

Washington State Progressive Caucus Questionnaire

Explanatory Note: Our endorsements (and sometimes donations) are generally made to people running for the state legislature, municipal and county offices, public utility commissioners, etc. If you are running for such an office, you may wonder why we are asking questions about state-wide or national issues. The reason is that local officeholders are tomorrow's senators, representatives and governors. Even if you have nothing of the sort in mind now, you may easily feel differently in a few years. We want to put people into the pipeline from, as Howard Dean once put it, "the Democratic wing of the party," We are old fashioned enough to think that the New Deal and the Great Society were good ideas; and modern enough to be up to speed on all the latest organizing methods and apps. If you have reservations about answering any of these questions, please explain why.

Candidate Name: Eric K. Holt

Position Sought: Clark County Council (At-Large, Chair)

Campaign Manager: Mike Pond

Consultant:

Campaign Email: e.k.holt@outlook.com

Campaign Phone: 360-798-3180

Website: www.erickholt.com

Campaign Address: PO BOX 2232 BattleGround WA. 98604

Do you request the endorsement of the Progressive Caucus? YES

Labor

Do you support raising the minimum wage in your local jurisdiction if state and federal action continues to be stalled? To what level?

Yes. To a living wage level depending on the cost of living in that area. According to an MIT study, in Clark County, a family of 5 with one working parent would need \$31.17 per hour. <http://livingwage.mit.edu/>

Education

What is your opinion of high stakes testing? How would you change the way students and teachers are evaluated?

Teachers and students need to be evaluated as individuals and not necessarily on grade point averages. Smaller classrooms would result in better Teacher and Student performance. Fully funding education is the key to that success. Also, I oppose public funding of Charter Schools.

Environment

What can be accomplished at the local level to promote development of alternative energy and prevent privatization of natural resources?

Clark county PUD has a program to give credits to home owners that install Solar. I would also support credits for wind energy users.

Finance/Taxation

What will you do to support public banking at the local level?

I actively campaign my friends and neighbors to support Sen. Hasegawa's joint plan for a Washington State Bank. If it is a success, I will work as Clark County Chair to utilize the State Bank for our banking needs.

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Health Care/Retirement

Explain your position (for or against) Medicare for All (aka single payer health care) in terms of the effect on local citizens, service providers, and government.

I support Single-Payer Healthcare. We could save around \$1 trillion a year.

Security/Public Safety

How would you act to stop the militarization of local police forces and establish civilian oversight of law enforcement?

Counties and Cities have the ability to create voluntary civilian commissions, as Chair, I will create a Police and Community Relations Oversight Commission.

General

Do you consider yourself a Democrat? Do you consider yourself a progressive? Why?

I am a Progressive Democrat. My social views are all left of center and my views on budgets and taxation are responsible but focus on the needs of the people over the defense of the state.

What parts, if any, of the [Washington State Democratic Party Platform](#) (← click link to view) do you disagree with? Why?

Super Delegates. No-one's vote is worth more than any other Democrat's vote.

If this is not your first election, what other offices have you run for? If it is your first campaign, what other campaigns (candidate or issue) have you participated in? What did you learn from those campaigns?

2016 PCO 610

2016 Washington State Senate 18th LD (Progressive Caucus Endorsed)

2017 Western Washington Vice Chair- WSPC

2018 PCO 610

2018 Clark County Council Chair

Relationships are everything. More than doors knocked or calls made, more than money raised and spent.

Have you ever been a precinct committee officer or held other Democratic organization offices?

Yes. See above.

What single issue is the most important motivator for your run for office? What proposals do you have for dealing with it?

Fair representation. Giving a voice to the voiceless. Become an activist rather than the guy that just complains about it.

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Are there also important secondary issues? Describe your approach to implementing solutions?

Effective and proven leadership. Accountability, transparency, honor and integrity.

If you are running in a heavily Republican area, do you have a reasonable chance at winning? If not, how do you plan to use your candidacy to build ongoing connections among local people who share progressive values?

Clark County is a 33/33/33 county, evenly split between Democrats, Independents, and Republicans. Historically, during midterm elections, the opposition party gains ground on whoever is in the White House.

We have the best chance of winning this year due to multiple factors:

So called "Blue Wave"

Dislike for Trump

Republican in office

Established Relationships

Postage Paid Ballots

Many volunteers