

**Name:**

Marco Padilla

**Email**

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**District:**

26

**Title And Position Number You Are Seeking:**

Washington 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?**

Fund and support organizations, e.g. Holly Ridge Center, that actively recruit individuals with disabilities. In addition, small businesses will be encouraged to hire people with disabilities via federal and state programs, e.g. U.S. Department of Internal Revenue Service's Work Opportunity Tax Credit.

**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, as a volunteer in the Holly Ridge Center I have experience in working alongside individuals with special needs.

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

The Holly Ridge Center provided me with the opportunity to work along side hard working individuals with IDD

**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?**

Collaborate with non-profit organizations that actively seek to train and engage individuals with Developmental/Intellectual Disability (IDD). It is imperative to empower said organizations in order to provide a smooth and comprehensive approach to increasing and retaining employment opportunities to individuals with IDD , e.g. Holly Ridge, Northwest Center, Best Buddies, etc.

**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?**

I am prepared to work diligently with CEA, and other stakeholders, to bridge this gap.

**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 pledge my support the OSPI Budget Request in order to increase the Special Education

Program excess cost multiplier, est. 1995. Furthermore, I will seek to resolve the Sub Minimum Wage Certificates that allows for individuals with IDD to be paid less than their counterparts.

**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, it is important that their successful implementation of providing employment opportunities/retention be a model for other business to follow.

**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, it is important to be able to engage with said individuals in order to see their perspectives and concerns on employment opportunities/retention.

**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 seek to find a sensible solution to Health care in the state of Washington. It is the duty of the state to provide a safety net for the underprivileged, underrepresented, and the vulnerable. If we dont have that or we cant have that now, then we must continue to support and fund organizations at the local level that do.

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

Not at the moment. I am open to receive any information pertinent to your cause. Thank you for your consideration.

**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:**

Emily Randall

**Email**

[emily@electemilyrandall.com](mailto:emily@electemilyrandall.com)

**District:**

26th Legislative District

**Title And Position Number You Are Seeking:**

State 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?**

Not applicable, I am not an incumbent.

**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 expanding educational opportunities for individuals with development and intellectual disabilities, I support finding ways to legislatively incentivize businesses hiring individuals with developmental and intellectual disabilities, and I strongly support ensuring that once these individuals are hired--they are treated fairly as workers.

**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.**

When my sister Olivia was born in 1993 with severe developmental and physical disabilities, we didn't know if she'd live an hour, or a day, or a year. She lived to be 19 years old, and it was a blessing for my family. But it was also a struggle. Even with my dad's Federal employee insurance from the Shipyard, we wouldn't have been able to pay for Olivia's expensive medical equipment, for the specialists in Tacoma and Seattle, or for in-home care for 19 years. Because of Medicaid, Olivia was able to live a full life at home with my family, and as a special-ed student at East Port Orchard Elementary. I believe that no family – regardless of their income or financial situation - should go bankrupt or lose their home because they have been in an accident or have medical needs, and I will stand strong for that in Olympia. I will stand strong so every child has the same opportunities.

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

Yes, I worked as a respite care provider for my sister, to ensure she had the care she needed to live a full life with my family. I provided personal care, transportation and outings, as well as some occupational and physical therapy. Additionally, I worked a few shifts one summer as a one-on-one with a high school student attending summer school at West Sound Technical Skills Center's cosmetology class.

**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 believe every person should have the opportunity to engage in meaningful work for which they are compensated fairly. We need to be sure that economic opportunities are open to all, no matter who you are or where you live. I will fight to ensure that our state expands educational opportunities--including career & technical education and apprenticeships--to everyone, including individuals with

developmental or intellectual disabilities, to ensure that workers have the skills they need and small and growing businesses can get a workforce that can fill the jobs they need done.

**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?**

I know firsthand the importance of state-funded benefits for individuals with developmental disabilities. Had my family not had access to these important benefits, I may not have gotten the gift of knowing my sister Olivia for 19 years. I believe that individuals with developmental and intellectual disabilities who want to work should have the opportunity to do so, and I believe that the state should recognize that these individuals still need benefits and support, even when they are earning an income. I commit to working with CEA, stakeholders, and all my colleagues--no matter their party--to ensure that individuals with developmental and intellectual disabilities have a voice in the State Senate.

**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?**

By underfunding essential services, the legislature has created wait lists for many critical programs. We need to fully fund these services that are all too often lifelines for those with developmental disabilities. I would champion funding for these services in my caucus and in the budget process.

**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. I believe that these businesses are not only doing the right thing, but also the smart thing. Individuals with development and intellectual disabilities have so much to offer, and I strongly support these businesses' recognition of that vital fact.

**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. I look forward to these meetings, and to sharing my family's experiences as well.

**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?**

This issue is so personal to me. My experience with my sister was incredibly transforming for me - it helped make me who I am today and it's a major factor motivating me to run for office. I would be incredibly honored to have this endorsement.

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

How can I best support you while on the campaign trail, and how can I make my office accessible and welcoming to everyone if I am elected?

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**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.**