

NAME: Ruwa Romman
PARTY: Democratic
SEEKING: House District 97

1. Why are you seeking your office?

I spent more than a decade empowering our communities to make their voices heard at every level of government. After spending years doing that advocacy work, it became clear it is time for us to become the decision makers we always needed instead of spending time begging our leaders to do the right thing. With my community's support, I made the decision to run. I believe it's time to put public service back into politics and continue to move Georgia forward.

2. What do you expect to accomplish if elected?

I hope to expand the number of Democrats, and eventually flip the State House to expand access to healthcare, fully fund education, bridge the economic opportunity gap, and protect our fundamental right to vote. While current political realities make those goals seem far away, it is important to note that change only happens through small consistent wins. I hope that first and foremost I encourage more people to become more civically engaged to reach those goals and build a future in Georgia where we all can thrive.

3. What distinguishes your candidacy?

I earned my Masters in Public Policy from Georgetown University focusing on voting rights and spent more than a decade empowering our communities to become civically engaged. I also work in the private sector for a professional services management company assisting government agencies in developing improved strategies to deal with major public policy issues at the local, state, and federal level. I would be ready on day one to tackle the challenges facing our communities and state because of that unique experience. Additionally, if elected, I would be the first Muslim woman to serve in Georgia's State House.

4. Pick any one issue. Expand on how you will address it.

There are many challenges facing our community, but I believe Voting Rights is the issue of our time. Voting should be easy, accessible, and efficient for every voter. It is a right, and we must protect it. If elected, I would work to repeal SB202 and SB441, protect local election boards, increase voting locations to reduce long lines, expand language resources to increase participation, and implement same day voter registration. Without our ability to vote and be civically engaged, we will not be able to expand access to healthcare, fully fund education, and bridge the economic opportunity gap.

5. What are your ideas on curbing all the many area-wide shooting?

Gun Violence is a serious problem that plagues our nation and state. We just recently memorialized the victims of a horrific mass shooting of Asian workers at a spa in Metro Atlanta. We need strong hate crimes laws to prevent acts of violence like this. Additionally, we need better background checks on gun purchasers, and promote responsible gun ownership by keeping guns out of the hands of domestic abusers and those with a violent history. We need to invest in a comprehensive approach to public safety. Laws allowing guns everywhere will not improve public safety.

6. Please give a 100 word summary on your background

My parents moved to Georgia when I was 7. Georgia public schools were a constant in my life and my family owns a small business here in Gwinnett. Through scholarships like HOPE, I attended Oglethorpe University and earned my Masters in Public Policy from Georgetown.

I've worked since 2014 organizing my communities, including co-founding the Georgia Volunteer Hub training thousands of volunteers in 2020. I also work as a policy analyst developing strategies for the federal government.

I will be ready on day one to tackle the tough challenges facing our state and provide the leadership that District 97 deserves.