

Candidate Forum Opening Statement
Providence District Council Meeting
Thoreau Middle School
September 29, 2009

My name is Chris DeCarlo and I am a candidate for the office of Delegate. I am campaigning for this office because I have the skills, knowledge, intelligence, insight, and ability to lead Virginia towards our objectives of excellent schools, affordable housing for everybody, and much lower taxes.

We are in the economic crisis of a lifetime. We are adjusting our lives to downsize, conserve, and eliminate wherever possible. Our quality of life is in jeopardy. But even as we try to adjust, we are confronted with a government bureaucracy that is oversized, overpaid, inefficient, and expensive.

As taxpayers we cannot allow our government to continue in the direction it is going. The government and its administration has to change its ways or it will continue eroding our quality of life and our economic security.

The solutions to the problems are not complicated. What is complicated is recognizing the core problem of resisting change and the resistance our current government has to adjusting its expenses to be more in line with what we can afford.

I am the person to resolve the conflict because I, like other small business owners, know how to improvise, adapt, and overcome. It is something I have been doing successfully every day for the last 30 years.

I have identified many opportunities for change that can be implemented immediately without diminishing the level of services our government provides. If elected I am prepared to transform our government into the more open, flexible, and efficient entity that we think it needs to be. It cannot be done from the outside. The internal resistive forces are too powerful. It has to be done from the inside. It can be done. I can do it.

I ask you to elect me to the office of Delegate and in doing so you will get a leader that is more concerned about solving your problems than returning campaign favors. Vote for me and you will deliver the clear message that "business as usual" is not acceptable anymore. Send me to Richmond with the mandate that you are taking back control and together we can turn this around and begin moving our government in the direction that it needs to go.