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N E W S R E L E A S E

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## **Ocean Champions Endorses Craig Pridemore for Washington's Third District House Seat** *State Senator Has Made Oceans a Priority*

April 13, 2010 – Ocean Champions, which works to build political power for the oceans by helping to elect pro-ocean candidates for the U.S. Congress is proud to announce its endorsement of Craig Pridemore for Washington's third district seat in the House of Representatives.

"Senator Pridemore has a tremendous record on oceans at the state level," said David Wilmot, Ph.D., Ocean Champions' President and Co-Founder. "He was a catalyst in passing a measure to implement state-wide marine spatial planning and has led successful efforts to improve coastal water quality. When we met, his passion for ocean health was evident, and I'm confident he'll be a strong champion at the federal level."

Senator Pridemore has protected ocean and environmental health by planning to mitigate harmful events before they occur. He was instrumental in obtaining legislative funding for the Puget Sound Partnership to recommend improvements to Washington's oil spill protection and recovery programs. This included funding for a two-year program to assess and improve the state's prevention, preparedness and response programs. He also sponsored and passed legislation to create recycling programs for mercury-containing fluorescent light bulbs as well as for lead and cadmium laden e-waste. He'll bring this foresight and commitment with him to the U.S. Congress, and says, "I'm excited about taking on ocean issues at the national level."

In addition to his work on oceans, Senator Pridemore has taken decisive action on climate change. He sponsored and passed legislation that sets quantifiable greenhouse gas reductions and establishes proper accountability for meeting them. Pridemore's bill also enhanced economic opportunities by directing state agencies to find incentives for local development of clean technologies, and to attract green businesses while preparing the local work force for these jobs. This commitment to ocean and environmental health make Senator Pridemore the best candidate for Washington's third district seat, and Ocean Champions strongly supports him.

*Ocean Champions is the only nonprofit political organization that endorses pro-ocean Congressional candidates and lobbies members of Congress on behalf of the oceans. To learn more about Ocean Champions or any of the candidates endorsed by Ocean Champions, visit [www.oceanchampions.org](http://www.oceanchampions.org).*

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