



Monday, May 27, 2024

## Your Details

Basic information about yourself

**Name** Patrick Bell

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**I am a candidate running for...** State House, 7th Legislative District, Position 2

**Website Address** <http://patbell.com>

**Please list any/all social media account URLs.**

<http://facebook.com/patbelldotcom>

## Getting to Know You

This next section will give you the opportunity to provide details about who you are as a person, candidate, and member of the community.

### Tell us about yourself.

**As a husband, father, and family rancher, I am the fifth generation blessed to call the 7th District home. Growing up on the farm, I learned the values of hard work and personal responsibility. For 20 years, I've worked in public policy to help people and solve problems.**

**List any relevant experience, leadership, or service.**

GOP Experience:

Former Republican District Leader (11th LD), former elected Republican Precinct Committee Officer, former appointed Republican Precinct Committee Officer.

Community Service: Washington Farm Bureau, Washington Cattlemen's Association, NRA, 4-H, Future Farmers of America, Union Gospel Mission, Sons of the American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW), and Washington Fallen Heroes Project.

**Describe your duty to the office you are running for and how you will achieve success.**

I take the oath of office very seriously, which is to support the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution and laws of the state of Washington, and that I will faithfully discharge the duties of the office of State Representative to the best of my ability. To me, that means: voting the district, voting my conscience, being visible and accessible in the community, and listening to the constituents and voters I represent. I believe in We the People, and in power to the people. I am the only candidate I am aware of that has committed to holding a public town hall in every county at LEAST once a year (the two outgoing incumbents favor teletownhalls, which I would use for broad outreach, but don't believe you can substitute face-to-face discussion). From these meetings, I will take feedback I hear, and work on solutions to

problems, whether that be introducing legislation, crafting amendments, developing committee comments or floor speeches. I believe strongly this is the People's Seat, and will honor that by holding myself accountable to my commitments, and inviting others, including the Party, to do so as well.

### **What does success look like for this position and what key performance indicators should voters use to evaluate you?**

Success looks like building trust with voters and constituents, who see me as a strong voice for their everyday concerns, and a go-to leader to tackle tough issues. I am someone who shows up, stands up, and never gives up. As such, I expect my voting record to be THE key performance indicator. I also expect my regular attendance at GOP and community functions in every county to be a KPI. I have committed to the "Barr rule," of getting out to meet with folks over coffee, wherever four or more are gathered. Small groups are a great way to stay connected, and I am regularly accepting such invitations, including to small churches and prayer meetings. The number of such meetings held, along with town halls, is another good KPI for accessibility. On the legislative front, I anticipate introducing up to 5 initial bills that will form my "contract with the voters" should they elect me. I am in the process of developing and refining these, and would welcome input from the Party.

### **What community activities are you engaged in? Have you held leadership roles in any of these organizations?**

I am a member of the Washington Farm Bureau, Washington Cattlemen's Association, National Rifle Association, and Sons of the American Legion. I have been involved in advocacy with all of these organizations. I am also working to help the Deer Park Legion Post form a SAL chapter.

I am in the process of a background check to join the Stevens County Citizen's Action Team and volunteer for Stevens County Fire District 1.

In the past, I have been a leader in 4-H (Club President), and Future Farmers of America (Sales Competition).

I am active in my local church (Suncrest Family Worship Center), and support Union Gospel Mission, Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW), and Washington Fallen Heroes Project through our family farm with beef donations.

## **Your Political Beliefs**

This section contains a series of questions about your alignment concerning broad governmental philosophies as well as some specific issues.

### **Where do our rights as citizens of the United States come from? Under what conditions can government infringe or suspend them?**

Our rights come from God, and are guaranteed by the U.S. Constitution and State Constitution. They cannot be infringed or suspended.

### **Do you consider yourself a constitutional originalist or do you prescribe to it as a living document? Please explain.**

I consider myself a constitutional originalist. I believe the United States Constitution should only be interpreted based on its original meaning at the time it was written.

### **What is the purpose of government? If elected, how will you perform your duties based on that "purpose?"**

I believe the purpose of government is to protect individual rights and freedoms. My philosophy is one of limited government, fiscal responsibility, and individual liberty. I believe government's first duty is to preserve law and order. As such, I will vote to reduce taxes and cut burdensome regulations, so that individuals can exercise personal responsibility, achieve their own economic prosperity, and make the best decisions for themselves and their families. I will also vote to support law enforcement, and enact strict penalties for crimes. I fear we have become tolerant of lawlessness in our society, and think we need to return to our first principles.

**When does life begin and at what point does the government have a duty to protect it?**

Life begins at conception. Government has a duty to protect it from womb to tomb.

**Do you have any criminal convictions, ever filed for bankruptcy, have any active or unresolved tax liens, any conflicts of interest that may jeopardize your candidacy?**

No. If I became aware of any conflicts, I would self-report them and work with House Counsel to resolve them. I have never received even a speeding ticket. I pay my taxes, am a law-abiding citizen, and consider myself a man of high integrity with a strong moral compass.

**Describe how you will make yourself available to your constituents and vote as their representative, adhering to the values and answers you've provided in this questionnaire.**

As I noted earlier, I will hold a town hall in every county, at LEAST once per year. I will also attend GOP and community meetings regularly throughout the district to stay in touch with the people I represent. I will return phone calls and emails promptly. I will publicly state how I intend to vote on bills, and will seek constituent feedback through a survey in a weekly e-newsletter on controversial proposals. I will also attend as many Lincoln Day Dinners and GOP events as possible, both to support the Party, and also stay in touch with grassroots leaders.

**Please provide any feedback, comments, or questions that you have for the SCRCC.**

Thank you for the opportunity to be considered!

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