

SHELLY SIMONDS
FOR DELEGATE

January 3, 2018

Dear David,

I think we both agree that this has been a hard-fought campaign. Each of us have marshaled our forces and presented our arguments as to why we should be chosen to represent our constituents in the 94th District.

As you know, the recount court has ruled against my motion to reconsider. As you might expect, I believe our position was correct and we are considering all of our legal options. It has also been suggested that the loser of the lot drawing may prolong this process by requesting a second recount or filing a contest in the House of Delegates. However, all of these options would take time and create additional uncertainty. And while I believe that Virginia law is clear that the winner of the lot drawing must be seated next Wednesday, irrespective of whether litigation, a recount or a contest is pending, it has been suggested that a pending action might be used as justification to keep the 94th seat vacant at the beginning of session. I have no interest in prolonging this matter if it will deny the 94th District citizens representation at the beginning of session.

Consequently, I propose the following: we will both agree to respect the result of the lot drawing that the State Board of Elections will hold on Thursday morning, in order to determine the winner and who will be seated. We will both agree that there will be no further requests for recounts, no election contest, and no further litigation. And we will both insist that the winner of the lot drawing be seated on January 10, whomever that may be.

This proposal is simple, clean, and will bring the quickest resolution to this election. And most importantly, it will ensure that our friends and neighbors have a voice in the House of Delegates on January 10.

But we must act quickly. I respectfully request that you respond to this proposal before 9:00 a.m. tomorrow (Thursday, January 4th), so it can be announced before the drawing of lots and our constituents will know that they will have a representative in place on January 10. Please confirm your acceptance of this agreement in writing by responding to this letter.

I hope to see you tomorrow, and I look forward to continuing to work for the people of Newport News.

Sincerely,



Shelly Simonds