

Professional Biography of Collins Sprague

Mr. Sprague has been a government relations professional since 1987. A native of Seattle, Washington, he graduated with honors from the University of Washington. He began his career in politics by working on the 1984 gubernatorial campaign of Booth Gardner, and then by consulting candidates for local, legislative, and congressional office. This experience afforded Mr. Sprague the opportunity to become Political Director for the state's largest political action committee at the time, United for Washington. His knowledge of the electoral process and relationships with elected officials enabled him to enter the public affairs field by representing a variety of public and private sector organizations before the Washington State Legislature. After working as a contract lobbyist, he was hired as Manager of Government Affairs for the Association of Washington Business, where he created that organization's environmental affairs division. Avista Corporation has employed Mr. Sprague as Manager of State Government Relations since 1990. In that capacity, he has represented the company's utility and subsidiary operations before state agencies, the legislature, and local governments. Among his many accomplishments, he devised the "portfolio access" model for electric industry restructuring, which eventually formed the basis for law in Oregon; conceived of the Omnibus Energy Act of 2001, which effectuated some of the greatest changes in state energy policy in more than a decade; and more recently championed legislation establishing an emissions performance standard appropriate for electric generation sources supplying Washington's electric industry. Mr. Sprague has served on the board of many civic organizations. Three Governors had appointed him to successive terms on the Commission on Judicial Conduct, finishing his tenure as Chairman. He also served as Chairman of the Board and President of a non-profit organization assisting the developmentally disabled community. Mr. Sprague presently sits on the Board of Directors of the Association of Washington Business and the Board of Trustees of the Washington Research Council. He, his family, and Labrador retriever reside in Olympia, Washington.