



King County

**Metropolitan King County Council
Committee of the Whole**

STAFF REPORT

Agenda Item No.: 6	Date: 5 Dec 2011
Motion No.: 2011-0481	Prepared by: Nick Wagner

SUBJECT

Proposed Motion 2011-0481 (pp. 3-4 of these materials) would make an appointment to fill the vacancy in the seat representing the 46th legislative district in the Washington State House of Representatives.

BACKGROUND

The 46th Legislative District is located in north Seattle, extending north to 145th Street, west to Puget Sound, and east to Lake Washington, and with a southern border that runs from Carkeek Park to Green Lake to the University of Washington (*see* map at p. 5 of these materials). The district includes the neighborhoods of Greenwood, Northgate, Lake City, and Laurelhurst, among others.

The Council recently appointed former State Representative David Frockt to fill a vacancy in the seat representing the 46th district in the Washington State Senate. That appointment created a vacancy in the 46th district’s seat in the Washington State House of Representatives.

The Washington State Constitution provides in part, in article II, section 15:

VACANCIES IN LEGISLATURE AND IN PARTISAN COUNTY ELECTIVE OFFICE. Such vacancies as may occur in either house of the legislature or in any partisan county elective office shall be filled by appointment by the county legislative authority of the county in which the vacancy occurs: *Provided*, That the person appointed to fill the vacancy must be from the same legislative district, county, or county commissioner or council district and the same political party as the legislator or partisan county elective officer whose office has been vacated, and shall be one of three persons who shall be nominated by the county central committee of that party

As King County’s legislative authority, the Council is responsible for making an appointment to fill the vacancy in the seat representing the 46th legislative district.

Pursuant to the state constitution, the King County Democratic Central Committee (“KCDCC”) has nominated the following individuals, in order of preference, to fill the current vacancy:

1. Gerry Pollet
2. Sylvester Cann
3. Javier Valdez

A copy of the KCDCC letter transmitting the nominations, which describes the vote tally among the precinct committee officers of the 46th Legislative District, is included at pp. 7-8 of these materials.

Biographical information on the nominees is included at pp. 9-36 of these materials (see the list of attachments below).

SUMMARY OF THE PROPOSED LEGISLATION

Proposed Motion 2011-0481 (pp. 3-4 of these materials) would fill the vacancy in the seat representing the 46th legislative district in the Washington State House of Representatives.

AMENDMENT

In its current form, the proposed motion has a blank for the name of the person to be appointed. It is anticipated that there will be an oral amendment to insert the name of one of the three nominees.

INVITEES

1. Gerry Pollet
2. Sylvester Cann
3. Javier Valdez

ATTACHMENTS

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KING COUNTY
Signature Report

1200 King County Courthouse
516 Third Avenue
Seattle, WA 98104

December 2, 2011

Motion

Proposed No. 2011-0481.1

Sponsors Gossett

1 A MOTION making an appointment to fill the vacancy in
2 the 46th legislative district of the Washington state house
3 of representatives.

4 WHEREAS, a vacancy exists in the position of state representative for the 46th
5 legislative district, due to the resignation of David Frockt, and

6 WHEREAS, the 46th legislative district Democrats have met to consider possible
7 replacements for this position, and

8 WHEREAS, the King County Democratic Central Committee has submitted the
9 names of three nominees to fill the vacancy;

10 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT MOVED by the Council of King County:

11 _____ is hereby appointed to the position of state representative from
12 the 46th

13

Motion

14 legislative district.

15

KING COUNTY COUNCIL
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON

Larry Gossett, Chair

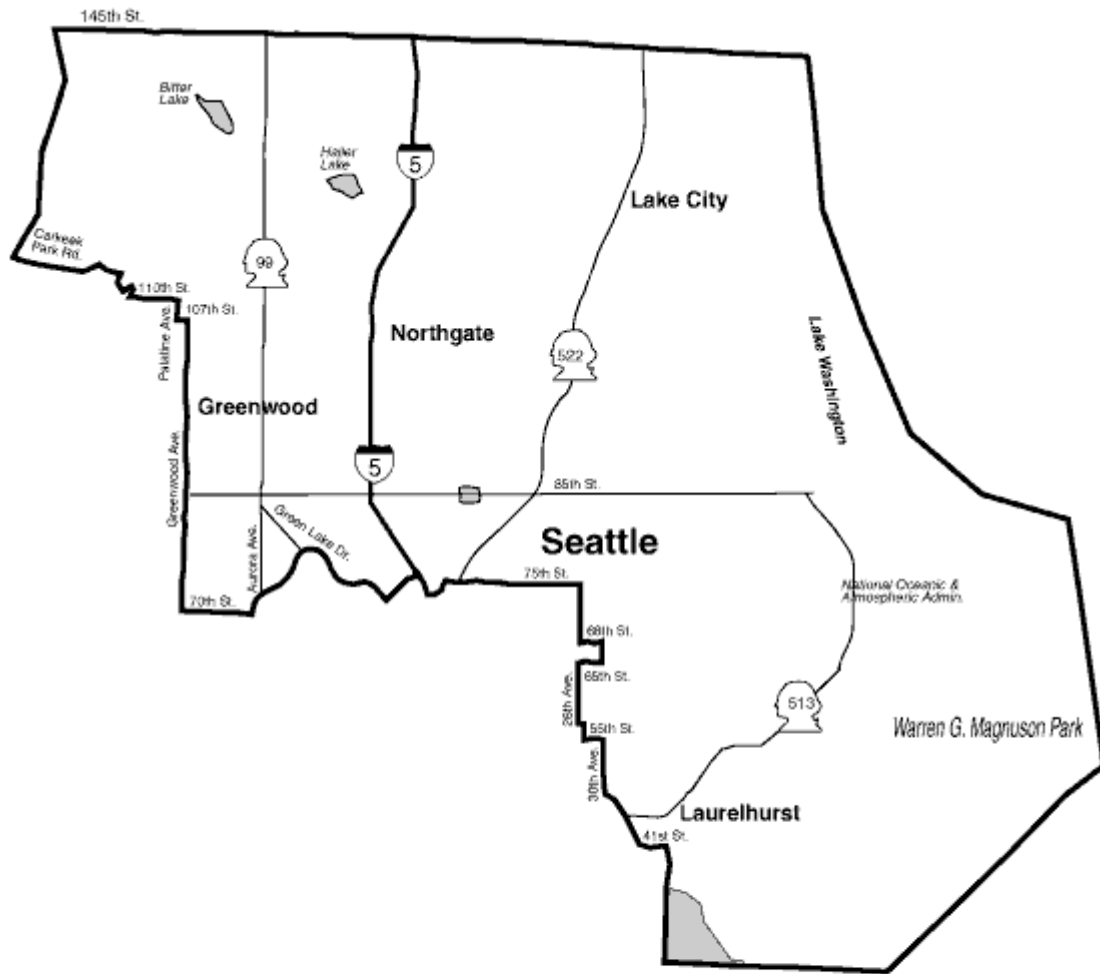
ATTEST:

Anne Noris, Clerk of the Council

APPROVED this _____ day of _____, _____.

Dow Constantine, County Executive

Attachments: None



46th Legislative District

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DATE: December 2, 2011

TO: **Council Chair Larry Gossett, King County Councilmember District 2**
Bob Ferguson, King County Councilmember District 1
Kathy Lambert, King County Councilmember District 3
Larry Phillips, King County Councilmember District 4
Julia Patterson, King County Councilmember District 5
Jane Hague, King County Councilmember District 6
Pete von Reichbauer, King County Councilmember District 7
Joe McDermott, King County Councilmember District 8
Reagan Dunn, King County Councilmember District 9

FROM: Steve Zemke, Chair
King County Democratic Central Committee

RE: Nominees for the State House Vacancy in the 46th Legislative District

Pursuant to the Charter and By-Laws of the Washington State Democratic Party, the Washington State Constitution, and the Revised Code of Washington, the King County Democratic Central Committee hereby presents the following individuals as nominees for the position of State House representing the 46th Legislative District:

1. The Honorable Gerry Pollet
2. The Honorable Sylvester Cann
3. The Honorable Javier Valdez

The candidates are presented in rank order as they were voted for and nominated by the 46th Legislative District Party organization and subsequently unanimously ratified by the King County Democratic Central Committee. You should consider the ranking as the preferred order in which the Democratic Party would hope you to consider these candidates.

The following votes were taken on the evening of Dec 1st by 105 Democratic PCOs in the 46th LD in a series of 3 votes. In all 3 votes Gerry Pollet was the top vote getter.

First vote:

Gerry Pollet 37
Slyvester Cann 33
Javier Valdez 20
Sarajane Siegfriedt 10
Rene Murry 2
Dusty Hoerler 2
Gabe Meyer 1
Tony Provine 0

Second Vote:

Gerry Pollet 48
Sylvester Cann 38
Javier Valdez 19

Third Vote:

Gerry Pollet 57
Sylvester Cann 47

The King County Democratic Committee subsequently voted unanimously to forward the top three names in ranked order to the King County Council.

While both Sylvester Cann and Javier Valdez have stated in an e-mail exchange with Chad Lupkes, the Chair of the 46th District Democrats and me that they would honor the votes of the PCOs in the 46th District and not actively seek the appointment if they were not the first choice of the District, I do not speak for the candidates and they must communicate directly with you regarding their intent.

I accordingly am sending you the three names as selected by the duly elected and appointed PCOs of the 46th LD and ratified by the King County Democratic Central Committee as required by the Washington State Constitution, state statute and the state Democratic Party charter and bylaws.

Thank you for your thoughtful consideration of this important appointment.

Respectfully yours,

Steve Zemke, Chair
King County Democratic Central Committee
PO Box 66234
Seattle, WA 98166
stevezemke@msn.com
206-366-0811

Gerry Pollet, JD
Biography / Resume / partial CV

Gerry Pollet is **Executive Director** of **Heart of America Northwest**, a 16,000 member citizens' group dedicated to "advancing our region's quality of life." Heart of America Northwest is widely respected as the region's leading citizens' group working for the cleanup of America's most contaminated area: the Hanford Nuclear Reservation, through which the Columbia River flows for fifty miles in Central Washington. Heart of America Northwest has been referred to in the regional news media as "*the premiere Hanford Cleanup watchdog group*".

Gerry also serves as Executive Director and general counsel for **Legal Advocates for Washington**, which provides legal advice on non-profit; open government (public records / FOIA / open meetings); electoral; and, hazardous waste law to non-profit organizations.

Gerry lives in Seattle with his wife Janet Miller, and children Eileen (Western Washington University) and Hank (Roosevelt H.S.). Gerry has been very active with neighborhood issues and schools in Seattle, including efforts to resolve overcrowding in North Seattle's schools, as a volunteer in schools, and numerous Seattle and statewide education efforts. Gerry is the vice-chair for programs for the 46th District Democrats (2002-present), and previously served as Secretary. Janet and Gerry have been involved in founding and supporting "Hands for a Bridge Foundation" at Roosevelt.

Gerry co-founded Heart of America Northwest in 1987, and has led the organization's growth to be one of the largest environmental membership groups in the Northwest.

Gerry has been elected ten times to **chair** the **Hanford Advisory Board's Budgets and Contracts oversight committee**, responsible for review of the federal Energy Department's (USDOE's) Hanford budgets, management and contracts. Hanford Clean-Up is the nation's largest public works project with a \$2 billion annual budget. Working closely with Senator Ron Wyden, Congressman Adam Smith and others, Gerry has provided the research and advocacy leading to reductions in Hanford contractors' "overhead" costs and other waste by hundreds of millions of dollars.

Gerry has **testified by invitation to U.S. Senate and U.S. House Committees**, including influential testimony on the predicted economic failure of USDOE's "privatization" contract for High-Level Nuclear Waste Vitrification (U.S. House Energy and Commerce Committee, Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations), and on the applicability of hazardous waste laws at federal facilities. **His research has been utilized extensively in media reporting on Hanford Clean-Up contracts and budgets**, including by the NY Times (e.g., April 7, 1999 and July, 2010), Sixty Minutes (May, 2006), and a front page investigative report in the Washington Post (May, 2009). Gerry has worked for many years to protect numerous Hanford whistleblowers and assist workers exposed to toxic chemicals, especially deadly beryllium (See NY Times Feb. 26, 2004).

Starting in 2003, Gerry **chaired the "Protect Washington"** coalition for Initiative 297, to stop Hanford from being used as a National Radioactive Hazardous Waste Dump and to end dumping of waste in unlined trenches. Gerry directed and coordinated the coalition's collection of a record number of signatures for any initiative to the Legislature (282,000). Initiative 297 united Washington State behind the principle that Hanford and other contaminated sites in Washington had to be cleaned up before more waste is dumped. In November, 2004, Washington's voters gave it the highest vote total for any ballot initiative in state history.

The University of Washington School of Public Health awarded Heart of America Northwest and Gerry with its 2010 Community Service Partner award; and, Heart of America Northwest was named the “Region’s Best Environmental Group” in 2008 by the Spokane Peace, Justice and Environmental Community. Gerry has also been honored as “National Grassroots Activist of the Year” by the Alliance for Nuclear Accountability at its annual award ceremony in Washington, D.C. In 2006, Washington Physicians for Social Responsibility’s top annual award, previously given to then AG, now Governor Chris Gregoire, and Gov. Mike Lowry. (Paul Beeson Peace Award).

In 1986, Gerry was the author and campaign director of the successful Washington State Ballot Referendum that blocked Hanford from becoming the nation’s first High-Level Nuclear Waste Dump.

Gerry was one of the contributing authors of Washington's Model Toxics Control Act, passed by the voters of Washington State. He has subsequently been the drafter of provisions updating the law and its rules for risk assessment, public involvement and allowing for cleanup and reuse of industrial properties. He has served on numerous agency advisory boards relating to hazardous substance cleanup (Ecology’s Model Toxics Control Act Policy Advisory Committee), regulation of dangerous wastes, and electric utility planning (Seattle City Light Strategic Planning Advisory Committee). Gerry has lectured and presented in numerous forums on risk assessment and public input to exposure scenarios in hazardous waste site cleanup planning.

Gerry has served on the board of directors of the Washington Coalition for Open Government since November, 2006, and is currently on the Executive Committee and serves as board Secretary. WACOG is the state’s leading advocacy group and educational group for openness in government, and defense of public records and open meeting laws. He also serves on WACOG’s legal committee. Gerry has extensive experience with the Freedom of Information Act, the State Public Records Disclosure Act, Open Public Meetings law, Federal Advisory Committee Act, and public disclosure/IRS rules advising other non-profits. Working with whistleblowers and State Auditor Brian Sonntag, Gerry assisted in the drafting and passage of Washington’s whistleblower protections for public employees.

Gerry has been a frequent guest lecturer at university, law and graduate programs, and has served on the faculty of continuing legal education and American Bar Association programs relating to hazardous wastes, risk assessment, etc... Gerry runs a program mentoring and training law students who wish to work as environmental and public interest attorneys. Teaching is immensely rewarding to Gerry, and he has devoted considerable time to work designing and assisting in teaching courses.

In December, 2010, Gerry was appointed to the faculty of the University of Washington’s Community Oriented Public Health Program in the School of Public Health as a Clinical Lecturer.

Gerry is often asked to guest lecture at universities on topics including climate change and energy in addition to nuclear and hazardous waste, risk assessment and environmental law. Recent guest lectures have included Western Washington University Fairhaven College World Issues Forum convocation on global warming and nuclear power; WSU-Tri-Cities; University of Portland. Gerry runs Legal Advocates for Washington’s and Heart of America Northwest’s annual Environmental and Public Interest Law Student Externship program. This is an intensive summer educational program for law students selected through a highly competitive process.

Other activities include: having organized Environmentalists for Gore in 2000; Area coordinator Obama for President 2008; with spouse Janet Miller, recruiting and training over 300 people a week to doorbell for Obama, Kerry and Gore and the Coordinated Campaigns. Gerry has also served as volunteer attorney for such efforts as preserving streams and tree habitat.

Education: University of Washington School of Law; Juris Doctorate, 1983
Clark University, Massachusetts; B.A., 1980; Phi Beta Kappa, Magna Cum Laude
(Major: Government Minors: Science, Technology and Society [STS] and Economics)
Curriculum Vitae includes:

University and Legal Education lectures (partial):

2011 University of Oregon School of Law Public Interest Environmental Law Conference
lectures on the Freedom of Information Act and Cleanup of Hanford.

2011 Washington Coalition on Open Government Continuing Legal Education programs in
Spokane and Seattle on Washington State's Open Public Meetings law and on the federal
Freedom of Information Act.

University of Portland, Confluences: "Water and Justice" Conference, May 2010: closing
speaker on the Columbia River, Hanford health risks in time of increasing scarcity of water;

University of Oregon School of Law, Public Interest Environmental Law Conference
presentations 2010; 2009; 2007 (4 lectures / CLE programs: open government law and update;
nuclear waste, health risk assessment and transportation legal issues);

Washington Coalition for Open Government, Open Government Conference 2010, Continuing
Legal Education program: Federal Open Government laws in comparison to Washington State;
Fairhaven College, Western Washington University World Issues Seminar Forum 2008: Lessons
from Hanford: Nuclear Power and Climate Change;

Washington State University, Tri-Cities, February, 2008: "How Hanford's environmental
impacts, risks and funding priorities are considered in major policy and cleanup decisions";

University of Washington Water Center Seminar Series, April 2007: "Groundwater
Contamination Issues at Hanford and the Resulting Legal Issues and Health Risks";

American Bar Association Section of Environment, Energy, and Resources Annual Meeting
(2007); "RCRA Hot Topic: Latest Developments in the Evolution of EPA Risk-Based Decision
Making" Presentation: "Incorporating Risk Assessment in Industrial Re-Use / Brownfields
Corrective Action"

"Oregon and Washington Clean-Up Laws" Legal Seminars International, November, 2006; Also,
Desert Bar Association, August 2005: "Application of Washington's MTCA to Federal Site
Clean-Up decisions"; "Human Health Risk Assessment" and Public Involvement Models in
cleanup decisions (Northwest Environmental Training Institute)

Testimony to Congress by invitation including:

- U.S. House Committee on Commerce's Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations
regarding the high contractual costs for the vitrification of High-Level Nuclear Waste (Oct.
1998); testimony on economics of proposed privatization contract for construction of
Hanford's Vitrification Plant and other privatization initiatives. Testimony played a
significant role leading to USDOE withdrawing privatization contract award to British
Nuclear Fuels (BNFL);
- U.S. Senate Committee on Energy and the Environment: testimony on Federal Facilities
Compliance Act and on Environmental Management Fund (USDOE).

Contact Info: Gerry-pollet@msn.com (home/campaign); Gerry@hoanw.org (Heart of America
Northwest work);

Phone: home: 206-528-0078 cell: 206-819-9015

7750-17th Ave. NE Seattle, WA 98115

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King County Democrats 2011 General Candidate Questionnaire

Candidate Name	Gerry Pollet
Position sought	46 th LD House of Representatives
Residence Legislative, County Council and Congressional district	46, 1, 7
Are you a Democrat? Are you known as a Democrat?	YES!!! I am well known as a Democrat, and have served for many years as vice chair of the 46th District Democrats. Working with my wife, Janet Miller, former chair of the 46 th District Democrats, we have hosted the trainings at our house and yard for hundreds of N. Seattle volunteers for doorbelling for Barrack Obama, John Kerry and Al Gore.
Campaign Information	
Campaign Name	Gerry Pollet for State Representative
Web page	
Campaign Email address	Gerry-pollet@msn.com
Manager	
Campaign mailing address	7750-17 th Ave NE Seattle WA 98115
Campaign phone number	(206)528-0078 (home) (206)819-9015 (cell)

Candidate Background: Community service, education, employment and other relevant experience.

Describe your qualifications, education, employment, community and civic activity, Union affiliation and other relevant experience.

I have dedicated my career to be a public interest organizer and attorney, and my free time to working for our neighborhoods, our environment, and our children's schools... and electing progressive candidates. I am well known regionally and nationally as the Director of the region's leading organization (Heart of America Northwest) working for cleanup of Hanford, which is the most contaminated area in North America. I chaired and ran the statewide ballot campaign to stop the Bush Administration's and nuclear industry's plans to use Hanford as a national radioactive waste dump.

I have worked hard to build the 46th District Democrats over the past 20 years (currently vice-chair for our programs). Many of you know me as a **neighborhood and schools activist**.

*As City Council Member Nick Licata says of me in his endorsement for this seat:
"Gerry thinks globally and acts locally."*

King County Democrats 2011 General Candidate Questionnaire

I have written and successfully organized statewide campaigns and done the lobbying to pass important legislation that protects our environment and consumers – including our Growth Management Act, state toxic waste cleanup law, and laws protecting rate payers, whistleblowers and the health of our children and workers from exposure to toxics.

I pledge to be a Representative who works year round with our Democratic District organization and PCOs in our mission to elect Democrats who stand for Democratic values and are responsive to the grassroots of the Party and our neighborhoods in the 46th. That is my pledge to you. For over 20 years, I have worked with my wife, Janet Miller, to build our 46th District Democratic organization. When I was elected Secretary of the District, I started our tradition of distributing minutes of both Executive and full organization meetings. I have been our vice chair responsible for the District's programs for many years.

As a **neighborhood and schools organizer**, I have done the organizing and legal work to improve our neighborhoods, preserve streams, save trees in North Seattle, provide transit, and overcome overcrowding in our North Seattle public schools. I am very active on education issues, and *will be one of only 2 legislators from the entire Seattle legislative delegation who has children in, and volunteers in, our public schools – a voice and perspective needed in the House.*

I am also on the **faculty of the UW School of Public Health** – working without pay with Community Oriented Public Health students and run programs to inspire and train law students to do public interest and environmental work.

The University of Washington School of Public Health named me as its 2010 Community Service honoree, and I have been honored as the national grassroots activist of the year and with Washington Physicians for Social Responsibility's top annual honor (previously given to Governors Lowry and Gregoire). My work has been the basis of numerous news reports including front page stories in the Washington Post, NY Times...NPR, CNN, ABC, and every major regional newspaper.

I serve on the Executive and Legal Committees of the Washington Coalition for Open Government – our state's leading voice for legislation, advocacy and legal representation to preserve the public's rights to participate in government (e.g., we just successfully defeated the right wing's effort to prevent disclosure of the petitions that sought to overturn our state's domestic partnership law).

I am uniquely qualified to hit the ground running in Olympia to represent our District in a partnership with Phyllis Gutierrez Kenney and David Frockt, and to be a champion for progressive Democratic values coupled with the organizing and lobby experience to turn values into legislation and funding for our schools, health care, and environment.

King County Democrats 2011 General Candidate Questionnaire

What ratings and endorsements have you received?	
Legislative District Democrats	(in 2008, the 46 th District Democrats endorsed me for the House of Representatives)
Union Endorsement	(numerous endorsements in 2008 for the House, e.g., American Federation of Teachers, Aerospace Machinists [IAM&AW District Lodge 751]; Amalgamated Transit Union Local 587 - mentioned to show my prior support, not imply they have a position on the PCOs' 2011 vote)
Municipal League	
SEAMEC	
Other Endorsements	(in 2008, NARAL PAC and numerous others mentioned to show my prior support, not imply they have a position on the PCOs' 2011 vote)

Which groups do you plan to ask for an endorsement?
If I am appointed, I will run for election in Nov, 2012 and seek endorsements from numerous groups, unions, the 46th District Democrats...

Please answer the following questions*		Yes	No	Qualified
1	Do you support the King County Democratic Platform? <i>(For several election cycles I was responsible for preparation of the 46th District Democrats' Platform and chaired the Platform committee)</i>	Y		
2	Do you support the right of workers (excluding military) to bargain and strike?	Y		
3	Do you support government funding of Planned Parenthood and other family planning services, including abortion and contraception?	Y		
4	Do you support majority votes by state and local governments to enact taxes for revenue and to repeal tax exemptions?	Y		
5	Do you support the Affordable Health Care Act?	Y		
6	Do you support school vouchers? Do you support charter schools?		N	
7	Do you support the Davis-Bacon Act?	Y		
8	Do you support equal rights for women?	Y		
9	Do you support Federal and State regulation of greenhouse gases that are contributing to climate change?	Y		
10	Do you support a constitutional amendment to limit free speech rights to persons, not corporations?	Y		
11	Do you support public financing of campaigns?	Y		

King County Democrats 2011 General Candidate Questionnaire

Please answer the following questions *		Yes*	No
1	Have you ever failed to pay any taxes or court ordered judgments?		N
2	Have you ever been found in violation of a Public Disclosure Commission, Federal Election Commission or Seattle Ethics and Elections Commission regulation?		N
3	Have you ever been convicted of a felony?		N

* If you answered "Yes" or "Qualified" please explain your answer.

Are you a member of another political party? If so, which ones? Have you ever supported or given money to a candidate from another party in a partisan race? If so, whom and when?

HECK NO! No and No.

Are you a member of your local Democratic District Party? Have you contributed financially to any Democratic Organization? Have you been a Precinct Committee Officer? When/Where?

I have been our vice chair, Secretary, and Platform chair for the 46th District Democrats for over 12 years. I have been a PCO in the 46th District and in the old 32nd District (when it covered part of N. Seattle, prior to moving to our current home in 1990). For many years, PCO literature distribution was coordinated from our front porch. Janet (Miller, my wife) and I ran the trainings in our front yard on how to doorbell for literally hundreds of people a weekend for the Gore, Kerry, and Barrack Obama campaigns. I have folded and labeled tens of thousands of monthly 46th District Demograms, and have worked on the campaigns of numerous Democrats.

I have worked with Democratic District and County organizations (and been their key note speaker) all across Washington state, and know firsthand the obstacles that Democrats face in organizing and campaigning in Spokane, Tri-Cities, Vancouver, Bellingham...

I was chair of the District's Platform and Resolutions Committee responsible for drafting our Platform based on the extensive input from Precinct Caucuses for several election cycles and am deeply committed to our Platform. As vice-chair of the 46th Democrats responsible for our programs for the past eight years, I have strived to use our programs to hold elected officials accountable to our Platform and relevant Resolutions adopted by the membership, and to educate candidates and officials on our Platform and relevant resolutions.

My commitment to our PCOs and members is to be an active participant in the 46th District Democrats and use my role as Representative to assist our District in organizing and campaigning to increase turnout for all Democratic candidates.

What are the main messages of your campaign? What is your campaign plan? How many doors have you knocked on to date, pieces of mail planned, budgeting, staffing? What is the fundraising goal for your campaign? How much have you raised to date? Why will you win?

Like you I was stunned by the sudden death of Senator Scott White, who had his focus on the future. As we fill the vacancy Scott left we must maintain that focus. The challenges our state will face are huge. Education, the environment, health care for our citizens, transportation, care and services for the disabled and children. – all endangered by our state's money problems.

King County Democrats 2011 General Candidate Questionnaire

All of them must be faced – while at the same time we resist the conservative far right wing pressures coming from the national arena.

There will be several Democrats asking for your vote to be the person to fill that vacancy.

But make no mistake; this is a contest about our state's future.

I share that focus on the future. And I have the commitment and the experience we need to meet the challenges that future will bring.

I am the only candidate who has drafted legislation, and developed the lobbying and statewide organizing campaigns and coalitions to successfully pass legislation to protect the environment, protect children's' and workers' health, protect whistleblowers, protect consumers...; and, I am the only candidate who has stood up to powerful special interests and won.

As State Representative I will sponsor legislation and organize to have every existing tax exemption that costs our budget over \$100 million put to a vote this coming year – in time to save our schools and essential service from unconscionable cuts. We can out Eyman the Republicans by putting the tax exemptions up for a vote as to whether they are kept or repealed (do you believe that the public will keep exemptions for banks or other special interests in this economy and time?).

I will be a champion in Olympia for the environment, our schools (K-12 and higher ed) open government and opposing special interests.

We need, and deserve, **a state legislator who is active with our public schools**, and can advocate from direct current experience in caucus and committees about conditions in the classroom – both in public schools and at our state colleges and UW (I teach – for free – at the UW in the School of Public Health and in undergraduate classes).

Hundreds of 46th District voters had yard signs in front of their homes or in their windows for me in 2008. I am the only candidate who has scores of people who are willing to volunteer for my campaign to win the seat in the November 2012 election after being appointed.

The 46th District Democrats have a strong stake in having our Representatives continue to have strong ties to the Democratic Party, rather than someone who has funding to run a campaign against our appointee. Whoever is appointed will not be able to raise money to run in November 2012 until after a lengthy legislative session, while it is likely that a nominal Democrat will be raising funds and running from early in 2012. I am the candidate with the grassroots network, known to school and neighborhood activists who is best positioned to hold the seat after being appointed by vote of our PCOs.

What are the single most pressing issues facing your jurisdiction? What actions would you take if elected?
--

King County Democrats 2011 General Candidate Questionnaire

Our children's' futures are being robbed by our state's and nation's choices during this great recession. Parents are unable to provide the basics of security and education for their children and our state is failing our disabled, our children, our parents, our environment.

We can restore their future. We must restore their future.

I am an advocate that our Legislature is required to pay fully for all the elements of basic education and am embarrassed by officials who were elected as Democrats saying that we can remove key elements from that definition, whether it is the busses needed to get children of working parents to school, full day kindergarten, classrooms that aren't overcrowded... I am an advocate for restoring, not just avoiding entirely eliminating, our state's basic health plan and services for disabled adults and their prescription medicines.

We can pay for these essentials.

I will offer legislation to have a public vote on whether the state's voters want to retain each existing tax break that cost us over \$100 million in revenue. Are our state's voters going to preserve the tax breaks for banks:? We must organize now for changing our state's tax structure to include an income tax. Ironically, in this economic climate, if we lead, it will actually be easier, starting with a corporate income tax (many businesses will rejoice at an income tax instead of the B&O tax on their gross revenues when they have little or no profit).

To restore our children's' futures, we need advocates in the caucus and committee rooms who know what conditions are like in our children's' classrooms. I will be one of only 2 Seattle legislators with children in Seattle's public schools and who are active as a volunteer and advocate for our schools.

Our state has made a college education, and even retraining in our community colleges, unaffordable for many. I am an advocate for low tuition and ensuring that slots are increased for residents, not decreased in order to charge more tuition. I teach college and graduate students (including as a Lecturer in the UW School of Public Health), and my own daughter is in college at Western Washington University. I see and hear every day how the Legislature's assumptions about availability of financial aid to offset the outrageous increases in tuition are false and destroying the dream of a college education for many.

It's time for our State to lead in making affordable health care for everyone a fundamental right. I will sponsor and organize to amend our State's Constitution to recognize that everyone has a fundamental right to health care. To reduce the costs of health care, I will sponsor legislation to replace the scores of separate insurance administrative programs with one uniform set of claims – lowering the 30% of health care costs from insurance administration to come closer to Medicare's 5% in Washington State.

I already am **a champion for the environment and fighting global warming**, and will be a leader in the Legislature, as Heather Trimm, Policy Director of People for Puget Sound (for ID purposes only) said in her endorsement of me for your appointment:

"Gerry will be a champion for Puget Sound and protecting the environment in Olympia"

King County Democrats 2011 General Candidate Questionnaire

To cleanup Puget Sound and fight global warming, I proposed increasing the hazardous waste and oil import; and, to defeat proposed coal export terminals, I propose that we enact a stiff coal import and export fee.

I believe your legislators should be more accessible to you in the District during the Session than to the lobbyists in Olympia. Therefore, I commit to holding regular evening and weekend open office hours and coffees to meet with 46th District residents during the Session.

If you are a candidate in a contested primary race, what record of performance, ability, experience, personal qualities, and positions on issues distinguish you from your opponent(s)? If you do not receive the nomination, is there any reason you could not support your Democratic opponent in the general election? Please explain.

I am the only candidate who has drafted legislation, and developed the lobbying and statewide organizing campaigns and coalitions to successfully pass legislation to protect the environment, protect children's' and workers' health, protect whistleblowers, protect consumers...

I am the only candidate who has stood up to powerful special interests and won.

We need a legislator who makes our schools a top year round priority, who has a track record of advocating for schools and funding, who understands curriculum issues and is active in Seattle Public Schools.

With the major role of the UW in our District, and the importance of access to community colleges and other state colleges to all of us, my role teaching students provides an essential voice for affordable quality education (and firsthand accounts of how the claims made by legislators and the Governor over the past two years that financial aid would make up for the huge increases in tuition were false). My work with students in Public Health and for our State's environment was recognized with the University of Washington School of Public Health's Community Service honoree for 2010.

I am the only candidate who has run organizations, met payrolls and reined in the costs of multinational government contractors to save taxpayers hundreds of millions of dollars.

As a neighborhood activist and organizer, and as a public interest attorney addressing neighborhood and environmental issues, I will bring an unique perspective and role in drafting legislation to protect and advance our quality of life... such as requiring transit and school capacity to be available or increased before major developments are approved.

I am already recognized statewide as a champion for environmental and open government legislation in Olympia, and for our state to fight global warming. Twice I have been recognized as the national grassroots activist of the year, and my organization and I were chosen as the "region's best environmental group" by the Spokane Peace and Environmental Community.

King County Democrats 2011 General Candidate Questionnaire

I will support the King County Council appointing the choice of the PCOs to this seat.

Do you believe the current structure of taxes and/or fees that generate funds in your area are fair? If not, how would you change it?

Absolutely NOT!

I believe we need a state income tax and should reduce the role of regressive, and less reliable, taxes. Ironically, the recession's impact on businesses provides an opportunity to move to a corporate income tax to replace the B&O tax, which taxes gross revenue even when businesses don't make a profit. I have the organizing and messaging skills to move us forward for changing our tax structure.

I will offer and organize the support for legislation to have the voters choose this coming year to eliminate or keep every existing business tax exemption that reduces our revenues by over \$100 million. I believe the voters will choose schools and basic health care over tax exemptions for banks and financial transactions.

I will sponsor legislation to require automatic loss of tax exemptions enacted to create jobs if the recipient business cannot certify that they meet clear criteria for creating family wage jobs with benefits. This is important to turn around a system where legislators say they support reviewing tax exemptions, but they never really go away. I will also sponsor legislation requiring that state service contracts meet similar criteria with certification that the contactors pay wages equal to prevailing wages and benefits paid to state employees – to avoid a Walmart strategy of “outsourcing” and off-shoring” of state services.

King County has a ten year plan to end homelessness. What ideas do you have to increase low income and affordable housing/?

Here in Seattle, we have seen large tax breaks and height variances going to developers who claim to set aside housing units which are affordable – but, which they actually rent at market rates. We need legislation to require that such development commitments are enforced. We need to adopt and extend property recording and commercial lease fees that support low income housing and shelter services (and not accept claims that the capital budget for housing cannot be restored).

Washington State needs to be a leader in moving the federal government to reestablish its role in providing construction and long term costs for affordable housing units – which is a great jobs program during this recession.

Affordable low income housing is needed across Washington State, not just in Seattle and King County. Coalition building in Olympia requires organizing and mobilizing constituent s and local government service providers statewide, including showing the efficacy of providing housing for reducing other social service costs.

What role should government play in the healthcare system?

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State government needs to guarantee that every child and every adult in Washington has access to quality health care. I will introduce legislation to recognize that access to quality health care is a fundamental right in Washington State under our state constitution.

This will be hard for opponents of real health care reform to object to. As criteria for health care, this will require us to make fundamental changes which are now blocked by insurers, large businesses or other special interests. If access to health care is a right, then those special interests will lose much of their ability to block reform. If every Washington resident has a fundamental right to access quality health care, the debate over which of the competing proposals for health care reform is fundamentally changed. We can transform the health care debate with this constitutional referendum.

We should use the opportunities from federal law to start moving to a single payer system in Washington.

One third of our health care dollars go to pay for insurance administration! That's estimated to cost over \$5 billion in Washington State, which could pay for every uninsured person to be covered in a well organized system. The State will need to provide either a pooled coverage or single payer system for catastrophic care to prevent catastrophic care from bankrupting families or making the costs of insurance under proposals such as the Healthy Wisconsin type plans unaffordable.

What is your position on civil rights for Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgendered people? What is your position on equal rights for same-sex couples when it comes to benefits, civil unions, marriage and parental rights?

I will be a leader for recognizing same sex marriage and parental rights as a fundamental right and matter of equal protection. I objected to the notion of going slow over the past three years, because I believe that denying of equal rights to marriage is a denial of civil rights. No one should be told to wait for equality!

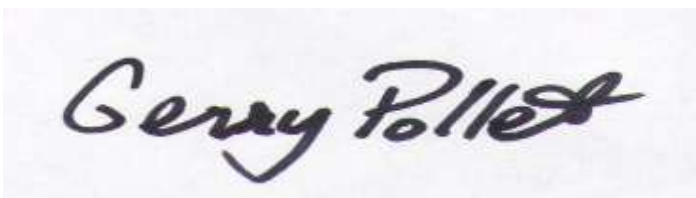
What creative solutions can you offer to address the problems of the economically disadvantaged?

As a Representative from the 46th District, I will work for our state government to:

- Provide health care as a right to every resident – including those who are at the very bottom rung of our economic ladder, whether they be migrant workers, single mothers in the city, etc...
 - We need to recognize that barriers such as language and requirements to reapply for SCHIP or Medicaid every year prevent children from having access to the health care our state already attempts to provide.
 - I will sponsor amending our State Constitution to recognize access to health care is a fundamental right.
 - I will sponsor legislation to eliminate the use of different insurance claim forms and replace them with one set of claim forms.

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- Improve education and opportunity for every child. Our state's education system fails large portions of our lowest income and minority communities. Our dropout rate is abysmal. Education is the key to opportunity. Provide access to early learning and tutoring. Restore funding and expand the wonderful promise that every free lunch eligible child can go to college. I oppose the model of high tuition, which relies on claims that financial aid will provide for access.
- Create new jobs in Washington by investing our licensing fees for patents and intellectual property developed at state universities and tobacco settlement funds in the creation of in-state jobs that will have economic growth for additional jobs.
- Require that state service contracts pay equivalent full time family wages with benefits, and include such provisions in collective bargaining for our low income home health care, child care and other state supported service providers.
- Change our tax system from being so regressive as discussed above. Recognize that family tax credits, while nice, are an after the fact band aid when our poorest residents have to pay disproportionately high amounts of their income for sales taxes.
- Provide low income housing as discussed earlier.

I have read this questionnaire and understand and approve the content and all provided information.		
Printed Name	Gerry Pollet	Date 11-4-2011
Signature		

King County Democrats 2011 General Candidate Questionnaire

Candidate Name	Sylvester Cann
Position sought	State Representative Position. 1, 46 th LD
Residence Legislative, County Council and Congressional district	46 th Legislative District 1 st County Council 1 st Congressional District
Are you a Democrat? Are you known as a Democrat?	Yes Yes
Campaign Information	
Campaign Name	Sylvester Cann for State Representative Appointment
Web page	N/A
Campaign Email address	slycann@gmail.com
Manager	N/A
Campaign mailing address	14340 Lenora Place North, Unit B Seattle, WA 98133
Campaign phone number	206-251-7040
Campaign FAX	N/A

Candidate Background: Community service, education, employment and other relevant experience.
Describe your qualifications, education, employment, community and civic activity, Union affiliation and other relevant experience.

Educational Background: I am a proud graduate of the University of Washington, earning a degree in Applied and Computational Mathematical Sciences, with a focus in electrical engineering. My educational background highlights my strengths in analytical thinking and problem solving. These skills are essential when dealing with the complex challenges facing our state.

Strong Private and Public Sector Professional Experience: My work experience has been a dynamic mix of private and public sector. For five years I worked at an international commercial real estate company in the capital markets valuation division. My role was to analyze the value of commercial properties held by investment companies and individuals.

As we all witnessed the near collapse of global capital markets, I saw firsthand how risky speculation completely wiped out pension and retirement funds tied to these investments. It was

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devastating for me, but more so for the families who had lost everything due to unchecked greed. I went from working in real estate investments to managing a legislative campaign because I felt my talents were much better suited for the public sector where I could help to solve the problems of people.

I had the honor of working for Senator Scott White in the 2010 interim session and in the 2011 legislative session. When Scott he asked me to join him in Olympia as his legislative aide in the summer of 2010, there was no way I could pass up that opportunity. I wrote an article in the June 46th District *Demogram* about my time in Olympia. I was fortunate to work in one of the most productive and hardworking offices in Olympia last session. It is an experience I will keep with me forever, and a legacy I plan to carry on.

In my current role, I work for the Community Center for Education Results, an innovative non-profit organization that is implementing a “cradle-to-career” initiative to increase student achievement in South Seattle and South King County. Currently, approximately 22% of the students in our region obtain a post-secondary credential; we plan to double that number by the year 2020.

Social Justice and Community Service: I proudly serve on the board of the Central Area Motivation Program (CAMP) as the chair of the Strategic Planning Committee, and help set the direction of the organization through a real-time strategic planning process. As one of the first community action agencies in our state and the nation, CAMP has a mission of helping people out of poverty in the low income areas of our region. During my time on the board, CAMP has seen an increase in the number of people they serve, an increase in donors, and an increase in volunteers.

In college, I was a member of a community service fraternity known as Alpha Phi Alpha, which promotes the aims of “scholarship, manly deeds, and love for all mankind” within its membership and the communities it serves. I conducted voter registration drives on college campus, started mentorship programs for middle school youth, and organized scholarship fundraisers to help students of color pay for college. The ranks of this organization extend to some of the greatest civil rights leaders in our nation’s history. Men like Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Thurgood Marshall, W.E.B. Du Bois and Ambassador Andrew Young. Locally, we have men such as former King County Executive Ron Sims and Councilmember Bruce Harrell. I am proud to be associated with these men because of their deep commitment to education and service.

Education: I have been involved with various education organizations because I feel education is the key tool to fight poverty, build a healthy society, and support strong economy. The Alliance for Education played notable role in the collective bargaining process between the Seattle Education Association and Seattle Public Schools by bringing together parents and concerned community members to voice their priorities. I volunteered by facilitating discussions and organizing community groups. As it turns out, their voices were heard and the new contract reflected some of the issues we were advocating for.

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Environment: Being a member of the King County Conservation Voters Board, I have been fighting to keep environmental priorities in the forefront of the political discussion. This is especially important during difficult economic times. It can be easy for candidates in all levels of government to dismiss environmental stewardship as a non-pressing issue. Washington's pride is its beauty. We have a responsibility to keep it that way.

Public Policy: I have been a member of the Seattle City Light Review Panel since 2010 when the Seattle City Council passed the ordinance to create it. The panel was formed to play a critical role in advising the Council on strategic planning priorities and rate setting. I was appointed to serve on the panel to represent the voice of low-income Seattle City Light customers and make sure that the policies being set were just and fair.

Democratic Party Activism: Like the generation before me that was moved to political activism by John F. Kennedy, I was drawn by the hope and endless optimism of President Barack Obama. This transformational political figure opened for me an entirely new arena of public service that I previously had little connection with. This opened my eyes to all of the great work that could be done in politics. I understood that it was my time to get to work.

My first priority was to learn about political involvement on the most grassroots level possible. This is when I joined the 46th District Democrats in 2009, and familiarized myself with the issues most important to our Party. Becoming a PCO early on, I embraced the opportunity and privilege to represent my neighborhood and be a voice in our Party.

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What ratings and endorsements have you received?	
Legislative District Democrats	None sought for this appointment process
Union Endorsement	None sought for this appointment process
Municipal League	None sought for this appointment process
SEAMEC	None sought for this appointment process
Other Endorsements	None sought for this appointment process

Which groups do you plan to ask for an endorsement?
None

Please answer the following questions*		Yes	No	Qualified
1	Do you support the King County Democratic Platform?	X		
2	Do you support the right of workers (excluding military) to bargain and strike?	X		
3	Do you support government funding of Planned Parenthood and other family planning services, including abortion and contraception?	X		
4	Do you support majority votes by state and local governments to enact taxes for revenue and to repeal tax exemptions?	X		
5	Do you support the Affordable Health Care Act?	X		
6	Do you support school vouchers? Do you support charter schools?		X	
7	Do you support the Davis-Bacon Act?	X		
8	Do you support equal rights for women?	X		
9	Do you support Federal and State regulation of greenhouse gases that are contributing to climate change?	X		
10	Do you support a constitutional amendment to limit free speech rights to persons, not corporations?	X		
11	Do you support public financing of campaigns?	X		

Please answer the following questions *		Yes*	No
1	Have you ever failed to pay any taxes or court ordered judgments?		X
2	Have you ever been found in violation of a Public Disclosure Commission, Federal Election Commission or Seattle Ethics and Elections Commission regulation?		X
3	Have you ever been convicted of a felony?		X

King County Democrats 2011 General Candidate Questionnaire

Are you a member of another political party? If so, which ones? Have you ever supported or given money to a candidate from another party in a partisan race? If so, whom and when?

No, I have been a Democrat all of my life.

Are you a member of your local Democratic District Party? Have you contributed financially to any Democratic Organization? Have you been a Precinct Committee Officer? When/Where?

Yes. Yes. Currently Precinct Committee Officer in 46-2153.

What are the main messages of your campaign? What is your campaign plan? How many doors have you knocked on to date, pieces of mail planned, budgeting, staffing? What is the fundraising goal for your campaign? How much have you raised to date? Why will you win?

Experience in Olympia matters as a special session of the legislature has been called to address a \$2 billion budget deficit. I have the legislative experience, the diverse professional background, and comfort with wide range of policy issues from education, social justice, and the environment that enables me to represent the 46th District and be an effective legislator.

I understand through firsthand experience the things that distinguish good legislators from great ones. I possess some of the qualities that I have seen in amazing elected officials, and I look forward to putting those skills to work for our district.

What are the single most pressing issues facing your jurisdiction? What actions would you take if elected?

Tax Structure: The primary method for the state to bring in revenue is fundamentally flawed, and it is damaging to our state in difficult economic times. We must figure out a solution to our revenue problems in this state. This is true for both the short term and long run. It will involve moving public will to demand a progressive tax system. I will be a tireless advocate for seeking revenue sources.

K-12 Education: Students in our state are not ready for the 21st century economy. Our students need to be proficient in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM). We also need to support specialized career fields that train technicians, research assistants, building trades, and any other career that supports green manufacturing. Although the schools in our district statistically do better than other schools in the city, a closer look at the data suggests that we have a long way to go before our low-income, students of color, and refugee and immigrant populations are succeeding. When every child meets their potential, our state will thrive.

Higher Education: Access to higher education is critical if we hope to boost the economy of our state. We live in the backyard of one of the nation's finest higher education institutions, but less and less of the kids in our state are admitted to the University of Washington. Part of this issue is that students are not taking rigorous course loads in high school, and another reason is because college is not affordable. Programs like the State Need Grant and the College Bound Scholarship are valuable tools in keeping college within reach of low-income students.

Environment: We must be diligent stewards of our environment. Land use planning, protecting our rural lands and keeping Puget Sound clean are areas of the environment we must be sure to be thoughtful about.

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Transportation: Building a smart transportation system makes our region more competitive and helps our economy by moving people and goods faster. Access and ease to transportation grows our job market as employers look to relocate their businesses to a place that has made the right investments in transportation. Building walkable communities also plays a role in efficient transportation systems.

Economy and Jobs: Small businesses are the greatest economic driver we have, they should be supported the best we can.

If you are a candidate in a contested primary race, what record of performance, ability, experience, personal qualities, and positions on issues distinguish you from your opponent(s)? If you do not receive the nomination, is there any reason you could not support your Democratic opponent in the general election? Please explain.

We are fortunate to live in a district where we have so many progressive Democrats committed to public service. However, I am the only candidate for appointment with the recent legislative experience, the diverse professional background, and comfort with wide range of policy issues from education, social justice, and the environment to effectively fight for the 46th District.

Experience in Olympia: I am the only candidate that has served the 46th District in Olympia. During my time in the state legislature in 2010 and 2011, I learned that effective legislators are the ones who can fundamentally disagree with another member, but literally be willing to walk over to their office and discuss an issue with the purpose of finding respect and common ground.

Effective Leadership: Even with outstanding policy ideas, a member of the legislature is only as strong as their leadership ability. I am known to be a deliberative problem solver who is willing to work hard to tackle the big issues. I have a temperament that is well suited for intense negotiations and finding a common ground in fundamental disagreements. This is a style of leadership that our district has voted for time and time again.

Diverse Professional Background: Working in both the private and public sectors, I can use that experience to build strong coalitions that strive for the best solution. My private sector experience has shown me that government has a responsibility to protect the best interest of the citizens.

Public Policy: I have a strong analytical background and problem solving is one of my core strengths. Because I've worked on a wide variety of policy issues, I am extremely comfortable with advocating for issues that are important to our community.

Do you believe the current structure of taxes and/or fees that generate funds in your area are fair? If not, how would you change it?

I definitely do not. We have one of the most regressive tax structures in the country. I want to be a leader on this issue. The case has to be made to citizens around the state that an income tax is necessary in Washington. We are feeling the pain of being one of nine states that does not have an income tax. What it takes is strong leaders who can build coalitions across the entire state the advocate for an income tax. There are Democrats all over this great state that supports a new tax structure; we just have to make the case to them.

King County has a ten year plan to end homelessness. What ideas do you have to increase low income and affordable housing/?

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Creating public-private partnerships is key way to increase access to affordable housing. In addition to supporting an increase in the Housing Trust Fund, I will work with housing advocates to identify the most effective and appropriate incentives to encourage more private investment in low income and affordable housing. In order to reach the goal of 9,500 units by 2014, it will be imperative to involve the private sector in this worthy social initiative.

What role should government play in the healthcare system?

Healthcare is a right, not a privilege. It is the responsibility of our society to look after the health and welfare of our citizens. Large scale change of our healthcare system will be difficult and until we institute a single-payer system, government must make sure the most vulnerable populations have access to healthcare.

What is your position on civil rights for Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgendered people? What is your position on equal rights for same-sex couples when it comes to benefits, civil unions, marriage and parental rights?

I am proud to be a part of the Washington United for Marriage campaign. Marriage equality is a civil rights issue and no one should be denied the benefits of marriage. I personally know too many same-sex couples who are being discriminated against by not being afforded the same rights as heterosexual couples.

What creative solutions can you offer to address the problems of the economically disadvantaged?

Coming from a lower middle-class family, I understand the perilous feeling of being on the brink of poverty. In the face of the \$2 billion budget crisis, our state must continue to protect critical social safety net programs. We also need to find new ways to help working families to escape poverty. I will support innovative training programs that combine vital social services for working, low-income adults as they pursue "career-ladder" opportunities in high-demand fields such as healthcare and manufacturing.

I have read this questionnaire and understand and approve the content and all provided information.

Printed Name	Sylvester Cann	Date
Signature	Submitted Electronically	11-16-2011

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King County Democrats 2011 General Candidate Questionnaire

Candidate Name	Javier Valdez
Position sought	Appointment to 46th District State House
Residence Legislative, County Council and Congressional district	LD: 46 CC: 1 CD: 7
Are you a Democrat? Are you known as a Democrat?	Yes
Campaign Information	
Campaign Name	N/A
Web page	N/A
Campaign Email address	javiervaldez@comcast.net
Manager	N/A
Campaign mailing address	9800 Roosevelt Way NE, Unit 23 Seattle, WA 98115
Campaign phone number	(206) 251-6425
Campaign FAX	N/A

Candidate Background: Community service, education, employment and other relevant experience.

Describe your qualifications, education, employment, community and civic activity, Union affiliation and other relevant experience.

- Chair, 46th District Democrats, 2007 -2009
- Chair, 43rd District Democrats, 1997 - 2002
- Boardmember, Washington State Democratic Party Executive Board, 2003 - present
- Member, Washington State Democratic Party Central Committee, 2001 - present
- Boardmember, King County Democratic Central Committee Executive Board, 1993 - present
- President, American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees, Council 2, Local 21-C, 2010 - current
- Founding and Current Boardmember, Institute for a Democratic Future, 1997 - present
- Co-Chair, Ernest I.J. Aguilar Endowed Scholarship Fund for Latino MBA Students, University of Washington Foster School of Business, 2009 - current
- Former Boardmember, Washington State Hispanic Chamber of Commerce
- Strategic Advisor II, Women and Minority Business Enterprise Program Manager, Seattle City Light, 2005 - current

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What ratings and endorsements have you received?	
Legislative District Democrats	N/A
Union Endorsement	N/A
Municipal League	N/A
SEAMEC	N/A
Other Endorsements	Congressman Jim McDermott, St. Rep. Phyllis Kenney, St. Senator Ed Murray, St. Senator Margarita Prentice, former St. Senator Ken Jacobsen, and Shoreline City Councilmember Chris Roberts

Which groups do you plan to ask for an endorsement?

I will be focusing on the support and endorsements from 46th LD Precinct Committee Officers.

Please answer the following questions*		Yes	No	Qualified
1	Do you support the King County Democratic Platform?	X		
2	Do you support the right of workers (excluding military) to bargain and strike?	X		
3	Do you support government funding of Planned Parenthood and other family planning services, including abortion and contraception?	X		
4	Do you support majority votes by state and local governments to enact taxes for revenue and to repeal tax exemptions?	X		
5	Do you support the Affordable Health Care Act?	X		
6	Do you support school vouchers? Do you support charter schools?		X	
7	Do you support the Davis-Bacon Act?	X		
8	Do you support equal rights for women?	X		
9	Do you support Federal and State regulation of greenhouse gases that are contributing to climate change?	X		
10	Do you support a constitutional amendment to limit free speech rights to persons, not corporations?	X		
11	Do you support public financing of campaigns?	X		

Please answer the following questions *		Yes*	No
1	Have you ever failed to pay any taxes or court ordered judgments?		X
2	Have you ever been found in violation of a Public Disclosure Commission, Federal Election Commission or Seattle Ethics and Elections Commission regulation?	X	

King County Democrats 2011 General Candidate Questionnaire

3	Have you ever been convicted of a felony?		X
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* If you answered "Yes" or "Qualified" please explain your answer.

In 1996, when I ran in the special election for a Seattle City Council position, one report was filed late, as I was out of town, serving as a Delegate to the Democratic National Convention in Chicago.

Are you a member of another political party? If so, which ones? Have you ever supported or given money to a candidate from another party in a partisan race? If so, whom and when?

I am and always have been a proud Democrat. I have never supported or contributed to any candidate who was not a Democrat.

Are you a member of your local Democratic District Party? Have you contributed financially to any Democratic Organization? Have you been a Precinct Committee Officer? When/Where?

Yes, I am a member of the 46th District Democrats. I am the former chair of the 46th LD (2007-2009), and of the 43rd LD (1997 – 2002). In my 20+ years of Democratic Party involvement, I have probably contributed to every Democratic LD organization in King County, as well as the King County Young Democrats, the Harvey Muggy Stonewall Democrats when they were in existence and of course, the King County Democratic Central Committee and Washington State Democratic Party.

I have been a Precinct Committee Officer since 1992.

What are the main messages of your campaign? What is your campaign plan? How many doors have you knocked on to date, pieces of mail planned, budgeting, staffing? What is the fundraising goal for your campaign? How much have you raised to date? Why will you win?

If appointed, I will fight for:

- Saving the Basic Health Care Plan
- Preventing Further Cuts to K-12 Education and our Public School Teachers
- Maintaining our Transportation System and Work to Continue to Improve It
- Protecting Our Environment and our Fragile and Unique Puget Sound Region
- Creating and Sustaining Family and Livable Wage Jobs

What are the single most pressing issues facing your jurisdiction? What actions would you take if elected?

Dealing with the \$2 billion deficit in the upcoming special session is the most pressing issues facing not only the 46th District, but the entire state of Washington. Our governor has proposed an all-cuts budget, which hurts working families, children, students, our environment, public safety, etc.

If appointed, I will oppose the all-cuts budget proposal. I will work with my fellow legislators and seek to end unnecessary tax loopholes and raise revenue where we can.

If you are a candidate in a contested primary race, what record of performance, ability, experience, personal qualities, and positions on issues distinguish you from your opponent(s)? If you do not receive

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the nomination, is there any reason you could not support your Democratic opponent in the general election? Please explain.

I am a tested and proven leader within the Democratic community. Due both to my political experience and the nature of my job with City Light, I have an extensive network of contacts among elected officials, state and local government managers and leaders, business leaders and community activists which will allow me to be effective as a legislator from day one. I will have a learning curve, as would any appointee, but mine will be shorter, which will be imperative for the person who is appointed, as the special session will likely be already underway when the appointment is finalized. I have no family obligations whatsoever currently that would prevent me from applying myself 100% from day one to the urgent business of representing the 46th district during another painful round of budget discussions.

My qualifications for this position include:

- Chair, 46th District Democrats, 2007 -2009
- Chair, 43rd District Democrats, 1997 - 2002
- Boardmember, Washington State Democratic Party Executive Board, 2003 - present
- Member, Washington State Democratic Party Central Committee, 2001 - present
- Boardmember, King County Democratic Central Committee Executive Board, 1993 - present
- President, American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees, Council 2, Local 21-C, 2010 - current
- Founding and Current Boardmember, Institute for a Democratic Future, 1997 - present
- Co-Chair, Ernest I.J. Aguilar Endowed Scholarship Fund for Latino MBA Students, University of Washington Foster School of Business, 2009 - current
- Former Boardmember, Washington State Hispanic Chamber of Commerce
- Strategic Advisor II, Women and Minority Business Enterprise Program Manager, Seattle City Light, 2005 - current

If I do not receive the appointment, I will support the choice of the PCO's as the nominee.

Do you believe the current structure of taxes and/or fees that generate funds in your area are fair? If not, how would you change it?

Of course it's not fair. I voted for and supported Initiative 1098 last year, which would have established a state income tax for certain high-income individuals. President Barack Obama is absolutely correct in using Warren Buffett as an example of those individuals who not paying their fair share in taxes.

Unfortunately, the voters of this state have continued to voice and vote against a state income tax. We need a fair and progressive tax system that is equitable to working families, hard-working individuals, and the thousands of small businesses in this state that employ our citizens. I will work with my colleagues in the legislature to continue to promote these ideas.

King County has a ten year plan to end homelessness. What ideas do you have to increase low income and affordable housing?

We obviously need to maintain the funding levels that are currently in place. That will be hard to do during the upcoming special session. Additionally, funding for affordable housing solutions at the county and city

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levels are threatened by cuts to local budgets, which, like the state budget, are being negatively affected by the current state of the economy and the poorly designed nature of our current tax revenue structure.

We need to continue to work with non-profits and grant-giving agencies to support those families and individuals who need assistance to support themselves and their families. It's wrong that so many children are living in poverty, as their parents struggle to maintain some type of sustainability and structure for their children. We must continue to support programs that assist shelters and food banks, as well as programs such as First Place, which provides a stable daily school and socialization environment, along with hot nutritious meals, for young homeless children in Seattle while their parents use their days to get back on their feet.

What role should government play in the healthcare system?

Congressman Jim McDermott has it right every year when he files his bill as prime sponsor to establish a Single Payer system. While President Obama's health care measure is a good start, it still does not go far enough. Health care is a right, not a privilege.

What is your position on civil rights for Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgendered people? What is your position on equal rights for same-sex couples when it comes to benefits, civil unions, marriage and parental rights?

I have always been a strong supporter of the GLBT community. When the organization was active, I was a dues-paying member of the Harvey Muggy Stonewall Democrats' organization.

I fully support equal rights for same-sex couples when it comes to benefits, civil unions, marriage, and parental rights.

What creative solutions can you offer to address the problems of the economically disadvantaged?

Education and Training programs are key in assisting the economically disadvantaged. Apprentice programs have continued to prove that by utilizing these types of programs, individuals are likely to become independent and self-sufficient. Making further cuts to these type of programs is not the answer to revitalizing our economy. Investing in our vulnerable and citizens in need is the best way to keeping a competitive and talented workforce for our region and state.

While it may not be especially creative, education and career training remains the great equalizer. Every public school needs to be funded so that it can be a quality school. The entire school system must be funded and supported so that every student graduates, college- or career-ready. Whether a disadvantaged student dreams of attending a university, or of learning a solid trade as an apprentice or at a vocational school, that will well support a future family, their education should be such that the choice is theirs – they need only study and apply themselves conscientiously. Reinvesting in these individuals through educational opportunities will reap enormous benefits to the state and the community.

Cutting Education funding in times of need is truly cutting away at our future as a society.

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I have read this questionnaire and understand and approve the content and all provided information.

Printed Name	Javier Valdez	Date
Signature	Submitted via email	11/14/11