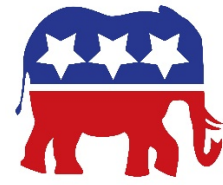


THE DEMOCRATS



THE REPUBLICANS

<p><u>Abortion</u></p> <p>Democrats believe every woman should be able to access high-quality reproductive health care services, including safe and legal abortion. We oppose and will fight to overturn federal and state laws that create barriers to women’s reproductive health and rights, including by repealing the Hyde Amendment and protecting and codifying the right to reproductive freedom.</p>	<p><u>Abortion</u></p> <p>We assert the sanctity of human life and affirm that the unborn child has a fundamental right to life which cannot be infringed. We support a human life amendment to the Constitution and legislation to make clear that the Fourteenth Amendment’s protections apply to children before birth. We oppose the use of public funds to perform or promote abortion or to fund organizations, like Planned Parenthood, so long as they provide or refer for elective abortions or sell fetal body parts rather than provide healthcare.</p>
<p><u>Judges</u></p> <p>Democrats will support measures to improve training and education for judges, corrections officers, prosecutors, public defenders, and police officers to ensure transgender and gender non-conforming people receive fair and equitable treatment in the criminal justice system. We will nominate and confirm federal judges who have diverse backgrounds and experiences, including as public defenders, legal aid attorneys, and civil rights lawyers. We will appoint U.S. Supreme Court justices and federal judges who . . . will respect and enforce . . . Roe v. Wade.</p>	<p><u>Judges</u></p> <p>We support the appointment of judges who respect traditional family values and the sanctity of innocent human life. We support the appointment of justices and judges who respect the constitutional limits on their power and respect the authority of the states to decide fundamental social questions. Only a Republican president will appoint judges who respect the rule of law expressed within the Constitution and Declaration of Independence, including the inalienable right to life and the laws of nature and nature’s God.</p>
<p><u>Religious Liberty</u></p> <p>It will be the policy of the Democratic Administration to advocate for religious freedom throughout the world. Democrats celebrate America’s history of religious pluralism and tolerance . . . as well as the paramount importance of maintaining the separation between church and state. . . We will reject the . . . use of broad religious exemptions to allow . . . others to discriminate. Democrats also recognize</p>	<p><u>Religious Liberty</u></p> <p>The Bill of Rights lists religious liberty, with its rights of conscience, as the first freedom to be protected. Religious freedom in the Bill of Rights protects the right of the people to practice their faith in their everyday lives. As George Washington taught, “religion and morality are indispensable supports” to a free society. We pledge to defend the religious beliefs and rights of conscience of all Americans and to safeguard</p>

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<p>that, to fully confront the legacy of systemic and structural racism, it is time to . . . dismantle the government programs, policies and practices that have unfairly targeted American Muslims as security threats.</p>	<p>religious institutions against government control. A Republican administration will return the advocacy of religious liberty to a central place in its diplomacy.</p>
<p><u>Voting & Elections</u></p> <p>We stand united against the determined Republican campaign to disenfranchise voters through onerous voter ID laws, unconstitutional and excessive purges of the voter rolls. . . We will make voting easier and more accessible for all Americans by supporting automatic voter registration, same-day voter registration, early voting, and universal vote-from-home and vote-by-mail options.</p>	<p><u>Voting & Elections</u></p> <p>We support legislation to require proof of citizenship when registering to vote and secure photo ID when voting. We strongly oppose litigation against states exercising their sovereign authority to enact such laws. We urge every state to join the Interstate Voter Registration Cross Check Program to keep voter rolls accurate and to prevent people from voting in more than one state in the same election.</p>
<p><u>Immigration</u></p> <p>Democrats will rescind President Trump’s fabricated “National Emergency,” which siphons funding . . . to construct an unnecessary, wasteful, and ineffective wall on the southern border. We will immediately terminate the Trump Administration’s discriminatory travel and immigration bans that disproportionately impact Muslim, Arab, and African people, and invite those whose visas have been denied under these xenophobic and un-American policies to re-apply to come to the United States.</p> <p>Democrats believe that our fight to end systemic and structural racism in our country extends to our immigration system, including the policies at our borders and ports of entry, detention centers, and within immigration law enforcement agencies. . .</p> <p>Democrats believe it is long past time to provide a roadmap to citizenship for the millions of undocumented workers, caregivers, students, and children. . . We will end workplace and community raids.</p>	<p><u>Immigration</u></p> <p>We cannot ignore the reality that border security is a national security issue. . . To keep our people safe, we must secure our borders, enforce our immigration laws, and properly screen refugees and other immigrants entering from any country. In particular we must apply special scrutiny to those foreign nationals seeking to enter the United States from terror-sponsoring countries or from regions associated with Islamic terrorism. . .</p> <p>America’s immigration policy must serve the national interest of the United States, and the interests of American workers must be protected over the claims of foreign nationals seeking the same jobs. . .</p> <p>Our highest priority, therefore, must be to secure our borders and all ports of entry and to enforce our immigration laws. That is why we support building a wall along our southern border and protecting all ports of entry.</p>

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<p><u>Healthcare</u></p> <p>Generations of Democrats have been united in the fight for universal health care. We are proud our party welcomes advocates who want to build on and strengthen the Affordable Care Act and those who support a Medicare for All approach; all are critical to ensuring that health care is a human right. . .</p> <p>To achieve that objective, we will give all Americans the choice to select a high-quality, affordable public option through the Affordable Care Act marketplace. The public option will provide at least one plan choice without deductibles; will be administered by CMS, not private companies; and will cover all primary care without any co-payments and control costs for other treatments by negotiating prices with doctors and hospitals, just like Medicare does on behalf of older people.</p>	<p><u>Healthcare</u></p> <p>Any honest agenda for improving healthcare must start with repeal of the dishonestly named Affordable Care Act of 2010: Obamacare. . .</p> <p>To simplify the system for both patients and providers, we will reduce mandates and enable insurers and providers of care to increase healthcare options and contain costs. Our goal is to ensure that all Americans have improved access to affordable, high-quality healthcare, including those struggling with mental illness. We will return to the states their historic role of regulating local insurance markets, limit federal requirements . . . and call on state officials to reconsider the costly medical mandates. . . We will empower individuals and small businesses to form purchasing pools in order to expand coverage to the uninsured.</p>
<p><u>Defense Spending</u></p> <p>Defense Spending Democrats believe the measure of our security is not how much we spend on defense, but how we spend our defense dollars and in what proportion to other tools in our foreign policy toolbox and other urgent domestic investments. . . We spend 13 times more on the military than we do on diplomacy. We spend five times more in Afghanistan each year than we do on global public health . . . It's past time to rebalance our investments, improve the efficiency and competitiveness of our defense industrial base, conduct rigorous annual audits of the Pentagon, and end waste and fraud.</p>	<p><u>Defense Spending</u></p> <p>We are the party of peace through strength. We believe that American exceptionalism — the notion that our ideas and principles as a nation give us a unique place of moral leadership in the world — requires the United States to retake its natural position as leader of the free world. Tyranny and injustice thrive when America is weakened. The oppressed have no greater ally than a confident and determined United States, backed by the strongest military on the planet. Quite simply, the Republican Party is committed to rebuilding the U.S. military into the strongest on earth, with vast superiority over any other nation or group of nations in the world. We face a dangerous world, and we believe in a resurgent America.</p>
<p><u>Taxes</u></p> <p>Democrats will take action to reverse the Trump Administration's tax cuts benefiting the wealthiest Americans and rewarding corporations for shipping American jobs overseas. . . We will make sure the wealthy pay their fair share in taxes. We will make sure investors pay the same tax rates as workers. . . Corporate tax rates,</p>	<p><u>Taxes</u></p> <p>Republicans consider the establishment of a pro-growth tax code a moral imperative. More than any other public policy, the way government raises revenue — how much, at what rates, under what circumstances, from whom, and for whom — has the greatest impact on our economy's performance. . . We will not divide the</p>

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<p>which were cut sharply by the 2017 Republican tax cut, must be raised, and “trickle-down” tax cuts must be rejected. Estate taxes should also be raised back to the historical norm. Democrats will reform the tax code to be more progressive and equitable. . .</p>	<p>American people into winners and losers. We will eliminate as many special interest provisions and loopholes as possible and curb corporate welfare . . . We will be mindful of the burdens on families with children and the impact on an aging population. We will seek simplicity and clarity so that every taxpayer can understand how much of their income is consumed by the federal government.</p>
<p><u>The Second Amendment</u></p> <p>Democrats will enact universal background checks, end online sales of guns and ammunition, close dangerous loopholes that currently allow stalkers, abusive partners, and some individuals convicted of assault or battery to buy and possess firearms. . . We will . . . prevent individuals who have been convicted of hate crimes from possessing firearms. Democrats will ban the manufacture and sale of assault weapons and high capacity magazines. We will incentivize states to enact licensing requirements for owning firearms and extreme risk protection order laws that allow courts to temporarily remove guns from the possession of those who are a danger to themselves or others. We will pass legislation requiring that guns be safely stored in homes. And Democrats believe that gun companies should be held responsible for their products . . . and will prioritize repealing the law that shields gun manufacturers from civil liability.</p>	<p><u>The Second Amendment</u></p> <p>We uphold the right of individuals to keep and bear arms, a natural inalienable right that . . . is secured by the Second Amendment. . . The confirmation to the Supreme Court of additional anti-gun justices would eviscerate the Second Amendment’s fundamental protections. . . We support firearm reciprocity legislation to recognize the right of law-abiding Americans to carry firearms to protect themselves and their families in all 50 states. We support constitutional carry statutes. . . We oppose ill-conceived laws that would restrict magazine capacity or ban the sale of the most popular and common modern rifle. We also oppose any effort to deprive individuals of their right to keep and bear arms without due process of law. We condemn frivolous lawsuits against gun manufacturers. . . We oppose federal licensing or registration of law-abiding gun owners, registration of ammunition, and restoration of the ill-fated Clinton gun ban.</p>
<p><u>Israel</u></p> <p>Democrats believe a strong, secure, and democratic Israel is vital to the interests of the United States. Our commitment to Israel’s security, its qualitative military edge, its right to defend itself, and the 2016 Memorandum of Understanding is ironclad.</p> <p>Democrats recognize the worth of every Israeli and every Palestinian. That’s why we will work to help bring to an end a conflict that has brought so much pain to so many. We support a negotiated two-state solution that ensures Israel’s future as a Jewish and democratic state with recognized borders and upholds the right of</p>	<p><u>Israel</u></p> <p>Israel is an exceptional country that shares our essential values. It is the only country in the Middle East where freedom of speech and religion are found. Support for Israel is an expression of Americanism, and it is the responsibility of our government to advance policies that reflect Americans’ strong desire for a relationship with no daylight between America and Israel.</p> <p>We recognize Jerusalem as the eternal and indivisible capital of the Jewish state. . . We reaffirm America’s commitment to Israel’s security and will ensure that Israel maintains a</p>

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<p>Palestinians to live in freedom and security in a viable state of their own. . . Democrats will continue to stand against incitement and terror.</p>	<p>qualitative military edge over all adversaries. We support Israel’s right and obligation to defend itself against terror attacks upon its people. . .</p>
<p>We oppose settlement expansion. We believe that while Jerusalem is a matter for final status negotiations, it should remain the capital of Israel, an undivided city accessible to people of all faiths. Democrats will restore U.S.-Palestinian diplomatic ties and critical assistance to the Palestinian people in the West Bank and Gaza. . . We oppose any effort to unfairly single out and delegitimize Israel, including at the United Nations or through the Boycott, Divestment, and Sanctions Movement. . .</p>	<p>We reject the false notion that Israel is an occupier and recognize that the Boycott, Divestment, and Sanctions Movement (BDS) is anti-Semitic in nature and seeks to destroy Israel. Therefore, we call for effective legislation to thwart actions that are intended to limit commercial relations with Israel. . .</p> <p>The United States seeks the establishment of comprehensive and lasting peace in the Middle East. . . We oppose measures to impose an agreement or to dictate borders. . .</p>