2020 Legislative Candidate Questionnaire for Developmental Disabilities

Name: Sue Forde

District: 24

Position: 1

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 worked with a young lady who is deaf (she taught several in our group sign language, including my daughter), and another who is legally blind. I also have a friend who is a caregiver for a developmentally disabled gentleman. The impact has been considerable, in watching and learning how those with a disability deal in positive ways with various life situations, for the most part.

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

Meeting with and listening to the people to learn about their priorities and needs; Reduction of taxation and regulation; school choice. School choice, in particular, would be geared toward the needs and aptitudes of the child, rather than a one-size-fits-all form of education, and providing more opportunities for independence and employment.

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

I would work to prioritize and streamline, if needed, the programs that are required under our Constitution, including services that are needed by people with I/DD and their families.

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

Government can and should have a safety net for those among us with special needs who are unable to help themselves. The two questions I will always ask regarding a bill to be passed: Is it constitutional and how does it help the people, especially in the district I will be representing.

Sue Forde, Candidate for State Representative (R)
WA State Legislature, LD 24, Pos. 1
www.electsueforde.com
facebook.com/electsueforde
P. O. Box 3457, Sequim WA 98382
(360) 477-8151
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