

Name:
Jeff Sax

Email
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District:
44th

Title And Position Number You Are Seeking:
House position #1

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?
see #1

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?
Get elected.

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.
We must help those that legitimately cannot help themselves. Program must be effective and actually assist in making their lives better. My preference is to provide funding via grants to non-profits already doing this work.

5. Have you ever worked alongside anyone with a developmental or intellectual disability?
No

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?
Get elected.

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 will need to learn more on this issue. If income exceeds the benefit level, I would be inclined to treat all people the same.

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?
Assure access for all who qualify.

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.

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?

I don't need to meet with these people to understand the issue. I fully understand the complexity of the lives of families faced with these challenges. Don't take this wrong, I support the intention, I just don't need to meet with families to understand the issues.

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 have family with developmental issues.

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

No.

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.

Community Employment Alliance (CEA) Questionnaire

1. Name: John Lovick
2. Email: electjohnlovick@gmail.com
3. District: 44th Legislative District
4. Title And Position Number You Are Seeking: State Representative, 44th District, Position 1
5. Are you an incumbent? Yes
6. *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?*

This past legislative session, I worked closely with advocates to write HB 1062, that would have better supported people working in group homes and Assisted Living Facilities. Unfortunately, this bill did not become law, but I will continue to fight to better support community members with developmental disabilities and the workers involved in making life easier. People working in development homes are not babysitters, they are hardworking professionals doing important work who deserve living wages, safe workplaces, and retirement benefits.

7. *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 grandson has a developmental disability. This has given me a deeply personal, intimate insight into the struggles and realities of people with disabilities and with the people who support their friends and family members with disabilities. I know how difficult it is for my son and his wife and I have seen the challenges they face. I also know that my son has the capacity to care for his son and make sure he gets the services he needs. But I also realize that so many families do not have this capacity, and we need to make sure that every person with disabilities is able to get the support they need.

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

Yes.

9. *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?*

When I was Snohomish County Executive, I implemented a Supportive Employment Program in Snohomish County directing all department heads to make positions available for people with developmental disabilities who routinely get pushed out of the job market. The program also included an outreach aspect to directly reach out to members in our communities with disabilities. The program was well received and is still in effect. *The Daily Herald* wrote an article in December 2016 highlighting this program: <https://www.heraldnet.com/news/when-county-matches-disabled-workers-with-jobs-everyone-benefits/>

This is the kind of common-sense solution we need where the right people can work in the right communities and can really make a difference, and I will keep fighting in the legislature for these practical methods of addressing our greatest challenges. It is too easy to overlook people with disabilities, but it is imperative that we understand, and that businesses come to understand, that a disability is not a barrier to employment. We need to support, incentivize, and partner with businesses that hire a diversity of people, including people with disabilities, and create more programs that allow people with disabilities to succeed at their jobs.

10. *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. People with disabilities should be encouraged to work and supported in their employment, not forced to decide between a job and the critical coverage they need.

11. *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?*

If someone needs coverage, that coverage must be provided. Period. There is no excuse to not provide critical coverage to people with disabilities. The bottom line is that we need to put our money where our values are and make sure programs like the Developmental Disabilities Administration are adequately funded. When local community members and elected officials come to Olympia, they always stop at my office because they know I will listen and have a voice in the budget making process and that my values and priorities are reflected in the budget. But my ideas are only a fraction as important as those of the experts like yourselves who face the issues firsthand and on a daily basis, and I will commit to working with you to finally tackle this crisis. The best way to ensure programs for people with disabilities are fully funded is to give advocates like yourselves a real voice at the table—and that is exactly what I will do when I am re-elected.

12. *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. Differences make us stronger and should bring us closer together, and we need to encourage that kind of diversity in our economy and learn from businesses who have successfully integrated diverse groups of people into their work force.

13. *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 phone is always on and my door is always open. This is the philosophy behind my method of making policy. I work with constituents to create legislation, because it is the advocates like yourselves, who face the issues firsthand every day, who understand the most viable and effective solutions. I look forward to working with you in the next legislative session and listening to affected families

to find the best solutions for the greatest challenges facing people with disabilities and all of us.

14. 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?

Experience matters. I have been serving my community and country for my entire adult life. I have served in the Legislature before. I know the other members and have a real voice in the budget making process. I have been unanimously voted by my peers to be Speaker Pro Tem of the House of Representatives four times— even after being away for nine years I was elected Deputy Speaker Pro Tem and then Speaker Pro Tem. The members know me and more importantly, my peers and my constituents know they can depend on me. I have the experience and temperament to get things done and I have shown I am a difference maker through the bills I have sponsored and the broader accomplishments of this past session. I look forward to facilitating serious, tangible change in Washington.

I have lived in the 44th District for the past 41 years and I see the impact every day that our growing economy is having on our local businesses, infrastructure, and families. We need strong leadership that can work towards serious solutions in Olympia to solve the issues confronting us. We need to bring innovation, common sense, and a bipartisan approach to problem solving to address our communities' most pressing issues.

I have served my city, my county, my state, and my country. Now I serve in the Legislature. In my 25 years running for elected offices, I have never had an opponent with more tangible accomplishments, and if that someone shows up, I will gladly support them.

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

How can I best support people with disabilities and the advocates and experts who work on their behalf?