

**Name:**

Dave Paul

**Email**

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**District:**

10

**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?**

N/A

**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 would support work programs (such as Chinook Enterprises) that provides training and employment opportunities for individuals with disabilities. I would also support programs that provide educational opportunities for adult students with disabilities at community colleges after they graduate from high school. Several local colleges—including Skagit Valley College and Highline College—have such programs.

**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, in my work at Skagit Valley College, I've worked with several students with intellectual or developmental disabilities. My son is also on the autism spectrum, and I have colleagues who are on the autism spectrum.

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

I've worked with colleagues on the autism spectrum.

**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?**

Training programs that also help place people with a developmental disability in a job are critical because employers do not need to concentrate their efforts on training. These training programs must identify local industries and employers who may benefit from a skilled and trained workforce so that there is a pathway from the training to local employment.

**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'll need to learn more about why the gap exists and what might be done to close it.

**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, of course.

**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, of course.

**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?**

The residents of the 10th District deserve a representative who will work to strengthen programs that serve all people in our district, including those with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

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

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.