

**NAME: Donna McLeod**  
**PARTY: Democratic**  
**SEEKING: Georgia House of Representatives, District 105**



**Why are you seeking your office?**

I want to serve District 105 by promptly and effectively addressing the expressed concerns of its people. Since the district's leadership ought to reflect its widespread diversity, I also want to lessen the apathy and sense of powerlessness that keep many folks from participating in our electoral process. As an African-American woman of Jamaican descent, I would show that members of minority groups do have a voice and can help shape the government whose decisions affect their daily lives. While serving all of my constituents, I can set an example and serve as an inspiration to those who feel marginalized.

**What do you expect to accomplish if elected?**

While representing a shift toward more inclusive representation in perhaps the most politically competitive district in Gwinnett County, I will make the expansion of transit/light rail a legislative priority. One of my goals is to get this issue on the ballot (which, I am confident, will result in a resounding "Yea" vote by the people).

**What distinguishes your candidacy?**

I thoroughly know and deeply care about District 105, both as a longtime resident and political activist. Having lived there (in the same house) for 16 years, I have seen many changes in our community, and I'm keenly aware of the needs of its people, my neighbors. Since 2008, I've personally registered more than 5,000 new voters, and, through a nonprofit I co-founded, have led classes on civic engagement and responsibility.

**What are the key issues in your race?**

They are transportation, education, the economy, and voting rights and registration.

**Pick one issue. Expand on how you will address it.**

While I would welcome an opportunity to expound on them all, one that I feel passionately about is voting rights and registration. I would sponsor legislation to automate voter registration (per the 2016 Oregon and California laws), remove all obstacles (including language) to voter registration, extend early-voting time frames, and reinstate (and improve) Section 4 of the Voting Rights Act.

**Give a 100 word summary of your background.**

I was born in Jamaica and reared in Ontario, Canada, where I earned my degree in chemical engineering. In 1998, I moved to the United States, and have since become a proud American citizen! An engineer, I am a business owner, and a member of the STEM advisory board at Discovery High School. I'm also a mother, a grandmother, and a grassroots organizer who has worked tirelessly to educate others on the electoral process, register new voters, and encourage civic participation. I'm Vice-chair of Community Outreach for the Gwinnett Democratic Party and a member of the State Committee.