

2017 Candidate Questionnaire

SECTION I

BASIC CANDIDATE INFORMATION

1. Name as it will appear on the ballot

First Name	Middle Initial or Nickname	Last Name
Patty		Kuderer

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

State Senate, 48th Legislative District

3. Are you the incumbent? X Yes No

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

18 years

5. How long have you resided in King County?

18 years

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

7. If partisan, please indicate party: Democratic Party

CAMPAIGN CONTACTS

Campaign Name:	<u>Friends of Patty Kuderer</u>
Address:	<u>PO Box 1545</u>
City/State/Zip:	<u>Bellevue, WA 98009-1545</u>
Campaign Phone:	<u>360.870.8559</u>
Campaign E-mail:	<u>info@pattykuderer.com</u>
Campaign Website:	<u>www.pattykuderer.com</u>

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 Senate	Appointed	1/05/17 – present	Asst. Ranking Health Care Member State Government Member Financial Institutions & Insurance
State Representative	Elected	11/08/16-1/05/17	Vice-Chair General Gov't & Info. Tech. Member Education Member Judiciary
State Representative	Appointed	9/28/15-11/08/16	Vice-Chair General Gov't & Info Tech. Member Education Member Judiciary
PCO – 48th LD	Appointed	2004-2005; 2015-2016	
48th LD Executive Board	Appointed	2015 - 2016	48th LD representative to the KCDCC Endorsement Committee; Female Alternate Delegate KCDCC

Minnetonka Police Commission	Appointed	1995-1996	
Red Wing Prosecutor, City Attorney	Hired	1991-1999	Prosecutor/City Attorney
Dayton Prosecutor	Hired	1986-1991	Prosecutor

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

Office Title	Year of Run
N/A	

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?

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 State Senate to be an effective voice for my community. In the short time I have been in the legislature, one thing has become clear: to get things done you have to build relationships within your own caucus and across the aisle. That comes with time and an honest approach to legislating, including broad collaboration, consensus-building, and a willingness to stand firm when appropriate. It also requires respect. I worked with folks on both sides of the aisle this past session and am eager to build on my experience. We have many serious issues facing us, education policy and funding, a regressive tax system, transportation, the environment, and healthcare are on the short list. We can get to agreement, but it requires listening and a willingness to compromise.

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

- a. **Creative Problem-Solver:** I am naturally a problem solver. But I first determine whether there is a problem that needs fixing. For example, I voted against the transgender bathroom bill because I was unable to find one single complaint that this was even an issue. As an employment discrimination attorney, I also believed this legislation violated our Washington Law Against Discrimination.
- b. **Intellectually Curious:** Last year I told you about a controversial sign language interpreter bill that I was asked to assist in finding a compromise. I knew a little, but not much, about sign language interpreters in our schools. But I was curious about it. So I partnered with a Republican colleague and together we worked over the interim, visiting schools for our deaf and hard of hearing students, holding stakeholder meetings, and working on policy language that would address the concerns. I also read white papers on the issue which helped me understand much better the nature of the concerns. Working closely with my colleague, Rep. Melanie Stambaugh, we crafted compromise language that I am happy to report was signed into law by the Governor earlier this year.
- c. **Determined:** I am a hard worker who understands that some goals take a long time to achieve. The fact that they may take a long time to achieve, in and of itself, would not deter me from working toward the goal. Determination to pass good policy is essential in a legislator. As a legislator, I am there to do a job, not keep a job.
- d. **Optimistic:** I continue to be an optimist that politics can (and should) be used for good. I also think that if we bring good intentions to the table, we are more apt to get good legislation.
- e. **Collaborative:** In the short time I have been in the legislature I have worked across the aisle on many issues, including education, our civil/criminal justice system, healthcare and our electoral process. I genuinely believe that two (or more) heads are better than one. I am not afraid of disagreement and believe that challenging an idea only makes it better.

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.

My most significant accomplishment: raising two fabulous children, Michael and Emily, who have yet to boomerang. Anyone can give birth or father a child; parenting takes love, time and patience. Both kids consider me not just their mom but their friend with whom they can share their ideas, issues, ups or downs. To know they are my biggest fans warms my heart.

Another contribution is completing the sign language interpreter bill and having it signed into law, referenced above.

Lastly, having opportunities to argue before the MN state Supreme Court was professionally a high point. In one opportunity, I argued before the Court at my law school alma mater, in front of 300 students and faculty, some who had been my instructors nearly a decade earlier. The students had studied the briefs and came to watch the argument. Afterwards, I was approached by several students who wanted to meet me because they appreciated my in-depth analysis and ability to persuasively present complex issues in plain English. They asked me what I thought was the single, most important part of the argument. My answer: preparation. And that is true for being an effective legislator, too.

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.

State Senator, 1/5/17 – present

State Representative, 9/28/15-1/5/17

Trial Attorney 1986-present; Law Day lobbyist 2014-2015; Volunteer helping military families on Family Law Clinic Day 2015; in addition I have done a fair amount of pro bono work since 1999.

Sacred Heart Social Concerns Commission 2000-2002 (Chair 2000-2001)

Congregations for the Homeless 2000-2002

Sacred Heart and Clyde Hill Elementary school volunteer 1999-2005

Chinook Middle School PTSA Co-President 2003-2006 (awarded the Golden Acorn, 2006)

PCO 48th Legislative District 2004-2005; 2015-2016

The Peace Alliance/National Communications Director 2005-2008

Virtue's Children Nepal Director 2008-2010

NARAL Pro-Choice WA Director 2014

48th Legislative District Executive Board and representative to King County Democratic Endorsement Committee 2015

Anti-Defamation League Board of Directors 2016 - present

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

The paramount duty as a Senator is to be responsive to my constituents, followed closely by using your best judgment on proposed legislation, implementing a vision for the community and state that lifts people up and improves their lives, and taking the job – not yourself – seriously.