

SKI Political Newsletter

August 19, 2026 Edition

Primary Over, Waiting on Results

Ballot Return Statistics-2026 Primary:

<https://www.kitsap.gov/elections>

Individual Races Statistics:

<https://www.kitsap.gov/auditor/Documents/results.html>

WA Elections: Secretary of State

To Register, Update, and Track:

VoteWA.gov

SKI Endorsement Updates

The SKI Politicos have made their recommendations:

1. Elevated Jaime Michelle Hawk, State Supreme Court Justice, Position 3 to Sole Endorsement.
2. Endorsed Ian Birk and Approved Sean O'Donnell in the State Supreme Court Justice, Position 4 race.

Aug 25-General Membership Meeting

VOTE on: You got HOMEWORK!

- WA Supreme Court Position 4
- See pages 75 -77; [2026 SKI Voter Guide](#)
- Also see [LWV Info](#) – Scroll down to Position 4 candidates
- Check out Candidate Interviews conducted by the 37th Legislative District Dems
 - [Ian Birk](#)
 - [Sean O'Donnell](#)

Sep 11 Political Workgroup Meeting **VOTE on:**

- Kitsap County PUD District 3 – Stacey Smith
- Initiatives to the Legislature & to the People:**
- **IL26-001:** Restoring Parents Rights
- **IL26-638:** Protecting Girls Sports
- **IP26-645:** Repeal Millionaires Income Tax
- SKSD Capital Projects Levy
- KPUD Public Power Assessment

General Membership on Sep 22 **VOTE on: Stacey Smith and Initiatives support.**

2026 SKI Voter Guide published by Sep 28.



Election Protection Meeting Notes

West Seattle Indivisible Community Meeting

August 16, 2026 3:30 - 5:30 PM

Nick Brown, WA State Attorney General National & Statewide Election Protection



Washington State AG's Office and the Democratic AG Coalition is having a tremendous impact nationally. Washington State AG's Office is the 2nd Largest Agency in the US. The Largest State Attorney General Office is California AG's Office.

The Washington State Attorney General's Office is led by the elected Attorney General and includes nearly

2,000 employees across more than two dozen legal divisions located in 13 cities, with about 800 attorneys serving over 230 state agencies, boards, and commissions.

As AG for the Washington, he handles People of Washington cases; consider the AG Office as a law firm for consumer protection; Also handles Anti-Trust cases - currently handling the Paramount Merger case; and cases involving Protecting the Environment; Healthcare; and Education.

Federal Overreach cases- 70 times suing Trump-Averaging bringing a case every week this year. Our biggest threat is the man in the White House. There have been 100 cases since he got elected. We have about an 80% success rate against Trump. The cases have saved over \$15 Billion from being cut by the Trump administration.



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Examples of cases won:

- There was the NIH case regarding cutting cancer research dollars - we prevented that from happening.
- There was 121 million saved for Public Education that they wanted stopped because of DEI policies.
- Another 121 million to keep the Victims Crime Act program that they wanted stopped because we were using it for undocumented and Transgendered victims. We won.

Nick Brown, chairs the Election Protection Working Group that consists of the 23 Democratic State AGs. This committee meets weekly. The Key Responsibilities of the group are:

- **Safeguarding Voting Rights:** The committee works to protect the rights of voters, ensuring that all eligible citizens can participate in elections without facing barriers.
- **Election Integrity:** The group focuses on maintaining the integrity of the electoral process, addressing issues such as voter suppression and fraudulent activities.

The Working Group gameplay possible scenarios like FBI and ICE interventions into our elections. They considered many intimidation efforts that are expected from this administration. By focusing on state-level actions, the committee aims to fill gaps left by federal agencies and ensure that individual rights are upheld during elections.

Nick Brown's leadership in this Working Group highlights his commitment to defending democratic processes and protecting the rights of Washington residents and citizens nationwide.

Washington State has by far one the best Civil Rights division within a State AG's Office. It is called the Wing Luke Civil Rights Division. Currently Washington State is fighting GEO Group for Healthcare treatment issues in the detention center in Tacoma. Go here to see all news releases about current cases:

<https://www.atg.wa.gov/news/news-releases/Civil%20Rights?page=1>

What to do, who to contact if your vote is being suppressed: First Know Your Rights:

<https://www.atg.wa.gov/know-your-voting-rights#action>

Document, call the police if you are physically threatened, report the violation to the AG Office especially the Civil Rights Division if you witness or have your rights violated. File complaints here:

<https://www.atg.wa.gov/have-civil-rights-complaint>

If you think you are experiencing voting discrimination another avenue to pursue:

1. **Notify the Secretary of State by calling the Elections Division of the Secretary of State. (360) 902- 4180 or (800) 448-4881.** The Secretary of State is the chief election officer for all federal, state and local elections in Washington. You can contact the Elections Division of the Secretary of State's Office by email at elections@sos.wa.gov, or online at <https://www.sos.wa.gov/contact-us-webform>.
2. **Consult a lawyer.** You always have the right to consult a lawyer to talk about your situation, including the possibility of pursuing a private lawsuit to address the discrimination. All lawyers licensed to practice in Washington State are included in the Washington State Bar Association's Legal Directory, which can be searched from its homepage at www.wsba.org.

Keep in mind Washington State Law is strong.

Keep Washington Working (KWW) Act. KWW is a law passed by the Washington State Legislature in 2019 that establishes "a statewide policy supporting Washington State's economy and immigrants' role in the workplace." In passing KWW, the Legislature determined that it is not state or local law enforcement's primary purpose to enforce civil federal immigration law. Additionally, the Legislature determined that a person's immigration status, presence in the country, or employment alone is not a matter for police action—reinforcing that the federal government bears the primary jurisdiction to enforce federal immigration law. Importantly, KWW places no restriction on local agencies' ability to enforce state and local law.

You cannot send Federal agents or National guard to a voting center/ballot processing center or at Ballot Boxes. Washington State law, in alignment with federal law, prohibits the presence of armed federal agents, including National Guard troops, at

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polling places. This restriction is based on **18 U.S.C. § 592**, which states that military or federal officials cannot station troops or armed personnel at election sites unless it is necessary to repel armed enemies of the United States. The law aims to protect the integrity of elections and prevent voter intimidation, ensuring that elections remain free and fair.

The AG office has drafted briefs for every county and have POC Judges for every one of the 39 county courts on standby.

The AG's office is aware of the increase activity within the state regarding ICE - there are current litigations based on civil rights violations.

Nick left us with that their efforts have prevented any state law from being changed for the worst by Trump's lawsuits. Trump's Executive Orders - Voting systems- Mail-in systems, the National Voter Roll database. Trump has lost 20 cases in a row.

Moving forward:

- Ask the Governor to give the AG more money to hire more lawyers.
- Make sure to send smart and capable legislators to Olympia.

Voting Advice:

- Vote Early
- Avoid the USPS
- Return your complete ballot to a Ballot Drop Box.

Charles Douglas, Common Power How to make a difference in other states

Common Power mobilizes volunteers to get out the vote across the country because we believe the most common power we should all have, is the power of our vote. By moving our volunteers towards political action through community, education, and investment in next-generation leadership, we work to sustain our fight for a democracy that serves us all.

www.commonpower.org

Examples of races we have impacted:

Warnock, Georgia Senatorial race – went to Atlanta knocked on 10,000 doors in 3 weeks. Went to Virginia Beach, VA for state legislature race – won by 696 votes

Will be in Georgia for Ossoff Senatorial race. Will be in Tennessee for Justin Pearson for Congress. Alaska for Mary Peltola for Senate. Also, in OH for governor, senate and state legislature races. Michigan, of course. Here in Washington, Washington's 3rd Congressional District race – Marie Gluesenkamp.

To participate in Common Power Canvassing efforts:

Go to www.Commonpower.org/volunteer

Click Midterm Travel Opportunities Here button Provides all opportunities by State in a Chart format. Washington WA-03 Team Coming Soon.

There is a matching program where people donate their travel miles to assist frequent participants with the flight costs. Otherwise, this program is pay your way. Most combine visiting family with their efforts. These are well supported door knocking trips. You are partnered up with veterans and knowledgeable people.

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Kendall Hodson, Chief of Staff for King County Elections –

PEACE OF MIND FOR THE MID-TERMS

The goal is to give you peace of mind:

- King County has 1.4 million voters, it is 1/3 of the State,
- 190+ jurisdictions within King County.
- The Election office has 80 permanent staff.
- The processing center is in Renton, WA. Come tour, it is impressive.
- The temporary staff during the election is between 250 – 850 depending on the election. Presidential is about 850. Smaller election cycles are 250 and Mid-terms will be close to the higher end.
- We predict about 75% of the voters will vote. Every vote counts.

Advice:

- Vote Early (ASAP) – do not let the ballot sit on your counter.
- Use Drop Boxes – There are 100 Drop Boxes for King County.
- Track your Ballot – do it, get the Ballot Alerts via email or text.
- Do not listen to the disinformation.

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Vote by Mail election is accurate and secure.

- We keep a Paper Trail – The Ballots are kept for 22 months
- Audits are performed Before, During and After each election.
 - Tabulation tests
 - Sample hand count tests
- The drop boxes are emptied every day.

There are ways to observe the counting/tabulation process. You can be an observer by going through the major political parties or non-partisan via the League of Women Voters. There are observation loop tours and there are cameras that provide a livestream option for online viewers.

Physical security – The facility is designed with security in mind. There are 80+ cameras, Badge and biometric access points, Ballot bin/tray seals and logs. Cybersecurity is top of mind – The tabulation systems are on a closed network (Air gapped). Two forms of identity are used– security badge and biometric to access the tabulation room. Must be with minimum two people in the room, no one can access the tabulation room alone.

There are vulnerability monitoring activities as well.

We are preparing for all possible scenarios. – Potential Federal Law changes. Finding there is strength in partnership. Staff training and preparedness is forefront. Meeting with Sheriff, AG office, Judges – there is a partnership – We are practicing incident response drills.

What you can do:

- Update your registration
- Make a vote plan – check King County Elections website
- VOTE EARLY!!!
- Come work with us.
- Share good Information – Combat disinformation
- Drop Box observers are good practice
- Remember to sign up as an Observer at the Ballot Processing Centers/Voting Centers.

Another good thought to motivate the early vote – To stop people from knocking on your door during the election voting period, vote early, it gets your name off the list!



The Indivisible National Program for Securing Our Elections.

Indivisible National Kickoff Call
Here is the [recording of the call](#) and the [slides](#).

These are the key action items and resources we shared on the call:

- Sign up for our [Election Protection 101 & 201 trainings](#) in August!
- Download and save the [Hands Off Our Vote! Toolkit](#), your one-stop guide to prepping to defend the election now through November 3 and beyond
- Bookmark the [Hands Off Our Vote! website](#) to hear about new calls to action, get resources including the toolkit, shareable graphics, and more!

Voter Protection Professionals

VoProPros stands for Voter Protection Professionals

It is an all-volunteer, all-virtual organization that works throughout the year on voter protection efforts. **Group members participate in long-term and short-term voter protection projects, communicating primarily through an online messaging platform, supplemented by occasional live online training sessions and meetings.** This main group communicates through Slack.

The Rapid Response Network by VoProPros is a new addition to the organization allowing

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individuals to contribute to impactful voter protection efforts that can be done on the spot. **Rapid Response Network (RRN)** members receive regular Action Alerts emails featuring curated, one-shot, impactful voter protection activities supporting critical races and needs nationwide. For every action, all needed tools and training will be provided during a Zoom or other online session, so individuals can participate and make a difference with no ongoing commitment required. This group gets email alerts and gets referred to an organization VoProPros are helping find volunteers for that specific project.

You can learn more about VoProPros' work at Vopropros.com and about joining at Vopropros.com/join

Our VoProPros contact is Bonnie Harrison Bonnie lives on Bainbridge and has worked with VoProPros, primarily in Georgia, since 2018.

☒ **FIRST**, join the VoProPros site or even better sign up for a training. This will help you formulate your questions.

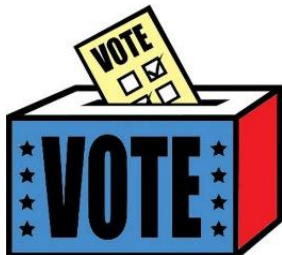
THEN, join us from **10-11:30am, Saturday August 22 @ Eagle Harbor Church** (Winslow Way & Madison Avenue, Bainbridge Island) prepared to take action to Protect Voting Rights.

☐ **Come with a plan** as to what role or state you think you would like to take on this election year.

☐ **Bring your computer** and get questions answered as to how to best get started.

Please **RSVP with Bonnie** if you want to join the Bainbridge meeting on August 22.

Bonnie.bakeman.harrison@gmail.com



Volunteer - Support Candidates

Emily Randall

U.S. Congressional WA District #6

We need a group of rock-solid volunteers.

[Volunteer Form for Emily's Campaign](#)

When WA-06 shows up and votes, we win big. Thank you so much for your help and continued support.

Deb Krishnadasan

WA State LD 26 Senator

Chloe@DebKforSenate.com, or
texting (360) 301-0591

Adison Richards

WA State LD 26 Representative Position 1

Go to this page to volunteer:

<https://www.adisonrichards.com/volunteer>

Renee Hernandez Greenfield

WA State LD 26 Representative Position 2

Audra Smith, MS (she/her)

Field Coordinator for Renee Hernandez

Greenfield Campaign, 26th LD

(972) 345-7210

[Volunteer for Renee's Campaign](#)

Want a Renee yard sign?

Reach out to Regen Langholz by text at 206-651-6004 or by email at rqlangholz@gmail.com.

Carolina Mejia & Maria Littlesun

WA LD35 Senator/Representative Pos 2

Patrick O'Donnell, Campaign Manager

patrick@argo.us

Jim Pierson

WA State LD 35 Representative Position 1

POC for Jim Pierson Campaign:

Melissa, msmmacki2@gmail.com

Learn more about Jim at:

<https://ElectJimPierson.com>

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Initiatives to the Legislature

There are two Initiatives to the Legislature:

- [IL26-001](#): Restoring Parents Rights
- [IL26-638](#): Protecting Girl's Sports

On Feb. 3, House Republicans hosted a Listening Session in the John L. O'Brien Building on the two initiatives. You can watch the event here:

[Listening Session](#)

Current RCWs - Supporting Parental Rights. [RCW 71.34.305](#)

Notice to parents, school contacts for referring students to inpatient treatment.

[RCW 70.02.240](#)

Mental health services—Minors—Permitted disclosures.

[RCW 70.02.265](#)

Adolescent behavioral health services—Disclosure of treatment information and records—Restrictions and requirements—Immunity from liability.

General Election Initiatives to the People

IP26-645: This initiative concerns state and local taxes. This measure would repeal a 9.9% tax on annual individual income over \$1,000,000; prohibit taxes measured by individual income and taxes on individual income or the receipt of individual income; and define "income."

More information coming in the next newsletter.

Kitsap County Ballot Measures



The South Kitsap School District (SKSD)

Capital Projects Levy

The South Kitsap Board of Directors approved a resolution for a Capital Projects Levy **to fund districtwide improvements**

for safety & security, technology for learning, and facilities for school and community use.

Check out [this webpage](#) to see all the projects contained in this levy.

The theme of the Capital Projects Levy is **Taking Care of What We Have**. The proposal focuses on protecting and improving the facilities our students and community use every day. We believe the levy projects are practical, responsible investments that reflect the priorities our community helped establish.

If approved, the Capital Projects Levy would collect \$72.6 million over 3 years from 2027-2029.

The **estimated levy rate is \$1.50 per thousand of assessed property value**. Example: a \$548,000 home will pay \$414 every six months in property tax.

SOUTH KITSAP SCHOOL SUPPORTERS

<https://www.southkitsapschoolsupporters.com/>

South Kitsap School Supporters: We envision South Kitsap as a thriving community that values, supports, and centers education.

In partnership with SKSD, our mission is to secure the passage of levies and bonds that afford high quality education provided in safe and functional facilities.

The Future of South Kitsap starts with you!

[Get Involved!](#)

Transit Riders Deserve a Seat at the Decision-Making Table

To strengthen local democracy, decision-making bodies must reflect the people they serve. HB1418 ensures real equity in our public transit policies.: Kitsap Transit Board of Commissioners needs to add 2 daily transit riders to the Transit Board. Decision pending September 30, 2026. Email to a Kitsap Transit Board Member.

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Kitsap Transit Board of Commissioners:

Ed Stern, Mayor, City of Poulsbo

estern@cityofpoulsbo.com

Oran Root, Kitsap County Commissioner

oroot@kitsap.gov

Jane Rebelowski, Councilmember, City of

Bremerton jane.revelowski@ci.bremerton.wa.us

Robert Putaansuu, Mayor, City of Port Orchard

rputaansuu@cityofportorchard.us

Christine Rolfes, Kitsap County Commissioner

crolfes@kitsap.gov

Clarence Moriwaki, Mayor, City of Bainbridge Island

cmoriwaki@bainbridgewa.gov

Jay Rosapepe, Councilmember, City of Port

Orchard jrosapepe@portorchardwa.gov

Katie Walters, Kitsap County Commissioner

kwalters@kitsap.gov

Greg Wheeler, Mayor, City of Bremerton

345 6th Street, Suite 600 Bremerton, WA 98337

Go to a bus hub or ferry dock to pass out a flyer to let transit riders know what they can do to support creating a more equitable public transit system. Printout this page to hand out.

Kitsap Public Utility District Board Places Public Power Authority Measure Before Voters

Help pass Yes Vote for KPUD measure Nov. 3
Kitsap Public Utility District held listening meeting July 23 for Kitsap electricity users after complaints about Puget Sound Energy's proposed 30% rate increases between 2027-2029 being considered now by the Washington Transportation and Utilities Commission. If approved, Kitsap ratepayers' electric bills increase 16% on Jan. 1, 2027. Kitsap rates increased 11% in 2025 and 12% in 2026. PSE is for-profit electricity supplier with 133,000 customers in Kitsap County.

As a result of the July 23 meeting and additional written and verbal comments, KPUD commissioners voted July 28 to put an initiative on the Nov. 3 ballot as required by State law to see if Kitsap voters will give KPUD authority to be an electricity provider and secondly allow KPUD to do a comprehensive study of what public electric service involves. KPUD has the funds already for this study.

A local Kitsap electricity ratepayer alliance is forming, Unplug PSE, to promote the Yes KPUD ballot measure Vote. It is looking to local Indivisibles to help get the Yes vote on the Nov. 3 ballot measure. One of our SKI members, Sue Ellen White, has been appointed to help write the Pro (Yes) argument in the election voter's guide. Does SKI want to schedule a Sign Making? Write letters to the WUTC, governor, attorney general and tell your ratepayer story - use Docket UE-26005.

Alliance For Equitable Healthcare (AEH)

Fight for Our Public Hospital District Formation

Our focus on 2026 has not changed. The most direct route now is to urge our county commissioners to place the Public Hospital District measure on the ballot themselves – giving voters the opportunity to decide. We are asking every member and supporter to help make that the case.

Write to your county commissioners and ask them to put this to a public vote.

Kitsap County Commissioners Contact Info:

Phone: (360) 337-7080

Email: District 1 - [Christine Rolfes](mailto:Christine.Rolfes@kitsap.gov)
District 2 - [Oran Root](mailto:Oran.Root@kitsap.gov)
District 3 - [Katie Walters](mailto:Katie.Walters@kitsap.gov)

Mailing Address: Kitsap Co Commissioner's Office
614 Division St. MS - 4
Port Orchard, WA 98366

1. **Submit a letter to the editor or op-ed** sharing why a Public Hospital District matters to you and your community.
2. Speak up at public meetings – **attend commissioner meeting** and use the public comment period to bring light to this issue.
3. **Mobilize your network** – ask friends, family, and neighbors to do the same.

If our commissioners decline to refer this measure to voters, we will not stop. We will continue to gather signatures and press forward to qualify the Public Hospital District for the 2027 ballot.



Closing the Gaps

How a Public Hospital District
in Kitsap County Can Benefit You



**Because of service gaps,
do you or does someone you know:**

- ♥ Need a primary care physician?
- ♥ Experience long delays to receive care?
- ♥ Leave our county to access healthcare?
- ♥ Struggle with mental health challenges?

Five Things to Know

Public Hospital Districts (PHDs):

- ✓ Are tax-based special districts that support healthcare. This is not an effort to build a new hospital in Kitsap County.
- ✓ Support a broad range of healthcare services including Primary Care and Mental & Behavioral Health.
- ✓ Offer predictable funding, providing stable revenue for long-term healthcare solutions.
- ✓ Collaborate with healthcare providers to ensure comprehensive care tailored to local needs.
- ✓ Are community driven, governed by an elected board that oversees the district's policies and funding priorities.

Educate yourself, donate, volunteer.

Visit the Alliance for Equitable Healthcare
www.allianceforequitablehealthcare.org