

**Name:**  
Earl Lee

**Email**  
[earllee12329@gmail.com](mailto:earllee12329@gmail.com)

**District:**  
14<sup>th</sup>

**Title And Position Number You Are Seeking:**  
State Representative 14th District

**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?**  
I am not a 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?**  
To help create differentiated lesson plans that works for individuals with disabilities.I have a Masters degree in Special Education.

**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?**  
Yes,daily.

**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?**  
To create differentiated plans that will take into account the various disabilities and specifically design a program that works regarding that specific need.

**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 to prevent a person from losing any entitlement.

**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 make sure that problem is addressed up close and personal.

**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 do that presently.

**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 do that presently and whenever the need arises.

**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?**

My education is extensive regarding working with Special needs individuals.

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

Just that I am always open to any information regarding Special needs advancements. I am a worldwide known author for my book ,Music Therapy Reconnection, Google it.

**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:**

Sasha Bentley

**Email**

sashaforstate@gmail.com

**District:**

14

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

House of Representatives, 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?**

NA

**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?**

Support early intervention and detection, continue removing barriers to employment, expand access for people with disabilities to training and education programs and vocational rehabilitation, raise wages, reduce food insecurity, ensure housing and medical care, ensure non-discrimination in hiring by implementing an employer training program to remove stereotypes and increase hiring.

**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'm sure I know people who have intellectual/developmental disabilities that are not clear to me.

**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?**

In addition to my answer to question 3, I will provide incentives for businesses who employ people with developmental or intellectual 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. This needed support should be available throughout employment to encourage people to find work, and ensure the necessary care for people to thrive.

**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 increase education and resources for people with developmental disabilities, so more people are aware and encouraged to utilize what is available. If more is funding is needed, then I would work in a bipartisan manner to find a responsible revenue source for the needed increase to ensure equity for all.

**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 know there are economic benefits of a diverse workforce and I look forward to bringing these examples back to my district and to Olympia.

**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 will prioritize these meetings and look forward to the stories I would learn and connections I would make.

**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'm running for office because I believe my position in state government will allow me to truly address inequalities at an institutional level. I believe it is the role of government to ensure an equitable system, and an elected official's role is to work towards and beyond that goal: to guarantee support services to disenfranchised individuals and groups, to create programs that help individuals overcome their own racial and social biases, to provide assistance for organizations and businesses to promote racial and social equity, and to prioritize equality in our educational system.

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

I would love to connect one-on-one to hear stories and ideas/solutions from those most affected so I can be a strong advocate in the Washington State legislature.

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