

Honorable L. Douglas Wilder

7/02/2020

Dear Honorable Wilder,

My name is Matt Winick from Ann Arbor, Michigan and I have a strong interest in learning history including social justice. In these subjects, I like to learn the need for civil rights to be stronger to reduce discrimination, protect the environment from pollution, and many others. Honorable Wilder, the main reason I'm writing you a letter is to explain how I find your work when you served as 66th Governor of Virginia to be very inspiring to me.

In January 1990, I was amazed on how you made history on becoming the first African American to become Governor of Virginia. When you served as 66th Governor of Virginia from 1990-1994, I truly appreciated on how you were a strong supporter of civil rights by advocating for people with disabilities' rights, supporting funds for women including minorities businesses to help them compete in the economy, and working with state legislators to expand on laws to combat against hate-crime to help protect minorities including people who are different. Also on civil rights, I liked on how you tried to push for an equal rights amendment to help protect women from being discriminated based on gender even though it didn't get passed in the state legislatures. On the economy, I liked on how you support expansion of jobs-training programs to help train youth including workers to develop or improve on their jobs-skills to help prepare for the work force and support raising the minimum wage to help assist minimum wage workers afford to live. Supporting funds for renewable energy resources to help reduce addiction to oil with gas and expanding funds to help clean parks, water resources, and coastal areas to make them safe for people to use while reduce them from being polluted are great ways to protect the environment. Also on criminal justice reform, I liked on how you expanded drug treatment programs to help drug-users get the care they need to reduce drug abuse and provide funds to help improve DNA testing including forensic science to help solve evidence including cases efficiently while reduce sending an innocent person to jail. On education I liked on how you expanded funds to improve special education to help assist students with disabilities to get accommodations they need to learn and increase teacher's pay along with school professionals to help teacher including school professionals have the resources they need to help students. Also I was very proud on how you had the courage to order state agencies including universities across Virginia to stop providing funds to South Africa due to South Africa supporting apartheid. Another thing that I liked about your work when you served as Governor of Virginia was how you worked with the federal government to provide funds to help fix roads along with expand on public transportation to improve infrastructure and provided funds to help restore or fix historical sites including attractions to make learning a better place while improve on tourism.

Honorable Wilder Jr., I have autism with a learning disability. Having a disability is hard for me because I have trouble comprehending on learning different advance subjects, sometimes I struggle to communicate my thoughts, and get teased. Your commitment to be a strong supporter of civil rights including people with disabilities' rights really inspires me to work hard on my disability. On Youtube, I enjoyed watching videos about you explaining your life in public service and it helped me get motivated to write you a letter. Your role as 66th Governor of Virginia helps give me motivation to continue to learn history including social justice. My future goal is to someday work in these areas to help emphasize the need for civil rights to be stronger to reduce discrimination, protect the environment from pollution, and many others.

I strongly believe that you made a great difference when you served in public service. I'm very proud on how you are working hard to support civil rights, protect the environment, stand up against apartheid, and many others. You have inspire me to work hard on my disability, learn about your work, and continue to learn different subjects. Thanks for taking the time to read my letter, working hard to make a great difference, and inspiring me. Please continue to advocate for common sense ideas.

Sincerely,



Matt Winick