



2020 Platform Committee Report – Recommended Platform



PREAMBLE

2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19

Democrats put people first.

Washington State Democrats want health care for everyone no matter rich or poor. We believe a good education is a necessary foundation for life and work. We fight for livable wages for working people. As Democrats we take action to protect our Nation’s water and air. We know that sustainable forests and fisheries make for sustainable jobs. We have reached out to people around the world to advance peace, knowledge, and trade. Democrats have fought in all the Nation’s wars in pursuit of a stable and peaceful world. We know the price of war and care that veterans receive the care they richly deserve. Washington State Democrats respect Washington’s Native people and guard against attempts to diminish tribal sovereignty, culture, and natural resources. We advocate for the principles that have made the United States a beacon around the world: freedom, justice for all, fairness, and that no one is above the law. The Covid-19 pandemic shows that all too often our country has not placed our people first.

To restore a just democracy, Washington State Democrats will hold elected Democrats accountable to actively and publicly use all available legal and parliamentary procedures to bring these principles into fruition.

Table of Contents

20		
21	<u>Executive Summary</u>	3
22	<u>Pillar #1 Social Justice</u>	6
23	<u>Pillar #2 Labor and Economic Justice</u>	12
24	<u>Pillar #3 Environment, Climate, & Sustainability</u>	15
25	<u>Pillar #4 Education</u>	20
26	<u>Pillar #5 Health Care, Human Services, & Gun Safety</u>	24
27	<u>Pillar #6 Criminal Justice Reform</u>	28
28	<u>Pillar #7 Government</u>	32
29	<u>Pillar #8 Tribal Relations and Sovereignty</u>	38

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Social Justice

The inherent dignity and equal and inalienable rights of all human beings are foundations of freedom, justice and peace. Our democracy rests on the rights and responsibilities set forth in the United States Constitution, the United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous People, and the Washington State Constitution. We are a nation of diverse cultures. Immigrants strengthen the United States of America. All immigrants should be afforded full human rights and a fair, safe, and timely path to legal status or citizenship. We believe that safe, quality, affordable housing is a basic human right, and the foundation for success in life, education, and employment. Easy access and frequent exposure to the arts, and to the elements that comprise all the world's diverse cultures, are essential for the enrichment, health, and well-being of our greater society.

Labor and Economic Justice

The pandemic has thrown a harsh light on the failures of our current economic system. We the people have the right to government that works for us, over the long term, as opposed to government ruled by greed for short-term profit at the expense of our health, our security, and our very lives.

Government regulations should put our society's well-being first. Average voters should have the same influence on government that the wealthiest families and corporations have now. Income and opportunity should be more evenly distributed. Money is not speech; corporations are not persons.

Everyone has the right to fair treatment at work. Workers have the right to organize and to report abuses without fear. They have the right to be free of arbitrary firing or harassment by management. They have rights to equal pay for equal work, to employee benefits for employee work, predictable scheduling, and other decent marks of respect. Affirmative action that creates a local workforce typical of its area is simple justice – and puts local money into local economies.

Many of these statements are already law. A sorry majority are toothless laws; laws that lack oversight; or enforcement; or both. Or they are unfunded mandates. This is a serious failing. Every law, every contract, every trade deal – in short, every agreement – must contain funding and mechanisms to ensure justice; to make these words on paper a living reality. Think of how your building permit contains an inspector's fee. The money and the method to make it happen are vital to everything we call for and everything we support. Add it to every single item we call for, below.

In the USA, one of the wealthiest nations in the world, no child should go to sleep hungry; no adult should skip lunch so their kids can buy new shoes. Student loans should not crush our young people. No one should put off a doctor's visit to pay rent. Day laborers should not crowd bus-stops, asleep on their feet, coughing dust. Everyone should have the basic necessities to support life. Let's tax Bezos, the Koch Brothers, and all the uber-wealthy. A person can support life on a million dollars a year.

A Green New Deal that moves us from fossil fuels to renewable sources is essential to our future.

Once everyone has the same opportunities to acquire merit, all work- and school-related acceptance or rejection should be strictly merit-based. Until then, government regulations can and should make up for missed opportunities in the past.

Finally, government, at every level, should support the arts and humanities as integral to humankind. We are the music we make, the songs we sing, the stories we tell. We are the ideas we study and share, the bridges and communities we build, in uniquely human ways.

75 **Environment, Climate, & Sustainability**

76 We must unite to prevent the destruction of the environment, our communities, and our planet. We
77 must proactively address climate change as a crisis. All people, including future generations, have the
78 right to clean air, water, and a healthy natural environment. The struggle to protect our planet’s climate
79 health must be mutually dependent and interwoven with the struggles for racial and economic justice.
80 We are the stewards of the land and water that sustain us. We must preserve family farms, strengthen
81 rural communities, ensure the availability of high-quality food, and maintain the viability of land and
82 water. We believe that an efficient, well-planned, multimodal transportation system promotes a
83 healthy economy, environment, and community.
84

85 **Education**

86 “It is the paramount duty of the state to make ample provisions for the education of all children.”
87 -- *The Washington State Constitution*
88

89 The backbone of our democracy is a free, universal public-school system, designed to develop lifelong
90 learners prepared to think critically and participate in our civic society. The growing demands of
91 globalization, technology, and cross-cultural understanding require a well-funded public education
92 system that offers the challenges and opportunities to develop the full potential of all students. We
93 recognize the direct connection between individual educational attainment and the long-term economic
94 sustainability of our society.
95

96 **Health Care, Human Services & Gun Safety**

97 Healthcare is a basic human right. Our government should guarantee accessible, affordable, and high-
98 quality healthcare for all by law. Patients must have the right to access and choose between all lawful
99 medical treatment options, without hindrance by institutions exercising religious doctrine and regardless
100 of ability to pay. A strong public health system is essential to the well-being of all residents and the health
101 and economic security of this country. As a caring community, we must provide a safety net of social
102 services that meets the basic needs of people, especially those on the margins of society, so they can
103 attain their full potential. The right to own firearms is subject to reasonable regulation and laws should
104 protect the lives of all people, especially vulnerable populations, such as our school children, from gun
105 violence.
106

107 **Criminal Justice Reform**

108 Washington State Democrats must be aggressive in our drive to limit and minimize explicit, implicit, and
109 institutional injustices. We do not think it is possible or reasonable to list every form or instance of
110 injustice that we can identify. Injustice based on race, gender, gender preference, religion, class, wealth,
111 or country of origin are still having an immediate effect of those who experience injustice. They have also
112 shaped our society and institutions from the earliest settlers. We all struggle daily to learn and act against
113 these injustices. We have made much progress and have addressed many of these injustices. However,
114 they have been so ingrained and accepted that the injustices and bias are not recognized by many. The
115 Washington State Democratic Party in this Party Platform realizes that every platform plank has been
116 written with this understanding whether or not it is explicitly stated.
117
118
119

120
121
122
123
124
125
126
127
128
129
130
131
132
133
134
135
136
137
138
139
140
141
142
143

Government

The United States should lead by example and work within the world community in a spirit of peace, cooperation, and generosity to support human welfare, freedom, and democracy. Diplomacy and nonviolent conflict resolution must be the primary organizing principles of our foreign policy. We pledge support of our troops and honor our veterans who act in the service of our country. The core task of the U.S. military is to provide for the common defense. Our military must be adequate to provide for our nation’s defense and should never be open to abuses of power by any branch of government. The rule of law is a prerequisite for a democratic civil society. A good government provides for the safety, security, and justice for all, with care, fairness, and respect for everyone. Finally, Government derives its legitimacy from the people, to whom it must be answerable; it serves as their instrument to achieve ends that the people could not achieve individually. Our representative democracy requires full participation by an informed citizenry; a voting process that is fair, transparent, and open to all; and public officials who are accountable to society. An informed citizenry and persistently inquisitive media are essential for democracy to flourish. The free flow of information is fundamental to democracy.

Tribal Relations and Sovereignty

Washington State Democrats recognize the unique and valuable history and cultural relationships of the lands, waterways, usual and accustomed areas regionally and internationally which are highly valued among Tribal Nations. We must maintain a lasting and respectful relationship with Tribal Nations and oppose all attempts to diminish tribal sovereignty, tribal culture, natural resources, or the general welfare of tribes. We recognize this is essential to open and meaningful government-to-government relations. We recognize the status of Urban Indian populations, and that the Federal Trust responsibility expands beyond Tribal Reservation borders.

Social Justice

144
145
146
147
148
149
150
151
152
153
154
155
156
157
158
159
160
161
162
163
164
165
166
167
168
169
170
171
172
173
174
175
176
177
178
179
180
181
182
183
184
185
186
187
188

The inherent dignity and equal and inalienable rights of all human beings are foundations of freedom, justice, and peace. Our democracy rests on the rights and responsibilities set forth in the United States Constitution, the United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous People, and the Washington State Constitution. We are a nation of diverse cultures. Immigrants strengthen the United States of America. All immigrants should be afforded full human rights and a fair, safe, and timely path to legal status or citizenship. We believe that safe, quality, affordable housing is a basic human right, and the foundation for success in life, education, and employment. Easy access and frequent exposure to the arts, and to the elements that comprise all the world's diverse cultures, are essential for the enrichment, health, and well-being of our greater society.

Human Rights and Civil Rights

We believe:

- Human rights apply to all humans regardless of immigration status and include access to safe food, air, water, and shelter, as well as freedom of speech, personal safety, health care, education, employment, legal aid, and due process;
- As Democrats, we are, and will remain, at the forefront of the struggle to extend and ensure social, political, economic, and legal rights to all persons;
- It is our responsibility to protect the rights and welfare of all people residing within our borders;
- In a transparent, impartial application and equitable enforcement of law;
- Black lives matter;
- The disproportionate treatment of people of color has led to unnecessary death, loss of respect and damage to the community;
- That underlying conditions give rise to the glaring inequalities around us;
- The high number of missing and murdered indigenous women is a human health and welfare crisis that requires immediate and aggressive action to eliminate further harm to native families and communities;
- Free and open voting is a civil right and expresses the will & consent of the people;
- Privacy is a fundamental right; our private lives and personal information must be protected from intrusion by government or others;
- People's lives are more important than our economy;
- Each person has the right to sovereignty over their own body;
- The right to marry, as a legal union of consenting adults, without regard to sexual orientation or gender-identity, must be preserved;
- The right of working people to unionize is a fundamental civil right;
- The right of an individual to practice their religion does not extend to the denial of the constitutional rights of others;
- In the separation of church and state, and that no entity has the right to impose its religious doctrine on others;
- Those who benefit from unearned privilege must actively listen to marginalized communities and step back to provide space for members of such communities to be heard by society at large;
- People's right to be free of government, corporate, or religious interference in their reproductive decisions, including contraception and abortion, and to have safe, legal, protected, affordable and accessible health care that enables them to make informed choices;

- 189 • In honoring the rich diversity of society and efforts to reflect that diversity in our Party, including
190 special consideration to be paid to the rights of currently and historically marginalized communities,
191 including individuals with disabilities, immigrants, peoples of color, indigenous people, the very
192 poor, and religious minorities and atheists; those who face discrimination should be afforded the
193 legal means and economic opportunities to overcome such injustice;
- 194 • In equal pay for equal work.

195

196 **We Call For:**

- 197 • The United States Congress to certify ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment;
- 198 • The Federal Government to ratify the Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination
199 Against Women;
- 200 • Policies at all levels of government that will strengthen our country by affirming the value of all
201 individuals, and by eliminating the systemic conditions that perpetuate inequality, oppression, and
202 lack of equitable access to opportunities;
- 203 • All levels of government to enforce and monitor the Americans with Disabilities Act, the Students
204 with Disabilities Act, and the Rehabilitation Act;
- 205 • All levels of government to fully enforce the Matthew Shepard and James Byrd Jr. Hate Crimes
206 Prevention Act;
- 207 • The United States Congress to pass and enforce the Equality Act for all members of the LGBTQ+
208 community;
- 209 • Legislation at all levels of government that will end human trafficking for the sex trade, labor trade,
210 and all other forms of involuntary servitude;
- 211 • Legislation that leads to ending child and slave labor worldwide;
- 212 • Strong legislation, treatment programs and education designed to reduce harassment, intimidation,
213 domestic or sexual violence, gun violence, and bullying;
- 214 • A commitment to Free Speech which carries an obligation to speak out in defense of values of
215 democracy and inclusivity against the evil forces of racism and other hate speech;
- 216 • Acknowledging the human rights of all American Indian and Alaska Native women by supporting the
217 goal of identifying and compiling a list of American Indian and Alaska Native women who are missing
218 and/or murdered.

219

220 **We Oppose:**

- 221 • Organized prayer in taxpayer-funded institutions and the use of government funds for religious
222 purposes;
- 223 • Discrimination against LGBTQ+ people on parenting rights;
- 224 • The use of the term “illegal” to refer to any human being;
- 225 • The use of for-profit prisons or detention centers by Immigration, Customs and Enforcements (ICE)
226 used for the detention of immigrants;
- 227 • All modes and methods of denying in practice a person’s right to reproductive choice over their own
228 body, including:
 - 229 ○ Defunding Planned Parenthood
 - 230 ○ Requiring complete hospital surgical facilities for abortion
 - 231 ○ The legal doctrine of “fetal personhood”
 - 232 ○ Hyde Amendment restrictions on federal funding of abortions
 - 233 ○ Construing religious freedom of a church-owned hospital to deny access to an abortion or
234 personal choice to have sterilization
- 235 • Demands for immediate presentation of documents regarding one’s status in the United States;
- 236 • Refusing access to gender-affirming health care, services, and surgery;

- 237 • Discrimination toward individuals by continued misgendering and refusal to use their pronouns after
238 being informed;
- 239 • The practice of “conversion therapy,” which seeks to change sexual orientation;
- 240 • Any level of government barring access to public restrooms that correspond with an individual’s
241 gender identity.

242 Housing Justice

243 **We Believe:**

- 244 • Housing is a human right;
- 245 • That the private housing market has failed to adequately provide for those at low to middle income
246 ranges;
- 247 • It is the right and proper role of the government to provide permanent stable housing to people
248 experiencing housing insecurity or are under-housed, to expand the stock of supportive, low
249 income, and affordable housing, and to use all tools available to control the astronomic explosion of
250 the cost of housing;
- 251 • That access to affordable housing should not be denied on the basis of race, country of origin,
252 religious or non-religious status, gender or gender identity, sexual orientation, veteran status,
253 source of income, age, political beliefs, parental, or relationship status;
- 254 • In respecting the rights of all adults, including seniors and persons with disabilities, to direct their
255 own lives in housing, education, medical, financial, and all other life choices.

256 **We Call For:**

- 257 • All levels of government to use creative solutions and progressive revenue sources to ensure all
258 people have permanent, sanitary, stable, secure, safe, and livable housing and to assist homeowners
259 at risk of foreclosure;
- 260 • The Washington State Legislature to enact a major increase in funding for assistance and
261 construction of affordable and low-income housing as part of its COVID-19 recovery plan and on an
262 ongoing basis;
- 263 • Improving and implementing Washington State and local property tax breaks on primary residences
264 of low-income homeowners, small, and micro-businesses;
- 265 • Repeal of Washington State’s prohibition on rent control;
- 266 • Reducing the maximum allowable interest and penalties assessed for delinquent real estate taxes on
267 a homeowner’s primary residence;
- 268 • Changes to county and city zoning laws to incorporate mother-in-law, over-garage apartments, tiny
269 houses, trailers, tents, cars, and other low-cost housing in low-density residential neighborhoods;
- 270 • Development of public properties under public administration to create long term, low-income
271 housing;
- 272 • Transitional housing for residents experiencing homelessness who need support services to prepare
273 for a stable lifestyle in-line with Housing First principles.

274 **We Oppose:**

- 275 • Conversion of public property into private ownership without oversight;
- 276 • Predatory practices such as discounting foreclosures, deceptive, coercive or exploitative loan terms,
277 as well as balloon loans;
- 278 • Policies and practices that dehumanize and criminalize neighbors experiencing homelessness,
279 including sweeps, hostile urban architecture, and anti-nuisance ordinances.

280
281
282
283

Immigration

284
285
286
287
288
289
290
291
292
293
294
295
296
297
298
299
300
301
302
303
304
305
306
307
308
309
310
311
312
313
314
315
316
317
318
319
320
321
322
323
324
325
326
327
328
329
330

We Believe:

- It is our responsibility to protect the rights and welfare of all people within our borders regardless of citizenship or immigration status;
- All people, regardless of their country of origin or their immigration status, deserve to be treated fairly, respectfully, and with dignity, and that all people have a right to equitable treatment under the law;
- All children regardless of immigration status are entitled to education to provide them the knowledge and skills to be productive members of society;
- In access to healthcare and human services without regard to immigration status; withholding those services is discriminatory and inhumane;
- Immigration is not a matter of homeland security;
- No child should be caged;
- All detainees should have the right of habeas corpus, to humane treatment, safe facilities, adequate medical care, nutrition, clothing, shelter, freedom of religious practices, family unity, legal defense, a living wage for their work, and access to basic education services, interpretive services, and an accounting of their location;
- In sanctuary jurisdictions adopting sanctuary policies;
- In legal residents having the same rights as American citizens concerning waiting time for their legal spouses to join them in the U.S.;
- In the proper issuance of identification documents and driver's licenses to immigrants regardless of status.

We Call For:

- The United States Congress to pass comprehensive reform of United States immigration policy;
- All levels of government to recognize the basic human rights of immigrants and protect them with transparent due process in all proceedings and a clear and equitable pathway to documented status and citizenship if desired;
- The Federal Government to increase family unification, including families of domestic partners and bi-national couples, by granting legal status with the same standards as spouses of citizens;
- The Federal Government to allow undocumented immigrants brought to the United States as children who have attained the age of majority to apply for U.S. citizenship without first being required to return to their country of origin;
- Federal and State government to extend temporary residency to children of undocumented immigrants to allow them to pursue higher education or national service and to be given an opportunity to earn permanent residency;
- A more comprehensive WA state “Dream Act” for young adults to enter a path of achievement that can lead to United States citizenship;
- The United States Congress to pass a more comprehensive “Dream Act” for young adults to enter a path of achievement that can lead to United States citizenship;
- All levels of government to enforce all existing laws which penalize employers who knowingly employ undocumented immigrants;
- The Federal Government to provide legal access for employers to an immigrant workforce, such as a guest worker program;
- All levels of government to enact policies that fully integrate and support immigrants as equal members of our communities, including programs offering instruction in English, interpretative and translation services of governmental documents and services, and preparation for citizenship;

- 331 • The Federal Government to enact policies that encourage foreign students to remain in the United
- 332 States and give them opportunity to earn permanent residency;
- 333 • The Federal Government to increase the number of qualified immigration judges to clear the
- 334 immigration backlog and avoid lengthy detentions for adults and children;
- 335 • An end to deportation or detention of family members of natural-born U.S. citizens;
- 336 • An end to deportation or detention without due process of law;
- 337 • Streamlining and expediting procedures for granting asylum to persons fleeing from areas of war,
- 338 genocide, and political oppression, drug and human trafficking, subject to appropriate security
- 339 concerns;
- 340 • All levels of government to enact policies that prevent discrimination in wages and working
- 341 conditions for immigrant workers, including access to safe and adequate housing, medical care and
- 342 educational opportunities;
- 343 • Using diplomacy and sustainable development to improve the social, economic and environmental
- 344 conditions that contribute to undocumented immigration into the United States;
- 345 • Qualified foster care services for undocumented, unaccompanied minors.

346

347 **We Oppose:**

- 348 • Separating families of undocumented immigrants and people seeking asylum;
- 349 • State or local agencies' involvement in the enforcement of federal immigration laws, including
- 350 providing information, access, and/or assistance to ICE;
- 351 • Border Patrol checkpoints away from the border and the engagement of Border Patrol agents in
- 352 ordinary law enforcement activities, including providing routine translation services for other
- 353 agencies;
- 354 • Forced labor of detainees;
- 355 • Automatic detention and/or deportation of asylum-seekers;
- 356 • Legislative attempts to establish English as the sole official language of the United States;
- 357 • • Unjust and arbitrary quotas, limits, and other immigration rules that have the primary purpose of
- 358 preventing new immigration;
- 359 • The use of work visas, such as H(1)(b) and H(2)(a) visas, as a substitute for hiring U.S. residents;
- 360 • Policies that exclude or demean immigrants based on religion or country of origin;
- 361 • Judging the merits of asylum seekers based on U.S. geopolitical and/or economic interests.

362

363

Culture and The Arts

364 **We Believe:**

- 365 • Freedom of expression is a fundamental human right which is expressed through culture and the
- 366 arts;
- 367 • Culture, the arts & humanities are core expressions of the values that make our country great;
- 368 • Government should sponsor programs that celebrate and promote the cultural diversity of our
- 369 country;
- 370 • Programs dedicated to Culture and the Arts should encourage improved public knowledge through
- 371 honest portrayal of our diverse cultures and histories;
- 372 • Multi-media public broadcasting, including community-based public radio and public access
- 373 television are vital to the development of a healthy society;
- 374 • Artists should be paid for the use of their intellectual property including on the internet;
- 375 • Artists and cultural organization workers should be involved in the planning and implementation
- 376 processes of artistic endeavors.

377

378 **We Call For:**

- 379 • Federal, State, and Local governments to include a substantial commitment to public funding for the
- 380 arts and arts education in their budgets;
- 381 • Federal, State, and Local libraries, performing arts centers and museums to be well-funded,
- 382 accessible, and diverse in their offerings;
- 383 • Federal and State Government to make cultural and arts education available and accessible to all as
- 384 a core subject in our K-12 public schools;
- 385 • State and Local governments to provide easy access and frequent exposure to public art events,
- 386 performances, and exhibits for all communities in Washington.

387

388 **We Oppose:**

- 389 • Efforts to cut public funding of the arts by Federal, State, and Local Government;
- 390 • Any use of public funding of the arts to promote a religious agenda;
- 391 • Federal, State, and Local governments asking artists to work for free.

Labor and Economic Justice

392
393
394
395
396
397
398
399
400
401
402
403
404
405
406
407
408
409
410
411
412
413
414
415
416
417
418
419
420
421
422
423
424
425
426
427
428
429
430
431
432
433
434
435
436
437

The pandemic has thrown a harsh light on the failures of our current economic policies. In the USA, one of the wealthiest nations in the world, no child should go to sleep hungry; no family should have to choose between housing and health care; no worker should have to fear for their health when going to work. We the people have the right to government that works for all of us, over the long term, as opposed to government ruled by greed for short-term profit at the expense of our health, our security, and our very lives. The historical exploitation of all working people by the wealthy has gone unchecked by our government for too long; this has harmed underrepresented, misrepresented, and disadvantaged people the most. Income inequality is worse than ever before, with many corporate executives making more than 600 times the pay of their lowest-paid employees. Many laws designed to correct these injustices already exist, but a sorry majority have become toothless laws, laws that lack oversight or enforcement, or both. Every law, every contract, every trade deal – in short, every agreement – must contain funding and mechanisms to ensure justice; to make these words on paper a living reality. To recover from the economic crisis created by the coronavirus pandemic, we must ensure that we build a sustainable economy that works for everyone. A Green New Deal that moves us from fossil fuels to renewable sources is essential to our future and will restore family-wage union jobs for millions of unemployed Americans and the health of the planet we depend on. Our new economy must bring back the centrality of workers to our society and provide a robust social safety net for everyone. Finally, public investment should have goals beyond GDP (Gross Domestic Product) growth: we should support culture, the arts and humanities as integral to humankind. We are the music we make, the songs we sing, the stories we tell. We are the ideas we study and share, the bridges and communities we build, in uniquely human ways.

Big Picture Ideas / We Call For:

- End income inequality;
 - An end to debt that crushes opportunity
 - Legislate pay ratios of CEOs to lowest-paid employee equal to 1965 levels: 20 to one, not over 600 to one as now
 - Extreme wealth harms our society’s health; current levels of income inequality are toxic to our democracy
- Equality of opportunity;
 - Legislation to end the digital divide
 - Paid family & sick leave and universal childcare for all working people
 - [Steady funding for all public schools](#)
- Legislation establishing that money is not speech and corporations are not persons;
 - Human beings, not corporations, are persons entitled to constitutional rights
- [Overturn Citizens United as a driving force behind income inequality;](#)
- Government regulations that put our society’s well-being first, over corporate profit;
 - Regulation and taxation as a normal price of doing business
 - Reinstall Glass-Steagall
 - Pass and enforce Dodd-Frank
 - Restore the enforcement power of the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB)
 - Continue funding of the Workforce Investment Opportunity Act to increase the self-

- 438 sufficiency of young adults and adults with disabilities by providing career counseling, job
439 training, information, and referral services
- 440 ○ Strengthen antitrust laws like the Clayton Act
- 441 ● A fair and just tax system for all;
- 442 ○ Create a wealth tax; tax the highest incomes and unearned income from stocks, capital
443 gains, etc.
- 444 ○ Tax financial transactions to restrict financial speculation
- 445 ● Investing in credit unions and co-ops over banks and large corporations;
- 446 ○ Including the establishment of a state bank of Washington, and
- 447 ○ Public banking options for local, state, and federal government
- 448 ○ Provide financial services to all who lack bank accounts, such as postal banking
- 449 ○ Break up big banking systems
- 450 ● Transparent, readily accessible accounting in governments and corporations;
- 451 ● Public and cooperative ownership of all utilities;
- 452 ○ Privately-owned utilities work for shareholders. Publicly owned utilities work for the people.
- 453 ○ Internet service is a utility like electricity; therefore, it too should be publicly owned.
- 454 ○ Fund expansion of broadband internet to all Americans, especially in rural areas
- 455 ● Create a modern Works Progress Administration to renew public investment in education,
456 technology, and essential health care infrastructure;
- 457 ○ Invest in reopening hospitals and clinics in rural and underserved areas
- 458 ○ Modernize public schools, especially in underserved and rural areas
- 459 ○ Prioritize funding for public research institutions
- 460 ● Equal pay for equal work for all;
- 461 ○ Especially for underrepresented, misrepresented, and disadvantaged people
- 462 ○ All people deserve a living wage
- 463 ● Guaranteed income for all, i.e, guaranteed basic income;
- 464 ○ Every person in the US should receive enough income to support life
- 465 ○ Support a federal jobs guarantee
- 466 ● Affirmative action: a workforce should reflect local demographic with quantifiable goals;
- 467 ○ Latest census data used to define local population's make-up
- 468 ○ Quantifiable goals to fill government positions and contractor hiring to produce a workforce
469 typical of local area
- 470 ● Disincentivize outsourcing or offshoring in all trade deals and government contracts, at every level –
471 fair trade, not free trade;
- 472 ○ Labor, environmental, and human rights standards of the US are required and binding in all
473 such agreements
- 474 ● Buying local, regional, US, union-made, required in all government contracts;
- 475 ○ Legislate incentives to buy local goods and services
- 476 ○ Labor, environmental, and human rights standards of the US are required and binding in all
477 such agreements
- 478 ○ Increase opportunities for family farms, US manufacturing, and small businesses in
479 government contracting over large corporations by capping firm size in bidding
- 480 ● Guarantee the right to unionize and other collective bargaining rights for ALL workers, especially
481 those historically excluded from labor protections, e.g., migrant and domestic workers, formerly
482 incarcerated people, and any other underrepresented, misrepresented, or disadvantaged people;
- 483 ● Pass federal legislation to eliminate “right to work” laws;
- 484 ● Legislate respect for workers;

- 485 ○ Government protection for workers in the gig economy as employees, not contractors
- 486 ○ Healthy & harassment-free workplaces
- 487 ○ Predictable scheduling
- 488 ● Assistance and training for all workers displaced by societal change, e.g., automation, age, plant
- 489 closures, climate crisis, and other changes we cannot now foresee;
- 490 ● Government requirements for, and protection of, union hiring, organizing, and affirmative action in
- 491 apprenticeships and subsequent hiring processes;
- 492 ● Enforce protections for whistle-blowers & workplace organizers: no intimidation, no retribution.
- 493 ○ Enforce protections against discrimination in hiring where reasonable accommodation can
- 494 be made

495

496 **We Oppose:**

- 497 ● Federal contracts to companies that pay poverty wages, outsource jobs overseas, engage in union-
- 498 busting, deny good benefits, and pay CEOs outrageous compensation packages;
- 499 ● Reverse undue harm to family farmers;
- 500 ● Fair trade agreements that do not protect American manufacturing jobs;
- 501 ● Subsidies to oil, gas, chemical, agricultural and pharmaceutical companies;
- 502 ● “Carried Interest” loopholes in Capital Gains Taxes for financial partnerships and similar firms;
- 503 ● Mega-Mergers and wealth consolidation;
- 504 ● Bailouts of corporations, religious organizations, lobbyists, big banks, health care executives, and
- 505 Wall Street;
- 506 ● Using deficit fear-mongering to drive budgetary decisions;
- 507 ● Reducing SNAP benefits and forcing families into a one-size-fits-all option that removes consumer
- 508 choice;
- 509 ● Importing commodities below their true production and transportation costs, i.e. dumping.

510

511

512

513

514

515

516

517

518

519

520

521

522

523

524

525

526

527

528

529

530

Environment, Climate, and Sustainability

531
532
533
534
535
536
537
538
539
540
541
542
543
544
545
546
547
548
549
550
551
552
553
554
555
556
557
558
559
560
561
562
563
564
565
566
567
568
569
570
571
572
573
574
575
576

We believe all people have a natural right to clean air, water, soil, and food. We have the responsibility to ensure that future generations are provided with a healthy world capable of sustaining and improving their lives. This can only be achieved through international collaboration to effectively address the global climate crisis threatening the health of the planet. The struggle to protect our planet’s climate health must be mutually dependent and interwoven with the struggles for racial and economic justice. We support aggressive action now to reduce greenhouse gas pollution in order to immediately slow, and ultimately halt further global climate change and ocean acidification guided by prompt and effective decision making based on peer-reviewed, best available science and economic evidence. We call for major new investments in rail and transportation infrastructure, manufacturing industries, agriculture, conservation, and clean tech innovation to create millions of good-paying jobs benefitting every community, while ensuring a just transition for workers in fossil fuel industries to ensure ongoing employment.

We believe that a variety of well-planned, efficient transportation systems promote a healthy economy, environment, and community. This requires our transportation systems to rapidly transition away from the use of fossil fuels and the burning of carbon-based fuels.

We must preserve family farms, strengthen rural communities, ensure the availability of high-quality food, and maintain the viability of land and water. We must preserve the health of our forests and timber communities. We must preserve rivers, tideland, estuaries, and oceans and strengthen our fishing and aquaculture communities.

We believe:

- Climate change is the biggest threat to our communities and livelihoods and requires urgent and immediate action on local, state and national levels;
- Our economy -- and the health of our environment -- depend on sound policy, based on the best available science;
- Efforts to mitigate the effects of climate change, to reduce greenhouse gasses, and to move to a fossil free economy must be through international cooperation, holding each other accountable, while ensuring that no peoples or nations be asked to unfairly carry the cost;
- Sustainable energy production and strong environmental protections strengthen our economy and our country;
- Protection of our planet’s climate health must be seen as mutually dependent and is interwoven with the struggles for racial and economic justice;
- Washington State should be the leader of national and international efforts to reduce greenhouse gases and mitigate climate change.

We believe in conservation and stewardship, namely that:

- Public lands should be managed as a public trust for current and future generations for benefit of all;
- State and National policies must protect and restore biodiversity, ecosystems and watersheds with a specific concern for wild salmon protections;
- Farmers, farmworkers, fisherman and other producers of food are critical to the health of the climate and environment;
- Loggers, timber workers, foresters, land managers and other users of our forests and public lands have a critical role to play in the health of the climate and environment.

- 577 • Strong growth management policy and law reduces sprawl while protecting agriculture, critical
578 areas, forest, and water;
- 579 • A variety of efficient, well-planned, public transportation choices promotes healthy communities,
580 economy, and environment.

581

582 **We call on Washington State to:**

- 583 • Support and encourage vibrant and sustainable small farms and family farms;
- 584 • Create and support localized marketing, community supported agriculture, and cooperative
585 marketing;
- 586 • Achieve a net-zero carbon emission economy by 2050 with accountability for achieving intermediate
587 goals set out by Washington State law;
- 588 • Determine the carbon pollution associated with all transportation projects and include the social
589 cost of carbon in determining the cost of all transportation planning, of the effects on climate
590 change; health; and environmental impacts including water, earth, and air pollution;
- 591 • Fully fund all the planning steps necessary to support state and local environmental protection
592 mandates, including assessment, permitting, mitigation follow-up, and data collection, monitoring
593 tracking, and analysis needed for due diligence in for evaluating impacts to natural systems;
- 594 • Increase state appropriations, local funding authority, and loan programs to address infrastructure
595 needs in accordance with state, regional, and local plans and policies, with a particular emphasis on
596 building infrastructure needed for electrification of ground transportation;
- 597 • Require ASARCO funds, and funds from the Model Toxics Control Act, to be used solely for toxic site
598 cleanup, including the 20,000 developed and undeveloped parcels slated for cleanup;
- 599 • Require developers to pay impact fees to fully mitigate increased needs for schools, safe pedestrian
600 infrastructure, roads, parks, sewers, and other effects of development;
- 601 • Protect our critical environmental areas including wilderness areas, old growth forests, wildlife
602 habitat areas and corridors, wetlands, lakes, rivers, streams, riparian areas, Washington waters,
603 coastlines, continental shelf, oceans, and other bodies of water through vigilant monitoring and
604 planned growth management;
- 605 • Strengthen the Washington State Growth Management Act and policies that preserve agricultural
606 land and natural resources and improve rural infrastructure;
- 607 • Expand funding and restoration efforts to improve fisheries including: replacement of culverts to
608 better facilitate fish passage, habitat restoration, pollution-reduction goals, with detection of
609 pollution sources and enforcement of violations; riparian areas; cold water connections; alternative
610 fishing gear; maximizing hatchery production; and daylighting streams and creeks where possible;
- 611 • Develop and fund a statewide infrastructure to support use of electric vehicles;
- 612 • Join the regional partnership with California, Oregon, and British Columbia in adopting a clean fuel
613 standard to reduce pollution from cars and trucks to meet our greenhouse gas emission goals, to
614 improve the quality of the air we breathe, and to improve the health of people, often those with
615 lower incomes, who live near major roadways;
- 616 • Require public transit agencies to join a common statewide payment-card system, expansion of the
617 Regional Reduced Fare Permit to all transit agencies throughout the State and implementation of a
618 sliding scale reduced fare program, to facilitate transfers between such agencies;
- 619 • To invest in continued local access to needed transportation infrastructure, including rural road and
620 highway maintenance and improvement, to ensure consideration of cities and counties outside the
621 I-5 and I-90 corridors;
- 622 • To adopt policies and laws to minimize public safety dangers to our state caused by transportation
623 of fossil fuels, radioactive material, and other hazardous materials;

- 624 • To address the future reduced revenue as we decrease fossil fuel use, replace the gasoline fuel tax
625 as the method of funding road projects with less regressive and more equitable alternatives, making
626 adjustments to keep it fair across demographic boundaries;
- 627 • Require cities, Counties, and regional authorities to implement Transit Oriented Development and
628 Smart Growth practices in their land use planning to decrease the need to drive;
- 629 • Invest and renew stewardship in our forests and forest communities to sustain timber jobs as
630 climate change threatens our forests and streams through habitat loss, susceptibility to pest
631 infestation, and from hotter and drier seasons resulting in massive and catastrophic wildfires. We
632 call to increase jobs in our rural timber communities to strengthen our forests for wildfire, to use
633 sustainable forest biomass from forestry thinning to make renewable products, through the
634 manufacture and use of advanced engineered wood products, and in the best forest management
635 practices to realize the full potential of carbon capture. We call for rapid after fire response to
636 address potential sediment runoff;
- 637 • To implement a “Buy Clean” initiative to ensure that lifecycle greenhouse gas pollution is considered
638 in state procurement contracts. Preference in contracting should be given to “Buy American” and
639 those holding high labor standards.

640

641 **We call on the Federal government to:**

- 642 • To re-enter and take a leadership role in the Paris Climate Accord;
- 643 • Require management to minimize the development of antibiotic resistant pathogens in aquaculture,
644 poultry, and livestock production;
- 645 • Review and update all farm programs; rapidly phase-out federal farm subsidies for large-scale and
646 publicly traded corporate farms; and vigorously enforce of antitrust laws that apply to agribusiness
- 647 • Reinstate the Superfund Tax requiring polluters to pay cleanup costs;
- 648 • Regularly increase Corporate Average Fuel Economy (CAFE) standards to levels that challenge
649 automakers to improve fuel efficiency.

650 **We call for both the State and Federal government to:**

- 651 • Clearly label food in support of consumer choice, including date packaged, full and complete
652 disclosure of nation of origin, genetically modified organism status, irradiation, and organic
653 certification;
- 654 • Prioritize funding of research and extension for climate mitigation and adaptation methods for
655 agriculture, aquaculture, fishery and forestry at Washington state universities;
- 656 • Increase support for development of renewable and sustainable energy programs to supply
657 electricity to the power grid to meet statutory climate goals for Washington State and the Paris
658 accord globally;
- 659 • Establish a near term, intermediate term and long-term national energy policy that achieves GHG
660 reductions that will limit global temperature rise as agreed upon under the Paris Climate Accord;
- 661 • Establish and implementing a price on carbon-based pollution to account for the costs of increased
662 air pollution and climate change from fossil fuels;
- 663 • Meet climate goals we call for phase out of all oil and gas exploration, transportation, extraction and
664 investment in future new fossil fuel infrastructure in Washington State and offshore of the
665 Washington Coast to the CMZA (200mi offshore);
- 666 • Support energy research including development of utility scale energy storage, next generation
667 nuclear, localized commercial geothermal (heat pumps), and smart-grid technology to support
668 baseload;
- 669 • Take aggressive action now to reduce the emission of greenhouse gases in order to immediately
670 slow, and ultimately prevent, further global climate change and ocean acidification;

- 671 • Build an integrated American rail system, in electrifying passenger and rail throughout the country,
672 expanding existing rail lines, and offering federal investments to further develop ultra-high-speed
673 rail. This will create jobs, save time and money for working families, and connect disparate rural and
674 urban population centers with more convenient, carbon-free inter-regional transportation;
- 675 • Massively increase annual federal investment in public transit systems, include new funding and
676 rebalancing between federal highways and transit spending, to incentivize expansion of transit
677 networks throughout America to give Americans cleaner transportation choices, and reduce vehicle
678 miles traveled. These investments themselves will support millions of construction and operations
679 jobs;
- 680 • To make investments and develop industrial policies that can rapidly scale domestic manufacturing
681 to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, cut waste and inefficiency, and catalyze deployment and
682 innovation in industrial technologies and processes that will sustain globally-competitive American
683 manufacturing jobs;
- 684 • To invest in building energy efficiency, affordable housing, and sustainable local community
685 infrastructure, to put people to work eliminating pollution, protecting clean water, and building
686 healthier communities;
- 687 • Fully fund to promptly complete the Hanford Reservation cleanup to protect Columbia River water
688 quality and local communities from Hanford Reservation contamination, per the Tri-Party
689 Agreement;
- 690 • Hold manufacturers responsible for the true costs of pollution through waste-stream management
691 in production including the collection, cleanup and disposition of their products and packaging at
692 the end of their useful lives, such as batteries and prescription medications;
- 693 • Enhance protection of riverine and marine ecosystems from tanker and cargo-vessel collisions,
694 unlawful discharges and spills of petroleum-based products, and bilge water pumping operations
695 containing invasive aquatic species, requiring that all fossil-fuel tankers be required to be double-
696 hulled, and enforcing penalties for violations;
- 697 • Balance the environmental, social, and economic effects of proposed dam removal from the
698 upcoming Environmental Impact Statement being developed by the Columbia River System
699 Operations (CSRO) Project using best available science and includes input from everyone who relies
700 upon the river;
- 701 • Protect wild salmon and all other native marine life;
- 702 • Enact new laws and enforcing current regulations to eliminate pollution, and protect the health of,
703 Washington, and all state, waters at the source, including point source and nonpoint source
704 discharges;
- 705 • Correct the disproportionate effects on health and well-being of environmental degradation
706 pollution on low-income and minority communities;
- 707 • Implement a gradual phase out of most new internal combustion vehicles for personal
708 transportation, beginning in 2030 and when technology makes it economically and practically
709 possible for the majority of Washingtonians, realizing that exceptions will be needed for jobs and
710 distance;
- 711 • Re-start the I-5 Portland to Vancouver Bridge project, to benefit each of those communities and
712 encourages efficient transit between them by road, public transit, and bicycle;
- 713 • Use innovative practices and extend resources to engage hard to reach and underrepresented
714 communities, to receive their input into major transportation projects and programs;
- 715 • Enact policies and expand government support for making travel as safe and efficient as possible for
716 all modes of transportation, whether motorized or non-motorized;

- 717 • Expand and enhance accessible, safe, affordable and efficient public transportation, including bus,
718 rapid transit, light rail, commuter rail, conventional rail, regional rail, and on-demand “last mile”
719 service;
- 720 • Require transportation and transit agencies to use sustainability rating tools, such as INVEST,
721 Envision, Greenroads, or LEED, to evaluate all of their programs, policies, and projects, to aid them
722 in improving their practices to reduce their environmental footprint, social impacts, and financial
723 costs;
- 724 • Local, State, and Federal Government must hold meaningful consultation with Tribal Governments
725 on environment, climate and sustainability policies and prioritize their needs.

726

727 **We Oppose:**

- 728 • Production of fossil fuels and natural minerals through destructive techniques such as, but not
729 limited to, suction dredge mining, hydraulic fracturing, mountaintop removal, gravel mining, and
730 offshore drilling;
- 731 • Transport and storage of fossil fuels and hazardous materials without meaningful environmental
732 safeguards;
- 733 • The continuation of massive subsidies to the auto and fossil fuel industries;
- 734 • We oppose new fossil-fuel terminals at any Washington State ports.
- 735 • Canada-to-Mexico tar sands pipeline (Keystone XL);
- 736 • Coal-fired generating plants everywhere, and transportation of coal anywhere;
- 737 • We oppose shortsighted irresponsible policies and market incentives that result in environmental
738 damage without remediation and without accounting for economic, social, and environmental costs;
- 739 • Weakening or eliminating environmental laws such as the Clean Water Act and the Clean Air Act and
740 weakening or eliminating the Environmental Protection Agency;
- 741 • Privatization of any and all public water holdings or diversion of agricultural water for private
742 commercial use;
- 743 • "Ag-gag" bills which restrict whistleblowers in the agricultural industry;
- 744 • We oppose tariffs that negatively impact local agriculture;
- 745 • We oppose monopolistic practices in agriculture, such as extreme consolidation of farms and food
746 processing because it jeopardizes food security and results in a loss of family farm income;
- 747 • Intentional infringement of existing senior appropriated certified water rights;
- 748 • Privately owned utilities;
- 749 • Privatization of transportation infrastructure;
- 750 • Regressive funding of transit, such as flat-rate car tabs and property taxes and fares;
- 751 • All attempts to diminish Tribal treaties, Tribal Natural Resources, or the general welfare of the
752 tribes.

753

Education

754
755
756
757
758
759
760
761
762
763
764
765
766
767
768
769
770
771
772
773
774
775
776
777
778
779
780
781
782
783
784
785
786
787
788
789
790
791
792
793

794
795
796
797
798

“It is the paramount duty of the state to make ample provisions for the education of all children.”

-- *The Washington State Constitution*

The backbone of our democracy is a free, universal public-school system, designed to develop lifelong learners prepared to think critically and participate in our civic society. The growing demands of globalization, technology, and cross-cultural understanding require a well-funded public education system that offers the challenges and opportunities to develop the full potential of all students. We recognize the direct connection between individual educational attainment and the long-term economic sustainability of our society.

We Believe:

- In protecting the great work that has been accomplished in our state towards advancing a free and public education for all learners that is equitable and comprehensive;
- All people have the right to attend schools where their personal safety and well-being is assured;
- Education means investing in people and preparing them to live, work, and thrive in a multicultural, multilingual, and highly connected world;
- In equal opportunity, high-quality education in order to have a competitive workforce in this changing economy;
- No one should be denied an education because of membership in any socioeconomic group;
- Education includes academic, social-emotional, and behavioral supports for all learners;
- Societal inequality impacts educational equity and must be addressed holistically.

We Call For:

Overall

- High quality continuing education and career training, including school-to-work partnerships and apprenticeship programs, in addition to traditional higher education for adult workers;
- Full funding and equal access to:
 - Public education, including all basic, gifted, vocational, technical, alternative, special education, and other state/federal programs and mandates;
 - Head Start and Early Childhood Education and Assistance Programs;
 - Training for all faculty and staff in de-escalation techniques, how to prevent, identify, and report suspected child abuse, and positive behavior supports;
 - School food programs, including breakfast and lunch, that meet or exceed state nutritional standards and support healthy habits and classroom learning so that all students have an equal opportunity to succeed;
 - High-quality, out-of-school-time programs, including before school, after school, and summer, to support working families and maintain school-year learning achievement.

State and Local

- The Washington State Legislature to fulfill its constitutional duty to “make ample provisions for the education of all children” as reaffirmed by the Washington State Supreme Court in the *McCleary* decision;
- Racial and economic integration of students within schools and school districts;

- 799 • Increased school choice through public options such as State-Tribal Education Compacts, Innovative
800 public schools, and the expansion of free, virtual options;
- 801 • Effective oversight of pre-K through grade 12 schools to increase accountability regarding recently
802 passed laws, such as school district violations of student protections, closing opportunity gaps,
803 attaining equity regarding school discipline, implementing play-based learning, and offering tiered
804 interventions to meet student academic and behavioral needs;
- 805 • Stronger, comprehensive oversight of charter schools and the elimination of exceptions afforded to
806 them in current law;
- 807 • Support for systems to enable more equitable funding of our public schools, such as:
808 ○ Simple majority elections for school bonds and protection of the simple majority for school
809 levies;
- 810 ○ Education funding equity regardless of district tax base, with a new funding formula for
811 public schools and capital projects;
- 812 ○ Uncoupling school bonds from the state non-education capital budget and passing them
813 with a simple majority;
- 814 ○ Restructuring school districts to increase alignment with county or municipal boundaries for
815 equity of funding, reduction of segregation, and more effective partnerships with local social
816 services.
- 817 • Full funding and equal access to:
818 ○ Smaller and appropriate class sizes based on research on effective learning environments;
- 819 ○ School academic and behavioral health counselors, librarians, paraprofessionals, social
820 workers, custodians, and nurses to serve the needs of every student;
- 821 ○ Funding school construction to accommodate increased student populations, full-day pre-k
822 and kindergarten, and maintenance including replacement of all portables for the health
823 and safety of our students;
- 824 ○ Safe transportation to and from school;
- 825 ○ Open educational resources offered free and openly for educators, students, and self-
826 learners to use and reuse for teaching, learning and resources;
- 827 ○ The acquisition and maintenance of a technological infrastructure (broadband and end-user
828 equipment) throughout the state that will make robust connectivity a reality for every
829 educator and learner, whether in the classroom or located remotely;
- 830 ○ Implementation of the Washington State Board of Health’s revised rules for health and
831 safety of school environments;
- 832 • Pre-K through grade 12 multi-tiered system of supports (MTSS);
- 833 • Curricula that include:
834 ○ Critical thinking instruction to promote recognition of cognitive biases and logical fallacies;
- 835 ○ Rigorous, comprehensive, and historically, as well as scientifically, accurate content at all
836 levels that recognizes the cultural perspectives of students from diverse and indigenous
837 communities;
- 838 ○ Social-emotional learning, music, fine arts, environmental education, world language
839 instruction, civics, personal finance, and physical education in the Washington Basic
840 Education Act, beginning in pre-K;
- 841 ○ Implementation of medically accurate and comprehensive sex education in schools,
842 including education on healthy relationships and models of consent;
- 843 ○ STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics) education through diverse
844 learning opportunities in pre-K through grade 12 as a matter of national security and global
845 economic competitiveness;

- 846 ○ Quality vocational education and apprenticeship programs in middle school, high school,
- 847 and community and technical colleges;
- 848 ○ Math instruction that prioritizes arithmetic and geometric fluency, proof techniques, logic,
- 849 and elementary statistics, and how to apply those tools to real-world scenarios to promote
- 850 general numeracy.
- 851 ● An educational workforce that:
- 852 ○ Recognizes employee rights to organize, engage in collective bargaining, and strike without
- 853 fear of reprisal or replacement;
- 854 ○ Is fairly compensated (salary and benefits) for adjunct and part-time college instructors
- 855 based on levels for full-time professional staff and faculty, according to percentage of full-
- 856 time equivalency;
- 857 ○ Compensates certificated and classified employees equal to that of other professionals of
- 858 similar experience and education, in order to attract and retain quality public school
- 859 employees;
- 860 ○ Is able to exercise academic freedom without reprisal.
- 861 ● Safe schools, colleges, and universities that:
- 862 ○ Are free from guns, weapons, violence, bullying, harassment, retribution (by staff and
- 863 students), drugs, and alcohol;
- 864 ○ Include developmentally appropriate recess and meal times;
- 865 ○ Require all districts to publish a Pandemic Response Plan including closing and reopening
- 866 safety plans that prioritize student, staff, and community health and safety;
- 867 ○ Fortify cybersecurity systems and establish best practices so that they can protect personal
- 868 information, prevent malicious hacks, data breaches, and phishing attempts;
- 869 ○ Provide students access to school locker rooms and bathrooms that correspond to their
- 870 gender identities or single-occupancy facilities;
- 871 ● Legislation that addresses:
- 872 ○ High interest rates on student loans;
- 873 ○ Financial stress of currently enrolled (part and full-time) college students;
- 874 ○ Student loan forgiveness;
- 875 ○ Public service loan forgiveness;
- 876 ○ Tuition-free public colleges and universities;
- 877 ○ Tuition aid to college students convicted of drug possession who are now barred assistance
- 878 by the federal government.
- 879 ● Adoption of a non-profit GED as an alternative to the for-profit GED.

880

881 **We Oppose:**

882

883 **Overall**

- 884 ● Unfunded mandates;
- 885 ● Linking military recruitment to educational funding;
- 886 ● High-stakes standardized testing tied to teacher compensation, school funding, grade promotion, or
- 887 high school graduation;
- 888 ● Over-testing of students, the use of biased assessments, testing for the sake of testing, and
- 889 mandated tests from the federal government;
- 890 ● Corporal punishment;
- 891 ● Scaling back Title IX campus sexual assault protections and rights;
- 892 ● Predatory education loans that target veterans, students of color, and those who are economically
- 893 disadvantaged;

- 894 • Dissolution of the Department of Education;
- 895 • Student loans that cannot be refinanced or discharged in bankruptcy.

896

897 **State and Local**

- 898 • School vouchers;
- 899 • Charter Schools;
- 900 • The commercialization of school environments including corporate funding of programs and pre-K
- 901 through grade 12 food sales;
- 902 • Organized prayer in public schools;
- 903 • The escalation of tuition at institutions of higher education in response to declining state support;
- 904 • The gathering of personal student and employee information for commercial, personal, or political
- 905 gain.

Health Care, Human Services, and Gun Safety

Healthcare is a basic human right. Our government should guarantee accessible, affordable, and high-quality healthcare for all by law. Patients must have the right to access and choose between all lawful medical treatment options, without hindrance by institutions exercising religious doctrine and regardless of ability to pay. A strong public health system is essential to the well-being of all residents and the health and economic security of this country. As a caring community, we must provide a safety net of social services that meets the basic needs of people, especially those on the margins of society, so they can attain their full potential. The right to own firearms is subject to reasonable regulation and laws should protect the lives of all people, especially vulnerable populations, such as our school children, from gun violence.

We believe:

- Health care is a basic human right;
- Health care and human services enable a productive workforce, reduce crime and promote the common welfare;
- Government should create social and physical environments that promote good health for all by addressing the Social Determinants of Health (SDOH). The SDOH are the non-medical factors that affect health function and quality of life outcomes and risk;
- An affordable universal single-payer system is essential to provide the most equitable and effective health care, serving both individual and public health needs;
- Health care options should not be hindered by religious or economic ideology;
- Health care coverage should be comprehensive;
- A strong public health system promotes conditions leading to better health for the entire population;
- Public health is a governmental responsibility and should ensure access to clean air, water, and food;
- Our government must act to protect us against pandemics, providing adequate support and funding of our public health institutions;
- Gun violence is a public health crisis causing injury and death;
- Social services must be integrated, culturally competent, linguistically accessible, lacking faith-based requirements, and based on the needs of the individual;
- Access to health care and human services must not be denied on the basis of immigration or residency status; and
- Measures to ensure the long-term sustainability of our earned benefit safety-net programs – Social Security and Medicare – are urgently needed now.

We Call For:

Washington State to:

- Establish a universal single payer healthcare system for Washington residents, regardless of immigration status, until such time as a single-payer system is enacted nationally;

- 948 • Provide sustained, non-Medicaid funding to protect the vulnerable populations not covered by
949 Federal Medicaid;
- 950 • Medically accurate and comprehensive sex education in schools, including education on healthy
951 relationships and models of consent;
- 952 • Support a patient’s right to decision-making and other provisions of the Death with Dignity Act;
- 953 • Fund the Washington State Health Professionals Loan Repayment Program (HPLRP) to support
954 underserved communities in recruiting and retaining primary care providers;
- 955 • Develop and expand Safe Consumption Sites and require first responders to be trained and
956 equipped for overdose response;
- 957 • Provide easy access to all Washington Residents to opiate dependence maintenance therapy.
958

959 **The Federal Government to:**

- 960 • Establish a universal single payer healthcare system for United States residents regardless of
961 immigration status;
- 962 • Pass a comprehensive "Patients’ Bill of Rights" law that:
 - 963 ○ Ensures medical decisions are patient-centric and made primarily by patients, their families
964 and providers; and
 - 965 ○ Affirms freedom of choice in health care;
- 966 • Empower the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services or an equivalent future agency to
967 negotiate prices for medical devices and drugs;
- 968 • Ensure prompt Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approval of new treatments based on solid data
969 from reputable clinical trials that demonstrate both safety and effectiveness;
- 970 • Allow the CDC and NIH to operate autonomously within their mandate, without politically motivated
971 limitations;
- 972 • Provide expanded funding of basic science and clinical research under the NIH, based on scientific
973 merit;
- 974 • Overturn the Hyde Amendment which prevents funding for abortion and abortion related services;
- 975 • Create Federal statutory rights that parallel the constitutional rights established in Roe v. Wade to
976 prohibit states from interfering with the ability of:
 - 977 ○ A health care provider to provide medical services; and
 - 978 ○ A patient to access medical care, including abortion services, from a provider that offers
979 them;
- 980 • Continue funding to support HIV/AIDS research and to expand awareness, prevention and treatment
981 services in all communities across the nation;
- 982 • Prohibit child welfare service providers from discriminating against children, families and individuals
983 based on their religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, immigration status and marital
984 status and ensure that children and youth in foster care receive the identity-affirming, culturally
985 competent care they deserve;
- 986 • Provide adequate assistance to meet the needs of children of low-income families, including but not
987 limited to:
 - 988 ○ The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)
 - 989 ○ The Children’s Health Insurance Program (CHIP)
 - 990 ○ Earned income tax credit
 - 991 ○ Child tax credit
 - 992 ○ Housing
 - 993 ○ Childcare
- 994 • Fund the CDC to investigate the causes of gun violence;

- 995 • Ensure the infrastructure, materials and supplies necessary to address a pandemic be produced in
- 996 the USA, with minimal outsourcing to other countries;
- 997 • Improve Social Security benefits by:
 - 998 ○ Expanding these earned benefits to immigrant populations;
 - 999 ○ Providing Social Security benefits that address inequities for low-income families, women,
 - 1000 people with disabilities, public sector workers, and people of color;
 - 1001 ○ Crediting individuals serving as caregivers of dependent relatives with deemed wages;
 - 1002 ○ Ensuring that the annual cost of living adjustments keep pace with the actual costs that
 - 1003 seniors face – especially those related to health care and basic needs; and
 - 1004 ○ Removing the cap on Social Security payroll taxes.

1005

1006 **Both the State and Federal Government to:**

- 1007 • Provide comprehensive health care coverage to all resident populations, including asylum seekers,
- 1008 tribal communities and incarcerated individuals. This shall include, but not be limited to:
 - 1009 ○ Outpatient and inpatient services;
 - 1010 ○ Acute and long-term care;
 - 1011 ○ Home care, palliative care, end-of-life counseling & hospice;
 - 1012 ○ Behavioral and mental health care and substance-use programs, including successful
 - 1013 treatment for drug & alcohol addiction;
 - 1014 ○ Dental, vision & hearing services;
 - 1015 ○ Preventative services;
 - 1016 ○ Family planning with contraception and access to safe abortions;
 - 1017 ○ Prescription drugs, medical supplies, durable medical equipment & medical technology;
 - 1018 ○ Full coverage of transgender medical costs; and
 - 1019 ○ Rehabilitation;
- 1020 • Provide adequate funding for the recruitment, education and training of healthcare and human
- 1021 service professionals including those working in underserved areas;
- 1022 • Fund transition assistance for any employee who loses their job as a result of the establishment of a
- 1023 single-payer system;
- 1024 • Provide a safety net for rural hospitals and community health centers;
- 1025 • Require health insurance programs, both private and public, to cover all forms of legal reproductive
- 1026 services and methods in accord with the principles of reproductive parity;
- 1027 • Provide adequate and continued funding for providers of reproductive and family planning services
- 1028 such as Planned Parenthood;
- 1029 • Provide education grants and student-debt forgiveness for primary care providers, in exchange for
- 1030 service to underserved populations;
- 1031 • Provide early intervention and preventative services for behavioral and mental health including
- 1032 medically appropriate crisis care and community reintegration services;
- 1033 • Expand Medicaid benefits to adequately cover home and community-based and facility-based care
- 1034 services;
- 1035 • Improved access to medical marijuana and replacing Schedule I status with a classification reflecting
- 1036 marijuana’s relative risks and medicinal benefits;
- 1037 • Provide adequate funding of social services programs including but not limited to:
 - 1038 ○ Early childhood education
 - 1039 ○ Health education and training
 - 1040 ○ Nutrition
 - 1041 ○ Medical, behavioral & rehabilitative care

- 1042 ○ Protection and oversight for underserved groups
- 1043 ○ Preventative health services, including vaccinations
- 1044 ● Implement common sense gun safety measures including but not limited to:
 - 1045 ○ Comprehensive gun-sale background checks, addressing criminal, mental health, and
 - 1046 domestic violence history;
 - 1047 ○ Waiting periods for *all* gun sales whether private or for profit;
 - 1048 ○ Mandatory registration and licensing;
 - 1049 ○ Raise the age requirement to 21 years of age for the purchase of firearms;
 - 1050 ○ Requiring approved safe gun storage;
 - 1051 ○ Safety training for all gun owners;
 - 1052 ○ A limit on volume buys of firearms and ammunition by an individual;
 - 1053 ○ A total ban on private ownership of assault style weapons and high capacity ammunition
 - 1054 magazines larger than 10 rounds;
 - 1055 ○ Enforcement of criminal negligence laws that hold adults responsible for safeguarding guns
 - 1056 around children; and
 - 1057 ○ Concealed carry permits to be valid only in the state of issuance or other states with equal
 - 1058 or higher standards.

1059

1060 **We Oppose:**

- 1061 ● Privatizing, rationing or increasing eligibility requirements for Medicare and other vital safety net
- 1062 programs;
- 1063 ● For-profit medical insurance;
- 1064 ● Lack of transparency in prescription drug pricing and medical services;
- 1065 ● Direct-to-consumer advertising of prescription drugs and devices;
- 1066 ● Denial of legal medical treatment or prescription purchase based on the personal religious beliefs of
- 1067 medical and/or pharmaceutical personnel;
- 1068 ● “Conversion Therapy,” which seeks to change sexual orientation;
- 1069 ● Agencies that provide false or misleading medical information, or deliberately omit information to
- 1070 prevent abortions;
- 1071 ● All modes and methods of denying in practice a person’s right to autonomy over their own body,
- 1072 including restricting:
 - 1073 ○ Abortions;
 - 1074 ○ Contraceptive sterilizations;
 - 1075 ○ In vitro fertilization;
 - 1076 ○ Prescribing or dispensing contraceptives and contraceptive devices such as IUDs,
 - 1077 diaphragms, emergency contraception, and condoms; and
 - 1078 ○ End-of-life decision making;
- 1079 ● Arming teachers, administration, and faculty members or other attempts to introduce or increase
- 1080 the presence of firearms in the classroom; and
- 1081 ● Resale of guns seized by law enforcement

1082

Criminal Justice Reform

1083

1084

1085 Washington Democrats recognize the criminal legal system is one rooted in racism. We must be
1086 aggressive in our drive to limit and minimize explicit, implicit, and institutional injustices. Injustice based
1087 on race, gender, gender preference, religion, class, wealth, or country of origin are still having an
1088 immediate effect of those who experience injustice and those injustices must be prevented. We also
1089 recognize it is not possible for us to list every form of injustice that exists. These injustices have shaped
1090 our society and institutions from the earliest settlers. We recognize that only by focusing on restorative
1091 justice can we start a healing process for those who have been impacted by the systemic racism in our
1092 current criminal legal system. Although Washington has made progress, we still have much work to
1093 do. We affirm that formerly incarcerated people, who have done their time, should not continue to be
1094 punished. We believe incarcerated and formerly incarcerated people should have their rights protected
1095 with diligence and need to be treated with respect at all times. Employees in the criminal legal system
1096 must be held to the highest ethical standards. Only by ending mass incarceration can the United States
1097 regain the moral high ground. We believe the best way to prevent mass incarceration is to fully fund
1098 preventive efforts before someone engages in the criminal legal system. The following are issues that
1099 are so pervasive that we must list in the criminal justice reform plank of the Washington State
1100 Democrat’s platform.

1101

1102 **We Believe:**

1103

1104 **National, State and Local Level**

- 1105 • The criminal legal system is rooted in a history of racism;
- 1106 • Racial equity must be at the heart of all the reforms of the criminal legal system;
- 1107 • No person or corporation should profit from the imprisonment of people;
- 1108 • Ending the school to prison pipeline;
- 1109 • The criminal legal system is the wrong place to handle drug addiction and mental health issues;
- 1110 • In restorative justice;
- 1111 • All people, regardless of race, sexual orientation and gender identity, ability and class have the right
1112 to be secure in their persons, houses, papers, personal data, and effects, against unreasonable
1113 searches and seizures;
- 1114 • A person’s wealth or race should not determine how the rule of law is applied to them;
- 1115 • Employees in the judicial system need to be held to the highest standards of ethical, moral, and legal
1116 practices;
- 1117 • The U.S. cannot claim the moral high ground among the nations of the world in terms of its
1118 treatment of its own people unless substantial systemic and structural changes are made in our civil
1119 and criminal justice system;
- 1120 • The strikingly disproportional negative impact of our civil and criminal justice system on people
1121 based on race, sexual orientation and gender identity, disability and class demands our attention
1122 and cries out for justice too long denied;
- 1123 • Nonviolent conflict resolution, education, youth programs, health care, social services, rehabilitation, and
1124 living wage jobs will reduce crime and violence;
- 1125 • We believe basic human rights must be respected for all people confined in various facilities,
1126 including those confined by law in jails, prisons, mental facilities and protective custody, like elder
1127 care dementia wards;

- 1128 • Supporting survivors and honoring, respecting and assuming credibility of their stories and fully
- 1129 investigating their claims;
- 1130 • In ending the war on drugs, by prioritizing treatment of addiction over incarceration;
- 1131 • Community-police relations will be improved with civilian oversight and review and civilian
- 1132 participation in developing law enforcement practices;
- 1133 • The purpose of court sentences is to right wrongs and injustices. The goal is to address the problems
- 1134 that lead to breaking the law and to minimize recidivism;
- 1135 • We believe that only by ending mass incarceration can we begin to deconstruct the prison industrial
- 1136 complex.

1137

1138 **National and State Level**

- 1139 • Justice Reform needs to apply equally to the military and that it be applied equally to all members of
- 1140 the military regardless of rank;
- 1141 • People should not lose their voting rights because of a criminal conviction.

1142

1143 **National Level**

- 1144 • The civilian justice system is the appropriate venue for prosecution of acts of terrorism;
- 1145 • Military members who declare themselves conscientious objectors to be given due process without
- 1146 fear of reprisal;
- 1147 • Increased funding for investigative units under the Uniform Code of Military Justice (UCMJ) for full
- 1148 prosecution of all sexual assaults, and of harassment based on gender, religion, ethnicity, or sexual
- 1149 orientation, by military personnel;
- 1150 • We believe that Justice Reform needs to apply equally to the military and that it be applied equally
- 1151 to all members of the military regardless of rank.

1152

1153 **We Call For:**

1154

1155 **National, State and Local Level**

- 1156 • Providing basic education-on how to work with the justice system (both civil and criminal cases)
- 1157 for all interactions with our justice system;
- 1158 • We call for law enforcement and everyone else to be treated equally under the law;
- 1159 • Equitable justice available for all court cases: Providing adequate funding for all defendants in
- 1160 criminal, civil, juvenile, and family court cases;
- 1161 • Increased efforts during the voir dire process to address and ensure equitable representation of
- 1162 minorities on juries;
- 1163 • Ongoing anti- racism, anti- bias, and diversity training for all employees in the criminal legal
- 1164 system;
- 1165 • We oppose using someone’s debt as a reason to revoke their rights;
- 1166 • Prohibition of the sale of court fines and fees to private debt collectors;
- 1167 • Determinate sentencing, with the provision that judges must supply in writing reasons for exceeding
- 1168 limits;
- 1169 • Enforcement of habeas corpus for everyone in the United States- citizens and non-citizens;
- 1170 • Immediate and comprehensive action to end racial profiling and the disproportionately high
- 1171 imprisonment of people of color, and to reduce the U.S.’s overall incarceration rate, which is the
- 1172 highest in the world;
- 1173 • Abolition of solitary confinement as punishment;
- 1174 • Providing all formerly incarcerated with the opportunity to re-enter and be productive members of

- 1175 society with an assistance plan for transitional food, clothing, housing, and employment for each
 1176 person released from a local, state or federal institution;
- 1177 • Adequate funding of probation services to provide and encourage transition into the general
 1178 population without the added stigma of being labeled;
 - 1179 • Training for law enforcement and corrections officers to identify mental and behavioral health
 1180 issues and then safely, respectfully and humanely address those situations;
 - 1181 • Police forces to be held accountable for abusive practices, exercise restraint in their dealing with
 1182 peaceful assemblies and protests; Police need to be demilitarized and the use of tanks, assault
 1183 vehicles, military assault arms should be banned;
 - 1184 • The use of deadly force by police should only be used in the most extreme circumstances;
 - 1185 • Mental healthcare professionals or trained social workers to be called in to help police in
 1186 deescalating situations involving mental health crisis;
 - 1187 • Providing defendants a supervised release or mandatory detention, with the conditions determined
 1188 with a risk assessment in lieu of cash bail;
 - 1189 • Convictions for possession of marijuana to be expunged nationwide and such prisoners immediately
 1190 released;
 - 1191 • All cases where someone may lose their rights permanently to have the option for a jury trial;
 - 1192 • Timely DNA testing in all identification cases to ensure innocence;
 - 1193 • The creation of a universal healthcare system that includes comprehensive mental health care
 1194 coverage;
 - 1195 • Equitable punishments for white collar crime, including appropriate fines and jail time
 1196 commensurate with the damage done to society;
 - 1197 • Criminal asset forfeiture should be tightly bound to victim restitution;
 - 1198 • Courageous conversations in our communities and across the nation about the race- and class-based
 1199 challenges we face in fostering trust in community-police relations;
 - 1200 • Any civil case deemed an “emergency” and pushed to court in less time than allowed by civil rules
 1201 and law must be allowed a re-hearing if either party wants it using the normal civil rules and
 1202 laws; either party in a civil case to have a re-hearing of an expedited “emergency” case using the
 1203 normal civil rules, laws, and procedures;
 - 1204 • All formerly incarcerated people to have the ability for their conviction to be reviewed periodically
 1205 and expunged;
 - 1206 • A ban on facial recognition technology and other AI programs used for profiling suspects within law
 1207 enforcement practices.

1208

1209 **National and State Level**

- 1210 • Repealing the death penalty;
- 1211 • Abolishment of the Three Strike laws;
- 1212 • Full funding of the Violence Against Women Act, services to crime victims, expeditious testing of
 1213 rape kits, and programs to prevent sexual violence.

1214

1215 **State and Local Level**

- 1216 • State and local governments must direct and train law enforcement to recognize that sex workers
 1217 against whom a crime has been committed have the same right to police protection as any other
 1218 constituent and should be treated with the same respect for their dignity;
- 1219 • Efforts to improve community-police relations providing civilian oversight or review of situations
 1220 where human and civil rights concerns arise regarding police practices;
- 1221 • The building and funding of community based mental healthcare facilities across the state of

1222 Washington.

1223

1224 **We Oppose:**

1225

1226 **National, State, and Local Level**

- 1227 • Mandatory sentencing;
- 1228 • Coerced labor for detainees and inmates;
- 1229 • Prisoners outsourced out-of-state;
- 1230 • Government spying on persons including the use of drone technology and collection of personal
- 1231 meta-data without a legal warrant, which is a violation of 4th Amendment protections against
- 1232 search and seizure;
- 1233 • The offering of religious programming in our prisons without offering a secular alternative;
- 1234 • Asset seizures based on arrest or presumption of guilt;
- 1235 • “Warehousing” of prisoners;
- 1236 • Using prisons or jails to house persons with mental health or addiction issues;
- 1237 • The use of cash bail;
- 1238 • Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) having access to our local court system;

1239

1240 **National and State Level**

- 1241 • The use of private, for-profit prisons, jails and juvenile detention facilities and the use of forced
- 1242 and/or undercompensated prison labor to generate corporate profits;
- 1243 • “Stand Your Ground” laws that legalize shooting-first;

1244

Government

1245

1246

1247

1248

1249

1250

1251

1252

1253

1254

1255

1256

1257

1258

1259

1260

1261

1262

1263

1264

1265

1266

1267

1268

1269

1270

1271

1272

1273

1274

1275

1276

1277

1278

1279

1280

1281

1282

1283

1284

1285

1286

1287

1288

1289

Government derives its legitimacy from the people, to whom it must be answerable. It serves as their instrument to achieve ends that the people could not achieve individually. Our representative democracy requires full participation by an informed citizenry, a voting process that is fair and transparent, and public officials who are accountable to society. Maintaining the separation of power between the three co-equal branches of government is of paramount importance and has been since the founding of our nation. In order for democracy to flourish, we require a persistently inquisitive media and the free flow of information. The United States should lead by example and from a position of strength. We must work with the world community in a spirit of peace, cooperation, and generosity to support human welfare, freedom, and democracy. We must ensure that diplomacy and nonviolent conflict resolution are the primary tools of our foreign policy. The decision to go to war must include that the cost of war is horrific, calculations must include the devastation of economies, on all parties, civilian and military lives, the disruption to surrounding nations due to refugee displacement. Military force should be non-preemptive and used only as a last resort. The core task of the U.S. military is to provide for the common defense and must never be open to abuses of power by any branch of government. We will always support our troops and honor our veterans who act in the service of our country.

We believe:

Foreign Policy

- The United States must provide assistance and work cooperatively with other nations to build a more peaceful, sustainable, and stable world by addressing root causes of conflict, including poverty, inequitable access to natural resources, economic injustice, and environmental degradation;
- We must protect our nation from external threats without suppressing human rights at home and abroad;
- The United States must work closely and persistently with other countries to prevent or stop genocide wherever it occurs;
- Diplomatic re-engagement throughout the world will lead to the peaceful resolution of ongoing conflicts;
- Resolution of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict requires an independent state of Palestine alongside the state of Israel and just resolution of refugee issues;

Media Reform

- Democracy relies upon citizenry informed by a free press, which is essential and valuable for democracy, for governance, and for human development;
- The public airwaves and the Internet must serve everyone within the United States of America and must not be controlled by a few corporations;
- Access to all forms of media transmission should be provided for everyone within the United States of America;
- [9] Journalists who report on news and events should be legally protected from public and governmental abuse, retaliation, and from being compelled to reveal their sources.

1290 **Military and Veterans Affairs**

- 1291 • It is the task of the military to execute orders issued by the civilian Commander in Chief except when
- 1292 such orders are unlawful;
- 1293 • Under the Constitution, it is the duty of Congress to declare war, appropriate funds, provide
- 1294 oversight, and act to prevent the misuse of the military;
- 1295 • Our military service members are entitled to serve with a clear mission and adequate resources;
- 1296 • Military personnel and all others who rely on Tricare and military medical facilities have the right to
- 1297 make their own reproductive decisions, with the same rights accorded to civilians regardless of
- 1298 gender;
- 1299 • Government contracts should be awarded based on fair and competitive bidding, with preference
- 1300 given to U.S. companies and veteran-, minority-, women-owned small businesses.

1301
1302 **Government and Political Reform Belief Statements**

- 1303 • All Americans must have equitable access to the political process, regardless of health, place of
- 1304 residence, economic status, race, religion, criminal status, Legal Financial Obligation repayment
- 1305 status or gender;
- 1306 • Presidential candidates must reveal all their financial obligations and vested interests,
- 1307 • Government officials must be held to the highest standards of ethical conduct and that there be
- 1308 consequences for misconduct;
- 1309 • Elected officials are employees of the people and are responsible to society as a whole;
- 1310 • Government actions should support the common good, and taxes should be levied fairly and spent
- 1311 responsibly;
- 1312 • Government should be protected from undue corporate and foreign influence;
- 1313 • Government should enact policies that promote job creation in the U.S. such as funding
- 1314 infrastructure projects and promoting the Green New Deal.

1315
1316 **We Call For:**

1317
1318 **Foreign Policy**

- 1319 • [National] Full support and funding of our State Department as the primary foreign policy arm of the
- 1320 U.S. Government;
- 1321 • [National] Upholding the rights, welfare, and healthy environment of all indigenous peoples;
- 1322 • [National] Freezing the assets of leaders of repressive regimes and banning military exports to such
- 1323 countries;
- 1324 • [National] Participation in and funding of multilateral peacekeeping missions;
- 1325 • [National] Cooperative and fully funded participation in international organizations including the
- 1326 United Nations, the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, and the World Health Organization provided
- 1327 that the national security interests of the United States are protected;
- 1328 • [National] The United States to honor and ratify international treaties that protect civilian
- 1329 populations, refugees, and human rights, address climate change and prevent genocide;
- 1330 • [National] Working with other nations to pursue law enforcement action against terrorist networks,
- 1331 rather than acting through military intervention;
- 1332 • [National] Effective foreign aid to reduce poverty and improve access to clean air, clean water,
- 1333 adequate food and shelter;
- 1334 • [National] Supporting programs for voluntary forms of evidence-based, safe, and effective family
- 1335 planning worldwide;
- 1336 • [National] International fair trade agreements that deal adequately and transparently with human

- 1337 rights, the rights of indigenous peoples, labor rights, environmental rights, and sustainability;
- 1338 • [National] Rebuilding the civilian infrastructure and economy in Iraq and Afghanistan, using
- 1339 international agencies and local labor;
- 1340 • [National] Detailed and public accounting of all reconstruction funds spent in “Operation Iraqi
- 1341 Freedom” and “Operation Enduring Freedom;”
- 1342 • [National] Political and economic self-determination for the Cuban people and normalization of our
- 1343 relations with Cuba, including an end to the United States-imposed embargo and travel ban;
- 1344 • [National] International cooperation to reduce nuclear arsenals, strengthen international control of
- 1345 fissile material including “depleted” uranium, and limit the use of fissile material to peaceful
- 1346 purposes;
- 1347 • [National] Using foreign aid to offset or forgive the onerous debt of countries forced to choose
- 1348 between debt repayment and essential services;
- 1349 • [National] Encouraging struggling economies worldwide to engage in economic growth policies
- 1350 without compelling privatization of government services or natural resources as a way to refinance
- 1351 their nations’ debts;
- 1352 • [National] Restoration of our historic full adherence to the Geneva and Vienna Conventions;
- 1353 • [National] Allowing developing nations more influence in the running of the International Monetary
- 1354 Fund (IMF) and the World Bank;
- 1355 • [National or State] International agreements that expand opportunity and employment for
- 1356 Washington workers and businesses;
- 1357 • [National] The United States to honor the United Nations Declaration of Human Rights,
- 1358 • [National] The United States to ratify the United Nations Conventions on the Elimination of All
- 1359 Forms of Discrimination Against Women and on the Rights of the Child;
- 1360 • [National] The United States to sign and ratify the United Nations agreement creating the
- 1361 International Criminal Courts;

1362

1363 **Government and Political Reform**

- 1364 • [National] For the repeal of Citizens United v. FEC through specific legislation;
- 1365 ○ A constitutional amendment that corporations are not people, money is not speech, and all
- 1366 elections be publicly funded;
- 1367 ○ The repeal of the Patriot Act;
- 1368 • [National] Taxpayer-funded scientific research that becomes part of the public domain and informs
- 1369 policy and regulatory decisions affecting our health, safety, and environment;
- 1370 • [National] Timely responses to Freedom of Information Act requests to ensure transparent, open,
- 1371 and honest government;
- 1372 • [State] Transparency in sessions that discuss and make public policy through strict enforcement of
- 1373 the Public Records Act and the Open Public Meetings Act;
- 1374 • [State] Requiring paid voter signature gatherers for ballot initiatives to prominently display who they
- 1375 work for and who is paying them;
- 1376 • [National] Automatic voter registration for all eligible voters by the first election in which they are
- 1377 eligible to vote;
- 1378 • [National and State] Limits on direct and indirect private and corporate financial and in-kind
- 1379 contributions to political activities;
- 1380 • [National] Elections in which all votes are cast on carefully monitored, secured human-readable
- 1381 paper ballots;
- 1382 • [National] Mandatory auditing of the election process and results that is open to the public to
- 1383 witness;

- 1384 • [National] Federal leadership, funding, guidance, and support for vote-by-mail in all national
- 1385 elections with same-day registration and optional in-person voting;
- 1386 • [National and State] Public financing of campaigns;
- 1387 • [State] State funding of inclusive public debates for statewide offices and ballot measures;
- 1388 • [National] Federal leadership, funding, guidance, and support for redistricting states through a data-
- 1389 driven process to create districts that are fair and representative of the people they serve;
- 1390 • [State] Guaranteeing the Washington State Re-districting process is effective, transparent and
- 1391 accountable, and maximizes public input;
- 1392 • [National] The direct election of the United States President and Vice President;
- 1393 • [National] Restricting former state and federal elected officials from paid lobbying for at least five
- 1394 years after leaving office;
- 1395 • [National and State] Prosecution of government employees (elected or non-elected) who violate
- 1396 laws under the guise of doing their job including judges;
- 1397 • [National and State] Adequate funding and staffing for all regulatory agencies;
- 1398 • [National and State] Adequate and equitable funding of public service options for all in need of work
- 1399 or work experience, including AmeriCorps, Peace Corps, Job Corps, and other avenues of service;
- 1400 • [State] Enactment of revenue measures by simple-majority votes in the Washington State
- 1401 Legislature, as specified in the State Constitution;
- 1402 • [State] Automatic legislative review of state tax exemptions on a five-year rolling interval;
- 1403 • [National] Inclusion of all military funding in open Congressional budgets;
- 1404 • [State] Establishment of a state bank to handle and profit from state revenues;
- 1405 • [National] Disclosure-in-advertising of the top 5 donors to Federal PACs and Non-Candidate
- 1406 Committees;
- 1407 • [National] Full Congressional representation and statehood for the District of Columbia and any U.S.
- 1408 Territory that votes for it;
- 1409 • [National and State] Publicly owned and operated utilities for the provision of potable water,
- 1410 sewage disposal, drainage management, transportation infrastructure, energy, and
- 1411 telecommunications;
- 1412 • [National and State] Adequate time to be given to legislators to review bills before they are voted
- 1413 on;
- 1414 • [National] Counting the incarcerated, for census purposes, as residents of their last home address,
- 1415 rather than their place of imprisonment;
- 1416 • [National] Adequately funding the census to accurately count all people living in the U.S. and U.S.
- 1417 government employees and their dependents living outside the country;
- 1418 • [National] Adequately counting Queer, LGBTQ+, and those who otherwise identify, by households
- 1419 and individuals in the US Census;
- 1420 • [National] Massive investment in modernizing our infrastructure nationwide in partnership with our
- 1421 unions that will create jobs;
- 1422 • [National] Investing in job training and retraining programs that build partnerships between unions,
- 1423 career and technical institutions, and business.

1424
1425 **Media Reform**

- 1426 • [National] Reinstating station ownership caps to limit the number of news outlets that any media
- 1427 conglomerate may own and operate;
- 1428 • [National] Aggressively applying antitrust laws to prevent the formation of monopolies in the
- 1429 wireless and broadband service industries.
- 1430 • [National] Promoting community-level, non-profit and non-commercial radio and TV;

- 1431 • [National] Ample funding, free of political pressure, for public broadcasting to promote
- 1432 independence and discourage reliance on corporate sponsorships;
- 1433 • [National] Protecting Net Neutrality through federal legislation;
- 1434 • [National] High-quality Internet access for all in every region in the country especially the expansion
- 1435 of affordable, broadband Internet and high-speed wireless coverage into rural areas
- 1436 • [National] Protection and privacy of data created through a person’s online presence and activities;
- 1437

1438 **Military and Veterans Affairs**

- 1439 • [National] Military members who declare themselves conscientious objectors to be given due
- 1440 process without fear of reprisal;
- 1441 • [National] Increased funding for investigative units under the Uniform Code of Military Justice
- 1442 (UCMJ) for full prosecution of all sexual assaults, and of harassment based on gender, religion,
- 1443 ethnicity, or sexual orientation, by military personnel;
- 1444 • [National] Removing jurisdiction, in cases of alleged sexual assault between members of the US
- 1445 military, from the direct chain of command over either the complainant or the accused;
- 1446 • [National] Training our armed forces to respect the common dignity and civil rights of human beings;
- 1447 • [National] Troops to be accorded mandatory breaks between overseas tours;
- 1448 • [National] Providing financial assistance, childcare assistance, and no-cost life insurance for
- 1449 dependents of all military personnel deployed to hostile or combat areas;
- 1450 • [National] Ensuring that military personnel retain full enlistment bonuses if they are discharged for
- 1451 service-related and/or combat-related disabilities;
- 1452 • [National] Enforcement of the Geneva Conventions, through all levels of command, in the treatment
- 1453 of all prisoners of war, enemy combatants, and detainees, regardless of the location of their
- 1454 incarceration;
- 1455 • [National] A public accountability process for military leaders and senior civilian leaders for the
- 1456 orders they give and the consequences of those orders;
- 1457 • [National] Protection of military personnel from reprisals for refusing to follow illegal orders;
- 1458 • [National] The cessation of “enhanced interrogation” techniques;
- 1459 • [National] Providing all veterans with full, timely, and no-cost treatment at local military or VA
- 1460 medical facilities, regardless of the nature/character of their discharge, and providing retraining for
- 1461 those who are disabled;
- 1462 • [National] Fully funding VA services;
- 1463 • [National] Modernizing the VA hiring process in particular, and USA Jobs in general, to match
- 1464 private-sector practices for applicant processing and hiring completion while maintaining equal
- 1465 employment opportunity, nondiscrimination, and veteran’s preferences currently in place;
- 1466 • [National] Adequate funding for physical and mental rehabilitation and long-term care and
- 1467 treatment of veterans, including treatment for Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder and Traumatic Brain
- 1468 Injury;
- 1469 • [National] Active outreach to provide access to housing and services for homeless veterans, and to
- 1470 enable homeless veteran communities to be established through alternative shelter opportunities;
- 1471 • [National] Dedicated job training and apprenticeship programs for veterans, that will partner with
- 1472 labor and industry to provide an immediate transition into guaranteed employment;
- 1473 • [National] Veterans preference in hiring, and requiring employers with government contracts to
- 1474 have a veteran’s set-aside in hiring to fulfill those contracts;
- 1475 • [National] Elimination of the Survivor’s Benefit Plan (SBP) Social Security offset when a widowed
- 1476 military spouse reaches age 62;
- 1477 • [National] Federally-funded environmental and impact cleanup from landmines, cluster munitions,

1478 and the development, deployment, and use of nuclear, biological, chemical, or “depleted” uranium
1479 (dU) weapon systems;

- 1480 • [State] The use of gender-neutral language in the state constitution.

1481

1482 **We Oppose:**

1483

1484 **Foreign Policy**

- 1485 • [National] Preemptive war;
- 1486 • [National] Exportation of offensive weapons systems, such as “depleted” uranium, chemical,
1487 nuclear, or biological weapons, that contribute to destabilization in international relations and the
1488 international arms race;
- 1489 • [National] Torture and extraordinary rendition, the abduction of persons of any nationality and their
1490 detention in secret prisons;
- 1491 • [National] Trade agreements negotiated in secret without public-interest representation;
- 1492 • [National] Foreign policies that put the interests of corporations above the rights, laws, and interests
1493 of governments and workers;
- 1494 • [National] Forced austerity measures, including privatization of government services, as a condition
1495 of U.S. aid and U.S. support for loans through the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the World
1496 Bank;
- 1497 • [National] The United States’ involvement in violent extremism, radicalization, and regime change;
- 1498 • [National] The use of United States tax money to fund, train or sponsor military or police forces that
1499 suppress human and civil rights in foreign countries;
- 1500 • [National] Any efforts to destabilize other nations’ governments.
- 1501 • [National] The use of artificial intelligence (AI) in weapons of war whereupon AI can act without the
1502 intervention of a human.

1503

1504 **Media Reform**

- 1505 • [National] Foreign nations undermining trust in media;

1506

1507 **Military and Veterans Affairs**

- 1508 • [National] further production and stockpiling of nuclear, biological, chemical, or “depleted” uranium
1509 (dU) weapon systems;
- 1510 • [National] The use of active sonar in inland and U.S. coastal waters at levels that endanger wildlife;
- 1511 • [National] Unregulated use of civilian areas for military training;
- 1512 • [National] Discrimination within the United States Armed Forces based on gender or gender
1513 identity;
- 1514 • [National] Religious indoctrination of service members;
- 1515 • [National] Privatization of the Department of Veterans Affairs, except where essential to provide
1516 care in rural clinics and other situations covered under the Veterans Choice Act;
- 1517 • [National] Military contractors being used for combat duty.

1518

1519 **Government and Political Reform**

- 1520 • [National] Any attempts to interfere with voting, recording, storing, and tallying votes;
- 1521 • [National] Laws that criminalize free speech and peaceful assembly, regardless of the economic
1522 impact of those protected actions.

Tribal Relations and Sovereignty

1523
1524 **Washington State Democrats** recognize the unique and valuable history and cultural relationships of the
1525 lands, waterways, usual and accustomed areas regionally and internationally which are highly valued
1526 among Tribal Nations. We must maintain a lasting and respectful relationship with Tribal Nations and
1527 oppose all attempts to diminish tribal sovereignty, tribal culture, natural resources, or the general
1528 welfare of tribes. We recognize this is essential to open and meaningful government-to-government
1529 relations. We recognize the status of Urban Indian populations, and that the Federal Trust responsibility
1530 expands beyond Tribal Reservation borders. We call for fulfilling the implementation of meaningful
1531 tribal consultation of all issues at all levels of the Local, State and Federal Government.

1532
1533 **We Believe:**

1534
1535 **Sovereignty and Government**

- 1536 • Recognizing that all Treaties signed under the authority of the United States with the Tribal Nations,
1537 are the Supreme Law of the land;
- 1538 • Upholding the Treaties, Executive Orders and Agreements made between Tribal Nations and the
1539 Federal Government, secured specific rights and privileges to sustain the future of the Tribes;
- 1540 • Improving the social, economic, and health status of all Native American people by local, state, and
1541 federal governments;
- 1542 • Continuing consultation with state, local and federal government agencies and Tribal Nations;
- 1543 • Acknowledging that Tribal Nations' languages, histories and cultures are an integral part of our
1544 national identity and heritage;

1545
1546 **Natural Resources**

- 1547 • Engaging tribes in meaningful discussions and actions regarding climate change, water
1548 appropriation, land management plans, and culvert maintenance and repairs;
- 1549 • Fulfilling the implementation of meaningful tribal consultation of all issues at all levels.

1550
1551 **Law and Justice**

- 1552 • Respecting the natural law and human dignity of all Native citizens;
- 1553 • Fulfilling the implementation of meaningful tribal consultation of all issues at all levels.

1554
1555 **Health**

- 1556 • Advancing the health, safety and well-being of tribal communities by funding primary health,
1557 behavioral health, and culturally responsive care;
- 1558 • Fulfilling the implementation of meaningful tribal consultation of all issues at all levels.

1559 **Education**

- 1560 • Upholding the vision and goals of Indian Education and Self-Determination in preschool through
1561 higher education and lifelong learning;
- 1562 • Continuing Indian Education consultation with state, local, tribal and federal governments;

1563
1564 **Urban**

- 1565 • Recognizing the rights of Tribal members living in non-rural areas;
- 1566 • Acknowledging Urban Indians who are enrolled in Federally Recognized Tribes across the United

1567 States;

1568

1569 **Economic Development**

- 1570 • Recognizing tribal self-governance and economic sovereignty by supporting and investing in Tribal
1571 communities as they achieve the goals of self-sufficiency and sustainability.

1572

1573 **We Call For:**

1574

1575 **Sovereignty and Government**

- 1576 • Upholding the principles of Indian Self-Determination and Education throughout state government;
1577 • Removing policies and practices that create barriers in upholding Native voting rights at all levels of
1578 government;
1579 • Elevating the Governor’s Office of Indian Affairs to a Cabinet level agency with adequate funding in
1580 respect of the inherent sovereignty of Tribal Nations;
1581 • Amending the federal regulations to streamline the recognition process of Tribal Nations, and
1582 providing regulations for recognition of a Native Hawaiian Nation;
1583 • Establishing and maintaining tribal consultation prior to proposing or supporting legislation or
1584 policies that impact Tribal Nations;
1585 • Increasing efforts to appoint tribal citizens to Tribal liaison positions, boards and commissions at all
1586 levels of government to provide equitable and distinct representation in policies and decisions
1587 impacting Tribal Nations;
1588 • Restoring federal recognition of formerly recognized Tribes, including the Duwamish and Chinook;
1589 • Eliminating the harmful legacy of “Indian Mascots” in sports;
1590 • Declaring the second Monday in October as “Indigenous Peoples Day”;
1591 • Recognizing the principles in the United Nations Declaration of the Rights of Indigenous People;

1592

1593 **Natural Resources**

- 1594 • Recognizing legislation that reaffirms the Congressional intent of the Indian Reorganization Act,
1595 which authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to take land into trust for all federally recognized
1596 Tribal Nations;
1597 • Supporting the rights of tribes to regulate and manage their own environment and natural
1598 resources, including the right to hunt, fish and gather in their traditional usual and accustomed
1599 places;
1600 • Continuing efforts to maintain and restore salmon runs and protect shellfish resources critical to
1601 Tribal Nations’ cultures and economies;

1602

1603 **Law and Justice**

- 1604 • Recognizing the rights of Tribal Nations to prosecute non-tribal citizens committing a crime on Tribal
1605 lands;
1606 • Improving state-federal-tribal relations to avoid bias and discriminatory community policing through
1607 law enforcement training and cross-cultural education with Tribal Nations;
1608 • Maintaining and authorizing the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) to fund and expand the
1609 specific Tribal Nations’ provisions, such as judicial training;
1610 • Providing judicial training on the Indian Child Welfare Act of 1978 and the Washington Indian Child
1611 Welfare Act of 2013 to eliminate the loss of Native children’s ties and identities to their families,
1612 cultures and homelands;
1613 • Recognizing and reversing the distorted representation of Native women in the mainstream media,
1614 stereotypes, and bias which is a contributing factor in the Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women

- 1615 in the United States;
- 1616 • Affirming that the murdered and missing Indigenous Peoples’ and their families’ rights have been
- 1617 violated due to their Native identity and race;
- 1618 • Acknowledging the harmful impact of all levels of law enforcements’ disregard of missing and
- 1619 murdered Indigenous Peoples;

1620

1621 **Health**

- 1622 • Funding the American Indian Health Commission for Washington State and its work with state
- 1623 agencies and the Health Benefit Exchange;
- 1624 • Implementing the state law licensing mid-level dental professionals, such as dental health aide
- 1625 therapists, to address the lack of access to dental care;
- 1626 • Supporting the construction of one or more tribal specialty care facilities to address the lack of
- 1627 access to medical specialists and shifting the costs from the state to the federal government in
- 1628 fulfillment of its trust responsibility;
- 1629 • Continuing funding of programs that combat social, economic and behavioral health problems such
- 1630 as homelessness, food insecurities and substance abuse;
- 1631 • Increasing and expanding community health centers and behavioral health services for Native youth
- 1632 within Tribal communities and school systems;

1633

1634 **Education**

- 1635 • Supporting Native elders with resources to train and educate Native youth in their Tribal identity,
- 1636 history and cultural resiliency;
- 1637 • Implementing the essential role of Native families and parent committees in the decision-making
- 1638 process of their children’s education, health and well-being as defined by the Indian education
- 1639 legislation;
- 1640 • Continuing the implementation and increased funding for the state mandated “Since Time
- 1641 Immemorial” Tribal Sovereignty curriculum, that is expanded upon in Washington State, U.S. and
- 1642 World history courses;
- 1643 • Improving and aligning government policies and efforts, including data collection, to appropriately
- 1644 identify and classify American Indian/Alaska Native and multi-racial students to adequately support
- 1645 the distinct education criteria, funding and programs;
- 1646 • Continuing the development and improvement of Tribal Compact Schools;
- 1647 • Supporting and funding housing for Native youth attending schools, youth groups, and living within
- 1648 Tribal communities;
- 1649 • Improving the disproportionate rate of drop-out, expulsion and suspension rates of Native students
- 1650 at the K-12 level;

1651

1652 **Urban**

- 1653 • Maintaining funding of Urban Indian health organizations to enable them to address the health
- 1654 needs of Native Americans in urban areas who may not have access to Tribal health facilities;
- 1655 • Developing an Urban Indian Liaison as part of the Governor’s Office of Indian Affairs to improve
- 1656 community relations with Urban Indians;
- 1657 • Funding Indian Health Service’s (IHS) trust responsibility for Urban Indians; whereby, IHS funds
- 1658 should never be taken from the Federally Recognized Tribal allotment to fund Urban Indian Health
- 1659 Care;
- 1660 • Urging Congress for 100% matching funds with the Federal Medical Assistance Percentage (FMAP)
- 1661 for the Urban Indian Health Program’s payments for encounters with Urban Natives as part of the

- 1662 trust responsibility; FMAP funding would save on State Medicaid spending that could be reinvested
 1663 into the Indian Health Service, Tribal 638 Contracts, or the Urban Indian Health system.
- 1664 • Acknowledging Urban Indians not enrolled due to the Indian Relocation Act of 1952, children lost to
 1665 adoption prior to the Indian Child Welfare Act of 1978, Tribal members disenrolled and the United
 1666 States policy to terminate Indian Tribes from mid-1940 thru mid-1960;
 - 1667 • Acknowledging that some Urban Indians have been systematically disenfranchised from the Federal
 1668 trust responsibility and support, and must not remain invisible to local, state and federal
 1669 governments;
 - 1670 • Recognizing that Urban Indians make up a disproportionate percentage of the homeless population;

1671
 1672 **Economic Development**

- 1673 • Increasing funds and programs that support tribes with the flexibility to develop and sustain their
 1674 own economic sovereignty and self-sufficiency;
- 1675 • Working with tribes to remove economic barriers, such as state taxation, to increase capital
 1676 development funds for Tribal Nations.

1677 **We Oppose:**

- 1678 • Abrogating of any tribal treaty or tribal agreement by any party;
- 1679 • Forcing assimilation and the distortion of state, U.S. and world history;
- 1680 • Attempting to diminish Tribal sovereignty or Tribal treaty rights of the 29 Federally recognized tribes
 1681 in the state
- 1682 • Implementing Public Law 280, which *“establishes a method by which states can assume jurisdiction
 1683 over reservation Indians;”*
- 1684 • Continuing to treat Urban Natives as invisible due to forced assimilation by government through
 1685 prior discriminatory Acts of Congress and racist policies throughout U.S. history;
- 1686 • Using the harmful legacies of “Indian mascots” in all sports.