



Jefferson County Democrats

Platform adopted March 24, 2018

Jefferson County Democratic Convention

Executive Summary

PREAMBLE - Jefferson County Democrats, as citizens of the earth, advocate policy to defend and enhance the well-being of natural persons as our highest priority. We believe in the values of community, dignity empathy, equality, tolerance, opportunity, and the common good of the interdependent world we share.

AGRICULTURE, AQUACULTURE, FISHERIES, AND FORESTRY

We are the stewards of the land and water that sustain us. We must preserve family farms, strengthen rural communities, ensure the availability of high-quality food, and maintain the viability of land and water.

ARTS AND CULTURE

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

CIVIL AND HUMAN RIGHTS

We believe in the inherent dignity of human beings. We believe that equal and inalienable rights are a foundation for freedom, justice and peace. Our democracy rests on rights and responsibilities set forth in the United States Constitution, the United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous People, and the Washington State Constitution. We recognize that our nation and Party have long struggled to acknowledge and address the systemic and structural racism in our political, economic, and cultural history that persists to this day. Democrats strive to remain at the forefront of the struggle to extend civil, political, economic, religious, and fundamental human rights to all persons.

EDUCATION

Economic and Social Justice requires that EVERY person has an opportunity to advance with access to education. Sure and steady funding for Public Pre-K through High School based upon a progressive funding model is necessary to ensure that our children have the basic skills necessary to move on to higher education. The focus on High Stakes Testing is a misuse of educational resources and creates an exclusive focus on a limited number of subjects. An increased focus on the Arts and Career/Tech Education in our high schools is needed to ensure that all students have opportunities to move into the fields that meet their desires/goals. As post-secondary education is necessary for even entry-level positions with living wages, it is an obligation for Washington State to provide for tuition-free Community College and/or Public Trade Schools.

35 EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

36 A community's resilience and sustainability are truly tested when disaster strikes, and outside assistance is
37 not readily available. We support neighborhood emergency preparedness programs, networks. By improving
38 self-reliance now, we enhance our ability to survive and rebound.

39 ENERGY, ENVIRONMENT, AND THE CLIMATE CRISIS

40 The protection of natural habitat is integral to the well-being of our county and of our state and our economic
41 welfare. Policymakers should be guided by the best available science as it evolves. We support government
42 that works to protect the environment against human actions correlated to climate change.

43 FOREIGN POLICY

44 The United States should lead by example and work within the world community in a spirit of peace,
45 cooperation and generosity to support human welfare, freedom, and democracy. We must not conduct
46 preemptive war; we must make diplomacy and nonviolent conflict resolution the primary organizing principle of
47 our foreign policy.

48 GOVERNMENT AND POLITICAL REFORM

49 Government derives its legitimacy from the people, to whom it must be answerable; it serves as their
50 instrument to achieve ends that the people could not achieve individually. Our representative democracy
51 requires full participation by an informed citizenry; a voting process that is fair, transparent, and open to all;
52 and public officials who are accountable to society.

53 CORPORATE POWER

54 Corporations are artificial entities, and not entitled to Constitutional protections as persons. We oppose the
55 undue influence of corporations on our society, government and political process.

56 ECONOMIC JUSTICE, JOBS, AND TAX FAIRNESS

57 Income inequality is the driving issue of our time. We are committed to a sustainable economy with strong
58 communities based on living-wage jobs, tax fairness, and shared prosperity.

59 HEALTH CARE

60 Health care is a human right. Government should work to improve our overall health, while assuring high-
61 quality, affordable care for everyone. Patients must have the right to preventive healthcare and medical
62 treatment options, without hindrance by institutions exercising religious doctrine.

63 HUMAN SERVICES

64 As a caring community, we must provide a safety net of social services that meets the basic needs of people,
65 so all people can attain their full potential.

66 IMMIGRATION

67 We are a nation of diverse cultures. Immigrants strengthen the United States of America. All immigrants
68 should be afforded full human rights and a fair, safe, and timely path to legal status or citizenship.

69

70 **INFRASTRUCTURE AND TRANSPORTATION**

71 We believe that an efficient, well-planned, multimodal transportation system promotes a healthy economy,
72 environment, and community.

73 **LABOR**

74 A strong economy and nation depend on family friendly jobs that provide safe working conditions, fair and
75 living wages indexed to the cost of living, and benefits for all workers that include pensions and healthcare.
76 Every worker must have the right to organize and bargain collectively to determine their pay, benefits, working
77 conditions, and to have the right to strike and to oppose "right to work" laws.

78 **LAW AND THE JUSTICE SYSTEM**

79 The rule of law is a prerequisite for a democratic civil society. A good government provides for the safety,
80 security and justice for all, with care, fairness, and respect for each individual.

81 **MEDIA AND INTERNET**

82 An informed citizenry and persistently inquisitive media are essential for democracy to flourish. The free flow
83 of information is fundamental to democracy.

84 **MILITARY AND VETERANS AFFAIRS**

85 We pledge support of our troops and honor our veterans who act in the service of our country. The core task
86 of the U.S. military is to provide for the common defense. Our military must be adequate to provide for our
87 nation's defense and never be open to abuses of power by any branch of government.

88 **TRIBAL RELATIONS AND SOVEREIGNTY**

89 We must maintain a lasting and respectful relationship with Tribal Nations and oppose all attempts to diminish
90 tribal sovereignty, tribal culture natural resources, or the general welfare of tribes recognizing this is an
91 important step to more open and meaningful government to government relations as we will continue to
92 educate the general population of inherent tribal sovereignty. We also recognize the growing Urban American
93 Indian/Alaskan Native populations and the Federal Trust responsibility expands beyond Tribal Reservation
94 borders.

95

I. Preamble

96 Jefferson County Democrats, as citizens of the earth, advocate policy to defend and enhance the well-being
97 of natural persons as our highest priority. We believe in the values of community, dignity empathy, equality,
98 tolerance, opportunity, and the common good of the interdependent world we share.

99 Our actions determine the course of our society and our freedoms. To realize our values and ideals, we
100 encourage every citizen to participate in civic activities, and continuously raise awareness of the issues
101 contained within this platform. We expect our elected representatives to govern in a manner that will protect
102 and promote civil liberties, human rights, and quality of life, and demand legislation that ensures democracy,
103 peace, prosperity, liberty, and justice for all. We expect elected Democrats to be accountable and implement
104 the principles of this platform, using all available legal and parliamentary procedures.

105

II. Agriculture, Aquaculture, Fisheries, and Forestry

We believe:

We are the stewards of the land and water that sustain us. We must preserve family farms, strengthen rural communities, ensure the availability of high-quality food, and maintain the viability of land and water.

We call for:

- Adoption of sustainable agriculture, aquaculture, fishery and forestry methods, including adequate funding of research;
- Incentives to encourage the agricultural skills, careers, and lifestyles that are essential to our country's survival;
- A living wage and housing for agricultural workers, regardless of whether they are citizens, documented workers or undocumented workers;
- More public education about the significant health and regional economic benefits of raising and consuming local foods;
- Increasing the use of locally grown food in our schools;
- Strengthening the Washington State Growth Management Act and policies that preserve agricultural land and natural resources, along with robust rural infrastructure;
- Decisions about water resources based on the best available science as well as local concerns;
- Protecting wild salmon habitat including riverine riparian zones;
- Prohibition of aquaculture of non-indigenous salmon and other non-indigenous fish species in open marine and fresh waters.
- On-land aquaculture of these species must provide sufficient protection for groundwater, wells, rivers, and shoreline.
- Development of a comprehensive plan for long-term sustainable harvest of the world's ocean resources to prevent overharvesting and species extinction;
- Reduction of the use of pesticides and herbicides by commercial, government, and private entities, and increased safeguards for workers who may be exposed to them;
- Immediate phase-out of pesticides and herbicides responsible for the collapse of pollinator species;
- Clear food labeling, including date packaged, full and complete disclosure of nation of origin, genetically modified organism status, irradiation, and organic certification;
- Supporting and encouraging vibrant and sustainable small farms, family farms and urban farms;
- Community supported agriculture, and cooperative localized marketing;
- Programs that support the establishment of permaculture and organic farming;
- Legal standing for farmers to recover economic losses resulting from the drift of genetically modified materials and associated herbicides;
- A guest worker program for agriculture, ensuring a reliable labor source while extending application of minimum wage laws and legal protections to the workforce and employers with proactive enforcement of violating employers;
- Significant reduction of antibiotic use in livestock production. Antibiotics should only be used to treat farm animal infections, not as a prophylactic;
- Support of energy production and efficiencies on farms such as solar panels, wind turbines, etc.;
- Legalizing, regulating and recognizing industrial hemp as an agricultural commodity.
- County agencies to develop and implement clear, strategic plans to achieve climate and environmental justice and provide targeted action where the needs are greatest.
- County agencies to analysis permits to consider the disparate and cumulative environmental burden borne by individuals in the community.

We oppose:

- Privatization of any and all public water holdings;

154

III. Arts and Culture

155 **We believe:**

156 Affordable and frequent exposure to the arts and diverse cultures is essential for the enrichment, health and
157 well-being of our greater society.

158 **We call for:**

- 159 • Affordable public art events, performances, and exhibits for all communities in Jefferson County;
- 160 • All cultures to be accepted, celebrated and shared;
- 161 • Arts and cultural education to be considered as a core subject in our K-12 public schools, and with
162 opportunities available to all ages;
- 163 • A substantial commitment to public funding for the arts and arts education;
- 164 • Libraries, performing arts centers and museums to be well-funded, accessible, and diverse in their offerings;
- 165 • Existing public art displays and venues to be well maintained and preserved;

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167

IV. Civil and Human Rights

168 We believe in the inherent dignity of human beings. We believe that equal and inalienable rights are a
169 foundation for freedom, justice and peace. Our democracy rests on rights and responsibilities set forth in the
170 United States Constitution, the United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the United Nations
171 Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous People, and the Washington State Constitution. We recognize that
172 our nation and Party have long struggled to acknowledge and address the systemic and structural racism in
173 our political, economic, and cultural history that persists to this day. Democrats strive to remain at the forefront
174 of the struggle to extend civil, political, economic, religious, and fundamental human rights to all persons.

175 **We believe:**

- 176 • Our government derives its legitimacy solely from the People;
- 177 • All people in our country and Jefferson County are our neighbors regardless of race, gender, sexual
178 orientation, ability or citizenship status.
- 179 • In a transparent, impartial application and enforcement of law;
- 180 • Black lives matter;
- 181 • Free and open voting is a foundation of democracy;
- 182 • Privacy is a fundamental right; our private lives and personal information must be protected from intrusion by
183 government or others;
- 184 • Human rights include access to safe food, air, water, and shelter, as well as personal safety, health care,
185 education, employment, legal aid, and due process;
- 186 • In the right to marry, as a legal union of consenting adults, without regard to sexual orientation or gender-
187 identity; • That the right of individuals to practice their religion does not extend to the denial of the
188 constitutional rights of others;
- 189 • In the separation of church and state, and that no entity has the right to impose its religious doctrine on
190 others.
- 191 • Equal rights in all areas must be extended to all people, regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity,
192 including access to health care and public facilities for persons of all gender identities;
- 193 • All individuals have the right to have their chosen gender identification on legal documents.

194 **We support:**

- 195 • Policies that ensure that public monies only go to agencies who officially welcome all people regardless of
196 race, gender, sexual orientation, or country of origin.
- 197 • Maintaining full rights and protections for all people regardless of race, gender, sexual orientation, ability or
198 citizenship status;
- 199 • Strong legislation and funding to provide treatment programs and education designed to reduce harassment,
200 intimidation, domestic or sexual violence, gun violence, and bullying.
- 201 • The rights of people with disabilities, including equal access to public accommodations, employment, equal
202 pay, transportation, telecommunications, voting, and government services, as provided by the Americans
203 with Disabilities Act.
- 204 • Efforts to honor the rich diversity of our society, including special consideration to be paid to the rights of
205 currently and historically marginalized communities, including individuals with disabilities, immigrants,
206 peoples of color, indigenous people, the poor, and religious minorities and atheists and any who face
207 discrimination to be afforded the legal means and economic opportunities to overcome such injustice.
- 208 • Ratification of an Equal Rights Amendment.

209 **We call for:**

- 210 • Respecting the rights of all adults, including seniors and persons with disabilities, to direct their own lives in
211 housing, education and all other life choices to the extent of their abilities;
- 212 • The end of human trafficking for the sex trade and all other forms of involuntary servitude;
- 213 • Strong legislation, treatment programs and education designed to reduce harassment, intimidation, domestic
214 or sexual violence, gun violence, and bullying;

- 215 • All agencies in Jefferson County that promote tourism or economic development to officially adopt, advertise
216 and promote the community as one that welcomes all people regardless of race, gender, sexual orientation,
217 ability or citizenship status.
- 218 • Jefferson County to support same-sex marriage and full equal rights for all regardless of sexual orientation.

219 **We oppose:**

- 220 • Discrimination in employment, housing, public accommodations, military service, insurance, licensing or
221 education based on age, race, ethnic origin, national origin, language, religion, sex, gender identity and
222 expression, sexual orientation, marital status, parenthood, disability, physical size, economic status, or
223 political affiliation;
- 224 • Warrantless wiretapping and searches of American citizens;
- 225 • Discrimination against LGBTQ people on parenting rights.
- 226 • Discriminatory, oppressive, sexually harassing or violent, or bullying behavior by persons in positions of
227 power.

228

We believe:

- Corporations are not entitled to Constitutional protections or privileges as persons.
- Corporate influence on our society, government and political process must not be allowed to impinge on the rights or well-being of natural persons.
- Rampant corporate power is a primary threat to the environment, shared prosperity and government by the people.

We call for:

- Amendment of the Constitution to firmly establish that corporations are not people and that money is not speech;
- Separation of investment banking from commercial and retail banking and subjecting both to tighter regulation, transparency, and accountability;
- Tight regulation or abolishment of the derivatives market;
- Establishment of the Washington Investment Trust (state bank)
- Full enforcement of antitrust laws to prevent any corporate entity from becoming “too big to fail”;
- Increased exports of manufactured goods and decreased exports of raw resource material through use of tariffs and taxes;
- Responsible management of natural resources such as land, water, and timber held in trust for citizens. Leases for corporate use or harvesting of public resources must be set at or above current fair market value, sufficient to ensure sustainability of the lands and waters in an environmentally sound state;
- Requirement that corporations which adversely impact the sustainability of the natural environment be required to do mitigation on-site or at least in the same area so that the value of natural environment is not lost to the residents;
- Strong, rigorously enforced laws against corporate crime, with penalties to include prison time for executives and revocation of corporate charters;
- Elimination of tax loopholes, shelters and subsidies that allow powerful corporations to avoid paying a fair share of taxes.
- Repealing subsidies or tax reductions to U.S. based firms that outsource jobs overseas;
- Multinational companies to pay their fair share of U.S. taxes and be prohibited from using foreign tax havens. Status as U.S.-based corporations, or ability to do business in the U.S., or federal business overseas, should be forfeited by those who violate these tenets;
- Reinstatement of the windfall profits tax;
- Promotion of corporate structures owned only by the corporate employees (a.k.a. Employee Stock Ownership Plan companies);
- Prohibiting United States companies from engaging or enabling practices abroad that would be prohibited at home;
- Prohibiting the import or export of products made by exploiting the environment, local communities, and people;
- Increased oversight of companies vital to our economy and environment, such as those in banking and fossil fuel extraction. (redundant, energy & environment)

We oppose:

- Attempts to weaken and underfund the powers of the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau;
- Corporations terminating defined benefit retirement plans;
- Patent and copyright laws that grant corporations monopolies over unnecessarily long terms;
- Undue influence of corporations on our society, government and political process;
- Compensation of “lost profits” caused by laws and regulations meant to protect people's well-being or to ensure safe, sustainable use of natural resources.

278 **We Believe That:**

- 279 • Income inequality is the driving issue of our time. We are committed to a sustainable economy with strong
 280 communities based on living-wage jobs, tax fairness, and shared prosperity.
 281 • “Taxes, after all, are the dues we pay for the privilege of membership in an organized society.” - Franklin
 282 Delano Roosevelt

283 **We call for:**

- 284 • An incremental increase in the state and federal minimum wage, up to a living wage;
 285 • Projects to create jobs rebuilding our infrastructure, with a focus on clean energy development and disaster
 286 relief;
 287 • A progressive tax system at all levels, including taxing unearned income at the same rate as earned income;
 288 • Economic justice for all families and individuals including social security reform, pension reform, living
 289 wages, pay equity, job discrimination, child care, paid sick, safe, and family leave, and reproductive rights;
 290 • Increasing the rate of food assistance to ensure adequate, quality food for all;
 291 • A realistic federal poverty level to reflect reality and thereafter adjusting it according to cost of living;
 292 • Targeted economic development incentives to businesses that provide verifiable, immediate, and lasting
 293 benefits to our communities;
 294 • Tax breaks and incentives for companies based on verifiable net benefits to the county;
 295 • Full transparency on the part of federal financial institutions;
 296 • Restoration of the Glass Steagall Act;
 297 • Alleviation of student debt burden basing repayment on a percentage of earnings, forgiving the balance after
 298 20 years, reducing or eliminating debt in exchange for a term of critically needed in-state public service;
 299 • Discharge of mortgages and student debt in bankruptcy court;
 300 • Increased opportunity for young people by encouraging utilization of state-approved apprenticeship
 301 programs and Service Year programs;
 302 • Until a living wage is achieved, increasing eligibility for the Earned Income Tax Credit to help the working
 303 poor;
 304 • Removal of the cap on income subject to Social Security tax;
 305 • Enhancement of Social Security so that no recipient lives in poverty;
 306 • Extension of property tax breaks on primary residences of low-income homeowners and small businesses;
 307 • A fair system of paying for growth, including urban growth, with impact fees;
 308 • Development of Buy Local, Build Local priority policies that support diverse and resilient local economies;
 309 • Support for small businesses, including tax credits, low-interest loans, tax abatement, development zones
 310 for start-ups and non-profit micro-lending;
 311 • Using post offices to provide bank services;
 312 • Re-establish and maintain usury laws capping all interest rates;
 313 • Only those multilateral trade agreements that are conditioned on environmental, health and safety
 314 standards, human rights and workers' rights, and which support transparent democratic processes.

315 **We oppose:**

- 316 • Excessive corporate profits and executive compensation;
 317 • Privatization of Social Security or reduction of benefits;
 318 • Privatization, downsizing, outsourcing, and offshoring of public services;
 319 • Excessive fees and interest charged to consumers by short-term lending corporations;
 320 • The use of credit scores for hiring and insurance rating;
 321 • Taxing unemployment, worker compensation and Social Security benefits;
 322 • Any constitutional amendment that requires an un-democratic two-thirds vote in the Legislature to raise
 323 revenues;
 324 • Forced arbitration clauses in all consumer contracts, warranties, and guarantees.

326 “It is the paramount duty of the state to make ample provisions for the education of all children.” - The
 327 Washington State Constitution

328 The backbone of our democracy is a free, universal public school system (pre-K through post-secondary),
 329 designed to educate people to become critical-thinking lifelong learners who participate in our civic society.
 330 The growing demands of globalization, technology, and cross-cultural understanding require a well-funded
 331 public education system that develops the full potential of each student, regardless of background, economic
 332 status, experience, ability, or age. We recognize the direct connection between individual educational
 333 attainment and the long-term economic sustainability of our society.

334 **We call for:**

- 335 • The Washington State Legislature to supplement the existing school funding source based on property
- 336 taxes with a non-regressive tax in order to create a predictable funding system;
- 337 • Free access to and full funding of public education, including all basic, gifted, vocational, technical,
- 338 alternative, special education, English Language Learners;
- 339 • Funding based on effective class size studies;
- 340 • Full funding of Head Start and Early Childhood Education and Assisted Programs;
- 341 • Schools to be free from weapons, violence, bullying, harassment, retribution, drugs and alcohol;
- 342 • Full inclusion of all students into the school environment, regardless of race, ethnic origin, national origin,
- 343 documented status, language, religion, sex, gender identity and expression, sexual orientation, marital
- 344 status, parenthood, disability, physical size, economic status, or political affiliation;
- 345 • Particular regard for the educational and human services needs of specific populations, including students
- 346 who are in foster care, homeless, pregnant or parenting, migrants, or undocumented;
- 347 • School academic and behavioral health counselors, librarians, and nurses sufficient to serve the needs of
- 348 every student;
- 349 • The availability of high-quality continuing education and career training, including school-to-work
- 350 partnerships and apprenticeship programs, in addition to higher education;
- 351 • The inclusion of music, fine arts, environmental education, foreign language instruction, civics and physical
- 352 education beginning in kindergarten;
- 353 • A curriculum that is historically and scientifically accurate at all levels, and that recognizes the cultural
- 354 perspectives of children from diverse and indigenous communities;
- 355 • Instructional freedom for teachers that is student-centered within the curriculum;
- 356 • Programs designed to foster parental participation at all grade levels;
- 357 • A bi-annual audit by the Superintendent of Public Instruction of the health and safety hazards in public
- 358 school buildings to include environmental contaminants;
- 359 • Full funding for repair and maintenance of public schools for the health and safety of our children;
- 360 • Full funding for school transportation;
- 361 • Purchase of equipment and technology in compliance with the Americans With Disabilities Act;
- 362 • Free education to extend through public college or university and vocational/technical schools;
- 363 • All residents of the United States to have access to public higher education regardless of means;
- 364 • Simple majority elections for school bonds and protection of the simple majority for school levies;
- 365 • Encouraging high school community-based service;
- 366 • High schools to provide instruction in personal finance;
- 367 • Public education employees’ rights to organize, engage in collective bargaining, and strike without fear of
- 368 reprisal or replacement;
- 369 • Education funding equity regardless of district tax base;
- 370 • Salary and benefits for adjunct and part-time college instructors to be based on compensation levels for full-
- 371 time professional staff, according to percentage of full-time equivalency;
- 372 • Certificated and classified employees’ compensation equal to those of other professionals of similar
- 373 experience and backgrounds to attract/retain quality public school employees;
- 374 • Congress to reform policies that deny federal tuition aid to college students convicted of drug possession;

- 375 • Work/study programs and programs offering higher education in exchange for public service to be
376 expanded
- 377 • Pell grants to be increased and adjusted for inflation until such time as a fully tuition-free public college
378 system is established;
- 379 • Full funding and implementation of the Washington State Board of Health's revised rules for health and
380 safety of school environments;
- 381 • Free nutritious breakfast and lunch for all students regardless of means;
- 382 • High-quality before- and after-school programs and learning opportunities to address summer learning loss;
- 383 • Support use of open educational resources in education;
- 384 • Reimplementation and full funding of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act;
- 385 • Math instruction that includes how to apply mathematical tools to real-world scenarios to promote general
386 numeracy;
- 387 • All schools that receive public funds to be subject to the same accountability for student progress and fiscal
388 responsibility;
- 389 • The education of residents of Jefferson County as to the important roles of immigrants in our economic and
390 cultural life of the county;
- 391 • Critical thinking instruction to promote recognition of cognitive biases and logical fallacies.

392 **We oppose:**

- 393 • Charter schools;
- 394 • Vouchers for non-public schools;
- 395 • Percentage based funding for special education;
- 396 • Advertising in school environments;
- 397 • Military recruitment in public schools;
- 398 • Organized prayer in public schools;
- 399 • National standardized performance testing;
- 400 • Basing teacher pay in whole or in part on student test scores;
- 401 • All so-called "reforms" that are not based upon sound and objective information; that are disguised attempts
402 to blame teachers for the problems in public education to weaken teacher unions; or to privatize our public
403 education system for profit;
- 404 • The escalation of tuition at institutions of higher education;
- 405 • The reduction or elimination of recess as a regular part of elementary school education;
- 406 • Suppression of unpopular research and research results, and curtailment of academic freedom.

407

408

VIII. Emergency Preparedness

409 A community's resilience and sustainability are truly tested when disaster strikes, and outside assistance is
410 not readily available. We support neighborhood emergency preparedness programs, networks. By improving
411 self-reliance now, we enhance our ability to survive and rebound.

412 **We believe:**

- 413 • That a community survives best when members cooperate, especially during an emergency; Surviving an
414 emergency requires cooperative efforts of many local and state agencies as well as communities;
- 415 • That while we acknowledge that surviving an emergency is an individual responsibility, it overwhelmingly
416 needs to be a community effort and state and local agencies will play a large role in our communities'
417 survival.

418 **We call for:**

- 419 • State and local agencies to foster emergency preparedness as a requisite for living in Jefferson County by
420 encouraging new and longtime residents to become involved in Map-Your-Neighborhood programs,
421 educating residents about the role of agencies in disaster relief and what assistance they can expect from
422 those agencies;
- 423 • A broader knowledge and encouragement of Ham Radio training and use and its importance as the primary
424 means of communication in an emergency
- 425 • A dissemination by local government via radio, television and print media of information on food and water
426 scarcity in an emergency, whether manmade or natural disaster and what steps can be taken to prepare for
427 the worst;
- 428 • Information by the County to residents on the ramifications of the possibility of healthcare related problems
429 such as overtaxed hospital emergency rooms, lack of medical personnel where needed, the inability of
430 rescue personnel to reach the injured and the possibility that our hospital may be damaged;
- 431 • Health insurance companies to allow for the purchase of an emergency supply of medications in preparation
432 for a disaster;
- 433 • State and local agencies to stress that we, in Jefferson County, may be on our own for up to three months
434 before any outside assistance appears and we will have to count on ourselves, other members of our
435 communities and our local agencies for survival.

436 **We oppose:**

- 437 • A lack of information on the likelihood and severity of a natural disaster befalling Jefferson County.

438

439 IX. Energy, Environment, and the Climate Crisis

440 The protection of natural habitat is integral to the well-being of our county and of our state and our economic
441 welfare. Policymakers should be guided by best available science as it evolves. We support government that
442 works to protect the environment against human actions correlated to climate change.

443 **We call for:**

444 • Immediate aggressive action to minimize climate change;
445 • Require environmental impact assessments consider the full scope of every proposal;
446 • Develop and implement safe, clean alternative energy solutions and encourage resource conservation;
447 • Encourage energy conservation;
448 • Conserving resources and promoting sustainability through recycling and waste reduction efforts;
449 • Protecting our critical environmental areas, including wilderness areas, old growth forests, wildlife habitat
450 areas and corridors, wetlands, lakes, streams, riparian areas;
451 • Prohibit oil, gas, mineral exploration, extraction, and transportation in sensitive environmental areas;
452 • Promote residential solar energy programs;
453 • Implement a price on carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gas pollution;
454 • Advocate for development of a rational, realistic, and long-term national energy policy;
455 • Enacting new laws and enforcing current regulations to eliminate pollution to Washington waters;
456 • Acceptance of the framework known as “just transition” to ensure ongoing employment for workers as the
457 world shifts from fossil fuels to non-carbon-based economies.

458 **We oppose:**

459 • Increased production of fossil fuels and natural minerals through destructive techniques such as, but not
460 limited to, hydraulic fracturing and mountaintop removal, and offshore well-drilling for petroleum;
461 • Increased use of nuclear power.
462 • Excessive use of oil-based plastics and Styrofoam for bags and packaging that is now polluting our oceans
463 and endangering all ocean life including fish, whales, seals, and shellfish, as well as the humans who eat
464 them.

465

467 The United States should lead by example and work within the world community in a spirit of peace,
 468 cooperation and generosity to support human welfare, freedom, and democracy. We must not conduct
 469 preemptive war; we must make diplomacy and nonviolent conflict resolution the primary organizing principle of
 470 our foreign policy.

471 **We believe:**

- 472 • The United States should provide proportionate assistance and work cooperatively with other nations to
- 473 build a more peaceful, sustainable, and stable world by addressing root causes of conflict, including poverty,
- 474 inequitable access to natural resources, appropriation of resources by the United States, economic injustice,
- 475 and environmental degradation;
- 476 • We must protect our nation from external threats without suppressing basic human rights at home and
- 477 abroad;
- 478 • That all natural persons in every country are entitled to the blessings of freedom and prosperity;
- 479 • The United States must work closely and persistently with other countries to prevent or stop genocide
- 480 anywhere it occurs;
- 481 • Our government must not engage in covert efforts to destabilize other nations' governments.

482 **We call for:**

- 483 • The end of all wars, and preemptive wars, acknowledging that the motivation for armed conflict is profit;
- 484 • Outlawing the sale and importation to the United States of all products of forced and child labor;
- 485 • Honoring and upholding the rights, welfare, and healthy environment of all indigenous people;
- 486 • Participation in and funding of multilateral peacekeeping missions;
- 487 • Revision of the War Powers Act to ensure that only Congress can declare a beginning or an end to a war or
- 488 other military action;
- 489 • Cooperative and fully funded participation in international organizations including the United Nations and
- 490 The World Court;
- 491 • Honoring ratification of international treaties protecting civilian populations, human rights, and addressing
- 492 climate change;
- 493 • An effective, comprehensive plan to ensure our security while protecting our constitutional rights and the
- 494 human rights of all;
- 495 • Working with other nations to pursue law enforcement action against terrorist networks rather than military
- 496 intervention;
- 497 • Effective foreign aid to reduce poverty, and improve access to the necessities of life;
- 498 • Promoting programs that support all voluntary forms of evidence-based, safe, and effective family planning
- 499 worldwide;
- 500 • Fair trade among nations based on sound environmental principles, sustainable agriculture and
- 501 manufacturing, and democratic and economic rights of the workforce;
- 502 • Renegotiating international free trade agreements to deal adequately and transparently with human rights,
- 503 the rights of indigenous peoples, labor rights, and environmental rights and laws to make them fair trade
- 504 agreements;
- 505 • To end the war in Afghanistan and to bring our troops home.
- 506 • Rebuilding Iraq and Afghanistan civilian infrastructure and economy using international agencies and local
- 507 labor;
- 508 • Changing our diplomatic engagement with multiple parties in southern and southwest Asia, including
- 509 Afghanistan and Pakistan, to work toward peaceful resolution of existing conflicts;
- 510 • Serious, full, constructive, and persistent United States engagement to promote negotiations and other
- 511 actions that will lead to a peaceful, sustainable resolution of the Israeli–Palestinian conflict, based on mutual
- 512 recognition and ensuring security, economic growth, and quality of life for the peoples of the sovereign state
- 513 of Palestine and the sovereign state of Israel;
- 514 • The ratification of the Iran nuclear deal;

- 515 • Political and economic self-determination for the Cuban and Venezuelan people and continue normalization
- 516 of relations with Cuba and Venezuela;
- 517 • Ending the use of United States tax money to fund, train or sponsor military or police forces that suppress
- 518 human and civil rights in foreign countries;
- 519 • Reduction of nuclear arsenals, strengthening international control of fissile material to include “depleted”
- 520 uranium (dU), and nonproliferation of nuclear weapons by limiting use of fissile material to peaceful
- 521 purposes;
- 522 • Using foreign aid to offset or forgive onerous debt of countries forced to choose between debt repayment
- 523 and essential services;
- 524 • A foreign policy that encourages struggling economies worldwide to engage in economic growth policies,
- 525 such as infrastructure investment, without compelling privatization of government services or natural
- 526 resources as a way to refinance nations’ debts;
- 527 • The restoration of our historic adherence to the Geneva and Vienna Conventions in their entirety;
- 528 • Support giving developing countries more influence in the running of the International Monetary Fund (IMF)
- 529 and the World Bank;
- 530 • Restricting first use of nuclear strike without congressional declaration of war authorization.

531 **We oppose:**

- 532 • The manufacture and export of offensive weapons systems, such as “depleted” uranium (dU), chemical,
- 533 nuclear, or biological weapons;
- 534 • Extraordinary rendition, the abduction of persons of any nationality, their detention in secret prisons, and
- 535 torture;
- 536 • Rape as a tool of war and the lack of action to stop such rape from occurring and the lack of punishment for
- 537 the rapists;
- 538 • Trade agreements negotiated in secret without public interest representation;
- 539 • Foreign policies that put the profit-making interests of corporations above the rights, laws, and interests of
- 540 governments or workers, such as the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) and North American Free Trade
- 541 Agreement (NAFTA);
- 542 • Forced austerity measures, including privatization of government services, as a condition of U.S. aid and
- 543 U.S. support for loans through the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the World Bank.

544

546 Government derives its legitimacy from the people, to whom it must be answerable; it serves as their
 547 instrument to achieve ends that the people could not achieve individually. Our representative democracy
 548 requires full participation by an informed citizenry; a voting process that is fair, transparent, and open to all;
 549 and public officials who are accountable to society.

550 **We believe:**

- 551 • An informed citizenry, civil discourse, and the right of peaceful, civil protest are necessary to a functioning
- 552 democracy; • Elected officials are responsible to society as a whole;
- 553 • Government is not a business. Government actions should support the common good, and taxes should be
- 554 levied fairly and spent responsibly;
- 555 • Government officials must be held to the highest standards of ethical conduct;
- 556 • Government has a responsibility to make voting as easy as possible by removing all obstacles to voting;
- 557 • All U.S. citizens should be eligible to vote at their 18th birthday; and that any attempts to interfere with
- 558 voting, recording, storing, and tallying votes must be punishable by law;
- 559 • Nonviolent action is the preferred way to advocate for political change;
- 560 • That money has an inordinate influence on the political process at local, state and federal levels;
- 561 • All elected officials are employees of the people and must act in accordance to their will and not corporate
- 562 interests;

563 **We call for:**

- 564 • Jefferson County to study alternative forms of representation and voting such as proportional representation,
- 565 instant runoff voting, and ranked voting to examine them for fairness, cost and possible applicability to local
- 566 elections;
- 567 • Jefferson County to officially oppose the decision in "Citizens United" that gives human rights to artificial
- 568 entities and to actively support and lobby for a constitutional amendment to give civil rights only to natural
- 569 biological human beings.
- 570 • The Jefferson County Democratic party to request that all Democratic candidates confirm that they support
- 571 the entirety of the Democratic platform at the respective local, state or national level at which they are
- 572 seeking office, or supply in writing a document explaining those planks of the platform which they do not
- 573 support and optionally their reasons for withholding support;
- 574 • Campaign finance reform to be re-established at the local, state and federal levels, including contribution
- 575 and spending limits, and required timely disclosure of the true sources of campaign funds for and against
- 576 candidates and ballot measures.
- 577 • Public financing of all election campaigns at local as well as state and federal levels, to enable any qualified
- 578 citizen to run for office regardless of their socio-economic status.
- 579 • Public broadcast debates among candidates for public office, and regarding ballot measures.
- 580 • Non-regressive taxes and progressive taxes in which the well-off pay a greater percentage than the poor.
- 581 • Legislation to protect the integrity and transparency of federal elections by establishing disclosure
- 582 requirements for all contributions;
- 583 • Elimination of all forms of voter suppression;
- 584 • Exploration of electoral processes intended to increase voter participation and confidence in our electoral
- 585 system, including such significant changes as replacing the electoral college with a popular vote of the
- 586 people to elect the President, mail-in voting, multi-member districts with proportional representation, and
- 587 instant runoff voting;
- 588 • State funding of public debates for statewide offices and ballot measures;
- 589 • Preserving the integrity of electoral processes: All votes should be cast on carefully monitored, secured
- 590 human-readable paper ballots, and the machines used to produce, tabulate, store, and manage election
- 591 data must use open-source software;
- 592 • Mandatory auditing should be conducted according to the protocols recommended by the American
- 593 Statistical
- 594 • Association should be required for all jurisdictions, and must be open to the public to witness;

- 595 • Campaign and debate processes that include third-party and so-called second-tier candidates;
- 596 • Full Congressional representation for residents of the District of Columbia and statehood for any U.S.
- 597 Territory that votes for it;
- 598 • A Constitutional amendment providing for direct election of the United States President;
- 599 • Restrictions on former state and federal elected officials from lobbying for five years after leaving office;
- 600 • All research funded by government and at federal funded institutions be public domain;
- 601 • All regulatory agencies to be adequately funded, staffed and fully accountable;
- 602 • A federal legislative process that limits filibusters, ends anonymous holds on appointments and other dilatory
- 603 tactics, and requires a simple majority to invoke cloture;
- 604 • Establishing a cabinet-level Department of Peace and Nonviolent Conflict Resolution whose Secretary will
- 605 advise the President on both domestic and international issues and fund programs proven to prevent
- 606 violence;
- 607 • Restoration and strict enforcement of the Freedom of Information Act and Open Meetings Act to ensure
- 608 open and honest government;
- 609 • A review of all Washington laws on “eminent domain” to ensure that no private property may be taken for
- 610 private purposes and that all seizures are compensated in a fair and equitable manner, including privately
- 611 owned land desired by the military;
- 612 • Maintaining the United States Postal Service as a core function of government;
- 613 • A publicly searchable database of all registered lobbyists, lobbying expenditures, and financial and in-kind
- 614 contributions to candidates and ballot measures;
- 615 • Inclusion of funding of all military actions in open Congressional budgets;
- 616 • Establishment of a state bank to handle and profit from state revenues;
- 617 • Equal access to public airwaves for all viable candidates in all localities and in all national, state, and local
- 618 elections;
- 619 • Enforcement of sunshine laws and transparency in sessions that discuss and make public policy;
- 620 • Open Data initiatives to make federal, state, and local government more transparent and accountable to the
- 621 people of Washington and the people of the United States;
- 622 • Requiring paid voter signature gatherers for ballot initiatives to have a placard stating who they work for and
- 623 who is paying them;
- 624 • Redistricting Washington State by a less politicized and more citizen-driven process to create more
- 625 politically and demographically balanced districts;
- 626 • Counting felons, for census purposes, as residents of their last home address, rather than their place of
- 627 imprisonment;
- 628 • A fully funded and comprehensive national census where everyone including the homeless is correctly
- 629 counted;
- 630 • Public utilities for potable water, sewage disposal, drainage management, roads, energy, and
- 631 telecommunications that are, to the maximum extent feasible, publicly owned and operated;
- 632 • Open-meeting laws at all government levels, with genuine opportunities for public comment on policy
- 633 proposals;
- 634 • That in those rare cases where the public is excluded from sessions of county legislative committees or
- 635 regulatory body sessions, lobbyists and private interests must also be excluded.

636 **We oppose:**

- 637 • The privatization or outsourcing of any governmental public service;
- 638 • Governmental suppression, manipulation and distortion of scientific research and findings, and
- 639 psychological operations and disinformation/manipulation campaigns that leave the public uninformed or
- 640 misinformed;
- 641 • Restrictions on citizens' rights to engage in international and domestic boycotts;
- 642 • Adding projects to bills by “earmarking” funds without the knowledge of other legislators and the public;
- 643 • Superdelegates;
- 644 • Citizenship questions on census documents;
- 645 • The interference of party officials in the selection of Democratic candidates;
- 646 • Executive branch secrecy beyond legitimate security needs or personnel matters;
- 647 • Using “signing statements” to effectively invalidate a portion of the legislation being signed into law;

648 • Efforts by the government to deny citizens their right to peacefully assemble in order to petition for a redress
649 of grievances;
650 • Any practice that reveals election results while voting is still taking place;
651 • Taxpayer funding for religious institutions or "faith-based" initiatives.

652

653

XII. Health Care

654 Health care is a human right. Government should work to improve our overall health, while assuring high-
655 quality, affordable care for everyone. Patients must have the right to preventive healthcare and medical
656 treatment options, without hindrance by institutions exercising religious doctrine.

657 No one should be denied health care. No one should lose their life savings, or house to get the health care
658 they need. No one should go bankrupt in order to pay for the health care they need.

659 **We call for:**

- 660 • An affordable universal single-payer system to provide the most equitable and effective health care, serving
661 both individual and public health needs;
- 662 • Our state to establish universal health care for Washington residents until such time as a universal health
663 care system is enacted nationally;
- 664 • Sustained Washington State non-Medicaid funding to protect the vulnerable populations not covered by
665 Federal Medicaid;
- 666 • Health care coverage to be comprehensive – including preventive services, outpatient and inpatient
667 services; acute and long-term care; home care, palliative care, end-of-life counseling, and hospice; mental
668 health care and substance-abuse programs; dental, vision and hearing services; family planning with
669 contraception and access to safe abortions; prescription drugs, medical supplies, durable medical
670 equipment and medical technology; and rehabilitation;
- 671 • Patients to have freedom of choice in their health care, including the right to refuse medical care;
- 672 • Medical decisions to be patient-centered, made primarily among patients, their families and providers;
- 673 • The Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services to be empowered to negotiate prices for medical devices
674 and drugs;
- 675 • A public health framework approach to prevention of chronic diseases through education regarding healthy
676 lifestyles for adults and in our schools;
- 677 • Transparency in pricing of health care services;
- 678 • Health care coverage for all forms of reproductive services and methods that are legal in Washington State,
679 in accord with the principles of reproductive parity;
- 680 • FDA to provide the funding necessary for researching and monitoring the safety of our food supply, and
681 ensuring that drugs and medical devices are safe;
- 682 • A strong public health system that promotes conditions leading to better health for the entire population,
683 based on sound scientific principles and following recommendations made by the Centers for Disease
684 Control and Prevention (CDC);
- 685 • Congress to lift the ban on, and fund, gun-violence research through the CDC and National Institutes of
686 Health (NIH); gun violence is a public health issue;

687 **We oppose:**

- 688 • Privatizing or rationing Medicare, or raising the age of Medicare eligibility;
- 689 • Excessive profits and lobbying efforts of for-profit medical insurance and pharma;
- 690 • Direct-to-consumer advertising of prescription drugs and devices;
- 691 • Barriers to collective price negotiation for medications and medical devices;
- 692 • Denial of legal medical treatment or prescription purchase based on the personal religious beliefs of medical
693 and/or pharmaceutical personnel;
- 694 • Mergers with religious health care institutions that result in directives restricting their medical staff from
695 providing the full range of health care options;

696

697

XIII. Human Services

698 “The true measure of any society can be found in how it treats its most vulnerable members.”

699 – Mahatma Gandhi

700 As a caring community, we must provide a safety net of social services that meets the basic needs of people,
701 so all people can attain their full potential.

702 **We call for:**

- 703 • An integrated, culturally competent, linguistically accessible human services network based on the needs of
704 the individual, rather than the requirements of the service provider;
- 705 • Integrated health clinics in public schools that support the needs of the whole child;
- 706 • Assuring that all people have access to safe and affordable housing, including emergency housing;
- 707 • Long-term investment in housing that is affordable in perpetuity through support for innovative and
708 inclusionary nonprofit community land trusts, housing trusts, and other programs;
- 709 • Services to assure that homelessness is rare, brief and one-time, and that all people have access to safe,
710 affordable housing, including Housing First policy for individuals with substance abuse issues or mental
711 illness;
- 712 • Fully funding quality affordable childcare, education, training, and medical and behavioral health care;
- 713 • Fully funding services for people with disabilities so they may reach their full potential;
- 714 • Taxpayer-funded social services that cannot be conditional on faith-based requirements;
- 715 • Adequate funding and resources for the child protection and foster care system to ensure that parents,
716 extended families, and communities are supported in their efforts to safely raise their children, and children
717 in out-of-home care are safe, maintain their long-term connections, and are well prepared for adulthood;
- 718 • A long-term care system that provides adequate oversight and staffing of nursing homes and assisted care
719 facilities, as well as an emphasis on in-home elder care alternatives;
- 720 • Adequately supporting programs that rehabilitate and reintegrate people experiencing substance abuse
721 issues or mental illness, in addition to programs based on crisis and emergency response;

722

724 We are a nation of diverse cultures. Immigrants make substantial and indispensable contributions to the
 725 economic and cultural life of the nation. All immigrants should be afforded full human rights and a fair, safe,
 726 and timely path to legal status or citizenship.

727 **We believe:**

- 728 • All people, regardless of their country of origin or their immigration status, deserve to be treated fairly,
 729 respectfully, and with dignity, and that all people have a right to equal treatment under the law;
- 730 • All children regardless of immigration status are entitled to education to provide them the knowledge and
 731 skills to be productive members of society;
- 732 • In allowing access to health care and human services without regard to immigration status; withholding
 733 those services is discriminatory and inhumane;
- 734 • Immigration is not a matter of homeland security;
- 735 • All detainees should have the right to humane treatment, safe facilities, adequate medical care, nutrition,
 736 clothing, and shelter.

737 **We call for:**

- 738 • Making Jefferson County a safe place for all residents, regardless of ethnic identification or undocumented
 739 status;
- 740 • Washington to become a sanctuary state;
- 741 • Urgent, comprehensive reform of United States immigration policy;
- 742 • Protecting the integrity of our borders while recognizing the basic human rights of immigrants and protecting
 743 them with transparent due process in all proceedings and a clear and equitable pathway to documented
 744 status and citizenship if desired;
- 745 • Increasing family unification, including parents, grandparents, siblings, and families of domestic partners
 746 and binational couples, by granting legal status with the same standards as spouses of citizens;
- 747 • Allowing undocumented immigrants brought to the United States as children who have attained the age of
 748 majority to apply for U.S. citizenship without first being required to return to their country of origin;
- 749 • A more comprehensive “Dream Act” for young adults to enter a path of achievement that can lead to United
 750 States citizenship;
- 751 • Extending temporary residency to children of undocumented immigrants to allow them to pursue higher
 752 education or national service and to be given an opportunity to earn permanent residency;
- 753 • Provide legal access for employers to an immigrant workforce, such as a guest worker program;
- 754 • Policies that fully integrate and support immigrants as equal members of our communities, including
 755 programs offering immigrants instruction in English, interpretative and translation services of government
 756 documents and services, and free legal services for preparation for citizenship;
- 757 • Policies that encourage foreign students to remain in the United States and give them an opportunity to
 758 earn permanent residency;
- 759 • An expeditious process to clear the immigration backlog and avoid lengthy detentions for adults and
 760 children;
- 761 • An end to deportation or detention of family members of natural-born U.S. citizens;
- 762 • ICE and border patrol agents to be held accountable for inhumane acts against immigrants and
 763 undocumented persons;
- 764 • Streamlining and expediting procedures for granting asylum to persons fleeing from areas of war, genocide,
 765 and political oppression, subject to appropriate security concerns;
- 766 • Provisions to prevent discrimination in wages and working conditions for immigrant workers, including
 767 access to safe and adequate housing, medical care and educational opportunities;
- 768 • Using diplomacy and sustainable development to improve the social, economic and environmental
 769 conditions that contribute to undocumented immigration into the United States.

770 **We oppose:**

- 771 • The use of the term “illegal” to refer to any human being;
- 772 • State or local police involvement in the enforcement of federal immigration laws;
- 773 • Border Patrol checkpoints away from the border and the engagement of Border Patrol agents in ordinary
- 774 law enforcement activities, including providing routine translation services;
- 775 • Threats, fear, intimidation and abuse by ICE and Border Patrol;
- 776 • The use of for-profit prisons by Immigration, Customs and Enforcements (ICE) used for the detention of
- 777 immigrants;
- 778 • Demands for immediate presentation of documents regarding one’s status in the United States;
- 779 • Efforts to deputize, commission, finance, or otherwise encourage vigilante border militia groups in the
- 780 United States;
- 781 • Automatic detention and/or deportation of asylum-seekers;
- 782 • Legislative attempts to establish English as the sole official language of the United States;
- 783 • Unjust and arbitrary quotas, limits, and other immigration rules that have the primary purpose of preventing
- 784 new immigration;
- 785 • The use of work visas, such as H(1)(b) and H(2)(a) visas, as a substitute for hiring U.S. citizens;
- 786 • Policies that exclude or demean immigrants based on religion or country of origin.

787

789 “No one who works full time should have to live in poverty.” – President Barack Obama

790 A strong economy and nation depend on family friendly jobs that provide safe working conditions, fair and
 791 living wages indexed to the cost of living, and benefits for all workers that include pensions and healthcare.
 792 Every worker must have the right to organize and bargain collectively to determine their pay, benefits, working
 793 conditions, and to have the right to strike and to oppose “right to work” laws.

794 Organized labor is essential to the social, economic, and political health of our democracy. The decline of
 795 real wages over the past three decades, accompanied by powerful anti-union political attacks, intensifies the
 796 need for the protective efforts of a strong union movement and the inclusion of the history of the labor
 797 movement in our school curriculum.

798 **We believe:**

- 799 • Workers deserve respect and a living wage, indexed to inflation, that is defined as the wage necessary for a
 800 person working forty hours a week, with no additional income, to afford decent housing, food, utilities,
 801 transport, and health care;
- 802 • Workers must have a safe and harassment-free work environment;
- 803 • Workers' have the right to organize, to join a union, to bargain collectively without any interference,
 804 intimidation or threats, and to strike to achieve these objectives;
- 805 • Workers must have retirement and health benefits that are portable between employers and health benefits
 806 that continue throughout retirement;
- 807 • Workers need to have better access to education, apprenticeships, and training in order to be competitive;
- 808 • Workers' wages should reflect increases in productivity;
- 809 • Workers, public as well as private, must participate in the government social security program.

810 **We call for:**

- 811 • Prevailing wage laws and benefits that reflect area standards for work under government contracts and/or
 812 for government purposes;
- 813 • “Best Value Contractor” policies and “Fair Contracting” with “Responsible and Responsive” bidder language
 814 in all public work jobs that include contractor responsibilities for prevailing wages, health insurance,
 815 retirement and training and to include a performance audit;
- 816 • State approved apprentice utilization, and a percentage local hiring clause where qualified workers are
 817 available on government agencies funded, financed, or involved in projects;
- 818 • Unemployment and retraining benefits for workers laid off or locked out or eliminated by economic
 819 conditions by their employers, including those whose jobs are outsourced or downgraded;
- 820 • Protection of overtime pay;
- 821 • The automatic recognition of a union based on signatures of a majority of those represented and “Card
 822 Check” as a legitimate method for unionizing;
- 823 • A workers' bill of rights that includes rights of assembly, association and free speech, due process, freedom
 824 from discrimination; and democracy within unions;
- 825 • Equal participation between labor and employers in the management of workers' pensions;
- 826 • Competitive and commensurate wages for all workers, whether they are private sector, non-profit, or state
 827 and local government employees;
- 828 • Veterans, women, people of color, people with disabilities and sexual minorities earning equal compensation
 829 for equivalent work;
- 830 • Establishment and enforcement of healthy workplace laws, including anti-bullying and anti-harassment laws;
- 831 • Safe and adequate housing, medical care and sanitary facilities for all workers, including temporary, migrant,
 832 seasonal and contract workers;
- 833 • Paid sick and family leave for both private and public employees;
- 834 • Creation of an accrual system for paid leave for all workers;

- 835 • An incremental increase in minimum wage, to reach \$15.00 per hour by 2020, with regular increases
- 836 thereafter, indexed to inflation;
- 837 • Respecting picket lines by not crossing them;
- 838 • Workers negotiating agency fees or “Fair Share” clauses into labor agreements;
- 839 • Government and private industry to recover and make available to the workers medical and industrial
- 840 hygiene records related to all workers so that they are paid just compensation for any injuries or illnesses
- 841 incurred during their employment or as a result of their employment;
- 842 • Prosecution of employers who force workers to work off the clock;
- 843 • Full enforcement of current health and safety labor laws and prosecution of those employers that violate
- 844 those laws;
- 845 • Strengthening, fully funding, and staffing the National Labor Relations Board and the imposition of
- 846 meaningful penalties on employers engaged in unfair practices;
- 847 • Preference for Washington State residents on public works projects in Washington State;
- 848 • Market-based compensation for public employees;
- 849 • Buying American – the use of U.S. products in manufacturing and in construction;
- 850 • Rescinding the Postal Accountability and Enhancement Act of 2006 that forced the Post Office to pre-fund
- 851 its future health care benefit payments to retirees for the next 75 years in a ten-year time span so that the
- 852 postal service may return to fiscal soundness;

853 **We oppose:**

- 854 • “Right-to-work” and other anti-union legislation;
- 855 • Any attacks on the Davis-Bacon Acts, prevailing wage laws;
- 856 • Exploitation of seasonal, temporary, migrant and contract workers;
- 857 • Corporations using mergers and bankruptcy courts to abscond with workers’ pensions;
- 858 • Under-funding of pension liabilities by either the private or public sector;
- 859 • Foreign trade agreements, such as the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) and any that include the Investor-
- 860 State Dispute Settlement (ISDS), that put the interests of corporations above the rights of workers and
- 861 environmental protections and overrules the authority of federal, state, and local governments;
- 862 • Using tips as part of a minimum wage calculation;
- 863 • Use of permanent replacement workers during strikes;
- 864 • Supplanting or displacing public employees with low-wage, low-benefit contract employees or prison labor;
- 865 • The unilateral redefining of workers as independent contractors to reduce labor costs, rendering workers
- 866 ineligible for benefits and other protection;
- 867 • The privatization of workers compensation;
- 868 • Firing without just cause;
- 869 • Public employee pension reductions by the state legislature;
- 870 • Balancing the public budget with pension funds;
- 871 • Gratuitous attacks by elected officials upon labor organizations, public and private employees;
- 872 • Any attempt to privatize the social security retirement system, or to cut benefits or to raise retirement age;
- 873 • Hiring policies that discriminate against unemployed or homeless applicants, felons, and military veterans
- 874 with a discharge other than honorable.

875

877 The rule of law is a prerequisite for a democratic civil society. A good government provides for the safety,
878 security and justice for all, with care, fairness, and respect for each individual.

879 **We believe:**

- 880 • Systemic and structural racism is embedded in our country's history and in our criminal justice system;
- 881 • Our nation must address our criminal justice system's biased treatment of persons of color, people who are
- 882 poor, and people with mental illness;
- 883 • Nonviolent conflict resolution, education, youth programs, health care, social services, rehabilitation, and
- 884 living wage jobs and drug decriminalization will reduce crime and violence;
- 885 • In the stringent enforcement of laws regulating the purchase and ownership of firearms, while respecting the
- 886 rights of responsible gun owners;
- 887 • Inadequate state funding for indigent defendants in criminal cases;
- 888 • In timely DNA testing to free the innocent and convict the guilty;
- 889 • The criminal justice system is the appropriate venue for prosecution of all violent crimes, including acts of
- 890 terrorism; In the separation of church and state;
- 891 • In training of police officers and other first responders to de-escalate confrontations and to humanely interact
- 892 with people who have mental illnesses.

893 **We call for:**

- 894 • Investing in community policing;
- 895 • Police forces that reflect the diversity of our communities, including in the training academies and the
- 896 leadership; • Body cameras for law enforcement officers;
- 897 • Enforcement of the legal restrictions on the activities of hate groups and prosecution of violations;
- 898 • Increasing civilian oversight of our police departments
- 899 • Demilitarizing our police forces;
- 900 • Increasing the number of police officers who are women or transgender until they constitute at least 50% of
- 901 the police force;
- 902 • Outlawing the private ownership of assault weapons;
- 903 • A declaration that Jefferson County is an assault weapons-free zone;
- 904 • Courageous conversations in our communities and across the nation about the race- and class-based
- 905 inequities of our criminal justice system, and the challenges we face in fostering trust in community-police
- 906 relations;
- 907 • The timely prosecution of police officers who are involved in shooting incidents of unarmed civilians;
- 908 • Affirming and valuing the role of law enforcement in protecting human life and serving the community;
- 909 • Incarceration that prioritizes rehabilitation, with a focus on education and occupational training, over punitive
- 910 measures such as solitary confinement;
- 911 • Providing all ex-offenders with the opportunity to re-enter and be productive members of society, including
- 912 reinstating their voting rights;
- 913 • An end to capital punishment;
- 914 • Restoring habeas corpus for citizens and non-citizens;
- 915 • Full funding of the Violence Against Women Act, services to crime victims, and programs to prevent sexual
- 916 violence; •
- 917 • Ending the war on drugs;
- 918 • Data-driven drug education, better-funded drug courts, timely treatment and community-based aftercare for
- 919 offenders who need it;
- 920 • The ban on medical marijuana research must be repealed and such research funded by the NIH;
- 921 • Convictions for possession of marijuana to be expunged and such prisoners immediately released;
- 922 • Asset seizures to be based on court conviction rather than mere arrest or presumption of guilt;
- 923 • Adequate punishments for white collar crime, including appropriate fines and jail time commensurate with
- 924 the damage done to society;

- 925 • The creation and funding of alternatives to incarceration within the criminal justice system at both the pre-
926 conviction stage and the post-conviction stage;
- 927 • Comprehensive gun-sale background checks, including criminal, mental health, and domestic violence
928 checks, and waiting periods, applicable to gun shows and other transactions; mandatory registration and
929 licensing; required safe gun storage; safety training for all gun owners; a limit on volume buys of firearms by
930 an individual; and a total ban on assault weapons and oversized ammunition magazines;
- 931 • Enforcement of criminal negligence laws that hold adults responsible for safeguarding guns around children;
- 932 • Rapid and consistent follow-up from probation services for violations;
- 933 • Allowing foreign nationals to have access to consular officials if accused of a crime;
- 934 • Human rights and open hearing for all immigrants regardless of legal status;
- 935 • Providing of a skilled interpreter and immigration assistant and community advocacy representative prior to
936 the signing of a document that affects immigration status;
- 937 • All U.S. Territories and protectorates, including the Mariana Islands and Guantanamo Bay, to be subject to
938 U. S. law including labor laws, due process, habeas corpus, and laws against illegal detention;
- 939 • Investigation and prosecution of illegal actions of elected officials and corporate officers no matter how high
940 their office;
- 941 • Repealing the USA PATRIOT Act;
- 942 • Enforcement of the Hate Crime Prevention Act;
- 943 • Our nation to invest in children and work actively to abolish poverty in order to eliminate a major cause of
944 crime. We must break the school-to-prison pipeline;
- 945 • Ongoing cultural sensitivity training for all public service government agencies;
- 946 • Providing adequate funding for indigent defendants in criminal, civil, and family court cases; • The right to a
947 civil trial by jury;
- 948 • Increased government efforts, including data collection, and legislation to address adequate minority
949 representation on juries;
- 950 • State and local efforts to train law enforcement to treat sex workers as victims; • The legalization of cannabis
951 and cannabis-based products for medical use nationwide;

952 **We oppose:**

- 953 • Mandatory sentencing, coerced labor for detainees and inmates, prisons outsourced out-of-state and the
954 use of prison labor on any contract bid in the State of Washington;
- 955 • Exemption from independent investigation or prosecution of any government officer responsible for ordering
956 or participating in violation of domestic or international law;
- 957 • Excessive use of force by police and the militarization of police and demand restraint in their dealing with
958 peaceful assembly and protest;
- 959 • “Stand Your Ground” laws that legalize shooting-first;
- 960 • Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) intervention in our local court system;
- 961 • Government spying on persons including the use of drone technology and collection of personal metadata
962 without a legal warrant, which is a violation of 4th Amendment protections against search and seizure.

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XVII. Media and Internet

965 An informed citizenry and persistently inquisitive media are essential for democracy to flourish. The free flow
966 of information is fundamental to democracy.

967 **We believe:**

- 968 • Democracy relies upon an informed citizenry;
- 969 • A free press is essential to a functioning and flourishing democracy;
- 970 • The public airways and the internet must serve all Americans and must not be controlled by a few
971 corporations.

972 **We call for:**

- 973 • Efforts by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to promote local ownership and diversity of
974 viewpoints and reduce monopolization of media outlets;
- 975 • Ample funding for public broadcasting;
- 976 • Reinstatement of the Fairness Doctrine for broadcast media, making it applicable to cable networks, and
977 requiring television and radio broadcasters to present contrasting viewpoints on controversial issues of
978 public importance;
- 979 • Statewide, high-quality, affordable, universal broadband internet service provided by local Internet Service
980 Providers; • Investments in rural internet services;
- 981 • Strong Net Neutrality laws and policies, so that Internet Service Providers are required to treat all data
982 equally, and are prohibited from favoring particular applications, sites, or services over others;
- 983 • Strong broadband privacy rules, requiring Internet Service Providers to obtain permission to collect, use, and
984 sell customer information;
- 985 • Investments and efforts in infrastructure to make the internet in the United States the best in the world,
986 bringing the highest quality, highest performance, most affordable, and most universally accessible internet
987 to all citizens in every region of the country.

988 **We oppose:**

- 989 • False, misleading, or biased information spread by newspapers and radio or television programs under the
990 guise of news;
- 991 • Efforts to repeal Net Neutrality, or the implementation of any law or policy that allows Internet Service
992 Providers to prioritize particular applications, sites, or services over others.

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995 We pledge support of our troops and honor our veterans who act in the service of our country. The core task
 996 of the U.S. military is to provide for the common defense. Our military must be adequate to provide for our
 997 nation's defense and never be open to abuses of power by any branch of government.

998 **We believe:**

- 999 • Under the Constitution it is the duty of Congress to declare war, appropriate funds, provide oversight, and
 1000 act to prevent the misuse of the military;
- 1001 • Our military service members—active duty, reserve and National Guard—are entitled to serve with a clear
 1002 mission and adequate resources;
- 1003 • Female military personnel and all others who rely on Tricare and military medical facilities have the right to
 1004 make their own reproductive decisions, with the same rights accorded to civilians.

1005 **We call for:**

- 1006 • Military service on our behalf to be performed only by individuals accountable to the public, the law, and the
 1007 Uniform
- 1008 • Code of Military Justice, not by contractors exempt from those restrictions;
- 1009 • Military members who declare themselves conscientious objectors to be given due process without fear of
 1010 reprisal;
- 1011 • Full prosecution for all sexual assault or harassment based on gender, religion, ethnicity, or sexual
 1012 orientation by military personnel;
- 1013 • Removing jurisdiction in cases of sexual assault between members of the US military from the direct chain
 1014 of command over either the complainant or the accused;
- 1015 • The proper education of our armed forces that respects the common dignity and civil rights of human beings;
- 1016 • Troops to be accorded mandatory breaks between overseas tours, strict time limits on each tour of duty in a
 1017 combat zone, and strict limits on the total number of combat tours;
- 1018 • Routine inspections of facilities by the Office of Inspector General and procedures to ensure facility integrity
 1019 and safety;
- 1020 • Providing financial assistance, daycare assistance, and no-cost life insurance supplements for families of all
 1021 military personnel deployed to hostile or combat areas;
- 1022 • Ensuring that military personnel retain full enlistment bonuses despite being discharged for combat-related
 1023 disabilities;
- 1024 • Enforcement of the Geneva Conventions, through all levels of command, in the treatment of all prisoners of
 1025 war, enemy combatants, and detainees regardless of the location of their incarceration;
- 1026 • Senior civilian and military leaders being held accountable for the orders they give and responsible for the
 1027 consequences thereof;
- 1028 • The cessation of using torture, aka “enhanced interrogation techniques”;
- 1029 • Reducing defense spending;
- 1030 • Reform of the contracting practices of the military to ensure U.S. government control, with contracts to be
 1031 awarded based on fair and competitive bidding, with preference given to U.S. companies with U.S.
 1032 employees;
- 1033 • A thorough and comprehensive review of the necessity and organization of foreign military bases
 1034 comparable to the review of domestic military bases;
- 1035 • Providing all veterans with full, timely, no-cost treatment at local military or VA medical facilities, regardless
 1036 of nature/character of discharge and providing retraining for those who are disabled;
- 1037 • Fully funding VA services;
- 1038 • Increased funding for long-term care and treatment of veterans at military medical facilities including mental
 1039 health care, PTSD, and suicide prevention;
- 1040 • A full review by an independent medical and vocational rehabilitation panel of all military partial-disability
 1041 ratings; all outcomes should be based on medical rather than political and economic criteria;
- 1042 • Active outreach to provide access to housing and services for homeless vets;
- 1043 • Providing our troops with an improved transitional assistance program to make coming home easier;

1044 • Equal GI Bill privileges for ALL service men and women, including National Guard members who have been
1045 activated for combat duty;
1046 • Elimination of the Survivor's Benefit Plan (SBP) Social Security offset when a widowed military spouse
1047 reaches age 62;
1048 • Environmental and impact cleanup from the development, deployment, and use of nuclear, biological,
1049 chemical, or "depleted" uranium (dU) weapon systems.

1050 **We oppose:**

1051 • Use of our military resources in unauthorized, unjustified, and/or pre-emptive wars;
1052 • The production, testing, stockpiling and use of nuclear, biological, chemical, or "depleted" uranium (dU)
1053 weapon systems;
1054 • The use of active sonar in inland and U.S. coastal waters;
1055 • The training of Troops and especially Special Forces units in State Parks and populated areas such as
1056 neighborhoods;
1057 • U.S. training of foreign military or police forces that suppress human rights in their own countries.

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1059	XIX. Infrastructure and Transportation
1060	We believe that an efficient, well-planned, multimodal transportation system promotes a healthy economy,
1061	environment, and community.
1062	We call for:
1063	• Significant public input and oversight into major infrastructure and transportation public works;
1064	• Expanding and enhancing accessible, safe, affordable and efficient public transportation, including ferry
1065	service, bus service and dial-a-ride service for the disabled to all areas of the county;
1066	• Land use planning that works toward the goal of decreasing the need to drive by the addition of bicycle
1067	lanes and pedestrian lanes;
1068	• Washington's executive agencies and Legislature to adopt policies and laws to minimize public safety
1069	dangers and environmental damage to our state caused by transportation of fossil fuels and other
1070	hazardous materials;
1071	• Development of a county-wide system of charging stations to encourage use of electric vehicles and
1072	inclusion of charging stations in any new infrastructure construction;
1073	• An integrated partnership for travel through ridership jurisdictions;
1074	• Maintaining existing public right-of-way for future public use;
1075	• Governments to invest in continued local access to needed transportation infrastructure, including rural road,
1076	bridge, ferry, and highway maintenance and improvement;
1077	• Adequately staffed, maintained and funded publicly-operated ferry systems, as they are a critical part of the
1078	overall transportation system;
1079	• Consideration of climate change, health effects, and environmental impacts including water, earth and air
1080	pollution, and wildlife corridors in all infrastructure and transportation planning and new construction;
1081	• Protecting the rights of workers of transportation network companies to organize.
1082	We oppose
1083	• Transportation infrastructure privatization.
1084	• Foreign ownership and management of our ports, highways, bridges, pipelines, and other infrastructure
1085	assets which are crucial to our national safety and security.
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We must maintain a lasting and respectful relationship with Tribal Nations and oppose all attempts to diminish tribal sovereignty, tribal culture natural resources, or the general welfare of tribes recognizing this is an important step to more open and meaningful government to government relations as we will continue to educate the general population of inherent tribal sovereignty. We also recognize the growing Urban American Indian/Alaskan Native populations and the Federal Trust responsibility expands beyond Tribal Reservation borders.

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We call for:

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- Addressing the need for communication infrastructure in the West End of Jefferson County to provide effective emergency management as well as the ability to participate politically;
- Addressing the need to provide for adequate electrical back-up generators to ensure availability of water to the communities in emergency situations;
- Upholding the Treaties, Executive Orders, Agreements, made between Tribal Nations and the Federal Government, which secured specific rights and privileges to sustain the future of Tribal Nations;
- Supporting efforts of tribes to prevent opioid addiction within their communities;
- Recognizing the unique history and cultural relationships the lands, waterways, usual and accustomed areas in the state are valued among Tribal Nations particularly with regard to planned developments;
- Establishing and maintaining a meaningful government-to-government relationship with tribes that includes consulting with tribes prior to Jefferson County proposing or supporting legislation or policies that impact Tribal Nations;
- Recognizing that Tribal Nations make meaningful contributions to the state's economic programs;
- Authorizing the licensing of mid-level dental professionals, such as dental health aide therapists, to address the lack of access to dental care;
- Supporting the construction of one or more tribal specialty care facilities to address the lack of access to medical specialists;
- Recognizing the principles in the United Nations Declaration of the Rights of Indigenous People;
- Supporting the rights of tribes to regulate and manage their own environment and natural resources, including the right to hunt, fish and gather in their traditional usual and accustomed places;
- Fully engaging and including tribes in discussions and actions regarding climate change and water appropriation by implementing remote participation in events in East Jefferson;
- Year-round adequately funded Indian Health Services;
- Calling for Police Officer training on cross-cultural Urban Native communication to avoid discriminatory policing.

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We Oppose:

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- The abuse of any tribal treaty or tribal agreement by any party or tribal government;
- The efforts of any group that support forced assimilation and its distortion of United States history;
- The implementation of Public Law, which "establishes a method by which states can assume jurisdiction over reservation Indians".