



2018 Official Candidate Statement  
 City & Borough of Juneau, Alaska

Candidate: District #2 Assembly

**Michelle Bonnet Hale**



**Name:** Michelle Bonnet Hale

**Office Sought:** District #2 Assemblymember

**Residence Address:** 4431 Taku Blvd., Juneau, AK 99801

**Mailing Address:** P.O. Box 32565, Juneau, AK 99803

**Email Address:** [haleforassembly@gmail.com](mailto:haleforassembly@gmail.com)

**Website:** Facebook: @haleforassembly

**Age:** 57

**Occupation:** Art dealer

**Spouse’s Name:** Jim Hale

**Children’s Names:** Stepchildren: Jamie Hale, Harry Hale, Katie Arledge, Ben Hale, Mary Hale

**Place of Birth:** Juneau, Alaska

**Length of Residency in Juneau:** Approximately 40 years

**Communities lived in and dates of residence:** Juneau, Alaska 1961-1972, 1980-1982, 1987-2011, 2014-present  
 Craig, Alaska 1972-1973  
 Tokeen, Alaska 1973-1979, 1985-1987 (summers)

*The views expressed in this statement are from the candidate and are not endorsed by the City and Borough of Juneau. The text of this statement was provided by the candidate in accordance with CBJ Code 29.07.055.*

Seward, Alaska, 1979-1980  
Ketchikan, Alaska 1980  
Lafayette, Louisiana 1982-1987 (attending college)  
Anchorage, Alaska 2011-2014

**Education:** BS Chemistry, MS Software Development Management

**Political and Government Positions:** Director, Division of Water, Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC), 2011-2017  
Deputy Director, Division of Water, DEC, February – September 2011  
Data Processing Manager, Program Development Manager, DEC, 2000-2011

**Business and Professional Positions:** Environmental Coordinator, Coeur Alaska, Kensington Mine, 1998-2000  
Self-Employed, Michelle Bonnet Technical Consulting, 1997-2000  
Lab Manager, Montgomery Laboratories, Juneau, Alaska 1991-1997  
Environmental Field Officer (Exxon Valdez Oil Spill), Chemist, DEC, 1988-1990

**Service Organization Memberships:** Downtown Rotary, Juneau, 2016-2018  
Juneau Symphony Board, 2009-2011  
Juneau Marching Band  
Juneau Student Symphony

**Special Interests:** Playing trombone, gardening, babysitting, walking, meditating, and reading

**Other:** I love visiting and picnicking with my extended family

**Biographical Information** *[limited to 150 words or less.]:*

Born in Juneau, Michelle Bonnet Hale moved with her family when she was 11 to Craig and then Token, on a remote island off Prince of Wales Island.

She worked in the family businesses from the age of 12, fishing, buying fish, working in the store and at the gas dock. She still holds a hand troll permit.

She attended and graduated high school via home schooling and, when she was 19, returned to Juneau. Her 30-year career has been in water quality.

She recently started a business selling the art of her late father, Herb Bonnet.

Her father was born in Juneau in 1930; her mother was born in Petersburg, where Michelle's great-grandparents were homesteaders and fishermen who emigrated from Norway over 100 years ago.

Michelle is married to the delightful Jim Hale, and they share a duplex with her mother. She has five stepchildren and two dogs.

**Position Statement** *[limited to 250 words or less.]:*

I will bring the same skills to the Assembly that served me well as Director of the Water Division in the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation, as manager of a private lab, and as a young woman working in Alaska's fishing industry. I am a hard worker, I like working with people, am a thoughtful listener and a pragmatic problem-solver.

Issues that I will focus on while on the Assembly include public safety, a balanced and diverse economy, and what I call livability.

As a resident of Juneau, I understand the livability issues created by the high cost of housing, particularly for first time buyers and renters. As a friend's part-time babysitter, I know we have a child-care shortage in Juneau. We have public safety needs made critical by factors like the opioid epidemic. And we must maintain the core sectors of Juneau's economy while at the same time encourage new and entrepreneurial ventures.

Having been a Director responsible for a \$20 million budget, I also know the difficulties of balancing a budget, where needs must be matched with resources. That's the job I will do: work with the community to figure out which of our needs come first, and then how to pay for them.

I have facilitated public workshops and hearings throughout the State and have received praise for my ability to handle passionate crowds and tough issues. I will bring to the Assembly these skills, and years of public speaking experience.

I look forward to serving you.