



Candidate Questionnaire

October 2018

Food Lifeline’s goal is to elevate the issue of hunger with candidates during the election cycle. Each candidate for state and federal office received our questionnaire. For every candidate that replied, their original responses are presented as submitted. See results at foodlifeline.org/advocacy.

Suzan DelBene	Candidate for U.S. House of Representatives, District 1 (Kirkland)
<p>If elected, what will you do to end hunger, alleviate poverty, and create opportunity in Washington state?</p>	<p>Ensuring that families and children have access to good, nutritious meals and high quality, affordable health care has always been a top priority of mine. I successfully pushed for \$22 million to be included in the 2014 Farm Bill to conduct job training pilot programs for SNAP recipients. I also helped Washington state receive almost \$90,000 in grants to help better connect school cafeterias with local farmers and growers. This Congress, I introduced the SNAP Work Opportunity Act to ensure that those looking for work don’t lose vital nutrition assistance. I will continue to push for these programs and others like them to ensure every family has a fair shot in our growing economy.</p>
<p>In Washington, 1 in 5 children experience food insecurity. What steps or legislative actions would you take to address child poverty and hunger?</p>	<p>No child should ever have to go hungry. Addressing child hunger will lead to better nutrition and help students achieve in school. That’s better for kids and saves us money in the long run. I have helped Washington state receive almost \$90,000 in grants to better connect school cafeterias with local farmers and growers, so our kids are afforded nutritious meals in school. However, our efforts can’t just be limited to the school year. I am a cosponsor of the Summer Meals Act of 2017 that aims to fight childhood hunger and expand access to summer meals throughout the county. Additionally, I am a cosponsor of the Anti-Lunch Shaming Act of 2017. This legislation prohibits schools from singling out children who have outstanding school lunch balances or who were short on lunch money that day.</p>
<p>Food insecurity is a major contributor to poor health and higher healthcare costs, what steps or legislative actions would you take to help food insecure people with chronic diseases, like diabetes, have access to nutritious food?</p>	<p>Making sure people have access to high quality, affordable health care is one of my top priorities. When we look at health care we must also remember that the food we eat has a significant impact on our health. We need to make sure that everyone in our communities has access to healthy foods and foods that meet their dietary restrictions. I will continue to work to make sure we make that connection and put forward policies that help those struggling with chronic diseases.</p>

Please note that Food Lifeline is a nonprofit, nonpartisan 501(c)(3) organization and is prohibited from participating or intervening in any political campaign on behalf of, or in opposition to, any candidate for public office.

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