy McPike	Jeremy McPike
30	Senator Adam Ebbin	Ron Fisher (I)	Senator Adam Ebbin
31	Senator Barbara Favola	George Forakis	Senator Barbara Favola
32	Senator Janet Howell	Unopposed	Senator Janet Howell
33	Senator Jennifer Wexton	Stephen Hollingshead	Senator Jennifer Wexton
34	Senator Chap Petersen	Unopposed	Senator Chap Petersen
35	Senator Dick Saslaw	Terry Modglin (I)	Senator Dick Saslaw
36  <i>Open Seat (formerly held by Senator Toddy Puller)</i>		Jerry Foreman  Scott Surovell	Scott Surovell

37	Senator Dave Marsden	Dave Bergman	Senator Dave Marsden
38	Senator Ben Chafin	Unopposed	Senator Ben Chafin
39	Senator George Barker	Joe Murray	Senator George Barker
40	Senator Bill Carrico	Unopposed	Senator Bill Carrico