COMMONWEALTH FORWARD

MEDIA RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: Kiera Hall

May 6, 2021

press@commonwealthforward.com

Commonwealth Forward Will Fight Corporate Corruption In Virginia Politics

Norfolk, VA - Today, Commonwealth Forward PAC, a progressive coalition fighting the corrosive effects of corporate corruption in state politics, launched in Virginia. The PAC plans to support candidates for the Virginia General Assembly who stand up to corporate corruption and fight for racial, environmental, and economic justice.

"Virginia's grossly ineffective and antiquated campaign finance laws are an embarrassment. And for too long, corporations have abused this failed system to influence who gets elected and what laws get passed. Commonwealth Forward will work to level the playing field, put people ahead of corporations, and give a fighting chance to candidates who have been systemically marginalized or excluded from the democratic process," said Kiera Hall, Commonwealth Forward's Executive Director.

With a focus on upcoming and future election cycles, Commonwealth Forward will make its first investment during the 2021 Virginia primary elections held on June 8th. Candidate support will include leadership training, cutting-edge digital and direct voter contact programs, and direct financial support.

Highlighting the need for immediate reform, Virginia ranks 46 out of 50 states in the <u>States With Anti-Corruption Measures for Public Officials</u> ("S.W.A.M.P") report released by the Coalition for Integrity in 2020. This report scores states on the strength of their ethics agency, lobbyist influence, campaign finance laws, and reporting standards. To the detriment of its citizens, Virginia consistently ranks near the bottom in each of these categories.

Learn more at www.CommonwealthForward.com.

###