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House District 48 position 1

Do you have a personal connection or professional experience with someone who has an intellectual/developmental disability? (I/DD) If so would you describe its impact on you? How would it affect you in this job?

I have two neises who have autism, they attend special school programs and receive good support from the state of Arizona. They reminds of us how privileged we are and whenever we have a chance to help with kids who are intellectual or developmental challenged, we need to remember to do so. I know more private organizations along with public ones have been working with this group for many years and have seen remarkable results. I intend to continue this effort as a member of the legislature.

What are your top three priorities and how would you ensure people with developmental disabilities and their families are included in them?

Parental Rights, Quality Education and Punlic Safety are my top priorities. They all have much to do with all children especially those needs special attention. Parental rights and transparency are so important so the parents can learn about their Children's growth even if the children are not sharing them with the parents. Quality education requires extra resources for the teachers, so that they can provide the special needs children with tools to succeed. Finally, safety is going to make anyone feel secure and cared for. This need to be done beyond their intimate learning and living environments, but in the public realm as well.

Washington is 38th in the Nation for per-capita spending for individuals with I/DD. Would improving this statistic be a priority for you, and if so, what would your strategy be?

Government is both responsible to provide and serve. When it comes to help special programs, we need to be smart about balancing our funding from other excessive spending not necessarily increase taxation. Additionally, private sectors are already doing a great job with helping I/DD and other special needs programs in Washington, We need to mobilize and partner with them by helping them with extra resources and expertise so we can best serve this community.

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

I believe in community. When we embrace these special groups as a part of our gatherings, sports, activities, and performances, it shows not only we welcome their participation, but we all share the commonwealth.