



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

**CORRECTED TO INCLUDE THE 9TH CONGRESSIONAL DEBATE, WHICH WAS LEFT OFF IN ERROR**

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**WASHINGTON STATE DEBATE COALITION STATEMENT REGARDING SCHEDULED U.S. SENATE DEBATES**

**SEATTLE — Oct. 14, 2022** — Alicia Crank, executive director of the Washington State Debate Coalition and Seattle CityClub, issued the following statement today regarding the group's scheduled U.S. Senate debates:

"We are extremely disappointed to learn this afternoon that Sen. Murray has declined to participate in the Washington State Debate Coalition's debates. This after declining our October 7th debate as well as weeks of silence from the Murray campaign to our October 25th debate," said Crank.

"This final decision is unprecedented for the Coalition and is a huge loss for the voters of Washington state who deserve to hear from officials seeking national or state-wide office. Participating in debates every six years with a coalition of media outlets and partners from around the state is not an unreasonable ask and we're disappointed that Sen. Murray feels otherwise," said Crank.

We are appreciative of all the efforts our coalition media partners, community partners, as well as the students and staff at Seattle University have invested over the past several months to deliver a statewide audience and help voters make the best, informed decision this election cycle," she added.

"We look forward to the other debates we are convening or partnering on throughout the month of October and invite voters to engage in those discussions online and in person."



**The following debates have been confirmed and will be held later this month:**

Saturday, Oct. 15: 26th Legislative District (Emily Randall/Jesse L. Young) debate at 3 p.m. at the Norm Dicks Government Center in Bremerton. Presented in partnership with Braver Angels.

Sunday, Oct. 23: Washington Secretary of State (Julie Anderson/Steve Hobbs) debate at 3:30 p.m. and U.S. Senate (Patty Murray/Tiffany Smiley) debate at 5 p.m. at Gonzaga University's Myrtle Woldson Performing Arts Center. Presented by The Spokesman-Review and the League of Women Voters in affiliation with the Washington State Debate Coalition.

Tuesday, Oct. 25: 9th Congressional District debate (Doug Basler/Adam Smith) at 2 p.m. in Pigott Hall on the campus of Seattle University. Presented in partnership with Braver Angels.

Friday, Oct. 28: 8th Congressional District debate (Matt Larkin/Kim Schrier) at 7 p.m. in McConnell Auditorium at Central Washington University in Ellensburg.

The WSDC is grateful for the support of its Premier Media Partner organizations, including production and streaming partner TVW, and for the time, talent and resources they have graciously committed as a part of producing these important civic events. The debates will include live audiences at each of the venues and be available to viewers statewide via live TV and radio broadcasts and/or online video and audio web streams.

**About Seattle CityClub**

For 40 years, Seattle CityClub, a nonpartisan nonprofit, has provided programs that inform, connect, and engage people around civic issues to help strengthen our region. For more information, visit [SeattleCityClub.org](http://SeattleCityClub.org).