

Contacts:	Name	Steve Johnson
	Phone number	(206) 459-2598
	Email	jc100@harbornet.com

Senator Stephen Johnson Launches Campaign for State Supreme Court

Kent, WA. March 22, 2006 – State Senator Stephen Johnson (R-47th) announced he is launching a campaign for position 2 on the Washington State Supreme Court.

Senator Johnson was first elected to the state senate from the 47th legislative district (Kent, Auburn and surrounding areas) in 1994. He is giving up a Senate re-election bid to run for position 2.

Senator Johnson has been practicing law in Washington State for more than thirty years. He's a graduate of the U.W. School of Law, where he was a classmate of Chief Justice Gerry Alexander, and Whitman College, located in Walla Walla. Senator Johnson is presently Of Counsel with the Seattle law firm Kutscher Hereford Johnson.

As one of a handful of attorneys serving in the Legislature, Johnson provided guidance to his colleagues on proposals with complex legal ramifications. The Washington State Bar Association recognized his accomplishments by naming him Outstanding Legislator of the Year in 2005.

Senator Johnson held many important positions in the Legislature including service as Ranking Member of the Senate Judiciary Committee, the committee overseeing issues affecting the state's judicial branch. He served on the Legislative Ethics Board for seven years as one of only four legislators serving at any one time on that quasi-judicial body. He is also a member of the Statute Law Committee, the official bill-drafting arm of the Legislature.

Senator Johnson has served the state in a variety of capacities over the years. He is currently a member of the Civil Legal Aid Oversight Committee and a past member of the Kent School Board, the Green River College Foundation and the Kent Library Board.

A resident of Kent, Steve and his wife, Lynn, have two grown children, Jennifer Smith and Tom Johnson; two granddaughters, Kelsey and Haley; and three grandsons, Spencer, Jack and Beau. The Johnsons are long-time members of Saint James Episcopal Church in Kent.

Senator Johnson has earned the respect of colleagues throughout the legal profession. Former Chief Justice James Andersen says of Johnson "He's got a fine legal mind and will be a great addition to the Supreme Court."

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