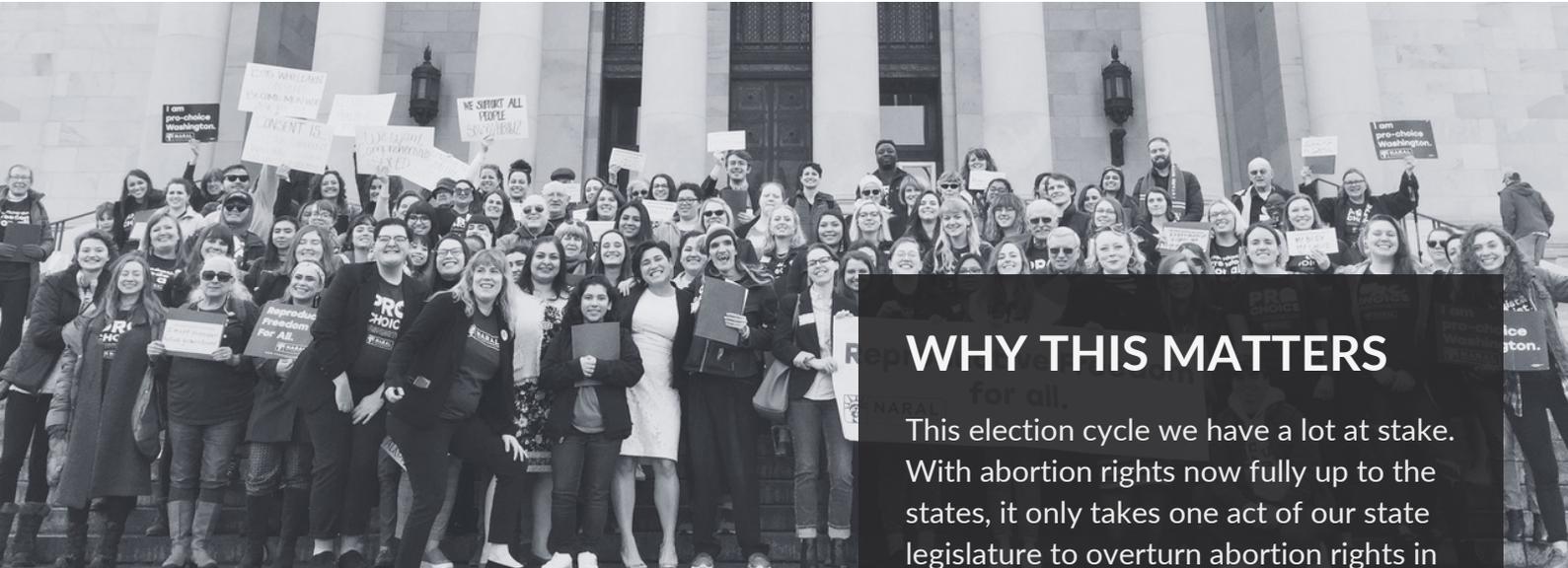


# POST-PRIMARY UPDATE



## WHY THIS MATTERS

This election cycle we have a lot at stake. With abortion rights now fully up to the states, it only takes one act of our state legislature to overturn abortion rights in Washington.

A significant majority of Washington voters support abortion rights—63 percent according to a recent Seattle Times poll. However, voter turnout for the primary was low, at around 39 percent.

If we are going to protect abortion access in Washington, we need every voter who supports reproductive freedom to turn in their ballots.

That's why during this primary election Pro-Choice Washington engaged in more electoral organizing than ever before.

- Our staff, fellows, board members, and volunteers knocked on 426 doors and called over 800 voters.
- The Pro-Choice Washington Political Action Committee (PAC) endorsed state legislative candidates in 48 races and contributed nearly \$10,000 to priority races.

Let's keep up the momentum!

## KEY RESULTS

Pro-Choice Washington prioritizes working in competitive swing districts where our support can make the biggest impact. This includes districts where abortion rights champions face tough races against anti-abortion opponents and counties that face the biggest barriers to abortion, such as Kitsap, Whatcom, Spokane, Snohomish, and Chelan counties. We also prioritize equity by investing in BIPOC and LGBTQIA+ candidates that have personally experienced reproductive health barriers.

Despite fears that pro-abortion rights candidates might lose traction in the primary, the August 2 results show there is a lot to be optimistic about. In Kansas, voters swarmed to the polls to reject an abortion ban on the ballot—despite a conservative majority in the state—and proved that voters are motivated to protect abortion rights.

Here in Washington, 100 percent of Pro-Choice Washington endorsed candidates advanced through the primary in the top two spots!

## ELECTION HIGHLIGHTS

In the 26th Legislative District (LD) in Kitsap County, reproductive freedom champion Senator Emily Randall received 51.5 percent of the total votes, putting her in the lead going into the general election against anti-abortion State Representative Jesse Young. Senator Randall will face one of the most competitive and high stakes races in the state this fall, having won her last election by only 102 votes. Senator Randall's lead is thanks in large part to her campaign's focus on talking directly to voters in their communities, and she needs your help to keep up this positive momentum.

In the 42nd LD in Whatcom County, State Representative Sharon Shewmake fell short of getting a majority of the votes (47 percent) in her bid for State Senate. She will face off against Simon Sefzik in the general election. In the House races in that district, Pro-Choice Washington endorsed candidates Representative Alicia Rule and Joe Timmons will also face tough races in November. Pro-Choice Washington will be coordinating door-knocking and phone banking in the 42nd LD this fall. You can sign up to get involved [here](#).

In the 31st LD, Pro-Choice Washington is supporting former state legislator Chris Vance, who is running as an Independent against anti-abortion incumbent Senator Phil Fortunato. Vance has a chance to flip this conservative district and defeat an incumbent with extreme views on abortion and contraception rights. He earned 39 percent of the votes in the primary, so he will face an uphill battle in the general election. But there is hope because Vance has a strong campaign and broad base of progressive support.

In the 47th LD in Pierce County, Pro-Choice Washington endorsed candidate Shukri Olow will face fellow Democrat Chris Stearns in the general election. Pro-Choice Washington interviewed both Olow and Stearns in this race, and while either candidate will make a great legislator on abortion rights, our PAC found Olow to be the candidate most aligned with our mission and policy priorities.

In the 10th LD in Snohomish County, first time candidate Clyde Shavers took home 51.9 percent of votes, about 2,000 more than the anti-abortion incumbent Representative Greg Gilday. Shavers is a veteran and a young candidate of color who supports leveling the playing field so that all Washingtonians can thrive. His race represents an exciting opportunity to pick up a seat in the House.

Lastly, in the 17th and 18th districts in Clark and Skamania counties, where three out of four house seats are open this cycle, Pro-Choice Washington endorsed all four candidates looking to flip these seats. Terri Niles, Joe Kear, Duncan Camacho, and John Zingale are all local community activists and union members who will be strong leaders on health equity and reproductive rights. All four candidates had a strong showing on August 2, and John Zingale came close to earning 50 percent of the votes in his race. Pro-Choice Washington will be coordinating efforts to get out the vote for these progressive candidates in southern Washington. To get involved, sign up [here](#).

For all Pro-Choice Washington endorsed candidates, updated on a regular basis, [see our 2022 Voters' Guide!](#)

[Join our 2022 Electoral Action Team](#) to help get out the vote for these reproductive freedom champions.

As a state-based organization, Pro-Choice Washington does not endorse federal level races, but we encourage you to learn more about Washington's congressional candidates and vote in every race on the ballot. [Learn more about federal candidates here.](#)

Don't forget to [update your voter registration for the general election here.](#)

Not sure which district you are in? [Find it here.](#)

