



Timestamp
2022/09/03 4:39:27 PM MDT
Candidate's name
Lelach Rave
Candidate's email address
lelach@drlelachrave.com
Candidate's phone number
206-282-1805
Office and position sought (e.g. LD 50 legislature, position 2)
WA State House of Rep, 46th LD, Pos 2
Are you an incumbent running for re-election?
No
Have you ever served in an elected position? If so, what position, and when?
No, this is my first run for elected office
How many other Democratic candidates are there in your race (at the time you fill this out)?
one
I am willing to be identified with the Democratic Party (except judicial candidates)
Yes
Link to campaign web page and/or Facebook and other Social Media
www.facebook.com/Rave4Rep
Term of office
2 years
Campaign manager contact information (name, email, phone number)
Brian Berry, brian@drlelachrave.com, 425-213-0597
Campaign consultant contact information (name, email, phone number)
NWP Consulting, sophie@nwpc consulting.com, 206-282-1805
Do you agree to not accept campaign donations from fossil fuel companies?
Yes
Have you signed or will you sign the No Fossil Fuel Money Pledge (https://nofossilfuelmoney.org)?
Yes
Why are you running for this position? What in your background has led you to run? (100 word limit)

For over twenty years, I have had the privilege of caring for thousands of Washington patients and families. My goal is to bring each of my patients' families and their stories to Olympia, and give them all a seat at the table to influence policy for our state. It will be an honor to work to end health disparities for kids and families in my community by addressing the economic, social, and environmental conditions that determine their health. So many of these challenges require changes at the systems level. That is what I hope to address as a state legislator.

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

This is my first run for office, but I am proud to have testified in Olympia in favor of banning environmental toxins like flame retardants that compromise our health and the health of our environment. I hope to build a strong record of environmental protection as a legislature, highlighting the interconnectedness of human health and climate health.

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

As a family, we have taken part in classes and events sponsored by the Seattle Audubon Society as well as the Nature Conservancy. As a young physician, I was active in Physicians for Social Responsibility. While I have not been affiliated with many official organizations or efforts for our environment, like many who live in the Pacific Northwest, I have chosen this to be my home, in large part, due to the region's immense natural beauty and opportunities to access the natural world. The forests and the mountains are my "happy place" and I have strived to raise children who appreciate and understand their interconnectedness and dependency on the environment in which they live.

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

Every year during wildfire season, I see a spike in asthmatics coming into the clinic, struggling to breathe. Last summer's heat wave put many patients in the hospital for dehydration and heat related illnesses. As a pediatrician, the climate crisis and the intersection between climate change and health is not theoretical. I see it playing out in my clinic. The climate crisis is one of the most urgent matters we have to face as a community and a society. WA has made tremendous progress in this arena compared to many other states. However, we are so far behind, that it is not enough. Following the passage of monumental transportation legislation in the last legislative session, my biggest focus is our built environment. We need to get fossil fuels out of our homes and offices. We need to build to higher standards, and we need to retrofit older buildings. One bill I would fight for that did not pass this past session is the bill to allow local municipalities to be stricter than the state building codes. Why would we hamper progress in parts of the states that are willing to go farther and faster toward making the changes we need? If we agree that densification is essential to preserving the natural environment, we need to make sure that our city environments are livable and efficient.

People in my district and across Washington are impacted by inequities in access to green spaces, ownership of land, and exposure to pollutants and toxins. Addressing these issues requires understanding the many intersecting ways that racial, social, and economic inequities create barriers for some while others profit off of privilege provided by the systems in place. On the campaign trail I have had many conversations with the people in my community about how these inequities impact them. If elected, I will continue to seek out these conversations and to learn from and uplift the voices of those living the impacts of these inequities so that I can best address them. It is my obligation to use my privilege to find, fund, and implement solutions that protect our environment and are in the best interest of the most impacted communities. I support policies that recognize the disproportionate impact of polluters on the communities around them and require polluters to invest in the communities surrounding their facilities to mitigate the impact of their industries. Polluters must also be held accountable for the waste, pollutants, and degradation of the environment in these zones and I would support policies that require and enforce appropriate cleanup, storage, and disposal of these industrial effects on the environment and on the communities adjacent to their operations.

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?

The climate crisis will require that we reorganize our society. The legislation already passed in Washington “while some of the nation's strongest” will only succeed if we fundamentally rethink how we heat our homes, travel, consume, and live. I'll be a tireless voice for getting fossil fuels out of our homes and offices, supporting use of heat pumps and other sustainable cooling systems, conversion to cleaner buildings and retrofits of existing homes and commercial spaces, adoption of cleaner cars and EVs as well as transit expansion and access, and further development of clean energy sources and jobs. We must incentivize these transitions and fund efforts to make it easier for families to make the changes so many would like to make. We need to pass legislation that allows local municipalities to be stricter than the state building codes. We must understand our interconnectedness “to each other and all life on our planet” and act accordingly. The environmental crisis requires no less than prioritizing the common good in everything we do.