

# King County Democrats

## 2020 Candidate Questionnaire: Legislature

<b>Candidate Name</b>	Andrea Caupain	
<b>Position Sought</b>	37th Legislative District State Representative	
Home Legislative District	37th	
<b>Are you a Democrat?</b>	Yes	
<b>Campaign Contact Information</b>	Mailing address: PO Box 9100 Seattle, WA, 98109	Phone: (206) 745-2010 Fax:
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Campaign manager or point of contact	Patrick Burke	
Consultant(s)	WinPower Strategies	

<b>Please answer the following questions.</b>		<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>
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.

For 20years I have worked on behalf of Communities of Color and working-class families to make a positive change on issues of racial and social equity. I am currently the Chief Executive Officer of Byrd Barr Place, a social service organization where I am designing new approaches to services that benefit low-income people and small businesses in our region. Putting people, equity, and communities of color at the center of a movement to advance intergenerational well-being in

Washington state. Prior to Byrd Barr Place, I worked for four years for the Washington State Governor's Commission on African American Affairs, providing analysis and development on strategic legislative projects and my work also involved legislative work for the Washington State House of Representatives. I have an MPA and a bachelor's degree from Evergreen State College. I am a Commissioner of the Washington State Commission on African American Affairs, Board member on the Crescent Collaborative, and Africatown Community Land Trust; advisor for Thriving Communities; previous commissioner on the City of Seattle Immigrant and Refugee Commission; and started the Guyana Heritage Foundation.

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

As the CEO of Byrd-Barr Place, my time has been committed to my community. We have so much need, so many challenges but also so much potential. My work in our Seattle community has galvanized me to join this citizen legislature and be a voice at the table for structural change that reduces marginalization, reduces barriers, and lifts up those who are left behind. My nonprofit work has limited my ability to get involved in campaigns, but I am excited to transition from a community leader to a public servant.

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

Our campaign believes in an open-door process. Over the course of the last few months we have brought in over \$58,000. We will execute a tactful and engaged field program. We are confident the issues we're prioritizing will resonate with the voters.

**Endorsements:**

People for Safe and Healthy Communities

Eric Pettigrew - Incumbent

Edward Prince - Renton City Council

Victoria Woodards - Tacoma City Mayor

Keith Blocker - Deputy Mayor, City of Tacoma

De'Sean Quinn - Tukwila City Council

Gloria Hodge - Renton School Board

**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		
2	Do you support raising the statewide minimum wage?	X		
3	Do you support increased state funding for Sound Transit and other regional transit authorities?	X		

4	Do you support repealing the 1% limit on property tax revenues?	X		
5	Will you allow your campaign staff to unionize?	X		
6	Do you support ending Washington State funding for privately run prisons and detention centers?	X		No for-profit prisons. Ever.
7	Do you support statewide mandatory age-appropriate sex education in public schools?	X		
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		

**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?

In this time of COVID-19, we are seeing too many stories about the conflict between people staying home and people being allowed to go back to work. We are not seeing enough stories about the impact on our most vulnerable populations. At Byrd Barr Place, there are so many people struggling to get food, needing assistance with unemployment, rent and their utilities. The story of this pandemic is not a false choice of privileged people staying home or going back to work. The story should involve a societal calling to protect the people who are falling through the cracks. Our media should focus more on the communities of color bearing the brunt of this pandemic. In general, we need to see more media stories that value community over transaction. How can we bring people together to get people their lives back or better than they were before? What are communities doing to help each other? The constant focus on division in the media is exhausting. They have such a powerful voice but they can be the worst at abusing that privilege or at best woefully underutilizing it.

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

The 37th district is well versed in the funding discrepancies we see from the rest of the school district. I will do all I can to get more funding for these schools, after school programs, and food programs. Decreasing class sizes is crucial to the development of a student. Ensuring they have access to literature and the arts is also key.

I will commit to meet, listen, and plan with teachers, parents, and students to ensure they are getting what is best for our children.

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?

Tax carbon emissions by vehicles and large corporations. Increase funding for public transportation projects. Update Greenhouse Gas targets. Ban the use of Hyrdofluorocabron in our state. Investment into green, renewable energy.

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

Advocate on behalf of workers, retirees, and the unemployed. I will bring the stories and experiences of my constituency to Olympia and fight for their needs every day. Vote to increase funding in public and rural hospitals. In light of COVID, I will fight for State funding to help disease prevention, research and preparedness.

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

Develop a much more equitable tax structure and ways to pass comprehensive changes across the entire state. That means finding what works to benefit each district, while we work toward a goal that will work for Washingtonians. Closing corporate tax loopholes should be prioritized.

**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: 5/13/2020
Printed Name	Andrea Caupain	