

Virginia (VA-01) 2026

US House of Representatives

THE ISSUES

SHANNON
TAYLOR

DEMOCRAT



ROB
WITTMAN

REPUBLICAN · INCUMBENT



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ABORTION Ban or legal?	Legal. Would “fight to restore the protections of Roe v. Wade.” Supports a Virginia amendment enshrining rights to abortion. As a prosecutor said , “I would never prosecute a woman and her doctor [for] engaging in that very personal reproductive decision.”	Ban. “ I have been consistent in my opposition to abortion.” Supported the overturning of Roe v. Wade. Voted in 2021 against codifying abortion rights into federal law. Voted to penalize health care practitioners for failing to exercise the required degree of care for an infant who survives an attempted abortion.
CLIMATE CHANGE Should climate change be a top priority?	Likely yes. Said an elected official should use “their knowledge and years of experience for the good of Virginians to fight climate change” rather than helping polluters. Would “invest in energy.”	Mixed. Supports an “all-of-the-above energy strategy that includes oil, natural gas, nuclear power, hydropower, wind, solar, [and] carbon capture.” Voted to end Biden-era clean energy tax credits. Voted to repeal clean energy provisions in the Inflation Reduction Act. Is “ serious about addressing the effects of a changing climate.”
CRIMINAL JUSTICE How to ensure effectiveness and fairness in law enforcement?	Supports more “resources and funding” for police. As a county prosecutor, supported “locking up violent criminals, taking on fraudsters and scammers, and getting drugs and guns off our streets to keep our community safe.” In 2021, called for a reform: “decades of ‘tough on crime’ practices have not created safety.... Racial... disparities pervade the criminal legal system.”	Sponsored a bill to strengthen penalties for crimes against police and judges. Says police “deserve the training, equipment, staffing, and support necessary to do their jobs safely and effectively.” In 2021, voted against banning racial profiling and no-knock warrants, requiring body cameras, and limiting qualified immunity .
ECONOMY Cut or increase government investment in, and regulation of, the economy?	Increase. Supports “investing in...infrastructure and good-paying jobs that strengthen Virginia’s economy.” Opposes cuts to SNAP benefits. Says “career politicians” are “supposed to regulate” corporations.	Cut. Calls for “disciplined spending...and a serious effort to eliminate waste.” Voted for a \$4.5 trillion spending cut . Voted to loosen regulation of the cryptocurrency industry. Supports “removing unnecessary regulations.”
EDUCATION Use public funding for private and/or for-profit schools?	No position found.	Yes. Voted for a bill that gives federal tax credits for donations to private school scholarships. “Every student deserves access to a high-quality education.”
ENVIRONMENT Loosen or tighten environmental regulation?	Tighten. “Virginia families deserve ...clean air [and] clean water.” Supported an effort to force the EPA to enforce pollution limits for Chesapeake Bay. “If we neglect our environment, our waterways, and our public lands, they will be lost forever.”	Mixed. Voted to weaken the Clean Water Act. Voted to undo controls on companies emitting seven major hazardous pollutants. Voted to give mining companies more access to federal lands. Would “continue fighting for clean water, healthy fisheries, [and] thriving wildlife.” Introduced bills in 2024 and 2025 to “strengthen... Chesapeake Bay restoration efforts.”

ISSUES	TAYLOR (D)	WITTMAN (R)
GUN LAWS Loosen or tighten gun laws?	Tighten. “I’ve seen the devastation gun violence leaves behind.... I’ll keep fighting to...save lives.” In 2024 urged the Governor to sign into Virginia law a series of gun safety regulations, including banning ghost guns, requiring safe storage, and creating a waiting period for firearm sales.	Loosen. “The Constitutional right to keep and bear arms must be rigorously protected.” Sponsored a bill to allow concealed carry of guns across state lines. Voted against expanding background checks and encouraging states to pass red flag laws.
HEALTHCARE Increase or decrease government support for healthcare?	Increase. Would “restore the Affordable Care Act tax credits.” Supports restoring healthcare funding in Medicare and Medicaid. Would “expand Medicare’s ability to negotiate drug prices.” Would “protect affordable coverage for every Virginian.”	Mixed. Voted to extend the Affordable Care Act subsidies for 3 years. In 2017 said he voted more than 60 times to repeal and replace ACA. Voted for a bill that cut Medicaid. Supports the Rural Health Transformation Program , with nearly \$190 million in federal funding to VA’s rural healthcare.
IMMIGRATION How to handle immigration?	Calls the immigration system “ broken .” “We are doing something drastically wrong .” Calls for “ due process ” and “the right resources ” in immigration enforcement. Opposed the Virginia State Police working as immigration agents, citing concerns over lack of proper training and chaotic results.	Voted to increase ICE funding by \$75 billion, then for \$70 billion more for DHS. Voted to build 900 miles of border wall, limit asylum, and require employers use E-Verify for new employees. Would “fix the legal pathways for folks to be here legally,” without allowing “amnesty.”
IRAN WAR Support the war in Iran?	No. Says this “war of choice” is increasing fuel prices and other costs. Urged Congress to exercise “constitutional responsibility” and “rigorous oversight.” “Enough is enough—let’s end this war and stop making Virginians foot the bill.” Said Iran “must never obtain a nuclear weapon.”	Yes. “The U.S. does have a responsibility to...stand up and protect our interests in that region.” Voted in March , April , May , June , and July against requiring Congressional authorization for U.S. military action in Iran. A long-term conflict in Iran is not in the “best interest” of the U.S.
LABOR Make it easier or harder for unions to organize workers?	Easier. Is “ honored ” to be endorsed by the Amalgamated Transit Union: “In Congress, I’ll always stand with working people.” Supports a bill requiring companies to begin collective bargaining 10 days after union certification.	Harder. In 2021 voted against expanding and protecting employees’ organizing and collective bargaining rights. Voted against restoring federal employees’ collective bargaining rights. Voted against requiring companies to begin collective bargaining 10 days after union certification.
LGBTQ RIGHTS Limit or expand LGBTQ rights?	Expand. Supports “removing the...ban on same sex marriage from the Virginia Constitution.” Would “fight back against...attacks on the LGBTQ+ community and protect equality!” Signed a letter to “condemn...efforts to criminalize transgender people and gender-affirming healthcare” in 2021.	Limit. Voted against federal recognition of same-sex marriages. In 2021 voted against prohibiting discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity in employment, housing, and “public accommodations.” Voted to ban transgender people from serving in the military.
MINIMUM WAGE Raise the federal minimum from \$7.25 per hour?	No position found.	Likely no. In 2019 voted against raising the federal minimum wage to \$15 per hour by 2025. Said the bill would “have a crippling effect on small businesses.”
TAXES Raise or lower taxes on corporations and wealthier individuals?	Raise. Opposes extending the 2017 Trump tax cuts, which included a tax break for the very wealthy and the largest one-time cut in the corporate tax rate. Opposes lower taxes for “billionaires and corporate special interests.”	Lower. Voted to extend the 2017 Trump tax cuts, which included a tax break for the very wealthy and the largest one-time cut in the corporate tax rate. Voted for the tax cuts in 2017.
VOTING RULES Make voting harder or easier?	Likely easier. “The Constitution and the Rule of Law will be upheld in voting rights.” In 2020, signed a letter to “ condemn the threat to deploy law enforcement to the polls.” It called such action “election interference” and “voter intimidation.”	Harder. Voted for the SAVE Act, requiring proof of citizenship to register to vote in federal elections. Voted for a version that requires a photo I.D. to cast a ballot. In 2021, voted against a bill requiring certain states to get preapproval for changes in voting practices.

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