

# Arlington's Representation in the General Assembly — 1847-1960

By the Historical Research Committee, Arlington Historical  
Society

Following the retrocession of the Virginia portion of the District of Columbia in 1846, Arlington (known until 1920 as Alexandria County) was organized as a Virginia county in an Act of the General Assembly adopted March 13, 1847.<sup>1</sup> It provided that the County should be represented in the General Assembly by one Delegate to be shared with Fairfax County. It was not until 1924 that Arlington became entitled to a Delegate of its own, although after 1871 the Delegate was shared only with the City of Alexandria.

At first, Arlington had no representation at all in the Senate. At the Session of 1849-50, it shared a Senator with the Counties of Loudoun and Fairfax. Beginning with the Session of 1852, Loudoun had different representation until 1869 when it again was joined with Alexandria and Fairfax. In 1871, Prince William County was added to the group sharing one Senator. Loudoun was again dropped in 1902 but it was not until 1944 that Arlington achieved the status of its own Senator.

The pace of population growth in Northern Virginia was reflected in the rapidity of the changes in representation which occurred in the '40's. Arlington got two Delegates in 1944, and in the reapportionment of 1952, three. The present number of four Delegates was assigned in 1962. The special reapportionment brought about by the U.S. Supreme Court decision in respect to "one man one vote" added a "floater" Senator to be shared with Fairfax County to the one who represents Arlington individually.<sup>2</sup>

The list which follows of the names of those who have represented Arlington in the General Assembly as Delegate or Senator from 1847 to 1918 is taken from *A Register of the General Assembly of Virginia, 1776-1918, and of the Constitutional Conventions* by E. G. Swem and John W. Williams (Public Printer, Richmond, 1918). Beginning in 1908, the *Acts of the General Assembly* have included the names of the members of the General Assembly.

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<sup>1</sup> cf. Harrison Mann: "Chronology of Action on the Part of the State of Virginia to Complete Retrocession of Alexandria County (Arlington County) to Virginia"; *Arlington Historical Magazine*, Vol. 1, No. 2. (1958)

<sup>2</sup> Pertinent Acts of Assembly affecting Arlington's representation in the General Assembly are: Ch. 162/1870-71; Ch. 121/1877-78; Ch. 674 and Ch. 567/1901-02; Ch. 140 and Ch. 271/1922; Ch. 387/1942; and Ch. 17 and Ch. 18/1952X.

## ARLINGTON'S REPRESENTATIVES IN THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Dates of Sessions	Delegates	Senators
12/6/47-4/5/48	Edgar Snowden	None
12/4/48-3/19/49; 5/28-6/4/49; 6/11-8/17/49	Francis L. Smith	None
12/3/49-3/22/50	Edgar Snowden	Asa Rogers
12/2/50-3/31/51	William D. Massey	Henry W. Thomas
1/12-6/7/52; 11/22/52-4/11/53	William D. Massey	Henry W. Thomas
12/5/53-3/4/54	Louis* McKenzie *More often given as Lewis.	Henry W. Thomas
12/3/55-3/19/56	Lawrence B. Taylor	Henry W. Thomas
12/7/57-4/8/58	Louis McKenzie	Henry W. Thomas
12/5/59-4/2/60; 1/7/61-4/2/61	Louis McKenzie	Henry W. Thomas
12/2/61-3/31/62; 4/1/62-5/14/62; 9/15-10/3/62; 1/7/63-3/31/63*	William G. Cazenove	Henry W. Thomas
*Between May 1861 and May 1865 dates of sessions are those of the General Assembly which met in Richmond, not of the Restored Government.		
9/7/63-11/2/63; 12/7/63-3/10/64; 12/7/64-3/15/65	Harold Snowden	William H. Dulaney
12/4/65-3/3/66; 12/3/66-3/2/67; 3/4-4/29/67	T. B. Robertson J. A. English	Daniel F. Dulaney
10/5-10/20/69; 2/8-7/11/70; 10/1-11/10/70; 12/7/70-3/31/71	G. L. Seaton R. Johnston	Thomas E. Taylor Edgar Snowden, Jr.
12/6/71-3/26/72; 3/27-4/5/72; 12/4/72-4/2/73	S. Chapman Neale Allen Pearce	Thomas E. Taylor Henry W. Thomas
1/1/74-4/30/74; 12/2/74-3/31/75	J. C. O'Neal John B. Syphax	Thomas E. Taylor Henry W. Thomas* *Elected to fill vacancy in Lt. Governorship; succeeded by Robert E. Withers
12/1/75-3/29/76; 12/6/76-4/4/77	George L. Simpson William H. Fowle* *Resigned; succeeded by M. D. Ball	Charles E. Sinclair Hierome O. Claughton** **Resigned; succeeded by William H. F. Lee
12/5/77-3/14/78; 12/4/78-4/2/78	George A. Mushbach Alexander Hunter	William H. F. Lee Charles E. Sinclair
12/3/79-3/9/80	George A. Mushbach	Francis L. Smith
12/7/81-3/6/82; 3/7-4/22/82	Charles E. Stuart	Francis L. Smith
12/5/83-3/19/84; 8/13-12/1/84	Charles E. Stuart	Elisha E. Meredith
12/2/85-3/6/86; 3/16/87-5/24/87	Charles E. Stuart	Elisha E. Meredith
12/8/87-3/5/88	Lawrence W. Corbett	R. Walton Moore
12/4/89-3/6/90	Frank Hume	R. Walton Moore
12/2/91-3/4/92	Charles Bendheim	George A. Mushbach
12/6/93-3/8/94	Charles Bendheim	George A. Mushbach
12/4/95-3/5/96	William H. May	George A. Mushbach
12/1/97-3/4/98	Louis C. Barley	George A. Mushbach
12/6/99-3/7/1900	Frank Hume	S. R. Donohoe

12/4/01-4/2/02; 7/15-7/28/02;  
 11/12/02-5/19/03;  
 11/10/03-1/12/04

1/13/04-3/15/04\*

\*Beginning in this year, under the new Constitution, biennial regular sessions began on the second Wednesday in January and continued for 90 days. Special sessions at different times and of varying length also occurred.

James R. Caton S. R. Donohoe  
 James R. Caton L. H. Machen

1906	James R. Caton	L. H. Machen
1908	James R. Caton	R. E. Thornton
1910	Robinson Moncure	R. E. Thornton
1912	Robinson Moncure	R. E. Thornton
1914; 1915 extra	J. Fred Birrell	R. E. Thornton
1916	J. Fred Birrell	R. E. Thornton
1918; 1919 extra	William A. Smoot	R. E. Thornton
1920	Charles T. Jesse	Walter T. Oliver
1922; 1923 extra	Charles H. Smith	Walter T. Oliver
1924	Charles T. Jesse	Frank L. Ball
1926; 1927 extra	Charles T. Jesse	Frank L. Ball
1928	Hugh Reid	Frank L. Ball
1930	Hugh Reid	Frank L. Ball
1932; 1933 extra	Hugh Reid	John W. Rust
1934	William D. Medley	John W. Rust
1936; 1936-7 extra	William D. Medley	John W. Rust
1938	William D. Medley	John W. Rust
1940	Charles R. Fenwick	William D. Medley
1942	Charles R. Fenwick	William D. Medley
1944; 1944-45 extra; 1945 extra	Charles R. Fenwick J. Maynard Magruder	William D. Medley
1946; 1947 extra	George Damm J. Maynard Magruder	William D. Medley
1948	George Damm J. Maynard Magruder	Charles R. Fenwick
1950	George Damm J. Maynard Magruder	Charles R. Fenwick
1952; 1952 extra	George Damm J. Maynard Magruder	Charles R. Fenwick
1954; 1955 extra	J. Maynard Magruder C. Harrison Mann Kathryn Stone	Charles R. Fenwick
1956	C. Harrison Mann Kathryn Stone William L. Winston	Charles R. Fenwick
1958	C. Harrison Mann Kathryn Stone William L. Winston	Charles R. Fenwick
1960	C. Harrison Mann Kathryn Stone William L. Winston	Charles R. Fenwick