

SENATE OF VIRGINIA



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Senator Black to Retire at the End of his Current Term

ASHBURN, VA. – Senator Dick Black (R-13) today announced he will retire at the end of his current term of office and will not seek re-election. Upon his retirement in January 2020, Senator Black will have completed 50 years of public service.

“It has been my honor to serve the people of Virginia, both in the House of Delegates and the Senate,” Senator Black said. “I want to thank the people of Loudoun and Prince William for giving me the opportunity to represent them in Richmond.”

Senator Black’s career of service began as a member of the Marine Corps fighting in Vietnam and continued as a JAG Officer in the Army. After retiring from military service, he was appointed to the Loudoun County Library Board, where he fought to block pornography on computers in the county’s libraries. The library battle made national news in 1996, launching Senator Black into the House of Delegates, where he served for eight years.

Senator Black never voted for a tax increase during his time in office. A staunch conservative, Senator Black successfully passed landmark legislation, including:

- **Requiring parental consent for minors seeking an abortion**
- **Created the Rt. 28 Freeway by replacing 13 stop lights with interchanges**

- **Firearms Preemption Act, which invalidated a multitude of anti-gun ordinances across the state**
- **Making Female Genital Mutilation illegal**
- **Allowing car owners to designate a beneficiary to receive the vehicle upon their death without going to court**
- **Decreased the number of petition signatures required to get onto the presidential ballot from 10,000 to 5,000**
- **Encouraging the development of high school to work partnerships**
- **Authorizing the Attorney General, rather than only local governments, to prosecute voter fraud**
- **Hannah Graham Law to protect college students from rape**
- **Prohibiting Censorship of Religious Sermons**
- **Ensuring doctors can treat Lyme without the fear of investigations from the medical board**
- **Protecting First Responders from prosecution**
- **Initiated Virginia study that uncovered 2,369 Rape Kits that went untested**
- **Establishing guidelines to ensure rape kits are treated with urgency and care and will never go untested again.**
- **Required schools to have a Dyslexia specialist on staff**
- **Making it a crime to bribe people to vote**
- **Allowing active duty military personnel to carry concealed without a special permit**
- **Fixed loophole in Virginia's search and seizure laws**
- **Shortened time it takes to build roads by eliminating hearings on land the government already owns**
- **Requiring Department of Social Services to report suspected financial exploitation of seniors**

Senator Black successfully sued two Democrat governors stopping 14 unconstitutional taxes by an unelected body from taking effect. During his time in office, he was named "Legislator of the Year" by the Family Foundation, National Right to Work, and others.

“I have dedicated my life to public service, whether it was wearing a uniform or serving in elected office,” Senator Black noted. “My family has made many sacrifices throughout the years in order for me to serve, and I am grateful for their support and the support of the voters. I have been blessed with 16 beautiful grandchildren and it has become harder and harder to find the time to spend with them as my district has grown to over quarter of a million people. I am proud of what my office has been able to accomplish and I look forward to enjoying life’s next chapter with my family.”

Elected to represent the 13th District in the Senate of Virginia in 2011, Senator Richard H. “Dick” Black is currently serving his second four-year term. The 13th District is comprised of portions of Loudoun and Prince William Counties. From 1998 through 2006, Senator Black represented the 32nd District in the Virginia House of Delegates.

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