# NAME: Nabilah Islam PARTY: DemocratIC SEEKING: Congress, 7<sup>th</sup> District

# 1.Why are you seeking your office?

I am running for Congress because I believe we need a government that reflects our diversity and our values in uplifting working people, immigrants and people of color. In our district about 135,000 people do not have health insurance and working families are living paycheck to paycheck. I grew up in this district and I understand firsthand that if we want our community to thrive we must implement universal healthcare that covers everyone, increase the minimum wage to a living wage and work to end the systemic racism in our immigration and criminal justice system.

# 2. What do you expect to accomplish if elected?

When elected, I promise to be a bold progressive voice for our district. I will fight for universal healthcare because regardless of your income, healthcare is a human right. I will fight to pass legislation to increase the living wage to \$15 and abolish right to work laws at the federal level so that workers have the power to collectively bargain. I will fight for a pathway to citizenship for the 11 million undocumented immigrants in our country and abolish 287g at the federal level. I will fight for bold criminal justice reform and fight to legalize cannabis.

# 3. What distinguishes your candidacy?

I am the only candidate to have grown up in the district and to have attended our public schools. I intimately understand what our community needs which is why I am fighting for progressive policies. I have skin in the game, you are my neighbors, childhood friends and family. The reason I advocate for bold progressive policies is because our diverse working class community has so much to lose if we don't.

# 4. Pick any one issue. Expand on how you will address it.

About 135,000 people in our district do not have healthcare. We need to do more than fix the broken ACA that's been gutted by Trump and the GOP and we must do more than expand Medicaid. Individuals should never fall between the coverage gap and income should not preclude you from quality care. We need a universal healthcare system, that affords every single person basic, comprehensive, quality coverage. Regardless of age, gender, or whether you have a pre-existing condition or not. When elected, I vow to work tirelessly, to make sure every single person in this district has healthcare.

# 5. Suggest ways to jump-start the economy after COVID-19.

We will need to provide emergency universal basic income to people until the economy is back to pre-COVID levels. Instead of subsidizing large corporations with our tax dollars, we need to bring our tax dollars home and provide easily attainable subsidies for small businesses which would allow them keep their businesses profitable and pay their employees a living wage. We need to fight right to work laws at the federal level so large corporations cannot take advantage of the returning workforce. By allowing workers to unionize they can fight for hazard pay, paid leave, and fair wages.

# 6. Please give a 100 word summary on your background.

I am the daughter of working class immigrants and a first generation American. I grew up in Norcross and Lawrenceville. I attended Gwinnett County public schools and am a proud Central Gwinnett High School graduate. My first jobs were working at Ingles and Walmart right off Lawrenceville Highway. With the help of the Hope Scholarship and selling luggage at the Forum in Peachtree Corners, I worked my way through Georgia State University. For the past decade, I have been on the frontlines helping to advance progressive causes and elect progressive candidates up and down the ballot both locally and nationally.