City and Borough of Sitka Assembly Sitka, Alaska

Dear Assembly Members,

I work full time at Sitka Medical Center as a primary care doctor. I do my weekly rounds at the Pioneer Home and the long term care unit at the old Sitka Community Hospital building every Monday morning. I do house calls for folks who can't travel easily. I'm meeting more and more people out in the villages by teleconference. I've only lived in Sitka two years but have interviewed and examined about one in six Sitka residents. I've had the privilege to buy a home here. I'm on an up and coming city league basketball team. And I serve on the Brave Heart board.

Sitka is a wonderful place, but it's a hard place to live for many of us because of the high cost of housing, healthy food, and childcare. People who have lived here their whole lives can't afford to buy a home and start a family here, which is a dire threat to the history and soul of this place we love.

On the Assembly I will work with my colleagues to develop innovative and brave strategies to allow more Sitkans to own the homes in which they live. I will champion the fight against the silent epidemics of alcohol, opiates, and obesity. I will work with the newly formed sustainability commission to protect and steward our natural resources.

You can't be a primary care doctor without learning how to compromise. I have my values and opinions but results are my priority. I will work with my fellow assembly members and committees to develop workable ordinances and resolutions.

It is an exciting time to be on the Assembly. Major infrastructure projects like the haulout and the seaplane base are coming into focus. We have the opportunity to leverage increased cruise ship revenue for the good of our community. We must also create a welcoming business environment across multiple sectors to foster strength, diversity, and longevity of our local economy.

I would be honored to fill the vacant assembly seat left by Representative Himschoot. In her legacy I will do my homework and collaborate to ensure that the next generation of Sitkas will choose to stay and to thrive here.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely.

Drew Thompson drewclyde@gmail.com

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