

FOR IMMEDIATE RELASE Wednesday, 3 June 2020

Contact: Sherry East (803) 448-6714

SOUTH CAROLINA EDUCATION ASSOCIATION ANNOUNCES RECOMMENDATIONS FOR GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Columbia SC – Sherry East, President of The South Carolina Education Association (SCEA), today announced the names of 27 candidates running for the General Assembly who have received the association's backing in next Tuesday's primary.

"Each election cycle, The SCEA's Fund for Children and Public Education meets to review and vote on the candidate recommendations of our local PAC committees for the primary and general elections to the state house," East said. "This year an extraordinary number of qualified people filed to run for the General Assembly, reassuring us that our democracy is thriving despite great turmoil and uncertainty. They graciously consented to participate in our vetting process, presenting us with a multitude of choices and tough decisions."

East highlighted the bi-partisan nature of the roster, which includes 11 Republicans and 16 Democrats who represent the state's four major geographic regions: Upstate (9), Midlands (7), Lowcountry (8), and the Pee Dee (3). Of the 27, 8 are challengers or running in open seats, and are split evenly between Republicans and Democrats. East explained that local PAC committees also voted to abstain from issuing recommendations in a number of heavily contested races, including some in the Tri-County area and Upstate.

"We're proud of the relationships that we've built with incumbents from both sides of the aisle who have demonstrated an understanding of and commitment to the cause of strong public schools in South Carolina, and look forward to welcoming political newcomers to Columbia," East said. "It's a pleasure to publicly recognize our appreciation of their hard work and support."

The SCEA is a non-profit, non-partisan organization that represents public school educators and support professionals throughout South Carolina.

##