

THE 2016 NEVADA STATE DEMOCRATIC PARTY PLATFORM

MILITARY & VETERANS

We support the use of military readiness and diplomacy to deter war.

We support using military force as a last resort and in accordance with the Geneva Conventions.

We support our men and women in the armed forces because service to our country is the greatest act of self-sacrifice and patriotism.

We support the full complement of current benefits and services which veterans and their families receive, however, we also support expanding those benefits to include easier access to necessary medical and behavioral services including but not limited to rehabilitative care for Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) and Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI).

We support fully staffing the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) so that there are no backlogs in providing service in the Veterans Health Administration, Veterans Benefits Administration, or the National Cemeteries Administration.

We support the use of medical marijuana and holistic medicine in VA health facilities to reduce the use of opiates.

We support legislation that provides proactive measures to protect service members from domestic violence and sexual assault.

We support granting “Honorable Discharges” to those veterans who were discharged because of their sexual orientation or gender identity, and inclusive services to LGBTQI* veterans and their families.

We support establishing Veterans Advocates in the Nevada Department of Veterans Services (NDVS) to ensure that our veterans receive the full benefits that they are entitled to by law, in a timely manner without exploitation or harassment.

We support the establishment of a “Nevada Veterans Fund” to provide financial assistance to Veterans and Military Families awaiting their VA benefits.

We support increases in programs for at-risk vets, including extra support for elderly and homeless Veterans.

We support the expansion of the US Department of Energy “Solar Ready Vets” program to Nevada in order to educate Veterans and Military Families about work in the solar energy field.

We oppose the privatization of any portion of the Department of Veterans Affairs

CIVIL RIGHTS

We support a civil environment where all individuals have the freedom and opportunity to succeed.

We support equal rights, diversity, inclusion, gender protection laws, and marriage equality.

We support affirmative action, gender equality, and equal pay for equal work.

We support Native Americans by funding promised health, rehabilitation, and education programs; by honoring our treaty commitments; and by respecting their ancestral land rights.

We support the rights of people with disabilities including the accommodation of disabled persons in public spaces.

We support the ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment by the Nevada legislature.

We oppose discrimination towards anyone in all forms.

THE 2016 NEVADA STATE DEMOCRATIC PARTY PLATFORM

We oppose any restrictions on a persons' ability to express their gender identity, including the use of the public restroom or locker of their gender identity.

EDUCATION

We support fully investing in a strong university and college system that allows all qualified high school graduates to get a quality college education without incurring crippling debt.

We support increasing, to at least the national average, education funding for all grade levels.

We support revising the school formula to guarantee all school districts will receive fair and equitable funding.

We oppose any attempt to break up or reorganize any school district in the State of Nevada.

We support expanding after school programs to help reduce Nevada's dropout rate.

We support the creation of specialized learning academies/schools with union apprenticeship programs.

We oppose using test scores to determine both teacher evaluation and teacher retention.

We oppose any public funding of private educational institutions including voucher programs or Education Saving Accounts.

We support lowering the teacher to student ratio to a manageable size that allows teachers sufficient time with each student, including those in English Language Learner programs.

We support a system of peer assistance, high quality and relevant professional development driven by annual staff reviews to support all education professionals to improve instruction for students.

We support funding for school districts to pay teachers for extra teaching time at their contractual rate.

We support increasing compensation to teachers and support staff for all supplies used in the classroom that come out of their own pocket.

We support a curriculum that encourages a well-rounded education and does not depend on high stakes testing.

We support pre-K-12 broad curriculum including without limits STEAM, science, technology, engineering, arts, mathematics, world and American history, civics and government, economics, world and US geography, foreign language, vocational and technical education and at least 60 minutes of daily physical exercise.

We support a negotiated longer school day/longer school year

We support public funding for remedial summer school.

We support reducing interest rates, offering refinancing and/or forgiveness of student loans.

We oppose any effort to censor or re-write American history through selective textbook writings, including any effort to impose religious doctrine on students.

We support medically accurate, inclusive, consent-based, and developmentally appropriate sexual education in publicly funded Nevada schools.

THE 2016 NEVADA STATE DEMOCRATIC PARTY PLATFORM

We support all efforts to protect pre-K-12 students from sexual misconduct from teachers, staff, and other adults on campus, as well as other students.

We support the planting of vegetable gardens at public schools.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE

We oppose profiling citizens based on their race, religion, gender, sexual orientation, sexual identity, origin, or socio-economic status.

We support increased law enforcement training and educational services that are culturally appropriate to increase the integration of police into the communities they patrol and protect.

We support the expansion of paid work, educational, counseling and recreational programs, both in-and-out of the institutional setting.

We support hiring peace officers that reflect the diversity of the communities that they serve.

We support racial and gender parity in sentencing.

We support local and state programs offering solutions to gang violence and alternatives to juvenile incarceration for minor offenses.

We support alternative or flexible forms of sentencing for non-violent offenders so that they can continue to provide for themselves and their dependents, reducing the cost to society.

We support the diagnosis/treatment of drug and alcohol addiction as a medical issue, not a crime.

We support the state of Nevada decriminalizing marijuana, regulating recreational marijuana usage similar to alcohol usage.

We support funding drug and alcohol treatment programs for all Nevadans, and providing programs discouraging recreational use, especially by minors and young adults.

We support fully funding programs that protect prisoners from sexual and physical abuse.

We support increasing public safety funding.

We oppose the privatization of jails and prisons.

We support reporting of statistics on arrest-related injuries or deaths occurring while in police custody.

We oppose capital punishment.

We support government transparency.

We oppose warrantless wiretapping and surveillance programs.

We support the "Ban the Box" legislation but support including a disclaimer allowing businesses to conduct criminal background checks if the applicant is considered for employment.

We support the right to bear arms in a responsible manner and oppose "Stand Your Ground" laws.

We support common-sense gun laws and efforts to reduce gun violence, including the ballot initiative that will appear on Nevada's 2016 ballot requiring background checks on all gun sales.

THE 2016 NEVADA STATE DEMOCRATIC PARTY PLATFORM

We support using technology aimed at keeping children safe and ensuring that firearms are stored safely.

We support reporting gun injuries and deaths as community health problems and keeping statistics and studying those statistics as a public health issue.

We support anti-bullying programs, anti-domestic violence programs and suicide prevention programs.

We support intervention and ensuing services for victims of crimes, including but not limited to any kind of abuse and/or human trafficking.

We support ending the rape kit backlog in Nevada and the entire United States.

We oppose any efforts to delay the judicial process simply because of partisan procedural delays and obstruction in the judicial confirmation process.

IMMIGRATION

We support immigration reform programs that ensure our families are not torn apart by deportation.

We support a comprehensive and affordable pathway to citizenship for undocumented individuals and their families, including passage of the DREAM Act.

We support strong border security and funding for personnel to patrol our borders, but oppose vigilante groups on the border.

We support providing the judicial system, including law enforcement officers, with the flexibility to implement humane immigration programs.

We support adequate funding to provide lawyers for all persons in an immigration court hearing.

We oppose inhumane treatment in detention centers.

We support implementing a guest worker program, with proper accountability regarding employers.

We support every immigrant being able to attain driving privileges and in-state tuition rates, regardless of their status.

TAXATION, JOBS, & THE ECONOMY

We support sustainable trade, economic and labor policies that create livable wages.

We support a living wage.

We support progressive tax policies.

We oppose the Trans Pacific Partnership and the Trans-Atlantic Trade and Investment Partnership.

We oppose inversion practices that result in tax avoidance of U.S. taxes.

We support federal funding to rebuild our infrastructure.

We support changing the highway infrastructure revenue based upon per-gallon gasoline tax to a more equitable roadway-use tax.

We support restoration of the corporate Alternative Minimum Tax.

THE 2016 NEVADA STATE DEMOCRATIC PARTY PLATFORM

We support making Social Security financially sound for current and future generations by removing the payroll tax cap.

We support encouragement of full payment of tax responsibility and therefore encourage the full funding of federal and state tax collection agencies.

We support vigorous use of anti-trust laws to ensure a competitive marketplace.

We support government recoupment of research and development investment made with taxpayer funds.

We oppose any employer's attempt to shift their costs of doing business onto future generations.

We support effective government policies that stimulate small businesses and small business growth.

We support tax policies that evenly and fairly level the playing field for all Nevada businesses.

We support fair and equal access to business capital regardless of the company's size.

We support business incubators and mentoring opportunities for minority and female owned businesses.

We support programs that protect consumers from predatory loan practices.

We support establishing a usury cap for loans.

We support programs that prohibit the collection and dissemination of personal information.

We support local family farming and ranching.

We support reinstating and strengthening of Glass-Steagall.

HOUSING

We support a more integrated solution to homelessness modeled after *Housing First*.

We support safe communities where seniors can live and retire with dignity and security.

We support affordable housing for seniors, veterans and others living on fixed incomes.

We support legislation to prohibit deficiency judgments in the event of real property short sale.

We support enforcement legislation that helps homeowners refinance loans so they can stay in their homes.

HEALTH CARE

We support Universal Healthcare.

We support full implementation of an improved health care system that ensures quality, affordable health care for all.

We support allowing any American the option to buy into Medicare.

We support increased funding for Medicare and including vision and dental coverage.

THE 2016 NEVADA STATE DEMOCRATIC PARTY PLATFORM

We support health insurance reform that will help lower costs.

We support the Prescription Drug Affordability Act of 2015 and urge Congress to pass it.

We support revision of Medicare Part D to allow for negotiation of lower drug prices and allow seniors to purchase drugs from outside the US.

We support strengthening and expanding social programs, including increasing funding for mental health programs.

We support increased funding for innovative healthcare programs and stem cell research.

We support increasing the availability of medical treatment in rural and underserved areas.

We support lowering the nurse to patient ratio to meet nationally recognized nursing standards.

We support requiring insurance companies to cover a complete range of reproductive health care.

We support a woman's right to personally choose the path and direction of her reproductive health care.

We oppose any intimidation or other tactics limiting women's health care rights.

We oppose policies that define "personhood" at a woman's expense.

We support workplace protections for pregnant women so they can obtain and maintain employment.

We oppose parental notification requirements that put an unnecessary burden on young people to access reproductive health services.

We support the comprehensive labeling of all G.M.O. products.

We support the removal by Congress of marijuana as Schedule 1 drug.

We support making training available to medical students that focus specifically on military and veterans' health care.

We support making training available to medical students in the full spectrum of reproductive healthcare, including the provision of abortion services.

WORKER'S RIGHTS & UNIONIZATION

We support collective bargaining and binding arbitration for all public employees.

We support card check legislation and allowing employees to unionize without employer retaliation.

We call on all employers to engage in good faith collective bargaining with their workers.

We support efforts to strengthen and protect the American tradition of unionization.

We support the elimination of Nevada's third-party worker's compensation system and the return to Nevada's state run worker's compensation system.

We support protecting workers from unsafe working conditions by fully funding Nevada OSHA.

We support extending both worker's compensation insurance and unemployment insurance for all

THE 2016 NEVADA STATE DEMOCRATIC PARTY PLATFORM

injured, disabled and light-duty workers.

We support “prevailing-wages”, project labor agreements, and pension protection laws.

We support strengthening the PERS Retirement System.

We support eliminating the windfall adjustment provision and government pension offset.

We oppose the misclassification of workers including those as independent contractors.

We oppose the creation of “permanent part-time” positions.

We oppose the permanent replacement of workers engaged in a legal strike.

We support paid family leave programs and employer supported child daycare programs, regardless of the size of the company.

We oppose the firing of workers unless by due process and with just cause.

We oppose the hiring of subcontractors that import non-union, out-of-state employees on jobs that are funded by Nevada taxpayers.

We support requiring skilled labor training/certification programs for all crafts and building trades.

We support the elimination of the Right-to-Work statutes in Nevada.

ENVIRONMENT & ENERGY

We support alternative energy as Nevada’s primary energy source for homes, businesses, public buildings, transportation, and power plants.

We support energy efficiency programs in public and private buildings

We support restoring net metering and loan guarantees for alternative energy installations.

We support elimination of all direct and indirect subsidies for fossil fuels production and consumption.

We support carbon-based taxes on fossil fuels and tax incentives, which encourages the use of renewable sources of energy.

We support water conservation efforts, oppose inter-basin water transfers of ground water and encourage desalination.

We support sustainable water use and water policies that protect Nevada’s watersheds.

We support landfill reduction and energy saving methods, including expansion of recycling programs in Nevada.

We support legislation requiring a small fee for disposable bags.

We oppose use of fracking in the State of Nevada.

We support regulations that identify chemicals used in the fracking processes.

We support biologically sound, ethical and sustainable land management policies and wise management of public lands.

THE 2016 NEVADA STATE DEMOCRATIC PARTY PLATFORM

We support the collaboration and coordinated efforts of federal, state, local agencies, and private stakeholders to maintain and increase the sage grouse population saving them from federally designated endangered species status.

We support adequate funding for the agencies that manage Nevada's lands.

We support keeping public lands in public hands.

We oppose the disposal, transportation and reprocessing of nuclear and toxic wastes in or through Nevada.

We support legislation holding polluters responsible for the costs of mitigation and remediation of pollution.

We support renewable energy transportation systems.

We oppose the inhumane treatment of animals.

We support the historical significance, protection, and humane treatment of the wild horse population and burro populations, while maintaining protection of our ecological biodiversity on public lands in Nevada.

We support maintaining Lake Tahoe's pristine environment through environmentally sound planning and continued participation in the Tahoe Regional Planning Agency.

We support making Gold Butte a National Monument.

We support hemp farming.