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South Carolina's Democratic State House class will answer voters' questions together on Reddit Friday

One Ask Me Anything on r/southcarolina for the first full Democratic House slate in a generation, the Friday before early voting opens

CHARLESTON, S.C. — [Number] Democratic candidates for the South Carolina House of Representatives will answer voters' questions together on Friday, October 16, in one Ask Me Anything thread on r/southcarolina, the state's community on Reddit, with about 200,000 members. The thread opens for questions Wednesday and the candidates answer Friday from 1 to 5 p.m., three days before early voting begins. Taylor Valley, a Berkeley County Democrat and co-founder of the Charleston political consulting firm Valley Nichols, is hosting it with the moderators of r/southcarolina.

A Democrat is on the ballot in all 124 House districts this year, which the state party says had not happened in more than three decades. In 2024, 54 of the 124 districts had no Democrat on the ballot. The thread puts the whole class in one place, so a voter in any district can find their candidate by district number and ask them directly. Each candidate answers under their name, from an account the moderators have verified. The moderators are cross-posting it to r/AMA, one of Reddit's largest communities, and to the state's city subreddits.

"Reddit is where a lot of South Carolinians actually talk about this state, and it's a more thoughtful conversation than you find most places online," Valley said. "Nobody is being asked for money. The candidates are being asked to show up and answer questions, which is the job. A Democrat running in every district of the House has not happened in a generation, and I wanted voters to be able to meet the whole class at once."

As far as the organizers can find, no state's full slate of legislative candidates has taken voters' questions together in one thread before. Earlier this month, Vincent Coe, the Democratic nominee for State Treasurer, posted an Ask Me Anything on r/southcarolina that has drawn more than 25,000 engagements, by the moderators' count.

To ask a question, go to the thread at [thread link] from Wednesday and reply under it. A question for one district starts with the district number, and a question for everyone can be answered by any candidate. The roster of candidates, by district, is in the post.

Early voting runs October 19 to 31. Election Day is November 3.

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