

Ocean Champions Voter Fund Endorses Kevin Ranker in Washington State Senate Race

Supporting A Lifelong Conservationist Committed To Ocean Health For The 40th District

Capitola, CA- National political group Ocean Champions Voter Fund is endorsing San Juan Council member, Kevin Ranker in the Washington State 40th District senate race. The 40th District represents the northern Puget Sound, including parts of Bellingham, Mount Vernon, Anacortes and the San Juan Islands.

Serving on the San Juan council since 2004, Ranker helped secure \$38 million in additional support for local salmon recovery, co-authored Washington State's first orca whale protection law and worked with key legislators and the governor to secure \$3.7 million to provide year-round protection from oil spills for the Neah Bay Rescue tug. "Kevin has a deep understanding and commitment to ocean conservation issues. He recognizes the importance of healthy oceans, bays and coasts to the 40th District and the entire State of Washington," said David Wilmot, Ph.D., President of Ocean Champions Voter Fund.

Ocean Champions Voter Fund is a non-partisan organization that works on the federal and state levels to educate voters about political issues affecting the ocean with the ultimate goal of protecting America's oceans. In 2006, Ocean Champions Voter Fund highlighted the records of Governors Ted Kulongoski (D) of Oregon and Mark Sanford (R) of South Carolina. In 2007, Ocean Champions Voter Fund teamed up with local New Jersey environmental leaders to help elect eight candidates in the state who supported strong state laws that protect the ocean.

"The 40th District is an important region for ocean enthusiasts and its citizens know the value of protecting the marine environment both locally and globally," added Wilmot. "As a lifelong conservationist and an elected official with a track record of success, we look forward to working to help elect Kevin."

Ocean Champions Voter is the first ever issue-advocacy political organization focused solely on oceans and ocean wildlife. To learn more about Ocean Champions Voter Fund or Kevin Ranker, visit www.oceanvoter.org.

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