

King County Democrats 2024 Endorsement Questionnaire

Candidate name
Melissa Chaudhry
Candidate name pronunciation
CHOW-dree
Candidate pronouns
she/her
Campaign Filer_Name
Friends of Melissa Chaudhry for Congress
Campaign email
chaudhry4congress@gmail.com
Campaign phone
(206) 271-2240
Number we can text or call if we have questions about this form
(206) 271-2240
Campaign website
https://www.VoteMelissa4Congress.com
Campaign Facebook page
https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61559685770498
X/Twitter
https://twitter.com/Melissa4USHouse
Any other campaign link you would like to share
https://linktr.ee/melissa4congress
Campaign manager name
Muhammad Chaudhry
Campaign manager email
chaudhry4congress@gmail.com
Campaign manager phone
(509) 367-7984
Consultant name
Eric Rasmussen
Consultant email
RasmussenE@jhs-i.com
What type of position are you running for?
Federal
What position are you running for?
U.S. Representative, CD9
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

Will you share a link to your code of conduct?

<https://www.votemelissa4congress.com/code-of-conduct>

What actions will you take to protect democracy?

In today's climate of rising authoritarianism, it's crucial to strengthen our democracy. We need to improve voter registration with same-day and automatic systems, make Election Day a national holiday, expand early voting, and implement Ranked Choice Voting. Campaign finance reform is also essential to reduce the influence of money in politics, alongside boosting election integrity and extending voting rights to justice-involved individuals.

Empowering citizens through robust civic education and ensuring equal participation opportunities for immigrants are key steps. This includes enhancing language access and providing voter education tailored to immigrant communities.

We must also engage young voters by fostering a sense of civic responsibility and integrating their perspectives into policy discussions. By committing to a multiracial democracy, we promote equity and dismantle systemic barriers, ensuring equal access and representation for all, thereby strengthening our democracy against authoritarian threats.

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?

I am committed to preventing genocide, aligning with the WA State Democratic Platform and my belief in universal human rights.

In office, I will promote diplomacy and international cooperation to prevent conflicts that could lead to genocide, focusing on protecting vulnerable populations and advocating for peace. I'll support collaboration with the United Nations and reputable global human rights organizations to monitor, prevent, and address potential genocides effectively.

I am dedicated to legislative measures that reinforce the U.S.'s commitment to preventing genocide, including laws and measures that condemn harmful regimes and provide humanitarian aid. I will use my platform to raise awareness about human rights violations and engage diverse communities in a shared commitment to prevent atrocities.

I will take seriously the duty to ensure that all foreign aid complies with U.S. laws and international standards. I'll oppose support for genocidal and apartheid regimes, and work to protect free speech and fundamental rights. By championing these measures, I aim to foster a world where human rights are respected, and atrocities are eradicated.

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

I will champion a comprehensive suite of programs that address root causes and foster economic stability, including:

- Living Wage Legislation: Advocating for policies that ensure all workers can meet their families' basic needs.
- Affordable Housing Initiatives: Expanding access to stable, affordable housing to prevent homelessness.
- Job Creation and Training: Promoting job opportunities, vocational training, and support for small businesses in underserved areas.
- Universal Healthcare Access: Ensuring everyone has access to affordable healthcare to alleviate financial burdens.
- Education Equity: Championing free, high-quality education from early childhood through higher education.
- Community Investment: Investing in community development, including civic, cultural, and physical infrastructure, to boost economies.
- Family Support Programs: Implementing comprehensive family and medical leave and affordable childcare to aid working parents.
- Supporting Human Services: Guaranteeing access to social safety nets for all people, enhancing long-term economic prosperity.

Through these strategies, I aim to create an equitable society where everyone has the opportunity to thrive.

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?

As a progressive candidate supporting the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA), I'm encouraged by its impactful first-year outcomes. The IRA has catalyzed over \$110 billion in clean energy investments, including significant strides in the electric vehicle supply chain and solar manufacturing, generating 170,000 new jobs with an expected addition of 1.5 million in the next decade.

Significant investments include \$11 billion in rural electrification, enhancing energy reliability and job creation, and over \$1.3 billion for rural energy projects by the Department of Agriculture. In healthcare, the IRA has capped insulin costs for Medicare beneficiaries at \$35 monthly and introduced a \$2,000 cap on annual out-of-pocket drug costs starting in 2025, promising substantial savings for Americans.

Looking ahead, we must focus on creating more union jobs in clean energy, expanding high-speed internet access, enhancing STEM education, accelerating renewable energy adoption, supporting underserved communities, and modernizing infrastructure to withstand climate impacts. These steps are vital for continuing to build on the IRA's successes, ensuring a sustainable, prosperous future for America.

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

I am committed to combating climate change using every good tool available. I aim to expand the IRA's efforts through bold initiatives including:

Restorative Agriculture:

- Incentivizing regenerative farming to improve carbon sequestration and biodiversity.
- Funding afforestation projects, particularly those led by indigenous communities.
- Establishing regulations to ensure eco-friendly aquaculture practices.

Low-Carbon Building & Green Infrastructure:

- Promoting sustainable materials like mass timber, hempcrete, clay plaster, and strawbale.
- Supporting code changes that emphasize "living systems" building design
- Developing urban forests and green infrastructure to improve air quality and manage water.
- Supporting climate-resilient water management and community development, with a focus on frontline and indigenous communities.

Military emissions account for up to 5.5% of global emissions and must be included in carbon reduction targets to align national security with environmental sustainability.

These strategies will not only help avert climate catastrophe but also generate millions of quality jobs, enhance public health, and improve quality of life. I'm ready to lead.

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

Expanding and balancing the courts is essential for safeguarding our democracy and our rights. Here's my plan:

- I support the Judiciary Act of 2023, which adds four seats to the Supreme Court, making a total of 13 justices to counteract the current court's far-right bias and restore its integrity.
- I will collaborate with the President to nominate qualified, diverse judges committed to the Constitution with expertise in civil rights, consumer protection, and environmental law.
- I will push for stricter ethical standards for Supreme Court justices, including adherence to the U.S. Judges' Code of Conduct and establishing an independent ethics body.
- I will champion vital laws like the John Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act and the For the People Act to protect voting rights, combat gerrymandering, and ensure fair elections.
- I am dedicated to defending a broad spectrum of rights, including Constitutional, reproductive, LGBTQ+, racial justice, and workers' rights, and will oppose nominees who threaten these freedoms.

By expanding the Supreme Court and promoting equitable judicial appointments, we can protect our rights and ensure the judiciary reflects America's diversity.

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

Yes

Created on: May 8th, 2024