

Les S. Gara-Democrat-House District 20

Residence Address:

1242 W. 10th Ave
Anchorage, AK 99501

Mailing Address:

Same as residence

E-Mail:

lesgara@yahoo.com

Website:

www.lesgara.org

Age:

51

Place of Birth:

New York City, NY

Spouse's Name:

Kelly

Occupation:

Legislator, Freelance Fishing, Outdoors Writer, Attorney (not practicing)

Length of Residency in Alaska:

26

Alaskan communities lived in:

Anchorage, 1989-present, Fairbanks, 1988-89

Education:

Freeport High School, Diploma 1981, Boston University (1981-85), B.A., Harvard Law School (1985-88), J.D. With Honors

Political and Government Positions:

State of Alaska Asst. Attorney General, Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Litigation Section, 1989-91; Judicial Law Clerk for Supreme Court Justice Jay Rabinowitz, 1988-1989, Legislator, 2003-2014

Business and Professional Positions:

Attorney (not practicing); Freelance Fishing, Outdoors Writer

Special Interests:

Fishing, Hiking, Rafting, Fly Tying

Statement:

I'll keep working across party lines to push for opportunity for all Alaskans, regardless of whether they are born to privilege. But Alaska is at a crossroads on whether we are going to create opportunity and give a fair shake to all Alaskans, or pave path to decreased opportunity.

That's why I'm personally voting YES on Ballot Measure 1. I want to fix and rewrite the 2013 oil tax rollback. If we don't, the current six-year GOP plan of public school teacher and staff layoffs will continue, as will the \$1+ billion annual deficits projected under that law.

Students have already lost over 600 teachers and staff since 2011, something I voted to prevent. In Anchorage we are facing over 200 more lost education staff under this year's GOP "three-year plan", which I tried to fix. I want a brighter future than one of public school cutbacks.

The 2013 oil tax rollback produces a near zero or negative worth for all oil coming from fields sanctioned as a "unit" from 2003 and into the future. That's conceded in a little-mentioned part of a recent Scott Goldsmith report. We can't run a state, and a private business couldn't run, by getting near zero or negative worth for highly valuable assets.

I've worked to improve opportunity, including for foster youth. I've written legislation to improve housing access and attract businesses into more vibrant communities, to prevent election fraud, and to protect consumers and our fishing stream access.

I'd appreciate your support.

