

## 25<sup>th</sup> Legislative District Democrats

### Candidate Endorsement Request (US House of Representatives)

Full Name (as shown on ballot) Shannon Hader

Office Sought: WA-08 Today's Date: 5-26-18

Years in the district that you want to represent: 36 years

### Campaign Information

Name of Campaign: Dr. Shannon for Congress Campaign Manager: Callan Martinez

Campaign Address: 204 Auburn Avenue, Auburn, WA 98002

Campaign Phone: 509-433-7721 Email: campaign@drshannonforcongress.com

Website: www.drshannonforcongress.com

Social media:

Facebook: Shannon Hader for Congress - WA-8,

<https://www.facebook.com/DrShannonForCongress/> Twitter: @shannonhader Other: \_\_\_\_\_

How much money do you intend to spend on this campaign? Approx. \$1 million to \$1.5 million

How much in personal funds do you intend to spend? Approx. \$300k

How much have you raised so far? These numbers are based on the last quarter reporting period March 31 close of books- Over \$600k with over \$515k cash on hand; we have continued to raise funds since the reports were due on March 31, our newest report will show more money raised.

How many volunteers do you expect to have supporting your campaign? Hundreds

How many volunteers have you recruited so far? Over 100

Party Affiliation: Democratic

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:**

My deep roots in the community, my experience in public service working under four different administrations (both Democrat and Republican), and being part of successful bipartisan solutions - as well as my proven record of fiscal transparency and accountability with large government budgets, set me up to be able to unpack community needs and deliver for the people of WA-8 starting Day 1. Given the backward direction we have been going on so many critical issues, I don't think we have time to wait for someone to learn on the job, from scratch, the ins and outs of how government and community engagement work. My proven track record on social justice—reducing health disparities that are based on race, gender, sexual identity, economics, or geography—is undeniable, and important for credibility on how I will deliver for ALL people to help make life better.

### **Why do you seek this office?**

I'm running for US Congress (WA-8) because I truly believe the government should deliver for the people, and when I look at my family and neighbors across the District, I don't see that happening. We are either being artificially and harmfully pitted against our urban neighbors or our needs are simply overlooked when one-size-fits-all solutions are applied, as these types of solutions are driven by big places with many people. It doesn't have to be this way—I think we can and should demand better.

### **Have you been involved in partisan politics before? Please give details:**

I'm new to being a politician, but I'm not new to government service, policy, and working with politicians, and I'm not new to making the federal government work for the people. I've spent a professional lifetime making federal government agencies and resources work for communities, for the nation, and for the globe. I'm the only candidate - Democrat or Republican - who brings a proven track record of delivering results with the federal government, even in the most difficult of circumstances - which will resonate with the voters of the 8th. The number one unified complaint I'm hearing from across the district is frustration with a lack of action and results. I spent a year (2013-14) as a Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) Health Policy Fellow on

the Hill, staffing Senator Ed Markey (D-MA), and am ready to use the full “toolkit” of a representative: not just legislation, but also oversight, budget, convening power, and constituency services, to hit the ground running Day 1 and ensure the voices of the 8th are heard and served. I truly believe this job is not about simply taking positions (for/against), but taking ACTIONS that matter. This is where proof points matter over talking points - knowing how get things done and having a record of doing so, rather than just talking about what should or could be done in broad strokes.

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

I have not.

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

I have not.

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

- 1) Healthcare – I stand for 100% truly accessible, affordable, high quality healthcare for all. As a doctor, I will fight to expand health care for everyone, defend women’s health care rights, fight for mental health parity, and ensure sound chronic disease care to decrease the burden on acute care services.
- 2) Jobs & the Economy - As a daughter, granddaughter, and sister of union members, I will support our workers and their families and ensure that our economy works for all of us - not just the favored few. I will fight for public education, training and apprenticeship programs, and a strong STEAM pipeline to lead us into the innovation future.
- 3) The Environment - As a native Washingtonian, I understand the need to protect the pristine lands we treasure and will drive the science to curb climate change and lead innovation for a clean energy future.

**Please give examples of specific policies you would work for in Congress to help the people of the United States and the rest of the world respond to the collapsing of the climate.**

As a scientist and a doctor, I will fight to ensure that decisions are made based on evidence and sound science, not the fact-fuzzy opinions of those who take money from the fossil fuel industry. Across our “purple” district, we are entirely “green”—we are united in our connection to the land, air, and water, and in recognition that global climate change is REAL and will continue to have devastating effects on our world and region if we do not reduce greenhouse gas emissions and promote green energy without burdening our farmers and small businesses. As your congresswoman, I will promote comprehensive climate change reform, de-incentivize fossil fuel

production while incentivizing alternative clean energy, and invest in technology and infrastructure that will support a bright, clean future. Additionally, I will:

- Ensure that the United States remains known as an active and enthusiastic proponent of the Paris Climate Agreement and opposing President Trump's withdrawal from the pact, not only to emphasize the importance of the future health of our planet, but also to make sure that America is the leading voice in environmental policy.
- Promote green energy projects that create jobs statewide, and demanding purposeful inclusion of transitional training and positions so that our experienced workers from fossil fuel-associated industries lead the way with new applications of their skills to green energy production;
- Protect the health of our citizens by spearheading science-based research and response to combat the effects of climate change on our people and communities.
- Institute policies and funding resources that will help prevent, lessen, and recover from the kinds of climate impacts that we are already experiencing, such as the devastating impact of wildfires in the Pacific Northwest;

**If elected this year, what efforts will you make in 2019 to prevent enemies, whether foreign or domestic, from tampering with our elections?**

I will work on all fronts to defend the integrity of our democracy. I've live under dictators overseas, participated in election monitoring, and recognize the unique and strong experience our country has with free and fair elections. Whether it is re-building a robust Department of State that can re-affirm our role in diplomacy and democracy & governance, or supporting full investigation and remediation of our vulnerabilities to foreign attack on our election system, or working with our intelligence agencies to identify and respond to efforts to undermine the dialogue around and preparation for our elections, I will be there in oversight & advocacy.

**What criteria need to be present for the United States to support a coup deposing the democratically elected government of another country, either through physical or cyber military action or through legislative maneuvering?**

Frankly, I do not believe the US should be supporting coups abroad. All too often our assessment of foreign political dynamics is lacking in nuance and community connection. We as Americans are proponents of democracy—which means sometimes the governments we are most optimistic about working with will lose. We should bring to bare all of our diplomatic and economic levers in working with democratically-elected governments to achieve goals of democracy, economic development, freedom of speech & association, and human rights. Sanctions are a valid tool to be used against governments whose policies we are in opposition to.

**Under what circumstances is it acceptable for the President of the United States to order the death of a US citizen without due process?**

I cannot identify such a circumstance.

**Under what circumstances is it acceptable for the United States to provide material support (arms and/or funding) to a military or non-state actor engaged in or attempting ethnic cleansing and/or genocide?**

None.

**In the case of ethnic cleansing and/or genocide what can be done by the minority party to bring such U.S. government actions into the public spotlight?**

We unfortunately own a history (as do most other countries) of being too late or doing too little to respond to events of ethnic cleansing or genocide—from both the minority & majority parties. I have friends who lost many family members in the Rwanda genocide; I’ve done fairly extensive retrospective review of other genocides as well. I believe all too often we stop short of even calling out genocide and its urgency in real time—in part, from a human reaction of unbelievability. I believe each of us has a moral obligation to identify ethnic cleansing/genocide when it is occurring, and from there to rally the response needed to save lives.

**What will you do to prevent war with Iran?**

One of my greatest concerns is a nuclear Iran. We must take every action to prevent this reckless and terroristic regime from obtaining such weapons, and while the built-in “sunset clause” of the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA) was worrisome to me, the abandonment of the Plan by President Trump is even more concerning. This misguided decision flies in the face of reason and is opposed by our allies, legislators on both sides of the aisle, and members of the President’s own cabinet. As a Congresswoman, I will fight to ensure that the United States complies with the agreement going forward, and explore every avenue to avoid an unnecessary war.

Also, we must be sure to respond to Iranian aggression, including by imposing sanctions on the IRGC and in connection with the Iranian ballistic missile program. The U.S. must lead the charge in ensuring that Iran will remain nuclear-weapon free for the long-term. Additionally, we must work with Israel to oppose Iranian military expansion into Syria and its support of Hezbollah, Hamas, and other Iranian proxies.

**Do you support expansion of Social Security benefits including disability and survivor as well as retirement benefits?**

Yes.

**Republicans frequently advocate flat taxes. If it didn’t exempt earnings higher than an annually adjusted cap, FICA would be a flat tax because it uses only one rate. Would you**

**support (a) removing FICA’s cap on earnings, (b) adjusting FICA’s tax-base to include all income from whatever source derived, whether earned, unearned, or inherited, or found on the street, (c) adding a refundable tax credit per human person of something in the neighborhood \$3,000 per year, and (d) allocating the revenue from FICA first to Social Security Old-Age, Survivors, and Disability Benefits, second to a single payer health plan, and finally to public health efforts including the CDC and local public health departments?**

Yes to all.

**Do you support mandatory coverage by medical insurance providers of comprehensive family planning and all modern medical procedures in women's health care?**

Yes.

**Do you support Medicare-for-All or another Single Payer Healthcare plan? Please explain.**

Throughout my campaign, I have called for 100% truly accessible, affordable, high-quality healthcare for all - period. As the first step toward national healthcare program, I think the best path to stable, effective single-payer expansion is supporting states to get out in the lead and make it work, and give them the flexibility and support from the federal level to do so. I'd also like to see more and more folks be able to opt into Medicare at earlier ages and broader markets, see it cover eyes, ears, and teeth for healthy aging and function, and to go from 80% to 100% coverage.

**If elected this year, what federal measures would you be willing to vote for during the two years 2019 and 2020 to reduce the deaths and disability from gun violence?**

- A full public health response to gun violence, to find out what policies, programs, mental health support, young adult programs, or other measures will do the most to reduce gun deaths, including those due to suicides and accidents, and fund those interventions. This includes mandating CDC resume research on gun violence prevention, fully funding such work, and ensuring the response is not ‘business as usual’ by requiring CDC to meet hard deadlines: turn in a research portfolio plan within 90 days; demonstrate funding has gone out the door to support such plans in the next 90 days; reporting on progress and results to Congress every 6 months.
- Immediate measures I support include:
  - Expanded background check measures to include Internet and gun show sales nationally, strengthen systems used to conduct such checks rapidly and efficiently, and enforce compliance with existing policies;
  - Reinstating the Obama-era regulation that would have made it easier for background checks to accurately identify people with certain mental illnesses who are not currently allowed to purchase guns – a regulation that President Trump overturned;
  - Encouraging “smart gun” technology that incorporates safety features that prevent misuse, accidental shootings, gun thefts, and use of the weapon against the owner;

- Renewal of the ban of the manufacture of assault weapons, and ban high-capacity magazines and “bump stocks” such as the one used in Las Vegas.
- Safe storage: keeping guns locked, unloaded, and stored properly to decrease the chances of an unintentional shooting or of a child getting access to weapons.

**Do you support treating guns as we do cars in that they must be registered, the operator must pass a proficiency test and receive a license to operate the weapon, and requiring liability insurance on each weapon to cover the costs of any injuries and/or damage from that weapon?**

Yes.

**Do you support Public Campaign Financing for:**

- (1) Local government offices?**
- (2) State government offices?**
- (3) Federal offices?**
- (4) Judicial offices?**

Yes. We need to get the money out of politics to ensure real people, 1 person 1 vote, drive the election of our political leaders. I will fight to overturn Citizens United, and in the interim to require enhanced transparency and reporting. I support innovative financing mechanisms that will support greater voice & participation from all citizens.

**Do you support an amendment to the United States Constitution to unequivocally state that inalienable rights belong to human beings only, and that money is not a form of protected free speech under the First Amendment and can be regulated in political campaigns?**

Yes.

**What should the hourly federal minimum wage be set at?**

\$15/hour to start, with adjustments over time. Offsets to ensure small business start-ups and those in lower income areas can thrive should be addressed through other mechanisms—such as our tax code—and not on the back of workers.

**Should an automatic adjustment to the minimum wage be put into law?**

Yes.

**If yes, what metric should the minimum wage be pegged to?**

Frankly I’m happy to entertain multiple approaches to this, so long as the adjustments remain dynamic and progressive.

**If elected this year, what efforts will you make in 2019 to ensure an accurate, timely census in 2020?**

I am a huge believer in the importance of data in supporting meaningful policies that affect peoples' lives. As such, I see the 2020 census as critical. I will support full funding of the census, fight against efforts to inquire as to citizenship and other chilling or discriminatory questions, and ensure retention of factors that help describe the diversity and identity of our public.

**Why should the 25<sup>th</sup> Legislative District Democrats support you over any other candidates running for this position?**

There is an urgency to act like never before: under the Trump Administration, we are going backward on major issues - healthcare, the environment, wages and jobs for the middle class, immigration, and global security - at a rate I would not have predicted. And beyond what is visible to the public, I've personally witnessed how our federal agencies are also being insidiously and covertly dismantled from the inside - by slow-rolling decisions, preventing congressionally appropriated funds from going out the door, and refusing to hire key staff needed to execute on mission. This leaves us in a weakened ability to respond for our national interests.

My deep roots in the community, my experience in public service working under four different administrations - both Democrat and Republican - and being part of successful bipartisan solutions, as well as my proven record of both delivering results that matter in the most difficult of circumstances as well as fiscal transparency and accountability with large government budgets, set me up to be able to unpack community needs and deliver for the people of WA-8 starting Day 1. Given the backward direction we have been going on so many critical issues, I don't think we have time to wait for someone to learn on the job from scratch the ins and outs of how government and community engagement work.

**Are there any additional comments you would like to share with the 25<sup>th</sup> Legislative District Democrats?**

I would greatly value the endorsement of the 25th Legislative District Democrats. I'm a health expert in a time when healthcare is among the most important issues facing our country and our district - and a foreign policy and diplomacy expert that is sorely needed at a time when our relationships around the world are eroding. I'm a proven leader with an outstanding track record for delivering remarkable results even in the most difficult of circumstances and working on both sides of the aisle. I understand how to use budgets to incentivize quality and innovations with attention to transparency, efficiency, and accountability. I'm a scientist, who believes in science- and evidence-based decision-making at a time when science and evidence is under unprecedented attack. And, as a daughter of Auburn with family and friends from a wide range



of educational, political, and economic backgrounds, I'm in a unique position to understand and address the issues that face all 8th District residents.

*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, fellow Democrats, and Democratic values. 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: Shannon Hader

Today's Date: 5/28/18

Please return your completed questionnaire to [edwherde@gmail.com](mailto:edwherde@gmail.com)