

NAME: Farooq Mughal
PARTY: Democratic
SEEKING: House District 105

1. Why are you seeking your office?

I am running to bring a record of experience and service to Georgia House District 105. I believe that no matter where you start in life, you deserve an opportunity to succeed – quality education, good schools, access to affordable healthcare, fairness in employment, safe communities, freedom, business opportunities, and a chance to create a great quality of life for you and your family. I have worked closely with legislative leaders in Georgia for many years and am prepared on day 1 to serve the people of HD-105, delivering results with integrity.

2. What do you expect to accomplish if elected?

My focus is on improving our quality of life in HD-105 and across Georgia, I want to work on lowering taxes, empowering our businesses to create jobs, making investments in our infrastructure, education, and public safety and working on legislation that will help small businesses and job creators do what they do best and make our economy work for everyone. I will work in a bipartisan manner to help our state.

1. What distinguishes your candidacy?

I grew up in rural South Carolina and watched my parents model what it means to serve the community at large. My dad was a social worker for more than 30 years, including for Child Protective Services and from him, I learned the importance of advocating for the vulnerable and neglected. My mom, a retired nurse and a professor of nursing, served as a community nurse for economically disadvantaged families living with Sickle Cell Disease. From her, I learned the importance of expanding access to quality early childhood education and health care. These experiences shape my consistent work towards improving (100).

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

Affordable housing and homelessness.

I recently participated in a Senate Study Committee investigating the impacts and possible solutions for unhoused individuals across Georgia. Increasing costs of living with minimal increases in wages have proven to be detrimental to our communities. Home and food insecurity have far-reaching impacts on mental health, education, and job opportunities. Continuing to participate, propose, and support legislation while leading discussions to promote socio-economic growth and development are all ways I work to advocate for my constituents and communities.

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

We need sensible gun control legislation. We also must repeal the permit-less carry bill that Gov. Kemp signed into law this year. This is not to say that all guns need to be taken from those who can be trusted to be responsible with them. We do, however, need comprehensive background checks, mental health requirements, and community safety programs and training offerings. It is currently far too easy for those who should not have access to acquire weapons that should not be on our streets or in our **schools**.

4. Give a 100-word summary on your background.

I am an Episcopal priest from the rural South who made Georgia my home well over a decade ago. I serve as Senator for Georgia State Senate District 41, representing portions of Dekalb and Gwinnett counties. As the Vicar of the Church of the Common Ground, I co-create church with people who are experiencing homelessness in downtown Atlanta. Over the past 12 years of ministry, I have served as a college chaplain, consultant, and parish priest. I work to bring the diverse voices of my district to the Capitol: immigrants, refugees, and people living on the margins.

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