



CANDIDATE SPOTLIGHT

GREG MOULTHROP

VIRGINIA SENATE DISTRICT 32

CANDIDATE: **GREG MOULTHROP**

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What would you like voters to know about you?

Most importantly I am focused on **solutions**. My personal values lean conservative, but no longer can legislators govern from the left or the right. Rather, we must focus on solutions that benefit most of our electorate. During my campaign, I will speak with anyone, anywhere, at any time because the opinion of every individual in my district matters to me.

My platform has three parts: fuel our economy by lowering taxes and reducing the size of government; provide our students a competitive, first-class education including advanced programs in Science, Technology, Engineering and Math; and third, focus on healthcare by reducing costs and protecting patient safety, combatting the opioid epidemic, and improving access to mental health services.

Why are you running for office? Why are you interested in public service?

I never thought I would run for office, and I am not planning to make a career in politics, but I felt I needed to do something in 2021 when schools and businesses were forced to close. As an entrepreneur, I knew that if government would just get out of the way, schools and businesses would apply American ingenuity and find a **solution** to stay open. I want to limit government overreach, I want to restore trust in ingenuity, and I want immigrants to Virginia to be assured that in our Commonwealth, the American Dream is still alive. We must reestablish the hope that hard work can lead to success that the government cannot destroy with the stroke of a pen.

How long have you lived in Loudoun County?

I first moved to Virginia to attend Longwood University where I earned a Bachelor of Science in Economics and Public Administration, but more importantly, met my beautiful wife, Wendy. I subsequently attained a Master of Science in Supply Chain Management from University of San Diego, while Wendy received her master's degree from the University of Virginia. We settled in Loudoun County over 23 years ago and have two children in Loudoun County Public Schools. Their experience with public education influences my platform.

Have the demographics in your district changed since your last run for office?

A phenomenon of post-Covid America is the trend of significant migration from blue to red states. Governor Youngkin expressed concern that Virginia too experienced a net loss of over 32,000 residents since the start of the pandemic. But to understand how this impacts Senate District 32, it's important to look at statistics provided by the University of Virginia's Demographics Research Group. They analyzed information from moving companies and found that in northern Virginia, residents moved out of Fairfax County, Arlington, and Alexandria, and into Loudoun, Clarke, and Fauquier Counties. Like the national trend, this tells me that residents are seeking areas with lower taxes, safer communities, and better education for their children. The influx of new District 32 voters whose values I share and who are looking for better **solutions**, will provide the margin of victory in this election.

Have issues changed since 2021?

No, the issues have not changed, but the rhetoric surrounding them has accelerated. Perhaps it's the influence of cable TV or social media, but adversarial relationships seem to have become the norm. The reality is, we have a two-party system, and we must return Richmond to bipartisanship. Sure, we have a range of opinions, but legislators can come to agreement on issues that affect all of us. I believe we need to start somewhere, and that beginning is civil discourse. Only by listening instead of grandstanding, and negotiating instead of looking for sound bites, can we develop **solutions**.

What do you hope to accomplish if you are elected?

Keep in mind that the Virginia General Assembly experienced near gridlock in the 2023 session, and we still don't even have a new budget. So, now more than ever, legislators need to listen to voters from both sides of the aisle and seek out common solutions.

We know, for example, that Virginians have been grossly overtaxed. In the face of record inflation, we finished fiscal year 2022 with almost a two-billion-dollar surplus. The answer is

not to spend the surplus, the **solution** is for Republican and Democratic legislators to come together to help struggling families and the small businesses who fuel our economy, *by reducing tax rates for both.*

Next, we must stop laying blame for who, or what, is responsible for our students' drop in test scores, and instead work together to achieve two educational **solutions**: excellence in education which means raising the bar for all students, including advanced programs in Science, Technology, Engineering and Math, and second, protecting the safety and innocence of our children.

Finally, I am focused on healthcare, another bipartisan issue. I believe there is universal agreement to combat the opioid epidemic and improve access to mental health services. In order to effectively tackle these enormous challenges, we must lower the cost of healthcare overall. To that end, I will introduce legislation to eliminate the middleman between patients and pharmaceutical companies; improve the efficiency of healthcare providers by reducing the time they spend fighting with insurance companies; prohibit hospitals from charging patients for supplies that they don't use; and increase transparency in healthcare costs.

The **solutions** I plan to deliver will help all Virginians, regardless of party affiliation.

What is the one-word people who know you best would use to describe you?

Well Tina, I'll have to fudge on that just a little and give you two words. I would say people describe me as "solutions-driven."