

2020 Legislative Candidate Questionnaire for Developmental Disabilities

Name: Mike Padden

District: 4

Position: State Senate

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 personal friend. He and his wife have a down syndrome daughter who I have observed. Other interactions with other down syndrome folks have caused me to have a deep appreciation of their unique value to our society.

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

1. Passage of SB 6182 regarding closed captioning (came within a whisker earlier this year.)
2. Protecting DD in the budget process
3. Reducing the regulatory burden on DD programs

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

Look for waste fraud and abuse in the budget as a whole, also look for efficiencies and finally make DD funding a priority

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

In 2019 I was the prime sponsor of SB 5405 which prohibits discrimination for the mentally or physically disabled by health care organizations in organ transplants. The law took effect July 28, 2019.