

## Senate District 21

### **Meet the Candidate: Angelia Williams Graves**

Delegate Angelia (pronounced Angela) Williams Graves currently represents the 90th House of Delegates District in Norfolk. She is the Democratic nominee for the new 21st State Senate District to represent Norfolk.

Delegate Williams Graves was born and raised in Norfolk, Virginia. Angelia's public service spans over more than two decades. She is a graduate of St. Mary's Academy, Booker T. Washington High School, Tidewater Community College and Old Dominion University.

Her public service began when she started as an employee for the City of Norfolk in 2001 in the Commissioner of the Revenue's office. After being appointed to the Norfolk Public Libraries Board of Trustees, Angelia went on to be elected as a member of Norfolk's City Council in 2010. From there, she was appointed as Vice-Mayor of the City of Norfolk from 2014 to 2016 and elected to the Virginia General Assembly's House of Delegates in 2021. Angelia is a strong advocate of a woman's right to choose, common sense gun laws, public education and a supporter of tackling the climate crisis.

**Legislative Priorities:** I am a **pro-choice candidate** and believe women deserve the right to bodily autonomy and full access to reproductive healthcare options. I voted for a constitutional amendment that would codify the right to choose in Virginia's constitution.

I am a **common sense gun safety candidate** because our community and families are at risk. I introduced two gun safety bills during the 2023 session that would have required a gun safety course before purchase and prohibited carrying weapons in hospitals and places that treat mental health. I will be bringing those bills back in the 2024 session. I also carried a budget amendment that will fund violence prevention programs in Norfolk.

I will continue to fight to protect and **fully fund our public schools**. When I served on City Council I watched public education funding from the State drop every year. This year I fought alongside my Democratic colleagues to bring historic funding back to public education. Norfolk Public Schools is receiving an additional \$20M total from the state budget.

We need an **economy that works for everyone**. I know that families across Norfolk are struggling. That is why I am focused on providing solutions to lower costs now. This means supporting our small businesses, investing in workforce development,

cutting taxes, and creating green jobs that will also protect our environment. I will fight to ensure future tax breaks are fair and equitable so that the middle class, people with disabilities, and children are not left out.

**Protecting our environment** is one of the biggest challenges we face today. We must protect our earth for future generations and get back into the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative that our Governor wrongfully removed our state from. I will support measures for funding to combat flooding in Norfolk.

**Contact the campaign:** <https://www.angeliawilliamsgraves.com/volunteer>