



# 34<sup>TH</sup> LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT DEMOCRATS

Burien Georgetown Pioneer Square SODO South Park West Seattle White Center Vashon/Maury Island

## May 13, 2026

### Membership Meeting

### At the **Youngstown Cultural Center**

4408 Delridge Way SW

### Chair's Message

#### Hey 34th Dems:

As if we needed another reminder that progress is never guaranteed without a fight, we are seeing continued attacks on the fundamental freedoms we hold dear. The political right is doubling down on division and fear because they know if the people stand together, we will win.

#### **The good news is we aren't letting them stop us.**

From growing labor movements to demanding climate action, from tenants organizing to communities pushing back against injustice, **there is a rising energy that cannot be ignored – and we got to see it again on Friday.** People are tired of an economy and political system that asks them to settle for less while those with much claim even more. We are ready for, and deserve, better.

#### **This week I got to spend time out in community with folks, talking about a wide variety of issues.**

In every conversation, whether with the Alliance for Gun Responsibility, Future Wise and House Our Neighbors, Senator Cantwell's staff, candidates for local office around our region, or even the several of you I got to meet for coffee, **it was clear how important it is to show up for each other, build relationships rooted in trust and shared purpose, and refuse to accept the status quo.**

As we begin this month of May, I want us to elevate our outreach. **These next four weeks will play a critical role in building the people power and resources that will deliver the policy and electoral wins our communities need.**

In Solidarity,

—Jordan Crawley

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Our next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, May 13, at Youngstown Cultural Arts Center! Our program will start at 6:00 PM and our business meeting will start at 7:00 PM. This month we're focusing on elections with our friends at FairVote Washington who will join us to talk about Ranked Choice Voting ("RCV"), how it will be implemented in Seattle in 2027, and the push for it at the county and state levels.

We will get to hear from candidates, talk with No Hate in Washington State about their campaign against two statewide initiatives (IL-001 and IL-638), and discuss how we might be able to work with community partners to fight for our values state wide! There is no requirement to register for this event, and all meetings are open to the public — so feel free to bring your friends and family!

If you are not able to attend the meeting in-person, we will be live streaming on YouTube. You can access the stream by clicking here and clicking our logo at the top, which should have a red ring around it with the word "LIVE". Please note that if you are watching the stream, you will not be able to participate in the meeting (this includes speaking and voting).

**Food will be potluck style so please feel free to bring your favorite foods, snacks, sweets, and treats to share!**

### Agenda

- **6:00 PM** Pre-Meeting Program: The Future of Ranked Choice Voting
- **7:00 PM** Call to Order
- Land Acknowledgement: Spotighting the Chief Seattle Club
- Consent Agenda: April Minutes and May Agenda
- Treasurer's Report: April 2026 [Link provided on 5/10]
- VIP Acknowledgements
- Campaign Spotlight
- Precinct Leadership Appointments
- Consideration of Endorsements Eligible for Early Consideration
- Consideration of Resolution: *Calling for Actions to Reduce the Influence of X (See Page 8).*
- Open Discussion: Potential Actions on Statewide Initiatives
- Good of the Order
- Adjourn

# Executive Board 2025 - 2026

## Elected Officers

**Jordan Crawley** | Chair  
chair@34dems.org

**Rachel Glass** | 1st Vice Chair  
vicechair1@34dems.org

**Colton Myers** | 2nd Vice Chair  
vicechair2@34dems.org

**Ted Barker** | State Committee Person  
wsdccb@34dems.org

**Roxanne Thayer** | State Committee Person  
wsdccc@34dems.org

**Bunny Hatcher** | King Co. Committeeperson  
kcdccw@34dems.org

**Chris Porter** | King Co. Committeeperson  
kcdccm@34dems.org

**Hannah Cameron** | King Co. Committee Alt.  
kcdccwa@34dems.org

**Preston Anderson** | King Co. Committee Alt.  
kcdccma@34dems.org

**Rebecca Rego** | Treasurer  
treasurer@34dems.org

**Steve Butts** | Secretary  
secretary@34dems.org

## Committee Chairs

**Jordan Crawley** | Platform & Legislative Action, Caucus & Elections, and Bylaws & Rules, Chair@34dems.org

**Vacant** | Communications & Technology  
digcomm@34dems.org

**Vacant** | Fundraising & Events  
events@34dems.org

**Hannah Cameron** | Membership & Hospitality  
membership@34dems.org

**Vacant** | Outreach and Visibility  
outreach@34dems.org

**Rebecca Rego** | Precinct Leadership  
pco@34dems.org

**Rachel Glass** | Programs & Community Partnerships  
vicechair1@34dems.org

**Ann Martin** | Resolutions & Endorsements  
endorse-reso@34dems.org

## Other Roles

**Vacant** | Webmaster  
webmaster@34dems.org

**Steve Butts** | Newsletter Editor  
newsletter@34dems.org

**Gina Topp** | Parliamentarian

## May PCO Filing Week Starts May 4th

Online PCO filing will be available 24 hours a day starting Monday **May 4, 2026**, at 8 a.m. and ending **May 8**, at 5 p.m. Go here to file:

[kingcounty.gov/legacy/depts/elections/for-candidates/online-pco-filing.aspx](https://kingcounty.gov/legacy/depts/elections/for-candidates/online-pco-filing.aspx)

Please review the excellent resources available on the KC Elections Website:

- Find the *PCO Manual* and *How to File Handout* [HERE](#)
- Find your District and Precinct [HERE](#)
- Watch a tutorial on how to file for PCO [HERE](#)

Terms start on **December 1, 2026** and ends **November 30, 2028**.

PCO races will be decided in the primary election for a two-year term. If only one Democratic candidate files, that candidate is considered elected after the last day to withdraw. If two or more file the one that receives the most votes in the primary will be elected. PCOs do not advance to the General election ballot.

Questions? Contact Rebecca Rego at: [pco@34dems.org](mailto:pco@34dems.org)

## 34th Adopt-A-Street Work Party

Join with other 34th District Democrats as we help clean up the street...we take care of 16th Ave SW, from Roxbury to Elmgrove.



**May 23 | 1 to 3 PM**

Meet at the **Triangle Park at 16th SW and SW Roxbury**

Tools, gloves, safety vests are provided.

Sign up [HERE](#)

**34th** and the **33rd Dems** together at the

**Burien Pride Festival**

**June 6th**

At the **Burien Town Square**

Join us as we register voters and promote our candidates!

Sign up for a shift [HERE](#)



On Saturday, May 30, the 34th District Democrats will present the “Your Voice. Our Future.” fundraiser at the brand new White Center Hub! As we continue our planning, we are looking for sponsors and co-hosts for the event. If you or anyone you know may be interested in doing so, **TICKETS ARE NOW AVAILABLE...[CLICK HERE!](#)**

**34TH DISTRICT DEMOCRATS**  
**YOUR VOICE.**  
**OUR FUTURE.**  
**2026 FUNDRAISER**

**Building Community. Inspiring Action.**

Help us advance social, political, and environmental justice for all by supporting civic leaders, promoting public policy, and inspiring civic engagement.

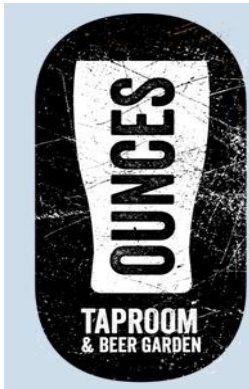
**SATURDAY**                      **WHITE CENTER HUB**                      **6:30 - 8:30 PM**  
**MAY 30, 2026**                      **10829 8th Ave SW**                      **VIP @ 5:30 PM**

**OUR SPONSORS, CO-HOSTS, & CAPTAINS**

**NICK BROWN · TERESA MOSQUEDA**  
**BRIANNA THOMAS · DIONNE FOSTER**  
**SARAH MOORE · HUGO GARCIA · ROCCO DEVITO**  
**RYAN CALKINS · HAMDY MOHAMED · GINA TOPP**  
**JOE NGUYEN · EILEEN CODY · JORDAN CRAWLEY**  
**ANN MARTIN · HANNAH CAMERON · ROB FOXCURRAN**

Sponsor  
Co-Host  
Attend

Secure  
Tickets  
Here!



**May Pop-Up Social Friday, 29th**  
**5:30—8PM**  
at **Ounces Taproom**  
3809 Delridge Way SW  
[ounceswestseattle.com](http://ounceswestseattle.com)

Our Pop Up Socials are casual, no business, low-effort gatherings at a local bar/restaurant. The goal is to provide a venue to visit with neighbors and discuss politics or issues of the day.

**Board Meeting  
Announcement**

Our next 34th Executive Board meeting is **Wednesday, May 20** at 7 PM, in person and via Zoom. Contact [chair@34dems.org](mailto:chair@34dems.org) for more information

## Contact Information and Committee Assignments for Our Legislators

### Senator

#### Emily Alvarado

##### Assistant Floor Leader

Housing (Vice Chair)  
Labor & Commerce,  
Transportation

415 Legislative Building  
PO Box 40434  
Olympia, WA 98504  
(360) 786 - 7667



### Representative

#### Brianna Thomas

##### Assistant Majority Whip

Technology, Economic  
Development & Veterans,  
Housing,  
Postsecondary Ed. & Workforce

318 John L. O'Brien Building  
PO Box 40600  
Olympia, WA 98504  
(360) 786-7978



### Representative

#### Joe Fitzgibbon

##### Majority Leader

Appropriations, Rules,  
Employment Relations,  
Pension Policy

339A Legislative Building  
PO Box 40600  
Olympia, WA 98504  
(360) 786 - 7952



## Letters and Submitted Articles

We are Democrats, and like most Democrats we have strong opinions and like to express them. We welcome letters and articles.

All submissions are subject to editing. If submissions need to be shortened, you will be given the option of editing your own work.

Photos and notices of upcoming events are always welcome.

**The deadline for the May 2026 newsletter will be Thursday, April 30.**

Contact Steve Butts,  
newsletter@34dems.org

## In Case You Missed It...

## Our April Meeting Recap

### Joiner's Jamboree

The pre-meeting program was a tabling event. "Joiners Jamboree" reflecting the events that the [West Seattle Joiners](#) organization puts on linking people together with clubs and groups that might share their interests. The Jamboree featured representatives from several local organizations who were on hand to speak to members and provide information about their causes and activities before the meeting...and as was appropriate for us, most groups present are involved in political activism. All are open to including new members. The groups were:

- West Seattle Joiners
- West Seattle Timebank
- The Singing Resistance
- West Seattle Indivisible
- Defend Democracy
- West Seattle Bike Connection

### Land Acknowledgement

Once the meeting was underway, **Rachel Glass** gave the Land Acknowledgement. She highlighted the local organization "**The Heron's Nest**" as a group that members can contribute to further support Seattle area Indigenous Peoples.



The Heron's Nest was "created for the benefit of the Duwamish Tribe and the broader community, we teach and practice traditional ecological restoration, urban agriculture, and skills sharing — offering a retreat within the city of



*A volunteer from West Seattle Indivisible at the Joiners Jamboree before our April meeting.*

Seattle, along forest trails leading to the Duwamish River, a federal superfund site.” Learn more at [theheronsnest.org](http://theheronsnest.org)

Rachel had recently taken part in one of the Duwamish EcoTours the group leads. Anyone can take part in these free excursions to learn more about the environment of our community. See [theheronsnest.org/events](http://theheronsnest.org/events) for a link to join a tour.

### VIP Spotlight

Seattle Public School Board Supervisor and Board President **Gina Topp** rose to speak of SPS news. Ben Shuldiner has recently assumed office as Superintendent and is working to get to know the district. The board is also working to resolve a \$100 million deficit currently facing the district.

### Candidate Spotlights

7 candidates for various offices rose to speak about their campaigns:

- [Ian Birk](#), Washington Supreme Court Pos. 4
- [Sean O'Donnell](#), Washington Supreme Court Pos. 4
- [Katharine Edwards](#), Seattle Municipal Court
- [Teresa Mosqueda](#), King County Council, Pos. 8
- [Leesa Manion](#), King County Prosecutor
- [Chris Roberts](#), King County Assessor
- [Rob Foxcurran](#), King County Assessor

### Precinct Leadership

**Rebecca Rego** introduced PCO **Jenny Shultz** who stood for appointment to Seaview Precinct.

### Platform Amendments for 2026

The Platform was submitted to members to review and revise earlier in the year. Copies of the proposed Platform



*Jenny Shultz is the new PCO for Seaview Precinct.*

were available for members to review at the March meeting, which led members to propose additional changes.

Rather than take up the additional amendments in March, it was decided that the Board would consolidate the amendments into the appropriate sections for resubmittal to members at the April meeting.

The changes were presented, discussed, and voted on for each Platform section. You can see the finished document here: <https://34dems.org/platform/>

### Consideration of the Budget for Fiscal Year 2026

Chair **Jordan Crawley** presented a proposed Budget for the next fiscal year that will start on May 1st. Copies of the budget were available on the meeting tables. Jordan described the process to date: As Chair, he proposed an



*Municipal Court Judge Candidate Katharine Edwards.*



*Rob Foxcurran is running for King County Assessor.*



*Seattle School Board Director Gina Topp gives an update on activities at SPS.*

initial budget plan. An ad hoc committee met several times to refine his proposal. Then the Executive Board reviewed and approved the budget to present to members for their approval.

Jordan described the categories for income and for expenditures. The total budget would be \$61,300 with expenditures of about \$40,600. This would leave about \$10,700 holdover for the next year.

The budget would also allow the retention of operating expenses for 2 months for emergencies bringing the carryover total to about \$20,700. The organization will spend on

average \$5,000 per month, with the majority spent in the latter part of the year. A motion was put forth and seconded to adopt the budget.

### **Should We Cut an In-Person Meeting?**

Jordan brought up the meeting cost. Each cost \$1,200. The new budget would allow for 3 in-person meetings for the remainder of 2026: May, October, and November. He asked members if it is worth meeting in person, or would it be better to use that money for other purposes.

Rachel Glass asked if we want to continue to meet at The Hall at Fautleroy given its cost. Jordan responded that the Church at Fautleroy where we have held previous meetings is now asking that we liability insurance coverage. The Aerospace Machinists Hall is also a former meeting place, which while free, is not convenient for members from Vashon. Jordan responded to a query from Teresa Mosqueda if the Delridge Neighborhood Development Association's Youngstown venue was an option. He stated that their rate was about the same as our Fautleroy area options.

Jordan called for a vote on the earlier motion for approval, while leaving open further discussion on venue options at a later date. The budget was passed without objection.

### **King County Elections**

**Julie Wise**, Director of Public Elections in King County was our guest.

Free and open voting in the United States is currently under attack from the Trump Administration, as he and the GOP attempt to limit ballot access and apply new, onerous documentation requirements. Director Wise assured the members that in spite of the threats against mail-in voting, and new changes to the way the post office handles ballots, King County Elections is ready to handle the Midterms.



*Sean O'Donnell is running for the State Supreme Court.*



*Ian Birk is also a candidate for the State Supreme Court Position 4.*



*Teresa Mosqueda is seeking another term on the King County Council.*



Julie Wise, King County Director of Elections, explains our voting procedures and their safeguards.

She stated that mail-in voting is more accurate than in-person, and it is easier for people to cast a ballot by mail or drop box with the 3-week voting period.

Wise also assured us that the security is very high at KC Elections. There is a highly engaged observation program, and the public can watch the ballots being processed and counted...either in person, or online. For additional security:

- None of the tally machines are connected to the internet.
- KC Elections does manual hand counts of batches per election throughout the election.
- The 93 county drop boxes, made in Puyallup, are strong, and well-installed to prevent tampering.

The Elections office is preparing proactively to counteract any adverse changes before the Midterms. There could be new rules concerning late arriving ballots due to an impending decision from the US Supreme Court that may not allow the counting of ballots sent before the election, but not received until afterward. The county is also working on contingencies in case the USPS can't, or won't, handle ballots. Those plans could include: In-person voting, online voting, or even using private delivery services to deliver ballots.

- Wise has some recommended actions that voters should take as a matter of course:
- Make a plan of when and where to vote.
- Vote early.
- Use one of the King County drop boxes.
- It is legal to bring other's ballots to drop boxes.
- Sign up for ballot alerts that inform when your ballot is received and when it is accepted.

Wise shared some information and recommendations on security if one sees potential violations, such as tagging KC

Elections using social media, as they monitor those outlets. They are in contact frequently with law enforcement agencies in response to security threats.

KC Elections is working to increase security in light of ICE activity. Voters can vote online in emergencies. Additionally Washington State counties are forbidden to provide any voter information to the federal government.

Elected officials are paying attention and are working to counteract Trump's executive orders and other impositions on our voting process that may be put forth from conservatives nationally. Wise noted that most other states also hold honest elections and will not be intimidated by undue federal attempts of control.

### **Chair's Reminders**

There were 3 candidate fundraisers approaching at which the 34th has tables members could join:

- King County Executive Girmay Zahilay's Hometown Heroes on April 22nd.
- Rep. Pramila Jayapal's Build Our America annual fundraiser on April 24th.
- King County Councilperson Teresa Moqueda's Mosqueda Momentum filing week fundraiser on May 6th.

The April Pop Up would be at Jules Maes Saloon in Georgetown on April 24th.

The 34th Annual Fundraiser would be on May 30th at Savusa Hall at the White Center HUB.

**Photos by Jon Shields**

# A Resolution Calling for Actions to Reduce the Influence of X, Formerly Known as Twitter

**WHEREAS**, Elon Musk purchased Twitter October 27, 2022, took the company private, and assumed the role of owner and CEO; and

**WHEREAS**, after taking Twitter private, Elon Musk:

- Loosened content moderation policies limiting hate speech, harassment, and disinformation,
- Removed case-by-case account verification that had prevented impersonation of public figures and brands,
- Reinstated accounts of right-wing extremists banned earlier for hate speech, and
- Algorithmically suppressed posts that Musk disagrees with; and

**WHEREAS**, since Dec. 2025, X has:

- Allowed users to generate and publish non-consensual sexually harassing images of individuals, including public figures,
- Allowed users to generate and publish child sexual abuse materials including violent images & videos, and
- Collected money from users for use of services to generate and publish non-consensual pornography and child sexual abuse materials; and

**WHEREAS**, users of X are exposed to serious mental and psychological harm due to fascist propaganda and non-consensual pornographic material, and other countries have begun blocking access due to this; and

**WHEREAS** presence on X may reach a broad audience that would otherwise not be exposed to progressive messages from the Democratic Party and its allies,

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** the 34th District Democrats pledge to act on the dangers X poses by redirecting traffic from any messages shared on X to either our own website or alternate social media platforms and not ever directing traffic to X from 34th District Democrats communications, thereby shifting users off of the X platform and decreasing interaction and monetization of the aforementioned harmful content.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** the 34th District Democrats call on our elected representatives to take similar actions to reduce the influence of X and the harmful messages it conveys.

**BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED** this resolution be transmitted to all our statewide elected officials, our representatives to the US congress, King County Executive Girmay Zahilay, King County Council Member Teresa Mosqueda, State Senator Emily Alvarado, State Representative Joe Fitzgibbon and State Representative Brianna Thomas as well as Seattle Mayor Katie Wilson and members of the Seattle City Council.

Submitted by PCO and Non-Violent Resistance Committee Chair, Kenny Austin, February 9, 2026 (Revised)

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.dw.com/en/x-how-elon-musk-changed-twitter-in-one-year/a-67220997>

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.newyorker.com/culture/infinite-scroll/grok-and-the-ai-porn-problem>

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.wired.com/story/grok-is-pushing-ai-undressing-mainstream/>

<sup>4</sup> <https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2026/jan/12/x-sexual-abuse-time-to-leave-elon-musk-grok-imagery-women-children>

<sup>5</sup> <https://www.washingtonpost.com/technology/2026/02/02/elon-musk-grok-porn-generator/>

<sup>6</sup> <https://www.pbs.org/newshour/world/malaysia-and-indonesia-become-the-first-countries-to-block-musks-chatbot-grok-over-sexualized-ai-images>

# Dreams of Nuclear Energy Solutions Will Lead to Nightmares

By Roxanne Thayer, State Committeeperson

Corporate Republicans wrote a bill that, in the first paragraphs, states that it requires the Dept. of Commerce to include “nuclear” in their energy strategy study. I looked that up: for two years nuclear has been included. Then I looked further, the bill proposes to remove nuclear safeguards, has Washington State “mitigate” the risks, and calls for “private” money to study small modular nuclear reactors (SMNRs) at Hanford. That “private” money is already there—Amazon’s.

Consequently, I wrote a resolution, which passed the State Democratic Central Committee “overwhelmingly” in opposition to these bills: HB 2090 and SB 5821. There is a link to the resolution and annotated citations below, please read!

Democrats, including Joe Fitzgibbon, co-sponsored these bills, HB 2090/SB 5821, because they, a) lack education; b) “Amazon” was left out of the bills' wording; or c) they are more enmeshed with high paid nuclear lobbyists than their own constituents.

Amazon has already given \$314 to Energy NW, formerly “Washington Public Power Supply System (WPPSS) – ‘Whoops’”, which caused the largest bond failure in US history, attempting to build nuclear plants. The state would’ve gone bankrupt; instead, they laid it on the bond purchasers, who went bankrupt.

It's not all “private” dollars, \$25 million and \$10 million Washington State taxpayer dollars are going to “study” SMNRs at Hanford. Public dollars for private gain – a gift to Amazon. In addition to state dollars, billions of dollars have already been given to Amazon for their “nuclear wishes”. They will either use all the energy for their AI Data Centers, or they will sell any surplus back to Energy NW (ENW), which will end up being too expensive for ratepayers. Or, to other corporations. In any case, we the taxpayers lose.

ENW has already given the power from the first 4, unbuilt/unapproved, SMNRs to Amazon. Amazon's goal is to ship it to their AI Data Centers in Eastern Oregon; Oregon has a nuclear moratorium. An Amazon spokesperson stated that “we will take all of the power if

the cost is too high for the ratepayers”. It will be, 3 SMNRs exist in the world; they were 600 to 700% over budget. In the US, “NuScale” tried to build SMNRs in Idaho, they went “belly up” before a shovel hit the ground. In Georgia, the new Vogtle Nuclear, coming on-line 7 years late and \$17 billion overbudget, has caused nearly 190,000 households to be without power, they can no longer afford it.

People in the Hanford area think Amazon's nuclear will provide jobs; it won't. Amazon has already contracted with two companies in Korea to build the SMNRs. Currently, the radioactive waste casks, in unlined trenches, are leaking into the Columbia River and causing cancer clusters among the Tribal Nations, and beyond.

Throughout the nuclear cycle, from mining, to shipping, to refining, to waste management—nuclear is carbon intensive. We need to educate lawmakers and the public on this fact. The US has less than 1% of uranium stores, these are mostly in the Southwest, where they are poisoning the Navajo Nation's people. Currently we ship most uranium in from Kazakhstan, carbon intensive shipping and open to resource wars. It is also racist, the nuclear cycle is done on Indigenous Lands.

From mining to refining through nuclear plants and waste management, this power structure is racist and poisons the communities and lives of Indigenous People.

Donald Trump has \$6 billion invested in nuclear; he has gutted the Nuclear Regulatory Commission; and is gifting our tax dollars to Amazon. Further, he wants the waste from SMNRs as it needs no refining; it can go directly into nuclear bombs.

See:

## **Resolution in Opposition to HB 2090 / SB 5821**

*Submitted by Roxanne Thayer and passed by the Washington State Democratic Central Committee*

[https://docs.google.com/document/d/1WX8YfRao6-5\\_XtOXXeP3PK9VQ1p00j1g/mobilebasic](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1WX8YfRao6-5_XtOXXeP3PK9VQ1p00j1g/mobilebasic)

## A Call for a Moratorium on Data Centers in Seattle

As the boom in AI grows, companies in the quest for market share in that technology scramble across the nation looking to park their energy-devouring infrastructure. Seattle, with hydropower from dams the city owns is attracting the eyes of these businesses as a place to settle in. The increased draw on our resources puts our power needs in jeopardy, and the cost to current users surely would rise.

### [360 Seattle asks for support to put a hold on data center construction in our city.](#)

“Our region’s resources—from water to power to space—are already stretched thin. Now four companies want to build 5 large scale AI data centers, requiring as much electricity as  $\frac{1}{3}$  of the entire city. This is 30 times more energy than existing local data center facilities.

Data centers raise electricity rates and emissions. They’re a threat to water supplies and to grid stability. Because of nondisclosure agreements (NDAs) we don’t know yet which companies are behind these proposals, where they want to build, or what kind of power they

hope to get. But none of the possible outcomes are good for the people of Seattle or our neighbors.

The Seattle City Council and the Mayor must stand with Seattleites already living in one of the most expensive cities in the country and say no: no to these proposed data centers, and to any future ones.

We need a moratorium on new data centers.”

[Take Action Here](#)

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## Too many Legislators are failing our youth

I was a principal at a high school; it had the highest free and reduced lunch in the district.

One day I received a call from the wealthiest high school in the district, they wanted us to accept a student who they had suspended and who had been expelled from another school. They did this sort of thing frequently. At first, I said no; then, I reconsidered.

"Levi" was suspended because his brother started a fight with him, Levi had told him that he was gay.

His family sent him to live with his grandmother in Texas. His counselor there told him to write his feelings and thoughts in a journal, no matter what they were, just to get them down and out of him.

Levi wrote that he wished a teacher at the wealthy high school was dead. The Texas school expelled him. His grandmother sent him back to live with his single parent father.

That's how I was introduced to Levi. I called and Levi answered the phone, said his father was in bed. I asked why his father was in bed in the middle of the day. Does he work nights? Levi said, no he's ill sometimes. Levi sounded kind.

So I invited the father and Levi to meet with me at school. They came and brought Levi's transcript. He was a straight A student! I asked the family if they understood what they had, their son was brilliant. They clearly did not. For perhaps the first time in his life, Levi was acknowledged for what he had achieved.

Levi entered our school and I notified the career counselor that we needed something special for this student. She connected him with the Nuclear apprentice program for high school students at Bangor base.

There he was interviewed and chosen to serve the summer as a nuclear engineer student apprentice.

At his funeral, the Nuclear Engineers who interviewed the students cried. They said that Levi was the first time in over a dozen years that they agreed on the same candidate. It was unanimous.

Levi had a manageable disease; he died because his father lost his health insurance and because our state legislators would rather please lobbyists than save the life of a child.

— **Roxanne Thayer**



Newsletter Editor  
10254 36th Ave. SW  
Seattle, WA 98146

Return Service Requested



## Join the 34th District Democrats!

Sign up by filling out this form and mailing it with a check made payable to:

**The 34th District Democrats, 6523 California Ave SW, Box 183, Seattle, WA 98136-1879** Or

join at online [www.34dems.org/contribute/](http://www.34dems.org/contribute/)

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

If you use a P.O. Box, do you live in the 34th District? Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_ \* Occupation \_\_\_\_\_

\*Employer \_\_\_\_\_ \* Employer City \_\_\_\_\_

\* Required by Washington State Public Disclosure Commission/ Contributions are not tax deductible.

\$ 180 Suggested Membership Donation  Recurring Monthly Donation\* \$ \_\_\_\_\_  One-Time Donation \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**\*Please consider paying your dues in monthly installments...Go online to [www.34dems.org/contribute](http://www.34dems.org/contribute/)**

In the interest of protecting our environment and building funds to support endorsed candidates, the 34th District Democrats wish to communicate electronically.

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