

2016 Candidate Questionnaire

SECTION I

BASIC CANDIDATE INFORMATION

1. Name as it will appear on the ballot

First Name	Middle Initial or Nickname	Last Name
Brendan	B.	Kolding

2. Office sought (include office, jurisdiction, position/district number):

House of Representatives, District 34, Position 1

3. Are you the incumbent? Yes x No

4. How long have you resided in this district/city?

6.5 years

5. How long have you resided in King County?

8.5 years

6. Is the office sought partisan or nonpartisan? x Partisan Nonpartisan

7. If partisan, please indicate party: Democratic Party

CAMPAIGN CONTACTS

Campaign Name: Brendan Kolding

Address: PO Box 1256

City/State/Zip: Seattle, WA 98111

Campaign Phone: (206) 458-4408

Campaign E-mail: Kolding34@gmail.com

Campaign Website: www.facebook.com/kolding34

POLITICAL BACKGROUND

1. Beginning with the most recent position, please list public offices you have held. Include positions on appointive boards or commissions.

Public Office	Elective or Appointive?	Dates Held	Leadership Role (if any)

2. If you ran for public office but were not elected, please list those races below:

Office Title	Year of Run
House of Representatives, District 34, Position 2	2014

SECTION II

In this section, we are seeking responses that reflect the four ratings criteria: involvement, effectiveness, character, and knowledge. These are defined as follows:

- **Involvement:** What has the candidate done previously in family, neighborhood, community, volunteer work, employment or public life to suggest readiness to accomplish challenging objectives? How do these activities demonstrate readiness for the challenges unique to the office sought?
 - **Effectiveness:** Has the candidate demonstrated promise of being productive in the office sought? Has the candidate shown the ability to work with other people?
 - **Character:** Do the candidate's personal traits show the ability to take on the responsibilities of campaigning for and holding the public office she or he is seeking? Is the candidate a leader, participant or observer? Is the candidate trustworthy, reliable and candid?
 - **Knowledge:** Has the candidate demonstrated the willingness and ability to learn and adapt? Does the candidate understand the duties and challenges of the office sought? Does the candidate have a firm grasp of the issues important to his or her constituency and their potential effects?
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1. In one page or less, why are you running for this office? (Note: the interview committee will be given a copy of this statement before your interview; at the beginning of your interview you will have the opportunity to expand on this statement in any way you wish.)

I am running for this office because I am very concerned about the future of our state. Our Legislature is currently being held in contempt of court for neglecting to fully-fund public education, and has accrued a fine that currently exceeds \$28 million. Our children are the future leaders of our communities; as such, their education ought to be state government's top priority. (Our state constitution directly calls it our "paramount duty.") The Supreme Court's order is very simple: fully-fund education before allocating funds to other entities. However, our legislators have prioritized partisan battle lines over coming together to comply with the law and do what is in the best interests of our children. It is clearly time for a change.

2. Describe your most important personal characteristics or traits as they relate to the office you seek.

The most important personal characteristics of mine are integrity, accountability, willingness to collaborate with others, innovativeness, and being a parent.

Integrity is the most important characteristic that anyone can possess. A state legislator must have integrity in order appropriately serve his constituents. As a police officer, I am entrusted with the power to restrict people's civil rights, and I have proven my integrity by applying this power only when appropriate throughout my career.

Accountability is an absolute must for a legislator, as the primary function of the job is to be accountable to the constituents. As the supervisor of the Policy Unit at SPD, I am accountable to my chain of command to ensure that our policy projects are completed in a timely manner.

I have been collaborating with others for my entire life. Most significantly, during the course of the SPD consent decree, I have been noted for my ability to collaborate with internal and external partners during the tedious process of policy development.

Seattle is the hub of innovation, and the State Legislature ought to reflect that. I have written two bills that represent an innovative approach to education funding: duplicate the federal tax deduction for donations made to private schools and private school support organizations. This is a way to enhance the ability of private schools to raise the money that they need to keep tuition down and offer more financial aid, which in turn will allow more families to send their children to private schools (if and only if that is what they want) and reduce the burden on the state to subsidize children through public school. Private schools are currently saving taxpayers over \$800 million a year, and through innovative thinking we can see that number grow while more families realize their dreams.

Most importantly, I have children of my own. This is why I am motivated to fund education.

3. Please describe, in sufficient detail, one to three accomplishments or contributions of which you are most proud. These examples should illustrate skills and capabilities you think apply to the office you are seeking. These accomplishments may have occurred at any time in your personal, professional, or public life.

I am proud of the role that I have played in getting the City of Seattle into initial compliance with the policy requirements of our consent decree. As a detective, I wrote part of the initial draft of our use-of-force policy, and I was the author of the initial drafts of our Terry Stops policy, Crisis Intervention policy, and Early Intervention Systems policy. I then participated in the negotiations and development meetings for these projects, making revisions as necessary and then preparing the final drafts for publication. As sergeant, I have been involved with the court-mandated review process for these policies, as well as our policies on Bias-Free Policing and In-Car-Video. I have overseen revisions to these important policies, and continue to maintain a list of revisions that will be proposed in the future. This is hard work that requires a diligent and committed mind, and has prepared me well for service in the Legislature.

4. Please list or describe current and past activities in the community in which you have acquired skills that relate to the office you seek. Include your role in the activity and the year(s) in which you were involved. Involvement consists of many areas such as family, neighborhood, community, employment, or public life.

Amici Board of Directors, 2008-present

Member at-large: 2008-2010

School Activities Chair: 2010-2011

-Re-wrote the mission statement

Vice-Chair: 2011-2012

Chair: 2012-2014

-Revised the bylaws

-Oversaw the development of a long-term plan

-Established a formal budget

Immediate Past Chair: 2014-present

Fulcrum Foundation Board of Trustees, 2012-2014

Fulcrum Foundation Distribution Committee, 2012-present

Fulcrum Foundation Board of Advisors, 2014-present

Holy Rosary School Commission, 2015-present

Communications Committee Co-Chair, 2015-present

-Re-energized the school's social media presence

5. Please describe the duties of the office you seek. Which are the most important duties and why?

The role of the legislator is to represent his or her district in the state's policy-making branch. This involves writing/co-sponsoring bills, sitting on committees that review bills, and voting on bills that get to the floor. The decisions that an individual legislator makes must be made by viewing issues through the lens of his or her district. This involves maintaining close contact with constituents and providing a variety of forums for them to use to express their concerns and communicate their priorities.