

Questionnaire: State Representative and Senators
From Laurie Dolan
State Representative; 22nd LD; Position 1

- We have read the biographical statement on your website and we will include it in the materials we provide our members during their endorsement evaluation process. Is there anything you would like to add that might help us further understand why you are seeking to serve in this office or what qualifies you for the office?

When I wrote my bio it was before I was elected as one of your state representatives. At that time, I had no idea that this would be the best job I have ever had. I am a consensus builder, and that set of skills has proven very effective in getting legislation passed and helping folks to see the bigger picture. I have spent my working career as a mix of educator, social worker, advocate and manager. This job certainly contains all of those skills. Finally, I love representing the citizens of the 22nd LD. Few legislative districts have constituents as educated, engaged and willing to work daily to make the world a better place.

- If you are an incumbent, do you have legislation you would characterize as your “signature” work? If you are not an incumbent, is there an issue or are there issues you would like to become your “signature” accomplishment?

I have four favorite bills so far: Same Day Voter Registration; Civics Education, Equity for IB and AP students in terms of college credit, and “de-linking” high stakes tests from high school graduation.

My primary goal is to help pass a capital gains tax before I leave this job. I would also love to pass a ban on assault style weapons.

- Could you please answer the following questions for us? A simple yes or no will suffice, but if you would like to elaborate, please do so. If you wish to attach or reference a position statement as a response, that is also appreciated.

#1 Environmental Protection: What is your stance regarding the importance of the EPA, Washington State Department of Ecology, and strong regulations to protect the environment?

As much as I care about K-12 education, I believe that climate change is the biggest issue facing the human race. A good education is meaningless if we don't have an earth capable of supporting human life. I hope to help my seatmate, Beth Doglio, pass a carbon bill in 2019.

#2 Health Care right: Do you support a single payer system with access for everyone (Universal Health Care or Medicare for All)?

Absolutely!

#3 Education: Do you support equal, integrated opportunity for everyone? Do you believe our current education system provides that?

I have dedicated 45 years of my life to this goal. It hurts to say we are not there yet. Much better than we used to be. . . but a long way to go.

#4 Immigration: Do you support the stance of Sanctuary Cities and a path to citizenship for DACA recipients? Do you believe that documented and undocumented immigrants deserve equal due process?

Absolutely – we have passed several bills over the past two sessions to mitigate the damage that is being done at the federal level, as well as pressuring the Governor to fire the director of the DoL.

#5 Women's Rights: Do you believe women have a right to fully control all aspects of their healthcare needs including contraception and abortion and that they should have legal access to those services? Would you vote to protect Roe v. Wade?

Absolutely – we have passed a multitude of bills over the past two sessions to mitigate the damage that is being done at the federal level.

#6 Firearms: Do you believe stronger laws should be passed to regulate sales and types of firearms as a measure to decrease firearm violence?

Absolutely – we have passed several common sense bills over the past two sessions to protect the citizens in Washington. Would love to do a lot more!

#7 Corporations: Do you believe the "Citizens United" decision should be reversed?

Yes – Companies are not people.

#8 Voting: Do you endorse an accountable, verifiable, and secure voting process? Do you think our current voting laws are sufficient to protect citizens' voting rights, provide voting access to all while ensuring the integrity of the voting outcome?

Washington State made itself a leader of all other states this year when we passed the "Access to Democracy" package of bills (Same Day Voter Registration, Voting Rights Act, Automatic Voter Registration, Pre-registration of 16 and 17 year olds, and the Disclose Act). California is the only other state that has these same laws. As Vice-Chair of the State Government Committee, I was integrally involved in making this possible.

#9 Discrimination: Do you believe any form of discrimination (race, color, sex, gender identification, age, disability, or creed) is acceptable?

No

#10 Governmental Transparency: Do you support full governmental transparency and accountability, including full compliance with the freedom of information regulations?

Yes – but current Washington law still needs to be fixed to include the legislature. I would be happy to have that discussion with you at some point. It is a great example of how to do the right thing the wrong way 😊

#11 Unions: Do you believe workers should have the right to collectively bargain and unionize?

Yes

#12 Internet: Do you believe in Net Neutrality?

Yes – We passed HB 2282 re-establishing net neutrality in Washington.

#13 Poverty: Do you believe it is a responsibility of society to strive to end the Homeless plight?

Yes – We passed some very good bills to help, but like some of these other huge issues, there is no quick fix.

#14 Campaign Financing: Who is your single largest campaign donor? Are you going to accept PAC contributions to your campaign?

Right now my biggest donors are the Tribes (Swinomish, Nisqually), SEIU Healthcare, Sheet Metal Workers Local 66, Children's Campaign Fund, and the Justice for All PAC (Trial Attorneys).

If you are a Democrat, PAC money is the main way that political campaigns are funded. Most Democrats aren't rich like Donald Trump and the Koch brothers. Most Democrats belong to organizations like the Children's Campaign Fund where they collect their small donations, then use them to support candidates who also believe that many children in our society are not getting the support they need. The term "PAC" has come to mean dark money because it has been so misused by people like the Koch brothers. That is why we passed the Disclose Act this past session making it impossible to bring dark money into Washington State. Campaigns must now disclose their top donors.

BY RETURNING THIS QUESTIONNAIRE, THE CANDIDATE ASSUMES FULL RESPONSIBILITY FOR ALL ANSWERS TO THIS QUESTIONNAIRE. THE ANSWERS ON THE FOREGOING REFLECT THE CANDIDATE'S BEST EFFORTS TO ANSWER THIS QUESTIONNAIRE HONESTLY AND DIRECTLY. PLEASE SAVE YOUR COMPLETED QUESTIONNAIRE IN THE EVENT THAT THERE ARE ANY TECHNICAL PROBLEMS WHEN YOU ATTEMPT TO EMAIL IT BACK.