

## **Volunteer for Congressman Antonio Delgado: Keep a First-term Democrat in Congress**

**By Miriam Rabban**

Antonio Delgado, a first-term Democratic Congressman from New York's 19th District, is running for reelection and by volunteering to aid his 2020 campaign, you can help keep this swing district blue! Three Parks is now arranging opportunities for volunteers to phone bank from home in group sessions to support the Delgado campaign. For information on how you can volunteer, click [here](#). We will provide training and a script. All you need is a computer and your phone. Phone banking is particularly important now that COVID-19 rules out canvassing.

Volunteering for the 2020 Delgado campaign will build on the extensive work that TPID members did for Delgado during his first campaign in 2018. That year, volunteers made phone calls nearly every month to voters in the 19th District, and in the last six weekends before the election, TPID members went in car caravans to the district to knock on voters' doors. Delgado, who is African-American, won the 2018 election against Republican incumbent John Faso in a district that is over 90% white. To visit Delgado's campaign website, click [here](#). To donate to his campaign, click [here](#). To visit his office website, click [here](#).

The 19th Congressional District, which covers 8,000 square miles, includes all of Columbia, Delaware, Greene, Otsego, Schoharie, Sullivan and Ulster counties, and parts of Broome, Dutchess, Montgomery, and

Rensselaer counties. The district is mostly south of Albany and is, for the most part, rural. The Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee (DCCC) considers NY 19 to be a swing district. After the district lines for NY 19 were redrawn in 2012, Barack Obama won the district in 2012, but Donald Trump won the district in 2016. Senators Kristin Gillibrand and Chuck Schumer easily carried the district in their last races.

During his first term, Congressman Delgado has been very active, sponsoring 33 bills, many with bipartisan support. He has fought to make health insurance and prescription drugs more affordable. He introduced a bill to create a public option, enabling people to buy into Medicare while recognizing that others may want to keep their private insurance. He has fought against rollback of crucial environmental regulations and introduced the Green Jobs and Opportunities Act to address the climate crisis and prepare the workforce for an economy based on clean energy. He worked hard to address the impact of the coronavirus pandemic in his district and made sure that assistance for small and mid-sized farmers was included in the stimulus package. In his heavily rural district, he has worked to expand rural broadband, particularly important when classes are online. Delgado is an advocate for overturning Citizens United and getting dark money out of politics. Committed to accountability, transparency and accessibility, Delgado held 45 town hall meetings as of July 15. In a district that is about one-third Democratic, one-third Republican, and one-third independent, Delgado emphasizes his ability to work across the aisle. To see the case for Delgado made by the DCCC, click [here](#).

Congressman Delgado's opponent is Kyle Van De Water, a Republican from Millbrook. Van De Water's website emphasizes his support for Trump's agenda, citing "peace through strength" including at the southern border, as well as opposition to Democratic bail reform and sanctuary laws. The website also shows his support for Second Amendment rights, opposing restrictions on gun owners. Let's volunteer to support Congressman Delgado's run against this candidate whose positions are antithetical to those endorsed by TPID.