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Public Service Party Announces
First Nationwide Democratic Write-in Candidates
National Partnership with College Democrats of America

Press Conference at Liberty Plaza on Wednesday, 10am ET Aug 29th

Atlanta, GA -- In legislatures nationwide, there are 5,000 seats up for election in November and 13% of those seats will AUTOMATICALLY go to Republicans because they have no opposition.

The Public Service Party (www.publicserviceparty.org) and the College Democrats of America have joined together to launch a bold new idea: recruit democratic write-in candidates to run in every district where Republicans have no challengers. Over thirty states have state house and senate races with no democrats on the ticket. The only way to change that is with a “write-in revolution!”

On Wednesday, August 29th at 10am, at Liberty Plaza, Capitol Ave. SW, in Atlanta, Georgia, the Public Service Party will unveil their first wave of democratic write-in candidates. Seven democrats will run for state house and senate seats from Georgia to Florida. The Georgia candidates will submit their paperwork at the capitol and be official write-in candidates. The deadline to file as a write-in candidate in Georgia is September 4th. This is the first of many democratic write-in candidates the Public Service Party plans to run nationwide in November. (see <http://www.publicserviceparty.org/declared-write-in-candidates/> for a full list of candidate bios prior to press conference)

“We have real citizen candidates who are stepping up to run for office,” said Clare Schexnyder, the founder of the Public Service Party. “College students, grandmas, small business owners, and people with basic every-day jobs. These candidates want people in their local districts to have a chance to vote for a democrat. We’re getting applications every day from people across the country who want to run and make a difference.”

Running write-in candidates is a new way to mobilize and energize voters and give people a reason to go to the polls in their local election. A concerted nationwide write-in campaign has never been tried. It’s provocative and disruptive and can get more democrats elected. The Public Service Party (PSP) and College Democrats of America (CDA) are encouraging young people across the country to not only register to vote but to RUN for office in these deep red districts. It’s an idea that could easily catch fire and change the course of the midterm elections.

"In some states, you only have to be 18 to run for state house or senate," said Michael Smith, the National Political Director for College Democrats of America. "People always say young people are the future, but we're really the present, and we need to change the system NOW -- in November -- for our generation!"

"We keep hearing, 'Go to the polls and vote them out in the midterms', but it's impossible to vote Republicans out of office when there are no Democrats on the ticket!" said Schexnyder. In many red states across the country, where there have been long-time incumbents, it's been 10 to 15 years without a chance to vote for a Democrat. You can't make change in government if we aren't challenging these Republican candidates. This is a chance for students, community organizers, concerned citizens and city leaders to run for office without the cost or time associated with today's extraordinarily expensive political campaigns. It's 70 days til Election Day – a super short timetable.

The PSP is recruiting candidates, members, volunteers and donations online and via social media. The organization will work in concert with existing liberal, democratic and progressive groups to identify candidates and encourage voters to join the "Write-in Revolution." With only a small organizing team, Schexnyder is determined and optimistic about making an impact in a very short time. The challenge is getting the word out to every potential write-in candidate and every voter who lives in a district where they can run a write-in a candidate. Word-of-mouth, along with the website (www.publicserviceparty.org), Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/publicserviceparty/>), Instagram (<https://www.instagram.com/publicserviceparty/>) and Twitter page (<https://twitter.com/PublicSvcParty>) will be the vehicles for raising voters' awareness of this revolutionary option to "shake up the system" and flip red seats to blue.

List of Declared Write-in Candidates in Georgia and Florida: go to:
<http://www.publicserviceparty.org/declared-write-in-candidates/>

Jimmy Cooper - US GA House District 8 is from Lizella, Georgia, and is running for US House District 8. He's the Green Party nominee and has been endorsed by the Public Service Party as well. "I want to bring about progressive changes to our political, social, and economic order, and I want to inspire working-class Americans all over the U.S. to run for office at every level of government, and work to bring about progressive change." Better lower cost health care, more living wage jobs and bringing the American people together are the main tenets of Jimmy's campaign. "Americans are concerned that Republicans and Democrats in government don't work together, and that people are uncivil to one another, rather than respectful, and that people are too divided to work together for the common good. I'm committed to help change that."

Anne O'Bryant - GA Senate District 30 is a recent retiree who worked for 40 years in retail management. She's married to a navy vet and lives in Douglasville. She's lived in her city for 17 years, and not once has she had the opportunity to vote for a democrat in her local district! She's running for Senate District 30 to "do my best to actually improve the lives of families. Mike Dugan has spent most of his time focused on religious freedom legislation. That does nothing to help people pay their bills. Religious freedom is already guaranteed in the Constitution. I'll spend my time working hard for the people of my district and will help a democratic state congress expand Medicare and work towards a living wage for all Georgians."

Michelle Simmons- GA House District 02 - is from Dalton and works in finance and banking. She graduated from Kennesaw State University. She's a mom of two girls and feels a close tie to her community in North Georgia: "I want the people in my community to have a choice when they go to the polls this November! I don't feel the Republican party represents the people. My community is mostly rural so career politicians can't possibly understand what we go through and what our community truly needs." Access to affordable health care and universal health care is an issue that's especially important to Michelle. "So many in my area go without basic healthcare because they do not have coverage and

cannot afford to self-pay. Even the insured are not safe — my dad is still fighting a \$64,000 denied surgery bill for my mom who passed away from cancer in February.”

Dr. Jacqueline Mohair - GA House District 103 holds a ministry doctorate and degrees in business and marketing. She is a small business owner and mother of three. Jacqueline lives in Buford and feels it's key to serve your community first. “It's very important that we all be engaged in this current political climate.” Giving democratic voters a solid choice this November is the main reason she's running. She's focused on expanding medicaid so our state can get millions of dollars to reopen hospitals and doctor offices, investing in small business owners to help them succeed and fighting human trafficking, a serious problem in the metro-Atlanta area.

Joseph Harmon - GA House 145 is 27 years old and lives in Milledgeville. He's married and is in the process of adopting his 3 year old daughter. Joseph is a produce clerk at Kroger and is going back to school in January to earn his degree. He's running to try and make a difference for the families in his district and to give Democrats a solid choice to vote for in November. His big three issues are education, health care and civil rights. Joseph believes Georgians put families first, and focusing on quality education, more affordable health care and civil rights will help families prosper more in Georgia than they are now.

Barbara Seidman - GA House 176 is a retired small business owner who lives in Waycross. She had a long career in teaching and working for herself, but as a retiree, she wants to donate all of her time to working for the public good. Barbara ran a strong campaign for GA US House District 1 this year and pulled in more than 10,000 votes. She's eager to serve ALL the people of district 176, no matter which party they belong to. “It's the duty of all elected officials to represent ALL of their constituents. We deserve better than what we have now.” Barbara will work for affordable healthcare, expanding medicaid, quality education and higher paying jobs so Georgia families can make ends meet.

William Davis - FL House 06 qualified as a write-in candidate for Florida House district 6 in June. He's from Panama City Beach and is a student at University of Central Florida. He's the Director of Membership for the Florida College Democrats. William's campaign is about pressing the important issues: jobs, the environment, education, and more. He believes no one should be elected without a challenge to what they say and that the people's voices should be heard.

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