

25th Legislative District Democrats

Candidate Endorsement Request (*Governor*)

Full Name (as shown on ballot): Jay Inslee

Office Sought: Governor

Today's Date: 6/3/16

Years in the state of Washington: Lifelong Washingtonian

Campaign Information

Name of Campaign: Jay Inslee for Washington

Campaign Manager: Aisling Kerins

Campaign Address: 3300 E Union St, Seattle, WA 98122

Campaign Phone: (206) 533-0575

Email: info@jayinslee.com

Fax: N/A

Website: www.jayinslee.com

How much money do you intend to spend on this campaign? How much in personal funds do you intend to spend? How much have you raised so far?

I anticipate this campaign will cost about as much as my 2012 campaign for governor. To date I have raised \$5.6 million.

Party Affiliation: Democrat

Are you using union printers and/or sign shops to do your campaign printing? Yes

Questionnaire

Please keep your answers brief.

Please list your qualifications for seeking office:

Please see my answer for why I am running for re-election.

Please list your reasons for seeking office:

I'm running for re-election because there's no greater job than waking up and fighting for Washington state and its values. We've made major progress on the issues we care about as Washingtonians over the last 3 years, such as creating good-paying jobs, improving our education system, fixing our roads and bridges, and fighting climate change. But I won't be satisfied until everyone in our state has the opportunity to reach their full potential in a more diversified and growing economy, until every student has access to a quality education, and until we protect our state and future generations from the threat of climate change. We have more work to do.

As I travel across our state, I get to meet people every day trying to do the best they can for their families. I meet parents who are trying to send their kids to college and stretch every dollar in a changing economy. I meet seniors and those nearing retirement are worried about just how secure and healthy that retirement will be.

I'm running because I want to be a champion for those families.

Have you been involved in partisan politics in Washington State before? Please give details: Yes.

Please see my history in running for and holding elected office in the questions below.

Have you run for an office before? Please give details: Yes.

Candidate for Governor: 2012

Candidate for U.S. Representative in WA-1: 1998, 2000, 2002, 2004, 2006, 2008, and 2010

Candidate for Governor: 1996

Candidate for U.S. Representative in WA-4: 1992

Candidate for Washington State Legislature: 1988

Have you held office, either elected or appointed? Please give details: Yes.

Governor of Washington: 2013 – Present

U.S. Representative for WA-1: 1999-2012

U.S. Representative for WA – 4: 1993-1995

Washington State Legislator in LD 14: 1989-1993

What do you believe will be the three most important issues in your campaign?

I'm proud of the progress we've made as a state, but I won't be satisfied until everyone who works hard can earn a decent living, until every student has access to a quality education, and until we protect our state and future generations from the threat of climate change.

We've created over 250,000 jobs, been recognized as the nation's best economy by Business Insider and seen the lowest unemployment rate since 2008. But I know too many Washingtonians are working harder than ever before, but aren't sharing in the wealth we are creating as a nation, and are still struggling to get by. We will work for an economy that builds a stronger middle class by raising the minimum wage, ensuring paid sick leave, and advancing policies that allow working families to thrive.

As a state we need to give our children access to a world-class education in an economy that demands new skills. We've already made some progress -- every child now has access to all-day kindergarten, we lowered class sizes in the early grades, and we have better paid and trained teachers. And we made an unprecedented tuition cut at all public colleges and universities across Washington, including our community and technical colleges. But we've got more to do and I'm confident we can do it.

We know we need big improvements in our transportation system. Too many of us spend far too much time snarled in traffic on our roadways. We can't ensure a stronger, durable, dynamic economy in the future until our transportation system works more efficiently for commuters, families and businesses. That's why I was adamant the legislature pass a bipartisan package that creates 200,000 jobs, repairs bridges, creates new lanes, expands bus service and opens the door to expanding light rail. And I'm proud to say we got that done. While it will not fix everything overnight, it puts us on the right path while we continue to address bottlenecks and find practical solutions.

Finally, we will protect children from the ravages of carbon pollution that cause asthma and climate change by taking on carbon pollution here and working in partnership with neighboring states to act collectively.

With your support, I'm confident we can continue to harness our state's unique innovative spirit. And I'm confident we can build a stronger economy and more prosperous future.

Please give examples of specific policies you would work for as Governor to help the citizens of Washington respond to the threat of climate change.

I see the impacts of climate change already affecting Washingtonians everywhere I go. None are more jeopardized by the climate related disasters like fire, flooding, and sea level rise than our most vulnerable communities. We need a comprehensive strategy that reduces carbon pollution from Washington while harnessing the jobs and economic opportunities that are coming to those who take action on climate change.

That's why the executive order I issued in April 2014 addresses a wide range of issues from electrifying our transportation system to expanding renewables, from investing in clean energy start-ups to putting a long overdue cap on carbon. I've instructed the Department of Ecology to use the powers we have under the Clean Air Act to implement a statewide cap on carbon emissions. That effort will restrict pollution and drive investment in programs and projects to reduce pollution in Washington, create new clean-energy jobs, and make our communities more resilient to the impacts we are already beginning to see. I've also created the state's first Clean

Energy Fund that provides investment capital in R&D and new technologies. We should continue that work as it's making Washington a hot-bed for smart grid technologies and clean energy jobs.

However, the transition to a clean economy will require transition assistance for workers from more energy-intensive and trade dependent industries. This is why my legislative proposal for a cap and trade system was structured to protect those workers, funded the working families' tax credit, and included an oversight committee with labor as a partner to make sure workers were taken care of as we move to a lower-carbon economy. This remains a priority for me as we move forward.

Given the realities of Republican obstruction in funding necessary programs, what are your three top budget priorities? Give some examples of budget items that you will fight for.

We've made some great progress in the last three years, but I know we have some big challenges ahead. My top priority is fulfilling our moral and constitutional duty to our children to fully fund basic education for every student. That means continuing to work with legislators to fully fund education and improve salaries for school employees.

I have supported the end of outdated and unnecessary corporate tax loopholes in each of my budget proposals – when stacked against the need for additional funding for educating our kids or the potential of cutting services for the most vulnerable, they just don't stack up. Even as the economy continues to improve we will need to evaluate tax loopholes to make sure we can deliver the vital services that our citizens demand.

Finally, I'm proud to have brought an end to the practice of balancing the budget on the backs of vital services and the most vulnerable and will ensure we continue to protect those services in future budgets.

Commented [AK1]: I think we have language on this somewhere, but I can't find it. If there's a better way to say this go ahead and sub it in.

Do you support Public Campaign Financing for: (1) Federal Positions? (2) Supreme Court Candidates? (3) Local government positions and lower court judicial positions?

Anyone who has held elected office in recent years has seen the damage of the Citizen's United decision. In my last election, the Republican Governors Association was able to drop millions of dollars into my race, blanketing the airwaves in attack ads. I am supportive of I-735, which will send a message to Congress that it is time to overturn Citizen's United and to stop treating money as free speech.

Do you support comprehensive family planning and women's health care?

Absolutely. At a time when Republicans across the country have passed more bills attacking women's health and reproductive rights than ever before, I am proud to have championed bills like the Reproductive Parity Act, secured a grant for paid family leave policy planning, and to have stood up to those on the extreme right that demanded defunding of Planned Parenthood. Our opposition is as loud as ever, but it's because they know they are out of step with Washington values, and I will absolutely be a champion for a woman's right to make her own health care decisions. That's why I'm so proud to have the endorsements of NARAL Pro-Choice WA and Planned Parenthood Votes Northwest and Hawaii.

Do you support the use of public money to fund private schools that are called "charter schools".

I have major reservations about the insufficient accountability measures in the charter schools proposal that the legislature passed this year. I opposed the initiative that created charter schools because I believe that public schools should be held accountable for student success and fiscal stewardship of public funds by locally-elected school boards and I am concerned that charter schools are not fulfilling those goals. However, closing schools in a manner that disrupts the education of hundreds of students and their affected families just wasn't something I was willing to do, which is why I allowed the bill to become law, but without my signature.

My top priority is fulfilling our moral and constitutional duty to our children to fully fund basic education for every student. Every child in Washington deserves to attend an innovative school with great educators and support staff who meet them where they are and help them get to the next level. That means continuing to work with legislators to fully fund education and improve salaries for school employees.

Do you believe that tax incentives provided to companies should contain accountability provisions?

I do believe that some measure of future job accountability is worth considering and I'm glad that the legislature is engaged in that conversation in a bipartisan fashion. I look forward to continued conversations that seek the right path forward for including job accountability with regard to incentives.

Why should the 25th Legislative District Democrats support you over any other candidates running for this position?

As governor and as a lifelong Democrat, I have spent my career as a champion for our shared values as Washingtonians. When I was first elected to public office I was told I would lose my seat if I voted to provide unemployment compensation for farm workers, but I voted for it anyway and I would again. In 1998, I gathered signatures for the first minimum wage initiative and I will be doing so again for I-1433 this month. As governor, I fought alongside labor, businesses, environmentalists, transit advocates, and so many others to get a transportation package passed. After years of an uphill battle to get a package, we got the job done and those critical infrastructure investments will lead to an estimated 200,000 family wage jobs across the state. I got teachers their first COLA in seven years and I got all state employees a COLA and a raise after years of stagnant wages. I made sure lawfully bargained agreements got full funding in the budget and I told Republicans there was no way I would allow an attack on collective bargaining rights and took the “mutual consent” bill for teachers off the table.

We have done a lot in three years, but there is more to do. I know my priorities align with Washington’s priorities: education, infrastructure, jobs, clean air and water, good health care. Those are the things I’ve been fighting for, and I look forward to making my case with voters.

To date, I’ve raised \$5.6 million, and received endorsements from the Washington State Labor Council, Washington Conservation Voters, Washington Federation of State Employees, Public School Employees, Service Employees International Union 775, 1199, 925, 1148, and 6, Washington Education Association, League of Education Voters, American Federation of Teachers Washington, NARAL Pro Choice WA, Council of Metropolitan Police and Sheriffs, United Association 26, Laborers 242, Seattle Building Trades, the Sierra Club of Washington, Planned Parenthood Votes Northwest and Hawaii, the Washington State Young Democrats, Kitsap County Democrats, Lewis County Democrats, Pierce County Democrats, Snohomish County Democrats, Spokane County Democrats, King County Young Democrats and the Democrats in Legislative Districts 26, 27, 28, 29, 34, 36, 37, and 45th.

I’d be honored to have the support of the 25th LD Democrats.

Are there any additional comments you would like to share with the 25th Legislative District Democrats?

Thank you for your support in 2012 and for giving me the opportunity to serve as your governor these last few years. I hope to earn your support again this time.

It is the intent of the 25th District Democrats to support qualified Democrats seeking political office for both partisan and nonpartisan races. To that end we are looking for individuals who adhere to Democratic principles as demonstrated by Democratic Party activity, community activities, their reputation among Democrats, and statements they make supporting the Democratic Party and fellow Democrats. Endorsed candidates are discouraged from giving support in any partisan race to non-Democratic candidates. If an individual is running against another Democratic candidate(s), such endorsed candidate is encouraged to draw clear distinctions and differences with his/her opponent in a friendly, informational, and non-confrontational fashion. My signature below signifies my agreement with these principles and that I understand that the 25th District Democrats may withdraw its endorsement if I do not adhere to them.

Candidate Signature: _____ Today’s Date: _____

Please return your completed questionnaire to ericherde@gmail.com