

King County Democrats 2024 Endorsement Questionnaire

Candidate name
Pramila Jayapal
Candidate name pronunciation
Pruh-mill-uh Jai-Appall
Candidate pronouns
She/her
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Link to candidate headshot
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What type of position are you running for?
Federal
What position are you running for?
U.S. Representative, CD7
Are you a Democrat?
Yes
Have you ever been a member of another political party?
No

Does your campaign have a code of conduct for staff and volunteers?

Yes

What actions will you take to protect democracy?

My We the People Amendment returns the power to the people by finally ending corporate constitutional rights, reversing Citizens United, and ensuring that our democracy is truly of the people, by the people, and for the people – not corporations. Corporations are not people and money is not speech. In every election cycle since the disastrous Citizens United decision, we have seen more and more special interest dark money poured into campaigns across the country. This amendment will change that and protect the voices of the people.

I'm also a proud cosponsor of the Freedom to Vote Act, which would expand voter registration and voting access, limit removing voters from voter rolls, establish Election Day as a federal holiday, and declare that the right of a U.S. citizen to vote in any election for federal office shall not be denied or abridged because that individual has been convicted of a criminal offense unless,

The WA State Democratic Platform states: The United States must work closely and persistently with other countries to prevent or stop genocide wherever it occurs. What will you do to uphold this principle?

As a lifelong organizer for immigrant, civil, and human rights, I will always speak out to condemn human rights violations, whether it's here in the U.S. or abroad.

What programs and strategies will you pursue to lift people out of poverty?

I am proud to be the lead sponsor of the Medicare for All Act. Breaking a bone or getting sick shouldn't be a reason that people in the richest country in the world go broke. There is a solution to this health crisis — a popular one that guarantees health care to every person as a human right and finally puts people over profits and care over corporations. I'm so proud to fight for Medicare for All to finally ensure that all people can get the care they need and not fall further into debt.

I am also proud to have introduced the College for All Act, which would eliminate tuition and fees for most families at four-year colleges while making community college free. This legislation would ensure that everyone can afford to pursue a college degree and increase their family's earning potential.

Last year, I also introduced a resolution that seeks to fully eradicate poverty throughout the United States. The Third Reconstruction: Fully Addressing Poverty and Low Wages from the Bottom Up Resolution addresses the converging injustices of systemic racism, poverty, public health inequity, militarism, and white supremacist nationalist extremism, and aims to lift our society and econo

The Inflation Reduction Act is one of the key accomplishments of the Biden Administration. How do you rate its implementation to date, and what are the next steps?

The Inflation Reduction Act is a historical step forward. It contains a hugely important set of investments to lower prescription drug costs, extend health coverage for millions, act on climate change while creating millions of jobs, and finally start to ensure the wealthy pay their fair share in taxes. This bill puts the United States on a path to reduce our carbon pollution by 40 percent by 2030, investing in renewable energy technologies that will drive down energy costs and accelerate our transition away from fossil fuels. It will cap seniors' annual drug costs and their cost of insulin, and institute a 15 percent minimum tax on large corporations.

I will remain vigilant as we continue the process of implementing this bill to ensure the funding is delivered in an equitable way — particularly when it comes to investing in frontline communities and advancing environmental justice. And, progressives will not stop fighting for the pieces left on the cutting room floor: Medicare expansion, home care, Pre-K, universal child care, housing, workers' rights, immigration justice, and for affordable insulin for all, after Republicans outrageously stripped it from the bill.

What will you do to avoid catastrophic climate collapse and the humanitarian crises that accompany it?

Since I was elected I have stood up to climate change deniers in Congress and fought for immediate action on climate change — pushing to reduce carbon emissions in the U.S. and around the world. I proudly co-sponsor the "100 by '50" Act, which lays out a road map to achieve 100 percent renewable energy by 2050, including a just transition for workers in the fossil fuel industry. I understand the dire consequences any further delay will have on our environment, public health, and local fishing and tourism industries.

I have pushed for a clean energy economy that invests in alternative energies, like solar and wind power, and put an end to toxic fracking and deepwater drilling that threatens our environment. I support the research and development of next-generation technologies that curb greenhouse gas emissions and improve our health while promoting economic growth and protecting our most vulnerable communities.

Last year I introduced The Children's Fundamental Rights and Climate Recovery Resolution that recognizes that the current climate crisis disproportionately affects children, and demands that the United States develop a comprehensive, science-based plan.

What will you do to expand and balance the Courts, including the Supreme Court?

In 2022, I supported the Judiciary Act to add justices and expand the Supreme Court to restore American democracy. This bill would increase the number of Justices from nine to thirteen. The current bench was filled by a partisan, right-wing effort

to entrench a radical, anti-democratic faction and erode human rights that have been won over decades. In recent years, this court has gutted the Voting Rights Act and public sector unions, entrenched unconstitutional abortion bans, and failed to overturn the blatantly discriminatory Muslim Ban. As a co-equal governing body, Congress cannot sit by while this attack on the Constitution continues unchecked.

CERTIFICATION: The candidate hereby certifies that, to the best of their knowledge, the provided information is true and accurate.

Yes

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