

Second District Platform Committee

Dennis Roseman, Co-Chair

Robin Roseman, Co-Chair

Charles (“Ben”) Alexander, Secretary

(**) Denotes Subcommittee Chair (*) Denotes Subcommittee Secretary

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2016 SECOND DISTRICT DEMOCRATIC PARTY PLATFORM

As approved by Convention April 30, 2016

STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES:

1. We are proud of our Democratic Party as the party of our nation's heritage, accomplishments, and diversities. Our American spirit is a beacon to people struggling for their rights throughout the world. No part of that heritage is more valuable than our beliefs in the inclusion of ALL and commitment to ALL, with recognition of the rights and worth of each individual.
2. We, the People of the Democratic Party of Iowa, affirm the following:
3. We supported our military and veterans in war and peace. We support them now and honor their service.
4. We supported the right of all people to be treated fairly and equally under the laws of this nation. We stand as the party for all people. We condemn all forms of discrimination. Whenever the rights of any citizens are threatened, the rights of all are endangered. We take seriously the obligation to preserve, protect, and secure basic constitutional and civil rights.

5. We supported the working people of this country when they were exploited. We support them now for their right to organize, to achieve decent wages with health and retirement benefits and a safe workplace.
6. We supported families in their pursuit of well-being. We support them now in their desire to become healthy, educated, and contributing citizens. We support the freedom to plan their family.
7. We supported the elderly when they were forgotten. We support them now in their need for dignity, income and healthcare security.
8. We supported independent farmers and small businesses when they faced hard times. We support them now in their pursuit of prosperity and economic security.
9. We supported parents, students, and educators to make education a top priority. We support them now in their quest to achieve high standards. We support free and open access to knowledge and information. We oppose attempts to distort science or health education.
10. We supported the people of the earth in working for a clean environment. We support them now to achieve a responsible, prosperous and sustainable existence with nature.
11. We supported people all over the world demanding freedom, justice, and opportunity. We support them now, applauding their peaceful progress. We believe that our foreign policy should be one of genuine cooperation in global solutions for international problems.
12. We endorse efforts to defend the equality of rights for all human persons. We support an individual's right to privacy and adequate legal representation. We look forward to the day when all borders are open to the free exchange of ideas, people, and goods.

13. We recognize that we will not get everything we want. Compromise is necessary when important values conflict and priorities of different people are not the same. But we will not be bullied into caving on vital issues.

14. We believe in and will continue to work for a truly representative government that works, for the good of ALL human beings in a compassionate, responsible and progressive way that works to achieve peace, prosperity, and a national outlook of confidence and hope.

STATEMENT OF ISSUES

AGRICULTURE, ENERGY & ENVIRONMENT

Agriculture for Productive Living and a Healthy Food Supply

We support:

15. Traditional family farms.
16. Sustainable organic farming.
17. Department of Natural Resources (DNR) as its own entity.
18. Crop/livestock diversification.
19. Industrial hemp.
20. Environmentally responsible farming practices.

Agricultural Policy

We support:

21. Socially responsible, environmental, producer-friendly Farm, Food, and Jobs Bill.
22. Moratorium on new, and phase-out of existing, Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations (CAFOs).
23. Local control of siting of CAFOs.

24. No tax breaks for CAFOs, Conservation Reserve Program (CRP), Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP).
25. Cap farm subsidies at \$50,000 per entity.
26. Market indexing United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) loan rates.
27. Conservation compliance for crop insurance eligibility.
28. Anti-trust regulation of seed supply, food production, and processing.
29. Right to save seeds for personal use.
30. Testing/Regulating Genetically Modified Organisms (GMOs).
31. GMO safe seed use labeling.
32. Protecting non-GMO farmers from lawsuits over accidental GMO contaminations/planting.
33. Fair livestock market access.
34. American ownership of farmland.
35. Legal protection of finite soil resources.
36. Banning neonicotinoids.
37. Strict regulation of chemicals used in farming.

We oppose:

38. Growing pharmaceutical GMOs in open environments.
39. Vertical integration of livestock production.
40. "Ag-Gag" bills.

Livestock Management

We support:

41. Strengthening the Master Matrix.
42. Eliminating hormone and non-therapeutic antibiotic use in livestock.
43. Commercial taxation of non-homestead livestock production.
44. Humane treatment of animals.

Food Supply & Safety

We support:

45. Strong standards for USDA organic/natural labeling.
46. Legal/enforceable definition of GMOs.

47. Clear food labeling of

- a) GMOs
- b) irradiation
- c) hormones
- d) antibiotics
- e) additives
- f) origin
- g) pesticides

Energy: Combating Catastrophic Climate Change with Responsible Production and Use

We support:

- 48. Higher Corporate Average Fuel Economy (CAFE) standards for all vehicles.
- 49. 100% reliance on Renewable Energy by 2050.
- 50. Safe transport/storage of nuclear waste and fracking wastewater.
- 51. Decreasing dependence on nuclear power.
- 52. Regulation of energy commodity speculation.
- 53. Subsidizing wind/solar/geothermal/biomass energy.

We oppose:

- 54. Fossil fuels/nuclear power subsidies.
- 55. Tar sands oil/Keystone XL Pipeline/Bakken Pipeline.
- 56. Re-licensing/construction of coal and nuclear power plants.
- 57. Fracking.
- 58. Deep water and arctic oil drilling.
- 59. Silica sand mining for fracking.

Environmental Stewardship

We support:

- 60. Environmental protection/public health over corporate profits.
- 61. Monitoring and controlling odious odor pollution.

62. Restoration and preservation of the land, air, water and biodiversity (the Commons).
63. Increased reduction, reuse, and recycling of non-biodegradable materials.
64. Composting.
65. Protection of water from industrial/agricultural waste; cleanup costs of nitrate/ phosphorus-contaminated water to be shared by companies that manufacture nitrogen or phosphorus fertilizers.
66. Strengthening and enforcement of all federal and state pollution and environmental-protection regulations.
67. Full funding of Resource Enhancement and Protection (REAP).
68. Expanding the bottle bill.
69. Sequestration of carbon and mercury.

We oppose:

70. Lead shot.
71. Grandfathering the right to pollute.
72. Light pollution.
73. Mercury seals on water pumps.
74. Destructive mining practices.
75. Clear-cutting, mining, over-grazing, or fuel drilling on public lands/eco-sensitive areas.

Watershed Management

We support:

76. Publicly owned, affordable clean water.
77. Integrated watershed management and monitoring, including buffer zones, retention basins, aquifers, wetlands.
78. Reducing nitrogen, phosphorus, pollutants.
79. Returning waterways to healthy conditions.

We oppose:

80. Volunteer only management.

Planning and Zoning

We support:

81. Growth planning/sustainable development, creating livable, walkable neighborhoods.
82. Preserving farmland and sensitive/unique natural areas.
83. County-level zoning/permitting.
84. Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) requirements for public buildings.
85. Strict adherence to Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

We oppose:

86. Favoring private enterprise with eminent domain or sale of public assets.
87. Subsidies for urban growth on farmland.
88. Urban sprawl.
89. Building/rebuilding on flood plains.

ECONOMY, COMMERCE & LABOR

Labor

We support:

90. Expanding workers' rights.
91. Maintenance of union rights for government workers, regardless of USA Freedom Act/Homeland Security.
92. USA manufacturing military components.
93. Expanding unemployment benefits.
94. Uniform Plumbing Code (UPC).
95. "Fair Share".
96. Paid Family Medical Leave Act (FMLA).
97. Iowa Public Employees' Collective Bargaining law including binding arbitration enforcement.
98. Employee Free Choice Act (EFCA).
99. National Labor Relations Board (NLRB).
100. Department of Labor (DOL).

- 101. Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA).
- 102. Adequate funding and staffing for state prisons.
- 103. Project Labor Agreements (PLA).
- 104. Davis Bacon Act.
- 105. Expanding Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA).

We oppose:

- 106. Right to Work Law.
- 107. Lockouts and hiring replacement workers during labor disputes.
- 108. Job outsourcing.
- 109. Mandating overtime/limiting overtime pay.
- 110. Internships providing neither pay nor college credit.
- 111. Laws redefining workers as independent contractors not eligible for benefits.
- 112. Piecework rate without guaranteed living wage.

Job Security, Workers Rights, Safety

We support:

- 113. Elimination of second injury clause from Office of Workers' Compensation Programs (OWCP) and Industrial Welfare Commission (IWC).
- 114. Choice of health professional for on the job injuries.
- 115. Re-opening full service Iowa Work Force Development (IWFD).
- 116. Strengthening whistle-blowing protections.
- 117. Employer penalties for violating labor law/arbitration agreements.
- 118. Allowing public assistance recipients to work enough to earn a living wage while receiving benefits.

We oppose:

- 119. Replacing bargaining workers with prison labor.
- 120. Employment At-Will Doctrine.
- 121. Employer and insurance screening based on personal credit, polygraph, genetic information.

- 122. Wage theft by employers, including debit cards laden with service fees.
- 123. Remote control locomotives (RCL).

Wages

We support:

- 124. Prevailing wage for construction workers on local/state/federal projects.
- 125. Proportional wages/benefits for part time/contingent employees.
- 126. Enacting living minimum wage of \$15 per hour, a sustainable living wage.
- 127. “Equal pay/equal work”.
- 128. Wages, hours, terms, and conditions of employment being mandatory subjects of bargaining for public employees.

Pensions/Insurance

We support:

- 129. Actuarially fully funded Iowa Public Employees Retirement System (IPERS).
- 130. Reinstating Favorable Experience Divided (FED) and continuing Municipal Fire and Police Retirement System (MFPRS) retirement systems for long term.
- 131. Fully protecting workers retirement funds, including criminal penalties for company abuse.
- 132. Public employees’ statewide health insurance program.
- 133. Securing portable retirement healthcare plans.
- 134. Non-discrimination policy for filing, testifying for OWCP and IWC.

We oppose:

- 135. Privatizing “Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation” funds.

Economic Development

We support:

- 136. Encouraging development of small business.
- 137. Incentives for new/returning US manufacturing companies including job training/replacement.
- 138. Encouraging investment in inner city neighborhoods.
- 139. Stabilizing the housing market.
- 140. Extending Home Affordability Refinance Program (HARP).
- 141. Simplifying conditions needed to confirm employment discrimination.
- 142. Increased public works infrastructure funding and job creation.
- 143. Fully funding workers' retraining.
- 144. Billion-dollar Alternate Energy Revolving Loan Program (AERLP) managed locally.
- 145. Revising Mining Act 1870 to provide fair compensation for use of mineral rights on public lands including restoration costs.
- 146. Implementation of Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC), Work Progress Administration (WPA) type programs.
- 147. Transparency to consumers of financial products and services and limits on commercial charges.
- 148. Consumer Financial Protection Bureau.
- 149. Tax on Wall Street speculation.
- 150. Accountability for all public funds provided to and disbursed by corporations.
- 151. Technology for visually impaired access to home appliances.
- 152. Greater transparency to Research Activities Credit.
- 153. Temp-employees working 90-days becoming permanent-employees.
- 154. Basic Income.

We oppose:

- 155. Internet censorship.

Commerce and Trade

We support:

- 156. Greater congressional trade negotiations oversight.
- 157. Trade agreements that support sustainable farming practices, provide living wages and humane and environmentally sustainable conditions.

We oppose:

- 158. Financial institutions “Too Big to Fail”.
- 159. Trade agreements that cancel local/state/national jurisdictions including Investor-State Dispute Settlement (ISDS).
- 160. Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP), North Atlantic Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA), World Trade Organization (WTO), fast-tracked trade agreements.

Education

We support:

- 161. Tuition-free PreK-16 public education.
- 162. Equal access to educational services and resources.
- 163. Strong policy support for teacher unions.

Funding

We support:

- 164. Full funding for school programming not limited to:
- 165. After school programs,
- 166. Access to technology,
- 167. English Language Learners (ELL),

- 168. Foreign languages,
- 169. Head Start,
- 170. Music/Art,
- 171. Remedial reading,
- 172. Special Education (SPED),
- 173. Talented and Gifted (TAG),
- 174. Tutoring Programs,
- 175. Universal Pre-K,
- 176. Vocational Tech Programs.
- 177. Providing living wages/benefit parity to Educational Support Personnel (ESP).
- 178. Unemployment benefit eligibility for ESP.
- 179. Professional salaries for public school/college faculty at/above national median.
- 180. Ensuring Supplemental State Aid (SSA) of no less than 4% annually.
- 181. Enforcing penalties for non-compliance with current budgetary reporting laws.
- 182. Retroactive Interest free Perkins/Stafford loans and increasing access to grants.
- 183. Student loan-forgiveness for health professionals in high-need areas.
- 184. Formation of public/private incentive programs to encourage Iowa college graduates to reside in Iowa.
- 185. Ability to refinance all student loans at a lower interest rate.
- 186. Capping student loan interest rate at 3%.
- 187. Student loan eligibility for bankruptcy discharge.

We oppose:

- 188. Diverting public education money from public education.

Optimal Learning Environment

We support:

- 189. Global, multicultural, gender-fair education.

190. All student access to nurses, counselors, teacher librarians, social workers, psychologists.
191. Age appropriate conflict resolution training.
192. Farm-to-School programs.
193. Ensuring all students access to a nutritional lunch.
194. Zero tolerance for sexual assault on school campuses.
195. Anti-bullying educational resources.
196. Increasing the drop-out age to 18 or matriculation.
197. Limiting class size.
198. Mitigating toxins in schools.

Public School Programming

We support:

199. Head Start/early childhood education programs made available to all children.
200. Well-rounded curricular/co-curricular programs to include humanities, arts, physical education, multi-lingual, environmental, digital citizenship, Science, Technology, Engineering and Math education (STEM) at all levels.
201. Comprehensive, evidence-based health and sex education presented by qualified personnel.
202. Expanding opportunities/programming for teaching soft skills/executive functioning skills for all appropriate ages.
203. Create opportunities for community citizenship.
204. Provide teachers with resources to teach multicultural/diversity curriculum.
205. Expansion of vocational education programs, apprentices, and dual credit class options.
206. Multi-lingual opportunities for primary school students.
207. Transition support from STEM to STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics).
208. Training in cultural competency for teachers and administrators.
209. Behavior programs focusing on restorative discipline and alternatives to violent behavior.
210. Integration of critical thinking across all aspects of curriculum.

We oppose:

- 211. Attempts to distort science or health education.
- 212. Retention of non-proficient 3rd graders.
- 213. Allowing Texas to set the standards for Iowa textbooks.

Accountability

We support:

- 214. Creating a system that accurately identifies struggling public schools and directs resources where needed to help improve performance.
- 215. State/school district accountability for improving performance of all students based on multiple assessment tools.
- 216. Teacher evaluation systems designed and implemented at all levels with the input of educators.
- 217. Increased state oversight of the educational progress of home-schooled children.

We oppose:

- 218. Standardized tests as the measure of performance, curriculum, instruction, funding allocation, and teacher evaluation.
- 219. Funding for regents institutions based on enrolment.
- 220. Manipulation of the party balance of Iowa board of regents by changing appointees' registration to independent.

GOVERNMENT AND LAW

Veterans and Military

We support:

- 221. Adequate family assistance for reservists during extended active duty.
- 222. Active personnel receiving a living wage.
- 223. Increased funding for the Veterans Administration (VA).
- 224. Reduced appointment wait-times.
- 225. More Veterans Administration Outreach (VA) Centers.
- 226. Portability of veteran healthcare benefits to local hospitals/clinics.
- 227. A financial audit of the Department of Defense.
- 228. Providing adequate funding for PTSD and other mental disorders.
- 229. Impartial investigations of sexual misconduct, including harassment.
- 230. Greater outreach to veterans.

We oppose:

- 231. Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer or Questioning and Intersex (LGBTQI) discrimination in the military.
- 232. Religious coercion/discrimination in the military.
- 233. Privatization of VA Health care and other veterans' benefits.

Campaigns, Elections, & American Institutions

We support:

- 234. An immediate hearing for all Supreme Court nominees.
- 235. Voter marked paper ballots.
- 236. Rescinding congressional benefits for employees/officials who become lobbyists within five years of leaving Congress.
- 237. Mandatory random election audits.
- 238. Automatic voter registration.

- 239. Federal elections national holiday.
- 240. Publicly-financed elections.
- 241. Voting by mail.
- 242. Independent Congressional Ethics Commission.
- 243. Internet posted lobbying contacts.
- 244. Free/equal media time for all candidates.
- 245. Recall mechanisms for elected officials.
- 246. Public disclosure of all political contributions.
- 247. Increasing early voting.

We oppose:

- 248. Voter photo IDs.
- 249. Citizens United decision.
- 250. Establishing English as the official language.
- 251. Super delegates.
- 252. Voter suppression.
- 253. Gerrymandering.

Civil Rights & Civil Liberties

We support:

- 254. Non-discrimination for LGBTQI, disability, political and religious/nonreligious affiliation.
- 255. Enforcement of separation of church and state.
- 256. Enforcement of Civil Rights Act of 1964 (CRA) and American Disabilities Act (ADA).
- 257. Federal/ Iowa Equal Rights Amendment (ERA).
- 258. Restoring full funding/staffing for International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC).
- 259. Universal habeas corpus.
- 260. Expand gender options on government forms.

We oppose:

- 261. National ID cards.
- 262. Warrantless searches, electronic and drone surveillance.

Racial Justice

We support:

- 263. De-escalation policies and bias training for law enforcement.
- 264. Community policing.
- 265. Revising criminal justice training for greater equity.
- 266. DOJ investigation of deaths in police custody.

We oppose:

- 267. Racial profiling.
- 268. Mass incarceration, mandatory sentencing.

Consumer Protection

We support:

- 269. Private right of action for consumer fraud.
- 270. Reinstatement and updating of Glass-Steagall Act.
- 271. Enforcement and strengthening of Dodd-Frank Act to promote financial stability by: improving accountability and transparency, ending “too big to fail”, ending bailouts, protecting consumers from abusive financial practices, e.g. financial derivatives.
- 272. A foreclosure safety net.
- 273. Breaking up the big banks.

We oppose:

- 274. Excessive collection/retention of personal data by government or private business.

Criminal Justice

We support:

- 275. Cannabis legalization.
- 276. Criminal justice reform.
- 277. Video-recording of all police interaction during arrest and interrogation, including body cameras.
- 278. Automatic reinstatement of ex-offender voting rights.
- 279. Comprehensive sex-offender law reform.
- 280. Programs and laws to reduce human trafficking.
- 281. Adequate funding for Iowa judiciary.
- 282. Specialty courts and community-based alternatives to incarceration.
- 283. Decriminalizing all drugs.

We oppose:

- 284. Capital punishment.
- 285. Privatized prisons.
- 286. Militarization of law enforcement.
- 287. Religious/Ethnic profiling.

Government Services

We support:

- 288. Secure ports, water supplies and infrastructure.
- 289. Postal Banking services.
- 290. Full Access to all public records including electronic records.
- 291. Increased funding to Iowa Public Employees' Retirement System (IPERS).
- 292. Adequate funding for rural county/city (especially emergency) services.
- 293. Increased funding for Family Violence and Prevention and Service Act (FVPSA) and Violence Against Women Act (VAWA).
- 294. Ensure that federal fines/penalties collected under Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) compensate the victims.

We oppose:

- 295. Privatizing government services.
- 296. Rejecting refugees.

Gun Safety

We support:

- 297. Universal background checks.
- 298. Requiring registration, licensing, & liability insurance.
- 299. Banning assault weapons & high capacity magazines.
- 300. Funding CDC (Center for Disease Control) gun violence studies.
- 301. Sufficient waiting periods.
- 302. "Gun-free zones".
- 303. Reducing gun violence.
- 304. Closing "gun show loopholes".
- 305. Mandatory gun safety courses.
- 306. The right to prohibit firearms on one's property.
- 307. A trial "armed and angry" law.
- 308. Temporary confiscation of firearms from individuals with restraining orders against them.

We oppose:

- 309. "Stand your ground" laws.
- 310. "Open carry".
- 311. Concealed carry permits for sex offenders, Domestic Violence offenders, and those deemed mentally unfit.
- 312. Sales tax loopholes for gun manufacturers.

Immigration

We support:

- 313. Comprehensive Immigration Reform, including amnesty.
- 314. Development, Relief, and Education for Alien Minors (DREAM).

- 315. Classifying unaccompanied minors from Central/South America as refugees.
- 316. Path to citizenship for undocumented immigrants.
- 317. Access to driver licenses/vehicle registration to undocumented immigrants.
- 318. Judicial review for visa denial/removal orders.
- 319. Expedited admission of Syrian Refugees.

We oppose:

- 320. Mass raids and related enforcement practices.
- 321. Religion as criteria for exclusion.
- 322. Immigrant detention and deportation quotas.

Internet and Telecommunications

We support:

- 323. Statewide networking of all public documents.
- 324. Net neutrality protecting open and free Internet.
- 325. Online privacy rights.
- 326. Universal access to broadband and broadcast media.
- 327. FTC authority to restrict harmful/deceptive advertising to children.
- 328. Immediate notification by data owner of Personally Identifiable Information (PII) compromise.

We oppose:

- 329. Censoring the Internet.
- 330. NSA bulk data collection.
- 331. Coercing telecommunication companies to release private data.
- 332. Social networking identification to employers as condition of employment.
- 333. Cyberbullying.

Marriage

We support:

- 334. Universal marriage equality.
- 335. Non-discriminatory parenting adoption rights including, LGBTQI and religious/nonreligious affiliation.
- 336. Uniting American Families Act (UAFSA).
- 337. Respect for Marriage Act (RFMA).

We oppose:

- 338. Maternal bias in custody decisions.
- 339. Employment discrimination against people in same sex marriages.

Taxes and Social Security

We support:

- 340. Progressive and equitable taxation.
- 341. Closing corporate tax loopholes.
- 342. Removing the cap for Social Security Payroll tax.
- 343. Secure Social Security and Medicare funding for future generations.
- 344. Raising Social Security benefits minimums tied to Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) for sustainable living standards.
- 345. Taxpayer Empowerment Agenda (TEA).
- 346. COLA for Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC).

We oppose:

- 347. Weakening or privatizing Social Security.
- 348. Taxation of unemployment, worker compensation and Social Security Benefits.
- 349. Tax cuts for the wealthy.
- 350. Excessive Corporate welfare.

Transportation

We support:

- 351. Increased funding and availability of public transit, including rail.
- 352. Funding for safe, reliable, and well-maintained bridges and roadways.
- 353. Main Street Iowa.
- 354. Complete Streets.
- 355. Helmet laws.
- 356. Hyperloops.

We oppose:

- 357. Privatization of the FAA.

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Health

We support:

- 358. Comprehensive, evidence-based, universal, single-payer healthcare including:
- 359. Reproductive health services including contraceptive/fertility,
- 360. Mental health services,
- 361. Dental, hearing, vision care,
- 362. Acute/LTC, community-based services access,
- 363. Wellness/prevention efforts,
- 364. Chemical dependency services,
- 365. Holistic medicine/services,
- 366. Reimbursement rates for providers/caregivers through Medicare/Medicaid equal to Usual and Customary Rates (UCR),
- 367. Mental health, brain disorders and chemical dependency parity,
- 368. Re-importation of FDA-approved drugs,

- 369. Compound/Natural medicines,
- 370. Telemedicine,
- 371. Narcan/Naloxone for 911 responders,
- 372. Safe injection zones,
- 373. Coverage under insurance of transition hormones.

We Oppose

- 374. Any compromise to single-payer.
- 375. Privatization of Medicare/Medicaid.

Mental Health

We support:

- 376. Funding increase for care of and non-discriminatory treatment of neurodevelopmental, neurodegenerative and brain disorders.
- 377. Fully funding jail diversion programs for substance abuse and mental illness.
- 378. State-funded long-term mental health facilities.
- 379. Sufficient funding for Community Mental Health Centers (CMHC).
- 380. Wellness programs/centers.
- 381. Suicide awareness/prevention programs.
- 382. Mental health training/awareness for 911 responders and law enforcement.
- 383. Classification of addiction as a disease.

Aging and Disabilities

We support:

- 384. Re-authorization of Older Americans Act (OAA).
- 385. Adequate Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS) funding for elderly and persons with disabilities, Vocational Rehabilitation Services (VRS) and service/therapy animals including training and maintenance.
- 386. Mandatory substantive training for caregivers, including family with compensation.

- 387. Consumer representation on health/human services review boards.
- 388. Family/community support services, including transportation to/from services.
- 389. Increasing program flexibility/funding to permit home living choices and accommodation maintenance.
- 390. Strengthening/expanding Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), including yearly accessibility audits.
- 391. Area Agencies on Aging (AAA).
- 392. Wage parity.

Children's Services

We support:

- 393. Mandatory National Child Abuse Registries (NCAR) and national criminal background checks.
- 394. Before/after school programs.
- 395. Supporting former foster children when needed, until 26.
- 396. Kinship-care/foster-care parity.
- 397. Women, Infants and Children (WIC) expansion.
- 398. Affordable, regulated daycare.
- 399. Firearms as a public health issue.

We oppose:

- 400. "Gay Conversion Therapy".
- 401. Potentially harmful religious exemptions.

Reproductive Rights

We support:

- 402. Medically-accurate sex education.
- 403. Women's right to reproductive health choices.
- 404. Emergency contraceptives/abortion access without parental consent with follow-up counseling.
- 405. Safeguarding doctors, clinics and clients from harassment/violence.

- 406. Increasing funding for comprehensive family planning programs including Planned Parenthood.
- 407. Requiring pharmacists to fill pregnancy-related prescriptions.
- 408. Accommodations for milk/nursing (not restrooms).
- 409. Preserving Roe v. Wade.
- 410. Oral contraceptives without a prescription.

We oppose:

- 411. Restricting access to medically necessary abortions.
- 412. Forced sterilization.
- 413. Female genital mutilation.
- 414. Forced castration.
- 415. Mandatory ultra-sounds and coercive counseling.
- 416. Requiring physician-admitting privileges for abortion providers.
- 417. Personhood for fetuses.
- 418. Religious exemptions.

Medical Research

We support:

- 419. Increase NIH funding.
- 420. Funding research for diagnosing and treatment of exposure to toxins.
- 421. Individuals with qualifying medical conditions are able to utilize cannabis and cannabis infused products.
- 422. Funding research, treatment for Cancer, AIDS, Hepatitis, Alzheimer's and Dementia related diseases.
- 423. Funding Stem-cell research, including embryonic and gene therapy.
- 424. Economic valuation of prevention strategy.
- 425. Longitudinal studies of the effects of GMOs.

Patient Rights and Consumer Protection

We support:

- 426. Patients/health professionals controlling care, medication and end-of-life decisions.
- 427. Healthcare without religious/discrimination/personal bias;
- 428. Legally accessible Medical Marijuana (MMJ).
- 429. Evidence-based MMJ education for medical providers, including derivatives cannabidiol/epidiolex.
- 430. Effective (Fast Track) Food & Drug Administration (FDA) drug-approval.
- 431. Vitamins/supplements labeling for side-effects/drug interactions.
- 432. Narcan accessibility.
- 433. Healthcare staffing based on acuity/care levels.
- 434. Increasing inspections of troubled Skilled Nursing Facilities (SNF)/ Assisted Living Facilities (ALF)/ Mental Illness Mental Retardation Facilities (MIMR).
- 435. Limiting work hours for interns/residents/fellows.
- 436. Federal and state protections ensuring privacy for genetic testing.

Abused Persons

We support:

- 437. National abuser database.
- 438. Preventing abuse/neglect.
- 439. 911 responder abuse-recognition training.
- 440. Funding victims' services.
- 441. VAWA funding.

Assistance for Food, Housing and Homelessness

We support:

- 442. Safe, decent affordable housing for all.
- 443. Increase non-discretionary funding for food assistance programs.
- 444. Expanding Housing Trust Fund.
- 445. Mixed-income zoning.

- 446. Expanding Housing and Urban Development (HUD) – Low-income housing, Section 8 and Section 42 programs.
- 447. Funding Domestic Violence Shelters.
- 448. Increasing Homeless Shelter block grants.
- 449. Family-friendly, “Wet” and “Dry” shelters.
- 450. Increasing funding for job/life skills training.
- 451. Funding transition programs.

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

Peace and Security

We support:

- 452. Peaceful conflict resolution, normalized US diplomatic relations with all countries, and multi-lateral solutions to international problems.
- 453. Closure of detention facilities at Guantanamo Bay.
- 454. Human rights and habeas corpus protection.
- 455. Federal court access for foreigners detained by presidential order.
- 456. Resolving global poverty, protecting clean water, improving education, and reducing hunger and disease, especially Human Immunodeficiency Virus / Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (HIV/AIDS).
- 457. Eliminating all nuclear weapons and Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMDs).
- 458. Territorial integrity of all nations.
- 459. Cultural and educational exchange programs.
- 460. Combating root causes for conflict and terrorism: injustice, economic exploitation, and denial of human rights.
- 461. Maintaining security alliances with North Atlantic Treaty Organization/Organization of American States (NATO/OAS) without further expansion.
- 462. Enhancing gender equality and empowerment of women.

- 463. Taking military action only with clear national defense goals, informed Congressional consent and funding, and whenever possible, international cooperation.
- 464. Ending violence against women, including genital mutilation, honor killings, and rape.
- 465. Cessation of child sex trade, human and organ trafficking.
- 466. Free, fair, and open elections.
- 467. Improving cyber-security infrastructure.
- 468. Fair Trade.
- 469. Stricter enforcement of Foreign Agents Registration Act (FARA).

We oppose:

- 470. Persecution of sexual orientation/gender identity.
- 471. US-sponsored regime changes, coups, juntas, and unelected governments.
- 472. Amnesty for war criminals.
- 473. Indefinite detention.
- 474. Over-reliance on private contractors by US military.
- 475. Use of weaponized drones without a declaration of war.
- 476. Genocide.
- 477. Terrorism.
- 478. Imperialism.
- 479. USA Freedom Act.
- 480. 2001 US Authorization for Use of Military Force (AUMF).

Iran

We support:

- 481. Continued diplomatic engagement with Iran, including support of the Iran Nuclear Agreement.

Israel/Palestine

We support:

- 482. Equal human rights for Palestinians and Israelis.
- 483. The “right of return” or just compensation for displaced Palestinians.
- 484. Rights of Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions (BDS).
- 485. Confrontation of Israeli terrorism against Palestinians.
- 486. Palestinian statehood.

We oppose:

- 487. Israel Separation Barrier, settlement activities, and moving the US Embassy to Jerusalem prior to final resolution.

Afghanistan/Iraq/Syria

We support:

- 488. Reconstruction and refugee resettlement through international cooperation.
- 489. Rapid resolution of Syrian civil/proxy war.
- 490. Humanitarian efforts.
- 491. US acceptance of 100,000 refugees from Syria.

We oppose:

- 492. Military intervention.

Central and South America and the Caribbean

We support:

- 493. Normalized relations with Cuba.
- 494. Closing Western Hemisphere Institute for Security Cooperation (WHISC).
- 495. Investigate US government (covert/overt) involvement in 2009 Honduras coup and subsequent activists' killings.

We oppose:

496. Clear-cutting Amazon rainforests.

Africa

We support:

497. Food aid to relieve famine.

498. African agricultural and natural resources controlled by Africans.

499. Funding for economic development.

We oppose:

500. Exploitive practices by US companies.

Asia

We support:

501. Containing North Korea's nuclear weapons diplomatically.

502. Peaceful status resolution of disputed Pacific islands.

Europe

We support:

503. Coordinating global economic issues with the EU.

Development Assistance

We support:

504. Culturally sensitive, non-exploitative foreign aid and fair trade agreements protecting human rights.

505. Public health, workers' rights and the environment.

- 506. Open-bid reconstruction and disaster relief contracts favoring local contractors/laborers.
- 507. Reducing pollution, supplying clean water, ending dependence on non-renewable energy.
- 508. Promoting unfettered access to voluntary reproductive health and family planning.

United Nations

We support:

- 509. US participation in UN and its agencies, full dues payment, without preconditions.
- 510. Full participation in the International Court of Justice (ICJ).
- 511. Regional security partnerships to resolve international problems and crises.
- 512. Arms Trade Transfer Code of Conduct (ATTCC).
- 513. Participation in multilateral peacekeeping and humanitarian missions.
- 514. Participation in the Human Rights Council (HRC).

Treaties and Conventions

We support:

- 515. Adding sexual orientation and gender identity to UN Human Right agreements.
- 516. Ratification and/or full participation in:
 - a) Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR).
 - b) International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR).
 - c) Committee on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW).
 - d) Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC).
 - e) Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT).
 - f) Biological Weapons Convention/1925 Geneva Protocol (BWC).
 - g) Paris Agreement.
 - h) Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC).

- i) United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCRPD).
- j) United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS).
- k) Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria (GFATM).
- l) Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty (START).
- m) Rome Statute of the International Court of Criminal Justice (RSICCJ).
- n) Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT).
- o) Anti-Personal Mine Ban Convention (APMBC).
- p) International Convention for the Regulation of Whaling (ICRW).