



<b>Timestamp</b>	2022/09/01 6:22:02 PM MDT
<b>Candidate's name</b>	Darya Farivar
<b>Candidate's email address</b>	info@daryaforhouse.com
<b>Candidate's phone number</b>	360-453-7787
<b>Office and position sought (e.g. LD 50 legislature, position 2)</b>	House of Representatives 46th LD, Pos. 2
<b>Are you an incumbent running for re-election?</b>	No
<b>Have you ever served in an elected position? If so, what position, and when?</b>	N/A
<b>How many other Democratic candidates are there in your race (at the time you fill this out)?</b>	1
<b>I am willing to be identified with the Democratic Party (except judicial candidates)</b>	Yes
<b>Link to campaign web page and/or Facebook and other Social Media</b>	www.daryaforhouse.com www.facebook.com/DaryaForHouse www.twitter.com/daryaforhouse?lang=en
<b>Term of office</b>	2 years
<b>Campaign manager contact information (name, email, phone number)</b>	Sunshine Cheng, info@daryaforhouse.com, 208-571-2097
<b>Campaign consultant contact information (name, email, phone number)</b>	Ben Anderstone, ben@progressivestrategiesnw.com, 253-534-5894
<b>Do you agree to not accept campaign donations from fossil fuel companies?</b>	Yes
<b>Have you signed or will you sign the No Fossil Fuel Money Pledge (<a href="https://nofossilfuelmoney.org">https://nofossilfuelmoney.org</a>)?</b>	Yes
<b>Why are you running for this position? What in your background has led you to run? (100 word limit)</b>	

I'm running because the 46th is my home. I live in Lake City, where every day I am confronted by the housing and behavioral health crises seeing individuals pulled into the criminal legal system. These issues are my focus as Public Policy Director at Disability Rights Washington.,

I'm also running because representation matters. As a first-generation Iranian-American millennial woman, I would be the youngest to ever serve the district and the first Middle Eastern woman in the legislature. We need a representative who knows how to tackle hard issues in Olympia and what it means to lift every voice.

**What are your most significant accomplishments on environment and climate change?**

One of my first experiences in advocacy happened when I was 15 and working my first job at a pool in Kenmore, just outside of Seattle and in the old boundaries of the 46th LD. Being outside of Seattle the culture of recycling was different and people saw it as optional. The pool had garbage and recycling bins but at the end of the day we only had one dumpster for both bins. I wasn't happy about this and went to speak with the board about making a change, they informed me that it would cost money for them to recycle and they weren't interested in doing that at the time. I thought the next best thing to do was take matters into my own hands. I took home the recycling every single shift and that raised attention from the members who wanted to know why I was doing this. By the end of summer, the board had heard enough of this and started paying extra for recycling pick up. I soon was given the nickname "Captain Planet" for my recycling efforts.

Since then, my career has facilitated a focus in advocacy around disability justice, and while disability issues intersect greatly with environmental justice issues, I haven't had the opportunity to do any direct environmental advocacy in my work. At Disability Rights Washington, I am proud to have supported work done by the Disability Mobility Initiative around accessible and sustainable transit in Washington. Through my campaign I have also had the opportunity to learn more about the environmental needs of our communities. One of the concerns I have heard on the campaign trail is around Seattle Public Utilities having a cap on how much electricity a household can use before having to pay a higher rate. As we transition away from non-renewable energy sources, we have to be careful to ensure that our solutions are sustainable and accessible to our most underserved communities. My campaign team is actively looking into this to see what we can do, and if elected, look forward to learning and growing as a strong environmental advocate for our communities.

**Briefly list organizations, events, rallies, canvassing, referendums, or petitions you have engaged in to advocate for environmental protections?**

As mentioned previously, I am proud to have signed the No Fossil Fuel Money Pledge as one of the earliest actions in my campaign. I haven't had the opportunity to engage in other environmental advocacy, but am committed to growing in this area and would be proud to show up in the future in this way.

**If elected or re-elected what specific environment, climate change, biodiversity, and environmental justice legislation will you prioritize and champion?**

An environmental issue I would like to see more focus on from the legislature in the coming years is stronger accountability to marginalized communities. Communities with less resources and power to resist are often made to shoulder the burden of environmental degradation, and studies have shown that our efforts to combat climate change have disproportionately harmed low-income communities of color. This means that communities with less resources and power to resist end up becoming viewed as expendable. I am interested in making sure that our most vulnerable and impacted communities have a seat at the decision-making table while decisions are being made to ensure that our environmental policies and priorities serve and uplift everyone.

Over the last two years, I've drafted legislation called the Nothing About Us Without Us Act. This legislation would require any statutorily created entity to include people with direct lived experience on its membership. If elected, one of my first actions will be to champion this bill into law. Advancing racial and economic justice, and improving the lives of marginalized community members, comes back to access to the decision-making process and the ballot, these are our tools for change. Only when we have people with direct lived experience in leadership will we be able to truly improve the lives of marginalized communities. Representation matters and is one of the reasons I'm running.

My goal in entering this race is to leave a lasting impact on the community regardless of the outcome. I have seen through my work in Olympia how oftentimes it is the most vocal and privileged communities that have their needs prioritized over others. I want to amplify the voices of those that are often forgotten and work to ensure they have a seat at the table, whether that be BIPOC communities, LGBTQ+, tribal communities, the formerly and currently incarcerated, individuals with disabilities and immigrants, or undocumented people. Everyone deserves to have their needs addressed regardless of their wealth or influence. As a Representative, I will take the time to meet community members where they are at and bring them and their lived experiences with me to the House.

**For state office positions, what action will you take to accelerate efforts towards Washington State's 2030 Climate Goals, specifically a 45% reduction of carbon pollution below 1990 levels?**

In pursuing policies to meet our goals, we must center the experiences of those most impacted by the climate crisis, and be proactive in preventing BIPOC and low-income communities from experiencing disproportionate environmental harm. I'm interested in building upon the Climate Commitment Act to hold corporations and major emitters accountable in a more meaningful way. We must be accountable to our communities in how we are choosing to spend this revenue and I am interested in increasing reinvestment of funds into communities that have been harmed by environmental degradation.

It's not enough to say that we need more housing, transit, or to be more environmentally friendly- we must be thoughtful about the solutions we put forward. Density is a large environmental justice issue in the 46th. Transportation is the largest source of pollution in Washington and we need to get as many cars off the road as possible by increasing access to mass transit. While increasing density in our neighborhoods we must be mindful of how we are doing it and who we are doing it for. My focus is to create affordable housing for the individuals who need it the most, have been the victims of our pollution and environmental hazards, and rely on mass transit for transportation while also encouraging drivers to opt for transit.

Although my career has been focused on disability justice, housing justice, and criminal legal reform, these issues deeply intersect with environmental justice. The reality is that all of our electeds need to be leaders in addressing our climate crisis. I am learning more each day from our communities about our state's environmental needs, and look forward to centering their voices to be a strong leader in this area.