



# Voter's Guide

The League of Women Voters of Virginia

**General Election \* November 7, 2006 \* Polls open 6 a.m. to 7 p.m.**

## OFFICE: U. S. SENATOR

**Term:** 6 years **Salary:** \$165,200 **Requirements:** 30 years of age; U.S. citizen for at least nine years; resident of state represented. **Powers:** originate and pass legislation, approve presidential appointments, ratify treaties, conduct impeachment trials.

### BIOGRAPHIES



#### George F. Allen

U.S. Senator: 2001-present; Partner, McGuire Woods: 1998-2000; Governor of Virginia: 1994-1998; Member, U.S. House of Representatives: 1991-1993; Member, Virginia House of Delegates: 1983-1991; Private Law Practice: 1978-1991; Law Clerk, Judge Glen Williams (U.S. District Court Western District VA): 1977-1978; JD, University of Virginia; BA, University of Virginia. Party: Republican



#### Glenda Gail Parker

Retired Air Force Reserve Officer, former Senior Budget Analyst, mother of three, grandmother of four. Undergrad degree in business management, graduate degree in business administration. We need more citizens running for office. The positive solution is to participate. Contact me. Join us this year and run for office in '07. Party: Independent Green



#### James H. "Jim" Webb

Jim Webb is a highly decorated Vietnam veteran, award winning journalist and author. He served as Assistant Secretary of Defense and Secretary of the Navy in the Reagan Administration. Jim received a BS in engineering from the Naval Academy and a JD from the Georgetown University Law Center. Party: Democrat

## QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

### 1. What is your priority issue for your service in the Senate?

**George Allen:** First, protect our freedom – supporting our troops in the War on Terror, securing our borders, and becoming less dependent on foreign energy sources. Second, make America a land of opportunity for all – lower taxes, less litigation, less regulation, more personalized healthcare options, and improved educational opportunities, especially in the areas of science, engineering, and technology. Third, preserve our foundational values.

**Gail Parker:** Stop wasteful federal spending of our tax dollars. Balance the Federal Budget. Stop no bid non-competitive contracts. Install an auditable accounting system at the Pentagon. Pay off the Federal Debt. The first law I will propose in the U.S. Senate is to immediately balance the federal budget, and by cutting wasteful spending pay off the federal debt. This protects social security and every Virginian.

**Jim Webb:** There are three areas that are of extreme importance. First, we must refocus our foreign policy on vital strategic interests, including ending our occupation of Iraq in a fast, but responsible way. Second, we must restore true notions of fairness to society including issues of race, class and economic advantage. Third, we must restore the constitutional role of the Congress as an equal partner, reining in the unbridled power of the Presidency.

For more information contact: **The League of Women Voters of Virginia:** [virginia.va.lwvnet.org](http://virginia.va.lwvnet.org); **State Board of Elections:** [www.sbe.virginia.gov/](http://www.sbe.virginia.gov/); **The Candidates:** [www.georgeallen.com/](http://www.georgeallen.com/); [www.gailparker.com/](http://www.gailparker.com/); [www.webbforsenate.com](http://www.webbforsenate.com)

## 2. What would you recommend to reduce our dependence on foreign oil?

**George Allen:** As a Member of the Energy Committee, I know that we need to increase domestic production of oil and natural gas, promote conservation, encourage clean coal technology, and expand the use of alternative energy sources, such as soy diesel and Lithium Ion batteries.

**Gail Parker:** Build rail. We need high-speed, and light rail across Virginia. 42,000 Americans die on highways every year. 330,000 are injured. Every week another teenager dies on local roads. Rail saves American lives. Rail is safer and cuts our addiction to foreign oil. We make Virginia safer for our families, and America more secure by cutting dependence on foreign oil. We need "More Trains, Less Traffic!"

**Jim Webb:** We need a comprehensive, sustainable energy policy that focuses on ending our addiction to all oil, not just foreign oil. We can start by imposing a windfall profit tax on oil companies and using the proceeds to increase research, development and deployment of renewable energy technologies, including ethanol, solar power and nuclear energy.

## 3. How would you work to reduce the deficit?

**George Allen:** As Governor, I balanced budgets. I strongly believe that we need more restraint in spending. That is why I introduced legislation to require a balanced budget, to provide the President line-item veto authority, and to withhold the salaries of members of Congress if appropriations bills are not passed by October 1st, the beginning of the new fiscal year.

**Gail Parker:** Install an auditable accounting system at the Pentagon. The Government Accountability Office has for years called for auditable accounting system at the Pentagon. It is unacceptable that one of every four taxpayer dollars simply disappears. The first bill I'll put on the Senate floor is to balance the budget and pay off the debt. It's our government. It's our money. It's our business.

**Jim Webb:** I support pay as you go rules, requiring Congress to offset new spending and tax cuts with offsets from existing spending. We can further reduce wasteful spending by controlling and eventually eliminating spending on the war in Iraq, which has cost \$319 billion so far.

## 4. Many people working for small businesses or part-time cannot get medical insurance. What would you do to address this?

**George Allen:** I support increased use of Health Savings Accounts and introduced legislation to increase the amount of money individuals can contribute to HSAs. I also support Small Business Health Plans, which help small business owners provide quality, affordable health insurance to their employees. Also, making health insurance premiums 100% deductible for individuals and the self-employed will offer the same tax advantages that big businesses receive when they provide health insurance to their employees.

**Gail Parker:** Everyone needs to have access to affordable health insurance. One excellent way to create good jobs with health care for Virginians and Virginia families is to build rail across Virginia. Build rail, creating jobs, making Virginians competitive through innovation with high-speed rail; making Virginia safer for our grandchildren, and get our Country back onto a solid fiscal basis.

**Jim Webb:** I support Democratic efforts that would allow small business to participate in insurance pooling modeled on the Federal Employees Health Benefits Program. These pools would allow companies to band together to combine their purchasing power and spread out risk over a large population. This program would give small businesses greater health insurance choices and help reduce costs.

# Proposed Constitutional Amendments

## **BALLOT QUESTION NUMBER 1**

*Shall Article I (the Bill of Rights) of the Constitution of Virginia be amended to state: "That only a union between one man and one woman may be a marriage valid in or recognized by this Commonwealth and its political subdivisions.*

*This Commonwealth and its political subdivisions shall not create or recognize a legal status for relationships of unmarried individuals that intends to approximate the design, qualities, significance, or effects of marriage. Nor shall this Commonwealth or its political subdivisions create or recognize another union, partnership, or other legal status to which is assigned the rights, benefits, obligations, qualities, or effects of marriage."*?

## **BALLOT QUESTION NUMBER 2**

*Shall Section 14 of Article IV of the Constitution of Virginia be amended by deleting the provision that prohibits the incorporation of churches, a provision that was ruled to be unconstitutional and therefore now is obsolete?*

## **BALLOT QUESTION NUMBER 3**

*Shall Section 6 of Article X of the Constitution of Virginia be amended to authorize legislation to permit localities to provide a partial exemption from real property taxes for real estate with new structures and improvements in conservation, redevelopment, or rehabilitation areas?*

For more information contact: **The League of Women Voters of Virginia:** [virginia.va.lwvnet.org](http://virginia.va.lwvnet.org); **State Board of Elections:** [www.sbe.virginia.gov/](http://www.sbe.virginia.gov/); **The Candidates:** [www.georgeallen.com/](http://www.georgeallen.com/); [www.gailparker.com/](http://www.gailparker.com/); [www.webbforsenate.com](http://www.webbforsenate.com)