

2010 Candidate Questionnaire

SECTION I

BASIC CANDIDATE INFORMATION

1. Name as it will appear on the ballot

First Name	Middle Initial or Nickname	Last Name
Diane		Tebelius

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

48th District State Representative, Position 1

3. Are you the incumbent? Yes X No

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

24 years

5. How long have you resided in King County?

24 years

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

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

CAMPAIGN CONTACTS

Campaign Name: Friends of Diane Tebelius

Address: P.O. Box 53486

City/State/Zip: Bellevue, WA 98015

Campaign Phone: 253 273-8988

Campaign Fax: _____

Campaign E-mail: info@diane2010.org

Campaign Website: www.diane2010.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)

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

Office Title	Year of Run
8 th Congressional District candidate	2004

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?
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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.)

We live in a time of serious challenges that require strong leadership. While the challenges facing Washington State and our communities run deep, with the right leadership, this can also be a time of great opportunity and innovation.

New paradigms are emerging in the way we communicate, engage with public institutions, access information, and educate our children. The voices of reform and innovation are taking the lead. Expectations from citizens about the role and scope of government are also shifting and public trust of government is at an all-time low.

As a candidate for the State Legislature, I see an opportunity to restore the basic and vital role of government and to leverage technology and common sense solutions. First, as an advocate for individual opportunity and the common good through public education; second, as an advocate for economic development through job growth in the private sector; and third, as a true steward of natural resources with a focus on community values and goals.

These are guiding principles in how I will approach the people's business as their representative in Olympia. There is a growing realization that government must do better with limited resources and shrinking revenues. My life's experience has been about finding solutions to problems, making tough choices, and making the right investments in people. That new direction for Washington State can only happen with new leadership.

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

Making investments in other people is about sharing your time, talents, and treasures. As a former schoolteacher and current adjunct professor, I recognize that education is the true “agent of change” in the lives of people. I love the ongoing discovery and the opportunity to invest in someone else’s future that comes from being an educator.

Those who know me would say that I am tenacious and welcome the big challenges as an opportunity to grow and learn. Having a deep sense of justice, respect for the law, professional integrity, and the ability to work toward solutions have been hallmarks of my career in law and in my community service.

I am a farmer’s daughter. Having grown up on a farm in North Dakota I was taught that a strong work ethic and integrity were central to a person’s character. My family also nurtured a strong sense of community and the value of being there for your neighbor in the good and difficult times.

Public office is demanding in time and energy, I am an avid biker and jogger and am known for my high energy levels within demanding jobs and responsibilities.

In representing the people of the 48th district, these personal traits and characteristics define how I will approach public service.

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.

First, as Chair of the Equal Justice Coalition, I had the opportunity to affect real change in public policy. That change involved reversing perceptions about the need for legal services for those most in need and changes in public policy relating to the funding in the State of Washington from the Washington State legislature. This required reaching across the political divide to find those who agreed on the need for changes, finding the issues what caused legislators to be concerned and implementing suggestions of the group in order to accomplish the goal of changing funding sources.

Secondly, as a member of the Board of Directors of Childhaven and a member of its Budget Committee for six years, I had chance to assist in the development of a long-range funding plan that would result in more sensible funding mechanisms. Instead of relying upon the vagaries of funding from the state legislature, Childhaven needed and has implemented a program of giving from the private sector that should enable that organization to be more consistent in its budgeting plans.

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.

As a former Federal Prosecutor and legal expert in the areas of tax and bankruptcy law, I come to the legislative role with a deep understanding of the impact and practical application of law in the everyday world.

Understanding the legal ramifications and anticipating unintended consequences of legislation requires a skill set and analytical ability that I have developed during 25 years of legal work.

As a former schoolteacher and current adjunct professor, I recognize that education is the true “agent of change” in the lives of people.

I have also had the opportunity to sit on the Municipal League Board of Trustees which heightened my appreciation for the benefits of “open government” and the roles that citizens play in electing their public leaders. It is absolutely essential that elected officials are made accountable for their actions. The Municipal League along with other organizations plays an extraordinary role in ensuring this accountability.

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

Public office begins with a deep sense of stewardship and service. State Representative is not a title but a trusteeship and should be entered into with a sense of honor and humility.

As a State Representative I am commissioned to uphold the state constitution and to represent the best interests of the citizens of the 48th District within the overall interests of the State of Washington. This requires both the energy and time to understand the “will of the people” within the district that I represent, while making good judgments on all legislative matters based on governing principles and sound information.

The paramount duty of state government is public education. As a Representative, it is paramount that I uphold this priority of state government in the allocation of funds and resources.

I am accountable for the stewardship of the people’s money through taxation and the allocation of resources through the budget process.