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## **Schenectady and Niskayuna Republicans Speak out on “Failed” Phil Steck’s sleazy push poll**

City of Schenectady Chair Matt Nelligan and Niskayuna Chair Hannie Santana spoke out today about a recent push poll from Assemblyman Phil Steck. A push poll is a survey that uses negative messaging about an opponent in an attempt to see what will push an undecided or favorable voter for your opponent back into your column. In this case Steck raised a decades-old case against his opponent Alexandra Vellella’s late father.

“To cast aspersions against a woman’s character because of something her father was involved in decades ago in an attempt to distract from your own failed record is disgusting,” said Nelligan. “Phil Steck is an abject failure in politics by every measure. With his latest push poll, he has shown he’s a failure as a human as well. Sad.”

The Poll question which was sent via text message all over the 110<sup>th</sup> Assembly District asked, “Steck’s opponent says she’s an outsider but she’s from an influential political family. Her father Guy Vellella was a powerful state senator from the Bronx who was convicted of bribery and forced to resign. Does this make you more or less inclined to support Steck? “

“You have to wonder how Phil Steck, an alleged advocate for women, can live with himself after attacking a bright young woman like Alexandra for the sins of her father,” said Santana. “His poll is tone deaf at best and blatantly sleazy and sexist at worst. I wonder if Phil Steck is asserting that he ought to be judged by the actions of his family as well? I wonder what we would find if we started looking into his spouse, parents and other relatives.”

Vellella has a plan to address affordability, crime and the college loan crisis. She’s been going door to door and speaking directly to voters, while Steck has been missing in action.

“Phil Steck is one of the richest men in the Assembly in terms of outside income. He’s currently suing Albany Medical Center on behalf of radical activist Jamaica Miles in an attempt to use the power of his office to intimidate them into a settlement” said Nelligan. “Just yesterday he wrote an op-ed defending gerrymandering and attacking our courts. Phil Steck is not just out of touch with the 110<sup>th</sup> district, he has also lost touch with reality. Thank God this will be his last year as our representative.”

Alexandra Vellella is running on the Republican and Conservative lines in the November election for the 110<sup>th</sup> Assembly District seat currently held by Steck. The seat represents part of the City of Schenectady, The Towns of Colonie and Niskayuna and part of the Town of Guilderland.