



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.

Tana Senn	Candidate for Washington State House of Representatives, District 41, Position 1 (Mercer Island)
If elected, what will you do to end hunger, alleviate poverty, and create opportunity in Washington state?	This session, we need to make policy changes to our TANF policies, not just adjust the cash payments. Similarly, we must make adjustments to our subsidized child care programs to ensure more children are being reached, parents can actually find quality early learning centers willing to accept public subsidy, and more families are able to access this critical benefit as they struggle to work their way out of poverty.
In Washington, 1 in 5 children experience food insecurity. What steps or legislative actions would you take to address child poverty and hunger?	I am thrilled that we passed Breakfast After the Bell last year. We need to ensure that families who are hungry can access food aid and not be denied benefits due to technical and bureaucratic policies.
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?	It was enraging to hear Trump propose standard packaged food for all, instead of the important approach of letting people choose their own food. As a board member of Hopelink, and as a volunteer for Jewish Family Service, I have seen firsthand how clients appreciate the availability of culturally and health appropriate food options. I would be interested in learning if there are things the state can do to help with this.

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.

Food Lifeline | 815 S 96th Street, Seattle 98108 | foodlifeline.org