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
Eileen	**L**	**Cody**

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

   34th District House Position 1

3. Are you the incumbent? x Yes ☐ No

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

   32 years

5. How long have you resided in King County?

   32 years

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

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

CAMPAIGN CONTACTS

Campaign Name: Committee to Elect Eileen Cody

Address: **6714 38th Ave SW**

City/State/Zip: **Seattle, WA 98126**

Campaign Phone: **206-935-9176**

Campaign Fax: **206-935-3152**

Campaign E-mail: **eileenlcody@comcast.net**

Campaign Website: **www.eileencody.com (not up yet)**

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)
34th District House Position 1	**elected**	**2002-present**	**Chair House Health committee**
11th District House Position 1	**Appointed then elected**	**1994-2002**	**Chair House Health committee**
PCO	**elected**	**1984,1988,2002-2009**	

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?

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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.)

I am running for re-election to work on implementation of health reform in Washington state. I first ran for office 16 years ago to work on health reform implementation. Unfortunately it did not happen then but I am confident that we will move forward next session. We in Washington have been leaders in providing quality evidence based health care to our residents. I want to make sure that we continue to be leaders in the way we implement health care reform. We will be working on implementation during very trying economic times. We face another budget shortfall next year and we will continue to face tough decisions. I feel that my experience with the budget, particularly in the area of health, will be of value.

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

I believe that the characteristics that I have that have contributed most to my success as a legislator are my ability to be decisive, be persistent, and to be an engaged listener.

Legislators must make many difficult decisions during the course of a session. Being able to identify the options in front of you, the information you need to make a decision and then making the decision is a valuable skill necessary to every legislator.

Persistence is also very valuable. When working on an issue resistance to progress can come from many directions. It you are known for being persistent and never quitting your opposition learns that they must negotiate with you because they know you won't just simply go away!

Most important is the ability to be a good listener. If you can listen to all sides of an issue, then identify shared values and goals that each side has, you will be much more successful in moving both sides toward a compromise.

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.

From this past session I am very proud of the passage of HB 2551, establishing the Washington vaccine association. In the 2009 session, because of our budget shortfall, the decision was made to cease universal purchasing of vaccines for the children of our state. The universal purchase program had provided access to cost savings from the federal Centers for Disease Control contract pricing and a single order and distribution system that delivered vaccines to all health providers in the state. Losing the program would have meant not only an increase in the cost of health care in the state but a decrease in the number of children being immunized as many physicians would have stopped offering immunizations to children due to the increased burden that would have been placed on them. I worked with a coalition of providers and children's advocates to develop a public private partnership that enables the state to continue buying all vaccines for children, saving parents, businesses, and insurers money while avoiding loss of access to vaccines from a variety of providers.

Several years ago I worked with then Senators Alex Deccio and Pat Thibaudeau to pass SB 6088. That bill pooled our states prescription drug purchasing so that we now buy the most effective drugs at the lowest price. That legislation has saved the state millions of dollars while providing the most effective medications for clients. It was a hard fought victory over the pharmaceutical industry that required coordination between a large group of consumer and senior advocates to achieve success.

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.

District 1199NW/SEIU –	Treasurer	1984-1994
	Member	1983-present
Association of Rehabilitation Nurses-Member		1980-2006
	President	1982-1983
West Seattle Helpline Executive Board		1995-2003
Multiple Sclerosis Association Executive Board		1999-2003
Group Health Cooperative Ethics Committee-Member		1986-1989
	Chair	1988-1989
International Organization of MS Nurses-Member		1998-present
Duwamish Coalition Steering Committee- Member		1994-1996

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

The duties of a Washington state legislator are varied depending on which part of the role you are describing. As a member of the legislature I am responsible for representing the views and the issues of concern to the 34th district, but the duties also include weighing what is in the best interest of the entire state. As a member of the democratic caucus I have a duty to help in setting the agenda for the caucus. As Chair of the House Health and Wellness Committee I am in charge of reviewing all bills referred to the committee, deciding which bills receive a hearing, and which bills will come up for a vote in the committee. As chair I am responsible for working with the Senate, the Governor and state agencies to determine the direction of the state's health policy and to work on the portion of the budget that relates to health care. The duties of the chair include assisting members on issues that fall under the committee's purview, helping new members learn about health care issues, encouraging dialogue between all the members of the committee and the varied interest groups so that we understand all sides of an issue and take action, when appropriate, that will benefit all our constituents.