

## WA Alliance for Gun Responsibility Victory Fund Announces 2016 Primary Endorsements

*39 legislative candidates receive endorsements and support for gun violence prevention*

Seattle, WA - The Alliance for Gun Responsibility Victory Fund today announced its endorsements for the 2016 Washington Legislature primary election on August 2. Forty-one candidates were endorsed for the primary election, 30 of whom will receive contributions between \$500 and \$1,000, the statutory maximum, this week. The Victory Fund will release general election endorsements and make additional commitments of support before the November 8 general election.

On gun-related policies, political endorsements and contributions in Washington have historically been dominated by the National Rifle Association and Gun Owners Action League of Washington. This is the second year that the Alliance for Gun Responsibility has endorsed candidates who actively support stronger, common-sense gun laws, the first organization in Washington to do so. This new dynamic in Washington is reflected in events at the national level, where responsible gun laws have become a major theme in the Presidential political debate.

The Alliance for Gun Responsibility based their endorsements on legislators' and candidates' commitment to gun violence prevention and efforts to champion stronger gun laws in Washington State. Each endorsed candidate has endorsed this year's Initiative 1491, sponsored by the Alliance for Gun Responsibility, which will give families and law enforcement a legal tool to prevent those who are a danger to themselves or others from accessing firearms.

"We're so excited to endorse this group of candidates and to continue to build a strong coalition of legislative champions to reduce gun violence in Washington state," said **Alliance for Gun Responsibility Executive Director Renée Hopkins**. "This is only the second year that we've made endorsements and the response from both legislators and voters has been overwhelming. There are a lot of responsible legislators who want to take action on this issue. Voters also clearly support common-sense, responsible gun laws—Initiative 594, which closed the background check loophole—passed in 2014 with nearly 60% voter support. Thousands of people went to Olympia this year, and tens of thousands made calls and wrote emails to their legislators for stronger gun laws. This is an issue candidates will want and need to campaign on this year."

Candidates endorsed in the 2016 primary election are:

### **Members of the Washington Senate:**

Senator Andy Billig

Senator Reuven Carlyle  
Senator Mark Mullet

Senator Jamie Pedersen

**Members of the House of Representatives:**

Rep. Sherry Appleton

Rep. Frank Chopp

Rep. Judy Clibborn

Rep. Eileen Cody

Rep. Jessyn Farrell

Rep. Joe Fitzgibbon

Rep. Noel Frame

Rep. Roger Goodman  
Rep. Drew Hansen

Rep. Zack Hudgins

Rep. Laurie Jenkins

Rep. Ruth Kagi  
Rep. Christine Kilduff

Rep. Patty Kuderer

Rep. Kristine Lytton  
Rep. Timm Ormsby  
Rep. Lillian Ortiz-Self  
Rep. Strom Peterson  
Rep. Gerry Pollet

Rep. Marcus Riccelli  
Rep. June Robinson  
Rep. Tana Senn

Rep. Larry Springer

Rep. Derek Stanford  
Rep. Gael Tarleton

**Non-Incumbent Candidates:**

Mike Chapman (LD 24)

Michelle Chatterton (LD 25)

Sam Hunt (Senate)

Shelley Kloba (LD 1)

Matt Larson (LD 5)

Mari Leavitt (LD 28)

Marissa Peloquin (LD 28)

Tim Probst (Senate)

Jason Ritchie (LD5)

Randy Spitzer (LD26)