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Endorsements 2009

(Created: Monday, October 5, 2009 10:07 AM EDT)

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The Sun Gazette makes the following endorsements in local and state races. Additional endorsements will come in future weeks.

FOR THE 49th HOUSE OF DELEGATES:

Democratic incumbent Adam Ebbin is seeking a fourth term, and is unopposed. In his six years of service in the legislature, Ebbin has proven himself an able representative of his district, and sober-minded about the challenges facing the commonwealth. He merits re-election.

FOR THE 45th HOUSE OF DELEGATES: We are not always in sync, politically, with incumbent Democrat David Englin - he is a little too far to the left on some issues than we would like him to be, and being out there has certainly cost him some effectiveness for his constituents in conservative-to-its-core Richmond.

That said, Englin is engaged and his positions probably fairly represent the desires of most of his constituents in the 45th District.

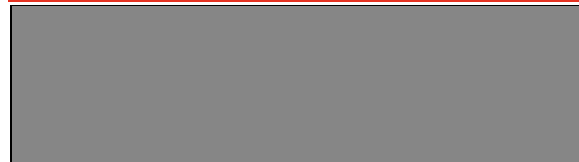
Republican challenger Vicki Vasques has not made the case that Englin should be turned out of office. We back Englin in his bid for re-election.

FOR SCHOOL BOARD: James Lander is unopposed for the seat being vacated by fellow Democrat Ed Fendley. We endorse him for the post, but caution that he, by his own admission, is going to need to come up to speed on a number of contentious issues before joining the board in January. We trust he is working on it.

FOR LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR: Republican incumbent Bill Bolling has been a faithful steward of the public trust in his four years in office. Democrat Jody Wagner, the winner of the odd primary battle, has made little headway in her efforts to paint Bolling as disengaged or out of the mainstream. We endorse Bolling.

FOR ATTORNEY GENERAL: Democrat Steve Shannon has convinced us that he has the credentials necessary to do the job: His pro-business, pro-consumer, pro-public-safety message resonates with us. His opponent, Republican Ken Cuccinelli, veers a little too far to the right on some issues for our taste. Shannon is the type of leader Virginians need in this key post. We endorse his bid.

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