

1 **Montgomery County Iowa Democratic Party Platform - 2018**

2 This county platform highlights the priority issues of the Montgomery County Democrats from the state
3 of Iowa. Be it therefore resolved that the MoCo Democrats seek to:

4 **Environment**

5 Promote a renewable energy policy that addresses climate change.

6 Encourage solar and wind energy policy for Montgomery County, the State of Iowa, and the United
7 States.

8 **Agriculture**

9 Urge the Iowa Governor and Iowa Legislature to pass legislation and/or a budget which makes cover
10 crops and grass buffers the highest priority conservation practices receiving funding from IDALS (Iowa
11 Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship);

12 Urge IDALS to provide priority funding for these conservation practices for a minimum of ten years in
13 order to achieve widespread, enduring adoption which will result in less need for the incentive cost
14 support;

15 Urge IDALS to provide a level of funding to fully offset the cost of adopting these practices which
16 research data show to be \$30-\$50 per acres annually for cover crops;

17 Urge the United States Senators and Representatives from Iowa to pursue priority funding for cover crops
18 and grass buffers conservation practices in the 2018 farm bill, which is overseen and implemented
19 through the United States Department of Agriculture.

20 **Foreign Policy**

21 Advocate a foreign policy based more on diplomacy and less on military intervention.

22 **Tax Reform**

23 Support serious, realistic tax reform designed to:

- 24 1. reduce and manage our national debt.
25 2. establish a more equitable tax code.
26 3. establish a tax on CEO bonuses for companies that do not pay livable wages.

27 **Immigration**

28 Revise the immigration system to include restoring DACA and provide a meaningful path to citizenship.

29 **Gun Control**

30 Support universal gun control measures:

- 31 1. restricting the sale of assault weapons.
32 2. background checks to include guns sold at auctions and gun shows as well as private sales.
33 3. restrict people with mental health issues from owning guns.

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35 **Education**

36 Support aggressive education reform to include:

- 37 1. reduction in college tuition rates.
- 38 2. increased vocational/technical school training opportunities.
- 39 3. free community college and vocational/technical school tuition for all students.

40 Support aggressive policies to address student loan debt, reduction in interest rates, and improved,
41 manageable student loan repayment plans.

42 Support full funding of pre-K-12 public education in Iowa without diverting funds to private and home
43 schools.

44 **Healthcare**

45 Support Universal Health Care including women's reproductive rights.

46 Improve medical care for veterans and provide veterans the option to choose private medical services as
47 well as the V.A.

48 Improve women's health services in Iowa with support for the full funding for Planned Parenthood, or
49 other legitimate family planning services.

50 Dramatically increase the allocation of resources to address mental health .

51 Reform Iowa Medicaid, including providing additional oversight.

52 **Elections**

53 Fight for real campaign finance reform, now.

54 Support a constitutional amendment to overturn the Supreme Court's decisions in Citizen's United and
55 Buckley v. Valeo.

56 Create an Iowa constitutional amendment to enable referendum voting on issues.

57 Take steps to stop corporate concentration in any industry where such concentration unfairly limits
58 competition. We will make competitive policy and antitrust stronger and more responsive to consumers
59 and to small producers. We will enhance the antitrust enforcement arms of the department of justice and
60 trade commissions. We encourage all agencies of government to police anti-competitive practices in their
61 areas of jurisdiction.

62 Support the notion that no bank can be too big to fail and no executive too powerful to jail. "Equal justice
63 under the law" must be the standard that applies to Wall Street and all Americans. We will vigorously
64 implement, enforce and build on the landmark Dodd-Frank financial reform law and oppose every effort
65 to weaken it. We must defend the authority of the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau and protect it
66 from the appointment of corporate influenced administrators. We support a financial transaction tax on
67 Wall Street to curb excessive speculation and high-frequency trading, which threatens financial markets.
68 We will nominate and appoint regulators and officials who are not beholden to the industries they
69 regulate. We will crack down on the revolving door from Wall Street to government. We must also bar
70 corporate regulators from official work on matters that would directly benefit their former employers and
71 bar financial regulators from lobbying their former colleagues.

72 Rescind Iowa's line item veto.

73 Urge the Iowa legislature to commission a study on how to increase voter registration and participation in
74 elections.

75 **Economy**

76 Repeal Iowa's "right to work" law and propose a "right to fair wages" law for unencumbered citizens right
77 to organize for economic justice, without undue burden placed on organization by the government.

78 Bring back collective bargaining for Iowa's public employees.

79 Protect IPERS.

80 Dramatically reduce military spending.

81 Expand economic growth by:

82 1. increased support for small business.

83 2. increasing the minimum wage.

84 3. increase in affordable housing.

85 Legalize Cannabis.

86 Improve Montgomery County's housing inventory.

87 **Infrastructure**

88 Improve local economy by providing redundant fiber optic internet for all communities.

89 Make Highway 34 four lanes across southern Iowa.

90 Improve Iowa infrastructure, statewide.