



To: Interested Parties

From: Celinda Lake and Meryl O'Bryan, LRP

Re: Results from a Recent Baseline Poll in the VA-11 Special Democratic Primary

Election<sup>i</sup>

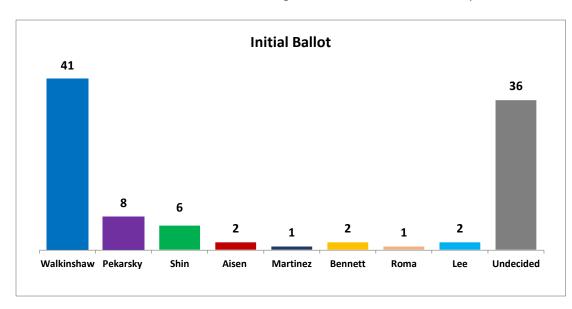
Date: June 2025

Recent polling among likely Democratic special election primary voters in Virginia's 11<sup>th</sup> congressional district shows that Fairfax County Supervisor James Walkinshaw holds an impressive lead. Walkinshaw is the best-known, most well-liked candidate and leads with 41% of the vote. Meanwhile, his opponents are mostly unknown, and their vote shares lag in the single digits. As more voters get to know Walkinshaw in this short runway to the special election, he will be well-poised to win this primary and become the next member of Congress representing VA-11.

## Here is the survey evidence:

Walkinshaw currently leads this race. Right now, a strong plurality of VA-11 voters vote for Walkinshaw (41%), while his closest competitors – State Senator Stella Pekarsky and Delegate Irene Shin – trail with eight and six percent of the vote, respectively. Thirty-six percent of voters are undecided.

Walkinshaw leads by double-digits among both men and women, older and younger voters, non-college and college educated voters, white voters and voters of color, and across the state legislative districts that encompass VA-11.



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Lake Research Partners 1101 17<sup>th</sup> St., NW, Suite 301 Washington, DC 20036 Tel: 202.776.9066 Fax: 202.776.9074 • The fact that Walkinshaw is better known and better liked buttresses his lead – and he still has room to grow. Nearly half (48%) of VA-11 voters have a favorable impression of Walkinshaw and more than half (56%) can rate him. On the other hand, only 31% of voters can rate Pekarsky and only 27% can rate Shin (the other candidates tested are even less known).

Further, when voters hear balanced positive profiles reflecting current messaging from the candidates, Walkinshaw earns majority support (52% vote for Walkinshaw; 11% vote for Pekarsky; 11% vote for Shin; one percent vote for Aisen; four percent vote for Martinez; one percent vote for Bennett; four percent vote for Roma; one percent vote for Lee; 15% are undecided).

In short, Walkinshaw leads the other candidates in this race by 30+ points and is better known and better liked. As more voters learn about him, Walkinshaw's support will grow, and come September, he will become the next Congressperson to represent VA-11.

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i Method: LRP designed and administered this survey. It was conducted using live interviewers as well as text-to-online from June 5 – 9, 2025. The survey reached a total of 500 likely June 2025 special Democratic primary election voters in VA-11. Telephone numbers for the sample were generated from a list of likely voters in Virginia. The data were weighted slightly. The margin of error for the total sample is +/-4.4%.