

ARIAS FOR CONGRESS

FL-19 · Democrat · Fearless. Focused.

May 14, 2026

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

VICTOR ARIAS CANDIDATE FOR CD 19 QUALIFIES VIA PETITION

CAPE CORAL, FL – On Tuesday, May 12, 2026, the Supervisor of Elections certified that Victor M. Arias, Democratic candidate for Congressional District 19, officially qualified for the ballot by petition. Since January 2026, when Arias began collecting signed petitions, 2,671 have been officially verified and posted by the Supervisor of Election Offices, well above the number required to qualify for the open congressional seat formerly held by Rep. Byron Donalds.

“We visited every corner of this district and spoke with countless voters, regardless of party affiliation,” said Arias. “These signatures represent a desire for leadership focused on the real concerns facing our communities, not political divisiveness. People understand that when we work together, we can accomplish far more.”

An attorney, Arias has lived and worked in Southwest Florida for nearly three decades. Throughout his career, he has advocated for working families and contributed to the district through civic and community leadership, including Leadership Florida.

Arias says his campaign is focused on cutting VA red tape for veterans, protecting Medicare and Social Security for seniors, expanding economic opportunity, investing in infrastructure and education, protecting the environment and clean water, and improving access to affordable health care.

“Residents are worried about affordability and the future of this region,” Arias said. “They deserve someone representing them in Washington who understands this district based on the fact that they have built a life, career, and family here. For more than 27 years, I’ve been committed to District 19, and I’m prepared to fight for it in Congress.”

Arias and his wife, Angelette, have two children who graduated from Florida SouthWestern State College.

A formal campaign launch is planned for the end of May.

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