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CONTACTS

Gwynne Gonzalez
Office of Representative Kelly Skidmore
Gwynne.gonzalez@myfloridahouse.gov
561-496-5940

Representative Skidmore Announces Candidacy for House Minority Leader for the 2026-2028 Term

BOCA RATON, Fla. –Representative Kelly Skidmore (D-Boca Raton), who currently holds the position of House Democratic Caucus Policy Chair, officially announced her candidacy for Speaker of the House. This candidacy effectively declares **Representative Skidmore’s** bid to succeed current Minority Leader **Fentrice Driskell (D-Tampa)** whose term ends in 2026.

“I am excited about the opportunities for the Democratic Caucus and know that we are strongest and most effective when we are united,” said **Representative Skidmore**. “One thing that I have learned over the past 19 years in the legislature is that consistency is critical to ensuring success. The House Democratic Caucus knows that as leader I offer steady and committed leadership and will not abandon them for personal gain or political ambition,” continued **Representative Skidmore**. “I am grateful and humbled by the overwhelming support from my colleagues in the House so far.”

Several members of the Democratic Caucus have enthusiastically endorsed **Representative Skidmore**:

“As Democrats in Tallahassee strive to emerge from the super minority, it is crucial that we have strong and experienced leaders like Representative Skidmore guiding us forward. Her ability to unite people, find common ground, and effectively communicate our values to the people of Florida will be instrumental in building bridges and the support necessary to enact positive change,” stated **Representative Kevin Chambliss (D-Homestead)**.

“I believe that Representative Skidmore's leadership, dedication, and advocacy make her the ideal candidate to help lead Democrats out of the super minority and provide the opportunity for an inclusive future for all Floridians to be healthy, prosperous, and safe,” stated **Representative Kristen Arrington (D-Kissimmee)**.

“Representative Skidmore has consistently demonstrated her commitment to serving the people of Florida. During some of our toughest moments, she has been an

invaluable member of our caucus, providing us with the expertise, knowledge, and leadership needed to navigate challenging times. I have been fortunate to know Representative Skidmore for more than a decade and know she's running for leader for the right reason and I'm proud to wholeheartedly support her," stated **Representative Dan Daley (D-Coral Springs)**.

"As Policy Chair, Representative Skidmore has repeatedly shown us that she is an effective leader. She consistently empowers members to use their strengths and expertise to better serve the Caucus and all Floridians," stated **Representative David Silvers (D-West Palm Beach)**.

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