

ME DEMS

MAINE DEMOCRATIC PARTY PLATFORM

We, the Maine Democrats, are the party of the people. All people. We are individuals of every race, age, ethnicity, ability, sexual orientation, gender, and gender identity. This diversity is our strength. We treasure our American democracy and hold the following values to be self evident for life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness:

We believe that food, housing, health care, education, and reproductive freedom are basic human rights. Protecting and advancing these inalienable rights allows us to fully realize our potential as individuals, as a state, and as a nation.

We believe healthcare should be universally affordable and accessible. Every person has a right to receive comprehensive physical and mental health services when they need them.

We believe that protecting public health and safety are essential functions of a representative government. We support investments and partnerships in Maine's public health and safety systems, structures, and workforce that prevent illness and injury, promote good health, and give all Maine children and adults the opportunity to lead healthful, productive lives.

We believe in economic, racial, and social justice, to ensure that everyone is free from discrimination and feels safe, welcome, valued, and invited to contribute to society. We stand with all those who face discrimination and assert that these rights are guaranteed for all.

We believe all government officials, including law enforcement, must protect individual rights to privacy, freedom of speech, freedom of assembly, freedom of religion, and equal justice before the law as guaranteed by the Maine and U.S. Constitutions.

We believe in a criminal justice system that is fair, just, and equitable. Recognizing that marginalized people are disproportionately impacted by mass incarceration, harsh minimum sentencing, and the prison industry, we commit to implementing fundamental reforms.

We believe in a government that is ethical, transparent, accountable to the people, and open to the press. The protection of voting rights and free and fair elections is vital so that all people may participate in our democratic process. People have a right to a strong voice in the political process undiluted by money and corporate influence. Whenever our government fails to serve the collective interests of the people, it is our solemn duty to reassert its purpose and correct its course.

We believe Maine's natural resources are among our most important assets, and conserving and protecting them is vital to our economic sustainability, quality of life, and the well-being of future generations.

We believe future generations should inherit a livable planet. Climate change is a clear and present threat which requires immediate action informed by science and awareness of its impact on social and economic justice.

We believe in building a diversified and environmentally sustainable economy for Maine. In all Maine communities, both rural and urban, people should benefit from innovation, emerging technologies and new business opportunities.

We believe large imbalances in income and wealth threaten the fabric of our society. We support fairly rewarding the work of all people, maintaining a strong social safety net, and taxing progressively.

We believe that every individual has the right to equal pay for equal work, a living wage, a safe workplace, and to be free from discrimination and harassment. We assert the right to associate and bargain collectively.

We believe in investing in students, educators, and in public education from early childhood through lifelong learning, to guarantee everyone the opportunity to learn, grow, and contribute to our communities.

We believe in preserving our outdoor heritage and in maintaining responsible and accountable gun ownership while protecting the safety of all Maine people.

We believe that veterans deserve our respect. We must fulfill our obligation to provide them and their families the support services they need and have earned.

We believe we must honor and uphold our sacred obligation to the Native Americans who first inhabited this land and that the sovereignty and self-determination of all indigenous tribes in Maine should be recognized and respected.

We believe in honoring the immigrant heritage of our nation by welcoming New Mainers and by establishing sensible immigration law that protects the rights of asylum seekers and provides a path to citizenship for immigrants who make Maine their home.

We believe Maine is part of the global economic community and we support international partnerships that honor workers' rights, fair trade, and the environment.

We believe in international conduct based on diplomacy and mutual respect that enhances security, makes peace a priority, respects the principle of self-determination for all peoples, and limits military action throughout the world.

This is our present. This is our future. We are the Maine Democratic Party.