



DEMOCRATIC PARTY *of* OREGON 2018 Platform

Preamble

The Democratic Party of Oregon commits itself to the principles and positions contained in this platform in order to secure a more just and prosperous future for all Oregonians. We recognize and embrace our shared rights and responsibilities. We affirm that every person is guaranteed rights to life, liberty, equity, and the pursuit of happiness. In exercising these rights for ourselves, we are respectful of the interdependent web of life on this planet.

We promise to work to uphold the protections granted to us by our state and national constitutions and to act on our responsibilities to assure that "We the People" resume governing this nation. We steadfastly oppose any attempt to dilute those rights and liberties in the name of political convenience or security. At a time when our nation is suffering under misguided leadership that seeks to divide us and turn back the clock to a supposed "greater" America, we declare that the greatness of our nation is in its diversity and its ability to move forward with full understanding of our historical strengths and weaknesses. We invite all Oregonians to join us in affirming our determination that Oregon become a beacon of opportunity, tolerance, and freedom.

Article 1 - ECONOMY: Jobs; Business; Labor

Oregon Democrats work in many trades, occupations, and professions with a belief that all workers and their families deserve a fair share of the American Dream. We recognize that the wealth of our communities and state is created by the effort, knowledge, investments, and skill of workers and business leaders. We honor the efforts of workers, the entrepreneurial spirit of small business that provides the bulk of local job growth, and recognize the stability provided by larger scale community investment. We believe the foundation of our economy is the workforce, public and private, as well as the spirit of innovation and the availability of opportunity to people of all characteristics. We value the critical role of labor unions in strengthening and protecting the workforce and creating conditions necessary for innovation and personal advancement. We believe taxation and revenue-expenditure policies should be used to reduce social divisions and promote economic opportunity.

Planks:

1. We affirm the right to organize for collective bargaining free of intimidation or coercion, support the Employee Free Choice Act (Card Check), and oppose any legislation such as "Right to Work" and fair-share limitation measures that would restrict these rights.
2. We believe government plays key roles in creating and supporting a vibrant economy through investments and regulation of 21st Century infrastructure, including transportation, utilities, information access, education, health care, justice systems, and social services. We believe the economy depends upon businesses fulfilling their financial responsibility to support this infrastructure through taxes.
3. We believe all Oregon wage workers have the right to a secure retirement, including protections of retirement accounts from corporate bankruptcies. We fully support protections for our public retirement systems.
4. We support improved CPI methodology to calculate Social Security cost-of-living adjustments to reflect the actual expenses of retirees. We oppose changes that diminish our retirees' standard of living, including chained CPI. All monies accrued in the Social Security Trust Fund and Medicare must be reserved exclusively for benefits.
5. We believe businesses have a responsibility to pay a living wage to their employees to avoid shifting the burden of basic support to taxpayers. We support a minimum wage tied to the cost of living in our communities and adjusted annually.
6. We support equal pay for equal work without qualification.

7. We support the creation and maintenance of educational pathways to living wages for all Oregonians. We support apprenticeship programs for a wide range of occupations incorporating collaboration among schools, community colleges, unions, and businesses. We oppose public funding of business-controlled apprenticeships and training programs.
8. We believe competition is essential to the innovation that drives our economy, Companies that are “too big to fail” represent an unacceptable risk. We support vigorous enforcement of the Sherman Antitrust Act, strengthening of antitrust legislation, and breaking up of corporate entities whose size undermines a competitive marketplace.
9. We believe the growing income disparity between members of the wealthiest population sector and the average American worker is detrimental to labor, business, a dynamic economy, and a stable democracy.
10. We support making it easier and more financially rewarding for businesses to invest in creating well-paying, clean-energy jobs than in creating jobs dependent on fossil fuels.
11. We believe in supporting small businesses by removing unnecessary barriers and improving their access to loans.
12. We support legislation and taxation policies that promote economic stability, fair levels of taxation for businesses compared to individuals, and a level playing field for all businesses.
13. We believe in expanding workplace rights for all workers in all employment contracts, including flextime, compensatory time, and parental and family leave.
14. We believe that a Universal Basic Income (UBI) will prove to be an economic necessity with benefits for working people, families, communities, and the economy, and we urge evaluation of the means to achieve this goal.
15. We support efforts that will expand economic opportunities to all corners of Oregon with a priority on creating sustainable jobs that provide growth opportunities for employers and employees alike.
16. We believe public funds generated in Oregon should function for the common good and should, as a priority, be reinvested in Oregon to create jobs and opportunities.
17. We support strong labor laws and the elimination of at-will employment laws.
18. We support Oregon’s tribes, farmers, ranchers, fishers, and land managers in their efforts to sustainably manage our natural resources and balance competing land use interests.

Article 2 - EDUCATION: Public Education; Pre-Kindergarten to Grade 12; Post-Secondary Schools; Vocational Training

Oregon Democrats believe public schools are a foundation to our democracy and essential to promoting an informed citizenry. We believe equitable, stable schools provide all students with universal access to a high-quality education from pre-kindergarten through higher education. We acknowledge that quality public education for all students allows each student to reach their full potential and not only enriches personal lives but also strengthens our economy and is crucial to a well-functioning democracy. We support fully funding public schools in accordance with the Quality Education Model (QEM). Our students deserve comprehensive educational opportunities reflected in the arts, civics, critical thinking, history, sciences, physical education, mathematics, economics, languages, technology, libraries and librarian support, alternative education, and other disciplines that develop the whole child.

Planks:

1. We support free public education, from birth through Grade 12, and we believe every Oregon student should have the opportunity to attend publicly funded college, university, or a vocational program tuition-free. We believe in reducing and/or eliminating existing student loan debt and eliminating predatory student loan practices.
2. We oppose the use of public funds for private schools, private charter schools, vouchers or other strategies, such as Education Savings Accounts or Social Impact Bonds, to shift public funds away from public schools.
3. We support smaller class sizes to better meet student needs. We strongly encourage the State of Oregon to adopt its own fully-funded, high-quality standards that keep education student-centered from birth through Grade 12.
4. We support a whole child approach to education that encourages students to acquire general knowledge and to become accomplished at respecting others, thinking critically, working collaboratively and creatively, and acting in ways that are fair and just. This includes providing culturally responsive curriculum, restorative practices, and applying critical race theory.
5. We oppose high stakes testing as an instructional model or as a primary strategy to determine student success or school effectiveness. We oppose high stakes testing as a strategy to sort students by their proficiency or schools by their effectiveness.
6. We support multiple assessment strategies to determine student success. We recognize that a student’s teacher is

the person most qualified to determine student success. We oppose so-called “merit pay” based upon student test scores.

7. We support having professionally licensed teachers who reflect Oregon’s demographics in the classroom, mentoring of all teachers new to the profession, and meaningful professional development for all teachers.
8. We support fair, rational evaluation of educator effectiveness by educators and endorse the collaborative evaluation of instructors and administrators, employing broad-based assessment methods that recognize and encourage excellence and ongoing improvement. We support assisting educators in meeting performance expectations.
9. We recognize poverty and socioeconomic status are primary factors in determining student success and school effectiveness. We support providing low-income schools with increased financial support. We support the concept of “wrap-around services” to provide students with support such as: mentoring, after-school programs, and other programs that have proven effective.
10. We insist that charter and virtual schools receiving public funds be governed by the same standards applied to traditional schools.
11. We believe that Oregon’s schools should have programs to address the persistent racial disparities in educational outcomes with a commitment to English Language Learners and dual language immersion education models.
12. We believe that developmentally appropriate, play-based, culturally sensitive opportunities for young children should be a high educational priority.
13. We support the rights of educational professionals to freely and collectively negotiate instructional and educational issues that enhance opportunities for student learning as well as working conditions, wages, benefits, and employment stability.
14. We support local control of our public schools, which is transparent and accountable to the electorate. We believe funding provided for the management of any public school in Oregon should be subject to public inspection and audit whether that management is done in-house or contracted out.
15. We believe the relationship between teachers and their students is essential to the learning process and that educational professionals best meet students’ individual needs, as opposed to misuse or over reliance on electronic applications distributed under the guise of “personalized learning.”
16. We believe students and families do not surrender personal rights upon enrollment in public school. EdTech or “personalized learning,” allows for collection of personal student information. Statewide longitudinal databases put this data at risk. To assure privacy, we support full protection of all student data, including mental health records.
17. We believe students perform better when in good health. Therefore, we support full funding for nutrition programs (including breakfast and lunch), counseling (including school counseling and mental health counseling), and health services (including school nurses and school-based health centers).
18. We promote comprehensive, age-appropriate sex education in school curriculum in Oregon.
19. We believe curriculum-based community service learning and place-based education builds a sense of personal efficacy and empowerment and provide opportunities for children to see themselves as leaders and activists, and should be a high educational priorities.
20. We promote comprehensive climate literacy education in school curriculum in Oregon so that students can probe the causes and consequences of the climate crisis as well as solutions.

Article 3 - ENVIRONMENT: Air; Water; Land; Ecosystems; Natural Resources; Climate Change; Sustainability

Oregon Democrats understand a healthy, sustainable, and beautiful Oregon environment is a key component of our high quality of life and helps support our resource-based economies. We understand we must sustainably manage our forests and rangelands; and ensure clean rivers and lakes, healthy air quality, clean and safe drinking water, and a healthy ocean environment. We know environmental protection is cost-effective and essential for our survival. We support development of environmentally-renewable, sustainable energy resources, clean, efficient modes of transportation, preservation of our most pristine lands, and reduction of pollutants that threaten our health and damage our ecosystems. We will develop environmental protection objectives, priorities, and regulations by using the best available science to understand risk and reduce threats to human health and our ecosystem. We believe our climate is in crisis from man-made climate change, and we must take immediate action.

Planks:

1. We believe all citizens have the right to adequate open and recreational spaces, and to clean and safe air and public water resources.
2. We believe the general public, government, and the regulated community must work together to provide clean water, manage sewage, solid waste, and stormwater, and to protect open and recreational spaces, watersheds, habitats, diversity, and comprehensive ecosystem interrelationships.
3. We believe greater efforts, including but not limited to direct monitoring, are needed at the local, state, and national level to identify, reduce, and eliminate the toxic effects of hazardous chemicals, industrial processes, genetically modified organisms, waste from weapons testing, and agricultural chemicals and byproducts.
4. We believe fresh and marine water resources, both surface and groundwater, must be managed primarily for the public good and protected from private control, profit, and pollution.
5. We support the ecologically sustainable management of Oregon's renewable agricultural, water, forest, and fisheries resources, and careful management of non-renewable mineral resources.
6. We support the "polluter pays" principle, either through restoration or mitigation. We believe that corporate profits should never preclude protection of the environment. Corporate entities must be required to internalize all environmental and human health costs.
7. We believe that protections for native, keystone, endangered, and threatened species must be enhanced and enforced. We support biodiversity in Oregon, including research and legal enforcement efforts to maintain diverse habitats, preserve endangered species, and reduce the presence and impacts of invasive species.
8. We believe in protecting human health by setting strong and protective standards for air and water and enforcing those standards through strong monitoring, reporting, and compliance requirements.
9. We support community planning that includes the strict enforcement of land use laws and community-based water management.
10. We oppose the further destruction of ancient living systems such as forests, deserts, wetlands, and oceanic reefs.
11. We believe in the humane treatment of farm animals, including adequate living space and opportunities for socialization, so they have a decent quality of life, which will also reduce disease and the need for antibiotics.
12. We believe monitoring data indicates groundwater contamination from agricultural chemicals is a significant public health threat, and more needs to be done to reduce the risk.
13. We are committed to the principle that economic prosperity is compatible with protection of the environment based on the technologies we possess and the dynamics of resource use and energy conservation. Cleanup of contaminated industrial and commercial sites provides many social, economic, and environmental benefits.
14. We believe we must take immediate action to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, reduce the atmospheric concentration of these gases, and decrease our negative impact on the climate, as is necessary for the maintenance of society as we know it and the survival of many sensitive species.
15. We oppose the wholesale conversion of public lands to private ownership, and support the protection of state and federally designated parks, wilderness areas, recreation areas, beaches, and other public resource lands including places of cultural significance.
16. We support private property rights and responsible development that does not compromise the environment or conflict with the well-being of the commons.
17. We support land use planning to preserve rural and natural environments and support favorable and efficient housing, transportation, and commercial development practices.
18. We recognize that peer-reviewed scientific evidence has demonstrated that human activities that emit greenhouse gases, including the burning of fossil fuels, have caused a global emergency known as "climate change."
19. We support science-based strategies to implement sustainable practices and technologies to both mitigate and adapt to climate change. We also insist that mitigation and adaptation programs acknowledge and address social inequity and the plight of impacted communities.
20. We recognize that industrial development has disproportionately burdened disadvantaged populations and marginalized communities with environmental degradation and its negative effects. Oregon Democrats believe regulatory programs must address social inequities and the dangers to impacted communities.
21. We recognize the important goals served by well-crafted and science-based legislation over the last half-century at the federal level that set national standards for environmental protection, provided a level playing field for economic development, and contributed significantly to improvements in air, water, and general environmental quality.
22. We recognize the constraints imposed by a planet with finite resources and capacity to process our waste.

Therefore, we believe the Earth has a finite carrying capacity that is dependent on human consumption levels and that evaluation of, and education regarding, these limits is a critical need.

23. We believe Oregonians should embrace the concept of life-cycle management for all products and packaging in order to reduce waste, lower toxicity in products, and encourage recycling. Oregonians should consider cooperative management approaches to incorporate all environmental costs into decisions related to products, packaging, and recycling.
24. We support an equitable and just transition away from fossil fuels through promoting renewable energy sources, protecting public lands and natural resources from fossil fuel extractive practices, prohibiting export of fossil fuels through Oregon, and providing incentives for creating clean energy jobs.
25. We support comprehensive measures to sequester carbon through improved forest clear-cutting management, agricultural, and rangeland practices.
26. We support the transition to 100% renewable energy by 2030.

Article 4 - FOREIGN POLICY AND NATIONAL SECURITY: Veterans Affairs; the Military; Treaties; Trade Agreements; Foreign Aid

Oregon Democrats recognize our responsibilities extend beyond state and national boundaries and that our interests require global cooperation. We believe in a strong military, in line with the military threat to the United States, providing for the common defense while protecting and observing the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the Geneva Conventions, and the right of all persons to live in peace while enjoying the right to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. We believe in a world free from war and violent conflict using American strengths, such as diplomacy, technology, developmental assistance, and aid, to confront global threats and ensure that the use of American military power or war is always a last resort.

Planks:

1. We pledge and affirm our commitments to honor all our international treaty obligations and to support the United Nations, as well as other international institutions and standards of conduct that protect the American people and the well-being of people worldwide.
2. We believe in abiding by the Geneva Conventions, especially with regard to torture, rendition, indefinite detention without charges, and extra-judicial executions worldwide.
3. We believe American interests and values are best represented and served when our military, law enforcement, and civil servants are comprised of people of all races, religions, cultural heritage, sexual orientation, and gender identification.
4. We pledge to work nationally and globally to stop nuclear proliferation. We will work to continue the meaningful reduction of nuclear stockpiles and to eliminate chemical, biological, and other weapons of mass destruction. We support the international ban on and removal of landmines.
5. We believe global trade should not come at the expense of national sovereignty, consumer, labor or environmental protections; nor should it degrade the health, dignity, or general welfare of Americans, trade partner citizens, or people worldwide.
6. We believe all active duty and retired military, reservists, members of the Oregon National Guard, Peace Corps volunteers, and foreign service veterans should be recognized for their service to our nation with all benefits afforded to their respective statuses.
7. We believe veterans with active duty in combat regions should be compensated accordingly, and provided access to housing, healthcare, job training, and education, which facilitates re-entry into civilian life and enables veterans to meet their basic human needs.
8. We oppose and condemn terrorism, genocide, torture, human trafficking, sexual exploitation, and religious or political persecution both at home and abroad.
9. We believe fair and freely accessible elections, without foreign intervention, are imperative to democracy.
10. We oppose the weaponization of space, the Moon, and the planets, which shall remain a public commons, and we support treaties to that effect.
11. We hold that obligations and responsibilities to veterans who performed active duty service in a combat environment should not be substantially curtailed based solely upon having a general, other-than-honorable, bad conduct, or dishonorable discharge from the military.
12. We believe that supporting dictators serves to erode the respect, standing, and security of the United States as a pillar of democracy worldwide.

13. We oppose the military policies of "nation building" and regime change.
14. We recognize that climate change is a national security threat that causes environmental, economic, and societal destabilizations. These impacts may threaten the long-term viability of our democracy if not responsibly addressed.

Article 5 - GOOD GOVERNANCE: Election Integrity; Campaign Finance Reform; Voting Rights; Tax Fairness

Oregon Democrats are committed to open and responsive government. We recognize that the task of sustaining our democracy and responding to the challenges posed by evolving technology and the world economy requires a common effort, compromise, and diligence. We are guided by the wisdom and genius of our founding principles and the Constitution. We believe corporations are not people and money is not speech. We are committed to the basic truth that humans have inherent rights while the rights of corporations are derived from, and defined by, government of the people. We believe that participation and influence in the political process should not be determined by one's economic status. We hold the right and responsibility of all eligible persons to vote is an essential foundation of our democracy.

Planks:

1. We are committed to 100% accuracy in all election tabulations and support full hand counts in as many elections as are necessary to limit the risk of any possible intrusion into software used by tally machines or of human manipulation. The most recent electoral research should be applied.
2. We believe in publicly funded candidate election campaigns, with duration limits for campaign contributions and disbursements, to ensure democratic elections at all levels.
3. We consider some goods and services so essential to society that they must be offered and managed by the public for general good, including, but not limited to: the internet, libraries, public utilities, highways, education, incarceration, postal services, fire protection, police, social security, health care, and other forms of social insurance.
4. We believe personal income should be taxed at a progressive rate so that people with lower income pay a lower percentage of that income in tax than do those with higher income to help mitigate income inequality.
5. We believe money is not speech and government at all levels shall regulate, limit, or prohibit campaign contributions and expenditures to restrict the influence of private or corporate wealth in the election of candidates or passage of ballot measures. Any permissible contributions and expenditures shall be publicly disclosed.
6. We believe, in order to maintain a high level of public confidence in our voter registration databases, there should be a separate, viewable, online, personal voter registration databases that tracks all changes to the databases and includes tracking of all authorizations for such changes to detect wrongful manipulation.
7. We support the right of political parties to nominate candidates by means of instant-runoff voting, thereby ensuring nominees are supported by a majority of electors.
8. We believe corporations and other purely legal entities are not granted the same rights as natural persons by the Constitution.
9. We believe a government of the people must not be unduly influenced by special interests, corporate power, religious beliefs, or money.
10. We believe Oregon's corporate income tax policy currently results in an inequitable share of general fund revenues derived from individual income taxpayers.
11. We believe corruption and conflict of interest, including but not limited to post-employment remuneration to elected and appointed public officials, is damaging to public trust and our public institutions.
12. We are committed to protecting and ensuring our constitutional rights and freedoms, including the right to assemble peacefully without penalty or threat of violence and to receive due process and equal treatment under the law.
13. We believe eminent domain should never be used for the benefit of a private or corporate entity in the absence of a clear and demonstrable public need.
14. We are committed to transparency, accountability, oversight, integrity, competence, fairness, honesty, and citizen participation at all levels of government.
15. We support the highest level of security, accuracy, confidence, and transparency throughout the voting process and clarity of instructions in the voters' pamphlet.
16. We affirm the critical value of religious freedom and the principle of separation of church and state.

17. We believe elected or appointed public servants, and those employed in our government agencies, deserve increased respect, support, and appreciation for the vital work they perform in maintaining efficient and effective government services for the public good.
18. We support efforts to adopt a national vote by mail standard which will increase voter turnout, reduce voter suppression, and provide secure paper trails for vote verification.
19. We believe in fair access to voting, specifically in underserved communities and communities of color. We believe in monitoring and evaluating any possible racially motivated gerrymandering in Oregon. It is essential that Oregon assess racial bias and thoroughly investigate purging of votes and voters in minority populations.
20. We believe in promoting nutritious food safety and security through local, state, and national level programs, especially in this time of climate change.
21. We believe the emergence of "alternative facts" in the media erodes the integrity of governing of our democracy.
22. We believe in the freedom to vote, access to participation in our democracy, removal of barriers to participation, debates in legislative races, and the ability to be more informed members of the electorate through vote by mail systems. We support the right to vote enshrined in the 15th Amendment.
23. We acknowledge the contributions of the cannabis industry to the needs of the state economy and believe it should be protected from federal intervention.
24. We support providing adequate state and federal monies for counties to compensate for the impact of lost tax revenues related to public lands.
25. We affirm medical decisions must be made with respect for patients' rights to privacy, and freedom to have control over their lives based on fully informed consent.
26. We assert no one should be subjected to interference with their privacy, family, home, or correspondence, and we oppose the broad violations of these principles by any government agency, including for purported purposes of national security.
27. We defend every individual's right to freedom from surveillance, search, or seizure unless authorized by a specific "probable cause" warrant.
28. We believe as the head of government of the United States of America, the President and Vice President should be elected by whomever wins the most votes nationwide.
29. We support the enactment of voting improvements that eliminate vote splitting and more accurately reflect the preferences and will of the voters.
30. We believe state level districting, redistricting, and voter eligibility rules should be determined by a politically neutral entity.
31. We believe in democracy. Therefore, we expect our legislators to support the legislative priorities expressed in this document. If they are unable to support that legislation, they must not use their position to block votes without a good rationale and consensus of Democratic legislators.

Article 6 - HEALTH CARE, BASIC NEEDS AND GUN SAFETY

Oregon Democrats affirm the equality of every individual and the rights of all to be treated with dignity and respect. We believe all people have an inalienable right to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. We realize that true freedom cannot exist without economic security and independence for all. As such, we believe in a strong social safety net that provides the basic necessities of life, including health care as a human right. The absence of a comprehensive mental and behavioral healthcare system is destroying lives and undermining the economy and is therefore unacceptable. We support all necessary measures to counter serious threats to public safety such as gun violence. We seek a world in which all persons may live in peace and free from oppression of all forms. Society thrives when everyone has access to public services and infrastructure.

Planks:

1. We strongly support women's rights to reproductive freedom, including unrestricted access to reproductive health care, regardless of ability to pay. This means unrestricted access to affordable, high-quality, culturally sensitive care, the full range of reproductive services, contraception, and abortion, without requiring guardian, judicial, parental, or spousal consent or notification.
2. We support the right of all Oregonians to access the basic necessities of life such as food, water, health care, sleep, and shelter. Therefore we support the establishment of Universal Basic Income.
3. We believe in protecting the vulnerable from neglect and abuse, especially children, the medically fragile, people with disabilities, and the elderly.

4. We believe all consenting adult couples should have the equal and unequivocal right to civil marriage. We further believe that Oregon's LGBTQ+ community deserves to live their lives without the fear of violence, employment discrimination, disproportionate exposure to poverty, or gaps in health care access which haunt this community.
5. We support the 2nd Amendment and believe that hunting, sport shooting, and safe, responsible gun ownership are traditions worth preserving for future generations. We thus support comprehensive background checks for all gun sales and believe in measures to reduce firearm-related violence, injury, death, and to promote public safety.
6. We support the adoption of an equitable, high-quality, comprehensive single-payer health care system that includes general, preventative, and emergency care plus vision, dental, hearing, and mental health services at the state or federal level.
7. We believe in the right of every Oregonian to safe, healthy, and affordable housing and shelter. As such, we support action to address the epidemic of displacement from housing within our local communities and across the state.
8. We support the right for everyone to have access to safe and nutritious food, and the full funding of all nutrition programs.
9. We believe freedom of the press and accuracy of the press are vital to a healthy democracy. We believe truth is a foundational cornerstone of public freedom and attempts to present counterfactual claims as truth in order to achieve political ends contravenes our freedom and is thus unacceptable.
10. We believe an educated and enlightened citizenry is essential to a democratic society. As such, we believe that our news media must be free to investigate and criticize the government without fear of retaliation by our government.
11. We promote health insurance and medical coverage of the full range of mental health services and treatment for women, including early screening and intervention for postpartum depression.
12. We support women's (and particularly women of color's) reproductive rights by calling for reparations for all women who were sterilized without consent in jails, prisons, and state institutions.
13. We believe health care is a human right. We believe in free, universal, quality health care including pharmaceuticals, and dental and mental health for all.
14. We support generally accepted holistic healing practices and alternative medicine, particularly those areas licensed by the state such as acupuncture and medical cannabis especially when utilized to relieve intractable pain without the side effects of conventional controlled drugs.
15. We believe in ensuring economic and physical access to multilingual services (such as health care) and that we must address healthcare disparities and promote the goals of the Health and Human Services Office of Minority Health.
16. We support authorizing state and federal governments to negotiate drug prices with transparency.
17. We support a ban on the civilian sale and purchase of military-style weapons and high-capacity magazines.
18. We promote comprehensive, stable, and easily accessible mental health services to address the immediate needs of individuals up to and including inpatient and residential care when needed, regardless of patient circumstances.

Article 7 - IMMIGRATION: Human Rights Protections; Pathway to Citizenship; Refugees

As a nation founded largely on immigration, we value its benefit to our society. Oregon Democrats stand firm against xenophobic, prejudiced, and racist rhetoric and government policies. We recognize the invaluable contributions of immigrants, including refugees, to our communities and insist their rights be respected. We believe in unwavering support of Oregon's Sanctuary State status.

Planks:

1. We value our nation's diversity and recognize the economic, social, and cultural contributions immigrants make to our society.
2. We believe undocumented immigrant workers and their families should have a path to legal residence, and eventually citizenship.
3. We believe the exploitation of undocumented workers must stop because it drives down wages and degrades working conditions for all workers.
4. We believe undocumented immigrants should not be subject to detention or deportation without due process and should be accorded protections and services in accordance with basic human rights.
5. We believe immigrants with family legally present in the United States, immigrants brought to the U.S. as children, and immigrants with longstanding ties to U.S. communities should not be deported without due process

and consideration of these circumstances.

6. We believe policing and detention of undocumented immigrants should not be privatized or operated for profit.
7. We believe constitutional provisions granting citizenship for people born in the United States to immigrant parents must remain the law.
8. We oppose laws which can be used for profiling, including those that mandate people carry their legal papers.
9. We believe a nation as deeply rooted in immigration as ours should welcome and consider for refugee or asylum status refugees of war, climate change, natural disasters, extreme social violence, including but not limited to strong discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity, gang wars, or genocide.
10. We believe immigrants deserve dignity and should not be detained by Immigration and Custom Enforcement authorities for civil infractions. All people, including immigrants, need to be treated equally under the law and should be granted legal and translation services and all basic human rights.
11. We believe asylum seekers should not be deported if there is any likelihood they will be subject to death or harm upon return.

Article 8 - INFRASTRUCTURE: Energy; Transportation; Communication and Media Systems; Internet and Net Neutrality

Oregon Democrats support maintaining and upgrading our infrastructure. We demand new infrastructure projects prepare for a future that includes the realities of climate change, Oregon's housing crisis, increasing corporate control of the flow of information, food system insecurity, scarcity of fresh water, rising seas along Oregon's coast, and the affordability of renewable energy and storage technologies. We support state, national, and international greenhouse gas pollution reduction programs aimed at accelerating the transition to a clean energy economy while meeting our climate goals and providing funds to be invested in sustainable improvements to our state's infrastructure. We believe in using the best peer-reviewed science and technology to protect essential infrastructure and to prevent and prepare to combat natural, technological, terrorist attacks, or other disasters. We believe that an open and free internet, with public control, is critical to information sharing, democracy, and enhancing innovation.

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1. We believe there are multiple benefits to increasing responsible development of regional, available, renewable, and resilient energy infrastructure. This infrastructure including storage microgrids, will improve the ability of communities to survive and recover from natural and human caused disasters resulting in a loss of utility grid power.
2. We support funding of programs that increase the affordability of renewable energy and energy storage technologies. Such technologies; include geothermal, wind, solar, wave, pumped hydropower, hydrogen fuel, and batteries.
3. We support energy conservation in public, residential, and commercial buildings, as well as industrial energy efficiency through green energy policies, incentives, and education.
4. We oppose using public funds to develop infrastructure components that transport or export non-renewable resources, including coal, oil, and liquid natural gas.
5. We believe Oregon's economy is dependent on transportation. We must reduce our reliance on petroleum markets by investing in electric and hybrid forms of personal and commercial transportation, and mass transit, across the state.
6. We believe multi-modal, safe, transportation solutions must be available.
7. We believe that fully or partially publicly funded capital improvements should be constructed in a sustainable manner that balances costs, benefits, and risks to the environment, economy, and society.
8. We support public and private partnerships in developing, maintaining, and upgrading our infrastructure and fully oppose privatization of its ownership.
9. We support the implementation of Geographic Information Systems (GIS) in our local and state governments and municipalities to expedite open information access, facilitate workforce efficiencies, better inform decision-making, and enable concise communication with the public and between agencies.
10. We believe communities must protect agricultural, forestry, recreation and otherwise protected lands while accommodating increased construction and development. We support funding to assist with utility Service Development Charges where they have been shown to have stifled growth within existing urban growth and

service boundaries.

11. We believe enhancing sustainable energy developments, increasing efficiencies in industrial, heating, cooling, and transportation processes, and reducing production and release of greenhouse gases are key infrastructure components of a sustainable future.
12. Governments at all levels have a responsibility to support investment in, and maintenance of, an up-to-date physical infrastructure that supports a free, open, and neutral internet.
13. We support using the internet to implement Engagement Broadcast as a way to facilitate a conversation with people using the internet, where they are, about the critical issues of our time and to share ideas for solutions.
14. We believe the internet is an essential resource for all members of society and must be classified a public utility as that term is used in Title II of the Federal Telecommunications Act. A free, universally available, high-speed internet is essential to informed citizenry in a free, democratic, 21st century society.

Article 9. CRIMINAL JUSTICE: Policing; Victims', Suspects', Inmates' Rights; Private Prisons; Involuntary Servitude; War on Drugs; Prosecutorial Behavior; Corporate Crimes; Civil Forfeiture

Oregon Democrats believe the criminal justice system most effectively serves our communities when it operates fairly and equitably, respecting the dignity and humanity of those interacting with the system. We maintain the public right to equal treatment before the law, regardless of race, ethnicity, religion, age, gender identity, sexual orientation, national origin, physical ability, or economic means. We believe law enforcement must be held to a high standard of moral, legal, and constitutional responsibilities commensurate with the gravity of the power they wield within our society. We seek an end to mass incarceration, mandatory minimum sentencing, and militarization of police forces. We support establishment and expansion of alternatives to incarceration, and rehabilitation programs to provide opportunities for education and job training for those who have paid their debt to society. Fair, humane, and equitable treatment should be a primary principle in law enforcement and corrections.

Planks:

1. We oppose the death penalty.
2. We believe police officers should be held accountable to professional standards that emphasize non-violent methods to resolve conflict and ensure public safety.
3. We believe no one should profit from criminal incarceration which creates perverse incentives to underserve inmate populations and results in increased recidivism rates. Jails, prisons, detention facilities, and correctional medical care should not be privatized. Exploitative rules for inmate phone calls, video visits, and money transfers should be outlawed.
4. We believe juries should no longer be allowed to render non-unanimous verdicts in felony cases in the State of Oregon, and we support the right to a bench trial.
5. We affirm and defend Oregon's policies regarding lawful cannabis cultivation and sale. We consequently believe that all felony and misdemeanor charges and convictions for marijuana possession, cultivation, or sales should be reconsidered given current law and, if appropriate, sentences reduced to time served and convictions made eligible for expunction.
6. We believe in the right to freedom from mass surveillance. There should be no mass surveillance, search, or seizure unless a probable cause warrant has been obtained.
7. We believe effective legal representation for those accused of crimes is an integral part of the American criminal justice system, which is based on the presumption of innocence, regardless of ability to pay. Public defenders must have a manageable caseload and receive the same pay as prosecutors.
8. We oppose racially-targeted policing, prosecutorial overcharging, coercive plea bargains, biased jury selection, and sentencing practices that result in a disproportionate number of African American, Latino, Native American, other people of color, and economically disadvantaged people entering and being trapped in the criminal justice system.
9. We support the integration of the previously incarcerated into society, including federal legislation to restore their voting rights of those who are no longer incarcerated, as the State of Oregon has done.
10. We support the extension of voting rights to incarcerated citizens.
11. We oppose asset forfeiture for anyone who has not been convicted, or anyone whose crime has nothing to do with financial assets or unless required for restitution. We oppose the use of asset forfeiture to enrich police departments.

12. We believe organized, armed groups which seek to cause physical harm to individuals because of their perception of that individual's race, color, religion, sexual orientation, disability, or national origin constitute a threat to our safety and should be exposed.
13. We believe it is important to improve parenting and job skills by providing comprehensive education and training for those who are incarcerated or were formerly incarcerated.
14. We expect transparency from all law enforcement and criminal justice agencies. We believe there should be mechanisms in place for transparency and public reporting of all government activities, including a mechanism for mandatory reporting showing racial bias.
15. We believe in protections for courageous law enforcement whistleblowers from the threat of punitive retaliation. Law enforcement agencies must be reformed to allow for unbiased department follow-through on such reports.
16. Police chiefs and officers must be held accountable to Oregon law regarding injuring civilians, potential suspects, or those in custody. Special prosecutors must be used to ensure unbiased accountability to the law.
17. Police should be community peacekeepers, trained in dealing with and recognizing mental health, drug dependency, and disability issues. They should be trained in de-escalation techniques to protect public safety, including individual coaching needed to increase cultural sensitivity, and training to recognize autism spectrum disorders and other atypical neurologies.
18. We demand district attorneys, as the elected representatives of our justice system, must be held to and be responsive to legal and public standards of prosecutorial behavior.
19. We believe crime victims have a right to have a meaningful role in the criminal justice system, and they should be treated with fairness, dignity, and respect. Victims' legal rights must be upheld and fairly balanced with the rights of criminal defendants.
20. We support the right of privacy and oppose parallel construction for all law enforcement agencies and oppose STINGRAY Devices and any devices that surreptitiously collect data from any devices, persons, documents, or personal effects.

Article 10 - SOCIAL JUSTICE: Societal; Racial; Environmental; Economic

As clearly laid out in our Constitution, the Bill of Rights, and the United Nations Declaration of Human Rights, Oregon Democrats believe in the right of individuals to be treated equally and with dignity and respect, regardless of inherent characteristics such as age, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, race, ethnicity, or disability, and regardless of other identifying qualities such as socioeconomic status or place of birth. We understand policy initiatives outlined throughout this platform must always take into consideration the real impact of historic racism and other forms of discrimination in order to assure that equity and justice is achieved as we move forward. We believe without first acknowledging and addressing the wrongs of the past, we cannot move forward, eradicate systematic oppression, or achieve justice for all.

Planks:

1. We believe in the right of all to be treated with dignity and respect, regardless of race, ethnicity, religion, sexual orientation, gender, age, class, residency status, disability, or other identifying qualities. We reject and condemn all racist, misogynistic, homophobic, transphobic, white supremacist, white nationalist, and fascist ideologies, organizations, and movements.
2. We support the ratification of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and all the rights contained therein.
3. We support the right of everyone to the basic necessities of life including: Universal Basic Income, safety, clean air, clean water, food, shelter, health care, education, and the opportunity to thrive.
4. We are committed to protecting and ensuring our constitutional rights and freedoms including the right to assemble peacefully without penalty or threat of violence from militarized police forces. We insist fair and due process and equal treatment are provided to all under the law.
5. We disavow any attempt to restrict, discourage, or penalize individuals acting in a private capacity from expressing their views through peaceful non-violent action, criticism of government policies in the United States or those of foreign nations, and organized boycotts in order to effect political change.
6. We believe Oregon is home to women who blaze new trails in business, entrepreneurship, culture, and politics. We proudly and vigorously support a woman's right to choose how to use her mind, body, and time. We respect women as full partners in family, in all political processes, and society overall.
7. We support equal access for women of all ages to training, jobs, and promotions, and equal pay for equal work, and the right to sue for equal pay, capital, equity, and contracts.

8. We support affirmative action, the rights accorded to women in Title IX of the United States Education Amendments of 1972, the United Nations Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW), and ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment (ERA) to the United States Constitution.
9. We recognize and promote the importance of women, and particularly women of color, running for, and serving in, public office and promote the engagement of young women in our political process in order to develop a pipeline for new leadership.
10. We support the programs of the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA), including educational and preventive initiatives, especially those that serve women at risk of sexual and domestic violence, and recognize that freedom and protection from violence or abuse, domestic and otherwise, is a fundamental human right.
11. We believe all consenting adults should have the equal and unequivocal access to medical, legal and economic rights such as civil marriage, adoption, civil unions, hospital visitation, and financial rights including inheritance and retirement benefits.
12. We believe Oregon's LGBTQ+ community deserves to live free of bullying, violence, and threat of violence.
13. We believe schools, healthcare facilities, and other public accommodations and services must be open and welcoming to all, regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity.
14. We believe in the right to religious freedom, including the right not to hold religious beliefs or observe religious customs. We believe in the separation of church and state and we believe the right to religious freedom does not include the right to discriminate.
15. We strongly oppose legislative efforts to abridge First Amendment rights by legalizing discrimination, persecution or prosecution as "religious freedom."
16. We strongly support a national commission to explore the concepts, legal and implementation ramifications, and reparations for past injustices including sterilization, infection, mutilation, and killing, perpetrated against Native Americans, Black Americans, people with disabilities, and other minority groups by federal and state governments.
17. Oregon Democrats fully support tribal sovereignty and tribal jurisdiction by honoring treaties and federal statutes that are the foundation of a trust relationship between tribes and government.
18. We believe in input or involvement from Native Americans, small farmers, cattle ranchers and other stakeholders, particularly those who have been left out historically, when land use decisions are to be made. Treaty rights must also always be considered.
19. We believe evidence shows vulnerable, front-line communities (minority, impoverished, and rural) are subject to the worst effects of nearby fossil fuel and nuclear power plants and these impacts must be mitigated as quickly as possible with additional funding as needed.
20. We believe people with disabilities have the right "to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness" and must be provided equal opportunity to participate in our society to the fullest extent possible. We believe all levels of government should make all activities compliant with the most stringent accessibility standards.
21. We believe public institutions should accommodate all people with physical access needs by complying with the most stringent standard contained within the 2010 Americans with Disabilities Act and Architectural Barriers Act (ADA/ABA) Standards, the 2018 International Building Code, or the 2018 Oregon Structural Specialty Code.

Article 11 - SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY: Biotechnology; Basic and Applied Research; Artificial Intelligence; Automation; Robotics; Space

Oregon Democrats believe solid science should form the basis for many of the decisions that government makes, particularly regarding health and the environment. We believe basic research in science and technology are cornerstones to the future of humanity. We welcome innovation in all scientific arenas but are aware the Precautionary Principle, a social responsibility to protect the public from exposure to harm whenever science has identified a plausible risk, must be applied in order to avoid problems caused by misapplication of new technological capacities. We understand we are at the frontiers of discovery and change in the medical, informational, artificial intelligence, robotics, and space sciences and recognize that our global integration requires greater attention to societal impacts and the need to share discoveries worldwide. We believe an open and democratic internet is critical to technological progress.

Planks:

1. We support strong privacy protections, including medical, personal, and financial information, for all data sharing innovations and believe new technologies should be thoroughly evaluated for potential security issues before commercial release.

2. We support the robust protection of all encrypted data from access in the absence of a judicial warrant.
3. We support funding research into, and advances in, biomedical techniques, including in genomics, stem cells, and neurophysiology, to help eradicate or ameliorate diseases, correct inborn genetic errors, and provide recuperative therapies.
4. We believe the Precautionary Principle should be applied in developing new biotechnologies for non-disease interventions, including a full discussion of ethics and long-term applications.
5. We believe all biomedical therapies must be made available to all people, regardless of defining personal characteristics.
6. We believe all scientific data unrelated to national security, generated with the use of public funds, including research from government institutions, should be adequately funded and openly shared.
7. We believe adequate public funding of basic and applied research at public universities and colleges is necessary to establish public benefit standards for emerging technologies.
8. We support collaborative, public-private partnerships for research in fields unrelated to national security only with robust provisions for transparency, accountability, and protection of the public interest.
9. We believe all major applications of automation and artificial intelligence (AI) must consider impacts on human jobs, community and personal safety, the quality of life, and the environment.
10. We support the integration of autonomous transportation options into current transportation modes as long as they can be proven safe, reliable, capable of reducing energy consumption, and without significant negative environmental impacts.
11. We support the creation of a national oversight panel charged with the review of artificial intelligence and robotics technologies to ensure long-term safety and public benefit.
12. We believe the United States should be actively involved in space and solar system exploration and NASA should be adequately funded for this purpose.
13. We believe in the ethical use of technology to gather information, which is especially important with regard to health information.
14. We oppose whole human cloning until ethical and legal questions are resolved.