

## King County Democrats 2024 Endorsement Questionnaire

<b>Candidate name</b>	Adam Smith
<b>Campaign Filer_Name</b>	Adam Smith For Congress
<b>Campaign email</b>	<a href="mailto:chirag@electadamsmith.com">chirag@electadamsmith.com</a>
<b>Campaign phone</b>	(425) 628-9821
<b>Number we can text or call if we have questions about this form</b>	(425) 628-9821
<b>Campaign website</b>	<a href="https://electadamsmith.com/">https://electadamsmith.com/</a>
<b>Campaign Facebook page</b>	<a href="https://www.facebook.com/adamsmithforcongress">https://www.facebook.com/adamsmithforcongress</a>
<b>Instagram</b>	<a href="https://www.instagram.com/electadamsmith/">https://www.instagram.com/electadamsmith/</a>
<b>X/Twitter</b>	<a href="https://twitter.com/electadamsmith?lang=en">https://twitter.com/electadamsmith?lang=en</a>
<b>Campaign manager name</b>	Chirag Vedullapalli
<b>Campaign manager email</b>	<a href="mailto:chirag@electadamsmith.com">chirag@electadamsmith.com</a>
<b>Campaign manager phone</b>	(425) 628-9821
<b>What type of position are you running for?</b>	Federal
<b>What position are you running for?</b>	U.S. Representative, CD9
<b>Are you a Democrat?</b>	Yes
<b>Have you ever been a member of another political party?</b>	No
<b>Does your campaign have a code of conduct for staff and volunteers?</b>	No
<b>What actions will you take to protect democracy?</b>	<p>Congress must prioritize facilitating the exercise of the right to vote, thwarting state laws restricting voting rights under the guise of election security, which undermines democracy. Those advocating such laws often supported Trump's election conspiracy. I supported H.R. 4, the John Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act, in the House, enhancing DOJ's ability to uphold the Voting Rights Act and protect voting rights. Regrettably, it failed in the Senate, stalling its enactment into federal law. Additionally, I champion campaign finance reform, rejecting the notion of treating corporations as people and advocating the reversal of the damaging Citizens United ruling. I advocate for public funding of elections and refuse campaign contributions from fossil fuel entities. This approach promises a fairer electoral system for candidates and, crucially, for Americans. We must enhance financial transparency and limit the influence of major lobbies and corporations in elections. I'm proud to have co-sponsored constitutional amendments to overturn Citizens United and believe in regulating all ads, including online, for electoral integrity.</p>
<b>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?</b>	<p>United States foreign policy needs to be built upon carefully balancing all our national security tools – defense, diplomacy, and development. While a measured military power is a component of this strategy, the tools of diplomacy and development must be more greatly valued and utilized. The U.S. has a long history of leading the world in providing foreign assistance to impoverished and developing countries, supporting poverty reduction, economic development, and social progress. We also have a proud track record of providing urgent humanitarian relief during times of disaster, conflict, or disease outbreaks. I have long been a strong advocate for robust and effective foreign assistance. As the Chair of the Caucus on Effective Foreign Assistance, I work with my colleagues to ensure that we make strong investments in foreign aid while also deploying those resources effectively in the context of what a people or place might need. I recognize the importance of poverty reduction, access to education, combating climate change, good governance, and diplomatic engagement to enable our pursuit of stable international partners.</p>
<b>What programs and strategies will you pursue to lift people out of poverty?</b>	<p>Domestic childhood poverty comes at a staggering cost of \$1 trillion a year, affecting productivity, crime rates, and health outcomes. By investing in programs like the expanded CTC, we not only alleviate immediate financial burdens on families but also pave the way for a stronger, more resilient economy in the long term. We have seen the tangible impact of the expanded</p>

Child Tax Credit (CTC) in the American Rescue Plan on lifting families out of poverty. By reaching over 65 million children in nearly 40 million families, and lifting 3.7 million children out of poverty through monthly payments, it has proven to be a vital lifeline for working families across the nation. Therefore, I am committed to advocating for the permanent reinstatement of the expanded CTC to ensure that every child has a fair chance at success and to continue the progress we've made in reducing child poverty and supporting working families.

As co-chair of the Congressional Caucus on Effective Foreign Assistance, I have called attention to the importance of foreign assistance programs that build resilient communities, enhance stability, and promote poverty reduction.

**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?**

I believe the Inflation Reduction Act meets the moment by taking action to reduce inflation while also lowering health care costs and accelerating the transition to clean energy. The bill pays for these crucial investments by reforming our tax code to close unfair loopholes and ensure that the ultra-wealthy and big corporations pay their fair share.

The Inflation Reduction Act signed into law in 2022 represents the single largest investment to combat climate change in U.S. history. I was proud to support this legislation that will result in tangible progress in our fight against the climate crisis. The investments included in the bill will:

- Accelerate our clean energy economy, putting us on a path to reduce emissions by roughly 40 percent by 2030.
- Support the production of more affordable and reliable clean energy right here at home, creating millions of good-paying American jobs and reducing our reliance on foreign countries for energy.
- Prioritize investments in underserved communities, with upwards of \$60 billion going towards environmental justice priorities.

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

Climate change is the greatest existential threat we face as a country. I am a proud supporter of the Green New Deal and have consistently supported legislation in the House that would reduce our carbon footprint, invest in renewable energy options, and build a green infrastructure. I firmly believe that we must pass the climate change provisions in the Build Back Better Act to transition away from fossil fuels and decarbonize all sectors of the economy. Through my role as the Chairman of the House Armed Services Committee, I have been able to push the Department of Defense to address the threat of climate change in both planning to mitigate its impact and reducing its own greenhouse gas emissions. This includes helping lead the passage of legislation to increase the Department's research and development on clean energy technologies such as battery storage, promote the use of renewable electricity to power DOD installations, and reduce emissions across all of the services. Reducing carbon emissions, combating the climate crisis, and ensuring clean air, water, and reduced levels of pollution are critical to the health and well-being of us all.

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

Our judicial branch is underfunded and short staffed. I'm a strong advocate for providing robust funding to support our district and circuit courts as well as our administrative judges so that we can ensure that access to justice is effective, knowledgeable, and timely. At its highest level however, the Supreme Court has damaged its own reputation from several terms of judicial rulings inconsistent with foundational principles of judicial review. Reports of personal scandals among Justices have called into question their ability to rule on certain issues with neutrality. With these concerns top of mind and in order to preserve and rebuild the Court's reputation as an impartial arbiter, I strongly support the imposition of term limits on Supreme Court Justices. As appointed civil servants with no direct election or tie to the people, it is critical that Justices serve for a time and then pass the torch to others that better reflect evolving society.

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

Yes

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