



Platform of the Clark County Democratic Party

Draft version as Approved by the Platform Committee

Nevada is the traditional land of the Numu (Northern Paiute), Nuwu (Southern Paiute), Wa She Shu (the Washoe), and the Newe (Western Shoshone). It is home to four tribal communities and twenty-seven sovereign tribal nations. We honor their continued stewardship of this land.

Our platform reflects our dedication to the values our state was born out of: an uncompromising commitment to justice, equality, liberty, and the right of every American to shape the future of our nation. The diversity of our backgrounds forms the unity of our vision for a better world for us all.

Native Rights

We affirm our commitment to restorative justice for the first peoples of this country and call for the empowerment of Native communities and tribal governments both in Nevada and across our nation.

To that end:

- We call for the creation of a federal commission to negotiate and implement the return of federally-held lands to Native American peoples and governments in accordance with historic treaties.
- We call for the respectful and earnest consultation of Native communities in the use and development of Nevada's land, water, and natural resources.
- We call for the development and expansion of Native education, including the extension of the Native tuition waiver to include citizens and descendants of all federally-recognized tribes, and the creation and funding of a Native languages budget as well as the funding and implementation of Indian Education for All programming.

LGBTQIA+ Rights

We affirm the equality of all persons, regardless of their sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender presentation. We recognize the ongoing struggle for equality and dignity, committing ourselves to uncompromising policies to combat bigotry and promote inclusion.

To that end:

- We call for school policies that promote acceptance of and respect for LGBTQIA+ individuals, foster visibility, and implement measures to prevent and address bullying.
- We call for age-appropriate sex education inclusive of all genders and sexual orientations to be implemented in Nevada public education.
- We call for the treatment of gender-affirming medical care as an innate element of an individual's medical needs.
- We call for the passage of the Federal Equality Act to prohibit discrimination against LGBTQIA+ persons in employment, housing, health care, school sports, and elsewhere.

Disability Rights

We affirm the dignity and equality of individuals with disabilities, chronic illness, neurodivergence, and other special needs. We support their full inclusion in employment, housing, health care, and every facet of life.

To that end:

- We call for the amendment of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) to empower the Department of Justice to better enforce the provisions of the law and apply financial penalties to businesses and institutions found to be in violation.
- We call for the revision of existing Disability Benefits laws to permit greater flexibility and accommodation to recipients, particularly in regards to employment and income limits.
- We call for the abolition of below-minimum-wage-payment to individuals on the basis of disability.

Healthcare

We affirm healthcare as a human right, not a privilege for a select few or a commodity for those who can afford it.

To that end:

- We call for the implementation of a comprehensive single-payer, universal healthcare system covering medical, dental, vision, hearing, mental health, and long-term care.
- We call for the protection of the right to an abortion as an innate element of individual medical rights.
- We call for the end of laws prohibiting the negotiation of drug costs with pharmaceutical companies.
- We call for the adequate funding of rural healthcare.
- We call for the immediate placement of caps on the prices of life-saving drugs and medications.
- We call for the support and expansion of addiction treatment.
- We call for increased research to eliminate the disparity of medical knowledge between sexes and races.

Economy & Labor

We affirm that every Nevadan has the right to a job that pays a living wage and affirm that the economy should exist to meet the needs and foster the prosperity of all Americans, rather than existing for the enrichment of a few.

To that end:

- We call for the increase of the minimum wage to a living wage.
- We call for the repeal of so-called Right-to-Work laws in Nevada.
- We call for the passage of the Protecting the Right to Organize (PRO) Act.
- We call for the reclassification of contract workers working full-time hours to the status of full-time employees with all legally bestowed rights and protections.
- We call for strict limitations to be placed on the ability of employers to campaign against the unionization of their employees.
- We call for the creation of codetermination laws, requiring companies with over 500 employees to elect a proportional number of board members directly from their employees.
- We call for the creation of local, well-paying, green jobs through investment in Nevada's infrastructure, renewable energy, and public services.
- We call for the equitable development and diversification of Nevada's economy.
- We call for the creation and implementation of a system whereby every Nevada resident annually receives a portion of the profits extracted from our state's natural resources, including mines.

- We call for a recalculation of the Federal Poverty Guidelines to a level more inclusive of struggling individuals and families.

Housing

We affirm that “Home means Nevada” is more than a slogan - it is a reflection of the right of every Nevadan to live in security and dignity.

To that end:

- We call for the implementation of rent controls, including a limitation of rent increases to 1% per year.
- We call for the limitation of move-in fees.
- We call for a moratorium on the sale of houses for short-term rental use.
- We call for the creation of a county-wide tenant’s association to negotiate the cost of rent.
- We call for a program supporting tenant’s Right to Counsel, providing attorneys for tenants in eviction proceedings who could otherwise not afford legal representation.
- We call for the continued development and rehabilitation of affordable housing, as well as the implementation of safe parking programs for individuals and families without immediate access to housing options.
- We call for the repeal of all laws criminalizing homelessness and an immediate end to encampment sweeps.
- We call for the expanded provision of emergency housing, including options inclusive of pets.
- We call for the passage of the Housing for All Act (S.3788) and all related legislation.

The Environment

We affirm the real and existential threat of climate change and the inseparable relationship between the health of our environment and our ability to live and thrive in Clark County.

To that end:

- We call for the implementation of a Green New Deal, composed of far-reaching federal and state legislation to preserve our nation’s natural beauty, conserve our resources, and foster a healthy and sustainable economy.
- We call for a moratorium on the sale of public land for private development, as well as the obtaining of the informed consent of affected Native communities and tribal governments prior to the implementation of public projects.
- We call for the incentivization of renewable energy development in Nevada while respecting our existing communities and ecosystem.
- We call for investment in reliable public transportation for all Nevadans.
- We call for the creation of legislation addressing the ongoing water crisis in Southern Nevada, developing equitable solutions in coordination with adjoining states and tribal governments.
- We call for the renegotiation of the Colorado River Compact, incorporating updated scientific knowledge of current water level trends.
- We call for the implementation of a carbon tax to fund climate change mitigation efforts as well as to incentivize the companies primarily responsible for climate change to reduce their carbon emissions.

Justice & Reforms

We affirm the promise of this nation to provide equality, justice, liberty while recognizing the all too frequent failure of our county to live up to the ideals it was founded upon. We affirm our commitment ensuring the deliverance of these promises, the redress of past wrongs, and the confrontation of systemic injustice at its source.

To that end:

- We call for the creation of a federal commission to research and implement reparations for the descendants of the transatlantic slave trade in the United States.
- We call for the immediate abolition of the death penalty, as well as its recognition as an unconscionable and racist practice.
- We call for the immediate abolition of solitary confinement, as well as its recognition as a form of cruel and unusual punishment.
- We call for the creation of a state commission to investigate prosecutorial misconduct, as well as the creation and funding of an independent commission to investigate wrongful convictions.
- We call for the decarceration of our overcrowded prison system and the implementation of alternative sentencing wherever possible.
- We call for the affirmation and protection of our 2nd Amendment Rights and the implementation of policies supporting the safe and responsible right to bear arms.
- We call for the legalization, regulation, and taxation of therapeutic and recreational psychedelics, as well as the broad decriminalization of drugs, the end of policies relating to the so-called “war on drugs,” and call for greater funding for addiction treatment services.
- We call for the end of invasive policies implemented under the pretext of the “war on terror” and the restoration of common-sense, 4th Amendment Rights respecting the privacy and dignity of all Americans.
- We call for the prohibition of exchanges between U.S. law enforcement and global military and policing entities.
- We call for the decriminalization of sex work and repeal of SESTA/FOSTA.
- We call for the federal ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment (ERA).

Immigration Reform

We affirm the right of every human being to seek a better life for themselves in any place they choose, without regard to race, religion, orientation, or identity. We commit ourselves to America’s role as a refuge and our unique legacy as a land of opportunity for all.

To that end:

- We call for the immediate removal of the refugee cap.
- We call for the establishment of a path-to-citizenship for undocumented immigrants and their children.
- We call for the abolition of Immigrations and Customs Enforcement (ICE) and an investigation into the abuse perpetrated at their facilities and at privately-run detention facilities, as well as calling for a policy of noncooperation between Clark County law enforcement and ICE.
- We call for broad immigration reform, creating a fair, sensible, and timely process for the naturalization of individuals seeking their part of the American dream.

Welfare & Public Services

We recognize that freedom is not simply the absence of oppression, it is the abundance of opportunity, and that no American is free when any American is constrained by poverty, precarity, or economic inequality. We affirm that welfare is not a safety net but rather a tool for empowering individuals and communities in our shared work of building a truly just society.

To that end:

- We call for an increase in programs designed to both lift Nevadans out of poverty as well as addressing crisis and emergency situations.

- We call for an end to means testing.
- We call for the expansion of Nevada's Pre-K program into a universal program.
- We call for the creation of a reduced or no-cost government daycare program for all children.
- We call for the full funding of a crisis hotline providing trained responders for individuals experiencing behavioral/mental health crises in lieu of law enforcement response.
- We call for legislation expanding and extending existing family and medical leave laws.
- We call for continued and expanded services addressing the needs of disabled Nevadans while promoting equality and inclusivity.
- We call for the continuation of efforts to provide access to high-speed internet to all Nevadans, including rural communities.
- We call for the reform, simplification, and modernization of our state's unemployment system.

Education

We recognize education not as a privilege for those who can afford it but as the right of every American. We further recognize the quality of education received by our students is tied to the quality of life of our educators.

To that end:

- We call for the full funding of public schools to meet current maximum-stipulated class size requirements, to fund elevated teacher pay, to recruit new educators and staff, and to build new facilities as necessary.
- We call for the reform of our current school system to match evidence-based best practices.
- We call for the evaluation of our teachers, schools, and students by their individual merits, rather than by the results of standardized testing.
- We call for the prohibition of the use of public funds for private education.
- We call for the creation of common-sense safety measures for our schools based upon dialogue with educators and students.
- We call for a commitment to earnest negotiations with educator unions.
- We call for the payment of educators at a wage of no less than twenty dollars.
- We call for the immediate and total forgiveness of existing college debt by executive order.
- We call for the implementation of free public colleges.
- We call for legislation prohibiting the banning of books from public schools and libraries.
- We call for the inclusion of candid and thorough educational material contending with the subjects of race, racism, slavery, colonization, and the history of America and Native American peoples prior to European settlement, including the perspectives of marginalized groups.

Political Reform

We recognize our county's unique status as the most populous in Nevada and the far-reaching impact of our votes, our voices, and our policies. We recognize our responsibility not only to each other but to every Nevadan across our beautiful state. We commit ourselves to the legacy of the struggle for justice, from the first union and labor struggles to the demands of the Black Lives Matter movement to the efforts of Land and Water Defenders and beyond.

To that end:

- We call for the expansion of legislative positions into year-round positions with living salaries to permit all Nevadans, regardless of financial status or background, the opportunity to represent their communities at a state level.
- We call for the continued protection of mail-in voting and its recognition as a policy greatly benefiting marginalized communities, working families, disabled Nevadans, and seniors.

- We call for the rejection of voter suppression efforts in any shape or form.
- We call for the creation of paid election holidays ensuring the right of every Nevadan to participate in our democracy.