

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
Frank		Chopp

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

State Representative, 43rd District, Position #2

3. Are you the incumbent? X Yes No

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

For about 30 years

5. How long have you resided in King County?

For over 30 years

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

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

CAMPAIGN CONTACTS

Campaign Name: Frank Chopp Campaign

Address: 4209 Sunnyside Avenue North

City/State/Zip: Seattle, WA 98103

Campaign Phone: 206-612-7071

Campaign Fax: _____

Campaign E-mail: frankchopp@comcast.net

Campaign Website: To be updated

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)
State Representative	Elected	1995-present	Speaker of the House

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

Office Title	Year of Run
none	

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 believe in Working Together for One Washington, bringing people together to address the challenges before us as a community. I am working hard to carry out a progressive agenda for the people, focused on the issues of education, health care, and jobs. For example:

In education, there are urgent needs to address, from early learning to higher education. That includes support for all-day kindergarten in our public schools, investment in school construction and renovation, and provision of Opportunity Grants to help college students acquire needed skills and connect to specific jobs in our changing economy.

In health care, the highest priority is to implement state legislation, passed in 2005 and 2007, to make sure that all children have health care, with a medical home for each child. This is a moral imperative and an economic necessity. In order for a student to succeed in school, they must be healthy and ready to learn. In addition, with the passage of federal health care reform, Washington State must take specific actions to implement certain provisions of the reform.

In job creation, we must continue our forward momentum to ensure a positive economic climate, which includes investing in transportation and other infrastructure needs, making state agencies more responsive to the needs of our citizens and businesses, as well as a well-trained workforce.

Of particular importance is the need to raise low-income people up and out of poverty, through better education and job training, as well as greater help for people with disabilities and others who cannot make it on their own.

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

A dedication to public service, a creative mind, a positive vision for the future, a lot of hard work, a set of organizational skills, and a record of accomplishment over the past 35 years.

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.

Ensuring health care for every child in Washington.

I initiated and led the effort for state legislation setting and implementing the goal of covering every child with health care by 2010, through the Apple Health program. We are on target to keep that promise. Currently over 750,000 children are covered through Apple Health, which is recognized as one of the best such programs in the nation.

Helping those in poverty.

I believe in Freedom from Poverty through Action. Over the course of 35 years, in both the private, non-profit sector and in the legislature, I have worked very hard to help the poor. For example, improving the wages and benefits of home care workers, increasing the minimum wage, protecting the most needy in budget decisions for such programs as the Disability Lifeline (formerly known as the GA-U program), and many, many similar endeavors.

Building affordable housing.

Over the past many years, I have been successful in a large array of housing efforts, including the 1986 Housing Levy in Seattle, the state Housing Trust Fund, Housing for the Homeless at Sand Point, the Low-income Housing Institute, the Home Security Fund, the new Washington Works housing program, and many other specific housing projects.

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.

The list is long, but here's a few highlights:

Executive Director, Fremont Public Association (now known as Solid Ground),
a non-profit anti-poverty agency, 1983 - 1995

Co-Chair for Low-income Housing, Capital Forum Coalition (state capital budget), 1989 - 1993

Founding Board member, Low Income Housing Institute, 1991 - 1998

Co-Chair, Committee for Economic Opportunity, 1989 - 1992

Chairperson, Seattle Housing Levy Campaign, and member of Citizens for a Better Seattle
(Housing Levy and Art Museum Levy Joint Campaign), 1986

Founder and Board member, Seattle Personal Transit (for the disabled), 1984 - 1986

Co-Chair and organizer, Health Care for the Homeless Coalition, 1984 - 1985

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

The role of Speaker of the House is to build a constructive legislative majority, provide leadership for the House Democrats, cooperate with the other side of the aisle, and work closely with the Senate leadership and the Governor to enact a positive legislative agenda.

The most important duties of my position are providing leadership, developing an agenda, generating ideas, solving challenges, and building coalitions. Being a State Representative and particularly being the Speaker, requires a clear sense of where our state needs to go, how to get there, and how to involve people in the process, including the general public, legislators, and other elected officials.