

2020 Legislative Candidate Questionnaire for Developmental Disabilities:

Name: Julie Door

District: 25

Position: Senator

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

As a healthcare provider, I work with patients of all backgrounds including those with developmental disabilities. Through my work with them, as well as my time assisting in our local public schools, I have seen the importance of creating accessible communities for all our residents. We need to ensure that we are taking into consideration accessibility in our classrooms, our transportation infrastructure, our healthcare systems, and in our housing. We also need to secure adequate funding for state programs to support people with disabilities and their families.

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

I believe the most important issues facing the district and Olympia are rebuilding the economy, protecting workers, and creating jobs. I also care about safeguarding our communities by expanding health care coverage, investing in public safety, and funding education.

This unfolding health crisis we are all facing is significantly impacting our healthcare system, our economy, and our small businesses. This next legislative session will require many difficult decisions and strong leadership to put our state on the track towards recovery. I want to ensure that we re-open our communities and our economy safely and that we balance our budget thoughtfully so we are able to maintain a strong social safety net for those who are hit hardest by the health and economic impacts of the COVID-19 crisis.

Additionally, one of my main priorities once in office will be to push for ample funding for schools, better pay for teachers, and more equity in our classrooms so that all of our children have the tools to succeed - with particular investments in ensuring the accessibility of our education programs for all students, especially those with developmental disabilities. We need to give our children the strongest possible start to their lives and careers by ensuring every student in our state receives a high-quality education and that no one is left behind.

Finally, this public health crisis has clearly exposed the inequities and gaps in our healthcare system. We need to secure and expand access to high-quality, affordable healthcare to all Washingtonians as well as ensure that our healthcare providers and staff have the proper funding and resources, they need to continue to keep our communities safe and healthy.

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

Protecting services for people with disabilities especially in the wake of our current public health and economic crisis will be a high priority of mine. With high unemployment disproportionately impacting people with disabilities who are already facing high costs of healthcare and higher risk of infection, we need to ensure that we

maintain a strong social safety net for people with disabilities and their families to weather this crisis.

This next legislative session will require many difficult decisions and strong leadership to put our state on the track towards recovery. I want to ensure that we re-open our communities and our economy safely and that we balance our budget while ensuring protections for those who are hit hardest by the health and economic impacts of the COVID-19 crisis

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

I believe representative leadership means providing communities a voice by giving them a seat at the table and consulting them when writing new legislation that will impact their lives. I look forward to partnering with the Arc of Washington and other advocacy organizations to ensure that our communities are accessible and equitable for *all* our residents.

Thank you,

Julie Door for State Senate

509-551-7076

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