

2020 Legislative Candidate Questionnaire for Developmental Disabilities:

Name: Lance Gurel

District: 4

Position: State Representative position 2

1. If you have a personal connection or professional experience with someone who has a developmental disability, would you describe its impact on you?

I have a close family member with whom I am close who has a developmental delay. It has been a challenge to learn to work with him without pushing him to work at my speed. I'm sure it has made me a more caring person.

2. What are your top three legislative priorities and how would you help people with developmental disabilities in them?

I am in favor of no-fare public transit. I will advocate for investment in public transportation as critical infrastructure. I will advocate for public investment in early childhood education and guaranteed safe, affordable child care. People should be able to improve their situations, and high quality childcare is a barrier for many families. I will also advocate for better mental health services, so that our neighbors who find themselves homeless can have social workers assigned to work with instead of law enforcement.

3. With the current economic crisis, how would you protect services that people with I/DD and their families need?

We will be fighting a budget shortfall next session. It is important to have representatives who will protect services to our most vulnerable populations and not cut necessary services.

4. Is there other information you'd like constituents with developmental disabilities and their family and friends to know?

I am running for District 4 State Representative because Eastern Washington deserves effective representation for all people. Whether you are 5th generation or a newly arrived American, regardless of what you look like, how you believe, and who you love, everyone deserves the opportunity to work hard and make a better life for themselves.

Thanks you, Lance Gurel