

Nebraska Democratic Party

2018-2020 Platform, V4

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## Foundation Statement

*“We, the people of the United States, in order to form a more perfect union, establish justice, insure domestic tranquility, provide for the common defense, promote the general welfare, and secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and our posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America.” Preamble – U.S. Constitution, 1787*

“We, the people” are the three opening words that inspired the concept of a government “of the people, by the people, for the people,” cracking the divide between those who ruled and those who were ruled. Through great struggle and sacrifice, the U.S. Constitution as a living document has continued to be amended and reinterpreted to make our union ever “more perfect” by embracing all people in these United States.

And now, we, the people of Nebraska, inheritors of the vision of our nation’s authors and leaders, endeavor in our duty to build a more perfect government that represents and serves our entire State. The Nebraska Democratic Party seeks to expand to include all people in our State who share these ideals. We believe the proper role of government is to support, promote, protect, and advance a society founded on individual and collective rights, human dignity and equitable treatment, without regard to one’s diversity of abilities, origin, gender, orientation, beliefs, status and other characteristics; and to ensure the inalienable rights of:

- Freedom of speech, religion, privacy, the press, and assembly;
- Full and equal access to public services including courts, education and information, medical care, and transportation;
- Full and equal participation in labor, commerce, and government.

We also believe that with the accorded rights come civic duties to be assumed according to each person’s capacity including:

- Service to our country and the world;
- Stewardship of natural and human resources;
- Participation in government;
- Preparation of self and children physically, educationally, and temperamentally as needed to fulfill the civic duties listed above.

*The Nebraska Democratic Party is the diversity of its members, their unity of purpose, and their confidence in the ability of people to transcend the human failings of fear, prejudice, and strife. Most of all, at the heart of the Nebraska Democratic Party lies the belief that government can be made to serve all people with wisdom and compassion. To that end, we weigh all our proposals and positions, devote our energies, and dedicate our service.*

Agriculture

42  
43 Nebraska Democrats celebrate traditional family farmers and ranchers, and the prime  
44 agricultural land and topsoil in Nebraska that grows crops to feed the world. We are committed  
45 to preserving our rural communities and their way of life. We support the creation of a  
46 comprehensive national food, fuel, and fiber policy, which protects the long-term productivity of  
47 national resources and the quality and abundance of our food supply. We support our Ag  
48 partners as they grow local, high-quality, nutritious foods.

49  
50 Nebraska Democrats want to improve financial outcomes for farmers by eliminating monopoly  
51 control of agricultural markets in production, processing, and trade, returning to fair market  
52 pricing, providing adequate crop insurance, and ensuring a strong export strategy which reaches  
53 out to other countries for world trade of Nebraska's agricultural products, which particularly  
54 means strengthening trade with trade partners.

55  
56 We strongly support programs to help farmers as they start out or recover from a difficult  
57 growing season or natural disaster. We understand the plight of the agricultural community as  
58 land prices have increased and return on investment has decreased. We support property tax  
59 reform.

60  
61 Democrats are in favor of agricultural programs that keep in mind environmental impacts,  
62 conservation, and resource management. Nebraska Democrats support regenerative agriculture.  
63 We want labeling of genetically modified food products, and country of origin labeling. We want  
64 to increase organic farming in our state as well as the farming and transport of cannabis.

65  
66 **Black Lives Matter**

67  
68 *"Racism still occupies the throne of our nation." - Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.*

69  
70 The Nebraska Democratic Party is committed to removing the barriers of systemic and  
71 institutional racism.

72  
73 Institutional and systemic racism is distinguished from racial bigotry by the existence of  
74 institutional systemic policies, practices, and economic and political structures that place  
75 minority racial and ethnic groups at a disadvantage in relation to an institution's racial or ethnic  
76 majority.

77  
78 The Nebraska Democratic Party commits to educating itself about the discriminatory policies and  
79 practices that have enabled economic prejudice against people of color.

80  
81 The Nebraska Democratic Party commits to critically examine and reform policies and practices

82 within the state's economic and political structures that disproportionately target people of  
83 color.

84  
85 The Nebraska Democratic Party commits to expose and eliminate any inconsistencies of voter  
86 access, particularly those driven by partisan and racial politics.

87  
88 The Nebraska Democratic Party commits to identify and rectify policy and practice inequities  
89 that lead to disadvantages in the areas of health care, family life, employment and political  
90 power.

91  
92 The Nebraska Democratic Party commits to work to actively oppose racialized discrepancies of  
93 people of color and as a party commits to grow awareness to motivate and inspire change.

94  
95 The Nebraska Democratic Party commits to dismantle the complex web of racial and cultural  
96 barriers integrated in our society, such as an education system where students of color have  
97 significant disparate outcomes, public transportation policies that hinder the poor, voter ID laws  
98 that obstruct access to the polls, and a mass incarceration system that incarcerates individuals of  
99 color at a rate of 5.1 times their white counterparts.

100  
101 A shift in mindset is required. To be a catalyst for change, the Nebraska Democratic Party must  
102 be devoted to: redirect the focus of apologies and ineffective assessment; reach out and listen to  
103 those who confront these realities daily; and diminish the spotlight aimed at issues obsolete to  
104 marginalized groups. Rather than priding themselves on serving as a voice for the voiceless, the  
105 party must make a place for everyone's voice to be heard. By destabilizing the inequitable power  
106 structure that allows excuses, the party can elevate the voices of marginalized people to inspire  
107 change.

## 108 109 **Civil Rights**

110  
111 Nebraska Democrats believe in protecting the rights and civil liberties of all people, both citizen  
112 and non-citizen.

113  
114 We will oppose discrimination, harassment, and bullying against any person for reasons  
115 including but not limited to: actual or perceived race, ethnicity, religion, familial status, physical  
116 or mental disability, intellectual cognition, sex, age, sexual orientation, socioeconomic status,  
117 gender expression, and gender identity.

118  
119 We oppose sex trafficking. We oppose sexual violence and sexual harassment of any person.

120  
121 We believe in equal pay for equal work.

122 We oppose racial profiling, police brutality, white supremacy, and racial violence. We believe in  
123 racial justice. We oppose racism, sexism, homophobia, transphobia, and all other kinds of  
124 bigotry.

125  
126 We believe healthcare is a universal human right. We believe that equal access to food, water,  
127 shelter, transportation, utilities, and employment are also universal human rights. We support all  
128 measures to end poverty, hunger, and homelessness.

129  
130 We support non-discrimination protections for sexual orientation, gender identity and gender  
131 expression in the areas of employment, housing, medical and mental health care, public  
132 accommodation, education, credit, state & local funded programs, family leave, adoption, foster  
133 care as well as inclusive language for identity documentation and hate crimes protection for  
134 gender identity and gender expression.

135  
136 We support the restoration of the Voting Rights Act, as well as legislation forever guaranteeing  
137 the right to vote for all Americans, including same day, universal voter registration.

138

### 139 **Corporate PAC Contributions**

140

141 The Nebraska Democratic Party rejects corporate PAC contributions from  
142 interests that conflict with our Platform such as the fossil fuel, tobacco, alcohol, gun  
143 manufacturing and pay day lending industries, allowing Nebraska Democrats to stay consistent  
144 with our beliefs.

145

### 146 **Criminal Justice**

147

148 Nebraska Democrats demand the Governor of Nebraska immediately reform the state  
149 correctional system including reforms to segregation practices, prison overcrowding, lack of  
150 staffing, freedom to practice religion, medical care, and mental health treatment.

151

152 Nebraska Democrats commend police agencies who are committed to serving all  
153 communities fairly without regard to inherent bias, and to preserving life whenever  
154 possible. Nebraska Democrats are in favor of a community policing strategy that gives  
155 residents the tools they need to communicate and resolve conflict. Nebraska Democrats  
156 support increased police training including de-escalation and mediation training.

157

158 Democrats urge our criminal justice system to handle domestic violence as a particular  
159 threat against community and family due to abusers' likelihood to perpetrate mass violence.

160

161 Nebraska Democrats will work to ensure that sexual offenders are brought to justice.

162

163 Democrats want reform to the criminal justice system to promote sexual justice for all.

164

165 Democrats approve sentencing reform and favor independently auditing sentences against  
166 sentencing guidelines for those found guilty of crimes and sentenced to time in jail or  
167 prison, to ensure accurate sentencing. We encourage the courts to firm up departures from  
168 sentencing guidelines for mitigating and aggravating circumstances to reduce the number of  
169 imprisoned persons and strive for racial parity in the imprisoned population. We support  
170 alternatives to incarceration for non-violent offenders.

171

172 Nebraska Democrats oppose capital punishment.

173

174 Nebraska Democrats oppose any further executions by the State of Nebraska.

175

176 Nebraska Democrats oppose the use of jails and prisons in place of mental health and  
177 substance abuse treatment.

178

179 We support basic human rights for all detainees and incarcerated persons. People should be  
180 treated as the gender with which they identify, not the sex or gender assigned at birth.

181 Policies and procedures should be developed that maintain the dignity and rights of  
182 transgender and gender non-conforming individuals.

183

184 We believe imprisonment is a pathway to rehabilitation. We support the staff of jails and  
185 prisons as they fairly monitor the behavior of incarcerated persons, while treating inmates  
186 with humanity. Democrats support programs which teach useful skills to incarcerated  
187 persons to reduce the recidivism rate, and transition programs to assist the incarcerated with  
188 a successful return to the community.

189

## 190 **Education**

191

192 Nebraska Democrats support public schools and public school teachers. We believe all teachers,  
193 including but not limited to childcare professionals, special needs teachers, early childhood  
194 educators, media specialists, and paraprofessionals, should be paid commensurate to their  
195 responsibility to give knowledge to our future generations and prepare students for adulthood.

196

197 We support fully funded public education and the elimination of student debt. We support  
198 programs assisting post-secondary students and their families in discharging their debt.

199

200 Nebraska Democrats believe that no educator should have to pay out of pocket for materials or  
201 supplies for their own classroom.

202

203 Nebraska Democrats strongly support art and music education in public schools.

204 Nebraska Democrats believe that extracurricular activities are enriching for all students and  
205 support scholarship programs for extracurricular activities.

206

207 We believe every child should have a safe school environment conducive to learning, free from  
208 bullying, harassment, or violence. We support raising the age for a student to voluntarily leave  
209 school without graduating to age 18. Nebraska Democrats oppose efforts to fund school security  
210 initiatives that divert funds away from classrooms. Nebraska Democrats will actively work to  
211 stop the school-to-prison pipeline.

212

213 We support continuing education for pregnant students and those who are parents and  
214 interventions to help these populations. We strongly support age-appropriate and accurate  
215 comprehensive sex education for all students starting no less than three years before the average  
216 age of menarche and continuing into high school.

217

218 Nebraska Democrats believe that special education programs should continue to be based on the  
219 individual needs of each student.

220

221 We believe that educators should compare and contrast differing views on a subject, to aid  
222 students in learning how to think critically and independently.

223

224 We support policies and programs promoting recruitment of faculty and staff that represent the  
225 broadest possible diversity, training and placement of faculty and administration where their  
226 talents can best be used to meet the needs of students, integrating students into population-  
227 balanced and diverse public school districts, and normalizing parity in funding those districts.  
228 Nebraska Democrats are committed to school funding that meets the needs of students equitably  
229 and supports the improvement of schools.

230

231 We envision classrooms that create opportunities for multicultural activities and field trips,  
232 utilize distance education technologies to bring students together in study and play from other  
233 cultures and countries, and foster exchange programs of speakers and student groups.

234

235 We impress upon Nebraska's school districts to develop and utilize teaching materials and  
236 pedagogies to confront discrimination based on racism, sexism, ageism or cultural bigotry, to  
237 promote a society free of discrimination based upon religious belief, disability, origin,  
238 orientation, or gender identity or economic status, and to use interpretation services and  
239 technology to improve relationships among the school, home and community for the benefit of  
240 students.

241

242 Nebraska Democrats support academic freedom.

243

244 Nebraska Democrats prioritize the restoration of previous funding, and future increased  
245 allocations to all state funded institutions of higher learning. We believe tuition hikes are



246 detrimental to students and Nebraska families. We are committed to the state schooling delivered  
247 by the University system within our state, which teaches our youth the skills they need in the  
248 workforce. Nebraska Democrats have pride in the students, graduates, and educators of our  
249 schools and state institutions of higher learning.

250

### 251 **Ending Systemic Racism against American-Latinxs**

252

253 Nebraska's Democrats will continue to fight against institutional and systemic racism in our  
254 society. Democrats challenge and will dismantle the structures that define lasting economic,  
255 political, and social inequities based on racism against Latinxs. Democrats will promote racial  
256 justice through fair, just, and equitable governing of all public-serving institutions and in the  
257 formation of future public policy for the fair treatment of Latinxs.

258

259 Democrats shall push for a societal change to make it clear that Latinxs are Americans and that  
260 there is no place for racism or racial harassment against Latinxs in our governmental systems,  
261 organizations, businesses, or country.

262

### 263 **Environment**

264

265 We understand that climate change is an urgent threat and a defining challenge of our time. The  
266 Earth that we leave to our descendants depends upon our actions now. Without ambitious,  
267 immediate action across our country to cut carbon pollution and greenhouse gases, the impacts of  
268 climate change will be catastrophic.

269

270 We are committed to abandoning our dependence on fossil fuels in favor of clean and renewable  
271 energy, and to creating good paying middle income jobs in the new technologies. We need to  
272 make our existing infrastructure safer and cleaner and invest in the new infrastructure necessary  
273 to power our clean energy future.

274

275 We resist efforts to politicize scientific results and we support peer-reviewed, credible research  
276 based on scientific consensus.

277

278 We are committed to protecting our Ogallala Aquifer, Nebraska's most precious natural resource,  
279 and all waterways within and bordering our state. Water is life. We believe clean air and clean  
280 water are basic rights of all people, and that low-income communities and Tribal Nations are  
281 disproportionately exposed to environmental "hot spots," where air, soil, and water pollution  
282 increase health problems and economic hardship. We believe in being a good neighbor to those  
283 who use the water downstream.

284

285 We need to champion conservation efforts and collaboratively protect our land, air and water.  
286 We must strengthen protections for our natural and cultural resources, increase access to parks

287 and public lands for all Americans, protect endangered and native species and wildlife, and  
288 harness the immense ecological and social potential of our public lands and waters.

289 We insist that our representatives act on behalf of the environment and take into account the  
290 environmental impact of legislation that applies to or could directly impact the State of Nebraska.  
291 Nebraska Democrats support global environmental protection such as the 2015 Paris Agreement.

292

### 293 **Firearms and Gun Violence Prevention**

294

295 Nebraska Democrats recognize that gun violence is a serious problem that claims the lives of tens  
296 of thousands of Americans per year, injures many more, traumatizes countless others, and  
297 disproportionately impacts communities of color. We support the right of Americans to live free  
298 of gun violence. We recognize that gun violence is the consequence of an inadequately regulated  
299 consumer market.

300

301 We support the repeal of the federal Protection of Lawful Commerce in Arms Act (PLCAA),  
302 which offers special immunity from liability to gun manufacturers and sellers and deprives  
303 injured persons from their right to legal remedy in the courts. We support a reinstated and  
304 updated Brady Bill.

305

306 Nebraska Democrats support the right of communities to respond democratically to gun violence  
307 by passing local ordinances to address their needs. If guns are owned, they must be used  
308 responsibly. We support a tax on weapons and ammunition to fund school security measures. We  
309 support criminal and civil liability for those who do not safely secure their guns.

310

311 We further support the American Medical Association's proposals that back laws limiting the  
312 purchase of guns to individuals over the age of 21 and legislation that allows relatives of suicidal  
313 people or those who have threatened imminent violence to seek court-ordered removal of guns  
314 from the home, better training for physicians to recognize patients at risk for suicide and ending  
315 loopholes in laws that still allow people found guilty of domestic violence to purchase guns.

316

317 We further support the American Academy of Pediatrics proposals to enact a strong, effective  
318 assault weapons ban, require mandatory background checks and waiting periods of all firearm  
319 purchases, enact a ban on high-capacity magazines, enact strong handgun regulations, and  
320 require safe firearm storage under federal law.

321

### 322 **Government**

323

324 We believe government should serve all people within its responsibility.

325

326 We believe in the separation of church and state.

327

328 We believe it is the duty of the citizen to keep government officials in check. We support  
329 increased checks and balances on those who represent us. We believe government officials, those  
330 seeking public office, and other public servants should be held to the highest standard of  
331 behavior.

332  
333 We support a non-partisan Unicameral and support amending the State Constitution to limit  
334 contributions from sitting officials or their families to other candidates. The original source of all  
335 contributions to a campaign, elected official, or political party should be part of the public  
336 record. Nebraska Democrats are in favor of automatic voter registration and a free and fair  
337 election process.

338  
339 Legislative bodies should be representative of the population of the state, territory, or country in  
340 both gender and racial categories. State Legislators should receive a modest middle-income  
341 salary, to allow for greater diversity in our Unicameral.

342  
343 Nebraska Democrats oppose any and all attacks on our health benefits, including attacks to  
344 federal funding for public health clinics and family planning services. Democrats strongly  
345 support measures to strengthen Medicare, Medicaid, Social Security, the Affordable Care Act,  
346 and the Children's Health Insurance Program. We oppose cuts to public health funding and  
347 using Social Security or the Medicare Trust Fund for other than its original purpose. Nebraska  
348 Democrats propose a removal of the cap on income subject to Social Security tax as a revenue  
349 stream to save Social Security. Government should have the power to negotiate better prices for  
350 healthcare consumers for services, including prescriptions. Nebraska's Democrats strongly  
351 believe Medicaid expansion in our state is long overdue and will save lives.

352  
353 We support legislation which would repeal Citizens United.

354  
355 Nebraska Democrats support progressive taxation. Government must increase revenue while  
356 investing heavily in our people, in our infrastructure, and in research. Funds from taxation or  
357 other sources, entrusted to Government, shall be used efficiently and wisely.

358  
359 Democrats believe in public assistance programs paired with skill building to break the cycle of  
360 poverty.

361  
362 Government should respect landowner and Tribal rights when considering actions such as  
363 eminent domain. We oppose the use of eminent domain for private gain and understand that  
364 eminent domain was never intended for use by private corporations or foreign entities. Property  
365 rights are a fundamental issue we must protect for all Nebraska land owners, farmers, ranchers,  
366 and homeowners.

367  
368 To promote equality for all, we believe that the United States of America should immediately  
369 allow residents of federal non-continental districts and territories to vote for their own

370 representatives, allow the elected representatives of those territories voting parity, and encourage  
371 statehood if the district or territory self-determines they wish to become a state.

372

373 We further believe that the government of the United States of America should recognize Native  
374 People's sovereignty, dignity, and equality, and should honor all portions of Treaties with Native  
375 and Indigenous Peoples.

376

### 377 **Healthcare**

378

379 Nebraska Democrats believe that access to affordable, quality health care is a right for all. We  
380 support expanding the current health care system to Medicare for All. We support a broad base  
381 of coverage including, but not limited to primary care, preventative care, inpatient, outpatient,  
382 emergency care, prescription drugs, durable medical equipment, long term care, mental health,  
383 substance abuse services, non-cosmetic dentistry, pre-existing conditions, chiropractic services,  
384 basic vision care and correction, outpatient therapies and ambulance services. Under Medicare  
385 for All, we believe eligible providers would be any licensed or accredited provider in compliance  
386 with the law. We firmly believe that patients should choose their own healthcare provider. No  
387 one should be denied lifesaving or life-preserving medical care, medications, or medical supplies  
388 due to cost or pre-existing conditions.

389

390 We urge further research into affordable, accessible contraceptive methods for all. We continue  
391 to oppose any state and federal laws that would impede a woman's constitutional right to the  
392 complete range of reproductive healthcare including family planning services. We denounce all  
393 acts of violence towards providers of family planning and health care services. Nebraska  
394 Democrats continue to advocate for and support all reproductive choices for women.

395

396 We urge expansion of Medicaid coverage in Nebraska and full funding for the CHIP program.

397

398 Nebraska Democrats support Nebraskans' access to medical cannabis with a doctor's prescription.

399

### 400 **Immigration**

401

402 The United States is a country that welcomes all immigrants. Democrats believe immigration  
403 and immigrant workers are a defining aspect of the American character, each with a unique story  
404 and our shared history. The Nebraska Democratic Party supports fair, effective, and humane  
405 immigration reform.

406

407 The current immigration system tears mixed-status families apart and keeps undocumented  
408 workers in the shadows. Immigration reform must include a clear pathway to U.S. citizenship for  
409 all law-abiding and tax-paying immigrants who are contributing to our community and our  
410 country. All American residents regardless of immigration status shall have access to quality  
411 health care.

412  
413 Nebraska Democrats oppose merit-based immigration.

414  
415 Nebraska Democrats promote comprehensive immigration reform that must address: the current  
416 system that discriminates against certain immigrants; address family backlogs; eliminate policies  
417 that would restrict legal immigration avenues and denigrate immigrants; and mandate providing  
418 children under the age of 18 with appointed counsel in all removal proceedings. All immigrants  
419 fleeing violence must be assured due process according to the U.S. Constitution before they are  
420 deported or refused entry to the United States. Similarly, we support expedited immigration  
421 policies for, and protection of, the foreign nationals who assisted or who continue to assist our  
422 military in Iraq and Afghanistan.

423  
424 We support investing in culturally appropriate immigrant integration services, expanded access  
425 to English language education, and promoting naturalization to help the millions of immigrants  
426 eligible for citizenship to take the final step to become voting U.S. Citizens. We support treating  
427 immigrants from Honduras, El Salvador, Venezuela, Guatemala, and Syria as refugees fleeing  
428 from violence. We also believe that fleeing domestic or gang violence constitutes a basis for a  
429 credible asylum application. We welcome refugees into our communities.

430  
431 Democrats oppose any Muslim ban or taxpayer monies for a Southern wall, and we oppose the  
432 separation of immigrant children from their parents under any circumstances.

433  
434 **Labor and Economy**

435  
436 We support labor unions as they protect and empower the workforce. We recognize their  
437 historical contribution to laying the foundations to the rights that workers have today. We  
438 support the formation of unions and collective action to further the rights of employees,  
439 while standing in opposition to anti-union labor practices, policies, and potential or actual  
440 legislation or court judgments. Nebraska Democrats support the repeal of Right-to-Work and  
441 oppose At-Will employment.

442  
443 Nebraska Democrats are pro-Worker, pro-Farmer, and pro-Railroad Worker, and call for  
444 improvements to worker safety, working conditions, protections, and benefits across all  
445 categories and classes of employment. Nebraska Democrats particularly support each worker  
446 receiving a minimum of one week of paid sick leave per year. Each worker should receive paid  
447 family leave of no less than twelve weeks.

448  
449 We insist that markets and employers must pair enterprise with human dignity and that full-  
450 time employees must receive a wage that enables them to live without government assistance.  
451 We need a skilled, responsive workforce with globally competitive education and trade skills.  
452 We support apprenticeship programs. Nebraska Democrats support training programs for  
453 displaced workers. We need to adapt to the age of technology, recognizing when we have more

454 people than work, and opening up jobs for more employees. We need more skilled  
455 manufacturing to address the structural unemployment gap in the United States.

456  
457 We are in favor of tax breaks and stimulus for small business and startups. We support further  
458 stimulus to those areas where unemployment is high or where job creation is low. We believe  
459 corporations should pay taxes; taxation should not be shouldered only by individuals and  
460 working families.

461  
462 We support publicly funded childcare centers to allow low and middle-income Nebraskans to  
463 work unencumbered from the high cost of childcare.

464  
465 We believe that artificial scarcity harms our economy and is a deceptive business practice. Fair  
466 trade and free markets cannot be truly free and fair if prices are manipulated through supply  
467 control.

468

#### 469 **Legalization of Cannabis**

470

471 We support the incremental legalization of responsible recreational cannabis under a state  
472 regulated system. We believe tax revenues from the sale of cannabis will help reduce reliance on  
473 property taxes. In the situation that federal or state law should allow for consumption or sale of  
474 recreational marijuana products, we as Nebraskans will be ready to adapt to this change. In  
475 preparation for a possible change in legal status, Nebraska Democrats will explore the impact to  
476 agriculture, business and tax law, zoning, grower and business permits, and regulations involving  
477 consumer sales.

478

#### 479 **LGBTQIA+**

480

481 Democrats support the civil and human rights and safe environments for all people of all sexual  
482 orientations, gender identities, and expression. Democrats support the development and  
483 maintenance of safe environments in our schools for youth from all identities and backgrounds.

484

485 Democrats celebrate marriage equality and support legislation that grants equitable access to  
486 employment, housing and accommodations, including gender-neutral bathrooms in schools and  
487 public places.

488

489 Democrats desire to improve access to informed services and address the high rates of suicide by  
490 LGBTQIA+ individuals.

491

492 Democrats respect and honor all who serve and have served in our armed forces. We support the  
493 inclusion, and appreciate the service, of transgender individuals who have served and who want  
494 to serve in the US military. We oppose any ban restricting or terminating the service of Trans

495 service members. We believe service should be based on qualifications and ability rather than  
496 personal identity.

497

### 498 **Native American Rights**

499

500 The Nebraska Democratic Party respects the sovereignty of the Native Nations of the Americas  
501 and their land and supports municipal, state, and federal legislative efforts that reflect the rights  
502 inherent in that sovereignty. These include: complete law-making authority of Tribal Nations by  
503 the government of such nations, federal law to respect and reflect treaties entered by the United  
504 States Government and Tribal Nations, complete discretion and complete control of Tribal  
505 Nation land by the governments of such Nations, and an Executive Order countermanning the  
506 Executive Order issued by President Theodore Roosevelt in 1904 and returning the Oglala  
507 Lakota treaty land including the Whiteclay Extension to the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation. The  
508 Nebraska Democratic Party calls on policy makers in all legislatures affected to fully fund its  
509 obligations to the health and welfare of all Native Peoples and Tribal Nations.

510

### 511 **Stand with DREAMERS**

512

513 DACA is ending; over 800,000 DREAMERS and their families are at risk of deportation. We  
514 acknowledge that DREAMERS teach our children and care for our family members. In addition,  
515 they are leaders in our companies, business owners, and brave members of our military.

516

517 We acknowledge that 86% of Americans agree that Congress must immediately pass bipartisan  
518 DREAM ACT legislation to ensure that these incredible young people can continue to live, work,  
519 and contribute to the only country they know as home. We, as Democrats, support a pathway to  
520 U.S. citizenship for the DREAMERS and urge Congress to swiftly adopt the legislation necessary  
521 to protect DREAMERS.

522

523 DREAMERS are still doing their jobs every day in the face of threat of deportation. It is time for  
524 Congress to do their job and protect all DREAMERS.

525

526 Nebraska Democrats proudly support and **#STANDwithDREAMERS**.

527

### 528 **Technology**

529

530 Nebraska's Democrats prioritize net neutrality, which is the principle that Internet service  
531 providers should enable access to all content and applications regardless of the source, and  
532 without favoring or blocking particular products or websites.

533

534 High-speed Internet connectivity is essential for 21st Century economic success, education,  
535 health care, and public safety. Nebraska Democrats believe we should be leaders in data

536 protection. We also recognize the importance of data privacy and support legislation similar to  
537 the EU's General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR).

538

539 We support a concerted effort to upgrade and promote a statewide broadband infrastructure  
540 capable of supporting business, education and personal requirements. This should include efforts  
541 in deploying 5G technologies, the next generation wireless service, that will bring faster Internet  
542 connections to underserved areas, and will enable transformative technologies.

543

544 Fairness, affordability, access and privacy are the basic principles for state and federal governance  
545 of communications. All Nebraskans should have access to affordable telecommunication services  
546 provided as a public utility. Nebraska Democrats support fiber and broadband development by  
547 municipalities. Efforts should be made to develop partnerships between municipalities and other  
548 public entities with private concerns to develop community broadband networks, and to hook-  
549 up anchor institutions to offer free Wi-Fi to the public.

550

551 Nebraska Democrats believe that technology should be a part of the educational curriculum and  
552 computer literacy should be taught to students.

553

#### 554 **Urban Economic Development**

555

556 Nebraska Democrats have recognized the plight and civil rights of urban Nebraskans. Urban  
557 Nebraskans have been loyal and committed Democratic voters for over fifty years. In urban  
558 Nebraska, the percentage of Democratic voters continues to far outweigh that of other party  
559 voters. Despite this continued support, voter turnout in urban Nebraska has continued to trend  
560 downwards with few exceptions, and this trend is correlated to the rise in poverty, joblessness,  
561 and hopelessness in our urban communities. Nebraska Democrats pledge to demonstrate our  
562 commitment and our energies for urban development, in recognition of the needs of urban  
563 communities.

564

565 Nebraska Democrats recognize that to energize our loyal urban voters we must advocate and  
566 develop policy for real urban development, which must include initiatives to create jobs through  
567 small and large business growth in urban areas, community benefits and agreements as to any  
568 economic development within the urban settings, and respect for and maintenance of the  
569 integrity of urban culture and history.

570

#### 571 **Veterans**

572

573 Nebraska Democrats believe that government and community must keep the promises they make  
574 to the members and former members of the United States military, must exert every effort to  
575 make an injured servicemember whole after a duty physical or mental injury, and must support  
576 all exiting veterans as they return to civilian life.

577



578 Nebraska Democrats support the full funding of the Veterans Administration (VA) and VA  
579 hospitals, and oppose wholesale privatization of VA services. We believe active military and  
580 veterans deserve superior, efficient, and timely physical and mental healthcare. We reiterate that  
581 women who have served are an underserved and under-recognized population with specific  
582 needs. We support efforts to meet these needs and equalize their access to Veterans' services.  
583

584 Democrats are committed to ending sexual assault in the military. We believe that prosecution of  
585 sexual assault does not belong with the military chain of command, and support access to  
586 independent avenues for survivors to receive legal aid, health care and counseling.  
587

588 Nebraska Democrats support solutions for homeless veterans. We oppose cuts to services and  
589 benefits for veterans.  
590

591 **#MeToo, Ending Systemic Sexism, Sexual Assault or Sexual Harassment.**  
592

593 Nebraska Democrats believe survivors and their accounts. Nebraska Democrats will fight to end  
594 institutional and systemic Sexism, Sexual Assault or Sexual Harassment in our society. We will  
595 challenge and dismantle the patriarchy which contributed to the structures that define lasting  
596 economic, political, and social inequities based on Sexism, Sexual Assault or Sexual Harassment.  
597 Democrats will promote fair, just, and equitable governing of all public-serving institutions and  
598 in the formation of future public policy. Democrats will push for a societal transformation to  
599 make it clear that women and girls' lives matter and that there is no place for Sexism, Sexual  
600 Assault or Sexual Harassment in our country.