

Name:

Tim Ballew II

Email

tim@votetimballew.com

District:

42

Title And Position Number You Are Seeking:

Senate

1. Are you an incumbent?

No.

2. If yes, what policy or budget item that supports people with disabilities who are employed or seeking employment are you most proud of advancing during your tenure?

3. If you are not an incumbent, what will you do to support individuals with disabilities find and keep jobs and contribute to our economy?

Everyone, regardless of ability, deserves an education and an opportunity for gainful employment. I will support legislation that increases and improves pathways to employment for individuals with disabilities.

4. Do you personally know anyone with an intellectual/developmental disability? I/DD includes people who have cognitive disabilities such as Down syndrome, Autism, Cerebral Palsy, etcetera.

I do not.

5. Have you ever worked alongside anyone with a developmental or intellectual disability?

I have not.

6. Nearly 80% of people with a developmental disability are not employed or are underemployed. What can you do in your role to address this issue?

In order to reduce the rate of unemployment or underemployment for individuals with disabilities, I think the legislature needs to improve education and training opportunities in our public school system to set up students for success during their transition from high school to the next chapter of their life. Additionally, I think those with disabilities should be paid fair wages for the work they accomplish. I would also support legislation that will require fair pay.

7. Many people with developmental and intellectual disabilities who do work are worried about losing critical lifeline benefits such as medical care and social security because of earnings. Will you commit to working with CEA and other stakeholders to bridge this gap in coverage for people who want to work?

Yes.

8. It is estimated that 12,560 people with developmental disabilities receive NO paid services from the Developmental Disabilities Administration. If you are elected, what will you do to ensure services for all?

I would like to understand why 12,560 people are not being paid by DDA. To me, it makes no sense for people to go without pay, especially through the state. You can count on me to work to resolve this egregious issue.

9. If elected and during your campaign, will you commit to meeting with businesses in your community and across the state who have benefited from having a diverse work force which benefits their bottom line?

Absolutely!

10. Community Employment Alliance members work hard every day to secure and retain competitive employment, increased wages, benefits and job training for people with disabilities. The impact of community employment on individuals and families is substantial. During your campaign, will you commit to meeting with families whose sons and daughters have benefited from employment services and hear their stories of inclusion, autonomy, and independence?

Most definitely. I think one of the critical part of running for office is listening to all perspectives and viewpoints in the community whether it's door to door, in a one-on-one meeting, a community meet and greet, or at a public event.

11. Is there any other information pertaining to this topic that you would like your constituents with developmental disabilities, their friends and their family members, to know about you?

I want to be the strongest advocate I can for those with disabilities in the 42nd Legislative District and around the state. Please consider this to be an invitation for an open line of communication with me during my campaign for state senate and if I am elected.

12. Do you have any questions about people with intellectual and developmental disabilities that we can help you with?

I do not have questions at this time; however, I will reach out if anything comes to mind.

Thank you for remitting your candidate questionnaire. Your feedback will be posted on our website exactly as you have written it. Your responses will help inform thousands of constituents in your district and across the state of your positions on these very important issues. Your responses will not be edited. If you have questions or if you need help completing this form, please call or email Executive Director, Adrienne Stuart, at the contact information below. Thank you for your time.

Name:

Luanne Van Werven

Email

Luanne@luannevanwerven.com

District:

42nd

Title And Position Number You Are Seeking:

State Representative, Pos. 1

1. Are you an incumbent?

Yes

2. If yes, what policy or budget item that supports people with disabilities who are employed or seeking employment are you most proud of advancing during your tenure?

Support for individuals to find and keep meaningful and rewarding employment. Support to increase reimbursement for Medicaid-supported services.

3. If you are not an incumbent, what will you do to support individuals with disabilities find and keep jobs and contribute to our economy?

4. Do you personally know anyone with an intellectual/developmental disability? I/DD includes people who have cognitive disabilities such as Down syndrome, Autism, Cerebral Palsy, etcetera.

Yes

5. Have you ever worked alongside anyone with a developmental or intellectual disability?

Worked no, supported yes.

6. Nearly 80% of people with a developmental disability are not employed or are underemployed. What can you do in your role to address this issue?

I support incentives for employers to employ folks from the DD community.

7. Many people with developmental and intellectual disabilities who do work are worried about losing critical lifeline benefits such as medical care and social security because of earnings. Will you commit to working with CEA and other stakeholders to bridge this gap in coverage for people who want to work?

Yes

8. It is estimated that 12,560 people with developmental disabilities receive NO paid services from the Developmental Disabilities Administration. If you are elected, what will you do to ensure services for all?

I will assess the needs of those who do not receive paid services from DDA and advocate for expanded coverage as needed.

9. If elected and during your campaign, will you commit to meeting with businesses in your community and across the state who have benefited from having a diverse work force which benefits their bottom line?

Yes

10. Community Employment Alliance members work hard every day to secure and retain competitive employment, increased wages, benefits and job training for people with disabilities. The impact of community employment on individuals and families is substantial. During your campaign, will you commit to meeting with families whose sons and daughters have benefited from employment services and hear their stories of inclusion, autonomy, and independence?

Absolutely

11. Is there any other information pertaining to this topic that you would like your constituents with developmental disabilities, their friends and their family members, to know about you?

12. Do you have any questions about people with intellectual and developmental disabilities that we can help you with?

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Name:

Sharon Shewmake

Email

sharon@sharon4whatcom.com

District:

42nd LD

Title And Position Number You Are Seeking:

State Representative, Position 2

1. Are you an incumbent?

no

2. If yes, what policy or budget item that supports people with disabilities who are employed or seeking employment are you most proud of advancing during your tenure?

3. If you are not an incumbent, what will you do to support individuals with disabilities find and keep jobs and contribute to our economy?

I support reasonable accommodation policies and early childhood education for all students.

4. Do you personally know anyone with an intellectual/developmental disability? I/DD includes people who have cognitive disabilities such as Down syndrome, Autism, Cerebral Palsy, etcetera.

My cousin has an intellectual disability.

5. Have you ever worked alongside anyone with a developmental or intellectual disability?

I have many students who work through intellectual disabilities from dyslexia, text anxiety, ADHD, and have urged students who are suffering from what appears to be depression to seek counseling through the university (it's FREE I tell them!). I have also received a diagnosis for ADHD although it is relatively mild.

6. Nearly 80% of people with a developmental disability are not employed or are underemployed. What can you do in your role to address this issue?

I'm employed in a business school and I've heard from business owners that people with developmental disabilities are great employees. They are dedicated, motivated and frankly good for business. I think a big part of that is getting the message out. I would be open to hearing from CEA about ways the state legislature can support those with disabilities.

7. Many people with developmental and intellectual disabilities who do work are worried about losing critical lifeline benefits such as medical care and social security because of earnings. Will you commit to working with CEA and other stakeholders to bridge this gap in coverage for people who want to work?

Yes! We need major reform of our healthcare system!

8. It is estimated that 12,560 people with developmental disabilities receive NO paid services from the Developmental Disabilities Administration. If you are elected, what will you do to ensure services for all?

I would be interested in learning more about this from CEA and other advocate groups.

9. If elected and during your campaign, will you commit to meeting with businesses in your community and across the state who have benefited from having a diverse work force which

benefits their bottom line?

Yes. This is very important to me.

10. Community Employment Alliance members work hard every day to secure and retain competitive employment, increased wages, benefits and job training for people with disabilities. The impact of community employment on individuals and families is substantial. During your campaign, will you commit to meeting with families whose sons and daughters have benefited from employment services and hear their stories of inclusion, autonomy, and independence?

Yes. My cousin is one of these people. I've seen him struggle, but also flower when he has found a good employment situation. I would love to learn more about how to support these individuals and their families.

11. Is there any other information pertaining to this topic that you would like your constituents with developmental disabilities, their friends and their family members, to know about you?

I believe my values are in line with what CEA advocates for, but something else that has come up again and again in this campaign is that often these policies of inclusion, of support, or dignity and investing in families, children, and those with special challenges aren't just kind and just, but they are good economics. When we give individuals the tools they need to prosper, they prosper and it saves us all money. We are less likely to use the ER, get caught up in the criminal justice system, become homeless, etc. when we have the education and the support we need. I want to build that better world.

12. Do you have any questions about people with intellectual and developmental disabilities that we can help you with?

I would love to learn more about some of the questions you asked on this questionnaire!

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