ADOS Advocacy Foundation
Florida State Chapter

For Immediate Release

June 3, 2026

Subject: Our Statement concerning Debbie Wasserman Schultz's Candidacy in Florida Congressional District 20

Florida's newly redrawn Congressional District 20 is the state's only majority-Black opportunity district, encompassing communities throughout Broward County including Coconut Creek, Coral Springs, Lauderhill, Lauderdale Lakes, North Lauderdale, Sunrise, Tamarac, Plantation, Fort Lauderdale, Pompano Beach, Margate, Oakland Park, Roosevelt Gardens, Franklin Park, Washington Park, and Boulevard Gardens.

With an estimated population of more than 769,000 residents and a Black population approaching 50 percent, District 20 represents one of the most significant Black political constituencies in the state of Florida.

This district has its own history, culture, priorities, and challenges. It is not simply a collection of neighborhoods on a map. The people of District 20 deserve a representative who understands the community through lived experience, long-standing relationships, and a demonstrated commitment to advancing policies that directly benefit Black Americans.

Congresswoman Debbie Wasserman Schultz has spent her political career representing another district while residing outside of District 20. Her decision to seek this seat following redistricting raises legitimate questions about representation and accountability. Residents should ask why a politician who has not built her political career in District 20 now believes she is the best person to represent it.

Voters should also carefully consider the interests that have helped sustain her political career. Wasserman Schultz has received substantial support from AIPAC and other major political donors throughout her tenure in Congress. Large political investments are rarely made without expectations. Donors invest in influence, access, and outcomes. They invest in political power. The people of District 20 deserve to know whether their interests will come first when those interests conflict with the priorities of well-funded political organizations.

Beyond questions of residency and political support, voters should examine the record.

While Wasserman Schultz has generally voted with the Democratic caucus on civil rights legislation, there is little evidence that she has served as a leading voice on policies specifically designed to address the unique needs of Black Americans. Supporting legislation after it reaches the House floor is not the same as championing it, organizing around it, or making it a central priority.

There is no significant legislative record demonstrating leadership on reparations, targeted Black economic development, or transformative policies aimed at closing the racial wealth gap. She has not been identified as a leading advocate for H.R. 40, the federal reparations study bill, nor has she emerged as a principal sponsor of major Black-focused legislative initiatives. Her congressional work has largely centered on broader party priorities, appropriations, procedural matters, and general governance issues.

To be clear, voting in favor of measures such as the George Floyd Justice in Policing Act or the Emmett Till Antilynching Act was the minimum expectation for Democratic members of Congress. District 20 deserves more than symbolic support after public pressure has already mounted. The district deserves proactive leadership that consistently places the concerns of Black Americans at the center of its agenda.

District 20 should not be treated as a political fallback option or a convenient landing spot created by redistricting. This community deserves representation that is rooted in the district, accountable to the district, and focused on delivering tangible results for the people who live there.

At its core, this election should be about protecting authentic Black political representation, strengthening the voice of the community, and ensuring that District 20 is represented by someone whose primary loyalty is to the people of the district—not to political survival, donor networks, or career preservation.

The voters of District 20 deserve a representative who will fight for them because this community is their home, not because it has become their next political opportunity.

Check out our website: adosfoundation.org/fl
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