

Section 1: About Yourself

Kelly Fenton running for reelection in District 53B-Woodbury

1. Former school teacher and school administrator; Current Board Member and Past President of Minnesota Excellence in Public Service; Graduate, University of Virginia Darden School of Business State Legislative Leadership Foundation and the Bowhay Institute of Legislative Leadership Development; Confirmation Catechist at St. Ambrose of Woodbury; Sustainer of the Junior League of St. Paul; Member of Woodbury Area Chamber of Commerce; Married to husband, Greg, for 27 years with 3 children
2. Woodbury is a one-of-a-kind community with great schools, hardworking families, and strong small businesses. I'm running for office to ensure that the residents and families of our community have representation that promotes our Minnesota values of efficient government, fiscal responsibility and a stronger future for our kids. My main priorities next session will be continuing our work on lowering health care costs, working with our new governor on tax conformity that will hopefully include a reduction in the state income tax, and further strengthening the 3M settlement bill that Governor Dayton signed into law that protects these dollars for clean water in Woodbury and surrounding communities.
3. I do not have much experience in the disability community. Most experience has been through volunteer activities at church.

Section 2: Workforce Crisis Questions

1. The growing population of aging Minnesotans and the workforce shortage are issues that require urgent attention and action from the legislature. We need to work with our colleges and universities to ensure they have quality degree and training programs in place. We need to create incentives for students to look closer at this as a career path. This could include expanding workforce/student loan forgiveness programs, promotion of key training or degree programs, and more. We also need to examine compensation and ensure that this career path is competitive, so people can continue getting the services they need.
2. I have and will continue to support legislative efforts to reverse the 7% cut and make sure that these rate cuts don't impact the availability or quality of care.

Section 3: Sustainability of our System Questions

1. As we approach the HHS budget, we need to keep in mind that caring for our most vulnerable must be the focus of our health care programs and that means prioritizing Minnesotans with disabilities. If we are to control costs, we need to

look for ways to eliminate fraud, abuse and waste in our public programs. This can create hundreds of millions in savings that can make sure services will be available for those who need them.

2. As a legislator, I am opposed to passing laws that result in unfunded mandates. We need to work with all the stakeholders to make changes to proposed requirements before being enacted so to not result in work without compensation.
3. As a legislator, we need to make sure we are meeting our legal obligations to fulfill the requirements of the Olmstead Plan. We need to make sure that all stakeholders are informed and engaged in the process. We need to make sure that everyone can provide input. As legislators, we need to hold agencies accountable and provide measurable outcomes.