

# SHRUTI RANA for DISTRICT 5

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SHRUTI RANA ANNOUNCES RUN FOR BLOOMINGTON CITY COUNCIL, DISTRICT 5

Bloomington community leader Shruti Rana has announced that she will run for Bloomington City Council in 2023. She resides in and will run in the new District 5, created after the 2022 city redistricting process. District 5, which has no incumbent council member, spans much of the southeastern part of the city, comprising Perry 10, 11, 12, 13, 18, 19, 21, 26 and 28 Precincts.

Rana is deeply focused on building strong communities with an emphasis on education, equality, and inclusion. "Bloomington, and my District 5 neighborhood, is a special place that I am proud to call home. Here, I have experienced what it means to have a community of support as I raise my family and work to address the pressing challenges facing our city and state. Since moving to Indiana, I have dedicated myself to community and political advocacy, focused on ensuring that my daughter and all of Bloomington's children will be able to grow up in a place that supports equality, opportunity, and a future based on progress and hope, not fear."

Rana brings a strong record of community leadership on these issues. Most recently, she played a leading role in the state in opposition to SB 1, Indiana's 2022 abortion ban—including testifying against the ban and other restrictions before the Indiana Senate—and has advocated for reproductive justice and racial and gender equality for a number of years. She has worked on a variety of initiatives to strengthen childcare support, family leave, education, voter protection, and election security and access in Bloomington and the state.

As a city council member, Rana intends to focus on reinforcing city protections for civil and human rights, with a particular emphasis on expanding resources for childcare and healthcare, education and job opportunities, and supporting sustainable development that protects our public spaces and environment while ensuring that Bloomington is accessible and affordable. "I am passionate about building diverse and supportive communities, which means not only creating the opportunities and resources to allow our city residents to thrive, but also thinking about how we as a city can enhance gender and racial justice at a time when both are under siege in our state. My experiences working for and advocating for our city and its people have taught me how we can work together, step-by-step, to build programs that help us support one another and implement forward-facing plans to address locally the impacts of far-reaching challenges like climate change and economic growth."

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Rana has served as the Democratic representative to the Monroe County Election Board, and is a member of the City of Bloomington Board of Public Safety and the Bloomington Commission on the Status of Women. She is also a board member for the non-profits All-Options Pregnancy Resource Center and Exodus Refugee Immigration, a founding member and previous co-chair of the Indiana Chapter of NAPAWF (National Asian Pacific American Women's Forum), Vice President of Monroe County NOW, and Vice Chair for the Monroe County Democratic Party. In 2020, she was elected as an Indiana Delegate, District IN-09, to the Democratic National Convention and also served as Social Media Chair for the Indiana Chapter of South Asians for Biden. In 2021, she was selected for Hoosier Women Forward, a leadership development program for Democratic women in Indiana.

Rana is a lawyer and professor, specializing in international law and human rights, and is a faculty member and senior assistant dean at IU. Before moving to Bloomington, Rana taught at the University of Maryland and UC Berkeley law schools, worked at the United Nations in the Division for the Advancement of Women, and practiced law in Washington, DC, North Carolina, and California. She is a graduate of Columbia University (JD), the London School of Economics (MSc) and the University of California, Berkeley (BA).

Rana believes these roles have prepared her well to serve her community as a city council member. "My work for our city, our schools, and our neighborhood has shown me how much potential we have to strengthen our community resources including childcare, public spaces, transportation, and housing options. I have also learned how on a city level we can take concrete steps to protect our rights in a state that is trying to take them away. Bloomington can be a model for our state in protecting the rights that are crucial to building an inclusive democracy and a vibrant, sustainable and civically engaged community where all of us can flourish. I am excited to continue these conversations with my neighbors and work on ways to amplify their voices and build the programs and resources we will need to build a better future."

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