FOOD LIFELINE

VOTE TO END HUNGER

Candidate Questionnaire
November 2022 Midterm Election

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

Tana Senn	Candidate for Washington State House District 41
In Washington, 1 in 6 children experience food insecurity. What steps or legislative actions would you take to address child hunger?	Access to early learning means access to food as well. It was a thrill to get a diaper benefit in TANF passed last year and funds sent out to diaper banks too. This allows families to spend more on food.
If elected, in what areas would you support making investments to overcome structural racism and racial inequities?	I have worked to ensure our child welfare system does not disproportionately engage BIPOC families leading to negative outcomes. In addition, I am constantly looking at juvenile justice issues and the greater impacts on youth of color. Ensuring all kids have access to high-quality early learning is a critical strategy to increase opportunities for all kids.
Discussion of reforms to public safety and law enforcement are often polarizing but require law enforcement and community working together to focus on facts and agree on solutions. If elected, will you commit to working on these issues and what outcomes would you prioritize?	Absolutely. Last interim, I met with each of the police chiefs in my district to understand their concerns with our recently passed police reforms and ensure they identified specific phrases and policies, not just sentiments opposing change. Given this constructive criticism, we made most if not all of the suggested changes this past year. We must continue the conversations. I am looking forward to new police training locations across the state as well as a new Washington State Patrol psychiatrist impacting hiring!
What measures will you support that promote equity and fairness in Washington's tax code and create more opportunity for community investment?	I was honored to carry the Capital Gains Tax in the House and designate the funding for early learning and education. I look forward to the Tax Structure Workgroup recommendations on how we can continue to make our tax system more fair!
If elected, what will you do to alleviate hunger and poverty, and create economic opportunity for Washington state residents?	Access to early learning is critical to give all kids a solid start in life as well as support their working parents. I worked for a few years to pass the diaper benefit for TANF families that will help get more resources for families. Greater payments for Kin who take care of a family member's child, permanently eliminating family payments toward incarceration and foster care costs and supporting other safety net programs are among my efforts to create better economic conditions.
Yes/No Section	

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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Will you commit to support a 1% levy on wealth held in financial assets, such as stocks and bonds for individuals of worth over $1 billion?	Yes.
Will you support expanding access to school meals at no student cost?	Yes.
If elected, will you insist proposed laws, bills, policies, and practices be evaluated for racial justice and equity?	Yes.
Will you commit to supporting the work of the Food Policy Forum and its recommendations?	Yes.
Will you commit to implementing the recommendations in the Use Food Well Washington plan?	Yes.