

2018 Legislative candidate survey

Candidate name: Rebecca Saldaña Legislative district: 37th

You are a candidate for: House of Representatives Senate

If you are a candidate for the House of Representatives, which position are you running for? Position 1 Position 2

Local government background

Have you ever been elected or appointed to a local government position, or served on a local government board, committee, or as staff? *Local governments include cities, counties, public utility districts, school districts, fire protection districts, port districts, and more.* Yes No

If yes, in what capacity?

I have worked for a local non-profit that focused on local policy and worked with local electeds, but never held an elected position.

1. State-shared local revenues

When the state encounters fiscal problems, legislators often take revenues historically shared with cities, or increase fees on services provided to cities to fill the state's budget deficit. Recently, some shared revenues have been restored. However, during the last recession, the Legislature enacted cuts and diversions, while unfunded mandates and other local government cost drivers remained unaddressed, including the following items:

- Changes in liquor tax and profit distributions resulting in losses of nearly \$200 million in funds that supported essential local services, such as public safety;
- Sweeping and diverting over \$1 billion in local utility taxes, real estate taxes, and project loan repayments from the nationally-acclaimed Public Works Trust Fund (PWTF) that helps keep local infrastructure operating; and
- Requiring cities to pay training fees for officers attending the Basic Law Enforcement Academy (BLEA).

Do you support or oppose the Legislature continuing to use locally-shared revenues or revenues intended for capital projects in order to balance the state's operating budget? Support Oppose

Briefly describe one or more actions that you would take to ensure your views on these issues are accounted for by your caucus and in a final budget.

First, I welcome the opportunity to discuss the uses of locally-shared revenues with you in greater detail before the 2019-2020 legislative session. Second, I believe strongly that we need ensure that the state is a trusted partner with our cities on building infrastructure and providing essential local services. We need additional sources of progressive revenue in order to meet our requirements of both fully funding the

If you disagree that local control should be preserved, please describe one or more specific issue areas or situations in which the state should preempt local control.

OR

If you agree that local control should be respected, please describe how you would argue for the protection of local control to colleagues who want to preempt local governments.

I believe strongly that local governments have the right to decide how to best protect their citizens. They are closer to the daily lives of our constituents. For instance, I believe local cities should be able to decide if they think guns in libraries or playgrounds should be allowed. That why I sponsored legislation to remove the preemption. I also have advocated for local government to have the data and enforcement authority they need to protect consumers and workers whether it is related to ban the box for employment or addressing the Transportation Network Companies operating in their jurisdictions.

If you have any questions, please contact Regina Adams, AWC Government Relations Coordinator, at 360-753-4137 or ReginaA@awcnet.org. Please return your survey **by the end of the day on Wednesday, July 4** by:

- Email to ReginaA@awcnet.org;
- Fax to (360) 753-0149; or
- U.S. mail to AWC Candidate Survey, 1076 Franklin Street SE, Olympia, WA 98501-1346.

Thank you for your participation!