

25th Legislative District Democrats

Candidate Endorsement Request *(Secretary of State)*

Full Name (as shown on ballot)_Tina Podlodowski

Office Sought: Secretary of State Today's Date: July 1st 2016

Years in the state of Washington: 31 years

Campaign Information

Name of Campaign: Voters for Tina Campaign Manager: Maddie Foutch

Campaign Address: PO Box 20655, Seattle WA 98102

Campaign Phone: (206) 250-2311 Email: Info@votersfortina.com Fax: N/A

Website: www.votersfortina.com

How much money do you intend to spend on this campaign? \$700,000 How much in personal funds do you intend to spend? As little as possible. How much have you raised so far? \$304,000

Party Affiliation: Democrat

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

Questionnaire

Please keep your answers brief.

Please list your qualifications for seeking office:

My resume is attached.

Please list your reasons for seeking office:

In Washington State, too many disenfranchised voters – youth, seniors on fixed income, military families, recent citizens for whom English is a second language, rural residents and lots more – have barriers to voting that have resulted in 1.5M unregistered (yet eligible) voters, and dismal 38% turnouts in general elections. I believe the job of Secretary of state is to have 100% of eligible citizens registered, and 100% of registered voters voting. I have a 30-year track record of fighting for equality, combined with the technology and management skills necessary to get more voters registered, and fully participating in our elections again.

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

Yes – I have been a democrat my whole life – and some I moved to Washington I became an active member. Currently I am a PCO in the 36th district.

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

Yes – In 1995 I ran and won a city wide city council seat in Seattle.

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

Yes, Seattle City Councilmember from 1995-2000. Please see resume for additional details.

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

- Creating an equitable voting system – with performance metrics that move us to 100% registration/100% voter participation.
- Make it easier/cheaper to incorporate and do business in Washington state, particularly for small businesses and women-owned and minority businesses.
- Preserving our State Libraries and Archives and telling the “untold” and diverse history of the people of Washington State

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

While Secretary of State does not have legislative authority, I fully support a mandatory carbon emissions cap and a market-based incentive mechanism to achieve a carbon neutral-level in the State of Washington. I believe the policy must be revenue positive, because Washington’s budget is in crisis. Climate change is the most significant threat to human health and we should be investing in solutions appropriately.

Specifically, I believe any major carbon reduction plan must be equitable and include significant investment in sustainable land use, community resilience, and a just transition for workers within the fossil fuel economies. All investments must be centered on empowering frontline communities to lead the transition to a new energy economy.

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

Making voting easier and more accessible including: Postage free ballots and Automatic Voter registration
Creating a business portal that streamlines business interactions with state agencies.
Fully funding our state archives and heritage

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

Yes – in theory I support all three.

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

Yes, absolutely.

What policies will you pursue to increase voter participation in Washington?

Automatic Voter Registration
Pre-registration for 16 and 17 year olds
Passing the WA Voting Rights Act
Reforming the primary election system to avoid wasteful expenditures and voter fatigue

What policies will you pursue to improve Washington’s vote-by-mail system?

Postage free ballots
Secure email voting
Drop boxes for every 15,000 voters

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

She who sits in the Secretary of State’s seat makes the voting rules. My executive, technology, and public policy experience coupled with my vision to be the advocate for voters across WA will allow me to ensure that every voter has equal access to the ballot box and continue to innovate as we move further into the 21st century.

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

As a first generation American I've spent my life fighting for equality, and strongly value an equitable election system as a critical component of a functioning and flourishing democracy. Where you live, how much money you make, or the color of your skin shouldn't determine whether you get to vote. As Secretary of State I will strongly support the Washington Voting Rights Act and work to break down any and all barriers to voting. I support same day and automatic voter registration, as well as pre-registration for 16 and 17 year olds. I also support postage-paid ballots, and an expansion of ballot drop boxes.

On my first day in office, I'll start a performance audit of our entire statewide voting system – something that has never been done before. I'll present the actual data on voter engagement, system financials, and equitable access to the ballot box. The need for an audit is clear. While traveling to all 39 counties in our state -- meeting with auditors, voters, community leaders, and business owners - we've discussed improvements for how our state manages elections, corporations, charities, and archives – all the duties of the Secretary of State. And the truth is we don't have one election system, we have 39 different systems. Our systems for voting and business incorporation need to be updated for equality and efficiency.

My 30+ years of leadership in technology innovation, management, and government service has saved taxpayers millions of dollars, improved public safety and health, and revolutionized technology. This includes a full career at Microsoft after receiving a computer engineering degree, a term as a Seattle city councilmember, serving as the Executive Director for the Lifelong Aids Alliance and Big Brothers Big Sisters of Puget Sound as well as co-founding the Washington Alliance for Gun Responsibility.

I am fired up to fix our election system, invest in our local business infrastructure and preserve our state's history and heritage. I will make an excellent Secretary of State and I hope I can count on your support.

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: 07/01/2016

Please return your completed questionnaire to ericherde@gmail.com