

VICE PRESIDENT KAMALA HARRIS Continued from Front Page



U.S. Vice President Kamala Harris (Photo courtesy of Kamala Harris’ IG @kamalaharris)

From his official account on X, formerly known as Twitter, President Biden posted two significant things—one was his letter announcing his intention to withdraw from the 2024 presidential race, and the other was a post officially endorsing Kamala Harris, 59, for president. President Biden’s post officially endorsing Vice President Harris read:

“My fellow Democrats, I have decided not to accept the nomination and to focus all my energies on my duties as President for the remainder of my term. My very first decision as the party nominee in 2020 was to pick Kamala Harris as my Vice President. And it’s been the best decision I’ve made. Today I want to offer my full support and endorsement for Kamala to be the nominee of our party this year. Democrats — it’s time to come together and beat Trump. Let’s do this.”

Vice President Harris shared the following sentiments after receiving the endorsement from President Biden and announcing her plans to secure the Democratic nomination for president:

“From being with him in the Oval Office to the Situation Room -- and seeing him on the global stage with world leaders -- I am a firsthand witness: President Joe Biden fights for the American people, and I am deeply grateful for his service to our nation... The qualities I cherish most about Joe -- his honesty, his integrity, his commitment to his faith and his family, his big heart and his deep love of our country -- are the qualities he’s exemplified every day as President. And let me be very clear: Joe is not done. Far from it. He knows there is still more work to do, and our nation will continue to praise his bold and visionary leadership as President. I am grateful for Joe every day, and I’m honored to have his support in this race.”

Former U.S. President Barack Obama and First Lady Michelle Obama offered a statement endorsing Vice President Harris as the presumptive nominee, stating:

“Earlier this week, we got a chance to catch up with a friend who we’ve known for more than 20 years. She’d had a pretty busy couple of days, to say the least. But we couldn’t be more excited for her -- or more thrilled to endorse Kamala Harris as the Democratic nominee for President of the United States. We agree with President Biden -- choosing Kamala was one of the best decisions he’s made. She has the resume to prove it: As a prosecutor, she defended the Constitution and fought for folks who deserve a fair shake. As California’s Attorney General, she worked hard to ensure everyone was treated fairly, no matter who they are or who they love. As a Senator, she was one of the strongest voices holding the Trump administration accountable. And, as Vice President, she helped lead the charge on expanding the Affordable Care Act, combating climate change, fighting for reproductive freedom, equality, and the rule of law. But Kamala has more than a resume. She has the vision, the character, and the strength that this critical moment demands. There is no doubt in our mind that Kamala Harris has exactly what it takes to win this election and deliver for the American people. At a time when the stakes have never been higher, she gives us all reason to hope. We know over the next few months, Kamala will continue to make her case directly to the American people -- Democrats, Republicans, and independents alike. As she does, she will have our full support -- and we

look forward to watching her unite our party and our country around a vision for a brighter, fairer, more prosperous future. We’re going to do everything we can to elect Kamala Harris the next President of the United States. And we hope you’ll join us.”

KAMALA HARRIS: WHO IS SHE?

Vice President Kamala Harris was born on October 20, 1964, in Oakland, CA, to Donald J. Harris, a Jamaican professor at Stanford University, and Shyamala Gopalan, an Indian biologist

and cancer researcher. In 1966, her family moved to Illinois, but eventually moved back to California in 1970. Harris matriculated to the historic Howard University and studied political science and economics. While at Howard, she interned as a mailroom clerk for California senator Alan Cranston, chaired the economics society, led the debate team, and joined the first Black Greek-lettered sorority in the United States—Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. Harris went on to graduate, earning her B.A. in political science and economics from Howard in 1986.

Harris continued her post-secondary education, earning her Juris Doctor law degree from the University of California College of the Law, San Francisco (formerly the University of California, Hastings College of the Law) in 1989 through its Legal Education Opportunity Program. While there, she served as president of the Black Law Students Association. Harris passed the California Bar Exam in 1990 and began practicing law.

Harris began work as a deputy district attorney in Oakland in 1990, and continued through 1998, earning a reputation for prosecuting tough homicide, burglary, robbery, sexual assault, and other criminal cases. Due to her success as a prosecutor, Harris was recruited to work in San Francisco as an assistant district attorney in 1998. She continued to do well in her role as a tough prosecutor which prompted people to encourage her to run for district attorney.

In 2004, Harris won her race (56%), and made history by becoming the first person of color elected as the district attorney of San Francisco.

In 2010, Harris ran and was elected attorney general of the state of California, again making history by becoming the first female and the first African American to be elected to the position.

In 2012, Harris delivered a memorable speech at the Democratic National Convention, raising her national profile, and married her husband, attorney Douglas Emhoff, in 2014. She was eventually encouraged and recruited to run for retiring U.S. Senator Barbara Boxer’s seat in California, and easily won the 2016 election, making history yet again, by becoming only the second African American woman and the first Indian American ever to serve in the Senate.

Harris served on both the Select Committee on Intelligence and the Judiciary Committee, among other assignments, until she was selected to serve as vice president by President Biden.

KAMALA HARRIS: RECORD AS VICE PRESIDENT

The role of the Vice President of the United States is extremely important to the overall function of the American government. The Vice President formulates policies. The Vice President manages

daily operations. The Vice President plans how all resources are to be effectively utilized. The Vice President is the President of the Senate. The Vice President serves as the Acting President when the President is unable to do so.

Vice President Harris is one of only three Vice Presidents in American history who have actually served as Acting President.

In looking at Vice President Harris’ record while serving beside President Biden, here are some of the things she touts under her resume since becoming vice president:

- Helped cap the cost of insulin at \$35 a month for seniors
- Helped cut prescription drug prices
- Helped improve maternal health by expanding postpartum care through Medicaid
- Helped pass the first meaningful gun safety law in three decades
- Helped enact a \$1 trillion investment in the country’s infrastructure to remove every lead pipe in America and make the most significant investment in public transit, repairing bridges, and high-speed Internet in history, after forming a bipartisan coalition
- Helped cast the decisive vote to secure passage of the landmark Inflation Reduction Act, which is the largest investment ever in tackling the climate crisis
- Presided over the unprecedented vote to confirm the first Black woman, Justice Ketanji Brown Jackson, to the Supreme Court
- Worked alongside President Biden to achieve historic representation of women and people of color among nominees at all levels of the federal government

KAMALA HARRIS: NEXT STEPS

For many, President Biden’s decision came as a huge surprise, while others had been urging President Biden to step aside after his highly-talked-about debate performance against former president Trump who is also running again for reelection as the Republican nominee.

Once President Biden’s decision was announced, Vice President Harris quickly accepted the endorsement, which came with an immediate flurry of support, excitement, donations, and a newfound energy that was sorely lacking in this 2024 presidential race.

Some call it a “game-changer”, but the potential Democratic nomination of Vice President Harris as the presumptive 2024 Democratic nominee has gotten the entire country energized—whether people are in support of her or not.

In one full week, Vice President Harris’ campaign raised \$200 million after being endorsed by President Biden. The campaign also announced that most of the donations she received in that full week (66%) came from first-time contributors during this 2024 election cycle and that over 170,000 volunteers have signed up to help her campaign with any number of Get-Out-The-Vote (G.O.T.V.) efforts.

Polling data since being endorsed by President Biden has shown that Vice President Harris’ favorability among American voters rose significantly in that full week, while former president Trump’s favorability has fallen, according to an *ABC News/Ipsos* poll that was conducted from July 26th to July 27th and released on July 28th.

The *ABC News/Ipsos* poll survey was conducted using KnowledgePanel—the largest and most well-established online probability-based panel that is representative of the adult U.S. population—and was based on a nationally representative probability sample of 1,200 adults age 18 or older with oversamples among Black and Hispanic respondents.

The results of the *ABC News/Ipsos* poll showed the following interesting details:

- A large majority (86%) of Democrats and half (52%) of Americans say that Harris should be the Democratic nominee for president, with 14% of Democrats saying the party should select a different nominee.
- Nine in ten (88%) Democrats are enthusiastic (63% very and 25% somewhat) about Harris becoming the Democratic nominee. In comparison, 82% of Republicans say they are enthusiastic about Trump being the Republican nominee.
- Two-thirds (66%) of Americans report they are “absolutely certain to vote” in the upcoming presidential election, including 76% of Democrats and 78% of Republicans. This is up from 70% among Democrats and roughly unchanged among Republicans (75%) from the last *ABC News/Ipsos* poll produced before Biden left the race.

Harris is relatively close to securing the Democratic nomination, after being the only prospective high-profile Democrat to have declared their candidacy for president by the pivotal July 26th deadline. It has been reported that Harris has already secured more than half the support of Democratic delegates to be the Democratic Party nominee.

Harris is on pace to become the official Democratic Party nominee during a virtual nomination roll call vote that is slated to take place as soon as Thursday, August 1st, prior to the Democratic National Convention that starts on Monday, August 19th in Chicago.

Assuming that Harris is the only one candidate that secures the requisite number of delegates and qualifies, and the virtual nomination roll call vote is in her favor, she would become the Democratic Party nominee for president going into the Democratic National Convention.

For now, the Harris campaign has been vetting her potential vice-presidential running mate, which should be decided and announced within the coming days.

Things are sure to heat up as **Election Day is less than 100 days away—November 5, 2024.**

America could very well be on the brink of having its second Black president and first female president in its 248-year history, which is truly historic, indeed.

CLASSIFIEDS

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

Request for Proposal – Houston-Galveston Area Council – Public Services – Solar Lighting Equipment and Related Services – SL12-24

H-GAC is soliciting responses for selecting qualified manufacturers, dealers, distributors, and service providers for solar powered exterior lighting equipment and related services to make these types of products and services available to Customers of the HGACBuy Cooperative Purchasing Program under blanket type contracts.

To view the solicitation documents, visit <https://www.hgacbuy.org/bid-notice>.

Response Deadline: August 29, 2024 @ 12:00 P.M. CST

NOTICE TO PROPOSERS

The Houston Independent School District Purchasing Services Department located at 4400 West 18th Street, Houston, TX 77092 is soliciting Request for Proposals (RFP) via the District’s electronic bidding portal. Proposers may login to view specifications and submit their responses at the following link <https://houstonisd.ionwave.net/Login.aspx> until 4:00 p.m. (CST) Thursday, August 1, 2024, for the following solicitation:

RFP 25-07-03 Sports Video Editing Software

Pre-proposal conferences via Microsoft Teams will be held in conjunction with these RFPs. Information regarding dates, times, and instructions to receive a link to join the meeting can be located within the electronic bidding portal under the “Event Details” tab specific to this solicitation.