

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
Pat		Sullivan

2. Office sought (include office, jurisdiction, position/district number): State Representative 47th LD Pos. 2

3. Are you the incumbent? X Yes No

4. How long have you resided in this district/city? 25 years

5. How long have you resided in King County? 27 years

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

7. If partisan, please indicate party: Democrat

CAMPAIGN CONTACTS

Campaign Name: Pat Sullivan Campaign

Address: 26513 168th PL SE

City/State/Zip: Covington, WA 98042

Campaign Phone: 253-740-6772

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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)
State Representative	Elected	2005-present	House Majority Leader
Covington City Council	Elected	1997-2004	Mayor
Covington Economic Development Council	Appointed	2005-2006	Chair

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

Office Title	Year of Run
State Representative	2002

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 have been interested in public service for my entire life. Since elementary school I have volunteered for community and school events. As an adult I have served as youth sports coach, nonprofit board member, service club member, school volunteer, and church volunteer.

When the city of Covington incorporated in 1997, I wanted to serve my community by running for city council. I was elected and selected as Mayor. I enjoyed the opportunity to help get our city off the ground and the many experiences in this role. But as a father with young daughters, I wanted to get more involved in improving our education system.

In 2002 I decided to run for the Legislature. I worked hard and it was a great experience. After 8 months of hard campaigning, I came up 90 votes short of winning after the recount. My passion to serve was not diminished however, and I ran successfully in 2004.

For the past 12 years I have had the opportunity to impact K-12 education policy and funding, work on economic development opportunities for my district, our region and the state, and address policy issues in a number of other areas. We have made steady progress in a number of key areas but there is still much work to be done.

I would like to be re-elected to continue the work that I started. The 2017-18 Legislature has a number of difficult challenges ahead. Complying with the McCleary order to fully fund K-12 education, restructuring the way we provide services for our state's children, and continuing the work we have started to adequately address mental health are just a few of the issues that must be addressed.

It has truly been an honor to represent my district in the Legislature and to serve as Majority Leader. I would very much appreciate the opportunity to serve for another term.

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

I am a good listener. I believe that a good legislator must listen to their constituents and listen to all sides of an issue before moving forward.

I am honest and trustworthy. A legislator who cannot be trusted will not be successful.

I am a hard worker. There is a lot of work to be done to learn about a wide variety of issues, meet with constituents and stakeholders, and do the research necessary to be successful.

I am calm under stressful situations. The Legislature can be a very stressful environment and it is important to be calm and look at issues thoughtfully and with an open mind. As a budget negotiator, the decisions that are made impact the lives of people across the state and it can be very stressful. I have been able to remain calm and rational through these difficult times.

I am passionate. I believe a legislator must have the desire and drive to serve the public if they want to do a good job. I remain passionate about serving my district and the state.

I am respectful. A legislator has to deal with a lot of people on a daily basis including constituents, lobbyists, stakeholders and other legislators. A good legislator needs to treat everyone with respect and take the time to hear what they have to say and work with them to resolve problems.

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.

In 2008 I prime sponsored House Bill 2261 reforming our education system. The bill was controversial and there was some strong opposition. I worked with a number of groups and legislators, including co-sponsor Skip Priest, to get the bill passed. In the end, the bill passed with bipartisan support and was recognized by the Supreme Court in their McCleary decision as promising reform that when implemented could resolve our constitutional shortcomings.

During my second term as Covington City Councilmember, there was a strong division in the city. The business community and the council had a poor relationship and there was a lot of distrust on both sides and the city was suffering because of it. I decided to create the Economic Development Council made up of councilmembers, the business community and the public to try and bring the community together. The effort was successful and I went on to serve as Chair of the council after my tenure on the city council was over.

The most important job that I have had in my life is that of a father. I have had the wonderful opportunity to raise three successful daughters. There have been difficulties and challenges along the way, but we have been able to remain a close family. When I look back at my life, there will be a number of things that I will be proud of and I hope that there are things still to come that I will look back on with pride. But there is no question that the thing I want most to be remembered for is being a good father.

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.

I have been involved in my community in a number of ways since my wife and I moved here 25 years ago. I served on the Kent School District Strategic Advisory Council, the Covington Elementary Learning Improvement Team, the PTA and as a Board member of Communities in Schools. I also worked on a number of programs and projects in our schools including a grant program that brought new playground equipment to our school.

I served as member and President of my Kiwanis Club, as a volunteer in my church and as a soccer and T-ball coach. I also served as a board member for the South King County Multi Service Center and the Kent Youth and Family Services Board.

I served as councilmember and Mayor of Covington and as a member of the Economic Development Council. I also served as a member of the King County Regional Policy Committee and as a Board member of the Suburban Cities Association. I have been elected to serve the 47th district in the Legislature for the past 12 years, including the last 6 as Majority Leader.

I have also been involved in numerous activities with my daughters and in community events throughout the years.

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

There are a number of duties that a good legislator needs to be able to take on in order to be successful. One of the most important is communicator. Legislators need to be able to communicate with the constituents they represent in order to effectively represent them in Olympia. I enjoy the opportunities to hold town hall meetings and visit with constituents in their homes.

Legislators also need to serve as a liaison between their constituents and our government. I frequently get calls and emails from constituents who need help in accessing government programs and services. Sometimes we are called upon to work out problems constituents are having with the federal government or local governments as well.

An effective legislator must also be able to work with diverse groups and individuals on a variety of issues. I believe I have the skills necessary to bring people together and solve difficult problems.

I also strongly believe that a good legislator must be able to devote the time and energy necessary to effectively represent their communities. While our government is a part-time citizen legislature, it takes a great deal of time and commitment to do the job right. I have committed myself full-time to serve my district and get the job done right.