

Timestamp

8/29/2024 22:20:23

Candidate's name

Tiffiny Mitchell

Candidate's email address

VoteTiffinyMitchell@gmail.com

Candidate's phone number

360-633-2786

Office and position sought (e.g. LD 50 legislature, position 2)

Legislative District 26, Position 2

Are you an incumbent running for re-election?

No

Have you ever served in an elected position? If so, what position, and when?

Yes. I was a state representative for one term for 2019-2021 representing Oregon's 32nd district.

How many other Democratic candidates are there in your race (at the time you fill this out)?

0 - I am the only one, running against a Republican.

I am a Democrat or I am willing to be identified with the Democratic Party (judicial candidates mark as noted)

Yes

Links to your campaign website and/or Facebook or your most informative venue

www.votetiffinymitchell.com. We also have a Facebook page, but I don't think it was set up correctly....you can find it if you search "Vote Tiffiny Mitchell for LD 26, Position 2". We also have an Instagram page,

https://www.instagram.com/vote_tiffiny_mitchell_ld26/

Term of office

2 years

Campaign manager contact information (name, email, phone number)

Jacob Evanger, jacob@votetiffinymitchell.com, 907-347-6169

Campaign consultant contact information (name, email, phone number)

Parker Butterworth, parker@okra.media, 206-794-1961

Why are you running for this position? What in your background has led you to run? (Not to exceed 150 words)

I am running for this position because our district deserves a representative committed to the values I know are important to LD 26 residents. We need a representative who not only supports labor, education, equity, and healthcare but also prioritizes environmental protection.

Our community deserves someone who will champion clean energy, conservation, and sustainable policies to safeguard our environment for future generations. Progress has been made on issues like unemployment benefits for striking workers without her support, and a shift in perspective could have made a significant impact.

I am committed to integrating environmental stewardship into all areas of policy and ensuring our district has a strong voice in these crucial conversations. It's time for a representative who will fight for both our working people and our planet.

Please explain how your campaign will address donations from utilities, fossil fuel companies, and corporate PACs?

I do not have a set answer for this, because I fully believe all donations should be reviewed on a case-by-case basis. Additionally, I also fully believe that donations tend to only come from these sources when they believe it will benefit them. Given my values (clearly shown on my website), and my history as a state representative in Oregon where I have a pretty strong progressive record (including on the environment)....I honestly have not really had to deal with the issue of having to possibly reject these types of donations. Like regular people--I think companies have a tendency to donate to politicians who share their values, and I probably do not align with most of these types of interests.

So--I will address these types of donations on a case-by-case basis, and likely will reject donations from sources counter to my values.

It is important here though to disclose that my husband is employed by a utility -- he works for Peninsula Light in Gig Harbor, WA. I have accepted a contribution and endorsement from his IBEW local, and am currently seeking the endorsements of several other IBEW locals. I'm also seeking the endorsement of the Pipe & Steamfitters. This is because I support organized labor and the right of workers to organize, AND because I think doing so puts me in a unique position to fight for a green future where the idea of progress, clean energy, and highly skilled, organized labor are not mutually exclusive concepts. In my discussions with these groups, I don't make a secret of my values, and the direction I'd like to see Washington go (towards a greener future). I feel like I have a real responsibility, and a commitment, to ensure that I do the best I can to stay true to those values, but to also find a way for it to coexist alongside these transitions. By existing in BOTH spaces, I hope that I can work towards the goals and the future I really care about--one that brings us closer to a cleaner, greener future--but also one that embraces the skilled labor force we owe the citizens of Washington.

What are your most significant accomplishments either as an individual, member of a group, or elected official on environment and climate change?

As a state representative in Oregon, I'm proud of my significant accomplishments in advancing environmental and climate change initiatives. I've been a strong advocate for increasing investments in renewable energy sources like solar and wind, which has helped push forward crucial clean energy legislation. I've also championed climate resilience projects, securing funding for infrastructure improvements that help communities withstand extreme weather events.

One of my key achievements includes supporting measures to reduce carbon emissions, aligning with Oregon's state's ambitious climate goals and promoting sustainable practices across various sectors. Unfortunately, that particular bill (which was essentially the same type of carbon market that Washington has), did not pass and ended in the Senate when the Oregon Senate Republicans walked out in 2019. That said, I did vote for the bill in the House, and would not have made any other choice. I've been deeply committed to environmental justice, working to ensure that marginalized communities are protected from disproportionate environmental impacts and have equitable access to clean air, water, and green spaces.

Facing a recall in Oregon for my support of that climate bill, it was a challenging moment, but it reaffirmed my commitment to tackling climate change and fighting for a sustainable future. I believe these efforts are crucial for making a positive impact and building a better environment for all.

Briefly list organizations, events, rallies, canvassing, referendums, petitions, or policies and legislation you have engaged in to advocate for environmental protections.

When I was a state representative in Oregon, I was supported by the Oregon League of Conservation voters. I supported a number of environmental pieces of legislation, including a carbon market pricing bill similar to Washington's Climate Commitment Act. With that organization, I have a 94% score on supporting legislation aimed at protecting the natural world, ensuring clean air, and clean water. Since moving to Washington and deciding to run for the LD 26 position, I've publicly indicated my opposition to the ballot initiative this year to repeal the Climate Commitment Act, and publicly pushed back when I hear voters voice angst over additional environmental protections put into place in Washington within the last decade.

If elected or re-elected what specific environment, climate change, biodiversity, transportation, building and land use, growth management, and/or environmental justice legislation will you prioritize and champion?

If elected, I will prioritize advancing legislation that addresses environmental and climate challenges comprehensively. I will advocate for increased investments in renewable energy sources, such as wind and solar, and push for ambitious carbon reduction targets, including enhancing the Climate Commitment Act. Protecting this pivotal legislation will be crucial for ensuring that we stay on track with our climate goals and continue reducing greenhouse gas emissions effectively.

Safeguarding biodiversity will also be a key focus. I will work to expand funding for conservation programs and enforce stricter regulations on land development to protect critical habitats and endangered species. I will support policies that enhance public transportation, invest in electric vehicle infrastructure, and promote bike-friendly urban planning to cut emissions and alleviate traffic congestion.

In addition, I will champion rigorous green building standards to encourage sustainable materials and energy-efficient technologies. Responsible land use and growth management will be emphasized to prevent urban sprawl and preserve green spaces. Lastly, I will advocate for environmental justice, ensuring that policies address the disproportionate impacts on marginalized communities and provide equitable access to clean air, water, and green spaces.

All at the same time, my real goal is to work with organizations that are usually considered "opposed" to these values to try to find practical ways forward that help us to give Washington a green energy future, while also bringing along these industries and workers into the future. It may be naive--but I truly believe that by being committed to the idea of discussion and collaboration, while also allowing my values around environmental protection to guide me, we can begin actually talking to each other about how to solve our biggest problems rather than carry on the adversarial relationships we're currently seeing between these two camps of interest.

Washington State law sets a target of 90.5 million metric tons (MMT) carbon pollution by 2020, but greenhouse gas emissions rose last year to 102 MMT (Department of Ecology). The state is not on-track. 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?

To accelerate Washington State's progress toward the 2030 climate goals, including achieving a 45% reduction in carbon pollution below 1990 levels, I will focus on several strategic actions. First, I will work to strengthen the Climate Commitment Act by advocating for stricter emissions caps and expanding its coverage to additional sectors, ensuring that our climate policies are as effective as possible. I will also work with opponents to this, even if I disagree with them, to work on how we actual solutions that work to helps us move towards our goals, without imperiling our needs.

I will promote increased investments in renewable energy sources like wind and solar, and push for enhanced energy efficiency standards for buildings and appliances. Supporting green transportation initiatives will be crucial, so I will advocate for expanded public transit options, the development of electric vehicle charging infrastructure, and incentives for electric vehicle adoption.

Additionally, I will support initiatives aimed at boosting carbon sequestration through reforestation and improved land management practices. Enhancing climate resilience and adaptation will be a priority, with policies designed to prepare communities for climate impacts and fund necessary infrastructure improvements.

Finally, I will push for improved tracking and transparency in greenhouse gas emissions reporting to ensure accountability and make data-driven adjustments to our climate strategies. These efforts will help us stay on track to meet our ambitious climate targets and build a sustainable future for Washington State.