



February 10, 2026

Dear Chairperson Kevin McCabe,

I am writing to respectfully request the support and endorsement of the Middlesex County Democratic Committee as I seek election to represent New Jersey's 12th Congressional District in the United States Congress.

My service in the New Jersey General Assembly has been guided by a simple principle: government must work for people — in their daily lives, in moments of crisis, and in building opportunity for the future. Since my election, I have focused on advancing legislation that reflects the values of our Democratic Party and addresses the diverse and pressing needs of our communities.

During the most recent legislative session, I championed legislation in key areas, including good government, environmental sustainability, infrastructure, health and senior services, rights for people with disabilities, reproductive and maternal health care, workforce development, and voting rights.

Over the course of my tenure, 44 bills I sponsored have been signed into law by Governor Murphy. These include:

- A2146 – Establishing a state business assistance program to set procurement goals for socially and economically disadvantaged business enterprises
- A3861 – Prohibiting consumer reporting agencies from including paid medical debt in consumer credit reports
- A4052 – Creating a comprehensive three-year Sickle Cell Pilot Program with a \$10.2 million appropriation
- A5060 – Expanding the scope of school district employee sick leave
- A5472 – Establishing the New Jersey Maternal and Infant Health Innovation Center Act, with a \$2.22 million appropriation
- A5516 – Mandating bias training for certain healthcare professionals to promote equitable care

In addition, I have co-sponsored more than 400 bills and resolutions, 61 of which have been signed into law.

I currently serve as Chair of the Assembly Education Committee, Vice Chair of the Appropriations Committee, and Co-Chair of the Joint Committee on the Public Schools, and I also serve on the Assembly Budget Committee. Through this work, I have remained deeply connected to the needs of the people we serve and focused on delivering tangible results.

Equally important, I have worked to ensure that communities across the state have the support they need to grow, thrive, and remain affordable places to live. I am committed to advancing economic development, equity, and opportunity — values that will guide my work in Congress.

As we face critical national challenges — threats to democracy, affordability, access to health care, and the rights of working families — this moment calls for experienced leadership and a clear Democratic voice. I am ready to bring my record, relationships, and results to Congress — and to work closely with county leadership to deliver victories for our party. It is time to take our work from the State House to Capitol Hill.

I respectfully request your support and endorsement as we move our shared work forward from the State House to Capitol Hill.

Thank you for your leadership, your partnership, and your commitment to advancing Democratic values across Middlesex County and our state.

Sincerely,

Verlina Reynolds-Jackson

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VERLINA REYNOLDS -JACKSON

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P R O F I L E

- Highly trained professional with extensive fiscal, supervisory and administrative experience in local and state government
- Broad knowledge of the principles and methods used in budgeting, auditing, evaluating and reporting on a wide variety of state and local governmental programs
- Experience in analyzing the laws, rules and regulations surrounding the fiscal operation of governmental programs and their administration
- Strong background in government budget preparation, problems, practices and application to specific budgets.
- Consistently applies sound, knowledge-based, independent judgement in the solution of problems and the administration of programs
- Success in planning, directing and coordinating complex financial programs
- Excellent communication skills within a diverse workforce and with all levels of management
- Selects, trains, develops and motivates staff

E X P E R I E N C E

General Assembly, State of New Jersey 2018 - Present

State Legislator; Representing The 15th Legislative District

- Chair, Education Committee
- Vice Chair, Appropriations Committee
- Chair, New Jersey Legislative Black Caucus
- Proposes and adopts measures for enactment into law
- Conducts studies and investigations necessary in the lawmaking process, and in oversight of the execution of acts of the Legislature of the Executive Branch and political subdivision of the State
- Appropriates monies for the operation and support of State government
- Proposes amendments to the State Constitution to be submitted to the public for a vote

COUNTY OF MERCER, Trenton, NJ 2018 - Present

Grants Administrator

- Reviews proposed budget requests for federal, state, county and municipal grant programs
- Functions as the department representative on federal funding and represents the Director before appropriate federal government agencies
- Plans, organizes, and assigns the work of the organizational unit and evaluates employee performance and conduct, enabling the effective recommendation of the hiring, firing, promoting, and disciplining of subordinates
- Assures proper accounting procedures for project administration are in effect at the project level and department budget level
- Monitors and responsible for the execution of project budgets; provides recommendations in aspects of project organization and administration.

STATE OF NJ DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AFFAIRS , Trenton, NJ

2006 - 2018

Program Specialist 3 Socio-Economic Programs

- Supervised and managed the State Rental Assistance Program Project Based Units Budget of over \$20,000,000
- Program Coordinator for Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS with a budget of \$2,400,000
- Monitored federal and state grants to provide housing and related services to low-income households and persons with disabilities and implemented the programs in accordance with applicable state and Federal guidelines
- Applied for and received Continuum of Care (COC) Renewal Project \$800,000 since 2010 to the present
- Prepared and submit HUD's year-end report of actual expenditures verse estimated cost
- Continuum of Care homeless assistance grants are required to submit an Annual Performance Report (APR) electronically to HUD every operating year. Data collection for the APR is aligned with the most recent version of the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS)
- Analyzed and maintained strong occupancy rates with Housing program and maximize voucher by working closely with Public Housing Authorities (PHAs) and Grantees to identify specific budget utilization and voucher utilization rates to optimize the number of households served
- Negotiated 10-year rental assistance contract, Manage Commercial and Rental Assistance Contract Payment

CITY OF TRENTON EAST WARD COUNCIL MEMBER

2010 – 2018

Council Member Representing East Ward

- Proposed, analyzed and enacted legislation for the City of Trenton
- Enhanced the City's municipal finances by establishing purchasing controls for the City
- Thoroughly reviewed and analyzed the annual City budget; conferred with fellow members before changing/approving

MERCER COUNTY BOARD OF SOCIAL SERVICES, Trenton, NJ

1999 - 2006

Social Worker

- Provided continuing preventive and rehabilitative social services to clients and their families
- Accountable for annual budget of over \$2.25 million in emergency relief funds
- Met with clients to determine their social, economic and emotional status; observed home environment and family interactions when possible, to gain understanding of their particular situations
- Determined eligibility for specific social services or other interventions that could be undertaken to alleviate problems. Processed applications for aid on behalf of the county agency
- Referred clients to specialized agencies for services including long-term care, family planning, and housing
- Served as active liaison between local agency and regional/state/federal officials to insure most effective utilization of services
- Formulated an individualized service plan which specified long and short-term goals, as well as methods and resources to achieve desired outcomes
- Referred clients for medical care and treatment, drug and/or alcohol rehabilitation, employment training, counseling, and other services to meet their social service needs
- Met with clients to discuss problems and offer advice on family planning, budgeting, parenting skills, personal problems and other individual needs
- Followed up with service providers to assure that clients continued to make appropriate progress
- Made field visits to boarding homes, care facilities and/or clients' personal residences to observe conditions first-hand and make recommendations for change, if necessary
- Advocated for clients in emergency situations; appeared at court hearings when requested
- Maintained accurate, up-to-date files on clients and submit reports as required
- Continually updated social service skills and knowledge of resources through seminars, in-service training and relevant literature

CERTIFICATION AND EDUCATION

<i>Certified Municipal Finance Officer Program</i> Rutgers University Center for Government Service	2018
<i>NJ Redevelopment Training Institute; Redevelopment Planning Process</i> <i>Real Estate Development, Real Estate Finance</i>	2007
<i>Master of Science, Administration</i> Central Michigan University	2003
<i>Bachelor of Arts, Sociology</i> The College of New Jersey	1996