

BizVotes Questionnaire Results

34th House District – Special Election

Craig Parisot (R) / Kathleen Murphy (D)



Answer is consistent with Loudoun Chamber's Position



Answer is inconsistent with Loudoun Chamber's Position



Answer is partly consistent with Loudoun Chamber's Position

1) Virginia has recently seen its economic climate suffer as Federal spending on defense and other areas that are so important to our state continues to decline while other states are doing a better job of diversifying their economies. What are your plans to help our community and the Commonwealth create new jobs and create new businesses that are less dependent upon federal spending and position Virginia for the industries of the future?

Chamber Position:

CRAIG PARISOT (R): Mr. Parisot did not respond to the Loudoun County Chamber of Commerce's Special Election Candidates Questionnaire.

KATHLEEN MURPHY (D): We need to grow and diversify our economy with a focus on green energy, cyber security, and other innovative technologies. Also through programs that expand small business's access to bank loans and new sources of capital. And finally, through transportation improvements, our education system, expanded healthcare, and a welcoming society.

2) Do you support a government requirement, whether enacted by the General Assembly or imposed by executive order or administrative action, that mandate wages, benefits, non-discrimination, or disclosure requirements as a condition for obtaining contracts with the state government? Yes or No? Please explain your response.

Chamber Position: No, the Chamber supports allowing free market conditions to determine important labor issues, such as compensation and conditions of employment,

and supports all employers meeting their legal and ethical obligations to their employees and the government. Further, the Chamber opposes administrative overreach by any branch of government that goes beyond the application of statute and the Constitution in a manner that negatively impacts businesses.

CRAIG PARISOT (R): Mr. Parisot did not respond to the Loudoun County Chamber of Commerce's Special Election Candidates Questionnaire.



KATHLEEN MURPHY (D): Yes. I believe that government contractors should have to pay fair wages and should not have discriminatory hiring practices.

3) Northern Virginia generates significant tax revenues for the Commonwealth, but most of those revenues are not returned to support the needs of our region's local governments. Do you believe local governments should be granted additional authority by the Commonwealth to diversify their revenue sources, to reduce their dependence on local property taxes to fund the services our citizens' demand? Yes or No? Please explain your response.

Chamber Position: Yes, the Loudoun County Chamber of Commerce supports increased access to diversified streams of revenue for high growth areas, like Loudoun, to support the increased cost associated with that growth.

CRAIG PARISOT (R): Mr. Parisot did not respond to the Loudoun County Chamber of Commerce's Special Election Candidates Questionnaire.



KATHLEEN MURPHY (D): Yes. I will work with my colleagues at all levels of government to advocate bringing more of Northern Virginia's tax dollars home. We should have a forthright policy discussion about appropriate adjustments to the Composite Index. I believe local governments should have greater flexibility to diversify their revenue sources.

4) Given the importance of Metro's Silver Line not just to Northern Virginia but to the entire Commonwealth, would you support a significant contribution from the state government to lessen the burden that is borne by Northern Virginia taxpayers and commuters and what will you do to help secure that funding?

Chamber Position: The Loudoun County Chamber of Commerce supports aggressive efforts to secure additional funding for the project at the federal, state and private-sector

levels to minimize the cost impact from the project on Dulles Toll Road users and Loudoun County businesses and residents.

CRAIG PARISOT (R): Mr. Parisot did not respond to the Loudoun County Chamber of Commerce's Special Election Candidates Questionnaire.



KATHLEEN MURPHY (D): Yes. The Silver Line is the most important infrastructure project in the Commonwealth and will not only reduce traffic but will be an economic game-changer for our region. I will be a champion for Silver Line funding and will work with my colleagues to fight for additional state funding.

5) As Virginia continues on the road to economic recovery, Virginians must adapt by being prepared with the skills and training needed to compete in a rapidly evolving global economy. Do you believe the state is doing enough to support Virginia's higher education institutions and their efforts to prepare our workforce for the 21st Century economy, particularly in the STEM-H (ealth) arena? Yes or No? Please explain your response.

Chamber Position: No, the Loudoun County Chamber of Commerce supports the state doing more to increase emphasis on development and strengthening of STEM + H skills, which are the foundation of many of today's businesses and jobs.

CRAIG PARISOT (R): Mr. Parisot did not respond to the Loudoun County Chamber of Commerce's Special Election Candidates Questionnaire.



KATHLEEN MURPHY (D): The General Assembly and our local governments must do more to ensure we're educating our workforce for a 21st Century economy. We must stop Virginia's downward trend in state funding for higher education and work with our localities to diversify public education offerings to offer additional opportunities in STEM fields.

6) Reforming the state's traditional Medicaid program and closing the coverage gap for Virginia's working uninsured population remains a challenge. Do you support Medicaid reform? Yes or No, and why? Do you support closing the coverage gap? Yes or no? If no, why? If yes, what specific elements would need to be included in a plan to garner your vote?

Chamber Position: The Loudoun County Chamber of Commerce supports Medicaid reform, including an independent audit of the Medicaid program. Concurrent with reform,

the Chamber supports closing the coverage gap for Virginia's working uninsured population through a public-private, managed care approach.

CRAIG PARISOT (R): Mr. Parisot did not respond to the Loudoun County Chamber of Commerce's Special Election Candidates Questionnaire.



KATHLEEN MURPHY (D): I support Medicaid reform in Virginia and closing the coverage gap. We have met all the requirements put forth by MIRC and I will vote for efforts to move this forward. We lose \$5 million to our economy every day as we wait to pass Medicaid reform.

7) What is your position on encouraging new, clean and renewable sources of energy through the use of incentives and/or by streamlining regulations that will enable the private sector to bring these new energy sources and technologies to market?

Chamber Position: The Loudoun County Chamber of Commerce supports the use of incentives and proven market-based methodologies to advance alternative energy for businesses.

CRAIG PARISOT (R): Mr. Parisot did not respond to the Loudoun County Chamber of Commerce's Special Election Candidates Questionnaire.



KATHLEEN MURPHY (D): I support all measures to encourage clean energy, this includes tax credits to install energy efficiency upgrades. I oppose subsidies in the budget that encourage polluting fuels. Virginia can also look to be a leader in clean energy production by reducing carbon pollution and mandating a renewable portfolio standard.

8) Even prosperous and developed communities like Loudoun are unable to provide high speed internet and other telecommunication services to many areas of our community. Would you support funding and/or policy initiatives that would incent the private sector to build, own and operate modern high speed telecommunications infrastructure in Virginia's underserved areas, such as western Loudoun County? Yes or No? Please explain your response.

Chamber Position: Yes, the Loudoun County Chamber of Commerce supports policies that encourage growth of Loudoun's broadband infrastructure, including cutting edge wireless and other internet infrastructure.

CRAIG PARISOT (R): Mr. Parisot did not respond to the Loudoun County Chamber of Commerce's Special Election Candidates Questionnaire.



KATHLEEN MURPHY (D): Yes. High-speed Internet is the great equalizer of opportunity of our time. Access to high-speed Internet improves education and drives business relocation. Loudoun is one of the largest Internet hubs in the world. This has played a factor in companies like Equinix locating to Loudoun.

9) In 2014, the General Assembly took steps towards reforming Virginia's ethics laws. Do you believe those reforms went far enough? Yes or No? Please explain your response. If no, what other reforms would you like to see enacted?

Chamber Position: No, the Loudoun County Chamber of Commerce supports additional reforms to create a legal and regulatory framework that requires and clearly defines the highest standards of ethical behavior and accountability for all government officials – whether elected or appointed - at all levels of government.

CRAIG PARISOT (R): Mr. Parisot did not respond to the Loudoun County Chamber of Commerce's Special Election Candidates Questionnaire.



KATHLEEN MURPHY (D): I will support establishing strict gift limits with no loopholes and increased enforcement and penalties for elected officials who use public office for personal or financial gain.

10) The current shortage of resident judges in Loudoun County dramatically and negatively affects the ability of citizens and businesses in the county to obtain resolution of civil disputes. In 2014, the General Assembly authorized a 5th Circuit County judgeship covering Loudoun County. Do you support funding this new judgeship in the 2015 budget? Yes or No? Please explain your response.

Chamber Position: Yes, the Loudoun County Chamber of Commerce supports the General Assembly funding this position in the 2015 budget.

CRAIG PARISOT (R): Mr. Parisot did not respond to the Loudoun County Chamber of Commerce's Special Election Candidates Questionnaire.



KATHLEEN MURPHY (D): Yes. Our legal system must have the resources to resolve civil disputes and to this end, a 5th Circuit judgeship for Loudoun makes perfect sense. Businesses need a way for quick resolution in legal disputes.

11) Please briefly describe what best qualifies you to hold the office for which you are running.

Chamber Position:

CRAIG PARISOT (R): Mr. Parisot did not respond to the Loudoun County Chamber of Commerce's Special Election Candidates Questionnaire.

KATHLEEN MURPHY (D): As a mother of 6, small business owner, and longtime resident of this community, I understand our community's values and have the experience and relationships to be an effective Delegate for our area on day one. I will be an unwavering advocate of a world class educational system and will work with our Governor to bring business to our area.

12) What is the chief factor that differentiates you from your opponent(s) (if you have one)?

Chamber Position:

CRAIG PARISOT (R): Mr. Parisot did not respond to the Loudoun County Chamber of Commerce's Special Election Candidates Questionnaire.

KATHLEEN MURPHY (D): I have lived, worked and raised a family in this community. I have a deep, first hand understanding of the issues that face families and small businesses in Northern Virginia. I have relationships with various organizations and stakeholders in our community. These things make me uniquely qualified to find solutions to the obstacles that face the 34th District.