Olympia Indivisible Candidate Questionnaire

Office: U.S. Representative, Washington Congressional District 10
Candidate: Adam Neil Arafat
Prepared: May 12, 2026



Headshot included for Olympia Indivisible endorsement review.

Submission note: These responses are intended for public review by Olympia Indivisible membership. The campaign can provide exact treasury ledger details on request where public FEC processed receipt data is not yet available.

Responses

1. Please describe the qualifications, including education, elected offices, and life experiences that make you the best candidate for the office of U.S. Representative for CD10.

I am an Army aviation veteran with 20 years of service, a husband, father, neighbor, small business founder, and the founder of Vanguard Civic Technology LLC. Army aviation taught me to work inside complex systems, listen to the people closest to a problem, identify the root cause, and take responsibility for outcomes.

That experience matters in Congress because many of the issues facing WA-10 are connected. Housing costs affect health. Healthcare costs affect family budgets. Federal funding decisions affect schools, transportation, veterans, military families, and small businesses. My background is built around practical problem solving, not slogans.

I am running to bring service discipline, public accountability, and careful follow-through to the office. I believe people deserve a representative who can explain cause and effect clearly, show the evidence behind decisions, and work with local partners to turn policy into measurable results.

2. Please describe what you believe are the most significant issues in this race and why.

The most significant issues are affordability, healthcare, housing, worker power, public accountability, and the local return on federal decisions. Families in WA-10 are seeing the same cause and effect from several directions: costs go up, wages do not keep pace, services are harder to reach, and people feel that government is too slow to respond.

My approach is to connect the problem to the policy lever. If rent is rising, Congress should look at housing supply, tenant protections, federal financing, homelessness services, and local infrastructure. If healthcare is unaffordable, Congress should protect Medicaid and Medicare, lower prescription costs, and move toward universal coverage. If working families are stretched, Congress should raise wages, protect organizing rights, and support small businesses that create local jobs.

This race is also about trust. I refuse corporate PAC money and AIPAC money because I want voters to know exactly who I answer to. I support a public ledger, no individual stock trading while in office, and clear explanations of what I would do, why it matters, and how people can judge the result.

3. Do you plan to accept corporate PAC money for this campaign? Who is your single largest campaign donor?

No. I do not accept corporate PAC money. I also do not accept AIPAC money. My campaign is built around individual support and public accountability.

As of May 12, 2026, the public FEC committee page for C00914705 does not yet show processed 2025 to 2026 receipt data from a filed report. Because I want this answer to be exact, I would provide the current internal ledger name from the campaign treasury record if Olympia Indivisible needs the single largest donor before the interview stage. No corporate PAC or AIPAC contribution is part of that answer.

4. Please list any notable endorsements you have already earned.

This campaign is still early in the endorsement process. I am participating in local Democratic, labor, civic, and issue organization processes, including this Olympia Indivisible questionnaire. I am not listing endorsements that have not been formally granted and authorized for public use.

5. What is your top priority for CD10 in the next session of Congress?

My top priority is a WA-10 public return agenda. Residents should be able to see what our district sends into federal systems, what comes back, who benefits, and where the gaps are. That kind of public accounting helps turn frustration into action.

In the next session, I would focus on healthcare access, housing affordability, school and IDEA funding, veterans and military family support, small business capital, worker protections, and infrastructure that actually reaches communities in Pierce and Thurston counties. The goal is simple: connect federal dollars and federal law to visible improvements in people's lives.

6. At what level should immigration enforcement be funded, and what role should ICE play?

Immigration enforcement should be funded to address real public safety threats, trafficking, and lawful border and immigration administration. It should not be funded in a way that creates fear in schools, hospitals, courthouses, workplaces, churches, or neighborhoods.

ICE should be subject to strong oversight, due process, humane detention standards, language access, counsel access, and restrictions on enforcement in sensitive locations. I support shifting more resources toward immigration courts, asylum processing, legal pathways, family unity, anti-trafficking work, and community safety. The problem is not solved by fear. It is solved by lawful process, capacity, and accountability.

7. Does AI require regulation, and if so, what restrictions would you impose?

Yes. AI needs clear rules because it already affects jobs, privacy, elections, public benefits, policing, education, healthcare, and civil rights. The useful parts of the technology should be allowed to develop, but people must be able to understand, challenge, and audit systems that affect their lives.

I support transparency standards, privacy protections, data provenance rules, safety testing, anti-discrimination audits, worker protections, election integrity rules, and clear liability when automated systems cause harm. Public agencies should not use black-box systems to deny benefits, target communities, or make serious decisions without notice, explanation, appeal rights, and human accountability. I also support limits on deceptive synthetic political media, especially close to elections.

8. Do you believe that the US should move swiftly toward a system that reaches universal health care coverage? In your opinion, how could this be achieved?

Yes. Healthcare should not depend on where someone works, how much they earn, or whether they can navigate a complicated insurance system. The United States should move quickly toward universal coverage.

A practical path includes protecting Medicaid and Medicare, expanding eligibility, lowering prescription drug costs through stronger negotiation authority, creating a strong public option or Medicare buy-in, fully funding community health centers, and reducing the paperwork barriers that keep people from care. For WA-10, this also means protecting veterans, military families, JBLM-connected households, rural patients, seniors, and workers who lose coverage during job transitions.

9. Do you support raising the federal minimum wage, and if so, what should that wage be? How would you address wage discrepancies for subminimum wages, such as those set for tipped workers and workers with disabilities?

Yes. I support raising the federal minimum wage, and my campaign platform supports a federal $20 wage floor. A full-time worker should not live in poverty. The wage floor should reflect the real cost of housing, food, transportation, healthcare, and childcare.

I support ending the tipped subminimum wage and ending disability subminimum wages under Section 14(c). Tipped workers and workers with disabilities deserve the same wage floor, labor protections, and dignity as other workers. Congress should provide implementation support for workers and small businesses while moving clearly toward one fair wage standard.

10. Do you support raising taxes on large corporations, financial institutions, and people making over $400,000, including through a financial transaction tax on securities trades?

Yes. The tax code should ask more from large corporations, financial institutions, very wealthy households, and people making over $400,000 while protecting working families and small businesses. I support stronger corporate minimum taxes, closing loopholes, taxing large fortunes more fairly, and cracking down on profit shifting and tax avoidance.

I also support a carefully designed financial transaction tax on securities trades. It should focus on high-volume speculative trading and large financial actors, not ordinary retirement savers. Revenue should support healthcare, housing, education, climate resilience, infrastructure, and direct community needs.

11. Do you support a prohibition on congressional representatives trading stocks while in office?

Yes. Members of Congress should not trade individual stocks while in office. Public service should not create private financial opportunities based on nonpublic information, committee access, crisis briefings, or the ability to affect markets through legislation.

My campaign pledges no individual stock trading while in office. I support a federal ban covering members, spouses, and dependent children, with divestment, blind trust, or broad diversified fund options, strong disclosure, and real penalties for violations.

12. What do you believe is needed to address gun violence? Do you support banning military-style assault weapons?

Gun violence requires a public health and community safety response. I support universal background checks, safe storage requirements, red flag laws with due process protections, stronger enforcement against trafficking and straw purchasing, community violence interruption, youth mental health investment, domestic violence protections, and better data collection.

Yes, I support banning military-style assault weapons and high-capacity magazines. Congress should also support local first responders, trauma care, schools, and community programs that deal with the consequences of violence after headlines move on.

13. Do you believe women have a right to control their personal healthcare needs including contraception and abortion? If so, do you think these rights should be codified into federal law?

Yes. Women and all people who can become pregnant have the right to control their personal healthcare, including contraception and abortion. These decisions belong to patients and their medical providers, not politicians.

I support codifying abortion rights, contraception access, emergency care protections, and reproductive privacy into federal law. I also support protecting medication abortion, interstate travel for care, patient data privacy, and providers from political prosecution. Reproductive freedom is healthcare.

14. Explain your position on the current administration's war against Iran, and your position on America's military support of Israel.

I oppose unauthorized war with Iran and any open-ended military escalation that lacks congressional authorization, a lawful objective, an exit strategy, and accountability to the American people. Congress has a constitutional responsibility over war powers. Decisions of war and peace should be debated openly, grounded in law, and focused on protecting lives.

On Israel, I support the security of civilians and oppose antisemitism. I also believe U.S. military support must comply with U.S. law, international law, human rights standards, end-use monitoring, and clear limits against harm to civilians. I support humanitarian access, release of hostages and unlawfully detained civilians, and a diplomatic path that protects Israelis and Palestinians alike.

15. How will you protect the voting rights of American citizens against attempts, like the SAVE Act, to disenfranchise them?

I will oppose the SAVE Act and similar measures that create paperwork barriers, citizenship-document traps, or registration purges that can block eligible citizens from voting. These barriers can especially affect married women who changed names, students, seniors, naturalized citizens, rural voters, low-income voters, military families, tribal communities, and people without easy access to original documents.

I support federal voting rights legislation, automatic and same-day voter registration, strong vote-by-mail protections, language access, accessible voting for disabled voters, restoration of voting rights, protections against partisan voter purges, and enforcement against intimidation and discrimination. The right to vote should be secure, accessible, and real.

16. What protections do you think should be put in place to protect the rights of the LBGTQ+ community, in particular the trans community?

I support full federal civil rights protections for LGBTQ+ people, including trans people, in employment, housing, education, healthcare, public accommodations, credit, federally funded programs, and government services. Congress should pass comprehensive nondiscrimination

protections and defend privacy, school safety, healthcare access, and the right to live openly and safely.

For trans people in particular, protections should include access to medically necessary healthcare, accurate identity documents, safe schools, protection from violence, privacy in public records and healthcare data, and enforcement against discrimination by insurers, employers, landlords, and public agencies. Civil rights should not depend on a person's ZIP code.

The candidate assumes full responsibility for all answers to this questionnaire. Responses may be treated as public.