

**MISSOULA COUNTY DEMOCRATS ISSUES COMMITTEE
REQUEST FOR FEEDBACK ON PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO
THE PLATFORM OF THE MONTANA DEMOCRATIC PARTY: PRINCIPLES & POSITIONS**

The Issues Committee of the Missoula County Democrats is in the process of reviewing the 2016 MDP Platform to evaluate possible additions or changes to recommend in advance of the 2018 MDP Platform Convention in June. After consulting with several Missoula County constituents and organizations, we have collected several tentative proposals for amending the 2016 Platform Principles and Positions. In the interest of vetting these within the broader membership of the Missoula County Central Committee these proposals are outlined below.

The current Platform articulates 18 Principles and then outlines specific Positions and Action Agendas within each of these, which are organized under the following headings or planks:

1. Agriculture and Rural Development
2. **American Indians**
3. Cultural Enrichment
4. **Energy**
5. **Good Government**
6. **Health Care and Human Services**
7. **Human and Civil Rights**
8. **Hunting, Fishing, and Outdoor Recreation**
9. International Relations
10. Jobs and the Economy
11. Justice – Access to Justice
12. Justice – Crime and Punishment
13. **Labor**
14. **Public Education**
15. **Stewarding Our Natural Resources**
16. **Taxation**
17. **Veterans and Active Military**
18. **Women**

The planks highlighted in bold text are those for which specific amendments have been proposed and received by the Issues Committee. The proposed changes for each of these areas are outlined below. The full text of the 2016 Platform is provided as an attachment.

We encourage you to review the proposals for each plank in advance of the June 2018 Central Committee meeting. At that meeting, Central Committee members will vote on whether to approve or deny the proposed changes for each plank. Approved proposals will be sent forward to the state platform convention in July for broader consideration.

In order to promote an efficient meeting review process, we encourage you to prepare any substantive comments, objections or revisions in advance of the June meeting. We also invite your input concerning how to rank or prioritize these proposals for advocacy at the state convention. Please provide written comments to the Missoula County Democrats eBoard by May 25th.

PROPOSED REVISIONS AND AMENDMENTS:

AMERICAN INDIANS

We believe in the equality of all people, but as Montanans we have a particular obligation to Montana's first people. We recognize that Montana's American Indians are not only Montanans, but also members of their own tribal nations with the sovereignty to govern themselves and the right to preserve their cultural integrity. Native American government is rooted in an established legal and historical relationship between the United States and Native American tribes or nations. Importantly, American Indian tribes and individuals are unique in American society as the only segment of the U.S. population with a separate legal status, both as groups and individuals.

We support:

- The sovereignty since time immemorial of Montana's American Indian tribes acknowledged by the treaties and the validity of all court decisions, contracts, and agreements of the federal and state government with all Indian nations.
- Montana's constitutional commitment to preserve the cultural integrity of American Indians.
- Recruitment and/or appointment of American Indians to leadership positions within the party and at all levels of government to ensure their representation in policy discussions and decision-making.
- Policies and programs to help Montana's urban Indians overcome barriers.
- The religious freedom of American Indians and the protection of their sacred, cultural and religious properties.
- Equitable, accessible, and culturally sensitive delivery of effective social services and high-quality, affordable healthcare to American Indians, including mental health services and suicide prevention programs.
- Tribal jurisdiction over all Indian children, in compliance with the Indian Child Welfare Act.
- The right of tribal governments to develop, manage, and regulate their natural resources while protecting water and air quality and the integrity of their sacred and cultural sites.
- Proactive and equitable efforts to increase economic development, employment opportunities, and the prosperity of all tribal nations and of all American Indians, on and off the reservations.
- Good-faith negotiation on tribal-state compacts, including gaming, revenue-sharing, and water compacts.
- Equitable allocation and distribution of state and federal funds to ensure that American Indians in Montana receive their fair share of appropriated funds.
- Inter-governmental agreements that allow tax revenues generated on Indian reservations to be used to support reservation economies and fund essential services.
- Organized outreach as a party to Montana's American Indians and to all Montanans on issues central to the advancement of American Indians in Montana.
- Equitable access for American Indians registering to vote and voting.
- An end to mass incarceration of American Indians and fair and equal treatment at every level in the criminal justice system.
- Educational materials that incorporate American Indian narratives, comprehensive histories, and accurate information in school curricula.

We oppose:

- Hate crimes, including sexual violence, targeting American Indians.

ENERGY

As we confront global climate change, Montana Democrats believe that we must reduce reliance on fossil fuels through a combination of energy conservation, energy efficiency, and the development of clean, renewable energy sources. We believe that we can achieve this goal AND create or provide transitions into good Montana jobs. climate change is already affecting Montana's citizens, industry, economy and our national security. We also believe that Montana is uniquely situated with vast wind and solar energy potentials and that developing them, with sensitivity to environmental impacts, can reduce our reliance on fossil fuel, increase our national security, boost jobs, and bring money to local economies, rural economies, and reservations.

We support:

- A utility regulation model that ensures Montana energy consumers are encouraged to take advantage of Montana's plentiful and affordable clean energy resources.
- ~~Demand-side management methods and integrated power grids that reduce energy consumption and costs for homeowners and businesses and~~ Reducing energy consumption and costs by managing homeowners and businesses integrating power grids to reduce power lost through transmission and to speed the transfer from reliance on fossil fuels to clean energy power.
- Programs to train or retrain workers of Montana for tomorrow's energy jobs.
- Incentives for Montana's entrepreneurs, businesses, university system and government agencies to develop clean, reliable, and affordable energy sources that attract high-wage, high-tech jobs.
- ~~Universal services~~ Incentive programs that address the issues of affordability, efficiency, conservation, and renewability in energy consumption: for homeowners, schools, government agencies and small businesses.
- Reduced reliance on petroleum markets that drive up costs for the citizens and businesses in this transportation-dependent, northern-climate state.
- A comprehensive plan to explore technologies for coal gasification, advanced biofuels, and a sustainable biofuels industry in Montana.
- The establishment of strategies and protocols for capture, transportation, sequestration and liability for disposal of CO₂, with a priority to create and conserve sustainable jobs.
- Implementation of a revenue neutral or tax and dividend system of carbon taxation, with taxation aimed point-source entities.
- Requiring energy contract terms that encourage renewable facilities especially in rural areas where they can grow jobs and bring tax revenue.
- Encouraging hydrogen fuel cell technology to reduce vehicles' greenhouse gas emissions while creating additional demand for Montana clean energy.
- Integrating the United States energy grid, so we can more effectively match renewable energy production to peak power demand.
- Integrating long-distance power transmission systems to move power more efficiently from distant rural areas with wind and solar resources to cities with demand.
- Making green building construction easier by reaching out to contractors to teach them about the new materials available.

GOOD GOVERNMENT

We view government as the means by which individuals work together to solve mutual problems, balance competing interests, and accomplish common goals. Good government meets its constitutional obligations to protect health and safety and to promote community, commerce, and culture. At every level, good government is open, accountable, and responsive to the people.

We support:

- Local control, along with the local discretion and flexibility needed for responsive, efficient, and effective provision of services to the public.
- Open, transparent government so that Montanans can exercise vigilance in holding our federal, state and local officials accountable and take part in government decision-making.
- Cooperative and mutually respectful efforts among local, state, tribal and federal levels of government to provide services and to respond to emerging needs.
- Collaborative efforts between government bodies and private entities to create a robust and modern infrastructure that meets needs and expands opportunities for all communities and all Montanans.
- Open, free, fair, and transparent elections, including Montana's open primary election, which encourage participation by all citizens.
- Campaign finance reform to ensure that Montana elections will not be bought by out-of-state interests.
- Civic literacy programs designed to provide for educated, informed, and active citizens who understand the specific role of government.
- Superdelegates are to vote in accordance with how the majority of people in the state of Montana vote at national convention.

We oppose:

- The diversion of public funding to private entities for the provision of public services.
- All efforts to suppress lawful voting through repeal of current practices, the imposition of unnecessary barriers to voting, and intimidation and disinformation schemes.
- Legislation or other governmental intervention on decisions reserved to the privacy of any individual.
- Cost-shifting or unfunded mandates that burden one level of government with the obligations of another.
- We oppose closed primaries, superdelegates voting against how the state votes, and caucusing in order to elect presidential candidates in primaries.
- We oppose superdelegates publicly endorsing candidates who have not won in the state primary.

HEALTH CARE AND HUMAN SERVICES

We are dedicated to ensuring quality of life and equality of opportunity for all individuals and all families, regardless of their socio-economic status. Fundamental to such quality and equality is access to the basic necessities of life, including, at a minimum, health care, education, shelter, adequate nutrition, human dignity, and lives free of violence.

Health Care

We support:

- Affordable and accessible health care for all Montanans.
- Montanans' right to choose their health care providers.
- Montanans' right to keep their personal medical information private.
- Patient-centered approaches to prevent and treat chronic disease.
- Effective responses to mental illness, substance abuse disorders, and gambling addiction.
- Health insurance programs that encourage preventative care, provide coverage parity for mental health services and substance abuse disorders, and preserve adequate coverage for low-income Montanans.
- Active and proactive measures to address the needs of Montana's aging population.
- Efforts to maintain and improve funding for rural health care.
- Community-based mental illness and addiction crisis intervention and recovery as the preferred approach.
- Montana Democrats believe that access to healthcare is a basic necessity of life and, therefore, we affirm that health care should be regarded as a human right.

We oppose:

- Laws and other government actions that interfere with the privacy rights of individuals to make their own health decisions, including decisions about contraception, child-bearing, and dying.
- Limiting access to legal health care services associated with

Human Services

We support:

- Collaboration and cooperation between public, private, non-profit, and faith-based organizations in adopting policies and services that strengthen all families and communities.
- Funding to prevent, diminish, and respond effectively to domestic violence and child abuse through education, early intervention, more resources for shelters, adequate staffing, and treatment, including residential treatment.
- Holding those found guilty of assault or abuse accountable and prioritizing the protection of the victim.
- Effective and accessible senior services, including ombudsman and advocacy services in all facets of senior living experiences.
- Developing and assessing effective measures to protect the health and safety of Montana's seniors.
- Full inclusion of people with disabilities and Montana's senior citizens in our communities through a well-funded network of community-based services.
- Full compliance with the philosophy and requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) to allow everyone to lead a productive, dignified life.
- Safe, affordable, and accessible housing for all Montanans; respect for the rights of renters.
- Efforts to help the homeless and housing-insecure to obtain decent shelter, social services, medical services, educational programs, and other support services that will help them maintain stable living circumstances.
- Strengthening programs that feed those who are hungry.

We oppose:

- Any privatization of Social Security.

HUMAN RIGHTS, and CIVIL RIGHTS and CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS

We believe that neither a peaceful planet nor a democratic society can survive without appreciation for the diversity of all people and respect for the unique value of each person. We embrace the rights guaranteed by the constitutions of our state and nation, recognizing that the meaning and application of those rights continues to evolve as our knowledge and understanding as human beings in a democratic republic evolve.

We support:

- A state, nation, and world free of want, fear, harassment, discrimination, torture, and bullying.
- Equal treatment of all individuals before the law, regardless of race, gender, religion, age, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, physical or intellectual ability, physical or mental health status, language of origin, national origin, or marital status.
- Equal opportunities for housing, employment, and education available to all individuals.
- Collaboration between federal, state, local, tribal and private efforts to recognize and advance our shared responsibility to protect every individual's right to human dignity and life's basic necessities.
- Affirmative action to provide opportunities for members of historically marginalized groups to pursue meaningful, substantial, and gainful activity.
- Every individual's right to hold personal beliefs without interference from those with different beliefs and the right to make private decisions without government restriction or intervention.
- The right of all persons with special needs to live and to be served in the least restrictive environment appropriate to those needs.
- We affirm the constitutional rights guaranteed and defined in the Montana and U.S. Constitutions.
- The right of all persons to access news and information required to secure their well-being, improve their lives, and make informed decisions as citizens in a democratic society.

We oppose:

- Laws and other government actions that interfere with the privacy rights of individuals to make their own health decisions, including decisions about contraception, child-bearing, and dying.
- Limiting access to legal health care services associated with individuals' private decisions
- The proliferation of "protest laws" that chill the civil rights of citizens by criminalizing or imposing unnecessary restrictions and penalties on persons engaged in political protests or expressive activities.
- Immigration policies that target DACA recipients or unnecessarily split up families placing minor children at risk.

HUNTING, FISHING AND OUTDOOR RECREATION

We recognize that the opportunity for Montanans to enjoy our spectacular landscapes, clean waters, and abundant fish and wildlife is an integral part of our heritage, identity, and lifestyle to life and well-being. We believe in public ownership of the fish, wildlife, streams and rivers of our state and rely on our government at all levels and in every jurisdiction to hold these resources in trust for the beneficial use of our citizens and future generations.

We support:

- ~~The right to keep and bear arms as defined in both the Montana and the U.S. Constitutions.~~
- Montanans' right to participate in fair chase hunting, fishing, trapping, and outdoor recreation on our public lands, consistent with private property rights.
- Montana's Stream Access Law, including the public's right to access streams at public bridges.
- Federal ownership and management of current federal public lands in Montana and agency budget levels sufficient to meet management challenges.
- Appropriate incentives to compensate landowners for the impacts of hunting and fishing, as well as the maintenance of wildlife habitat on private land.
- License fee levels adequate to fund the Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks' proper management of the public's wildlife and fish and their habitat as public trust resources.
- Diversity in the interests and perspectives of members of commissions and boards charged with influencing public policy on natural resources and outdoor recreation.
- Efforts to reduce chronic wasting disease, whirling disease, and other wildlife afflictions, as well as noxious weeds and invasive aquatic species.
- Science-based decision-making for managing fish and wildlife.
- Adequate funding for Montana State Parks to provide recreational opportunities and to preserve Montana's heritage within Montana State Parks.
- Restoration of native bull trout and cutthroat trout in Flathead Lake, the Flathead River system and the Swan Lake basin through removal of predacious non-native lake trout.
- Partnering with a local land trust to restore and manage the open space, riparian community and public access opportunities at the confluence of Rock Creek and the Clark Fork Rivers.
- Protective laws and rules to ensure future groundwater development doesn't deplete connected streams and rivers.
- Legislative and agency actions to ensure that future groundwater development doesn't deplete connected streams and rivers.
- Efforts to create and back habitat, streamflow, water quality and recreational access projects as part of a large-scale restoration of damaged habitat effort in the upper Clark Fork basin.
- Collaborating with the U.S. Forest Service to establish permanent instream flow rights on key headwater tributaries throughout Montana.
- The efforts of Native American tribes or nations to negotiate water rights settlements with the State of Montana that include healthier streamflows for fish.
- Seeking significant instream flow protection throughout Western Montana by urging the public and lawmakers to support a pending water compact between the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes and the State of Montana.
- Efforts to protect streams fed by groundwater against depletion posed by poorly regulated wells.
- Rules to protect against acid mine pollution posed by a copper mine proposed in the headwaters of the Smith River.

We oppose:

- Any net loss of publicly owned lands, including any proposal to sell federal public lands or transfer authority of federal public lands to state governments.
- The private sale of wildlife or any tags or permits intended to authorize the harvest of wildlife by any source other than the Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks.
- Privatization and commercialization of public fish and wildlife resources.

LABOR

We believe that stable jobs with livable wages are another cornerstone of a stable economy and a healthy society. Because the vast majority of Montanans make their living as wage-earners, we seek fair compensation for their labor so that they can provide for their families and sustain their communities. Montana workers deserve safety, security, and dignity as conditions of their employment, as well as conditions of their retirement after a lifetime of hard work.

We support:

- The right of workers to establish democracy in the workplace by forming or joining independent unions for the purpose of bargaining and advocating collectively.
- The right of workers to withhold their labor in the resolution of labor/management disputes.
- Fair and adequate compensation that allows Montana wage-earners to sustain themselves, their families, and their communities.
- Equal pay for equal work.
- Prevailing wage levels for workers on any project funded with taxpayer dollars.
- Family-friendly workplace practices, including paid family and medical leave and employer-assisted child and elder care programs.
- Strong protections against child labor and appropriate employment conditions for young adult workers.
- Safe and healthy workplaces with just compensation for job-related injuries and unemployment benefits when workers lose their jobs.
- Training programs that enable prisoners to obtain employment upon release.
- Congressional involvement in and approval of trade agreements and amendments to those agreements.
- Strengthening federal, state, and private programs to provide for and protect our seniors in retirement.
- Labor Unions, representing public employees, and recognize such unions strengthen the organizations they serve and provide for good government at the lowest cost for taxpayers.

We oppose:

- Privatizing employment in areas that belong in the public sector.
- “Right to work” legislation and other initiatives that interfere with workers’ right to organize, to bargain collectively, and to advocate on issues they deem important.
- The use of “permanent replacements” to undermine the right to strike.
- Discriminatory practices in hiring, promotions, working conditions, or compensation and the use of distinctions in employment that have no bearing on a worker’s ability to fulfill the duties of a job.
- The practice of hiring part-time or leased employees in order to avoid or reduce payments for fringe benefits, including health insurance and retirement benefits.
- The use of prison labor to replace workers on jobs normally performed by public or private sector workers.
- Foreign trade agreements that disadvantage U.S. workers and allow corporations to offshore their operations in an effort to reduce corporate tax rates, circumvent federal safety, environmental, and labor regulations.

PUBLIC EDUCATION

We believe that public education not only acts as the primary catalyst for a strong economy, upward mobility, and the quality of life in Montana, but also fosters the lasting bonds of understanding, acceptance, and community that make Montana such a desirable place to live. We are therefore committed to a continuum of high-quality public education opportunities that develop the potential of every Montanan and of Montana itself.

We support:

- An adequately funded system of public schools, colleges, and universities that promote a higher quality of life for children, families and communities and that foster employment opportunities, a strong economy, and social justice.
- Local control of neighborhood and community schools accountable for meeting high, clear standards for quality, safety, and equality.
- K-12 and college programs that meet our constitutional commitment to preserve the cultural heritage of Montana's American Indians, as well as close the American Indian achievement gap.
- Public school curriculum that serves the full range of age groups, abilities, and disabilities in learners and responds to a broad range of learner gifts and interests.
- Standards, compensation, and benefits that attract and retain high-quality professionals in Montana's public education settings, from Head Start through adult education and from pre-school through graduate school.
- Opportunities for lifelong learning, including online learning, that will keep America competitive in a global economy, help break the cycle of illiteracy, and enrich democracy.
- Preserving the varied options for affordable, accessible, high-quality public higher education in Montana.
- The role of tribal colleges in providing higher education services to both Indian and non-Indian students.
- State and federal funding for grants, loans, scholarships and other financial aid for students, as well as for the research and scholarship missions of our universities.
- High-quality early childhood education programs, including Head Start, that prepare young children to succeed in school and become better citizens.

We oppose:

- Any use of public funds for private education initiatives, including online, for-profit schools at any level.
- Shifting the state's responsibility for funding public K-12 education to local taxpayers.
- Shifting the state's responsibility for funding higher education to Montana students.
- Programs or policies that increase or encourage unrealistic levels of student debt.

STEWARDING OUR NATURAL RESOURCES

The teeming bounty of our natural resources has always been at the heart of our prosperity, our heritage, and our lifestyle as Montanans. We believe that we must work together to ensure that our use of these resources continues to contribute to the strong economy needed to sustain families and communities in the 21st century while it protects the clean and healthful environment that is our constitutional right.

We support:

- ~~Far sighted~~, Sustainable, cost-effective public policy to protect our environment and steward our natural resources for good jobs now and a clean and healthful environment for future generations.
- Legal protections for the care of Montana's natural environment.
- The promotion of tourism as a thriving Montana industry centered on the beauty and abundance of our natural resources
- Sufficient government oversight of Montana's extractive industries to ensure the preservation of Montana's environment and sustain the health of Montana's lands, forests, wildlife, and streams resource extraction to ensure adherence to the laws governing environmental stewardship and industrial accountability when those laws are broken.
- Accessible citizen involvement at all levels in the environmental regulatory process.
- Local growth policies and land use planning that maintain open space ; ~~protect our rivers and streams;~~ and maintain or enhance critical fish and wildlife habitat, ~~reasonable population density, private forestry, family agriculture, and economically and environmentally sustainable, fire wise communities .~~ protects water resources and critical habitat, maintains viable wildlife populations, implements firewise forestry in the wildland-urban interface, and provides access for forest products and family agriculture.
- The protection, conservation and improvement of the quality and quantity of our ground and surface water.
- The protection and improvement of our air quality, ~~considering all sources of degradation.~~
- Hold industry accountable for reclamation of environmentally disturbed areas contaminated sites and disposal of hazardous and toxic reclaimed waste so as to ensure public health and safety, as well as environmental integrity.
- Forest management practices that ensure the ecological health of our forests and allow for the types of outdoor recreation that constitute and increasingly important part of our economy.
- Sustainable agricultural practices that ~~protect rangelands, riparian areas and wetlands habitats; inhibit soil erosion;~~ reduce dependency on hazardous chemicals ; ~~and maintain and enhance~~ while protecting rangelands, riparian areas, wetlands, and soil composition and fertility.
- Planning and protection of wetlands, wildlife corridors, and riparian areas as an integral part of land-use planning and protection of water resources and related habitats.
- Protecting access to public lands and streams so that Montana's outdoor heritage can be enjoyed by future generations.

We oppose:

- The sale, transfer, or marketing of Montana's water for use in other states and across intrastate basins.
- Privatization of public water systems
- The transfer of public land and the transfer of public land management in a way that circumvents access to public input and involvement in the land management decision making process.
- Opening up wilderness to development.

TAXATION

We seek a progressive, broad-based, and equitable tax system that reflects and enhances our changing economy and adequately supports a full range of quality public services and public education. We believe in being fiscally responsible while promoting quality of life in Montana and equality of opportunity for all our citizens.

We support:

- Public disclosure of how public funds are currently used, how proposed new taxes will be used to improve programs and services, and how proposed tax cuts will affect existing programs and services.
- A more progressive system of taxation, so that the rich and super-rich pay a fairer share of our national budget.

We oppose:

- Preferential tax treatment for distinct special interests or corporations that undermines fair and equitable taxation and diminishes funding for necessary public services.
- Efforts to bust the Constitutional Coal Tax Trust or to lower that tax.

VETERANS AND ACTIVE MILITARY

We ask Americans in the military to risk their lives and disrupt their families' lives to serve our country. In gratitude for their sacrifice, Montana Democrats regard as sacred our obligation to care for America's military – during active duty and for the rest of their lives.

We support:

- Timely and effective medical, educational, and social services that meet the needs of Montana's active military and their families.
- Timely and effective services to ensure that Montana service members, including members of the National Guard and Reserve, have a successful readjustment when they return to their families, communities, and workplaces.
- Funding and resources for a wide array of services to ensure that Montana's veterans have timely and effective access to healthcare, especially mental health care; disability compensation; housing; and meaningful employment, job training, and/or small business assistance.
- Higher education practices and policies that address the financial, psychological, social, and academic challenges of Montana's active military, as well as Montana's veterans.
- Urgent development of a comprehensive program to address active duty and veteran suicides in Montana.

We oppose:

- Privatization of veterans' homes and hospitals in Montana.
- Any contracting or privatization of functions and support services provided by military personnel, whether for traditional military functions, or in-house support services (i.e., food service, air conditioning repair, etc.). Our active members of the military, in all branches of the service, are better prepared to provide cost-effective support functions and should be appropriately trained for these activities to enhance training and skill acquisition for careers and vocational professions.

WOMEN

We are the party of trail-blazing women. We are committed to securing equal opportunities in education, employment, and leadership for every woman and to ensuring safe, healthy, and nurturing environments for all women. To achieve these goals, women must have an equitable role, not only in determining local, state, and national policies, but also in allocating resources to meet the needs of families and communities.

We support:

- The equal application to women of the inalienable rights delineated in the constitutions of our state and nation.
- A woman's right and ability to make personal decisions regarding contraception and reproduction, as well as the right to provide or receive services related to those choices in a safe, accessible environment.
- Funding for reproductive and family planning education and STD/AIDS prevention for men and women.
- Active recruitment of women for leadership roles in public office and in the Democratic Party.
- Equal access for women of all ages to training, jobs, and promotions and efforts to ensure equal pay for equal work.
- Programs and services to address the unique needs of women as primary caregivers for children and the elderly in regard to health care, housing, child support, child care, job training, education, and other public benefits.
- Efforts to address and end violence against women -- including domestic violence, sexual assault, sex trafficking, bullying, stalking, and sexual harassment -- through education, early and ongoing intervention, and funding for direct services.
- Paid family leave.
- Adequate funding for victim advocate programs in every community.
- While we recognize state law binds us to simply recognizing two genders: man and woman, we do honor and recognize all gender identities and welcome them within the Montana Democratic Party.

We Oppose:

- Efforts to restrict or eliminate a woman's right to make decisions about reproduction and childbirth.
- Efforts to restrict access to services related to such decisions.
- Efforts to fund crisis pregnancy centers engaging in deceptive practices or disseminating false and misleading medical information.