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## **For Immediate Release – June 12, 2019** Contact: John O'Neil, VEA Communications, 804-775-8316, joneil@veanea.org

## Ninety percent of VEA Fund-backed candidates win June 11 primaries

Nine of 10 candidates recommended by the Virginia Education Association Fund for Children and Public Education who participated in primaries yesterday won their races, says Jim Livingston, chair of the VEA Fund.

"The VEA Fund rigorously evaluates candidates for public office to make sure they support students in our public schools and those who work with them," said Livingston, who is president of the 40,000member VEA. "Our strong showing in yesterday's primary elections is testimony to the quality of our process and to the candidates who prevailed. We believe it also shows the public cares deeply about education and will support candidates with the ideas and commitment to move us forward. Congratulations to these nine supporters of our students."

VEA Fund-backed candidates who won yesterday were:

Senate: Lynwood Lewis (6th); Cheryl Turpin (7th); Barbara Favola (31st); Jennifer Boysko (33rd); and Dick Saslaw (35th).

House of Delegates: Israel O'Quinn (5th); Kaye Kory (38th); Alfonso Lopez (49th); and Luke Torian (52nd).

Rosalyn Dance (Senate, 16th), recommended by the VEA Fund, was upset in her primary. Livingston said of Dance, "Senator Dance has been consistent in her strong support of our public schools, and in this last legislative session she helped to win the biggest increase in state funding for much-needed school counselors in 30 years. Her leadership and commitment will be greatly missed."

You can find complete information on VEA Fund-supported candidates from now through the November elections at <u>www.veafund.org</u>.