

# LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF FALLS CHURCH



The League of Women Voters®

## FALL 2012 VOTERS' GUIDE

### GENERAL AND SPECIAL ELECTIONS ON TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2012 POLLS OPEN 6:00 A.M. TO 7:00 P.M.

U.S. SENATOR, REPRESENTATIVE TO  
U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
AND VIRGINIA CONSTITUTIONAL  
AMENDMENTS

#### THE CITY OF FALLS CHURCH

The City of Falls Church was incorporated as an independent city in 1948. According to the 2010 Census, the City is home to 12,332 people who live within its 2.2 square miles. Falls Church is part of Virginia's 35th Senate district, 53rd House district, and 8th Congressional district. Falls Church operates under a Council-manager form of government. The City has its own school system and police department, and provides for its own water services. The City also has its own District Court, but combines with Arlington County to make up the 17th Judicial District of Virginia; there is one Circuit Court for the two municipalities, which is located in Arlington. The City shares its Commonwealth's Attorney with Arlington County. The Falls Church school system is comprised of four schools: Mt. Daniel Elementary School (K-1), Thomas Jefferson Elementary School (2-4), Mary Ellen Henderson Middle School (5-7), and George Mason High School (8-12), with a combined enrollment of 2,272. The City's fiscal year begins July 1 and ends June 30 of each year. A complete list of City services and information can be found at: [www.fallschurchva.gov](http://www.fallschurchva.gov).

#### ABOUT THIS GUIDE

The League of Women Voters of Falls Church (LWVFC) worked with the Leagues of Women Voters of Arlington (LWV Arlington) and of Virginia (LWV-VA) to produce this Voters' Guide to help citizens in the City of Falls Church choose their representatives to Congress and decide on two amendments to the Virginia Constitution on November 6, 2012. As of September 22, 2012, there are 9,200 registered voters who live within the City of Falls Church who are eligible to vote at the appropriate polling place for their residences. Because information on the candidates for President and Vice President is widely available, this guide is limited to the candidates and issues specific to Falls Church, Virginia. If you wish to view the questions posed by the League of Women Voters of the United States (LWVUS) to the candidates for President and Vice President and the answers provided by them, please visit the LWVUS website [www.Vote411.org](http://www.Vote411.org).

Please note that new voting wards have been implemented in the City according to the map provided here. All voters affected by this change have received new voter cards prior to this election, and the new polling places are being advertised in this guide and in other media.

#### New Wards:

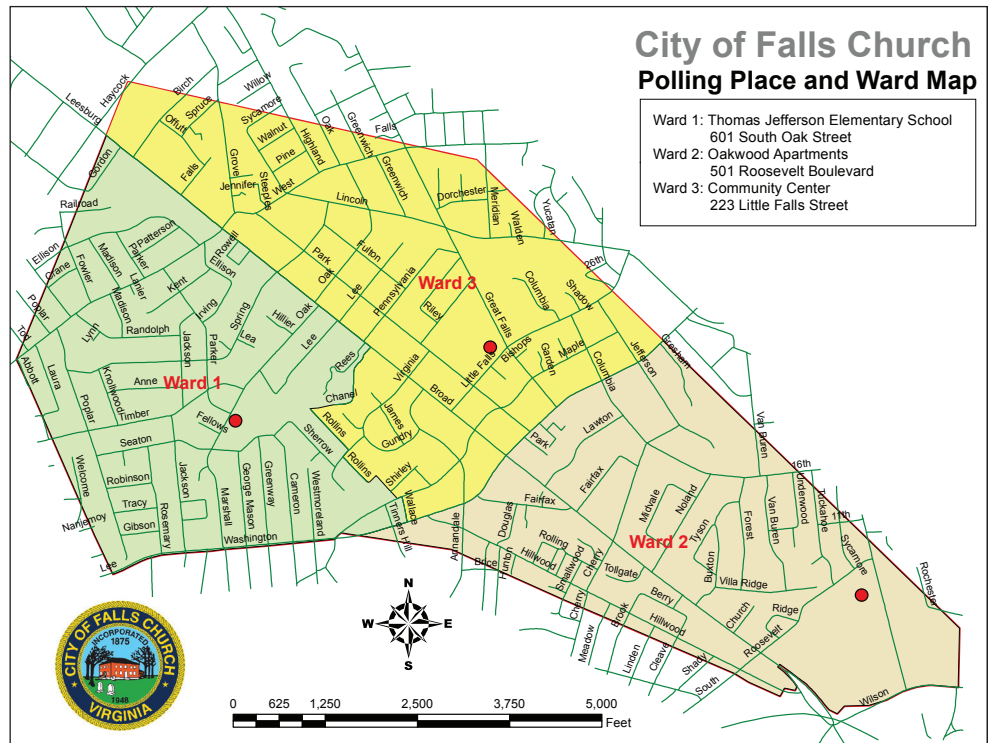
**Ward 1:** Thomas Jefferson Elementary School  
601 South Oak Street

Oak Street Gym Entrance

Park on Oak Street, Fellows Court, Parker Avenue, or Timber Lane

**NEW:** All voters who used to vote at Boy Scout House will now vote at Thomas Jefferson Elementary School.

**Ward 2:** Oakwood Apartments  
501 North Roosevelt Street



Main Building, Conference Room

Park in back lot and enter next to convenience store

**NEW:** Voters living east of Washington Street who used to vote at Falls Church Community Center will now vote at Oakwood Apartments.

**Ward 3 (previously Ward 4):** Falls Church Community Center  
223 Little Falls Street

Park in Community Center lot or on Little Falls Street

**NEW:** Voters living in the Winter Hill area who used to vote at Thomas Jefferson Elementary School will now vote at Falls Church Community Center.

**NEW:** All voters who used to vote at American Legion Post 130 will now vote at Falls Church Community Center.

You should have received a new voter card from the State, which includes your voting ward. If you have questions about the ward changes or for additional information on the November 6, 2012 elections, voter registration, or absentee voting, please contact the Falls Church Office of Voter Registration & Elections at (703) 248-5085 or [vote@fallschurchva.gov](mailto:vote@fallschurchva.gov).

#### IDENTIFICATION REQUIRED TO VOTE

Officers of Election are required to ask voters for identification. You do NOT need a photo ID to vote. Registered voters may use one of the following types of identification to vote:

- Virginia voter identification card
- Valid Virginia driver's license or special identification card issued by the Department of Motor Vehicles

- Military identification card
- Any Federal, state, or local government-issued identification card
- Valid employer-issued photo identification card
- Concealed handgun permit
- Current utility bill, bank statement, government check or paycheck showing the voter's name and address
- Social security card (may not satisfy special Federal identification requirements)

Voters without an identification card can cast a provisional ballot but will need to submit identification to the Elections Office by noon Friday, November 9 to have their ballots counted.

LWV-VA sent a questionnaire to all Virginia Senatorial candidates whose names were qualified to appear on the November 6, 2012 ballot. LWV Arlington sent questionnaires to the candidates for Representative from the 8th Congressional District of Virginia. All candidates for the same office were sent the same questions. Biographies and responses to the questions appear as written by the candidates and are not edited. The candidates' original responses are on file with the organization that solicited their responses. Candidates are listed in the order in which their names will appear on the ballot.

LWVFC is a nonpartisan organization founded in 1951, whose purpose is to promote political responsibility through informed and active participation in government. The League of Women Voters does not support any political party or candidate. For further information, please visit [www.lwvfallschurch.org](http://www.lwvfallschurch.org).

## U.S. SENATE (VIRGINIA)

### THE OFFICE

Two U.S. Senators represent Virginia in the upper house of Congress. One of those seats is open this year.

**TERM:** Senators are elected for six-year terms, with no term limits.

**SALARIES:** \$174,000 per year; Senate leaders earn \$193,400 annually.

**DUTIES:** The composition and powers of the Senate are established in Article One of the U.S. Constitution.

### BIOGRAPHY AND QUESTIONS

**BIOGRAPHY:** Background provided by each candidate.

### THE QUESTIONS

If needed to reduce the **DEFICIT**, what specific programs would you reduce and/or cut, and what new sources of revenue would you propose?

What changes to the **SENATE FILIBUSTER**

**RULE** would you support in order to ensure that all legislation is considered in a timely fashion?

What do you consider the most important issue(s) in the areas of **FOREIGN POLICY AND NATIONAL SECURITY** and what role should Congress play in addressing them?

What will you do as an elected official to build a sense of **GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY** and to restore citizens' trust in our government?

## CANDIDATES FOR THE U.S. SENATE (VOTE FOR NOT MORE THAN ONE)



### George F. Allen

*Republican – Challenger*

**BIOGRAPHY:** Virginia House of Delegates, 1983-91; U.S. House of Representatives, 1991-93; Governor of Virginia, 1994-98; U.S. Senate, 2001-2007. BA/JD, University of Virginia. Author, *What Washington Can Learn from the World of Sports*; Founder, American Energy Freedom Center. Home, Mt. Vernon (Fairfax County). Wife, Susan (married 26 years); children – Tyler, Forrest, Brooke.

**DEFICIT:** We must reduce the deficit with spending restraint and economic growth, not higher taxes on Virginia families and small business owners. Eliminate unaccountable Czars, start implementing the Government Accountability Office's recommendations for eliminating duplication and waste. Long-

term reform should be a Balanced Budget Amendment with line-item veto authority to the President to cut wasteful spending.

**SENATE FILIBUSTER RULE:** The filibuster should not be used to deny nominees the fairness of an up or down vote, as happened to Miguel Estrada and John Bolton. There's a larger leadership failure in the Senate today, with no budget in 3-1/2 years and Senators being denied the opportunity to offer and debate amendments. The solution is new leadership committed to the transparency, accountability and fairness the American people expect and deserve.

**FOREIGN POLICY AND NATIONAL SECURITY:** The immediate imperative is stopping the devastating defense cuts being forced by last summer's sequestration deal, placing our military and 200,000 good Virginia jobs in jeopardy. As Senator, I'll work with Democrats and Republicans to keep our armed forces strong and keep our promises to veterans and their families for

the benefits they've earned. Whether it's to prevent a nuclear-armed Iran, ongoing terrorist threats, crumbling dictatorships in the Middle East or the challenges in the Asia-Pacific region, America must be strong militarily and economically to protect our interests, stand by our allies, and be a beacon of freedom to oppressed people.

**GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY:** Withhold the pay of Members of Congress if they do not complete budget/appropriations bills on time. Congress should live under the laws they impose on others. I'll bring Virginia's voices to Washington and work with those on both sides of the aisle for a more effective, accountable, efficient government and positive solutions that free our economy to create the jobs while unleashing our American energy resources for more affordable fuel, food and electricity.

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### Timothy D. Kaine

*Democrat – Challenger*

**BIOGRAPHY:** Tim Kaine graduated from the University of Missouri and Harvard Law School. After practicing law for 18 years, Tim served as Councilman and Mayor for the City of Richmond from 1994 to 2001. Tim served as Virginia's Lieutenant Governor for four years and was elected Virginia's 70th Governor in 2005.

**DEFICIT:** The federal deficit is a pressing problem, but by pursuing a balanced approach, we can find a middle ground with significant cuts and targeted revenues. Allowing the government to negotiate prescription drug prices for Medicare could save up to \$25 billion per year. On the revenue side, there are some that refuse to consider any revenues and some that believe

we should allow the Bush tax cuts to expire at \$250,000. I support a compromise. If we allow the Bush tax cuts to expire for those making over \$500,000 per year, we would raise over \$500 billion over the next ten years. The Senate needs leaders who know how to work together and compromise, which I will do if elected.

**SENATE FILIBUSTER RULE:** I strongly support revisions to the filibuster rule. I would propose leaving the 60 vote threshold to overcome a filibuster intact, but requiring the individual requesting the filibuster to stand on the Senate floor and openly declare why they are blocking the legislation. If a Senator feels strongly enough to use the filibuster, the American people deserve to know why such an action was taken. I would also consider limiting the filibuster to final passage votes.

**FOREIGN POLICY AND NATIONAL SECURITY:** The United States has made

significant progress in dismantling Al-Qaeda, and we must continue a safe drawdown of our troops in Afghanistan. We must stop Iran from obtaining nuclear weapons. We need a more comprehensive strategy for building alliances in the Americas. Finally, America should not deploy our military into war without a Congressional vote.

**GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY:** Elected officials should be held to high ethical standards. I support full disclosure of campaign donations and the repeal of *Citizens United*. As Senator, I will also support a strong Government Accountability Office and would look for other ways to ensure the transparency of government actions and spending.

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## U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES (VIRGINIA CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT 8)

### THE OFFICE

The member of Congress for Virginia's 8th District represents constituents in Falls Church City, as well as Arlington County, the City of Alexandria, and parts of Fairfax County, including Reston.

**TERM:** Two years

**SALARIES:** The current salary for members is \$174,000. The salary for the Speaker is \$223,000, and the salary for the Majority and Minority Leaders is \$193,400.

**DUTIES:** Legislative powers, with responsibility for making laws, raising revenue and adopting the

federal budget; sole power of impeachment.

### BIOGRAPHY AND QUESTIONS

**BIOGRAPHY:** Background provided by each candidate.

### THE QUESTIONS

What will you do as an elected official to build a sense of **GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY** and to restore citizens' trust in our government?

To put our **FISCAL HOUSE** in order, what specific programs would you cut and/or what new revenue would you propose?

What, if any, legislation would you support to lessen the economic effect that decreased **FEDERAL SPENDING**, especially on defense, is likely to have on many parts of Virginia?

What specific **IMMIGRATION REFORM** measures should Congress address in the new term?

## CANDIDATES FOR THE U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES – VIRGINIA 8<sup>TH</sup> DISTRICT (VOTE FOR NOT MORE THAN ONE)



### Jason J. Howell *Independent – Challenger*

**BIOGRAPHY:** Jason Howell is an Independent candidate for U.S. Congress. He has lived in Northern Virginia for 25 years, worked in mostly accounting and finance for nearly 20 years and has spent 0 years prior as a politician. He is running as a fiscally responsible, socially reasonable and personally relatable candidate.

**GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY:** To restore citizens' trust in government I am taking the tough campaign road and running for office as an Independent. This gives my neighbors an unfiltered opportunity to evaluate my candidacy. When they send me to Congress, they are at the same time stiffening the spines of the other 434 U.S. House Representatives who

will think, "If his voters sent him here, then maybe we too can vote our conscience rather than our party platforms."

**FISCAL HOUSE:** To put our fiscal house on the trajectory of balanced budgets both revenue (tax) increases and expense reductions will be taken into account. I will work to eliminate tax loopholes (i.e., H.R. 1935 to treat "Carried Interest" income as ordinary income rather than investment income (nearly \$18 billion in additional revenue over 10 years)). I will specifically work to broaden our national tax base by adjusting H.R. 4173 (Dodd-Frank Act) so small banks that only lend and deposit are granted exemptions. To capture expense reductions I will partner with the GAO's newly required report that highlights 81 areas of government program duplication, overlap, and fragmentation.

**FEDERAL SPENDING:** To lessen the economic effect of decreased federal spending

in our area, I support legislation that spreads telecommuting policy government wide, especially within the DoD. The USPTO currently leads the government in telecommuting policy use with 68% of their workers telecommuting. This has saved \$20 million so far for this less than 10,000 employee agency. With over 3 million employees to work with the opportunities are tremendous.

**IMMIGRATION REFORM:** Congress should specifically address comprehensive immigration reform that outlines a mission, strategy and specific tactics for people entering the country both temporarily and permanently. My first specific proposal is to change the accounting rule applied to user fee agencies like USCIS that are a disincentive to processing applications more quickly.

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(703) 867-2387



### James P. "Jim" Moran *Democrat – Incumbent*

**BIOGRAPHY:** Congressman Moran has dedicated his life to public service in Northern Virginia. He sits on the Appropriations Committee, serving as Interior and Environment Subcommittee Ranking Member. He chairs the Animal Protection Caucus, the Congressional Health Prevention Caucus, and serves on the Democratic Steering and Policy Committee.

**GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY:** Citizens should have the right to demand accountability for the money its government spends and for the priorities its elected representatives support. To build greater trust in government, we need to be willing to work toward a common purpose with people from different perspectives, in order to achieve a more

peaceful, just and sustainable world. I have also sponsored legislation to overturn the *Citizens United* decision and require full disclosure of the sources of all politically directed spending. I opposed all efforts to demonize and diminish government's roles in our lives. We need smarter, not smaller government.

**FISCAL HOUSE:** The \$4 billion dollars of tax subsidies given to the most profitable oil companies who make much of their extraordinary profits by extracting from public lands should be ended. The agricultural subsidies that go towards industrial farming of animals and commodities, controlled by already wealthy agribusiness, should be cut and reoriented towards local growers of healthier fruits and vegetables. We spend billions on weapons designed to win the types of wars of the past, against nations who are becoming economically interdependent on our mutual survival and prosperity.

**FEDERAL SPENDING:** I intend to prevent the pending sequestration from being implemented, which would irrationally destroy much of the investment in technology, security and intelligence activities which provide hundreds of thousands of jobs in Northern Virginia. The budget needs to be balanced by bringing revenue from 15% up to 20% of GDP.

**IMMIGRATION REFORM:** I'm an original sponsor of the Dream Act, to enable law-abiding, successful students who came to this country as undocumented children, to be able to afford a college education. I have also cosponsored comprehensive immigration reform to enable people who can speak English, pass a civics test, who have no criminal record and who have paid any back taxes, to get on a path to citizenship.

**CONTACT:** [www.jimmoran.org](http://www.jimmoran.org)  
[mmoran@moranforcongress.org](mailto:mmoran@moranforcongress.org)  
(703) 299-0064



### Janet Murphy *Independent / Green Party – Challenger*

**BIOGRAPHY:** Education — BA McGill University, MS University of the District of Columbia; Professional — Real Estate and Computers, Software Testing and System Analysis; Community Involvement — Volunteer at Virginia Hospital Center, Youth Tennis Coach, Community Music, Background in Housing, EPA Programs and Databases, Financial Systems, Cost Analysis for Defense, Communication.

**GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY:** Call for a new investigation of the events of September 11, 2001 to be put before the Congress to determine how it came to pass. Enact false flag legislation when we are committing troops or initiating a conflict, to prove who is behind a

particular attack or event. Prohibit including any other foreign country's interests into our political platforms. Resolve to include in the oath of Federal office a congressman, senator, or president takes, that the duty and allegiance of the office is to the people of the United States and shall supersede any other oath they make have taken or allegiance they may have, such as to the Mormon faith or any other religion, or country such as Israel, or to the Tea Party or to any corporation.

**FISCAL HOUSE:** Cut subsidies to oil, auto, asphalt and cement. Cut subsidies to agriculture where their practices are inhumane to animals or toxic to the environment. Enact a transaction tax on stock and bond trades across the board much like Superfund was enacted to rein in and clean up all chemical companies' toxic practices to the environment.

**FEDERAL SPENDING:** Job-forward approach, based on salaries which will be lost, not including overhead, profit, G&A; create

no-worker-left-behind initiative to include training for new technology and new jobs including healthcare employment, green energy development, green housing technology, local farming, history, recreation, infrastructure, (more trains less traffic), education (more teachers in the classroom), environmental protection and conservation (citizens conservation corps). Incentivize big contractors to immediately refocus on peacetime future and manufacturing.

**IMMIGRATION REFORM:** Cease any further budget for La Barda, the fence between US and Mexico. Support pathways to citizenship for those who want that, and their families. Institute amnesty windows for immigrants who are here to establish a legal presence. Dual citizens shall be ineligible to run for public office.

**CONTACT:** [www.votejoinrun.us](http://www.votejoinrun.us)  
[jastarlings@gmail.com](mailto:jastarlings@gmail.com)  
(202) 215-5691

### J. Patrick Murray *Republican – Challenger*

The candidate did not respond to the League's request for a biography and answers to the questions put to those running for this congressional seat.

**GENERAL AND SPECIAL ELECTIONS ON TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2012  
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**COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS ON NEXT PAGE**

## COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS

The Virginia General Assembly has approved the following two proposed amendments to the Constitution of Virginia. The amendments, as ballot questions, are now submitted to voters for adoption. The explanations for each amendment are provided by the Commonwealth of Virginia State Board of Elections. For additional information on the proposed constitutional amendments, visit the State Board of Elections website: [www.sbe.virginia.gov](http://www.sbe.virginia.gov)

### QUESTION 1: BILL OF RIGHTS AND EMINENT DOMAIN

Shall Section 11 of Article I (Bill of Rights) of the Constitution of Virginia be amended (i) to require that eminent domain only be exercised where the property taken or damaged is for public use and, except for utilities or the elimination of a public nuisance, not where the primary use is for private gain, private benefit, private enterprise, increasing jobs, increasing tax revenue, or economic development; (ii) to define what is included in just compensation for such taking

or damaging of property; and (iii) to prohibit taking or damaging of more private property than is necessary for the public use?

#### EXPLANATION

##### Current Constitution and Background

Article I, Section 11 of the current Constitution prohibits the taking or damaging of private property for public uses without just compensation. The power to take private property for public uses is known as the power of eminent domain. If a private property owner and the entity acquiring property for a public use cannot agree on the sale of the property, the property may be taken by eminent domain and the amount of just compensation is decided in a court proceeding.

In a 2005 case from Connecticut, the U.S. Supreme Court upheld the taking of private property and its transfer to a private business for economic development purposes and also said that states could restrict the use of eminent domain (*Kelo v. City of New Lon-*

*don*, 545 U.S. 469). Two years later, the Virginia General Assembly enacted § 1-219.1 of the Code of Virginia and set limits on the use of eminent domain powers. For example, § 1-219.1 provides that no more private property may be taken than is necessary for the stated public use, that the public interest for the taking must outweigh any private gain, and that private property cannot be taken for certain primary purposes such as increasing the tax base, revenues, or employment.

To further assist you, the League of Women Voters of Virginia (LWV-VA) has prepared the following Pros and Cons. This information is intended as an educational piece ONLY for the voters of Virginia; LWV-VA neither supports nor opposes this amendment. Information for the “supporter side” was taken from the Virginia Farm Bureau’s website, [www.vafarmbureau.org](http://www.vafarmbureau.org). Information for the “opponent side” was provided by Mark Flynn, Director of Legal Services for the Virginia Municipal League (VML), [www.vml.org](http://www.vml.org). For more information about LWV-VA, please visit [www.lwv-va.org](http://www.lwv-va.org)

WHAT SUPPORTERS SAY	WHAT OPPONENTS SAY
Virginia's Constitution does give some protection. This amendment will further protect property rights, which have eroded over time.	This amendment creates problems for Virginia citizens making public projects more expensive or impossible to carry out. Lost profits and access – new to Virginia law.
This constitutional amendment is intended to prevent eminent domain abuse. This proposed amendment would tighten up state's definition of public use.	General Assembly charged with defining lost profit and lost access. Lost profit is defined as three years' profits prior to the taking based on federal tax returns of property. Most generous benefits in the United States.
Public lands and existing corridors should be used to avoid the taking of private property in order to minimize the disruption to home, family, and business.	Virginia Supreme Court rejected claims for payment for profits or access for at least 100 years of decisions. Too speculative, the courts ruled in every case.
Compensation should be based on fair market value of property, taking into account factors that decrease value.	Lost profits too speculative – may be a government give away.
Protects valuable farm land when less productive land is available.	Is all economic development bad? Condemnation may not be used for taking land for increasing jobs, increasing tax revenue or economic development.
Protects land owners to ensure government can't give private land to another private entity.	Would anyone consider the utility project an inappropriate project? No, but this amendment to the Constitution may create that result.
All eminent domain takings must be for true public use.	The farmer who was counting on selling the farm as a retirement plan may well lose the sale.
Cuts loopholes in Virginia's law that is a result of the <i>Kelo</i> decision.	No one can seriously argue that he knows the answer to the question. We have to wait for the courts to decide several cases – answers that may be 10 years coming.

### QUESTION 2: GENERAL ASSEMBLY VETO SESSIONS ARTICLE IV. LEGISLATURE SECTION 6. LEGISLATIVE SESSIONS

Shall Section 6 of Article IV (Legislature) of the Constitution of Virginia concerning legislative sessions be amended to allow the General Assembly to delay by no more than one week the fixed starting date for the reconvened or “veto” session when the General Assembly meets after a session to consider the bills returned to it

by the Governor with vetoes or amendments?

#### EXPLANATION

**Current Constitution and Background.** After the end of every legislative session, the General Assembly is required by the Constitution to meet again or reconvene in a “veto” session. The only bills that the General Assembly can consider in a veto session are bills that it had passed during the legislative session and that the Governor has sent back to it with his vetoes or suggested amendments. The Constitution now requires that the veto session must begin on the sixth

Wednesday following the end of each session. The veto session usually lasts for only one day and cannot last more than ten days.

**Proposed Amendment.** The only change to Section 6 of Article IV, proposed by this amendment will allow the General Assembly to delay the start of the veto session for up to one week. The General Assembly will be able to avoid the possible scheduling of the veto session on a religious holiday such as Passover. The proposed amendment does not change the present limits on the business that can be considered in a veto session or on the length of the veto session.

*The Fall 2012 Voters' Guide was prepared by:*  
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