



ELIZABETH GUZMAN

CANDIDATE FOR 31ST DISTRICT (D)

Should Virginia use federal funding to expand Medicaid to bridge the gap between the current Medicaid program and qualifying for marketplace subsidies?

Yes - I believe Expanding Medicaid is the right thing to do, because affordable healthcare is a human right, not a privilege. We can also use the public tax money that we lose from not expanding, not only on health care, but also in education and transportation.

Should Virginia provide health care coverage for those under 18, regardless of immigration status?

Insuring everyone's healthcare protects the public health of all Virginians. When we leave children uninsured, one disease or illness could be dangerous to the broader public. Immigration status does not have anything to do with protecting our children's health; children who come to this country just to be raised by their parents.

Do you support state and/or local law enforcement agencies volunteer to become deputized ICE agents and enforce civil immigration laws by signing a 287(g) agreement?

No - Local law enforcement should focus on making the community safer, by fighting crime and building stronger community relationships. Only trained federal agents should carry out immigration-related matters, because immigration is a federal issue.

I lived this issue first hand, as Prince William County resident. I was constantly targeted by law enforcement due to the way I look and because of my last name. 287 g promotes racial profiling, divides our community and creates fear among our population.





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Should all age-eligible individuals who pass the driving exam be allowed a driver's license, regardless of immigration status?

Yes - Anyone who drives should have a license. We used to have it in Virginia. This right was removed due to 9/11 attacks that were not performed by undocumented immigrants. Giving driver's licenses will provide identification to all Virginia residents; it will bring property tax money; and, it will make our roads safer. It will also ensure that drivers have a driving record, meaning they can be held accountable when traffic laws and accidents happen.

Do you support policies that protect cooperating victims of crime and witnesses from routine immigration inquiries by law enforcement?

Yes - In our justice system, we need to make sure crimes are prosecuted and punished to the fullest extent of the law. If we do not protect undocumented witnesses, then violent crimes might go unresolved, and communities will be less safe.

Should the minimum wage be raised to \$15 in Virginia?

Yes - We need a living wage for every Virginian, so no family has to decide between food and family. Raising the minimum wage means parents spending more time with their children, a stronger workforce and stronger economy, and lives up to Virginia's aspirations as an inclusive place for families and businesses.

Should Virginia rescind its "right to work" law?

Yes - Right-to-Work means "right to work less," and hurts hardworking Virginia families everyday. As a union member, I will work to repeal the right work law, stand up to protect the rights of workers, to raise the minimum wage, and ensure every worker has a safe place to work. We also need to expand our existing workers compensation funds, to help families when workers are hurt on the job.





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Should the state establish a new top tax rate bracket (current top bracket is \$17,000) and update our current brackets to account for inflation?

Yes - I believe everyone should pay their fair share of taxes. When the middle class and poor share the burden for the wealthy, our country does not grow. We need to change the way Richmond does business, and not allow the wealthy and special interests to avoid paying their bills, higher taxes, and passing it off to low and middle class.

Should Virginia protect/expand funding for programs that benefit English Language Learners?

Yes - We are becoming a more diverse country, and becoming more globally connected. We need to ensure our children in immigrant communities can learn and grow in this country, be able to obtain jobs, and contribute to the community. Learning English will help immigrants to get better jobs or pursue higher education if it is their desire.

Should college in-state tuition rates be available to any student who graduates from a Virginia high school, regardless of immigration status?

Yes - Yes. Anyone who is here that is willing to work hard and has graduated from our schools should be qualified to achieve higher education in Virginia. They are more likely to stay in Virginia, get a job, and contribute to our economy.

What strategies do you support to expand college affordability?

I would work with my caucus to stop big corporate subsidies and put that money to fund affordable colleges. We need more public universities and mandate schools to have more scholarship available. If more people go to college, we will have more graduates with less debt, and students will be more likely to start a business and/or get a job, and this will grow our economy.





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What steps would you take to improve language access of state documents and agencies to English Language Learners?

I would work administrators to ensure language access by request for any group. Virginia is change and becoming diverse, and our state government should reflect that in its practices. We need to have documents translated on languages that are spoken the most in Virginia. As a public administrator with 15 years of service, I will bring my experience of working with diverse communities and work with state government officials.

Do you support no excuse absentee voting?

Yes - Yes. We need to allow the greatest possible access for voting across the commonwealth. We should have Early Voting, with more polling locations so that no one has to wait in long lines to exercise their right to vote. I will also advocate for nonpartisan redistricting in Virginia.

*photo taken from Elizabeth Guzman for Delegate Facebook page

