

King County Democrats

2020 Candidate Questionnaire: Legislature

Candidate Name	William Burroughs	
Position Sought	State Representative Position 1	
Home Legislative District	37 th District	
Are you a Democrat?	Yes	
Campaign Contact Information	Mailing address: P.O. Box 22651 Seattle, WA 98122	Phone: (206)-712-2424 Fax: N/A
	Website: www.willforwashington.com Email: William.burroughs@willforwashington.com Twitter: @votewillb Facebook: www.facebook.com/votewillb	
Campaign manager or point of contact	POC: William Burroughs	
Consultant(s)	N/A	

Please answer the following questions.		Yes	No
1	Have you ever been a member of another political party?		X
2	Have you ever failed to pay any taxes or court ordered judgments?		X
3	Have you ever been found in violation of a Public Disclosure Commission, Federal Election Commission or Seattle Ethics and Elections Commission regulation?		X
4	Does your campaign have a code of conduct for staff and volunteers? If not, are you willing to implement one?	X	

Part I – Candidate Background (*maximum of 200 words per question please*)

Please briefly describe your education, employment, community and civic activity, union affiliation, and other relevant experience.

BA-Anthropology, Arizona State University
 Certificate of Leadership-Clemson University
 Former member of SEIU 1195NW while working in Swedish Medical Center Nutrition department.
 Currently work at SMG as Patient Services Representative
 Starbucks Corporation: Shift Supervisor 2 years
 Member of People, Place, Sustainability research team at Clemson University focusing on sustainable development in the island nation of Dominica.

Describe your history of involvement in Washington state politics. What campaigns, if any, have you run or worked on?

I'll admit that my history in Washington politics is almost non-existent. I won't deny that by any means. However, In South Carolina I worked on the campaign for Mayor in my hometown, running the towns first female candidate of color candidate, Sudha Patel.

Describe the progress of your campaign and campaign goals. What is your plan to win? If you have received endorsements, please list them here.

I'm still in infancy at the moment, but our future is bright! I think my path to victory is set through mass social media presence and advertisement, which I am ramping up now. But also, we clear the path by standing with the people and truly listening to the people. How can we expect to lead if we don't have those that we serve in our ear consistently? I'll never understand the politicians who disconnect from their constituents. We are committed to a grassroots movement only, with no funding from PACs.

Part II – Yes/No Questions

#	Question	Yes	No	Additional Comments
1	Do you support the right of public workers – excluding military personnel – to bargain and strike?	x		Absolutely! I was a shift supervisor during the strike at Swedish, and encouraged my baristas to strike and not cross the lines. What they were fighting for was vital.
2	Do you support raising the statewide minimum wage?	x		Yes, raising the minimum wage is necessary for WA to move into the future.
3	Do you support increased state funding for Sound Transit and other regional transit authorities?	x		A green economy is the best economy!
4	Do you support repealing the 1% limit on property tax revenues?	x		
5	Will you allow your campaign staff to unionize?	x		Of course, you should always be protected.
6	Do you support ending Washington State funding for privately run prisons and detention centers?	x		We need a massive overhaul of the correctional system. Focusing of rehabilitation not profit and injustice!
7	Do you support statewide mandatory age-appropriate sex education in public schools?	x		Yes, every child should be able to access quality, inclusive sexual education.

8	Would you be willing to have yourself, your staff, or your peers participate in cultural competency, anti-racism, and/or anti-sexual harassment training?	x	This is crucial to properly serving the community and simply being a decent human being. We must all strive to learn and be better.
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Part III – Free Response Questions (*maximum of 200 words per question please*)

What issues do you think aren't getting enough attention from media or elected officials? How would you seek to remedy that through your campaign or when elected?

We're hearing a lot about healthcare, green economy, and immigration in the national and state levels. While I have plans to tackle each of those issues, and they are some of the most pressing, I find myself desiring a conversation around the indigenous policy of the state and country. It's time we had guaranteed elected officials from each state and federally recognized tribe in all levels of government. I will seek to push a bill that grants 2 reps and 1 senator for each tribe recognized in the state houses of government. I will also push to work on a land grant program that works to return state land to indigenous tribes and works to form a land stewardship program that grants Native Americans the ability to control the land use.

In the post-McCleary era, how do you propose to strengthen the K-12 education system?

Education is vital to the continued progress of our state. K12 systems work well for children every year but there are areas we need to reform. I believe that now more than ever we need to work to increase technology in schools through access in rural and underserved regions especially. We must also work to increase individualization. Let students particularly in high school, craft the path that works for them, while maintaining standardization. Decreasing class sizes and focusing on increasing funding for literacy, arts, and science programs will keep our students excelling for years to come.

Washington State's carbon emissions have increased in recent years, most recently by 1.6% from 2015-17. What policies would you propose to reduce our statewide emissions by 50% by 2030?

The climate crisis is here, and for too long our leadership has made small steps in hopes of working out a solution. The time has passed for small solutions. To reduce emissions, we must implement new policies that reign in large corporations and industry, focus on land stewardship, focus on increasing public transport, and cut the cost of electric vehicles for consumers.

- Land stewardship-Partner with state and federal tribes to create land management and repatriation programs.
- Electric vehicles-Reduce the cost of purchase by 15% on electric vehicles.
- Transport-Increase funding for mass public transport projects
- Green tax on carbon emissions by large corporations and industry
- Invest in green energy industries that create green jobs and form transitional programs for workers in non-green industry sectors.

How will you use your office to promote universal access to healthcare in Washington?

I believe that healthcare is a human right. We can't allow our neighbors to be denied access to care any longer. Together we must build a health system in Washington that values every human life and leaves no one behind. Since COVID-19 began in March of this year, I have seen the strain on our healthcare system and the impact it is making to patient's lives every day. That is why I will fight for:

- Medicare For All-Expanding Medicare and Medicaid to every Washingtonian
- Increased funding for public and rural hospitals to provide the best care to the most vulnerable.
- Student loan forgiveness for medical professionals, to provide incentive to practice in Washington State
- State funding for disease research, prevention, and preparedness so that we are always prepared for the next outbreak.
- Increasing access to inclusive, age-appropriate sexual education in K-12 schools to ensure a healthy youth population both mentally and physically.
- Advocating for independent practice for Physician Assistants, lowering the cost barrier to healthcare.

Washington has one of the most regressive tax structures in the country. What steps would you take to make our tax system more fair?

Washington's state tax code is all kinds of wrong. Why are those in low-income tax brackets forced to pay more (10-16%) than those at the top (~2%)? For too long large corporations and the 1% have evaded paying their fair share. It's time to restructure the tax code to work for the average Washingtonian. That is why I will fight for:

- 2 cents wealth tax for those making above \$50 million on every dollar over \$50 million.
- Raise taxes on large corporations to make them pay their fair share, while lowering taxes for working-class families and individuals.
- Passing the Working Families Tax Credit, returning money to working-class families

I affirm that all the information provided in response to this questionnaire is true, complete, and correct to the best of my ability, and that no relevant matter has been omitted.

Signature



Date: 5/10/2020

Printed Name

William Burroughs