



The Municipal League of King County  
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## 2008 CANDIDATE QUESTIONNAIRE

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Saul Ettlin, **Director**

The Municipal League of King County requests every candidate who participates in the candidate evaluation process to **submit background information prior to his/her interview with a candidate evaluation committee**. The questionnaire is the basis of the League's research and interview process. The League's ratings are non-partisan; they are based on standards of Involvement, Effectiveness, Character, and Knowledge, all of which have been developed and refined over the past 90 years.

A printed version of the questionnaire is available for candidates who prefer to use the traditional format. To obtain a hard copy, please contact the League office. A copy of this questionnaire will be provided to Candidate Evaluation Committee members to help them prepare for your interview. Candidate responses, except the confidential section, will be available to the general public at the League website.

The Municipal League requests the following materials from candidates. Please check to make certain you have sent in your:

- Candidate Questionnaire**  
Sent by:  Email  US Mail  Fax  Not Sending
- Resume (education, employment, and professional activities)**  
Sent by:  Email  US Mail  Fax  Not Sending  
 Check here if you DO NOT want your resume posted on the Municipal League website
- Campaign Materials**  
Sent by:  Email  US Mail  Fax  Not Sending
- Constituent Newsletters and other publications**  
Sent by:  Email  US Mail  Fax  Not Sending
- Photograph**  
Sent by:  Email  US Mail  Fax  Not Sending

**Note: Electronically submitted questionnaires are strongly preferred.** All materials can be emailed to [cec@munileague.org](mailto:cec@munileague.org). They can be processed and made available on-line far more rapidly than handwritten or typed submissions.

For non-electronic submissions, please print clearly and legibly and return the application **as soon as possible in order to allow the committee the greatest amount of time to prepare a complete report on your skills and experience.**

**We request that you return the Candidate Questionnaire  
by June 1, 2008**

If you have not yet been contacted to schedule an interview, or if you have questions about the candidate evaluation program, please contact the League office at 206-264-1070.

If you have a disability and require accommodation to participate in the candidate evaluation process, please contact the CEC Coordinator at the League office.

## 2008 Candidate Questionnaire

### SECTION I

#### BASIC CANDIDATE INFORMATION

1. Name as it will appear on the ballot

First Name	Middle Initial or Nickname	Last Name
Cheryl		Pflug

2. Office sought (include office, jurisdiction, position/district number):

**Senate**

3. Are you the incumbent?       Yes       No

4. How long have you resided in this district/city?

**37 years**

5. How long have you resided in King County?

**51 years**

6. Is the office sought partisan or nonpartisan?       Partisan       Nonpartisan

7. If partisan, please indicate party: **Republican**

#### CAMPAIGN CONTACTS

Campaign Name: Friends of Cheryl Pflug

Address: 23705 230th PI SE

City/State/Zip: Maple Valley, WA 98038

Campaign Phone: 425-413-5333

Campaign Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

Campaign E-mail: cheryl@pflug.com

Campaign Website: www.pflug.com

#### POLITICAL BACKGROUND

1. Beginning with the most recent position, please list public offices you have held. Include positions on appointive boards or commissions.

Public Office	Elective or Appointive?	Dates Held	Leadership Role (if any)
See attached CV			

2. If you ran for public office but were not elected, please list those races below:

Office Title	Year of Run


## SECTION II

In this section, we are seeking responses that reflect the four ratings criteria: involvement, effectiveness, character, and knowledge. These are defined as follows:

- **Involvement:** What has the candidate done previously in family, neighborhood, community, volunteer work, employment or public life to suggest readiness to accomplish challenging objectives? How do these activities demonstrate readiness for the challenges unique to the office sought?
  - **Effectiveness:** Has the candidate demonstrated promise of being productive in the office sought? Has the candidate shown the ability to work with other people?
  - **Character:** Do the candidate's personal traits show the ability to take on the responsibilities of campaigning for and holding the public office she or he is seeking? Is the candidate a leader, participant or observer? Is the candidate trustworthy, reliable and candid?
  - **Knowledge:** Has the candidate demonstrated the willingness and ability to learn and adapt? Does the candidate understand the duties and challenges of the office sought? Does the candidate have a firm grasp of the issues important to his or her constituency and their potential effects?
- 

1. In one page or less, why are you running for this office? (Note: the interview committee will be given a copy of this statement before your interview; at the beginning of your interview you will have the opportunity to expand on this statement in any way you wish.)

**(See attached for Civic Activities)**

**Our state/nation faces some tremendous challenges in the near future, particularly in the areas of transportation and health care. I believe I have more to do at a time when leadership is needed.**

**I am a thought leader in the area of health care. In 2007, as the Ranking Republican, I introduced a universal health care proposal that was called "visionary and elegant" by the Office of the Insurance Commissioner. I continue to work with all stakeholders, including labor (where I am the only Republican member of the "Working Families Caucus") and business to address the structural issues around access and portability. That said, I do not think this is our best hope for cost control.**

**I am truly passionate about the need to move beyond rhetoric to improving quality outcomes and affordability in health care. My "shared decision-making" legislation - which addresses the issue of unwarranted treatment variation documented in the Dartmouth Atlas - passed in 2007. This "first in the nation" legislation was lauded in Shannon Brownlee's book, Overtreated. In 2008, I added language to study reimbursement alternatives for primary care practices (medical homes) and I continue to actively participate in that and the activities of the Puget Sound Health Alliance. These activities, in my mind, hold the greatest promise for increasing the value we deliver to health care consumers while lowering costs.**

**I also wrote, and passed, legislation creating a mandatory treatment diversion alternative for non-violent mentally ill misdemeanants, for which I was given an award by NAMI. Actually, it was my joy to begin a process, now being implemented in 5 counties, to decriminalize mental illness and substitute a humane, effective treatment alternative. It should also reduce criminal justice costs.**

**My independent voice helps keep both parties more accountable. I voted for Sen. Weinstein's Homeowner Warranty bill to highlight the problems with HOA warranty enforcement - sending a message to my caucus.**

**Attention to detail is very important. I provided the pressure to reverse WSDOT's ill-**

conceived plan to build the Steillacoom II clones and am working hard on a re-evaluation of the Island Home design.

As a freshman Senator from a conservative caucus (with a 1-vote majority, and then in the minority), I worked across the aisle to pass legislation that allowed local schools to collect "levy backfill" dollars, reform Professional Certification for teachers, change the state formula for bus purchasing, and improve our math standards, curricular and testing. I cast the deciding vote, against my party leadership, to put Simple Majority on the ballot. I think I have earned the right to criticize current majority leaders who complain that, with a 2/3 legislative majority and the governor's mansion, they were unable to prioritize school funding or congestion relief despite an \$8+ Billion increase in state spending.

2. Describe your most important personal characteristics or traits as they relate to the office you seek.

**Integrity, respect for others, experience in both my community (37 years) and the strategies necessary for moving bills through the legislative process, work ethic, creativity.**

3. Please describe, in sufficient detail, one to three accomplishments or contributions of which you are most proud. These examples should illustrate skills and capabilities you think apply to the office you are seeking. These accomplishments may have occurred at any time in your personal, professional, or public life.

**See answer to question 1.**

**I also passed a bill this year to allow more open use of email between legislators and constituents. It had failed to move in the house for two previous years. I got 26 members of both parties (i.e. half the Senate), including leadership, the chairs of the pertinent committees, and members of the Ethics Committee (a previous source of powerful opposition), to sign the bill before it was introduced. Then I worked with previous House Sponsors on the other side of the aisle, who were very helpful in moving it through the Houyese.**

4. Please list or describe current and past activities in the community in which you have acquired skills that relate to the office you seek. Include your role in the activity and the year(s) in which you were involved. Involvement consists of many areas such as family, neighborhood, community, employment, or public life.

**see attached**

5. Please describe the duties of the office you seek. Which are the most important duties and why?

**Listen. You can't represent a view you haven't heard, or solve a problem you don't know about. Also, there is a lot of experience to draw on if you are open to it. Those who are most frustrated by a problem often have a suggestion for how to do it better. Veteran legislators can tell you what has already been tried that DIDN'T work, and why.**

**Care. Use your office for good. It is not the title of the bill on the evening news, but whether you really made something better. Take the time to learn the details and get it right. The effect of the specific language once enacted must have a positive impact on people's lives.**

**Help. Prioritize personal and staff time to address issues that affect your constituents. Focus on the issues, bills, and budget items that affect your district. Take time to help individuals get the service they need from government. Make sure your motives are to make life better for your constituents, not grease your political future. Do what is right to the best of your knowledge, even if you take some heat. In the end, people learn to trust your constituency and respect your integrity.**

**Specialize. Become an expert in at least one issue in which you take a leadership role to research and develop innovative solutions to the toughest problems.**

**EDUCATION BACKGROUND SUMMARY  
FOR PUBLICATION IN CANDIDATE EVALUATION REPORT**

The Municipal League's Candidate Evaluation Report is distributed to voters in print and on our website. It includes a summary of the candidate's education. Please summarize your education in 120 characters (letters, punctuation, and space all combined). The League will delete material that exceeds the space limit by beginning with the last entry. Suggested order is (degree) (subject) (school) (year, if desired).

**Note:** *If this question is left blank the League will not include education information in your candidate profile.*

**University of WA, B.S. Nursing**

**CIVIC INVOLVEMENT SUMMARY  
FOR PUBLICATION IN CANDIDATE EVALUATION REPORT**

The Municipal League's Candidate Evaluation Report includes a summary of each candidate's civic involvement. Please summarize your civic involvement in the space below. We will make every attempt to include the information in the Candidate Evaluation Report as submitted. Due to space restrictions in the Report, your response is limited to 500 characters (letters, punctuation, and spaces all combined). It is important that you list your involvement beginning with the most important and ending with the least important. If you exceed the length of response permitted, or if the League should find it necessary to shorten responses for publication purposes, deletions will be made beginning with the last item listed.

**Note:** *This information will appear verbatim on the League's Candidate Evaluation Report. If this question is left blank, the Municipal League will not include information on your civic involvement in the Report.*

Check here if you would like the Municipal League to copy the first 500 characters from Question 4 to paste into this section.