

## 46TH LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT DEMOCRATS OF WASHINGTON

### 2018 PLATFORM: OUR VALUES

*"When they go low, we go high." First Lady Michelle Obama*

*We are Democrats and we believe cooperation is better than conflict, unity is better than division, liberation is better than oppression and bridges are better than walls. We are stronger together. Yet, to remain strong requires us to humbly acknowledge the past, specifically that many of our Democratic forbearers promoted, defended and benefitted from the enslavement, exploitation and marginalization of certain peoples, including communities of color, womxn, religious minorities, people with disabilities and people who identify as LGBTQ. Many Democrats excluded these groups from party membership and leadership and suppressed their right to vote and to participate as full members of our democracy.*

*We offer this platform in the spirit of healing, hope and reconciliation. We commit ourselves to addressing the critical issues of our time, such as civil rights, inequality in all its forms and climate change. We strive to make the American dream a reality for everyone, with quality schools, jobs, homes and medical care grounded in a government that serves and protects its people.*

#### **We fight:**

- To eliminate poverty and income inequality
- For the middle class and the working class
- To protect and restore the environment
- For quality and affordable health care
- For equal rights for all
- For economic justice, with living-wage jobs and fair tax policies
- To protect Social Security, Medicare, and Medicaid
- To fund quality public education from preschool to career
- For fiscal responsibility, integrity, transparency and accountability in government
- For a fair and just judicial system with equal protection under the law
- For a justice system that heals communities and prepares those incarcerated for successful reentry
- For the separation of church and state
- For the right of all Americans to actively participate in our democracy

## **DRAFT ARTS AND CULTURE**

*Easy access and frequent exposure to the arts, and to the elements that comprise all the world's diverse cultures, is essential for the enrichment, health and well-being of our greater society.*

*As used below, the term "art" refers to all arts, including but not limited to the visual (painting/drawing/sculpture, etc.), performing (music/theater/dance, etc.), literary (poetry/prose/drama, etc.), media (photography/ film/digital, etc.), and culinary (cooking/baking/brewing, etc.).*

### **We call for:**

1. Easy access and frequent exposure to public art events, performances, and exhibits for all
2. All cultures to not only be simply accepted, but celebrated and shared
3. Arts and cultural education to be considered a core subject in our K-12 public schools.
4. Arts and cultural education opportunities to be available and accessible to all ages in all communities
5. A substantial commitment to public funding for the arts and arts education
6. Subsidized/affordable housing for local artists
7. Small businesses to promote the arts and our community of diverse cultures, including, art galleries/studios, performance venues, cafes, restaurants, bookstores and music stores
8. Public venues for art and cultural festivals, events, performances, and exhibits
9. Libraries, performing arts centers, and museums to be well-funded, accessible and diverse in their offerings
10. Communications of arts and cultural events, performances and exhibits to all our communities to be frequent, accessible, and diversified
11. Communications of available funding and opportunities for artists to be frequent, accessible, and diversified.
12. Existing public art displays and venues to be well-maintained and preserved

## **DRAFT CORPORATE POWER & MEDIA REFORM**

*Corporations are not people and are not entitled to the constitutional rights of people. The power of money in politics must be drastically reduced. An informed citizenry and reliably accurate media are essential for democracy to flourish.*

### **We support:**

1. Amending the Constitution to firmly establish that corporations are not people and that money is not speech

2. Restoring adequate funding of public radio and public television, free from public and private pressure
3. Internet neutrality, in which bandwidth is not limited based on content or ability to pay
4. Separating investment banking from retail banking and subjecting both to tighter regulation, transparency, and accountability
5. Criminal penalties for corporate executives whose companies egregiously violate state or federal laws or regulations
6. Strengthening and enforcing laws to provide active protection and restitution for any whistleblowers who lose their livelihoods
7. Reforming patent and copyright laws that give corporations, including pharmaceutical manufacturers, undue control through unnecessarily long terms and other tactics
8. Increased oversight of companies vital to our economy and environment, such as those in banking and fossil fuel extraction
9. Revoking the charters of corporations that repeatedly violate laws or regulations
10. Media ownership rules and frequency set-asides from the FCC that cultivate localism, encourage a diversity of viewpoints and preserve a competitive marketplace of ideas for American communities
11. Encouraging womxn, minority and community media ownership
12. Financial support for independent investigative reporting and coverage of state and local government and issues
13. Free radio and TV time for local, statewide and national candidates and ballot measures before each election
14. Increased payments to local governments by cable companies for their profitable use of the public right-of-way
15. Protecting journalists from unwarranted pressure to reveal their sources
16. Equitable access to modern communications infrastructure, including high-speed internet, for all Americans, by means of a fast, affordable, publicly owned telecommunications system in every community, including extending it to rural areas and Native American nations
17. Statewide availability of TV Washington legislative channel

**We oppose:**

1. The Trump corporate tax cuts to the wealthy
2. Corporations' exerting undue influence on our government through access to regulatory commissions and secretly drafting congressional and state legislation
3. Privatization of public services, especially water
4. Policies that allow U.S. businesses to incorporate or move offshore to evade taxes and laws
5. The sale of hedging contracts on securities, i.e., credit default swap contracts
6. Corporations and governments substituting 401(k) plans for defined benefit pensions

7. Concentration of media ownership and cross-ownership by corporations engaging in other non-media commerce
8. Government-funded, corporate-funded or foreign propaganda disguised as news
9. Government intimidation of the news media
10. False claims of "national security" to suppress investigative journalism
11. Creation and distribution of videos that use Artificial Intelligence to deliver propaganda.

### **DRAFT ECONOMIC JUSTICE, JOBS & TAX FAIRNESS**

*We are committed to a sustainable economy with strong, diverse communities based on living-wage jobs, tax fairness, shared prosperity and a robust safety net. Income inequality is the driving issue of our time. We must immediately correct policies that have enriched the wealthy at the expense of the poor and middle class.*

#### **We support:**

1. A fair and equitable tax system that meets constitutional requirements, cares for the most vulnerable, and promotes the common good
2. A progressive state tax system, including a capital gains tax, a reduced sales tax on goods and services, a transaction tax on the exchange of securities, a high-earner's personal income tax, and replacing the Business and Occupation tax on gross revenue with a (constitutional) 1% corporate income tax on profits
3. Economic justice for womxn, including pay equity enforcement, Social Security reform, livable wages, paid sick leave and parental leave, early childhood education and reproductive rights
4. Policies that redress racial, gender and ethnic inequality, particularly in education, employment, housing and lending
5. Social Security and employment pensions as supplements to personal savings
6. Using post offices to provide bank services for low-income people
7. Forgiveness of the accumulated \$1.5 trillion in student debt
8. Changing bankruptcy law to include discharge of student debt
9. Reducing or eliminating graduate student debt in exchange for 10 years of critically needed public service
10. Sunsetting tax breaks and incentives for companies that do not provide verifiable benefits to the state
11. Corporations reporting the value of each state tax break, as well as its benefit to the public
12. A publicly owned state investment trust (state bank) the repository for state funds, to foster economic development by participating with local banks in infrastructure and community development loans
13. An incremental increase in the state minimum wage, and a Universal Basic Income
14. Federal and state efforts to create sustainable, living-wage jobs

15. Funding and rebuilding our infrastructure as a proven method of job creation, without privatization of bridges, toll roads and other public investments
16. Increasing property tax breaks on primary residences of low-income homeowners and small businesses
17. Raising the Federal minimum wage to above \$12 and automatically adjusting it annually for inflation, based on the Consumer Price Index
18. Rolling back the Trump tax cuts for corporations and the very wealthy
19. Raising the federal capital gains tax on investments to the same rate as earned income, and eliminating the carried interest loophole for hedge fund managers
20. Restoring the Federal estate tax for estates of \$5 million or more, keyed to inflation
21. Scrapping the cap on income subject to Social Security tax, including unearned income
22. Expanding the Earned Income Tax Credit to help the working poor, and applying an inflation index to the Alternative Minimum Tax to protect the middle class
23. Capping the annual percentage rate of interest on payday loans at no more than 36%, as Federal law does for military families, and banning commercial banks from being payday lenders
24. Requiring banks negotiate on underwater mortgages to keep distressed homeowners stay in their homes
25. Greater participation by the business community to retrain workers for jobs in the evolving economy, both directly and in partnership with post-secondary institutions
26. A major increase in funding for low-income and workforce housing, between 30% and 60% of Area Median Income
27. Paying for growth with impact fees correlated with development

**We oppose:**

1. Privatizing Social Security, Medicare or Medicaid or reducing benefits
2. Privatizing, outsourcing, or moving public jobs offshore or out of state
3. Public/private projects where the public pays the bills and/or takes the risk and the private operator reaps the profits
4. Corporate welfare, including tax breaks that don't provide proven public benefit
5. U.S. businesses incorporating offshore to evade taxes

**DRAFT EDUCATION**

*The backbone of our democracy is a free, universal public school system designed to produce reasoning, thoughtful, well-informed citizens who are prepared to participate in civic society. The Washington Constitution says: "It is the paramount duty of the state to make ample provision for the education of all children residing within its borders, without distinction or preference on account of race, color, caste, or sex."*

**We support:**

1. A stable source of K-12 Basic Education funding, to provide:

- a. Competitive pay and benefits for all public educators, including compensatory adjustments for high-cost areas
- b. Upgrading school facilities, libraries, computer systems and other resources
- c. Smaller class sizes (17 in K-3, 26 in grades 4-12) that enable the best learning atmosphere, consistent with the citizens' initiative
2. School construction funds to accommodate increased growth, lower class sizes, full-day kindergarten, and maintenance (replacement of all portables)
3. Fully funding accelerated and Special Education programs and services to fully meet the needs of every student; removing the cap on special education
4. Inclusion of music, fine arts, civics, foreign language and physical education in Basic Education
5. Equal opportunity for a safe and equitable education for all children regardless of status, closing the achievement gap, testing in one's primary language and extending temporary residency to young adults to access higher education who were brought here as children, access to family resources through human services
6. Free universal pre-K school and expanding before and after-school programs
7. Counselors, nurses and mental health specialists in every school, and school completion specialists in every high school
8. Strong, hands-on environmental science education; hands-on science projects in grades K-5
9. Expanding and supporting STEAM education through diverse learning opportunities in grades K-12 (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics)
10. Expanding vocational education and apprenticeship programs in middle school, high school and beyond
11. Adopting the non-profit HiSET GED as an alternative to the for-profit Pearson GED
12. The Federal government's honoring its promise to adequately fund the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, and meeting the states' requirement of fully implementing ESSA
13. Sufficient public funding for the state university system
14. Tuition-free undergraduate education, technical education with 2-year degree or certificate for state residents, and affordable tuition at other state colleges and universities
15. Need-based Pell grants that cover the cost of an undergraduate education with annual adjustments for inflation
16. A school environment free of harassment, intimidation, bullying and violence for all students, staff and faculty
17. The use of facilities (locker rooms and bathrooms) that match one's gender identity
18. School food programs that ensure that all students have access to nutritious meals, organic and local foods that support healthy habits and classroom learning; free lunch for students who can't pay
19. Promoting respect for teachers, and paraeducators, including appropriate professional pay, evaluations not based on standardized tests and promoting site-based decision-making
20. School Security Officers trained in de-escalation techniques
21. Restorative justice practices in schools
22. Comprehensive sexual education for all students
23. Decoupling of high-stakes testing from graduation requirements; valuing a student's body of work

**We oppose:**

1. Voucher programs
2. Charter schools, and if we must have them, we oppose:

- a. Any attempt to "fix" the charter school initiative
  - b. Lack of public oversight and transparency of tax money expenditures including their private for-profit contractors
  - c. Lack of labor protection for teachers and staff, who are not unionized or certified
  - d. Teach for America's displacement of certified teachers with uncertified college graduates
  - e. The "trigger" school mechanism in the charter law that allows the takeover of any school building upon the presentation of a petition by the majority of teachers or parents
  - f. Excessive pay for charter school administrators in relation to public school administrators
3. Commercial marketing to students in public schools
  4. Aggressive military recruiting in public schools
  5. Untrained police officers posted in public schools
  6. Transferring the burden of the cost of higher education primarily to students and families
  7. High-stakes standardized SBAC testing based on Common Core Standards curricula
  8. Disciplinary actions that disproportionately impact students of color
  9. All out-of-school suspensions

### **DRAFT ENVIRONMENT, ENERGY & THE CLIMATE CRISIS**

*Our land and water are in trust for the public and future generations. We have a climate crisis. Every year, we see unprecedented levels of drought, storms, and flooding, causing our forests to burn, our fisheries and crops to fail, and our families to suffer—and far worse is to come. Democrats stand for a clean, safe, and healthy planet, and against floods, fire, and starvation. We acknowledge the scientific reality that immediate and drastic action is needed—and feasible—to prevent destruction.*

#### ***We support:***

1. The Pacific Coast Action Plan on Climate and Energy and the Pacific Coast Climate Leadership Action Plan, together with California, Oregon and British Columbia, to make our region an international leader in climate-saving policy and economic development
2. Net-zero carbon emissions by 2050; and at least the following actions to reduce climate disruption meanwhile, based on current, best-available science:
  - a. A carbon tax, starting immediately
  - b. Reforesting the tracts burned out by wildfires, and expanding our forests to absorb our excess carbon production
  - c. Tax incentives and subsidies for private and commercial electric vehicles, and switching to electric government car fleets, ferries and buses
  - d. Replacing fossil fuel infrastructure with renewable sources such as wind, solar, hydrogen, ocean, micro-hydro, geothermal, and biomass
  - e. Modernizing the energy grid at the state, regional and national levels
  - f. Rejoining and enacting the Paris Climate Accords
  - g. Investing in sustainable-energy research and development
  - h. Tax incentives and subsidies for energy-saving systems in new and existing construction, such as insulation and solar panels; net-zero emissions in new construction by 2050
  - i. Accounting for CO<sub>2</sub> and methane emissions in Environmental Impact Statements
  - j. Lawsuits against the EPA to make it do its job and lawsuits against fossil-fuel producers to make them pay for remediation
3. Expanded programs to reduce waste and promote reuse and recycling
4. Toxic waste reduction, including at least the following actions:
  - a. Cleaning up Hanford, especially securing the tank-farm waste
  - b. Reinstating the Superfund Tax to make polluters pay for cleanup

- c. Encouraging alternative farming methods
- d. Fully fund the EPA, USDA, DOE and other agencies to monitor and enforce compliance with hazardous-waste regulations
- e. A national program requiring electronic equipment manufacturers to recycle and safely dispose of computers, cellphones, and other toxic-metals e-waste
- 5. Preserving our priceless natural environment by all available means, including:
  - a. Maintaining our state and national parks, wetlands and wilderness areas as pristine national treasures
  - b. Adequate development buffers and bans on road building, logging and motorized recreation to protect environmentally sensitive areas
  - c. Promoting eco-diversity, including adequate river flows for wild salmon and steelhead
  - d. Better regional mechanisms to combat watershed pollution and sedimentation
- 6. Enforcing and strengthening our state's Growth Management Act to protect farmlands and wildlife against further urban sprawl
- 7. Enforcing and strengthening the Marine Mammal Protection Act
- 8. Requiring low-impact development techniques, such as gardens and pervious pavement, for new construction and major redevelopment projects
- 9. Restoring our native fish and shellfish, and protecting them from invasive species
- 10. Full implementation of the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System
- 11. Revising the 1872 Mining Act to end exploitation and extraction in environmentally sensitive public lands and to compensate the public for the resources we own
- 12. New statewide rules for cement/asphalt plants based on best-available science

**We oppose:**

- 1. Shipping more waste to Hanford
- 2. Government subsidies for coal and other fossil fuels
- 3. Exporting banned chemicals or toxic waste to other countries
- 4. Further fossil fuel extraction and infrastructure expansion in the U.S.—especially off of our fragile coastline—beyond the minimum absolutely necessary to facilitate transition to safe energy sources: The only safe policy is to “keep it in the ground”
- 5. Shipping coal, oil or other fossil fuels through our communities, including oil trains that can derail and set fire to heavily populated cities and towns
- 6. The Keystone XL Pipeline and any government policy that facilitates drilling or moving the Alberta tar sands
- 7. Fracking
- 8. Privatization of public lands and waters

**DRAFT FARMS, FISHERIES AND FORESTS**

*We are the stewards of the land and water that sustain us. We are proud that agriculture—including aquaculture, fishing, logging and other food and fiber production—is a leading industry in Washington State. We support programs and policies that strengthen rural communities, preserve family farms, ensure the availability of high-quality food and maintain the viability of our land and water resources.*

**We support:**

- 1. Sustainable agriculture, aquaculture, fishing and forestry
- 2. Organic farms, farmers' markets and local/organic food in school lunch programs

3. Clear food labeling, including organic certification, genetic modification and food origin
4. More inspectors to improve food and livestock inspection
5. Equitable distribution of water rights that respects senior water rights and treaties
6. Quantifying our surface and ground water resources and characterizing their hydraulic continuity
7. Increased efforts to rehabilitate and preserve soil and to conserve habitat
8. Protecting wild salmon from factory fish farms and watershed pollution
9. Removal of the four Snake River Dams, which is necessary to restore Native salmon fisheries
10. Incentivizing farming methods that produce less methane and capture more carbon

**We oppose:**

1. Predatory agricultural lending and leasing that traps farmers in a cycle of debt
2. Factory farms and agribusiness oligopolies, which force independent farmers into debt peonage and harm consumer health and the environment
3. Overuse of herbicides, pesticides and livestock antibiotics
4. Price gouging by railroads, equipment lessors and other over-concentrated industries
5. Privatized food and livestock inspection
6. Intentional infringement of existing certified water rights

**DRAFT FOREIGN POLICY**

*To strengthen our security and promote peace throughout the world, America must resist an isolationist stance and instead collaborate with the international community, using the tools of development, diplomacy and defense, in a spirit of mutual respect, friendship, and cooperation.*

**We support:**

1. Resolving international conflicts through diplomacy and other nonviolent conflict resolution strategies
2. Dismantling the global terrorism network, which supplies terrorists with money, arms, and fighters, and ending the recruitment of potential extremists, particularly children
3. A resolution to the Syrian civil war through diplomatic and political measures that results in a more inclusive government that respects the equal rights of all citizens
4. Working with a coalition of international partners to bolster Afghanistan's and Iraq's democratically-elected governments and to combat terrorism
5. Diplomatic measures to compel North Korea to abandon its illegal nuclear and missile programs

6. The deterrence of Russian aggression through European resilience, protection of NATO allies, and promotion of human rights in Russia and former Soviet states
7. A "One China" policy, the Taiwan Relations Act, and the aspirations of the Tibetan and Mongolian peoples to safeguard their distinct identity
8. Closing the Western Hemisphere Institute for Security Cooperation (formerly known as the School of the Americas)
9. Maintaining our relationship with the United Kingdom and partnership with the European Union
10. Ending the Cuban travel ban and embargo, and closing Guantanamo Bay
11. Science-based management of wildlife, including stronger regulations banning the importation of hunting trophies
12. Strengthening our partnership and collaboration with the African Union, including emphasizing trade and investment, humanitarian and development assistance, democratic institutions and global health
13. Able-nations (including the United States) receiving refugees, especially people fleeing persecution and conflict, through a vigorous screening and vetting process
14. A two-state solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict negotiated by the parties that guarantees Israel's future as a secure and democratic Jewish state with recognized borders, while also providing the Palestinians with sovereignty, security and economic growth
15. Restoring and reaffirming our historic adherence to the Geneva Conventions, and affording those rights to any person detained in a combat zone by the U.S. military
16. Reducing the world's nuclear stockpiles (including enforcement of the "Iran Deal"), ratifying the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty, strengthening and complying with international disarmament treaties, strengthening international control and use of fissile material
17. Complying with the original U.N. Declaration on Human Rights, International Land Mines treaties, International Criminal Court, Genocide Conventions, the Biological and Chemical Weapons Conventions, and the Convention on the Rights of the Child
18. Effective foreign aid to reduce poverty, improve health and education, provide sustainable access to safe water and food free of contaminants, and prevent and treat pandemic and endemic diseases
19. The sale of all products related to forced labor, including slave and child labor
20. Forgiving onerous debt owed by lower-income countries forced to choose between debt repayment and essential services
21. Cooperative and full participation in international organizations including the United Nations and international courts of justice
22. Signing and complying with the Paris Accords on Climate Change and supporting developing countries in their efforts to mitigate pollution, deploy clean energy, and invest in climate resilience and adaptation
23. Replacing free-trade treaties, such as the WTO, TPP, NAFTA, and CAFTA, with fair-trade agreements that incorporate human rights, indigenous rights, labor rights, public health, public services and environmental protection, as well as preexisting multilateral international treaties on environmental, labor rights and human rights

24. Programs supporting the full spectrum of family planning options as well as those that do not discriminate on basis of sexual orientation or gender identity

**We oppose:**

1. First-use of nuclear weapons
2. Foreign influence on American elections and democracy
3. Building a wall on our southern border and alienating Mexico
4. Chinese unfair trade practices, currency manipulation, censorship of the internet, piracy and cyberattacks
5. The genocide and forced displacement of the Rohingya people of Myanmar
6. Permanent U.S. military bases and prisons in Iraq and Afghanistan
7. Exporting weapons systems that contribute to the international arms race
8. International Monetary Fund and World Bank policies that compel privatization of vital government services, such as water, as a condition of refinancing national debt
9. The production, testing, stockpiling and use of nuclear weapons, as well as the development of new or enhanced nuclear weapons
10. Congress' abandonment of its constitutional role in foreign policy, specifically its lack enforcement of the War Powers Act

**DRAFT GOVERNMENT & POLITICAL REFORM**

*The role of government is to accomplish those goals that we cannot achieve individually. Our government derives its legitimacy solely from, and must be accountable to, the people. A democracy requires full participation by an informed electorate; a voting process that is fair, transparent and open to all citizens and elected officials who are responsive to their needs.*

**We support:**

1. The right of every citizen to vote. To help secure this right, we support increased security for ballots and vote-counting machines
2. Fair elections; to achieve that goal, we support at least:
  - a. Aggressive investigation and prevention of foreign interference in our elections
  - b. Public campaign financing; end "dialing for dollars" by office-holders
  - c. Direct popular election of the U.S. President; abolition of the Electoral College
  - d. Overturning *Buckley v. Valeo* and *Citizens United v. FEC*, to re-impose campaign contribution limits and reduce special-interest influence on government
  - e. Counting people in prison, for census and voting purposes, as residents of their last home address, rather than their place of imprisonment
3. Basing all government decisions involving scientific issues affecting our health, safety and environment on sound science
4. Fully funding regulatory agencies to carry out their missions
5. Rescinding the Postal Accountability and Enhancement Act of 2006, that requires funding pensions for 75 years into the future, so that the postal service may return to fiscal soundness

6. Restoration of the Independent Prosecutor Act, to protect impeachment investigations from interference

**We oppose:**

1. Outsourcing or privatizing any part of the voting process
2. Any voter suppression, including removing registered voters from the voting rolls
3. Depriving people released from prison of their right to vote
4. Arbitrary property tax limits imposed by initiative
5. Executive branch secrecy beyond legitimate national security needs
6. Privatizing government services
7. Privatizing public infrastructure, utilities or water
8. Efforts by government to deny citizens their right to peacefully assemble in order to petition for a redress of grievances
9. Lack of disclosure of anonymous donors who fund a right-wing propaganda network, *e.g.*, the American Legislative Exchange Council (ALEC)
10. Gerrymandering Congressional districts to "pack" marginalized groups into fewer districts and limit their electoral power

**DRAFT HEALTH CARE**

*Health care is a fundamental human right. Our government should work to improve our overall health while ensuring fair and equitable access to high-quality, affordable care for all.*

**We support:**

1. A national universal single-payer system, that is comprehensive, cost effective and accessible, as a step towards national universal health care
2. A state waiver under the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act to establish a single-payer system for all Washington residents
3. Comprehensive health care, including: outpatient and inpatient services, acute and long-term care; home care and hospice, palliative care, end-of-life counseling, behavioral health care (including on-demand substance use treatment), dental and oral prosthetics, vision care services/glasses, hearing services (including hearing aids and devices), preventive services, reproductive health care, family planning, contraception (including access to safe abortions and emergency contraception), transgender and gender affirming health care (including: blockers, hormones, counseling, surgical transition services; timely tape test and screenings), doula and midwife services, prescription drugs, medical supplies, durable medical equipment and medical technology, and rehabilitation
4. Patient-centered medical decisions made primarily among patients, their life partners and families, spouses and providers
5. Patients' freedom of choice in their health care, including selecting a personal provider and a "medical home," a team that provides coordinated care with continuity

6. The Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services negotiating prices for medical devices and drugs
7. Transparency in pricing health care services, until a universal health care system is achieved
8. Prompt FDA approval of new treatments based on solid data from reputable clinical trials that demonstrate both safety and effectiveness
9. Expanded funding of basic science and clinical research under the National Institutes for Health, based on scientific merit, not a political agenda
10. Congress adequately funding the FDA for researching and monitoring the safety of our food supply, and ensuring that drugs and medical devices are safe
11. Recognition of gun violence as a public health issue
12. Government education grants and student-debt forgiveness for primary care providers, in exchange for service to underserved populations

**We oppose:**

1. Cutting Medicaid, privatizing or rationing Medicare or raising the age of Medicare eligibility
2. Overdiagnosis and overtreatment
3. Direct-to-consumer advertising of prescription drugs and devices
4. Employers limiting health care access for religious reasons
5. Conversion therapy
6. Health care discrimination based on age, race, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, creed and religion

**DRAFT HUMAN SERVICES**

*People are not born with bootstraps. The community has a responsibility to provide comprehensive and quality human and social services to ensure the basic needs of its people are met, allowing everyone to attain their full potential.*

**We support:**

1. Ensuring that human and social services are among the highest priorities of federal, state, and local government, especially in times of increased income inequality
2. Assuring homelessness is rare, brief, and a one-time occurrence; and, that all people have access to safe and affordable housing
3. Weighting subsidies towards those who need them most, particularly lower-income people, families, older adults, people with disabilities, those with mental illness and those recovering from substance use disorder
4. Housing at prices accessible to people at all income levels, particularly workforce housing for those whose income falls between minimum wage and a living wage (about 30% to 80% of area median income)
5. Restoring the disability stipend, which safeguards the dignity, health, and well-being of people with disabilities who are unable to be self-sufficient

6. Transition plans for people with disabilities that include housing and, when appropriate, employment options upon release from institutions
7. Quality, comprehensive and affordable services and supports for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities--including the end of a state waitlist for services--so that they may live at home with the supports they need and participate in communities that value their contributions
8. Quality, comprehensive and affordable supports and services for families using social services (including child care, education, training and health care) that support them on their path to self-sufficiency
9. Programs that provide healing, recovery and reintegration for people coping with behavioral health, mental illness and/or substance use, and those who have experienced disasters, violence or exploitation
10. Restructuring and adequately funding the child welfare system to ensure children and their families have the supports, opportunities, and resources they need to thrive, and that children are safe, have a permanent family connection and are supported socially and emotionally for healthy development; comprehensive training, sufficient and holistic respite options for foster families, and the recruitment of diverse foster families
11. A long-term care system that provides Medicare and Medicaid-reimbursable community-based and in-home services and supports as alternatives to institutional care, as well as a long-term care state insurance plan that makes care affordable
12. Comprehensive eldercare services that promote independence, quality of life, and health as well as increased awareness, prevention and response to elder abuse, neglect and financial exploitation
13. Increased support for family caregivers, including paid family and medical leave, training, support groups, respite and caregiving tax credits

**We oppose:**

1. Equating the use of human and social services with moral or personal failure
2. Confining people experiencing a mental health crisis in hospital emergency rooms or jails
3. Drug testing as a prerequisite for social services and employment requirements as a prerequisite for Medicaid services
4. Discriminatory policies that permit providers to deny services to individuals based on religious or moral objections

**46<sup>TH</sup> DRAFT IMMIGRATION**

*Immigrants strengthen the fabric of our community, state and nation. All immigrants should be afforded full human rights, civil liberties, and a fair, safe and timely pathway to legal status or citizenship.*

**We support:**

1. All people, regardless of their country of origin or immigration status being treated fairly, respectfully, and with compassion and dignity
2. All immigrants having the right to equal treatment under the law, and in all proceedings being guaranteed basic human rights

3. Comprehensive immigration reform through improved pathways and options to citizenship or legal status
4. Encouraging lawful immigration, family unification and reunification, expediting processing of applications for legal entry, asylum, (H-1) (H-2) guest worker and temporary work permits, permanent residence and citizenship
5. Improving immigrant worker rights and protections by preventing wage discrimination, ensuring safe worker housing/living conditions, equitable access to medical care and educational opportunities
6. Detainees' right to humane treatment, safe facilities, adequate medical care, nutrition, clothing, shelter and family unity
7. Reducing the 100-mile Border Patrol internal operating zone to 50 miles from any border
8. Efforts to ensure that U.S. immigration enforcement is transparent and accountable
9. Efforts to improve the E-Verify System
10. The DREAM Act and retaining DACA
11. Policies that protect immigrants' ability to seek help or to access to law enforcement without fear of deportation
12. Granting asylum to persons fleeing areas of war, genocide and political or personal oppression, including their LGBTQ status

**We oppose:**

1. Withholding health care or emergency health and human or family services due to immigration status, citizenship status or legal status
2. State or local police involvement in the enforcement of federal immigration laws
3. Efforts to deputize, commission and finance vigilante border militia groups
4. Acts of hate, bias or violence, including harassment, intimidation, bullying; the use of racial, culturally insensitive, ethnically biased terms such as "illegal" in reference to any person or group
5. Barriers to acquiring an equitable education, and testing in languages other than one's primary spoken language
6. ICE, Boarder Patrol and Homeland Security contracting with for-profit prison corporations and county jails; immigration detention without a constitutionally adequate bond hearings; families detained in ICE Detention Centers; and quotas or other immigration rules with the primary purpose of preventing immigration
7. Excluding immigrants because of their country of origin, religion, race or ethnicity

**DRAFT LABOR**

*A strong, fair, and just economy depends on jobs that provide living wages, retirement benefits and safe working conditions. These are rights best guaranteed by ensuring workers' abilities to organize themselves, bargain collectively and have a real voice in their workplace.*

**We support:**

1. A living wage: the federal minimum wage, including tipped workers, must be raised above \$15 per hour and indexed to the cost of living. We define a living wage as the wage necessary for a person working 40 hours a week, with no additional income, to afford

decent housing, food, utilities, transport and health care. "No one who works full time should have to live in poverty" –President Obama

2. Raising the state minimum wage to \$13.50 incrementally over 4 years
3. A Worker's Bill of Rights that includes:
  - a. A safe and healthy workplace with rights of association, assembly, free speech, due process and freedom from discrimination
  - b. Benefits, including health care, retirement and paid family leave for wage earners and their families
  - c. Equal pay for equivalent work for all workers, regardless of gender
  - d. Prohibition of involuntary overtime
  - e. Due process, including protection for whistleblowers and collective bargaining activities
  - f. A ban on mandatory meeting by the employer about unionizing, politics, or religion
  - g. Democratic and fair elections within unions
  - h. A work environment free from all forms of discrimination, bullying, and harassment with meaningful reporting mechanisms and remedies for targets of discrimination and harassment
  - i. Prohibiting any firing without just cause and strengthening protections during probationary employment periods
  - j. Progressive discipline and mandatory arbitration for workplace infractions
  - k. Prohibiting reprisals against or permanent replacement of workers locked out or on strike
  - l. Enforcement of labor laws against employers who extort workers exercising their collective bargaining rights by threatening to move work
  - m. Job training, education and related service for employees who are unemployed or underemployed, or whose jobs are outsourced, downgraded, or eliminated
4. Repealing the union-busting Taft-Hartley Act and so-called "Right-to-Work" state laws, as well as any law that seeks to interfere with freely negotiated agreements between employers and unions to collect fees for providing collectively bargained benefits to its membership
5. Prosecuting employers who force workers to work off the clock or fail to pay wages ("wage theft")
6. Respecting picket lines by not crossing them
7. Unemployment benefits and retraining for workers who are locked out or on strike
8. Extended unemployment benefits in a bad economy
9. Safe and adequate housing, sanitary facilities, medical care and education for farm and forestry workers and their families
10. Amending the National Labor Relations Act of 1935 to apply to government workers, independent contractors, domestic workers, agricultural workers and their supervisors
11. Reforming the National Labor Relations Board (NLRB) to streamline the appeals process and institute meaningful penalties for employers found to have engaged in unfair labor practices
12. Automatic union recognition when unions demonstrate majority status in a work group desiring collective bargaining rights ("card check neutrality"), without being forced into an arduous NLRB process
13. Equal participation between labor and employers in the management of workers' pensions
14. In cases of corporate bankruptcy, giving employee pensions equal priority to creditors
15. Pension benefits that are portable between employers
16. Wage increases that reflect increases in productivity
17. Affirmative Action, including local hiring in all public construction projects

**We oppose:**

1. Free trade agreements that do not observe internationally recognized labor standards, including the right to organize and bargain collectively, workplace rights and safety laws, prohibition of child labor, prison labor, slave labor and human trafficking
2. Corporations that use mergers to steal workers' pensions
3. Using tips as part of a minimum wage calculation

**DRAFT LAW & THE JUSTICE SYSTEM**

*The rule of law is a prerequisite for a democratic civil society. A good government provides for the safety and security of the community with care, fairness and respect for the individual.*

**We support:**

1. Reasonable security measures to protect the public without sacrifice of civil liberties
2. Vigorous affirmative action to ensure that police departments are as diverse as the communities they serve
3. Mandatory training of all law enforcement officers on de-escalation, no-harm restraint and how to communicate with people with mental illness and other disabilities
4. Greater emphasis on rehabilitative sentencing and programs in prison
5. Repealing or mitigating the "Three Strikes" law
6. Restorative Justice, especially for youth, including establishing Dependency Courts with specific competencies and resources to restore families when in the children's interests
7. Changing the treatment of juveniles under the age of 21 to reflect current science on brain development
8. Ending mandatory and indeterminate sentencing and restoring a parole system
9. Accountability in law enforcement, with effective civilian review
10. Mandatory body cameras for police
11. Ending the War on Drugs: therefore, state and federal drug policy should include:
  - a. Emphasis on prevention, treatment, and rehabilitation, and drug education that reflects established scientific knowledge.
  - b. More drug courts and a lower priority for minor drug offenses
  - c. Prohibiting asset forfeiture unless a defendant is convicted of a crime
12. Improved gun-safety laws including:
  - a. A national comprehensive background check before each gun sale, including at gun shows
  - b. Requiring safe gun storage in homes and vehicles
  - c. Prohibiting automatic weapons, bump stocks and oversized ammunition magazines
  - d. Banning sales of automatic assault rifles
  - e. Common-sense gun bans in public places

13. Restoring FBI funding to investigate white-collar crime
14. The right of foreign nationals to have access to consular officials if accused of a crime
15. State and local efforts to train law enforcement to see underage sex workers as victims and to prosecute underage sex trafficking
16. 100% timely DNA testing to free the innocent and convict the guilty
17. Restoring habeas corpus for citizens and noncitizens, completely and without compromise
18. Bail reforms, including no bail for those with community ties, affordable bail and no-fee public bonds for indigent persons
19. Full transparency of key criminal justice system processes: police stops and arrests, jury profiles, police and prosecutorial discretion, plea bargaining and sentencing
20. The appointment of only qualified judges to the Federal Courts
21. Post-secondary accredited courses in prisons

**We oppose:**

1. Capital punishment
2. Profiling people based on race, ethnicity, religion, gender, disability or perceived country of origin
3. Prison overcrowding
4. Extended solitary confinement
5. Privatizing prisons and ICE detention centers
6. Building more prisons
7. The militarization of police
8. Suspending driver's licenses for offenses unrelated to driving

**DRAFT MILITARY & VETERANS AFFAIRS**

*We are proud to honor those who have chosen to serve in our country's armed forces. We insist that military personnel be used only in accord with the Constitution—to provide for the common defense.*

**We support:**

1. Our troops and our veterans; therefore we support:
  - a. Increased benefits and quality medical care for troops, veterans and their families, including treatment for Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder and traumatic brain injuries
  - b. Full funding for the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA)
  - c. Enhancing the quality and availability of VA medical benefits to that of Medicare
  - d. Mandatory breaks between overseas tours, strict time limits on each tour of duty in a combat zone, and strict limits on the total number of combat tours
  - e. Instructing military personnel in their rights and responsibilities under the Geneva Conventions and protecting them from reprisals when they refuse to follow illegal orders

- f. Protecting them from sexual harassment and assault, providing safe reporting of assaults outside of the chain of command, and, when probable cause is found, prosecuting wrong-doing with the same vigor as directed against military crimes occurring in a combat situation
  - g. Determining disability ratings based on medical, rather than political and economic criteria and ending the backlog
  - h. Continued efforts to secure housing and services for homeless vets
  - i. Promotion of veteran homeownership through the passage of a new GI bill
  - j. Increased career training and placement
2. Using a well-trained and well-equipped military to protect the American people, our vital interests, and treaty partners who are pledged to protect us whenever we are attacked or imminently threatened, and only when all other means of protection are exhausted
  3. A military draft applying to all genders and providing an alternative service option, if a draft is necessary and is preceded by a Declaration of War
  4. Congress asserting its constitutional powers to regulate and govern the military
  5. Military contracts being awarded based on fair and competitive bidding, with preference given to U.S. companies when possible
  6. A thorough and comprehensive review of the necessity and organization of foreign military bases equal to the review of domestic military bases during the past decade

**We oppose:**

1. The use of active sonar in the Salish Sea and electronic weapons testing over Olympic National Park
2. Indiscriminate use of civilian areas for military troop training grounds
3. Continued disproportionate military expenditures and their exclusion from budget cuts
4. Preemptive use of military force without a formal Declaration of War by Congress
5. The undue influence of the military-industrial complex over national policy
6. The use of the National Guard for overseas wars or for any purposes other than defense with a Declaration of War, enforcement of a court order or peaceful response to a declared disaster area
7. Using contractors in military or paramilitary operations
8. Any discrimination based on gender identity or sexual orientation in the military
9. Religious or political indoctrination of service members
10. U.S. training of foreign military or police forces that suppress human rights in their own countries
11. The militarization of space or polar regions
12. Monetary payments to countries recognized as terrorist states

**DRAFT TRANSPORTATION**

*Public transportation enhances public and ecological health, bridges societal inequality, combats global warming, moves people and goods safely and efficiently and improves the quality of life for all.*

**We support:**

1. Prioritizing public transit expansion over road construction
2. Free public transit

3. Developing transit in conjunction with the expected growth of the region
4. Safe, accessible and efficient public transportation services for people of all abilities
5. Street improvements that prioritize safe walking and accommodate bicycling; improving connections among multimodal routes
6. Completing the 46<sup>th</sup> District's sidewalk network
7. Developing and financing a comprehensive plan that recognizes SR522/Lake City Way/Bothell Way as a critical route around the north end of Lake Washington
8. Keeping roads, bridges and ferries in good repair; restoring a dedicated funding stream to ferry construction and maintenance
9. Reducing vehicles miles traveled and incentivizing alternatives to single-occupancy vehicles
10. A high-speed rail system linking major cities
11. Increased fuel efficiencies
12. Encouraging the use of electric vehicles and public transportation through more charging stations, a carbon tax and tolls
13. Transportation-oriented development that includes people of all income levels and abilities
14. Repeal of the 18th Amendment to the Washington Constitution so that all gas tax revenues go into the General Fund
15. Expanding capacity for Park & Rides in suburban areas
16. A system of grade-separated truck, rail and transit facilities that enhances freight mobility in King County
17. Replacing the Columbia River Crossing, including provision for light rail access
18. Opposition to environmentally unsafe fossil fuel terminals

### **DRAFT TRIBAL RELATIONS & SOVEREIGNTY**

*Throughout U.S. history, government and corporate actions and policies rooted in white supremacy and colonialism resulted in the invisibility and marginalization of First Nations peoples. We recognize the contributions (past, present, and future) of the Coast Salish peoples to our district, city, and region, including the Suquamish, Tulalip, Duwamish, and Muckleshoot tribes. We also recognize the contributions of other American Indians whose many homelands represent the area known today as the United States, including Native Hawaiians, Alaskan Natives and Urban Indians.*

#### **We support:**

1. Tribal Nations' inherent sovereignty and right to self-governance, self-determination and self-sufficiency
2. The decisions of American Indian nations and tribal governments and affirm their rights derived from treaties and state compacts
3. Elevating the Governor's Office of Indian Affairs to a cabinet-level position as recognition of the U.S. government-to-government relationship with Tribal governments
4. The acknowledgement that American Indians include Urban Natives: those who are not federally-recognized due to the Urban Indian Relocation Act of 1952; children lost to adoption prior to the Indian Child Welfare Act of 1978; Tribal members dis-enrolled; First Nations from Canada and the Americas; and the U.S. policy to terminate Indian Tribes from the mid-1940s through the mid-1960s

5. Increased funding for the Indian Health Service, particularly for the Urban Indian Health Program which receives ~1% of the agency's annual budget even though three-quarters of American Indians reside in urban areas
6. Increased funding for the Seattle Indian Health Board
7. Affordable housing policies that end the displacement of Urban Indians, which makes urban-based services (including traditional supports) inaccessible to many
8. Increased funding, supports and services addressing the disproportionate rates of homelessness among Urban Natives.
9. The demilitarization of law enforcement and increased accountability for abusive practices against indigenous peoples
10. Full funding for the Violence Against Women Act and the provision of judicial training on the Act's Indian provisions such as Full Faith and Credit
11. Judicial training on the federal Indian Child Welfare Act of 1978 and the Washington State Indian Child Welfare Act of 2013 to prevent the loss of children's Native ties and identity
12. Acknowledgement of the high and disproportionate push-out/drop-out rate of Native students and increased efforts, including data collection done in consultation with indigenous peoples and communities, that identify multiracial American Indian students to address funding and programmatic gaps
13. The inclusion of American Indians in education summits put on by state, county, regional and local governments, and increased funding for tribal colleges
14. Aggressive reduction of carbon emissions and a moratorium on new fossil fuel infrastructures to protect indigenous rights and resources for future generations, including those dependent on traditional foods and medicines
15. The restoration of urban streams to protect salmon, flora, and other fauna and the maintenance and repair of culverts that threaten salmon runs
16. The preservation and protection of historic, cultural and religious sites
17. The non-transfer of the Federal trust responsibility to Urban Natives upon their departure from their Tribal lands, which results in the systematic marginalization of Urban Natives from Tribal systems and resources
18. Restoring Federal recognition of the Duwamish Tribe

**We oppose:**

1. Any attempt to diminish Tribal sovereignty or Tribal Treaty Rights
2. The racist use of "Indian mascots" in sports

**DRAFT Local Issues**

*The 46th District Democrats have a tradition of leadership on local issues.*

**City of Seattle**

**We support:**

1. Implementing developer impact fees with a priority to fund Seattle school construction to provide adequate capacity at a time of fast-growing enrollment

2. The creation of more affordable housing in Seattle; therefore, we support:
  - a. Policies that encourage housing density near transit hubs
  - b. Directing affordable housing funds to assist those who need it the most
  - c. Defining workforce housing as assisting those earning between a minimum wage and a living wage, and building much more of it
  - d. Requiring developers to replace on-site any affordable housing they displace with new affordable housing (i.e., 1-for-1 replacement)
  - e. Requiring developers to build inclusionary affordable housing, rather than paying a fee in lieu, in exchange for granting an upzone
  - f. Redefining low-rise as family housing zones—ground-related housing suitable for families, graduated between mid-rise and single-family zones
  - g. Sufficient shelters for those experiencing homelessness
3. Safe-harbor parking for those living in their vehicles, with trash and waste disposal services
4. Continuing to fund Seattle and King County housing and human services budgets, especially services to homeless individuals and families, including those impacted by domestic violence, foster care, foreclosure, mental health institutions and reentry services for those transitioning from prison or military service
5. Locating bus rapid transit service on NE 130th Street as connector service between the Lake City, the planned 130<sup>th</sup> St. Light Rail and Bitter Lake
6. Declaring that any urban village must include sidewalks to be deemed “walkable”
7. Increasing pedestrian safety, including streetlights, permeable sidewalks and visible crosswalks for pedestrians and wheelchair users, with a sidewalk on at least one side of each arterial in Seattle north of 85th St. within 10 years
8. Bicycle lanes and storage facilities for cyclists, and convenient bus stops and shelters
9. Building and adequately funding a new Lake City Community Center with programming for seniors and youth
10. Increasing and adequately funding neighborhood public health clinics
11. Increased police presence and response times in the North Precinct—by subdividing it
12. Passing a robust urban tree ordinance; increasing tree protection by requiring permits and public notice before large trees are removed from public and private property
13. Increasing community accountability and oversight for the Department of Neighborhoods, ensuring that local communities and neighborhood groups are supported and have access to their government
14. Connecting every home and business in Seattle to a publicly owned high-speed broadband network, utilizing existing fiber-optic infrastructure
15. Increased programs to end human trafficking along Highway 99:
  - a. Adequately funding outreach and shelter services for sex workers
  - b. Oversight and increased regulation of media outlets used by sex traffickers
  - c. Increased penalties for those convicted of commercial sex-trafficking of minors
16. Continued efforts to reduce youth detention rates in favor of restorative justice
17. Increased focus from the city regarding youth-on-youth violence, with increased transparency and accountability
18. Increased funding for Youth Arts Programming that focuses on work readiness, education and career tracks for underserved youth
19. Clean-up and preservation of Green Lake
  - a. Upgrades and maintenance to the Midvale Sewage Plant

- b. Increased cleaning and alum treatments to decrease toxic algae-levels in the lake
- 20. Redevelopment of the dismal "Lake City Mini Park" at the corner of 125<sup>th</sup> and Lake City Way, as well as increased open space and P-patches throughout North Seattle
- 21. Clean-up and protection of Thornton Creek watershed in face of increased development

## **DRAFT CITY OF KENMORE**

### **We support:**

1. Adequate state and Federal funding to maintain and finish improvements to SR 522 (Bothell Way) and replace the West Sammamish Bridge, including the State partnering with Kenmore to fund a study for a pedestrian bridge to the Lakepoint development area
2. Additional sidewalks, street and crosswalk improvements and connected trails throughout the city to enable safer walking and bicycling routes
3. Additions of senior, disabled, low-income and workforce housing to improve equitable housing options and access to more frequent and reliable transit
4. Further dioxin testing by the State Department of Ecology in North Lake to identify the source of the dioxins found in the sediment in previous testing
5. A new community planning process for the Lakepointe property at the Kenmore town center, which may include creative funding to stabilize and detoxify the former I-5 construction fill area for town center development, and consideration of a park or other uses for the property
6. Local asphalt plant regulation and reduction of toxic admissions
7. Collaboration between the City of Kenmore and Northshore School District to improve sports fields for community and schools use
8. Finishing parks improvements, additions and development and seeking Federal or state funding
9. Improvements in laws and enforcement that protect those bodies of water that run through Kenmore
10. Implementing a restricted sea plane flight and landing pathway to ensure safe water access for both citizens and air traffic
11. Adopting a robust tree ordinance including a canopy evaluation/database
12. Green corridors connecting the green spaces in Kenmore to provide habitat for the city's deer, cougars, coyotes and foxes
13. Ensuring that residents have access to multiple choices of broadband providers, smart cell/small cell technology improvements and becoming 5G ready
14. Improved citizen access to city meetings and to documents
15. Improved city and community connections by meeting diversity and intersectionality needs of the community through events, education and community outreach

## **DRAFT City of Lake Forest Park**

### **We support:**

1. Fiscally responsible city government that supports resident priorities

2. A more innovative and supportive economic environment, especially concerning small and home-based businesses
3. Continued regional collaboration to improve the SR 522 (Bothell/Lake City Way) and SR 523 (145th Street) corridors to accommodate Bus Rapid Transit connecting to planned light rail stations and to allow for smoother traffic flow and safer multi-modal uses
4. Environmental land use policies that will preserve the lake, streams, forest and other natural features, including low-impact development methods in development and redevelopment projects, and adherence to the city's canopy-based Tree Ordinance
5. Continued broad-based citizen participation in planning for an improved Town Center and location of a Park-and-Ride facility
6. Additional sidewalks, street improvements and connected trails throughout the city to enable safer walking and bicycling
7. Safer, grade-separated pedestrian and bicycle crossings of SR522 to provide access to transit stops and the Burke Gilman Trail
8. Using cloth bags and/or compostable paper or compostable plastic bags
9. Continued improvement of culverts to promote a healthy ecosystem that supports fish habitat in MacAleer, McKinnon and Lyon Creeks, with assistance from Federal, state, and county funding
10. Future development guided by citizen participation that includes appropriate scale, mixed-income housing, including senior housing, proximity to transit and open space
11. Preserving and protecting the Lake Forest Park aquifer, with the cities of Shoreline, Montlake Terrace and Brier