

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF LANCASTER COUNTY,
NEBRASKA

NEBRASKA DEMOCRATIC
PARTY; and WORKING
FAMILIES PARTY,

*Applicant-
Plaintiffs,*

v.

ROBERT B. EVNEN, in his
official capacity as the Secretary
of State of Nebraska; ROBIN
RICHARDS; and NEBRASKA
WORKING PEOPLE PARTY,

Respondent-Defendants.

CASE NO. _____

**VERIFIED APPLICATION
FOR LEAVE TO COMMENCE
A SPECIAL PROCEEDING,
ALTERNATIVE COMPLAINT
FOR DECLARATORY AND
INJUNCTIVE RELIEF OR
PETITION FOR WRIT OF
MANDAMUS, AND REQUEST
FOR EXPEDITED
ADJUDICATION**

**RELATED TO CASE NO. CI
26-0002972**

COME NOW, Applicant-Plaintiffs the Nebraska Democratic Party and the Working Families Party, by and through counsel, for their application for leave to commence a special proceeding under Neb. Rev. Stat. § 32-624; or in the alternative, for their Verified Complaint for Declaratory and Injunctive Relief or Petition for a Writ of Mandamus, against Respondent-Defendant Evnen; and for their request for expedited adjudication, allege as follows:

INTRODUCTION

1. On June 25, 2026, a failed state legislative candidate filed a petition to form a new political party bearing the name “Nebraska Working People Party.” The “Working People Party” is not a bona fide political party. Instead, it reflects an attempt to sabotage the Nebraska

Democratic Party by misleading its members and supporters and detracting votes from its preferred candidates.

2. The name of the “Working People Party” is clearly designed to draw a false association with independent U.S. Senate candidate Dan Osborn, who is supported by the Nebraska Democratic Party’s leadership and likely to receive overwhelming support from the party’s members in his challenge to the Republican incumbent U.S. Senator Pete Ricketts. Osborn has framed his campaign around giving “working people a seat at the table.”

3. The Working People’s Party choice of name is also designed to give the false impression it is aligned with the Working Families Party, a well-known progressive political party with affiliates across the country. The Working Families Party has “denounce[d] the use of [its] name and reputation, which grassroots volunteers and members have spent decades building, by a cynical spoiler party” here in Nebraska—that is, by the Working People Party. Ex. 1 at 2.

4. Use of the name “Working People Party” by a new political party violates Nebraska law and runs contrary to longstanding precedent prohibiting new party names that would cause “confusion in voting” or “deceive or delude [voters] into casting a vote contrary to his intention, and for persons to whom [they are] opposed.” *See Porter v. Flick*, 60 Neb. 773, 84 N.W. 262, 263 (1900).

PARTIES

5. Plaintiff Nebraska Democratic Party is the state Democratic Party in the State of Nebraska. (Ex. 2 at 3; Ex. 3).

6. Plaintiff Working Families Party is a nationwide political party with ballot access in three States and chapters and branches in sixteen States. It endorses candidates nationwide, including in Democratic Party primaries. (*See* Exs. 4–6).

7. Respondent-Defendant Robert B. Evnen (the “Secretary”) is sued in his official capacity as the Nebraska Secretary of State. The

Secretary is obligated to fulfill certain official duties pursuant to Neb. Rev. Stat. §§ 32-101 to -1551, including reviewing objections to political party names, determining whether to certify new political parties, and certifying the contents of the ballot for the general election.

8. Respondent-Defendant Robin Richards is a resident of Douglas County, Nebraska, and is the sponsor of petitions filed with the Secretary of State seeking to form a new political party under the name “Working People Party.”

9. Respondent-Defendant Nebraska Working People Party is the purported political party that is the subject of the petitions sponsored by Respondent-Defendant Richards and filed with the Secretary pursuant to Neb. Rev. Stat. § 32-716.

JURISDICTION AND VENUE

10. This Court has subject-matter jurisdiction over this action pursuant to Neb. Rev. Stat. § 32-624(2), which authorizes a judge of the county court, district court, Court of Appeals, or the Supreme Court to issue orders regarding objections to candidate filing forms and political party names upon application of any political party committee or other interested party. Neb. Rev. Stat. § 32-624.

11. Alternatively, this Court has subject-matter jurisdiction pursuant to the Nebraska Uniform Declaratory Judgments Act, codified at Neb. Rev. Stat. §§ 25-21,149 to 25-21,164, which authorizes courts to declare rights, status, and other legal relations; Neb. Rev. Stat. § 25-2156, which authorizes courts to issue of a writ of mandamus to any person to compel the performance of an act which the law specifically enjoins as a duty resulting from an office, trust or station; or Neb. Rev. Stat. § 24-302, which authorizes district courts to exercise general, original, and appellate jurisdiction in all matters, both civil and criminal, except where otherwise provided.

12. The District Court of Lancaster County, Nebraska has jurisdiction over the parties pursuant to Neb. Rev. Stat. § 25-536.

13. Venue is proper in the District Court of Lancaster County, Nebraska pursuant to Neb. Rev. Stat. §§ 25-403.01, -21,206.

14. This case is related to *Nebraska Republican Party v. Evnen*, No. CI 26-0002972 (Lancaster Cnty. D. Ct. Aug. 7, 2026), as it raises substantially similar questions of law regarding Nebraska’s laws for new political party formation.

LEGAL BACKGROUND

15. Under Nebraska law, petitioners seeking to form a new political party are subject to commonsense requirements as to the prospective party’s name, so as to avoid voter confusion and prevent attempts to deceive voters.

16. Section 32-716(2) provides that a new party’s proposed name “shall not be or include the name of *any* political party then in existence or *any* word forming any part of the name of any political party then in existence.” Neb. Rev. Stat. § 32-716(2) (emphases added). The next clause provides the purpose of this prohibition, explaining that “in order to avoid confusion regarding party affiliation of a candidate or registered voter, the name of the party to be formed [also] shall not include the word ‘independent’ or ‘nonpartisan.’” *Id.*

17. The plain text of Section 32-716(2) prohibits political party names that overlap with existing party names. The text is broad: it covers the name of “any political party.” And it does not merely protect the names of political parties previously registered in Nebraska—it protects any party “in existence.” The plain text of Section 32-716(2) also applies to more than just the full name of a political party. It prohibits the use of “*any* word forming *any* part of the name.”

18. Nebraska has had some version of this prohibition for over a century. Originally, the law prohibited the use of any “old party names.” *See, e.g.*, 1897 Neb. Laws 215; 1899 Neb. Laws 123 (similar); 1907 Neb. Laws 223 (similar). By 1922, the law had been amended to

prohibit new political parties from using “the name of any old political party or any word forming any part of such name.” Neb. Rev Stat. § 2126 (1922). And in 1943 Nebraska adopted more contemporary terminology, changing the phrase “old party name” to “existing political party.” See Neb. Rev. Stat. § 32-526(6) (1943) (“[T]he name of any then existing political party or any word forming any part of the name of any party then existing shall not be adopted.”).

19. The Nebraska Supreme Court explained the purpose of the prohibition on pre-existing party names in a case applying the older, narrower version of the statute operative in 1899. See 1899 Neb. Laws 123 (prohibiting the use of “any of the old party names [or any part thereof]”). The Court explained that the purpose of the prohibition was,

[T]o avoid confusion in voting and prevent fraud at elections; to enable the elector to express, with certainty, his real choice of candidates; and to eliminate, as far as possible, from the ballot whatever might tend to deceive or delude him into a vote contrary to his intention, and for persons to whom he is opposed.

Porter v. Flick, 60 Neb. 773, 84 N.W. 262, 263 (1900).

20. In *Porter*, the Nebraska Supreme Court rejected an overly formalistic application of the statute in favor of a more practical reading based on common understanding. The Court took judicial notice of the informal name of the existing “People’s Independent Party,” which was “popularly known, here and elsewhere, as the ‘Populist Party.’” *Id.* at 263.

21. The Court also cited contemporary definitions that equated the two party names. *Id.* (citing dictionary definitions of “Populist” and “People’s Party”). Based on these findings, the Court held that the Secretary was entitled under the law to refuse to certify a new “Populist Party,” given the name’s association with the existing “People’s Independent Party.” See *id.*

22. The Court rejected the argument that the meaning of “political party” was limited to the names of parties certified by the Nebraska Secretary of State. *Id.* at 264 (“[W]e cannot believe that the legislature intended to limit its inhibition to the name certified to the secretary of state[.]”).

23. The Court also cast aside the argument that the names of the “People’s Independent Party” and the “Populist Party” did not share the same word or words, explaining that “[t]he courts should, in cases of doubt, adopt that exposition of the law which will give effect to the legislative will rather than a construction which may frustrate or obstruct it.” *Id.* at 263.

24. Apart from Section 32-716(2)’s limitations on new party names, Neb. Rev. Stat. § 32-624 also grants political committees the right to object to the Secretary’s certification of new party names. It provides that “[a]ny political party committee may institute actions in court based upon fraud or crime resorted to in connection with the candidate filing forms or the acceptance of a nomination.” Neb. Rev. Stat. § 32-624(1). The statute provides that “[o]bjections to the use of the name of a political party may also be made and passed upon in the same manner as objections to a candidate filing form or other acceptance of nomination.” *Id.*

25. Under the procedure prescribed in Neb. Rev. Stat. § 32-624, objections to the use of the name of a political party must be made in writing within seven days after the filing deadline. Neb. Rev. Stat. § 32-624(1). The filing officer shall determine the validity of such objection, and that decision is final unless an order is made in the matter by a judge of the county court, district court, Court of Appeals, or Supreme Court on or before the fifty-fifth day preceding the election. *Id.* § 32-624(2). Such order may be made summarily upon application of any political party committee or other interested party and upon such notice as the court may require. *Id.*

FACTUAL BACKGROUND

I. The Working People Party was created as a spoiler party to confuse and mislead voters.

26. Respondent Robin Richards has repeatedly sought, but failed to obtain, the Nebraska Democratic Party's nomination as a state legislative candidate. (Ex. 7 at 2). In her most recent effort, Richards failed to obtain ballot access after failing to submit the necessary fee and thereafter ran and lost as a write-in candidate. After losing in that effort, she endorsed the Republican Party candidate for the race. (Ex. 8 at 4).

27. Shortly thereafter, on June 25, 2026, Richards submitted an affidavit to the Secretary declaring her intent to sponsor and circulate petitions for the formation of the Nebraska Working People Party. (Ex. 9 at 1). Richards' affidavit claimed the purpose of the Working People Party is to "advanc[e] the interests of working families, middle-class Nebraskans, rural communities, small businesses, farmers, ranchers, and individuals seeking practical solutions to improve economic opportunity, strengthen communities, and promote responsive and accountable government." (Ex. 9 at 2).

28. Richards' choice of name for her new party—Working People Party—bears striking similarity to another well-known progressive political party: the Working Families Party. Despite their similar names, WPP has nothing to do with WFP. WFP therefore promptly put out a statement disclaiming any involvement with WPP. (Ex. 10 at 3). WFP's statement "denounce[d] the use of our name and reputation, which grassroots volunteers and members have spent decades building, by a cynical spoiler party. The Working Families Party is a coalition-based party that rejects playing the role of spoiler in elections." (Ex. 10 at 3). WFP's statement made clear it retained all legal rights. (Ex. 10 at 3).

29. Nebraska's leading labor organizations (some of whom endorsed Dan Osborn, *see* Ex. 11) also quickly came out against the

effort, making clear that the new Working People Party had no affiliation with organized labor. In an open letter to Richards, the Nebraska State AFL-CIO Affiliated Union Leaders noted that the Working People Party was using “[r]ight-wing Republican signature-gathering firms” and warning that it would “split the vote in critical races across Nebraska” and “allow[] Republicans to push through an anti-worker agenda unchallenged.” (Ex. 12). The labor leaders called on Richards to rescind the petition.

30. Evidence also quickly emerged revealing the true purpose behind formation of the WPP: harming NDP’s candidates. On July 13, 2026, the Courier Nebraska provided a video recording of a paid, out-of-state WPP circulator encouraging people to sign his petition sheets because WPP would hurt Democrats. (Ex. 13). In his own words, “if you’re a Republican, [WPP] is very liberal, it’s going to take votes away from the Democrats.” (Ex. 13). The video embedded in the Courier Nebraska’s article can be viewed at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NUijU5qcRN4>.

31. In addition to WPP’s obvious mimicry of WFP, the new party’s name also bears striking similarity to the campaign rhetoric and slogans of independent U.S. Senate candidate Dan Osborn. He has prominently advocated that “working people deserve a seat at the table in the U.S. Senate.” (Ex. 14). He has also repeated the slogan in public speeches and press interviews. (Ex. 15). Osborn himself created the “Working Class Heroes Fund,” a PAC that aims to support working class candidates running for office. (Ex. 16).

32. The Nebraska Democratic Party’s leadership has announced its support for Osborn and many of its members and supporters intend to vote for him due to his advocacy on working class issues. WPP’s name therefore reflects a deliberate effort to establish a false association with Osborn’s campaign, including potentially in down ballot races, where voters may falsely believe WPP’s candidates share an affiliation with Osborn’s candidacy.

33. Signatures in support of establishing the Working People Party were submitted to the Secretary of State's office on or about July 14, 2026.

II. Applicant-Plaintiffs filed an objection to the Working People's Party's name with the Secretary.

34. On August 7, Secretary Evnen announced that WPP's petitions met the necessary signature threshold to qualify as a new political party. (Ex. 17). Secretary Evnen made clear that, so long as the WPP submits certain paperwork, he "will issue a certification establishing the new party." (Ex. 18).

35. On August 9, 2026, counsel for the Nebraska Democratic Party and the Working Families Party filed a written objection with the Secretary of State pursuant to Neb. Rev. Stat. § 32-624(1), objecting to the use of the name "Working People Party" in connection with the petitions filed pursuant to Neb. Rev. Stat. § 32-716. (Ex. 19).

36. The objection explained that the name "Working People Party" is designed to foment confusion and mislead voters who support liberal and progressive policy priorities.

37. In particular, the objection noted that the name "Working People Party" violates Neb. Rev. Stat. § 32-716(2)'s mandate that a prospective new party's name "shall not be or include . . . any word forming any part of the name of any political party then in existence," because it overlaps with the name of the Working Families Party.

38. The objection also explained that the name creates a material and impermissible risk of voter confusion because of its similarity to both the Working Families Party and to the slogan "Working People Deserve a Seat at the Table" frequently used by independent candidate for the U.S. Senate Dan Osborn.

39. The objection highlighted that both the Nebraska Democratic Party and the Working Families Party anticipate that many of their members and supporters within Nebraska are likely to

support Osborn’s candidacy and given the Nebraska Democratic Party leadership’s support for Osborn. In other words, the “Working People’s Party”—an entity backed by Republican interests and sponsored by a sore loser who has repeatedly sought but failed to obtain the Democratic nomination for the state legislature—exists chiefly to confuse and mislead voters aligned with the Nebraska Democratic Party and/or the Working Families Party.

40. The objection cited longstanding Nebraska Supreme Court precedent indicating that deceptive party names and affiliations of this sort cannot stand.

41. The objection requested that the Secretary exercise his authority to sustain the objection, reject the use of the “Working People Party” name, and decline to issue certification under Neb. Rev. Stat. § 32-717.

42. Alternatively, the objection requested that the Secretary reject any candidate filing forms submitted under the “Working People Party” designation.

43. The Secretary has not yet responded to Applicant-Plaintiffs’ objection, but his response to an analogous objection filed by the Nebraska Republican Party regarding the putative America First Party, *see infra* ¶¶ 44–48, indicates that he is unlikely to grant relief.

III. The Nebraska Republican Party filed a similar suit against the America First Party.

44. On July 22, 2026, the Nebraska Republican Party filed with the Secretary an objection to the use of the name “America First Party” by a proposed political party. Compl. (“NRP Compl.”), Ex. 1 at 1, *Neb. Republican Party v. Evnen*, No. 26-2972 (Lancaster Cnty. D. Ct. Aug. 6, 2026).

45. The Nebraska Republican Party raised arguments similar to those presented in Applicant-Plaintiffs’ letter regarding the Working People Party, though notably did not (and could not) include any

assertion that the America First Party includes a shared word with any existing political party, such as the Nebraska Republican Party. NRP Compl., Ex. 1 at 1.

46. The Nebraska Republican Party asked the Secretary to sustain its objection to the proposed “America First Party” because, in the Nebraska Republican Party’s view, the name appropriates “a designation widely and nationally understood to represent President Trump’s political movement and conservative policy priorities.” NRP Compl., Ex. 1 at 3.

47. Whether the Republican Party has an ideological monopoly on the phrase “America First” is a highly contestable fact. For example, prominent conservative activists like Tucker Carlson and former Congresswoman Marjorie Taylor Green have recently accused President Trump of abandoning the America First movement. (Ex. 20). In a recent interview, Secretary Pete Hegseth was asked about how “some who identify with [the America First] movement—Megyn Kelly, Tucker Carlson, Candace Owens, Marjorie Taylor Green—have said from their perspective” that the President is no longer pursuing “an America First campaign.” (Ex. 21).

48. The Secretary denied the NRP’s objection, noting “[t]here is no political party recognized in Nebraska the name of which includes the words ‘America’ or ‘First.’” NRP Compl., Ex. 3 at 1. The Secretary concluded that “the name ‘America First Party’ does not run afoul of . . . Section 32-716(2)” and therefore he would “not disqualify the use of the name.” NRP Compl., Ex. 3 at 1 at 1–2.

49. The Nebraska Republican Party then filed suit on August 7, 2026, asking this Court to overrule the Secretary’s determination and declare that the use of the name “America First Party” “creates a material risk of voter confusion” and “violates Nebraska law.” NRP Compl. at 13.

50. The next day, the Court temporarily enjoined the Secretary from certifying the America First Party and scheduled an emergency hearing scheduled for August 10, 2026. Order, *Neb. Republican Party v. Evnen*, No. No. 26-2972 (Lancaster Cnty. D. Ct. Aug. 7, 2026).

IV. Applicant-Plaintiffs will be harmed by the improper certification of the Working People Party as a new political party.

51. The Secretary's improper certification of the Working People Party will inflict significant harm on both the Nebraska Democratic Party and the Working Families Party.

52. Plaintiff the Nebraska Democratic Party aims to maintain and grow its base of registered voters.

53. The Nebraska Democratic Party is actively preparing for the 2026 midterm elections, including by supporting Democratic candidates up and down the ballot. (*See Ex. 22*).

54. Voters encountering Working People Party candidates on the ballot are likely to believe that such candidates have progressive and liberal values akin to those held by the Nebraska Democratic Party, *see Ex. 23*, and may also believe that such candidates are associated with the candidacy of Dan Osborn.

55. The Nebraska Democratic Party's leadership supports independent candidate Dan Osborn for the U.S. Senate. It anticipates that most of its members will support Osborn in his race against incumbent Senator Ricketts, a Republican.

56. The Secretary's certification of the Working People Party will harm the Nebraska Democratic Party because it will allow Working People Party-affiliated candidates to appear on the general election ballot and divert votes that otherwise would have been cast for candidates supported by the leaders of the Nebraska Democratic Party. And it also may mislead voters in other races into believing they

are casting ballots for candidates associated with Osborn's candidacy or political movement.

57. Permitting such candidates on the ballot further harms the Nebraska Democratic Party because many progressive and liberal voters who ordinarily support Nebraska Democratic Party candidates may be misled into voting for a Working People Party candidate inadvertently due to mistakenly believing they have affiliation with the national Working Families Party. (*See* Ex. 24).

58. Such confusion harms Working Families Party as well through misappropriation and dilution of its name and reputation. Indeed, a spokesperson for the Working Families Party warned last year that "Republicans have tricked voters and hijacked the Working Families ballot line to skew the election results." (Ex. 25).

59. For example, in New York state, "spoiler" candidates that were unknown to the Working Families Party's leadership changed the outcome of multiple recent elections by pulling away votes that otherwise would have gone to Democratic or Democrat-supported candidates. (Ex. 25).

60. The Working Families Party has worked for decades to build a reputation and brand based around its name. Although it does not currently maintain a chapter in Nebraska, the Working Families Party supports candidates aligned with its values and deliberately avoids diverting votes from those candidates in States like Nebraska.

61. Because of the Secretary's unlawful certification of the Working People Party, the Nebraska Democratic Party will be forced to expend precious resources to conduct additional voter outreach and education to make clear that the Working People Party is unrelated to the Working Families Party.

62. Furthermore, the Secretary's unlawful certification of the Working People Party will harm the Working Families Party because it will mean, pursuant to Neb. Rev. Stat. § 32-716(2), that the Working

Families Party will *never* be able to register as a political party in Nebraska because its name includes the word “Working.”

63. More broadly, the Secretary’s unlawful certification of the Working People Party impacts Plaintiff Nebraska Democratic Party’s “interest in the electoral process” by enabling an “[a]n unfair and inaccurate election [that will] plainly affect[] those who compete for the support of the people in a different way than it affects the people who lend their support.” *Bost v. Ill. State Bd. of Elections*, 607 U.S. 71, 77–78 (2026).

V. Emergency adjudication is necessary in this case.

64. The general election at issue in this matter is scheduled for November 3, 2026.

65. Pursuant to Neb. Rev. Stat. § 32-624(2), an order regarding the validity of an objection to a political party name must be made by a judge of the county court, district court, Court of Appeals, or the Supreme Court “on or before the fifty-fifth day preceding the election.” Neb. Rev. Stat. § 32-624(2).

66. The fifty-fifth day preceding the November 3, 2026 general election is September 8, 2026.

67. Equitable principles support adjudication of this matter even sooner. The Secretary announced on August 7, 2026 that the Working People Party had submitted a sufficient number of signatures pursuant to Neb. Rev. Stat. § 32-717. Accordingly, the Working People Party may achieve formal certification any day now by submitting its constitution, bylaws, and a certified list of the names and addresses of the Working People Party’s officers to the Secretary. *See* Neb. Rev. Stat. § 32-717(2).

68. Once the purported “Working People Party” is certified, it may nominate candidates to appear on the ballot under that party designation, creating immediate and irreparable voter confusion.

69. These circumstances create an urgent need for expedited adjudication of this matter. Absent immediate judicial intervention, the name “Working People Party” will appear on the November 3, 2026 general election ballot, causing substantial and irreparable voter confusion and undermining the integrity of Nebraska’s electoral process.

**COUNT I — APPLICATION FOR SPECIAL PROCEEDING
PURSUANT TO NEB. REV. STAT. § 32-624(2)**

70. Applicant-Plaintiffs re-allege and incorporate by reference all preceding paragraphs as through fully set forth herein.

71. Neb. Rev. Stat. § 32-624(1) provides that objections to the use of the name of a political party “may also be made and passed upon in the same manner as objections to a candidate filing form or other acceptance of nomination.” Neb. Rev. Stat. § 32-624(1).

72. Neb. Rev. Stat. § 32-624(2) provides that the filing officer shall determine the validity of an objection, and that the filing officer’s decision “shall be final unless an order is made in the matter by a judge of the county court, district court, Court of Appeals, or Supreme Court on or before the fifty-fifth day preceding the election.” Neb. Rev. Stat. § 32-624(2).

73. Neb. Rev. Stat. § 32-624(2) further provides that such an order “may be made summarily upon application of any political party committee or other interested party and upon such notice as the court may require,” and that “[t]he order of the court shall be binding on all filing officers.” Neb. Rev. Stat. § 32-624(2).

74. This action is an application for a special proceeding pursuant to Neb. Rev. Stat. § 32-624(2) seeking an order of this Court regarding the validity of the Nebraska Democratic Party and the Working Families Party’s objection to the use of the name “Working People Party.”

75. The Nebraska Democratic Party is a political party committee, as required to bring this application pursuant to Neb. Rev. Stat. § 32-624.

76. The Working Families Party is an “interested party” as required to bring this action pursuant to Neb. Rev. Stat. § 32-624.

77. Applicant-Plaintiffs filed an objection with the Secretary regarding the use of the name “Working People Party” on August 9, 2026.

78. Respondent-Defendant Evnen has not yet responded to Applicant-Plaintiffs’ objection, though his response to the Nebraska Republican Party’s similar objection indicates he is likely to overrule the objection. Should he overrule the objection, Applicant-Plaintiffs request that this Court review the decision in accordance with Neb. Rev. Stat. § 32-624.

COUNT II — DECLARATORY JUDGMENT

79. Applicant-Plaintiffs re-allege and incorporate by reference all preceding paragraphs as though fully set forth herein.

80. In the alternative, if Neb. Rev. Stat. § 32-624(2) is not the proper mechanism for challenging the use of the name “Working People Party” by a new political party, the Nebraska Democratic Party and Working Families Party seek declaratory relief pursuant to the Nebraska Uniform Declaratory Judgments Act. Neb. Rev. Stat. §§ 25-21,149 to 25-21,164.

81. The Nebraska Uniform Declaratory Judgments Act authorizes courts to declare rights, status, and other legal relations whether or not further relief is or could be claimed. Neb. Rev. Stat. §§ 25-21,149 to 25-24,164.

82. An actual controversy exists between Applicant-Plaintiffs and Respondent-Defendants regarding the validity of the use of the

name “Working People Party” for the proposed new political party sponsored by Respondent-Defendant Richards.

83. The use of the name “Working People Party” for a proposed new political party violates Neb. Rev. Stat. § 32-716(2), which provides that the name of a new political party “shall not be or include the name of any political party then in existence or any word forming any part of the name of any political party then in existence.”

84. The Working People Party includes a word (“Working”) that is part of the name of the Working Families Party in violation of Neb. Rev. Stat. § 32-716(2).

85. In addition, the use of the name “Working People Party” for a proposed new political party violates Neb. Rev. Stat. § 32-716 and Neb. Rev. Stat. § 32-624’s broader prohibition on new political party names that create a material risk of voter confusion.

86. If a special proceeding pursuant to Neb. Rev. Stat. § 32-624(2) is not the proper mechanism for challenging the validity of the Working People Party’s name and the Secretary’s determination as to the validity of that name, the Nebraska Democratic Party and the Working Families Party have no adequate remedy at law absent declaratory relief.

87. All parties with interests in this controversy are named as Respondent-Defendants in this action and have been afforded an opportunity to participate in this proceeding.

88. A declaratory judgment is necessary to determine whether the use of the name “Working People Party” by Respondent-Defendant Richards violates Nebraska law and should be prohibited.

COUNT III—WRIT OF MANDAMUS

89. Applicant-Plaintiffs re-allege and incorporate by reference all preceding paragraphs as though fully set forth herein.

90. In the alternative, if neither the special application process pursuant to Neb. Rev. Stat. § 32-624(2) nor the Nebraska Uniform Declaratory Judgments Act are the proper mechanisms to challenge the use of the name “Working People Party” by a new political party, Applicant-Plaintiffs request that this Court issue a writ of mandamus pursuant to Neb. Rev. Stat. § 25-2156 to compel the Secretary to deny the certification of the Working People Party.

91. The Secretary has a clear duty imposed by Neb. Rev. Stat. § 32-716(2) and Neb. Rev. Stat. § 32-624 to deny the certification of the Working People’s Party as a new political party.

92. If neither special proceeding pursuant to Neb. Rev. Stat. § 32-624(2) nor a declaratory judgment are the proper mechanisms for challenging the validity of the Working People Party’s name and the Secretary’s determination as to the validity of that name, the Nebraska Democratic Party and the Working Families Party have no other plain and adequate remedy at in the ordinary course of law. *See State ex rel. Douglas Cnty. Sch. Dist. No. 66 v. Ewing*, 319 Neb. 663, 671, 24 N.W.3d 861 (2025).

REQUEST FOR RELIEF

Applicant-Plaintiffs respectfully request that this Court:

1. Order that Respondent-Defendant Evnen’s deny certification of the Nebraska Working People Party;
2. In the alternative, declare pursuant to Neb. Rev. Stat. §§ 25-21,149 to 25-21,164, that the petition to form the Nebraska Working People Party violates Neb. Rev. Stat. §§ 32-716(2) and 32-624;
3. Grant an injunction against Respondent-Defendant Evnen, his respective agents, officers, employees, and successors, and all persons acting in concert with him, from certifying the formation of the Nebraska Working People Party, accepting or certifying any candidate filing forms using the

Working People Party name, or otherwise giving any effect to the formation of the Nebraska Working People Party, including enjoining Respondent-Defendant Secretary from conducting any elections using ballots on which the Nebraska Working People Party or its candidates appear;

4. In the alternative, grant a writ of mandamus requiring the Secretary to deny certification of the Nebraska Working People Party and withhold from the ballot any candidate purporting to appear on behalf of the Nebraska Working People Party;
5. Issue an order requiring Respondent-Defendants to pay Applicant-Plaintiffs' costs and expenses incurred in the prosecution of this action, as authorized by Neb. Rev. Stat. §§ 25-21,158, 25-2165, and 25-1711; and
6. Issue such other and further relief as the Court deems just and proper.

DATED this 10th day of August, 2026.

Respectfully Submitted,

NEBRASKA DEMOCRATIC PARTY
and WORKING FAMILIES PARTY,

Applicant-Plaintiffs.

/s/ Robert W. Futhey

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** Pro hac vice application
forthcoming*

AFFIDAVIT OF VERIFICATION

STATE OF NEBRASKA)
) ss.
COUNTY OF _____)

Jane Fleming KleeB, being first duly sworn on oath, states as follows:

1. I am over the age of 18 and competent to swear to matters herein.
2. I am the duly elected chair of the Nebraska Democratic Party.
3. I am authorized to sign this verification on behalf of the Nebraska Democratic Party.
4. I have read the foregoing Verified Application for Leave to Commence a Special Proceeding, Alternative Complaint for Declaratory and Injunctive Relief or Petition for Writ of Mandamus, and Request for Expedited Adjudication, studied the allegations of fact set forth therein, and personally confirmed those allegations of fact are correct and true.

Janet Fleming KleeB
On behalf of Applicant-Plaintiff

Subscribed and sworn before me this 10th day of August, 2026.

Notary Public

AFFIDAVIT OF VERIFICATION

STATE OF _____)
) ss.
COUNTY OF _____)

Joe Dinkin, being first duly sworn on oath, states as follows:

1. I am over the age of 18 and competent to swear to matters herein.
2. I am the Deputy National Director for National Politics and Program of the Working Families Party.
3. I am authorized to sign this verification on behalf of the Working Families Party.
4. I have read the foregoing Verified Application for Leave to Commence a Special Proceeding, Alternative Complaint for Declaratory and Injunctive Relief or Petition for Writ of Mandamus, and Request for Expedited Adjudication, studied the allegations of fact set forth therein, and personally confirmed those allegations of fact are correct and true.

Joe Dinkin
On behalf of Applicant-Plaintiff

Subscribed and sworn before me this 10th day of August, 2026.

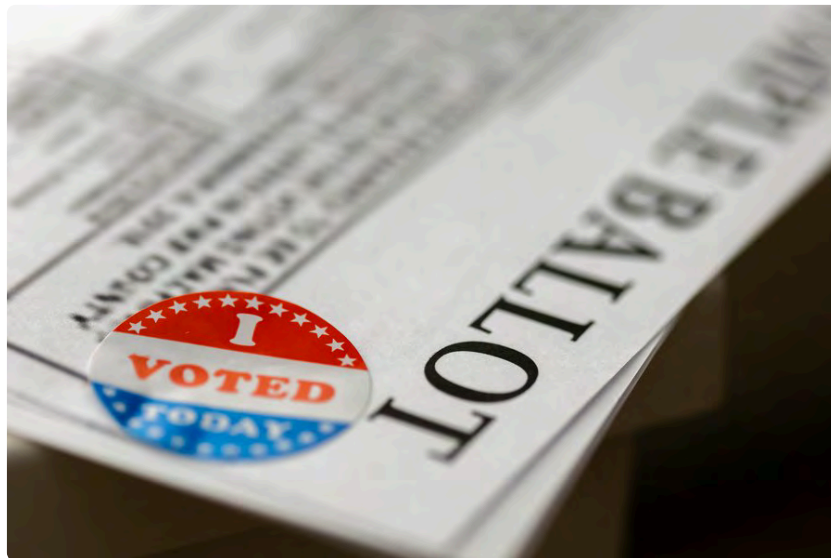
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EXHIBIT 1

National 'Working Families Party' considering legal action against Nebraska 'Working People Party' organizers

By **Jackie Ourada** , Managing editor Nebraska Public Media

29 de Junio de 2026 a las 12:55 · 3 min read



(Photo from Adobe Stock)

The leaders behind the national Working Families Party are “considering its legal actions” in response to a new effort in Nebraska to create a political party called the “Nebraska Working People Party.”

The Nebraska Secretary of State’s Office on Monday confirmed that a petition was filed to start the new political party, and petitions were seen circulating through Omaha over the weekend. A copy of the affidavit filed with the office on June 25 shows Robin Richards, who attempted to run as a write-in candidate for Legislative District 12 in the primary, is leading the effort. Richards, a registered Democrat, wrote the party's purpose is to "provide Nebraska voters with a political

organization dedicated to advancing the interests of working families, middle-class Nebraskans, rural communities, small businesses, farmers, ranchers, and individuals seeking practical solutions to improve economic opportunity, strengthen communities, and promote responsive and accountable government."

A call to Richards' campaign was not returned.

The press secretary for the national Working Families Party confirmed Monday that the Nebraska petition is not involved with the national organization.

Leaders with the Nebraska Democratic Party have warned that the new petition effort could be trying to mimic the national group to confuse voters and plant "spoiler" candidates ahead of the November election.

"We forcefully denounce the use of our name and reputation, which grassroots volunteers and members have spent decades building, by a cynical spoiler party," Ravi Mangla said in a statement to Nebraska Public Media News. "The Working Families Party is a coalition-based party that rejects playing the role of spoiler in elections."

NDP Chair Jane Kleeb claimed Saturday that the petition effort is the work of Pete Ricketts, one of Nebraska's U.S. Senators up for reelection this November, likely facing independent Dan Osborn. NDP Vice Chair Ron Kaminsky said the effort is being funded by Republicans "because all this new party wants to do is help Pete Ricketts, Jim Pillen, Mike Flood and Brinker Harding win their elections."

Requests for comment sent to Ricketts' and Flood's respective campaigns were not returned. But Nebraska GOP Chair Mary Jane Truemper told Nebraska Public Media News Sunday night that, "No 'top' Republican would ever try to undermine our nominees."

"Nebraska Republicans are focused on electing Republicans. We respect everyone's right to file petitions, but our focus remains clear: to win in November with Republicans up and down the ballot," Truemper said.

The Nebraska Secretary of State's Office has a July 15 **deadline** for organizers wanting to create a new political party ahead of the November election. Organizers would **need** to collect valid signatures from at least "one percent of the **total votes** cast for Governor at the most recent general election for such office" – or around 6,726 – from Nebraska voters.

If the group succeeds in collecting signatures, Nebraska state law **allows** it to place its own candidates on the general election ballot, essentially letting the party bypass a primary election.

These are the latest allegations of spoiler candidates in Nebraska's midterm elections. A Trump-voting pastor in western Nebraska filed to run as a Democrat in the U.S. Senate race against Democrat Cindy Burbank. However, he garnered only 10% of the vote.

Burbank herself has posted on social media that she plans to eventually drop out of the race and support Dan Osborn, an independent candidate who earlier this month turned in what are likely enough signatures to get on the ballot. And then there were two alleged plants in the Legal Marijuana NOW Party primary – both of which were accused of entering the race only to help either Ricketts or Osborn.

Several political insiders claimed that in addition to Richards, Crystal Rhoades, who finished third in the Democratic race for the 2nd Congressional District, was also tied to the effort. Rhoades told Nebraska Public Media News that she was unaware of the new political party.

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EXHIBIT 2



(/)

Nebraska Secretary of State

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How nonpartisan voting works in Nebraska primary elections

This webpage reflects which parties have opened up their 2026 primary election to nonpartisan voters.

Primary elections narrow the field of candidates ahead of a general election. Partisan races at the top of the ballot, such as the presidential race, receive a lot of attention in primary elections. As a result, it's a common misconception that only voters who are registered with a political party can vote in primary elections.

Nonpartisan voters can vote in primary elections, but there is an extra step if they want to vote in partisan races.

Brief summary of nonpartisan voting

Additional information can be found below the informational graphics.

Nonpartisan voters will receive a nonpartisan ballot. Nonpartisan ballots include all nonpartisan races, such as a Board of Regents or Legislature race in their area.

Here's the extra step: A nonpartisan voter can request a nonpartisan-partisan ballot. This is in addition to their original nonpartisan ballot.

The nonpartisan voter will receive two different ballots: nonpartisan ballot + nonpartisan-partisan ballot. They are only provided one opportunity to vote for each race. Nonpartisan voters who request a nonpartisan-partisan ballot are not voting twice on the same race.

Nonpartisan voters have four options for nonpartisan-partisan ballots:

- **A nonpartisan-Republican ballot**
(Only the Republican U.S. Senate and U.S. House of Representatives races)
- **A nonpartisan-Democratic ballot**
(Every Democratic partisan race – Federal, State, County races)
- **A nonpartisan-Libertarian ballot**
(Every Libertarian partisan race – Federal, State, County races)
- **A nonpartisan-Legal Marijuana NOW (LMN) ballot**
(Only the LMN U.S. Senate and U.S. House of Representatives races)

For more information on why the nonpartisan-Republican ballot and the nonpartisan-Legal Marijuana NOW ballot are limited, see “*Why are some partisan primaries ‘open’ and others are not?*” section below.

If a nonpartisan voter chooses to complete a nonpartisan ballot only, they might not have any races on their ballot. This can happen when there are no nonpartisan races up for election in their area. If the voter didn’t choose to complete a partisan ballot (the partial Republican ballot, the full Democratic ballot, the full Libertarian ballot, or the partial LMN ballot), they won’t have any races on their ballot.

Below is a graphic that describes the primary ballot distribution for partisan and nonpartisan voters.

Nebraska Primary Election Political Party Ballot Distribution

Every **Republican** voter receives a

Republican Ballot

☐ _____

☐ _____

☐ _____

☐ _____

☐ _____

☐ _____

Every **Democratic** voter receives a

Democratic Ballot

☐ _____

☐ _____

☐ _____

☐ _____

☐ _____

☐ _____

Every **Libertarian** voter receives a

Libertarian Ballot

☐ _____

☐ _____

☐ _____

☐ _____

☐ _____

☐ _____

Every **Legal Marijuana NOW** voter receives a

LMN Ballot

☐ _____

☐ _____

☐ _____

☐ _____

☐ _____

☐ _____

Every **Nonpartisan** voter receives a

Nonpartisan Ballot

☐ _____

☐ _____

☐ _____

☐ _____

☐ _____

☐ _____

A nonpartisan voter may also request one of the following Nonpartisan-Partisan ballots:

Nonpartisan Republican Ballot

☐ _____

☐ _____

☐ _____

☐ _____

☐ _____

☐ _____

Only the Republican U.S. Senate and U.S. House races

OR

Nonpartisan Democratic Ballot

☐ _____

☐ _____

☐ _____

☐ _____

☐ _____

☐ _____

Every Democratic partisan race (Federal, State, County)

OR

Nonpartisan Libertarian Ballot

☐ _____

☐ _____

☐ _____

☐ _____

☐ _____

☐ _____

Every Libertarian partisan race (Federal, State, County)

OR

Nonpartisan LMN Ballot

☐ _____

☐ _____

☐ _____

☐ _____

☐ _____

☐ _____

Only the LMN U.S. Senate and U.S. House races

Nebraska Secretary of State's Office

Updated March 2026

Below is a copy of Nebraska's early voting application (<https://sos.nebraska.gov/voter-forms>). At the bottom of the page, a nonpartisan voter can request a nonpartisan-partisan ballot.

Nebraska Secretary of State Early Voting Ballot Application		Request a By-Mail Early Voting Ballot		PR26	
Applications must be physically signed. You can take a picture or scan your request and email it to your county election official. You can also mail or fax your application to your county election office. You can request a ballot beginning January 12. You must submit your application by 6 p.m. on May 1 to have a ballot mailed to you. If you have any questions, please contact your county election official. You can find contact information for your county election official at: sos.nebraska.gov/election-officials-contact-information Check the status of your early voting ballot at: ne.gov/go/votercheck					
Voter Information Please print.		1 Last _____ First _____ Middle (name or initial) _____ Suffix (jr, III, if any) _____ Date of Birth (mm/dd/yyyy)			
Address Where Voter Lives (If you are temporarily living away from your residence, use the address where you are registered to vote. You will put your temporary address in section 4)		2 Street Address _____ Apartment or Lot (if any) _____ City, State, ZIP _____			
Identification If you do not provide identification or a reasonable impediment certification with this application, a ballot will not be issued.		3 Must provide one (1) of the following: ☐ Nebraska Driver's License or State ID Number ☐ Enclosed photocopy of other acceptable photo identification (see page 2 for more information) ☐ Enclosed Reasonable Impediment Certification (see page 2 for more information)			
Send Voter's Ballot To (If different from voter's residential address)		4 ☐ Same as above OR Mailing Address _____ Apartment or Lot (if any) _____ City, State, ZIP _____			
Contact Information Your county election office uses this information to contact you if they have any questions about your application.		5 ☐ Check (boxes) if private. ☐ Phone Number _____ ☐ Email Address _____			
The Voter Requests an Early Voting Ballot for the Following Election		6 ☒ Statewide Primary Election on May 12, 2026			
I hereby declare, under penalty of election falsification, that the above information is true.					
WARNING: The penalty for election falsification is up to two years imprisonment and twelve months post-release supervision, a fine of up to ten thousand dollars, or both.					
Signature of Voter or Agent* (No digital/electronic signatures. Print form and sign)				Date	
X _____				_____	
Printed Name of Agent* (if applicable)				Relationship to Voter	
_____				_____	
*No agent is a person who requests a ballot for another voter. An agent must not be a candidate for election.					
NONPARTISANS ONLY You cannot use the following section to change or affiliate with a political party. Check whether you are affiliated with a political party online at ne.gov/go/votercheck. You can update your party affiliation at ne.gov/go/NEReg2Vote anytime prior to midnight on April 27. Any voter who is registered as Nonpartisan (no party) may request a ballot for certain offices from one political party. If you choose not to request a partisan ballot, you will be given a nonpartisan ballot only. As a voter who is not registered with a recognized political party in Nebraska, I request a partisan ballot from the following party: (Select only one) ☐ Republican ☐ Democratic ☐ Libertarian ☐ Legal Marijuana NOW					
Nebraska Revised Statute 532-941		Updated January 2026		Page 1	

Below is an in-depth explanation of the process.

How primary elections work for voters registered with a political party

In a primary election in Nebraska, a voter receives the ballot that corresponds with their registered political party. The recognized political parties in Nebraska are Republican, Democratic, Libertarian and Legal Marijuana NOW. For example, a voter registered with the Republican Party will receive a Republican ballot. The voter will find on that ballot partisan races, such as the races for governor or president, along with all nonpartisan races, such as a city council race.

This is the process that happens with voters registered with the Democratic, Libertarian, and Legal Marijuana NOW parties as well.

How primary elections work for voters who are not registered with a political party

A nonpartisan voter will receive a ballot with all the nonpartisan races up for election in that voter's area. There is a chance that no nonpartisan races are up for election in the voter's area, and the voter won't have any races listed on their nonpartisan ballot.

Nonpartisan voters have the option to vote in another party's primary. **They just need to request a nonpartisan-partisan ballot.** A nonpartisan voter who requests a nonpartisan-partisan ballot for the party of their choice will get to vote in all nonpartisan contests and some or all partisan contests for the chosen party, as described below.

Nonpartisan voters can choose to complete ONE of the following nonpartisan-partisan ballots:

- **A nonpartisan-Republican ballot**
(Only the Republican U.S. Senate and U.S. House of Representatives races)
- **A nonpartisan-Democratic ballot**
(Every Democratic partisan race – Federal, State, County races)
- **A nonpartisan-Libertarian ballot**
(Every Libertarian partisan race – Federal, State, County races)
- **A nonpartisan-Legal Marijuana NOW (LMN) ballot**
(Only the LMN U.S. Senate and U.S. House of Representatives races)

How to request a nonpartisan-partisan ballot

At the polls, nonpartisans can request a nonpartisan-partisan ballot when they check-in with the election workers. If a nonpartisan wants to vote by mail, they can make a request for a nonpartisan-partisan ballot on their early voting ballot application.

Why are some partisan primaries “open” and others are not?

The Democratic and Libertarian parties regularly elect to open their primaries to other voters. Nonpartisan voters can choose to complete the full ballot in either the Democratic or Libertarian primary.

The Republican Party and the Legal Marijuana NOW Party have not elected to hold open primaries. That means only voters registered with the Republican Party can complete the full Republican primary ballot and only voters registered with the Legal Marijuana NOW Party can complete the full Legal Marijuana NOW primary ballot. However, nonpartisan voters can choose to complete a partial Republican primary

ballot or a partial Legal Marijuana NOW primary ballot, both of which only include U.S. Senate and U.S. House of Representatives. Nonpartisans cannot vote in the Republican governor's primary nor the Legal Marijuana NOW governor's primary. This is explained further in the “Historical Context” section below.

Nonpartisan races

Many races in Nebraska are nonpartisan, such as those for Nebraska Legislature, State Board of Education, Board of Regents, school boards, city councils, natural resources districts, public power districts, community colleges, Learning Community Coordinating Council and Metropolitan Utilities District of Omaha. All Nebraska voters, including nonpartisans, have an opportunity to vote in those races and on ballot measures that are up for election in the voter's respective area.

There are some primary elections where voters won't have any nonpartisan races up for election in their area. For nonpartisan voters, that can mean receiving a blank ballot, unless they request a primary ballot from a specific political party.

Checking your party affiliation

Voters can check their voter registration information on Voterview (<https://www.votercheck.necvr.ne.gov/voterview>) to find which party they are registered with. Voters who wish to change their party affiliation will need to update their voter registration. Voters have until the second Friday preceding an election to update their political party in-person at their county election office and until the third Friday preceding an election using any other method (online, mailed application, DMV, etc.).

Historical context

Nebraska law states nonpartisan voters can vote in partisan races.

Neb. Rev. Stat. 32-912(3) (<https://nebraskalegislature.gov/laws/statutes.php?statute=32-912>) states, “A registered voter who is not affiliated with a political party and who desires to vote in the primary election for the office of United States Senator or United States Representative may request a partisan ballot for either or both of such offices from any political party. The election commissioner or county clerk shall post a notice in a conspicuous location, easily visible and readable by voters prior to approaching the receiving board, that a registered voter who is not affiliated with a political party may request such ballots. No such registered voter shall receive more than one such partisan ballot.”

The law came into place following Tashjian v. Republican Party of Connecticut (<https://supreme.justia.com/cases/federal/us/479/208/>) (107 S. Ct. 544 [1986]) where the US Supreme Court struck down Connecticut's strict closed primary system and allowed political parties the option to open

up the primary to nonpartisans. In 1987, the Nebraska Attorney General's Office issued [Opinion 87070](https://sites/default/files/doc/elections/AG_Opinion_No._87070.pdf) ([/sites/default/files/doc/elections/AG_Opinion_No._87070.pdf](https://sites/default/files/doc/elections/AG_Opinion_No._87070.pdf)). "The Legality of Closed Primary Elections in Light of Recent Decisions by the United States Supreme Court" on how that case impacted Nebraska.

The Qualifications Clauses of the US Constitution

(https://constitution.congress.gov/static/files/Literal_Print_of_Constitution_MCT_1.9.26.pdf) state:

Article I-2 Clause 1: The House of Representatives shall be composed of Members chosen every second Year by the People of the several States, and the Electors in each State shall have the Qualifications requisite for Electors of the most numerous Branch of the State Legislature.

Amendment XVII, Clause 1: The Senate of the United States shall be composed of two Senators from each State, elected by the people thereof, for six years; and each Senator shall have one vote. The electors in each State shall have the qualifications requisite for electors of the most numerous branch of the State legislatures.

Nebraska has only one state Legislative branch – the unicameral. The unicameral is also uniquely nonpartisan. Electors do not need to have a party affiliation to vote for state Legislature in the primary election. Because the electors in Nebraska can be nonpartisan and still vote for state Legislature in the primary election, they too must be able to vote for House of Representatives and Senate in the primary election. In light of *Tashjian* and AG Opinion 87070, the Legislature amended state election laws to allow nonpartisans to vote in partisan congressional primaries, resulting in the present-day language found in §32-912.

Beyond the requirement that nonpartisan voters be entitled to vote for congressional offices in the primaries, political parties also have the option to fully open their partisan primaries to nonpartisan voters.

Nebraska Secretary of State

☎ 402.471.2554 (tel:4024712554)

📠 402.471.3237

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(<https://www.facebook.com/Secretary-of-State-Robert-B-Evnen-368792313908501/>) 

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EXHIBIT 3



(/)

Nebraska Secretary of State

Robert B. Evnen (/)

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Elections Division

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The Secretary of State serves as Nebraska's chief election officer. Working with election officials in the state's 93 counties, the Elections Division oversees election law, the conduct of elections in the state, election tabulation equipment and the state voter registration system. The division accepts candidate filings and compiles results for statewide, legislative, judicial retention and certain district elections. The division oversees filings for statewide initiative and referendum petitions.

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Fax: (402) 471-7834

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 94608, Lincoln, NE 68509-4608

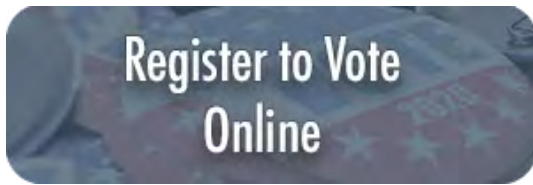
Location: 301 S. 13th Street, Suite 410, Lincoln, NE 68508

Email: sos.elect@nebraska.gov (<mailto:sos.elect@nebraska.gov>)



**Nebraska Voter
Information Lookup**

(<https://www.votercheck.necvr.ne.gov/voterview/>)



(<https://www.nebraska.gov/apps-sos-voter-registration/>)

Current Voter Registrations*	
Republican:	620,016
Democratic:	327,865
Libertarian:	17,491
Legal Marijuana NOW:	10,600
Nonpartisan:	282,028
Total:	1,258,000
*As of August 1, 2026	

Next Statewide Election

11/3/2026 Gubernatorial Statewide General Election

Dates & Deadlines

8/3/2026

At 5 PM - last day for non-incumbents (new filers) not on the primary election ballot to file

Last day for filing for partisan office by petition

Filing deadline for judicial officeholders to place their name on the general election ballot for retention

Last day for a non-incumbent candidate, for the general election, for an elective office specified in §49-1493, to file a statement of financial interest with the Nebraska Accountability and Disclosure Commission

Last day for a candidate, whose filing deadlines are July 15 or August 1, to withdraw their name and decline to be a candidate

Last day for a candidate nominated at the primary election, or nominated by a political party convention or committee, to decline the nomination

9/1/2026

At 5 PM - last day for filing for nonpartisan office by petition

9/11/2026

Last day for Secretary of State to certify candidates, offices and issues to be placed on the statewide ballot

9/28/2026

Deadline to have early voting ballots ready for delivery by mail

Nebraska Secretary of State

☎ 402.471.2554 (tel:4024712554)

📠 402.471.3237

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Robert B. Evnen

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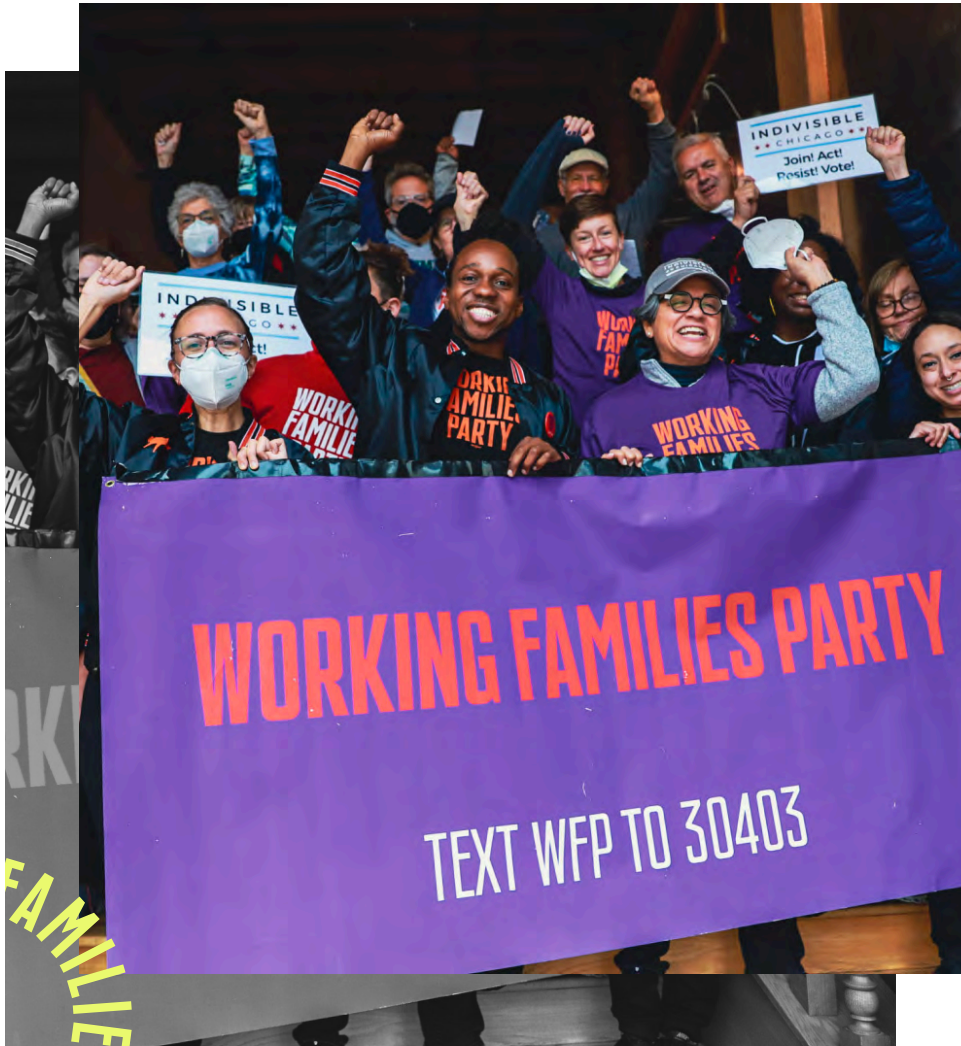
 (<https://x.com/nebraskasos>) 

(<https://www.facebook.com/Secretary-of-State-Robert-B-Evnen-368792313908501/>) 

(<https://www.youtube.com/@nebraskasos/>)

EXHIBIT 4

MAKING OUR NATION WORK FOR THE MANY, NOT THE FEW.



FAMILIES
Y*

GET ACTIVE

Become a WFP Member



Make your plan to vote



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WE'RE BUILDING A MULTIRACIAL PARTY OF WORKING PEOPLE TO TRANSFORM OUR COUNTRY.

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Working Families Party

77 Sands St. #6

Brooklyn, NY 11201

Made with Middle Seat

By taking action on this page, I affirm my intent to join or continue as a member of the Working Families Party, and to receive periodic updates from WFP.

PAID FOR BY WORKING FAMILIES PARTY

EXHIBIT 5

OUR 2026 CANDIDATES

RESOURCES

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Brian Garcia	Arizona State House, Legislative District 8
Miranda Lopez	Arizona State House, Legislative District 21
Stephanie Stahl-Hamilton	Arizona State House, Legislative District 21
Mariana Sandoval	Arizona State House, Legislative District 23
Alberto Flores	Arizona State House, Legislative District 24
Lisbeth Arescurenaga	Arizona State House, Legislative District 24
Rocque Perez	Arizona State Senate, District 20
Lauren Kuby	Arizona State Senate, Legislative District 8

ARKANSAS

Bobby Forrest Jr. State Circuit Court District 6 Prosecuting Attorney

CALIFORNIA

WFP California →

Mai Vang	U.S. House of Representatives, District 7	
Connie Chan	U.S. House of Representatives, District 11	
Lateefah Simon	U.S. House of Representatives, District 12	
Aisha Wahab	U.S. House of Representatives, District 14	
Ro Khanna	U.S. House of Representatives, District 17	
Randy Villegas	U.S. House of Representatives, District 22	
Angela Gonzales-Torres	U.S. House of Representatives, District 34	
Jane Kim	California Insurance Commissioner	
Michael Tubbs	Lieutenant Governor	
Chris Rogers	Assembly District 2	Bay Area

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Julie Gonzales	U.S. Senate
Amanda Gonzalez	Colorado Secretary of State
Melat Kiros	U.S. House of Representatives, District 1
Javier Mabrey	Colorado State House, District 1
Scott Baldermann	Colorado State House, District 2
Gena Ozols	Colorado State House, District 3
Justine Sandoval	Colorado State House, District 5
Iris Halpern	Colorado State House, District 6
Monica VanBuskirk	Colorado State House, District 9

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CONNECTICUT

[WFP Connecticut →](#)

John Larson	U.S. House of Representatives, District 1
Maryam Khan	State Senate, District 2
Matt Lesser	State Senate, District 9
Jack Fazzino	State Senate, District 13
Angie Parkinson	State House, District 10
Moise Carelus	State House, District 31
Toni Lombardi	State House, District 118

DELAWARE

[WFP Delaware →](#)

Shané Darby	State Representative, District 1
Rae Krantz	State Representative, District 6
Pamela Salaam	State Representative, District 16
Will Imbrie-Moore	State Representative, District 19
Adriana Bohm	State Senate, District 1
Shay Frisby	State Senate, District 5

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Robert White	U.S. House of Representatives
Janeese Lewis George	D.C. Mayor
Brian Schwalb	Attorney General
Aparna Raj	District Council, Ward 1
Rashida Brown	District Council, Ward 1 (Ranking recommendation)
Zachary Parker	District Council, Ward 5
Charles Allen	District Council, Ward 6
Oye Olowela	District Council, At-Large

FLORIDA

Angie Nixon	U.S. Senate
--------------------	-------------

GEORGIA

[WFP Georgia →](#)

Amanda Hollowell	U.S. House of Representatives, District 1
Ruwa Romman	State Senate District 7
Nikki Merritt	State Senate District 9
Gabriel Sanchez	State House District 42
Bryce Berry	State House District 56
Kenn Collier	State House District 62
Kim Schofield	State House District 63
Bentley Hudgins	State House District 90
Jyot Singh	State House District 97
Marvin Lim	State House District 98

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ILLINOIS

Robert Peters	U.S. House of Representatives, District 2
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KENTUCKY

Charles Booker	U.S. Senate
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MAINE

Jacqueline Sartoris Cumberland County District Attorney

MARYLAND

Harry Dunn	U.S. House of Representatives, District 5
Sarah David	Baltimore County State's Attorney
Janssen Evelyn	Howard County Council, District 4
Chuck Cook	Maryland House of Delegates, District 33B
Raaheela Ahmed	Maryland State Senate, District 23
Kevin Ford Jr.	Maryland State Senate, District 24
Josie Caballero	Montgomery County Council, At-Large
Izola Shaw	Montgomery County Council, District 3
Will Jawando	Montgomery County Executive
Michelle García	Prince George's County Council, District 1

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MASSACHUSETTS

[WFP Massachusetts →](#)

Lorena Betts	Massachusetts State House, 16th Middlesex District
Lora Wondolowski	Massachusetts House of Representatives, 1st Franklin District
Ben Ewen-Campen	Massachusetts House of Representatives, 27th Middlesex District
Celina Reyes	Massachusetts State House, 16th Essex District
Johnnie McKnight	Massachusetts State House, 11th Hampden District
John Drinkwater	Massachusetts State House, 17th Middlesex District
Tara Hong	Massachusetts State House, 18th Middlesex District

Latoya Gayle	Massachusetts State Senate, 1st Suffolk District
Daniel Lander	Massachusetts State Senate, Suffolk and Middlesex District
Carey McDonald	Massachusetts State Senate, 5th Middlesex District

MICHIGAN

[WFP Michigan →](#)

Abdul El-Sayed	U.S. Senate
William Lawrence	U.S. House of Representatives, District 7
Rashida Tlaib	U.S. House of Representatives, District 12
Donavan McKinney	U.S. House of Representatives, District 13
Garlin Gilchrist	Secretary of State
Eli Savit	Attorney General
Tonya Meyers Phillips	Michigan House of Representatives, District 7
Chris Gilmer-Hill	Michigan House of Representatives, District 8
Kimberly Fisher	Michigan House of Representatives, District 11
Jason Morgan	Michigan House of Representatives, District 23

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MINNESOTA

Cedrick Frazier	Hennepin County Attorney
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MISSOURI

Cori Bush U.S. House of Representatives, District 1

NEW JERSEY

[WFP New Jersey →](#)

LaMonica McIver	U.S. House of Representatives, District 10
Analilia Mejia	U.S. House of Representatives, District 11
Sue Altman	U.S. House of Representatives, District 12
Bill O'Dea	Hudson County Commissioner, District 2
Ali Aljarrah	Passaic County Commissioner
David Gurgis	Hudson County Commissioner District 4
Ron Bautista	Hudson County Commissioner District 5
Alex Valdez	Hudson County Commissioner, District 9
Ras Baraka	Mayor of Newark
Shantell Cherry	Piscataway City Council, Ward 1

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NEW MEXICO

[WFP New Mexico →](#)

Deb Haaland	Governor
Amanda Lopez Askin	Secretary of State
Juan De Jesus Sanchez	Commissioner of Public Lands
Joseph Hernandez	State Representative, District 4
Patricia Roybal Caballero	State Representative, District 13
Miguel Garcia	State Representative, District 14
Yanira Gurrola	State Representative, District 16

Abby Foster

State Representative, District 27

Elizabeth Diane Torrez-Velasquez

State Representative, District 30

Micaela Lara Cadena

State Representative, District 33

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NEW YORK

[WFP New York →](#)**Letitia James**

Attorney General

Chris Gallant

U.S. House of Representatives, District 1

Pat Halpin

U.S. House of Representatives, District 2

Antonio Reynoso

U.S. House of Representatives, District 7

Brad Lander

U.S. House of Representatives, District 10

Effie Phillips-Staley

U.S. House of Representatives, District 17

Pat Ryan

U.S. House of Representatives, District 18

Josh Riley

U.S. House of Representatives, District 19

Paul Tonko

U.S. House of Representatives, District 20

John Mannion

U.S. House of Representatives, District 22

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NORTH CAROLINA

Alma Adams

U.S. House of Representatives, District 12

Renée Ann Price

State House District 50

Rodney Pierce

State House District 27

Rev. Rodney Sadler	State House District 106
Satana Deberry	Durham County District Attorney
Garry McFadden	Mecklenburg County Sheriff

OHIO

[WFP Ohio →](#)

Annette Blackwell	Auditor
Brian Poindexter	U.S. House of Representatives, District 7
Vanessa Enoch	U.S. House of Representatives, District 8
Alison Hatheway	Hamilton County Court of Common Pleas
Nicole L. Sanders	Hamilton County Drug Court
Kari L. Bloom	Hamilton County Juvenile Court Judge
Charity Martin King	Ohio House of Representatives, District 2
Meredith Ruth Lawson-Rowe	Ohio House of Representatives, District 5
Munira Abdullahi	Ohio House of Representatives, District 9
Tristan Rader	Ohio House of Representatives, District 13

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Ballot measures

Ohio Senate Bill 396	Yes ✓
Our City, Our Say Ballot Initiative (Columbus, Ohio)	Yes ✓

OREGON

[WFP Oregon →](#)

Christina Stephenson	Oregon Labor Commissioner
Dawn Rasmussen	U.S. House of Representatives, District 2 (D)

Andrea Carr	U.S. House of Representatives, District 2 (R)
Melissa Bird	U.S. House of Representatives, District 4
Ky Fireside	State House District 7
Kori Rodley	State House District 7
Ivan Maluski	State House District 11
Joanna Robinson	State House District 15
Rep. Lesly Muñoz	State House District 22
Ben Bowman	State House District 25

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Ballot measures

Rogue Valley Transportation District Funding (Measure 15-240)	Yes ✓
Tillamook Bay Fire & Rescue District Formation Measure (Measure 29-185)	Yes ✓
Tualatin Hills Park & Recreation District (THPRD) Bond Measure (Measure 34-350)	Yes ✓
Your 2 Cents	Yes ✓

PENNSYLVANIA

[WFP Pennsylvania →](#)

Chris Rabb	U.S. House of Representatives, District 3
Bob Brooks	U.S. House of Representatives, District 7
Summer Lee	U.S. House of Representatives, District 12
Aerion Abney	State House, District 19
Lindsay Powell	State House, District 21
Ce-Ce Gerlach	State House, District 22
La'Tasha D. Mayes	State House, District 24
Brad Chambers	State House, District 41

Brittany Bloam State House, District 45

Izzy Smith Wade-El State House, District 49

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Ballot measures

Philadelphia: Ballot Question #2 to Create the Office of the Youth Ombudsperson

Yes ✓

RHODE ISLAND

[WFP Rhode Island →](#)

Miguel Martinez Youngs Providence City Council, Ward 1

Yulyana Torres Providence City Council, Ward 3

Justin Roias Providence City Council, Ward 4

Jackie Goldman Providence City Council, Ward 5

Miguel Sanchez Providence City Council, Ward 6

AnnaJane (AJ) Yolken Providence City Council, Ward 13

David Morales Providence Mayor

Amy Santiago Rhode Island State House, District 7

Veronicka Vega Rhode Island State House, District 49

Gena Felix Rhode Island State Senate, District 8

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SOUTH CAROLINA

Jumelle Brooks South Carolina State House, District 12

Keishan Scott	South Carolina State House, District 50
Julie Zimmerman	South Carolina State House, District 71
Sonja Ogletree Satani	South Carolina State House, District 98
Courtney McClain	U.S. House of Representatives, District 4

TENNESSEE

Justin J. Pearson U.S. House of Representatives, District 5

TEXAS

[WFP Texas →](#)

James “Jim” Bethke	Bexar County District Attorney
John Cruetzot	Dallas County District Attorney
Nick Stevens	Denton City Council #2
George Ferrie	Denton City Council At Large #5 (runoff)
Michelle Butler	Denton County Justice of the Peace, Precinct 6
Dr. Jared Williams	Tarrant County Commissioner, Precinct 2
Nydia Cardenas	Tarrant County Commissioner, Precinct 4
Montserrat Garibay	Texas House, District 49
Jeremy B. Hendricks	Texas House, District 50
Jose Loya	Texas Land Commissioner

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WASHINGTON

[WFP Washington →](#)

Jorge Baron	King County Council, District 4
Teresa Mosqueda	King County Council, District 8
Nilu Jenks	Seattle City Council, District 5
Kelabe Tewolde	State House, District 37, Position 1
Natasha Hill	Washington State House, District 3, Position 1
Jaelynn Scott	Washington State House, District 37, Position 2
Shaun Scott	Washington State House, District 43, Position 2
Darya Farivar	Washington State House, District 46, Position 2
Hannah Sabio-Howell	Washington State Senate, District 43

WISCONSIN

[WFP Wisconsin →](#)

JoCasta Zamarripa	Wisconsin Secretary of State
Ismael Luna	Wisconsin State Assembly, District 8
Jordan Roman	Wisconsin State Assembly, District 12
Ryan Clancy	Wisconsin State Assembly, District 19
Josh Mittness	Wisconsin State Assembly, District 50
Lawanda Chambers	Wisconsin State Assembly, District 61
Angelina Cruz	Wisconsin State Assembly, District 62
Ben DeSmidt	Wisconsin State Assembly, District 65
Trevor Jung	Wisconsin State Senate, District 21





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CONTACT BY MAIL

Working Families Party

77 Sands St. #6

Brooklyn, NY 11201

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By taking action on this page, I affirm my intent to join or continue as a member of the Working Families Party, and to receive periodic updates from WFP.

PAID FOR BY WORKING FAMILIES PARTY

EXHIBIT 6

WORKING FAMILIES NATIONAL COMMITTEE

The Working Families National Committee (WFNC) is the WFP's top governing body. The WFNC is responsible for guiding the party's overall strategy and direction, electing officers, hiring the national director, approving state chapter and national member applications, and overseeing our process for national endorsements.

The WFNC is composed of members representing chartered WFP state chapters, national member organizations, local branches, and individual WFP leaders selected as at-large delegates.

The Co-chairs of the WFNC Executive Committee are: **Andrea Serrano** and **Jacob Feinspan**

WORKING FAMILIES NATIONAL COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP:

State chapter delegates:

California delegates: Kimi Lee, Luis Sánchez* (Sky Allen, alternate)

Colorado delegates: Chandra Wilkins, True Apodaca, (Morgan Watters, alternate)

Connecticut delegates: Janée Woods-Weber, Rochelle Palache

Delaware delegates: Kirsten Walther, Coby Owens

Illinois delegate: Stacy Davis Gates

New Jersey delegate: Fran Ehret

New Mexico delegates: Oriana Sandoval, Andrea Serrano* (Ahtza Chavez, alternate)

New York delegates: Michelle Crentsil, Theo Oshiro

Oregon delegates: Matt Findley, Reyna Lopez

Pennsylvania delegates: Kendra Brooks*, Gabe Morgan

Rhode Island delegates: Ben Branchaud, David Segal

Texas delegates: Mercedes Fulbright, Derrick Osobase* (Linh Nguyen, alternate)

West Virginia delegates: Andy Cockburn (Cory Roman, alternate)

National member organization delegates:

Center for Popular Democracy Action: Analilia Mejia, DaMareo Cooper (Jon Green, alternate)

CWA: Bob Master*

Mijente: Marisa Franco* (Tania Unzenta, alternate)

MoveOn Political Action: Rahna Epting* (Mohammed Khan, alternate)

People's Action: Sulma Arias, (Domenico Romero, alternate)

SEIU: Candis Tall*

SURJ: Erin Heaney

United We Dream Action: Greisa Martinez

At-large delegates:

Barbara Dudley*, Jacob Feinspan*, Cristina Jimenez

** Indicates WFNC members elected to serve on the WFP National Executive Committee in March 2024. Executive Committee terms are two years.*

HISTORY:

The Working Families Party was created as a New York State political party in 1998. Following the early success of the NY WFP, a Connecticut WFP was created in 2002, and an Oregon WFP in 2006. By 2012, activists and leaders were organizing or exploring building state WFPs in half a dozen states.

In 2013, a group of representatives of WFP state chapters began meeting informally, twice a year, under the name “Working Families Party National Advisory Board.” It was an effort to begin coordinating and sharing information among the state Working Families Parties. In 2016, the WFP NAB formally launched the WFP National Committee as the WFP’s highest governing body, empowered to build a national party and recognize and seat state chapters.





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Working Families Party

77 Sands St. #6

Brooklyn, NY 11201

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PAID FOR BY WORKING FAMILIES PARTY

EXHIBIT 7

Nebraska legislative race voters narrow candidates in 11 crowded primaries

BY **ZACH WENDLING** - MAY 13, 2026 3:00 AM



📷 A total of 61 candidates ran across 25 races for the Nebraska Legislature in 2026, all in even-numbered districts except for a special election in Legislative District 41. Pictured, alphabetically, are the candidates; two campaigns did not provide photos. (Photos courtesy of the candidates/campaigns | Nebraska Capitol photo by Zach Wendling/Nebraska Examiner)

LINCOLN – Two incumbent state lawmakers trailed primary election opponents for the Legislature by the unofficial close of counting Tuesday, and another could be in trouble come November after facing three Democratic opponents.

In total, 25 legislative races are up for election this year. Eleven of those had three or more primary candidates. As of 1 a.m. Wednesday, the top two candidates – those likely to advance – had strong leads over their competitors in nearly all of those races.

A competitive Omaha-based 2nd Congressional District Democratic primary race drove turnout down the ballot.

Come November, the tides could shift in a state where Republicans outnumber Democrats roughly 2 to 1, but Democrats led multiple primaries Tuesday, including in some of the most expensive

races so far. Legislative fundraising exceeded \$4.1 million by the end of April.

The Legislature is officially nonpartisan, meaning a candidate's political party affiliation won't appear on the ballot, and voters select the top two candidates regardless of party.

Republicans currently hold 33 seats, while Democrats have 15. There is also currently one progressive nonpartisan who often sides with Democrats.

The trailing incumbents Tuesday were State Sens. Brad von Gillern of the Elkhorn area in Legislative District 4 and Rick Holdcroft of Bellevue in Legislative District 36, both Republicans.

Von Gillern faces a rematch with Cindy Maxwell-Ostdiek of Omaha, a progressive nonpartisan. She led with 52% of Tuesday's vote to von Gillern's 48%. He won by 802 votes, with 52% of the vote, in 2022.

Holdcroft faces Darin Tompkins of Papillion, a Democrat. Tompkins led with 53% of the vote to Holdcroft's 47%. Holdcroft won by 1,744 votes, with 56% of the vote, in 2022.

State Sen. Merv Riepe of Ralston, a Republican, led his primary in Legislative District 12 with 38%. However, Riepe, who has been at the center of multiple contentious bills since returning to the Legislature in 2023, faced three Democratic opponents. That included his 2022 opponent, Robin Richards of Ralston, who ran as a write-in candidate after a bounced check from paying her filing fee removed her from the ballot.

Democrat Christy Knorr of Omaha led the Democratic field, with 34% of the vote. Democrat Thomas Kastrup of Omaha had 23%.

Election officials had identified 293 write-in votes by the end of Tuesday through the Douglas County Election Commission, or about 5% in that race. Not all will belong to Richards. Riepe won his 2022 race against her by 524 votes, with 52% of the vote.

Legislative District 18, in northwest Omaha, appears poised to pit Jess Goldoni of Omaha, a Democrat, against Taylor Royal of Bennington, a Republican. Goldoni had 43% of the vote to Royal's 34%. Derek Schwartz of Bennington, a second Republican, had 24% of the vote.

That district's current representative, State Sen. Christy Armendariz of Omaha, a Republican, declined to seek reelection and endorsed Royal.

Republicans have eyed their own pick-up opportunities, possibly in Omaha's Legislative District 10, between Democrat Cindy Johnson of Omaha and Republican Rebecca Rens of Bennington and in Legislative District 20, among State Sen. John Fredrickson, Chris Anderson and Dan Witt, all of Omaha.

Johnson led Tuesday with 59% of the vote to Rens' 41%. State Sen. Wendy DeBoer, the current senator in LD 10, is term-limited. She is a Democrat.

Fredrickson, who narrowly won his 2022 race, led with 59% of the vote to Anderson's 26% and Dan Witt's 15%.

In Sarpy County's Papillion-La Vista Legislative District 14, another Democrat, SuAnn Witt, led a field of two more Republicans: Bill Bowes of La Vista and Jay Jackson of Papillion. Witt earned 42% of the vote after Tuesday to Bowes' 34% and Jackson's 24%. Speaker John Arch, the current senator in LD 14, is term-limited. He is a Republican.

Here's how the full slate of 2026 legislative races is shaping up:

- [Legislative District 2](#) – Dean Helmick, a Republican, and Caitlin Knutson, a Democrat. Jayden L. Speed, a Democrat, also ran.
- [Legislative District 4](#) – State Sen. Brad von Gillern, a Republican, and Cindy Maxwell-Ostdiek, a progressive nonpartisan.
- [Legislative District 6](#) – Patrick Leahy and Nate Ostdiek, both Democrats.
- [Legislative District 8](#) – Erin Feichtinger and Josh Livingston, both Democrats. Terry Brewer, a registered nonpartisan, also ran.
- [Legislative District 10](#) – Cindy Johnson, a Democrat, and Rebecca Rens, a Republican.
- [Legislative District 12](#) – State Sen. Merv Riepe, a Republican, and Christy Knorr, a Democrat.
- [Legislative District 14](#) – SuAnn Witt, a Democrat, and Bowes, a Republican.
- [Legislative District 16](#) – Ted Japp, a Republican, and Cindy Chatt, a Democrat.
- [Legislative District 18](#) – Jess Goldoni, a Democrat, and Taylor Royal, a Republican.
- [Legislative District 20](#) – State Sen. John Fredrickson, a Democrat, and Chris Anderson, a Republican.
- [Legislative District 22](#) – Dawson Brunswick of Columbus, a Republican.
- [Legislative District 24](#) – State Sen. Jana Hughes, a Republican, and Dan Winter, a nonpartisan.
- [Legislative District 26](#) – State Sen. George Dungan, a Democrat, and Tobias Howard, a Republican.
- [Legislative District 28](#) – former State Sen. Patty Pansing Brooks, a Democrat, and Colby L. Woodson, a nonpartisan.
- [Legislative District 30](#) – Cally Ideus, a Republican, and Janet M. Bock, a Democrat.
- [Legislative District 32](#) – Mark Schoenrock, a Republican, and Shay Smith, a nonpartisan.
- [Legislative District 34](#) – State Sen. Loren Lippincott, a Republican, and Ben Blodgett, a Democrat.
- [Legislative District 36](#) – State Sen. Rick Holdcroft, a Republican, and Darin Tompkins, a Democrat.
- [Legislative District 38](#) – Tim Anderson and Janell Anderson Ehrke, both Republicans.
- [Legislative District 40](#) – State Sen. Barry DeKay, a Republican.

- [Legislative District 41 \(special election\)](#) – Joe Johnson, a Republican, and Jeremy Heneger, a Democrat. The race is for a two-year term following the resignation of former State Sen. Dan McKeon in January.
- [Legislative District 42](#) – State Sen. Mike Jacobson, a Republican, and Shaylee S. Scranton, a nonpartisan.
- [Legislative District 44](#) – State Sen. Teresa Ibach, a Republican.
- [Legislative District 46](#) – State Sen. Danielle Conrad, a Democrat.
- [Legislative District 48](#) – State Sen. Brian Hardin and Jessica M. Landers, both Republicans.

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EXHIBIT 8

New Party Petitions to Make November Ballot, Causing Partisan Finger-Pointing

by Matt Johnson and John Gage

JUN 29, 2026



Sh



A new political party is looking to organize in Nebraska ahead of the November elections. Robin Richards, the write-in candidate for Nebraska Legislature in District 12, is behind the effort to form a new “Nebraska Working People Party,” according to filings obtained by The Plains Sentinel.

The Secretary of State's office provided a written affidavit of sponsorship for the formation of a new political party. Robin Richards' name and signature appear on the document.

According to the affidavit, the purpose of the new party is "to provide Nebraska voters with a political organization dedicated to advancing the interests of working families, middle-class Nebraskans, rural communities, small businesses, farmers, ranchers, and individuals seeking practical solutions to improve economic opportunity, strengthen communities, and promote responsive and accountable government."

RECEIVED

JUN 25 2026

SECRETARY OF STATE
ELECTIONS DIVISION

STATE OF NEBRASKA

AFFIDAVIT OF SPONSOR FOR FORMATION OF A NEW POLITICAL PARTY

Pursuant to Neb. Rev. Stat. §§ 32-716 and 32-716.01

I, Robin Richards, being first duly sworn upon oath, state as follows:

1. I am a resident of the State of Nebraska and am over the age of eighteen years.
2. I am serving as a sponsor of a proposed new political party to be known as the Nebraska Working People Party.
3. The purpose of the Nebraska Working People Party is to provide Nebraska voters with a political organization dedicated to advancing the interests of working families, middle-class Nebraskans, rural communities, small businesses, farmers, ranchers, and individuals seeking practical solutions to improve economic opportunity, strengthen communities, and promote responsive and accountable government.
4. Pursuant to Neb. Rev. Stat. § 32-716, I hereby declare my intent to sponsor and circulate petitions for the formation of the Nebraska Working People Party.
5. I understand that Nebraska law requires petitions for the formation of a new political party to contain the number and geographic distribution of signatures required by law and to be filed with the Nebraska Secretary of State within the statutory deadlines.
6. I affirm under penalty of law that the statements contained herein are true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Sponsor Signature



Printed Name: Robin Richards



Date:

6/24/26

On Monday, a Plains Sentinel reporter spoke with two of the petition gatherers outside of the Omaha Central Library. Neither offered any details about who was behind the effort, except that they had both been hired in the past couple of days.

When pressed, one of the gatherers said they did not even know the name of their boss. “It was a guy I met doing another petition, and I signed up with him,” they stated.

The other gatherer pitched the petition as a way for the minimum wage to be raised. “This is the Nebraska Working People Party. We are trying to put it on the ballot so that the minimum wage will go up,” the petition gatherer stated.

Signature gatherers were also seen at the Lincoln Farmers Market on Sunday with a petition table featuring prominent left-leaning signs. The signs carried the tagline “Socialistic Alternative” at the bottom and included messages such as “Democrats and Courts Won’t Save Us, Build A New Working Class Party” and “Trump is the Symptom, Capitalism is the Disease.” The two men staffing the table wore T-shirts with similar messaging, including “Protect Your Neighbors, Abolish ICE” and “Fight Sexism, Racism, and Transphobia.”

Richards Failed to Make the General Election

Richards, a registered Democrat, ran as a write-in candidate for the Nebraska Legislature in District 12 [after her filing fee check bounced](#), which kept her name off the ballot. In the primary, she finished fourth, receiving 5.1% of the vote (310 out of 6,133 total votes).

The day after the election, Richards endorsed incumbent Merv Riepe on her campaign Facebook page.

“Merv Riepe is the only candidate left in this race who is in it for the right reasons: to protect and care about District 12. Not party politics. Not ego. Not personal nonsense built on lies, manufactured outrage, and deceit.”

The Plains Sentinel has reached out to Richards for comment on the story.

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Nebraska Democrats were quick to respond to news of the new party’s formation. Jane Kleeb, chair of the Nebraska Democratic Party, posted on Twitter, blaming the move on Sen. Pete Ricketts:

“Spoiler alert...it’s a spoiler. Their name should be ‘Working for Ricketts Par Decline to sign their petition!”

The Plains Sentinel has reached out to the Ricketts campaign for comment.

The Nebraska Republican Party responded to Kleeb’s accusations, saying they were not behind the effort and telling her to “get a grip.”

The Nebraska Democratic Party vice chair Ron Kaminski claimed the people behind the party were poor losers and trying to find a new way “to rip off donors.”

“It is being started by losing candidates and they are using that name to deceive voters,” Kaminski posted on Facebook. “They are mad they lost their elections and don’t have any way to rip off donors any longer.”

The deadline to turn in signatures for a new party before the November election is July 15.

– Matt Johnson is a freelance reporter with *The Plains Sentinel*.

– John Gage is the executive editor of *The Plains Sentinel*.

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Write a comment...



Fred C Lupher Jun 30

You don't need a new party. There's already a substantial segment of the Democratic party you can count on that have those same ideologies. No cuts to health care. Free health care. End all oppression. Treat the disease. Capitalism is the problem. You gentlemen apparently haven't been paying attention.

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EXHIBIT 9

RECEIVED

JUN 25 2026

SECRETARY OF STATE
ELECTIONS DIVISION

STATE OF NEBRASKA

AFFIDAVIT OF SPONSOR FOR FORMATION OF A NEW POLITICAL PARTY

Pursuant to Neb. Rev. Stat. §§ 32-716 and 32-716.01

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1. I am a resident of the State of Nebraska and am over the age of eighteen years.
2. I am serving as a sponsor of a proposed new political party to be known as the Nebraska Working People Party.
3. The purpose of the Nebraska Working People Party is to provide Nebraska voters with a political organization dedicated to advancing the interests of working families, middle-class Nebraskans, rural communities, small businesses, farmers, ranchers, and individuals seeking practical solutions to improve economic opportunity, strengthen communities, and promote responsive and accountable government.
4. Pursuant to Neb. Rev. Stat. § 32-716, I hereby declare my intent to sponsor and circulate petitions for the formation of the Nebraska Working People Party.
5. I understand that Nebraska law requires petitions for the formation of a new political party to contain the number and geographic distribution of signatures required by law and to be filed with the Nebraska Secretary of State within the statutory deadlines.
6. I affirm under penalty of law that the statements contained herein are true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Sponsor Signature



Printed Name: Robin Richards

Address: 7604 Sunset Dr

City, State, ZIP: Ralson, NE 68127

Email: Info@workingpeopleparty.com

Date:

6/24/26

PETITION FOR FORMATION OF
A NEW POLITICAL PARTY

For Secretary of State Use Only

Name of Party to Be Formed: Nebraska Working People Party

Purpose of Party: The purpose of the Nebraska Working People Party is to provide Nebraska voters with a political organization dedicated to advancing the interests of working families, middle-class Nebraskans, rural communities, small businesses, farmers, ranchers, and individuals seeking practical solutions to improve economic opportunity, strengthen communities, and promote responsive and accountable government.

To the Honorable Robert Evnen, Secretary of State for the State of Nebraska:

We, the undersigned residents of the State of Nebraska and the county of _____, respectfully demand that the above-named new political party be formed in the State of Nebraska, and each for himself or herself says: I have personally signed this petition on the date opposite my name; I am a registered voter of the State of Nebraska and the county of _____ and am qualified to sign this petition or I will be so registered and qualified on or before the date on which this petition is filed with the Secretary of State; and my printed name, date of birth, street and number or voting precinct, and city, village, or post office address are correctly written after my signature.

WARNING TO PETITION SIGNERS—VIOLATION OF ANY OF THE FOLLOWING PROVISIONS OF LAW MAY RESULT IN THE FILING OF CRIMINAL CHARGES: Any person who signs any name other than his or her own to any petition or who is not qualified to sign the petition shall be guilty of a Class I misdemeanor. Any person who falsely swears to a circulator’s affidavit on a petition, who accepts money or other things of value for signing a petition, or who offers money or other things of value in exchange for a signature upon any petition shall be guilty of a Class IV felony.

THIS PETITION IS CIRCULATED BY A VOLUNTEER CIRCULATOR.

	DATE (mm/dd/yy)	SIGNATURE	PRINTED NAME	DATE OF BIRTH	ADDRESS (Street Number & Name, City or Village, Zip Code)
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Not more than twenty signatures on one sheet shall be counted. Nebraska Revised Statute §32-1409

STATE OF NEBRASKA) _____, (name of circulator) being first duly sworn, deposes and says that he or she is the circulator
) ss. of this petition containing _____ signatures, that he or she is at least eighteen years of age, that each person whose name appears on the petition
COUNTY OF _____) personally signed the petition in the presence of the affiant, that the date to the left of each signature is the correct date on which the signature was affixed
 to the petition and that the date was personally affixed by the person signing such petition, that the affiant believes that each signer has written his or her
 name, street and number or voting precinct, and city, village, or post office address correctly, that the affiant believes that each signer was qualified to sign the petition, and that the affiant stated to each
 signer the object of the petition as printed on the petition before he or she affixed his or her signature to the petition.

Circulator’s Signature

Address

City, State, Zip

Subscribed and sworn to before me, a notary public, this _____ day of _____, 20 ____ at _____, Nebraska.
(City or village of notarial act.)

(Seal)

Notary Public

PETITION FOR FORMATION OF
A NEW POLITICAL PARTY

For Secretary of State Use Only

Name of Party to Be Formed: Nebraska Working People Party

Purpose of Party: The purpose of the Nebraska Working People Party is to provide Nebraska voters with a political organization dedicated to advancing the interests of working families, middle-class Nebraskans, rural communities, small businesses, farmers, ranchers, and individuals seeking practical solutions to improve economic opportunity, strengthen communities, and promote responsive and accountable government.

To the Honorable Robert Evnen, Secretary of State for the State of Nebraska:

We, the undersigned residents of the State of Nebraska and the county of _____, respectfully demand that the above-named new political party be formed in the State of Nebraska, and each for himself or herself says: I have personally signed this petition on the date opposite my name; I am a registered voter of the State of Nebraska and the county of _____ and am qualified to sign this petition or I will be so registered and qualified on or before the date on which this petition is filed with the Secretary of State; and my printed name, date of birth, street and number or voting precinct, and city, village, or post office address are correctly written after my signature.

WARNING TO PETITION SIGNERS—VIOLATION OF ANY OF THE FOLLOWING PROVISIONS OF LAW MAY RESULT IN THE FILING OF CRIMINAL CHARGES: Any person who signs any name other than his or her own to any petition or who is not qualified to sign the petition shall be guilty of a Class I misdemeanor. Any person who falsely swears to a circulator’s affidavit on a petition, who accepts money or other things of value for signing a petition, or who offers money or other things of value in exchange for a signature upon any petition shall be guilty of a Class IV felony.

THIS PETITION IS CIRCULATED BY A PAID CIRCULATOR.

	DATE (mm/dd/yy)	SIGNATURE	PRINTED NAME	DATE OF BIRTH	ADDRESS (Street Number & Name, City or Village, Zip Code)
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2					
3					
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 signer the object of the petition as printed on the petition before he or she affixed his or her signature to the petition.

Circulator’s Signature

Address

City, State, Zip

Subscribed and sworn to before me, a notary public, this _____ day of _____, 20__ at _____, Nebraska.
(City or village of notarial act.)

(Seal)

Notary Public

EXHIBIT 10

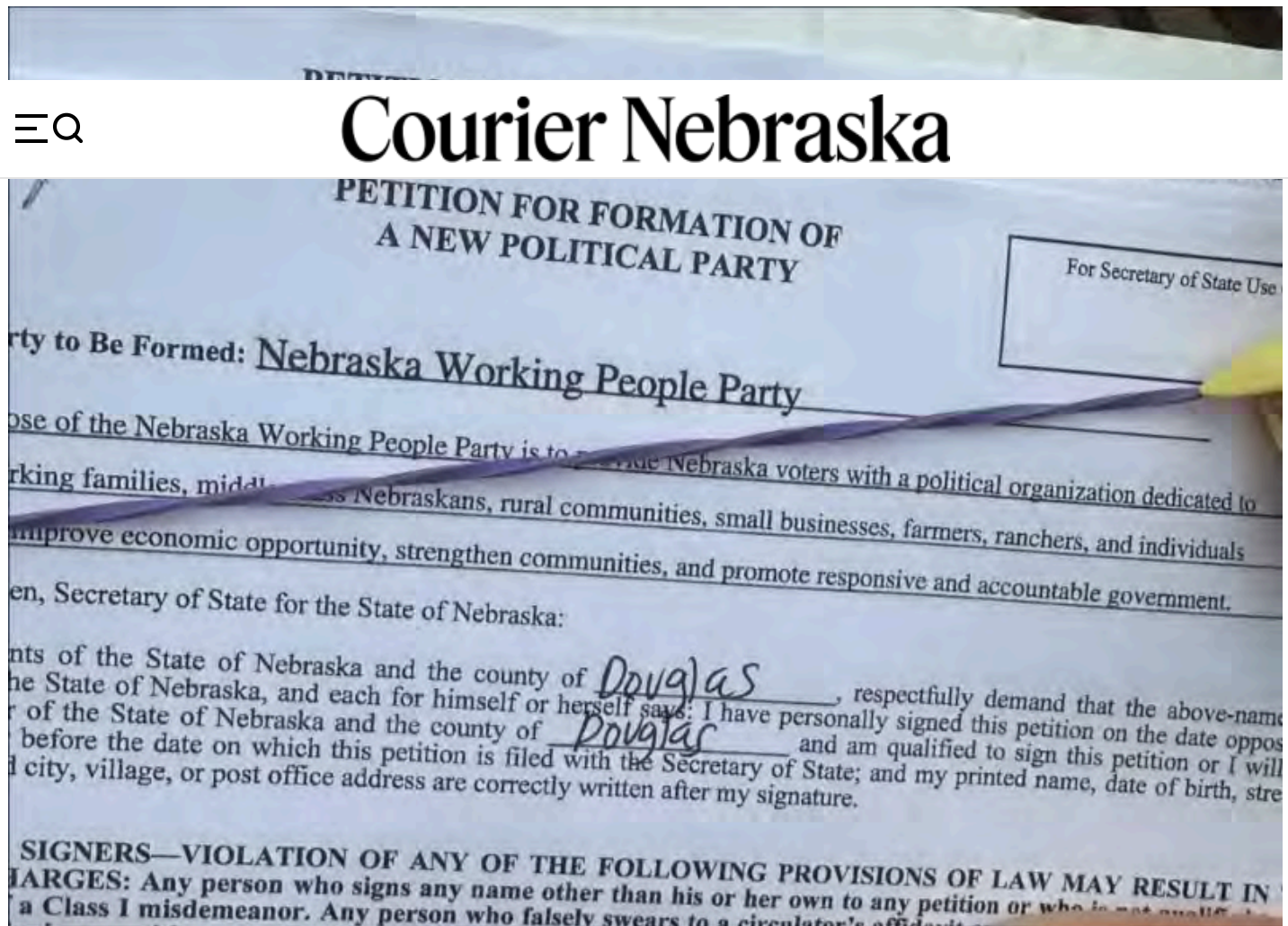
ELECTIONS

Who's behind the new 'Nebraska Working People Party' petition? Unwinding the mystery

A new party is attempting to break into Nebraska's political scene as a working class option. Officials are saying it's fishy.

Chase Porter

June 29, 2026



A photo taken of a local petition circulating to form a new political party in Nebraska called the "Nebraska Working People Party" |

Photo Courtesy: The Nebraska Democratic Party Facebook page

****Editor's note: This story has been updated to include screenshots of previously hyperlinked Facebook posts that were restricted after this article was published.***

A signature gathering effort to establish a new political party in Nebraska is underway, with some characterizing the effort as a scheme to confuse voters and siphon support away from other candidates.

On Thursday, June 25, the Nebraska Secretary of State's office received an affidavit for the formation of a new political party named: "Nebraska Working People Party." Courier Nebraska obtained a copy of the affidavit and a sample ballot for the party Monday morning.

The full stated purpose of the new party, according to the affidavit, is to provide voters with "a political organization dedicated to advancing the interests of working families, middle-class Nebraskans, rural communities, small businesses, farmers, ranchers, and individuals seeking practical solutions to improve economic opportunity, strengthen communities, and promote responsive and accountable government."

To successfully establish this new political party via signature collection, the campaign will have to work fast.

In total, the effort will need to collect 6,728 signatures from registered in-state voters. This number represents 1% of the votes cast for Governor in the most recent election, in each of the state's three Congressional Districts. The signature breakdown is as follows:

- Congressional District #1 – 2,262 signatures required
- Congressional District #2 – 2,200 signatures required
- Congressional District #3 – 2,266 signatures required

The turn-in deadline, if this new campaign intends to place candidates on the ballot this November, is July 15—a little more than two weeks from now.

Meeting this standard would bypass a party's typical primary election and the Nebraska Working People Party could then nominate candidates for this year's US Senate and House races.

The name game

The name of this proposed new party indeed calls to mind the nationally known "Working Families Party" (WFP), a progressive minor political party founded in 1998 which has risen in prominence through backing several progressive heavyweights, including Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez (NY-14), US Sen. Chris Murphy (CT), and New York City Mayor Zohran Mamdani.

Despite the familiar parlance, however, the effort in Nebraska is not connected to WFP at all.

In a statement to Courier Nebraska, Ravi Mangla, the WFP's national press secretary, strongly rejected any ties to the petition effort.

"We forcefully denounce the use of our name and reputation, which grassroots volunteers and members have spent decades building, by a cynical spoiler party. The Working Families Party is a coalition-based party that rejects playing the role of spoiler in elections," Mangla said. "WFP is considering its legal options."

State political observers believe the campaign's true intentions are clear.

Creating chaos?

The Nebraska Democratic Party (NDP) posted over the weekend on social media, alerting voters to the effort and alleging that the campaign is being backed by groups aligned with US Senator Pete Ricketts, who is currently running for reelection in November against Independent challenger [Dan Osborn](#), a former union leader from Omaha with a working class platform.

“Billionaire Pete Ricketts is at it again,” NDP Chair Jane Kleeb said in a statement. “Nebraska Democrats are building a coalition to end one-party Republican rule—and with 128 days left before the election, there’s only one reason to launch a new party this late—divide the vote and create chaos. Voters see through spoiler games funded by billionaires. They are calling themselves the Nebraska Working People Party but their real name is ‘Working for Ricketts Party.’”

The party is asking voters to avoid signing the petition. Further, NDP is asking voters to take video of signature collectors, ask them about the petition, and see if they read the full petition purpose—as required by state law. They are asking that video be sent via email to info@nebraskademocrats.org.

Who’s involved?

Based on its name and left-of-center allusion, some have also asked if this petition is backed by prominent state labor organizations.

In a statement to Courier Nebraska, Mike Gage, president and secretary/treasurer of the Nebraska State AFL-CIO, said the petition effort is ***not affiliated with or supported by*** the state AFL-CIO, the Omaha Federation of Labor, the Lincoln Central Labor Union, Midwest Nebraska Central Labor Council or Nebraska Building and Trades—a collection of some of the state’s most prominent labor unions.

“We are urging our folks to not sign their petition,” Gage said, adding that the petition group has had zero contact with organized labor groups for help with securing signatures. “If this was a good faith effort that would have been their first step.”

Again, the group’s name could also be interpreted as in-line with the increasingly prominent socialist political organization: Democratic Socialists of America (DSA).

While Nebraska does not have a statewide DSA structure, it does have two citywide chapters: one in [Omaha](#) and one in [Lincoln](#).

Omaha's DSA chapter confirmed to Courier Nebraska that neither are affiliated with this effort to form a new political party in the state, echoing suspicions of involvement from Ricketts.

"It seems like they're trying to harm DSA's momentum in Nebraska," the Omaha chapter said.

The Nebraska Republican Party also reacted to the new party on [social media](#), telling voters "DO NOT sign," adding "Socialism has no place in Nebraska. Republicans are THE party of working people. Don't be fooled by the Democrats' disarray!"

The NEGOP post featured a distant photo of two petition circulators at a signing table, adorned with posters of left-of-center slogans like "Trump is the symptom. Capitalism is the disease."

Nebraska Socialist Alternative, a in-state offshoot of the national socialist organization, [responded online](#) saying the photo was of their members, but they were not collecting signatures for the "Nebraska Working People Party" and the group, too, is unaffiliated with the effort.

Mystery solved?

So who is behind this perplexing new petition effort?

The petition's official sponsor is listed as Robin Richards.

Richards is a sitting member and treasurer of the [Ralston Public Schools board](#). She ran unsuccessfully for the Nebraska Legislature this year, coming in fourth place via write-in during the May 12 primary race to represent District

12. The seat is currently held by State Senator Merv Riepe. Richards is a registered Democrat.

Richards also challenged Riepe for the seat in 2020 and 2022. Following her roughly 5-point loss to Riepe in 2022, Richards [posted on Facebook](#) thanking voters for their support. She also thanked [Cerberus Strategies](#), an Omaha-based political consulting and campaign management firm led by Benjamin Onkka and Crystal Rhoades.



A screenshot of a November 9, 2022, Facebook post from the Robin Richards for Ralston campaign.

Rhoades, the sitting Clerk of the District Court of Douglas County, came in third place during May's heated race to represent the Omaha-based U.S. House seat, dubbed the "Blue Dot" (NE-02).

Courier Nebraska reached out to Rhoades and Cerberus Strategies, asking if either were offering any consulting services for this new party's signature collecting effort. No response was received by the time of this publication.

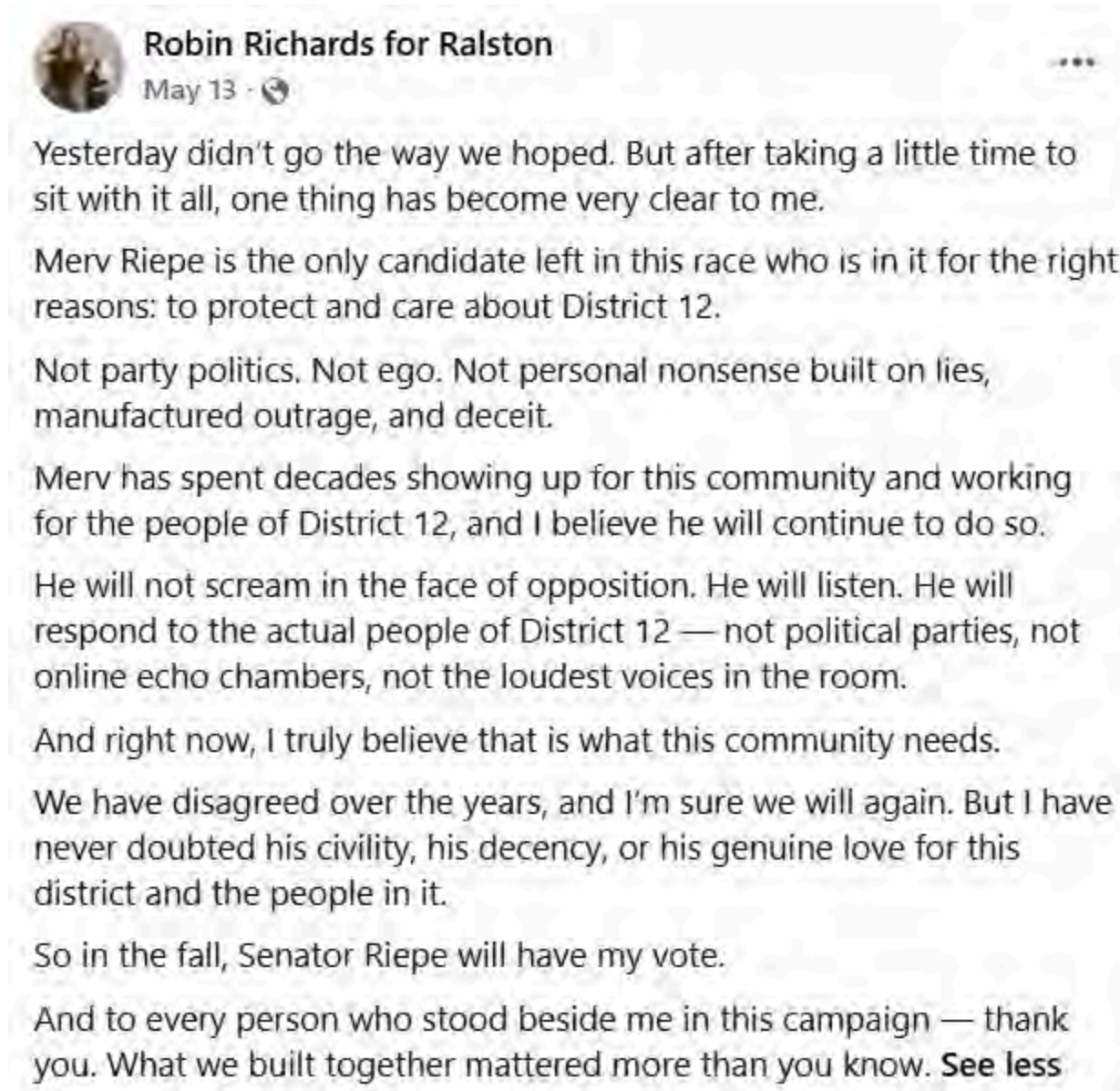
Rhoades told [Nebraska Public Media News](#) that she was "unaware of the new political party."

Richards' recent legislative campaign was largely financed by a \$60,000 donation from the Omaha-based International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW) Local 22, according to campaign disclosures. Despite Osborn's working class platform, IBEW Local 22 has notably not endorsed the industrial mechanic's US Senate bid.

Ahead of the May primary, the union also declined to endorse US Senate candidate [Cindy Burbank](#), who is now the Democratic nominee and has said she plans to withdraw, clearing the way for a one-on-one matchup between Osborn and Ricketts in November.

IBEW Local 22 did, however, [endorse Richards](#) in her long-shot write-in campaign this year.

Following her 2026 primary loss, Richards [endorsed](#) incumbent state Sen. Merv Riepe, a registered Republican with a history of bucking his own party in Nebraska's technically nonpartisan one-house legislature, over her party's nominee Christy Knorr.



A screenshot of a May 13, 2026, Facebook post from the Robin Richards for Ralston campaign.

As far as different signature collection firms involved with the effort, several rumors have been circulating.

Sources familiar with the matter tell Courier Nebraska that [Groundgame Political Solutions](#), a national ballot initiative firm founded by [Meghan Cox](#), may be involved. Other sources pointed towards a Michigan-based signature collection firm named [Ballot Solutions](#) playing a role with the last ditch petition effort.

Requests for comment sent to Groundgame and Ballot Solutions have not been returned at this time.

Reporting over the weekend from the [Omaha World-Herald](#) suggested that some petition circulators pointed to a private firm named *Let the Voters Decide* as being involved.

Reached by Courier Nebraska on Monday, a spokesperson for this firm denied the group's involvement in this signature gathering effort. The group had [previously been involved](#) in Nebraska's 2020 petition campaign to legalize medical marijuana.

A 'real alternative'

With allegations of foul play being slung, Courier Nebraska reached out to the Ricketts for Senate campaign for comment. The campaign had not responded by the time of publication.

In a statement, the proposed party in question said "Nebraska deserves a real alternative" to the state's two-party dominant system.

"That is exactly what we are building," the Nebraska Working People Party told Courier Nebraska. The group did not respond to follow-up questions about which offices they were eyeing and the names of any signature collection and strategic firms assisting in the effort.

The Osborn for Senate campaign said they had no comment on this petition effort at this time.

See the Nebraska Working People Party's filing affidavit and sample petition below.

RECEIVED
JUN 25 2026
SECRETARY OF STATE
ELECTIONS DIVISION

STATE OF NEBRASKA

AFFIDAVIT OF SPONSOR FOR FORMATION OF A NEW POLITICAL PARTY

Pursuant to Neb. Rev. Stat. §§ 32-716 and 32-716.01

I, Robin Richards, being first duly sworn upon oath, state as follows:

1. I am a resident of the State of Nebraska and am over the age of eighteen years.
2. I am serving as a sponsor of a proposed new political party to be known as the Nebraska Working People Party.
3. The purpose of the Nebraska Working People Party is to provide Nebraska voters with a political organization dedicated to advancing the interests of working families, middle-class Nebraskans, rural communities, small businesses, farmers, ranchers, and individuals seeking practical solutions to improve economic opportunity, strengthen communities, and promote responsive and accountable government.
4. Pursuant to Neb. Rev. Stat. § 32-716, I hereby declare my intent to sponsor and circulate petitions for the formation of the Nebraska Working People Party.
5. I understand that Nebraska law requires petitions for the formation of a new political party to contain the number and geographic distribution of signatures required by law and to be filed with the Nebraska Secretary of State within the statutory deadlines.
6. I affirm under penalty of law that the statements contained herein are true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Sponsor Signature _____

[PRR Sample Nebraska Working People Party Petition Forms2](#)

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Chase Porter

Political Correspondent

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Chase Porter

Chase Porter is the political correspondent for Courier Nebraska. He has worked in broadcast news, covering statewide politics and local issues across Nebraska.

His work has been recognized by the Nebraska Broadcasters Association, Hearst Journalism Awards Program and Midwest Broadcast Journalists Association, and he is the recipient of an Edward R. Murrow Award. Chase is also a 2026 University of South Carolina Media Law School Fellow.

Have a story tip? Reach Chase at chase@couriernewsroom.com. Get the latest stories from around Nebraska delivered straight to your inbox by signing up for his free newsletter [here](#).

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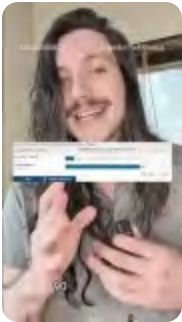
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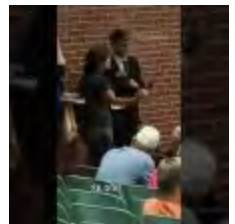
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Lynne Walz calls for local control and oversight of Nebraska data centers

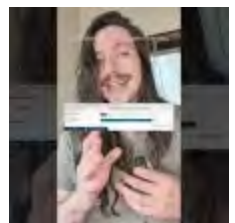
Osborn calls out 'modern-day robber barons' at La Vista rally



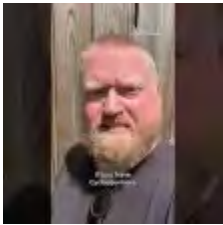
CPA calls out Nebraska Rep. Mike Flood's 'lies' and 'half-truths' on taxes at townhall



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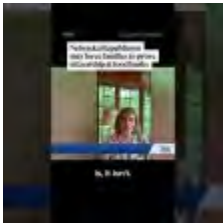
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EXHIBIT 11

CAP, FEATURED, NEWS, POLITICS

UAW ENDORSES INDEPENDENT DAN OSBORN IN NEBRASKA U.S. SENATE RACE



The UAW has voted to endorse Dan Osborn, an Independent candidate for U.S. Senate from Nebraska.

“Dan Osborn is one of us. A union member who came up through the ranks to fight for economic and social justice for the working class,” said **UAW President Shawn Fain**.

“We don’t need another lawyer or corporate hack who only cares about the richest Americans in the U.S. Senate, we need independent blue-collar fighters like Dan. Wealth inequality is out of control in our country. The rich continue to take all the profits while the affordability crisis leaves working class people scraping to get by paycheck to paycheck.

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FAMILY AND
FRIENDS: GET
UAW ACTION
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YOUR PHONE.
TEXT “JOIN” TO
99795. SIGN UP
FOR UAWIRE AND
GET UAW ACTION
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✉ SIGN UP

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[August 5, 2026](#)

class people to the halls of Congress who understand this. We're proud to stand with Dan Osborn and ready to elect him to take on corporate greed and our rigged political system."

"UAW Region 4 is on the front lines of the class war on blue

collar America, and Dan Osborn is right there with us," said **UAW Region 4 Director Brandon Campbell**, whose region covers the state of Nebraska. "Dan is an independent, who is loyal only to the working class. From his leadership in the Kellogg strike to taking on Tyson as they try to devastate the Midwest with another massive plant closure to pad Wall Street's bottom line, Dan has proven he's got the guts and the experience to take corporate America head on, and working Nebraskans are ready to elect him to the U.S. Senate."

"The United Auto Workers helped build this country and ushered in our nation's greatest eras of prosperity for working people," said **Dan Osborn**. "With their leadership and working class representation in the Senate, we can return to that prosperity and level the playing field for workers once again. I am honored and humbled by their endorsement, and I will always be a fighter for them and all working people in the U.S. Senate."

The UAW will convene for its biannual Community Action Program Conference in Washington DC, February 8-11, where Osborn will address hundreds of UAW members. For more information, visit UAW.org/cap2026.

[<https://UAW.org/cap2026>]

FEBRUARY 6, 2026

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EXHIBIT 12



NEBRASKA STATE AFL-CIO

2012 South 13th Street | Lincoln, Nebraska 68502-2413
402-476-0002 • Fax 476-0202 • email: neaflcio@neaffcio.org
Website: www.neaflcio.org

Robin,

We are reaching out to you to ask, earnestly, that you reconsider the founding of the Nebraska Working People Party, which will be a disaster for working people in Nebraska. At this moment, when we finally have a chance to end one-party rule in Nebraska, the creation of this party will lead to great damage.

We are leaders representing the labor movement of Nebraska. We were proud to have stood with you and supported you in the past. We believed we had a shared commitment to advancing the cause of working people in Nebraska. We worked together on your campaign and on Save Our Schools.

Right-wing Republican signature-gathering firms are hard at work across Nebraska, gathering signatures to place this party on the ballot. This party will split the vote in critical races across Nebraska and will result in the election of viciously anti-worker candidates this year. We will face a grim future as Democrats and the Working People Party splitting the pro-labor vote, allowing Republicans to push through an anti-worker agenda unchallenged.

We ask you to reconsider. The impact, if you file these signatures, will be disastrous for working people. We will consider it a terrible blow to our cause and will be unable to collaborate with you or support you in the future. We will be forced to campaign relentlessly against your party, ensuring people know that it represents a great threat to the cause of working Nebraskans. Working people and their families, who will be negatively affected by this, need you to reconsider, to spare them from vicious federal policies targeting public schools, workers, and immigrants. These demographics, the very ones who you claim to have fought for in the past, will suffer if you file the signatures for this party.

We would like to speak with you before you file these signatures. We have considered you a friend to labor and we reach out, as friends, in the hope that we can find a better way to advance the goals we share.

Signed,

Mike Hoge Nebraska AFL-CIO
Jeff Cook Midwest Nebraska CLC
Diana O'Brien IBEW 2366

Jim Macky Lincoln Central Labor Union, member IBEW 265



NEBRASKA STATE AFL-CIO

2012 South 13th Street | Lincoln, Nebraska 68502-2313
402-476-0002 • Fax 476-0202 • email: neaflcio@neaff-cio.org
Website: www.neaff-cio.org

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Signed,

Becky Roselino
Treasurer USW 2862



NEBRASKA STATE AFL-CIO

2012 South 13th Street | Lincoln, Nebraska 68502-2311
402-476-0002 • Fax 476-0202 • email: ncallcio@ncall-cio.org
Website: www.ncallcio.org

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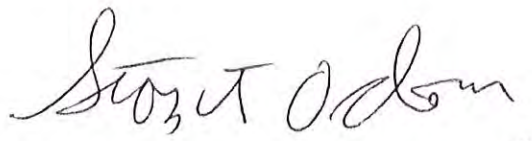
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Signed,


NALC Branch 8



NEBRASKA STATE AFL-CIO

2012 South 13th Street | Lincoln, Nebraska 68502-2113
402-476-0002 • Fax 476-0202 • email: neaflcio67@neaf-cio.org
Website: www.neaflcio.org

Robin,

We are reaching out to you to ask, earnestly, that you reconsider the founding of the Nebraska Working People Party, which will be a disaster for working people in Nebraska. At this moment, when we finally have a chance to end one-party rule in Nebraska, the creation of this party will lead to great damage.

We are leaders representing the labor movement of Nebraska. We were proud to have stood with you and supported you in the past. We believed we had a shared commitment to advancing the cause of working people in Nebraska. We worked together on your campaign and on Save Our Schools.

Right-wing Republican signature-gathering firms are hard at work across Nebraska, gathering signatures to place this party on the ballot. This party will split the vote in critical races across Nebraska and will result in the election of viciously anti-worker candidates this year. We will face a grim future as Democrats and the Working People Party splitting the pro-labor vote, allowing Republicans to push through an anti-worker agenda unchallenged.

We ask you to reconsider. The impact, if you file these signatures, will be disastrous for working people. We will consider it a terrible blow to our cause and will be unable to collaborate with you or support you in the future. We will be forced to campaign relentlessly against your party, ensuring people know that it represents a great threat to the cause of working Nebraskans. Working people and their families, who will be negatively affected by this, need you to reconsider, to spare them from vicious federal policies targeting public schools, workers, and immigrants. These demographics, the very ones who you claim to have fought for in the past, will suffer if you file the signatures for this party.

We would like to speak with you before you file these signatures. We have considered you a friend to labor and we reach out, as friends, in the hope that we can find a better way to advance the goals we share.

Signed, *Vice President*

David Allen

LSW 286C



NEBRASKA STATE AFL-CIO

2012 South 13th Street | Lincoln, Nebraska 68502-2313
402 476-0002 • Fax 476-0202 • email: neaflcio@neaf-cio.org
Website: www.neafcio.org

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Signed,

Brett DeHart
BUSINESS Manager
Local #164

Angela
FST
Local #1464

John
Local #164
Business Asst

Bill Fuller BUSINESS Manager IRONWORKERS LOCAL

Aaron Fickes

Joe Nussgraben President #39

John Hanson Business Manager #39

Bob Kaminski BUILDING & TRAPERS

EXHIBIT 13



NEWS

North Carolina man seen petitioning in Nebraska to pull votes from Democrats

July 13, 2026



North Carolina man seen petitioning in Nebraska to pull votes from Democrats

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A North Carolina petition circulator is in Nebraska openly explaining why he's collecting signatures. He says he's being paid \$17 per signature to gather names for the Nebraska Working Peoples Party petition—and adds: "If you're a Republican, it's going to take votes away from the Democrats." The same man has now been spotted multiple times promoting the petition.



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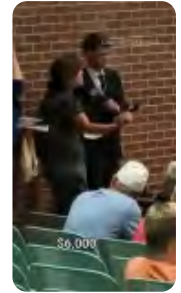
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Osborn calls out 'modern-day robber barons' at La Vista rally



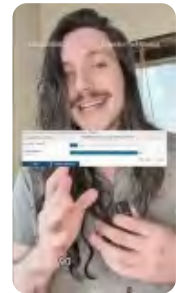
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CPA calls out Nebraska Rep. Mike Flood's 'lies' and 'half-truths' on taxes at townhall



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Why Nebraska Democrats are being sued



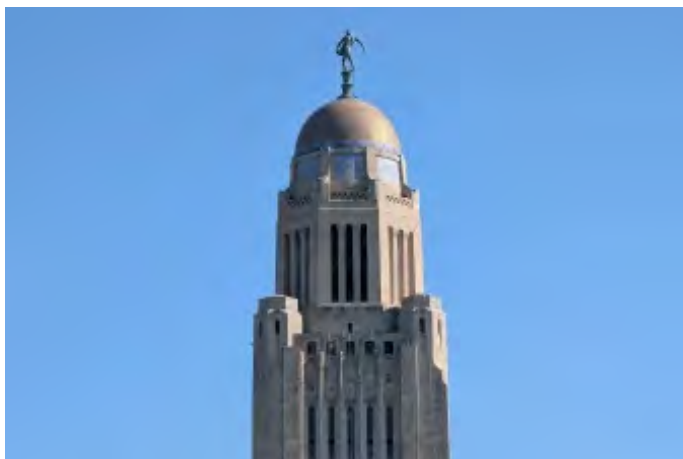
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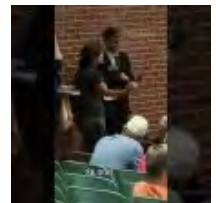
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Lynne Walz calls for local control and oversight of Nebraska data centers

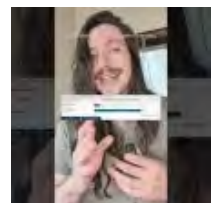
Osborn calls out ‘modern-day robber barons’ at La Vista rally



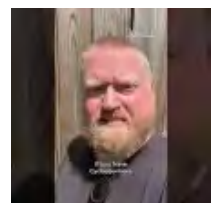
CPA calls out Nebraska Rep. Mike Flood’s ‘lies’ and ‘half-truths’ on taxes at townhall



Why Nebraska Democrats are being sued



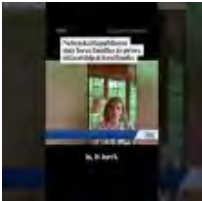
The US is facing its second parasite outbreak in as many months, both due to federal funding cuts



Lt. Gov. candidate Ben Steffen says it is time for new leadership in Nebraska



Nebraska Republicans may force families to prove citizenship at food banks



Courier Nebraska



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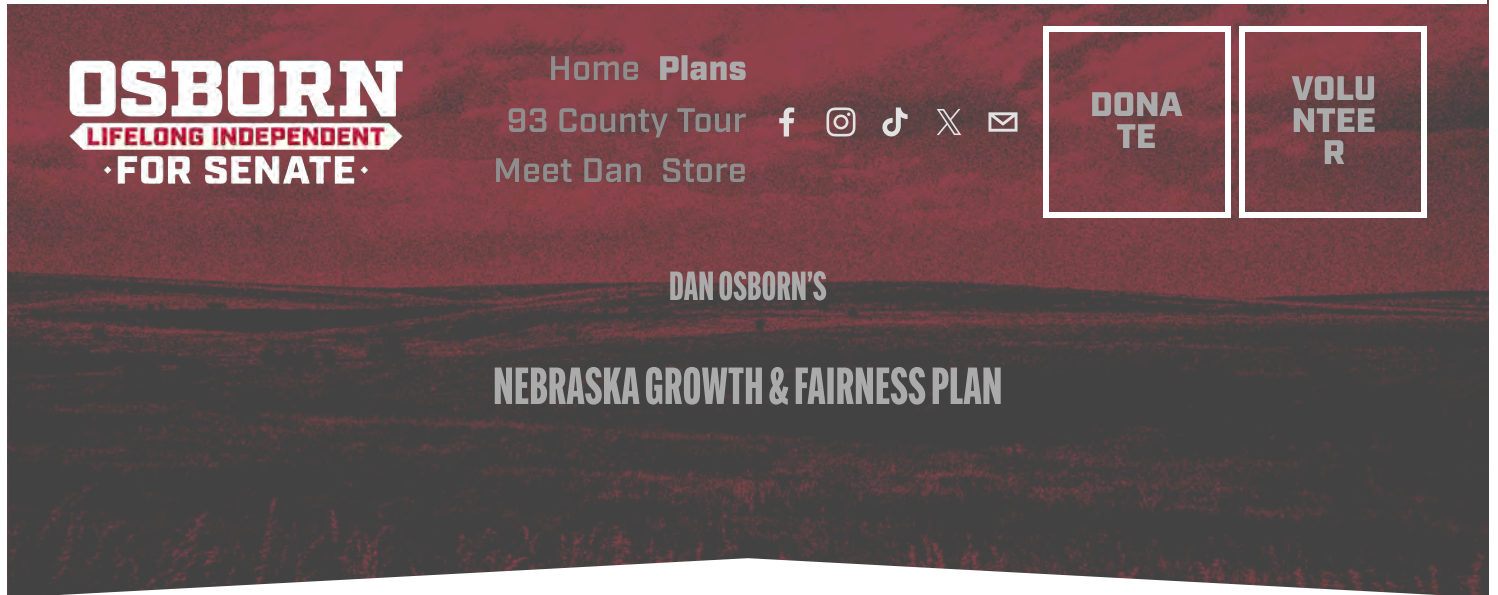
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EXHIBIT 14

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✕



00:00 / 01:37



WORKING PEOPLE DESERVE A SEAT AT THE TABLE IN THE U.S. SENATE

We created the Nebraska Fairness Plan to reflect the priorities I would carry to Washington on behalf of hard-working Nebraskans.

It's not a party's platform or written by consultants. It's written for the people who punch a clock and wonder why nobody in Washington is fighting for them.

DRAIN THE SWAMP

We deserve a government that is truly of the people, by the people, and for the people. But for decades, career politicians in both parties have been bought and paid for by the corporate cronies and lobbyists pouring money into our political process to bend the system to their will. When I'm in the Senate, I will champion the strongest anti-corruption platform Washington has ever seen.

[READ THE PLAN](#)

PROTECT OUR PAYCHECKS, SOCIAL SECURITY, AND HEALTHCARE

Nebraskans are hurting from a thousand little cuts to their paychecks. I will take on the corporations and their chosen political lapdogs to restore economic liberty and fairness for the working Americans who make this country run. Elders should be able to age gracefully. No one should go bankrupt from medical debt.

[READ THE PLAN](#)

CUT WASTE AND BALANCE THE BUDGET

Both parties have spent money we don't have for decades, and working Americans are paying the price. The national debt is a ticking time bomb for our kids and grandkids. I'm not beholden to either party, which means I can actually do something about it. I'll cut waste, end corporate welfare, and refuse to vote for spending we can't afford.

[READ THE PLAN](#)

GOOD JOBS AND AFFORDABLE HOUSING

Everyone deserves a real shot at the American dream. If you work hard, you should be able to get ahead and afford a home in this country like my grandparents were able to do. I will champion worker-focused policies that don't garnish our wages and transfer them to the 1%. I will fight private equity tooth-and-nail and prevent them from carving up our state to fill their offshore bank accounts.

[COMING SOON](#)

FIGHT LIKE HELL FOR RURAL NEBRASKA

Family farms and ranches are the lifeblood of Nebraska. As U.S. Senator, I will take on Washington special interests and the corporate monopolies stealing money from producers and making everything unaffordable for all of us. I will fight to restore real markets in our agricultural system and bring back the Nebraska that we all want and deserve.

Small businesses are at the heart of our communities here in rural Nebraska. However, it's more difficult than ever for our entrepreneurs to keep up with the big businesses. The businesses in your community should be owned by your neighbors, not corporate executives.

Corporate greed and bought-and-paid-for politicians in both parties have abandoned rural Nebraska and pushed out small businesses. In our small towns, people are being punished for raising their families in the communities where they themselves grew up. Nebraska's rural way of life is on life support and the two-party doom loop in Washington D.C. means no one with the power to change this is paying attention.

[READ THE PLAN](#)

DEFEND OUR FREEDOMS AND THE CONSTITUTION

Running as an Independent, I'm un beholden to party bosses and can take positions no right or left wing politician could. I will champion ideas that our citizens agree with and will fight for ideas and policies that help turn down the political temperature in this country.

[READ THE PLAN](#)

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Osborn for Senate
15418 Weir St #160, Omaha, NE 68137

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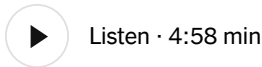
PAID FOR BY OSBORN FOR SENATE

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EXHIBIT 15

Dan Osborn Wants to Help the Working Class Run for Office

Mr. Osborn, the industrial mechanic who turned a long-shot Senate bid in red Nebraska into an unexpectedly tight race, is starting a PAC aimed at recruiting more blue-collar candidates like himself.



By Jonathan Weisman

Nov. 19, 2024

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Dan Osborn, an industrial mechanic who ran as an independent Senate candidate in Nebraska, came up short in his quest to unseat Senator Deb Fischer, a low-profile Republican whose closer-than-expected victory in a red state clinched Senate control for her party on election night.

But Mr. Osborn's 47 percent of the vote in Nebraska well outpaced Vice President Kamala Harris's 39 percent, and in what he called his "almost success," there might be clues to how a more populist approach could wrest the working class from Republicans, not through partisan warfare but class consciousness.

"Who's the one doing the dividing here?" Mr. Osborn asked in an interview on Monday. "I think it's the people who are laughing all the way to the bank while us common folk live paycheck to paycheck."

On Tuesday, Mr. Osborn, 49, will return to work as a union steamfitter in Omaha, facing a pile of bills from his time off campaigning, including a \$4,000 veterinarian's bill for the Addison's disease his dog developed during the election year. He is also announcing a new super PAC, the Working Class Heroes Fund, to try to recruit more blue-collar workers to run for office, and to organize the working class to vote in their economic self-interest.

"I just think it means everything that working people have a seat at the table because we have enough, you know, high-profile lawyers and business execs," Mr. Osborn said. "I'm not saying they shouldn't have a seat at the table. Of course they should for what they've accomplished in their lives. But I feel like what I've accomplished as a working person, although it's not as glittery and glorious as a C.E.O. starting a company, I've certainly given my family a good life."

Before Mr. Osborn announced his campaign late last year, his only leadership role had been leading his union on strike at an Omaha Kellogg's cereal plant in 2021. With little money and almost no name recognition, the mechanic crisscrossed Nebraska, leaning on union workers far from the Democratic pockets of Omaha and Lincoln while rejecting the endorsement of the Nebraska Democratic Party.

He tried to prove his independence with a pro-gun, tough-on-the-border message, but he also favored abortion rights and new rules to make it easier for unions to organize.

Mainly, though, his biggest calling card was his genuine working-class identity and a penchant for listening. It wasn't a particularly substantive campaign — he still struggles to articulate the policies that distinguished him from Republicans and Democrats — but it was one that avoided the impression that many Democrats leave, that in appealing to working-class voters, they talk down to them.

"I'm not a huge political person," Mr. Osborn allowed. "I'm not certain how many people ran similar to me, numbers-wise. I can just tell you I spoke to people like a person. And that was the secret to my almost success."

He added, “I had 180 publicly advertised events; a lot of those people in the events were just like me, people who live paycheck to paycheck, working for a living.”

“And whether it was a group of five or a group of 80, we would sit down, focus on issues and try to resolve things,” he said.

Mr. Osborn’s election night party in La Vista, Neb., outside Omaha. David Robert Elliott for
The New York Times

The most resonant issues, he said, revolved around the yawning wealth gap between the billionaire classes on the coasts and virtually everyone else in the middle. Advocacy, he said, should not be built around forcing everyone to share but creating “an equal playing field” where “mom-and-pop shops” are able to compete with prices of chain stores like the Dollar Generals commonplace in Nebraska’s small towns.

For much of this year, Ms. Fischer and the Republican campaign apparatus in Washington largely ignored Mr. Osborn, but last month, as polling showed a tight race, Republican super PACs and operatives swept in to rescue Ms. Fischer. A blitz

of advertising portrayed Mr. Osborn as “a Democrat in disguise.” The race also turned personal, with attacks on his family.

Mr. Osborn, a political neophyte, remains angry and hurt by the way the campaign closed.

“I’ve been in a hole, licking my wounds,” he said, before adding that he can’t afford to take any more time off.

“I’m going back to work tomorrow as a steamfitter because I tried to call all my bill collectors,” he said, and they didn’t care “that I ran a close Senate race. They want their money, they want their mortgage, they want their car payments, their insurance, their electrical bills.”

Even now, with the campaign over, he insists he is an independent, although he has supported Democrats in the past. But he said his super PAC’s recruitment of genuinely working-class candidates will be nonpartisan. He does not care what party they want to run with, as long as they truly come from the working class.

“If I have to go around the country on my weekends to help other working-class people get a seat at their table,” he said, “whether that’s state legislatures or county boards, however that looks, that’s how I want to help.”

Jonathan Weisman is a politics writer, covering campaigns with an emphasis on economic and labor policy. He is based in Chicago.

A version of this article appears in print on , Section A, Page 14 of the New York edition with the headline: Strong Showing Spurs Midwest Mechanic to Empower Working Class

EXHIBIT 16

Dan Osborn launches political action committee to help working class candidates

By **Brian Beach** , Nebraska
Public Media Reporter

November 19, 2024 at 11:00
AM · 2 min read



Dan Osborn, who lost his Senate race against Sen. Deb Fischer, spoke to supporters on election night in 2024. Osborn fared better than Fischer in eastern parts of the state. (Brian Beach/Nebraska Public Media News)

Dan Osborn is returning to his job as a steamfitter in Omaha after his US Senate campaign came up short, but he's not done with his foray into politics.

The former independent candidate is launching a political action committee to help other working-class candidates run for office.

Osborn's Working Class Heroes Fund will support labor unions and strike funds, organize working class voters and fund working-class candidates.

Osborn lost his US Senate race to Republican Deb Fischer, but his seven percentage point loss was nearly 14% closer than Kamala Harris's 21 percentage point loss to Donald Trump in Nebraska. That result means Osborn outperformed Harris by more than any other non-Republican Senate candidate in the country.

In his election night concession speech, Osborn said his candidacy will change American politics.

"Even though we did not win this race, I have no doubt that what happened here in Nebraska will be a spark that ignites a working-class movement all across the country," Osborn said. "A movement of plumbers, nurses, teachers, carpenters, cashiers, truck drivers, regular people who are willing to take a stand against corruption and demand a seat at the table for working people."

The Working Class Heroes fund will be the only country's only organization "dedicated to uniting and mobilizing working people across party lines to give the working class a seat at the table," according to the Osborn campaign.

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EXHIBIT 17

Two new political parties approved ahead of Nebraska's midterm elections

By **Jackie Ourada** , Managing editor
Nebraska Public Media

Aug. 7, 2026, 2 p.m. ·
4 min read



(Nebraska Public Media News file photo)

Nebraskans may see new political candidates under two new political parties on their November ballots. The Nebraska Secretary of State's Office has cleared the way for the Nebraska Working People Party and the America First Party to form ahead of Nebraska's midterm elections.

Both groups met the required deadline and number of valid signatures to create a new political party. Organizers needed to collect signatures from at least "one percent of the total votes cast for governor at the most recent general election for such office" – or around 6,726 – from Nebraska voters. The groups also had to collect around 2,200 signatures from each of the state's three Congressional districts.

The Nebraska Secretary of State's Office said Friday that Nebraska Working People Party organizers submitted completed petitions on July 14 and America First Party Organizers submitted completed petitions

on July 15. Both petitions reached the statutory thresholds, and verification ceased once each petition reached 110% of the required number of signatures in each congressional district and overall.

Now that they have cleared the signature requirements, Nebraska state law allows the new political parties – even if they weren't formed in time to participate in the primary election – to place their own candidates on the general election ballot, essentially letting the parties bypass primary elections.

First, though, the parties must submit a party constitution, bylaws and list of officers to the Secretary of State's office by Aug. 27. If they do not submit those documents by that date, they will not be certified.

The new political parties will then join Nebraska's current four: Republican, Democratic, Libertarian and Legal Marijuana NOW. Voters can also choose to not be registered with a political party, otherwise known as being a nonpartisan.

The new parties also must file a new candidate filing form by Sept. 1, according to Nebraska [law](#). They also must have a petition of nomination containing the names of at least 25 registered voters from their new parties.

A copy of the affidavit filed with the office on June 25 shows Robin Richards, a registered Democrat who attempted to run as a write-in candidate for Legislative District 12 in the primary, said the Nebraska Working People Party's purpose is to "provide Nebraska voters with a political organization dedicated to advancing the interests of working families, middle-class Nebraskans, rural communities, small businesses, farmers, ranchers, and individuals seeking practical solutions to improve economic opportunity, strengthen communities, and promote responsive and accountable government."

A new [website](#) for the party said the group's guiding principles focus on quality, affordable healthcare, fair wages for workers, full funding for public schools, clean air and water, and affordable housing.

A copy of the affidavit filed by John Cartier, a registered nonpartisan and the attorney general for the Omaha Tribe, said the America First Party's purpose is to "provide voters with a political organization committed to putting Americans and Nebraskans ahead of all others by cracking down on out-of-control government spending and wasteful foreign aid, getting tough on illegal immigrants, standing up against abortion, and rigidly defending the Second Amendment."

That party also has a new **website** that has principles focused on putting America and Nebraska first, limiting government and government spending, securing U.S. borders, protecting life and family and defending the Second Amendment.

But both new parties are dogged by accusations that they're being formed to place "spoiler" candidates in Nebraska's competitive midterm races.

When petitions started circulating for the Nebraska Working People Party in late June, leaders with the Nebraska Democratic Party claimed the new group was the effort of top Republicans like Pete Ricketts, one of Nebraska's U.S. Senators up for reelection this November, likely facing independent Dan Osborn. NDP Vice Chair Ron Kaminsky said the effort is being funded by Republicans "because all this new party wants to do is help Pete Ricketts, Jim Pillen, Mike Flood and Brinker Harding win their elections."

Requests for comment sent to Ricketts' and Flood's respective campaigns were not returned. But Nebraska GOP Chair Mary Jane Truemper told Nebraska Public Media News that, "No 'top' Republican would ever try to undermine our nominees."

"Nebraska Republicans are focused on electing Republicans. We respect everyone's right to file petitions, but our focus remains clear: to win in November with Republicans up and down the ballot," Truemper said.

After the America First Party started circulating petitions, Truemper **told** the Nebraska Examiner that "rigging primaries wasn't enough for Jane Kleeb."

"Now her Nebraska Democrats are behind a fraudulent 'America First Party,' filed by progressive lawyer and Dan Osborn associate John Cartier, designed to trick conservative voters into splitting their vote," Truemper said.

Kleeb said the party wasn't aware of the formation of the America First Party.

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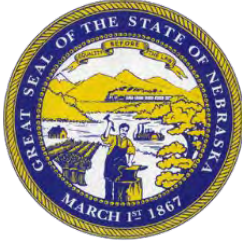
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EXHIBIT 18



STATE OF NEBRASKA

ROBERT B. EVNEN
SECRETARY OF STATE

For immediate release:

August 7, 2026

Contact:

Rani Taborek-Potter

402-471-4086

Nebraska Working People Party and America First Party meet signature threshold for political party formation

The Nebraska Secretary of State's office announced today that organizers with both the Nebraska Working People Party and the America First Party have collected enough signatures to move forward in the formation process. Secretary Evnen has sent a letter to the party organizers notifying them of next steps.

Nebraska Working People Party organizers submitted completed petitions on July 14, 2026. America First Party Organizers submitted completed petitions on July 15, 2026. Both petitions reached the statutory thresholds, and verification ceased once each petition reached 110% of this required number of signatures in each congressional district and overall.

Statutory requirements for valid signatures for the formation of a new political party are as follows:

- Congressional District #1 – 2,262 signatures required
- Congressional District #2 – 2,200 signatures required
- Congressional District #3 – 2,266 signatures required
- Total signatures required – 6,728

According to [Neb. Rev. Statute §32-717](#) the Secretary of State's office had 20 business days to verify signatures and notify the party whether the petitions are sufficient for party formation. Each party then has 20 calendar days following receipt of this notification to submit a party constitution, bylaws and list of officers to the Secretary of State's office.

If the Secretary of State's office receives these required documents by August 27, 2026, the Secretary of State will issue a certification establishing the new political party. If the required documents are not submitted by the deadline, no certification will be issued.

###

EXHIBIT 19



Robert W. Futhey
ATTORNEY
rfuthey@golegalne.com
(402) 783-1467

August 9, 2026

VIA EMAIL

The Honorable Robert Evnen, sos.elect@nebraska.gov
Secretary of State
State Capitol, Suite 2300
Lincoln, NE 68509

Re: Objection under Neb. Rev. Stat. § 32-624(1)

Secretary Evnen –

Pursuant to Neb. Rev. Stat. § 32-624(1), we are writing on behalf of the Nebraska Democratic Party and the Working Families Party to object formally to the use of the name “Working People Party” in connection with petitions filed pursuant to Neb. Rev. Stat. § 32-716, purportedly to establish a new political party in Nebraska. We ask that you sustain this objection, reject the use of the “Working People Party” name, and decline to issue certification under Neb. Rev. Stat. § 32-717.

The name “Working People Party” is designed to foment confusion and mislead voters who support liberal and progressive policy priorities. The name violates Neb. Rev. Stat. § 32-716(2)’s mandate that a prospective new party’s name “shall not be or include . . . any word forming any part of the name of any political party then in existence,” because it overlaps with the name of the “Working Families Party,” a nationwide political party with ballot access in three States, chapters and branches in sixteen States, and which endorses candidates nationwide, including in Democratic Party primaries. More broadly, the name creates a material and impermissible risk of voter confusion because of its similarity to both the Working Families Party and to the Nebraska Democratic Party’s messaging, policy priorities, and candidates. The Nebraska Democratic Party’s leadership has announced its support for independent candidate Dan Osborn for the U.S. Senate. Osborn’s messaging and policies focus on “working people” and his frequent slogan is “Working People Deserve a Seat at the Table.” The “Working People’s Party”—an entity backed by Republican interests and sponsored by a sore loser who has repeatedly sought but failed to obtain the Democratic nomination for the state legislature—exists chiefly to confuse and mislead voters aligned with the Nebraska Democratic Party, the Working Families Party, and the candidates that they support. As the Nebraska Supreme Court held more than century ago, deceptive party names and affiliations of this sort cannot stand. See *Porter v. Flick*, 60 Neb. 773, 777–778 (1900); cf. *State ex rel. Neb. Republican State Cent. Comm. v. Wait*, 92 Neb. 313, 329–30 (1912).

Legal Standard and Secretary's Authority to Sustain this Objection

Nebraska law regulates political party names to prevent voter confusion and protect ballot integrity. A new political party's name "shall not be or include the name of any political party then in existence or any word forming any part of the name of any political party then in existence," and "in order to avoid confusion regarding party affiliation of a candidate or registered voter," the name may not include the word "independent" or "nonpartisan." Neb. Rev. Stat. § 32-716(2). This prohibition reflects the Secretary's duty to prevent voter confusion and ensure ballot integrity. The Legislature reinforced this principle by creating an objection mechanism specifically for party names. Objections to "the use of the name of a political party may . . . be made and passed upon in the same manner as objections to a candidate filing form or other acceptance of nomination." Neb. Rev. Stat. § 32-624(1).

Your statutory duty to determine the validity of this objection includes the authority to evaluate whether the proposed party name creates a material risk of voter confusion based on the totality of the circumstances, including the existence of similarly-named political movements, existing candidates' use of similar phrases, and admissions by the prospective parties' circulators. This authority is consistent with your express statutory power to decide disputed points of election law and your implied power to ensure that ballot materials satisfy legal requirements for presentation to voters. *See State ex rel. Neb. Republican State Cent. Comm.*, 92 Neb at 329–30.

The United States Supreme Court has repeatedly recognized that States possess a substantial and legitimate interest in restricting ballot access to prevent voter confusion and "protect the integrity and reliability of the electoral process itself." *Anderson v. Celebrezze*, 460 U.S. 780, 788 n.9 (1983); *see Storer v. Brown*, 415 U.S. 724, 732–733 (1973). A State has an important interest "in avoiding confusion, deception, and even frustration of the democratic process at the general election" by enforcing state law limits on access to the general election ballot. *Storer*, 415 U.S. at 732 (quoting *Jenness v. Fortson*, 403 U.S. 431, 442 (1971)). And long before these decisions by the U.S. Supreme Court, Nebraska's own Supreme Court prohibited the creation of new political parties with names that could result in voter confusion. *Porter*, 60 Neb. at 777–78.

This objection presents precisely the type of confusion Nebraska law and federal constitutional principles permit States to prevent. Voters who encounter the "Working People Party" on the ballot will reasonably believe they are supporting candidates aligned with the liberal and progressive policy agenda championed by Nebraska Democratic Party and the candidates it supports, or be misled into thinking that the Working Families Party has obtained ballot access in Nebraska (which it has not). If a party name is used for the purpose of causing confusion, the ballot designation operates as a fraud on Nebraska voters.

Factual Basis for Objection

The "Working People Party" is sponsored by a sore loser former candidate, Robin Richards, who has serially sought and failed to obtain the Nebraska Democratic Party's nomination

for the state legislature.¹ After losing her most recent campaign, Richards endorsed the *Republican* Party's candidate in her district.² Apparently frustrated by her losses, Richards is now seeking to prop up a fake political party intended to mislead the Nebraska Democratic Party's members and supporters and to detract votes from its candidates. Indeed, the Working People's Party's circulators openly encouraged voters to sign its petitions because "it's going to take votes away from the Democrats" and help Republican candidates such as U.S. Senator Pete Ricketts.³ And Nebraska's leading labor unions have denounced the Working People Party, noting that the effort used "[r]ight-wing Republican signature gathering firms" and is aimed at "splitting the pro-labor vote."⁴

The name "Working People Party" is not a neutral or generic political designation. It overlaps with the name of the "Working Families Party," a well-known progressive political party with affiliates across the country.⁵ Voters across Nebraska and the United States understand the mission of the Working Families Party is to "fight[] for workers over bosses and people over the powerful."⁶ The Working Families Party runs candidates under its own banner and through Democratic Party primaries, but is not currently supporting any candidates in Nebraska or otherwise operating in Nebraska.⁷ The Working People Party therefore reflects a flagrant effort to confuse voters who are likely to believe they are supporting a new state affiliate of the Working Families Party. Indeed, the Working Families Party has publicly denounced the misappropriation of "its name and reputation, which grassroots volunteers and members have spent decades building, by a cynical spoiler party."⁸

In addition to this direct overlap with the name of existing political party, the name "Working People Party" will create significant confusion because of its similarity to U.S. Senate candidate Dan Osborn's well-known slogan "Working People Deserve a Seat at the Table." Osborn uses the phrase as a prominent header on his website,⁹ has also used it as the label for his official campaign video¹⁰ and has repeated it in public speeches and press interviews.¹¹ Voters

¹ Robin Richards, Ballotpedia (last accessing Aug. 9, 2026), https://ballotpedia.org/Robin_Richards.

² Juan Salinas II, *A new political party could be coming to Nebraska; state Democratic Party officials call foul*, Neb. Examiner (June 29, 2026), <https://nebraskaexaminer.com/2026/06/29/a-new-political-party-could-be-coming-to-nebraska-state-democratic-party-officials-call-foul/>.

³ Aaron Sanderford, *Groups turn in signatures to create two new Nebraska political parties*, Omaha World-Herald (July 15, 2026), https://journalstar.com/news/state-regional/government-politics/article_233a0e4f-33f6-58d7-8ea9-330b2de0d1da.html?mode=nowapp.

⁴ *Id.*

⁵ Working Families Party (last accessed Aug. 9, 2026), <https://workingfamilies.org/>; Our 2026 Candidates, Working Families Party (last accessed Aug. 2026), <https://workingfamilies.org/candidates/>; Working Families National Committee (last accessed Aug. 9, 2026), <https://workingfamilies.org/working-families-national-committee/>.

⁶ About WFP (last accessed Aug 9, 2026), <https://workingfamilies.org/about/>.

⁷ *Id.*

⁸ Jackie Ourada, *National 'Working Families Party' considering legal action against Nebraska 'Working People Party' organizers*, Neb. Public Media (June 29, 2026), <https://nebraskapublicmedia.org/es/news/news-articles/national-working-families-party-considering-legal-action-against-nebraska-working-people-party-organizers/>.

⁹ Dan Osborn's Nebraska Growth & Fairness Plan, Osborn for Senate (last Aug. 9, 2026), <https://www.osbornforsenate.com/plans>.

¹⁰ *Hard-working people deserve a seat the table in the United States Senate*, Video posted by Dan Osborn, Facebook (Jul. 31, 2026), <https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=1358594475788712>.

¹¹ *Id.*; Jonathan Weisman, *Dan Osborn Wants to Help the Working Class Run for Office*, N.Y. Times (Nov. 19, 2024), <https://www.nytimes.com/2024/11/19/us/politics/dan-osborn-working-class-pac.html>

encountering Working People Party candidates on the ballot may therefore believe that such candidates are associated with Osborn's candidacy—a candidacy that most of NDP's members are likely to support over incumbent Republican Senator Pete Ricketts, given NDP leadership's support of Osborn.

The attempt to establish a political party named the Working People Party can be seen only as an illegitimate attempt to foster confusion and split votes that would otherwise go to Osborn or NDP candidates across the State. You should reject this deliberate, unlawful attempt to cause voter confusion by appropriating a well-established political brand to benefit candidates and causes antithetical to the movement that the brand represents.

Request for Dual Treatment

Neb. Rev. Stat. § 32-624(1) provides that objections to the use of a political party name “may . . . be made and passed upon in the same manner as objections to a candidate filing form or other acceptance of nomination.” Neb. Rev. Stat. § 32-624(1). The statute directs that “[a] candidate filing form filed for the primary or general election pursuant to section 32-606 shall be deemed to be valid unless objections are made in writing within seven days after the filing deadline.” Neb. Rev. Stat. § 32-624(2).

This language creates ambiguity regarding the precise point at which an objection to a party name must be filed. It is unclear whether the objection deadline runs from (1) the filing of the party-formation petitions under Section 32-716, (2) the Secretary's verification and certification of the new party under Section 32-717, or (3) the filing of candidate filing forms by nominees of the new party under Section 32-621.

Out of an abundance of caution and to preserve all objection rights afforded by law, the Nebraska Democratic Party and the Working Families Party request that you treat this letter as a timely objection to any party formation petitions or certification documents filed to establish the “Working People Party” under Sections 32-716 and 32-717, and any future candidate filing forms submitted by candidate seeking to appear on the ballot under the “Working People Party” designation pursuant to Section 32-621.

The Nebraska Democratic Party and the Working Families Party request that you exercise your authority to sustain this objection, reject the use of the “Working People Party” name, and decline to issue certification under Section 32-717. In the alternative, if such challenges must be brought against individual candidate filing forms, the Nebraska Democratic Party and the Working Families Party request that you reject any such filing forms on the basis discussed above. We ask that your response to this letter clearly articulate whether you sustain or reject this objection. And given Nebraska's rapidly approaching ballot printing deadline, we respectfully ask for a response at the soonest possible opportunity.

Respectfully submitted,



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Counsel for WFP

CC: Nebraska Attorney General's Office

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POLITICS

Marjorie Taylor Greene says Trump, GOP 'governed America LAST,' predicts midterm losses

"We've turned a corner, and the system needs to burn down," the former congresswoman wrote

 By **Alex Nitzberg** · Fox News

Published March 27, 2026 6:19am EDT

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Former Rep. Marjorie Taylor Greene predicted that the Republicans will lose control of the House of Representatives – and possibly the Senate – in the 2026 midterm elections, asserting that President [Donald Trump](#) and the GOP promised "America First" but delivered the opposite.

Greene, once a staunch Trump ally who has since become a vocal critic, declared in a Thursday [post](#) on X that "Americans are suffering," "Both parties are absolute failures," and that "the system needs to burn down."

"Americans don't give a d[---] about Trump building a WH ballroom or renovating the Kennedy Center as they are paying \$4+ dollars per gallon for gas and nearly \$6 for diesel because of another pointless foreign war. Americans are suffering. Suffering from all time high credit card debt. Suffering from ridiculously high cost of health insurance. Suffering from high cost of living. Suffering from ever increasing inflation and an ever decreasing dollar because of all the stupid decisions made by stupid politicians," the former congresswoman wrote.

SPECIAL ELECTION REPLACING MARJORIE TAYLOR GREENE GOES TO RUNOFF BETWEEN TRUMP-ENDORSED CANDIDATE AND DEMOCRAT



Then-Rep. Marjorie Taylor Greene, R-Ga., arrives for a meeting of House Republicans in the Capitol Visitor Center on the budget reconciliation bill on Thursday, May 15, 2025. (Tom Williams/CQ-Roll Call, Inc via Getty Images)

"Republicans are going to lose the House in the midterms and maybe the Senate too because Trump and Republicans sold America First but instead governed America LAST," she continued. "Democrats put illegals and trans above Americans and offer no new policies to solve the problems they too created. Both parties are absolute failures."

In a statement to Fox News Digital, [White House](#) spokesman Davis Ingraham said, "There is nothing more 'America Last' than quitting on your constituents

FORMER REP MTG ASSERTS THAT AMERICANS DON'T WANT US WAR AGAINST IRAN

President Donald Trump speaks during a Cabinet meeting in the Cabinet Room of the White House on March 26, 2026, in Washington, D.C. (Chip Somodevilla/Getty Images)

Greene departed office in the middle of her two-year term early this year after she and Trump had a [falling out](#) last year.

"Don't lecture your voters that you have to vote for them when you have intentionally failed and betrayed your campaign promises just because the other side is intolerable. Screw you. You betray Americans, you put Americans last, you deserve to lose, you don't deserve support," she wrote in the post.

EX-TRUMP ALLY MARJORIE TAYLOR GREENE RIPS THE PRESIDENT'S ENDORSEMENTS, SAYING THEY 'SOLIDIFY THE SWAMP'



Then-Rep. Marjorie Taylor Greene, R-Ga., speaks during a news conference with 10 of the alleged victims of disgraced financier and sex trafficker Jeffrey Epstein outside the U.S. Capitol on Sept. 3, 2025 in Washington, D.C. (Chip Somodevilla/Getty Images)

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"Many Americans are learning to live without the system and want nothing to do with any of it. Home schooling, farming and farmers markets, homesteading, networking among themselves is how many of us will survive beyond the insanity of the two parties. We've turned a corner, and the system needs to burn down," she concluded.

Alex Nitzberg is a writer for Fox News Digital.

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Unfortunately Greene drank the Democrats Kool aid and is no longer relevant. Should have stayed in her lane. Good riddance.

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Meh.... I take everything Marjorie Taylor Greene says with a tiny grain of salt! She quit and that tells me all I need to know ab... [See More](#)

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She's probably right, but Americans also don't like quitters either. Stay in and fight ,don't run away .

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EXHIBIT 21

Hegseth 60 Minutes Interview

Defense Secretary Pete Hegseth speaks with 60 Minutes news correspondent Major Garrett on 3/06/26. Read the transcript here.

March 9, 2026

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Defense Secretary Pete Hegseth's extended 60 Minutes



Watch on

Speaker 1 (00:01):

60 Minutes Overtime.

Major Garrett (00:06):

CBS News has three sources telling us that Russia is providing intelligence to Iran on US positions and movements. The average American might hear that and think that's a big and dangerous deal, is it?

Pete Hegseth (00:18):

Well, we're tracking everything. Our commanders are aware of everything. We have the best intelligence in the world. We're aware of who's talking to who, why they're talking to them, how accurate that information might be, how we factor that into our battle plans, our CENTCOM commander. So, we know what's going on and the president has an incredible knack at knowing how to mitigate those risks. And so, the American people can rest assured, their commander-in-chief is well-aware of who's talking to who and anything that shouldn't be happening, whether it's in public or back-

channeled, is being confronted and confronted strongly.

Major Garrett (00:50):

The American people can therefore expect conversations with the Russians to stop this?

Pete Hegseth (00:54):

Well, President Trump, as people have seen, has a unique relationship with a lot of world leaders where he can get things done that other presidents, certainly Joe Biden, never could have. And through direct conversations or indirect through him one-to-one or through his cabinet, messages definitely can be delivered.

Major Garrett (01:11):

Does this put US personnel in any more danger than they otherwise would be, the Russian involvement.

Pete Hegseth (01:16):

Well, no one's putting us in danger. We're putting the other guys in danger. That's our job. So, we're not concerned about that. We mitigate it as we need to. Our commanders factor all of this, but the only ones that need to be worried right now are Iranians that think they're going to live.

Major Garrett (01:31):

The president said recently, "There will be no deal with Iran except unconditional surrender." What does that look like, unconditional surrender? How will you know it's real?

Pete Hegseth (01:39):

It means we're fighting to win. It means we set the terms. We'll know when they're not capable of fighting. There'll be a point where they'll have no choice but to do that. Whether they know it or not, they will be combat ineffective. They will surrender.

Major Garrett (01:52):

Typically, the understanding of a surrender is person-to-person. Is that what would be required in a matter like this?

Pete Hegseth (01:57):

Well, there's a lot of different ways. Whether they want to admit it or not, whether their pride lets them say it out loud or not. It's President Trump will set the terms of that. Again, combat ineffective. We're fighting to win. He sets the terms. We'll decide when they're ready or not. We'll decide when our objectives are met. President Trump has set those clear objectives, but what I think some folks have been confused by is that our will might be limited or our capabilities might be limited or our munitions might be limited. They're wrong. And the Iranians are wrong to miscalculate American will and American authorities and American capabilities and American munitions. We have just now begun to fight, just now begun to surge. And so, if the Iranians haven't factored that into who's going to be the winner at the outcome of this, over time they'll start to realize how deep President Trump's will is on this fight.

Major Garrett (02:48):

There was a very long war between Iran and Iraq, almost eight years, and they never surrendered in that war. And I'm just wondering if that factors into your calculus of the president's [inaudible 00:02:57]?

Pete Hegseth (02:57):

I mean, there was a really long fight that I was a part of and my generation was a part of.

Major Garrett (03:00):

Yes, I know that, sir.

Pete Hegseth (03:00):

... in Iraq and Afghanistan, where a lot of foolish approaches were used. This is war. This is conflict. This is bringing your enemy to their knees. Now, whether they will have a ceremony in Tehran Square and surrender, that's up to them. But ultimately, their ability to fight, their ability to project power, their ability to shoot missiles, their ability to confront us, their ability to shut down shipping, all of those things will decide the terms of that, and President Trump has made that very clear.

Major Garrett (03:30):

Understood. You just said the word war. Earlier this week, Speaker Mike Johnson said, the US

"is not at war right now." Are we at war? Is he confused about that?

Pete Hegseth (03:42):

The lawyers will debate all these things and we have great lawyers and we're making sure it's all buttoned up. There's a reason we changed our name from the Department of Defense to the Department of War. Not because we seek war, not because we want more war. Frankly, we want peace. That's what the president has put us in charge of, creating a world where we can live more peacefully. But if war is necessary, call it war, call it conflict, call it a campaign, call it an operation, call it a contingency, call it what you want, if war is necessary, we're going to fight to win. And that's different than what Joe Biden had done, or Barack Obama had done, or others have done in this position. Or take that long war I talked about in Iraq. George W. Bush and others sending in hundreds of thousands of troops with a nebulous end state, dissolving the security forces and then unleashing an insurgency that had us tied there for over a decade, costing thousands of lives and trillions of dollars.

(04:33)

President Trump's not fighting that way, and if the world hasn't taken notice of that yet, they're not fully factoring in how this commander-in-chief leads. He leads with clarity, with the clear America-first objectives that protect our people and our interests. And then, he gives the military everything they need to accomplish it. That means we set the terms. That means we decide when our mission is achieved and then we bring our folks home, which I think is what the American people expect, that kind of strength from a commander in chief.

Major Garrett (05:01):

The speaker of the House said late this week, "The mission is," and I'm quoting him directly here, "nearly accomplished by all estimates." Is that true?

Pete Hegseth (05:09):

We're very much on track, on plan. I was down at CENTCOM-

Major Garrett (05:13):

Someone might hear that and think it's almost over.

Pete Hegseth (05:15):

Well, we're not flying a mission accomplished banner like George W. Bush on an aircraft carrier. We're not doing that and we haven't done that. But we can be clear with the American people that this is not a fair fight, and that's on purpose. Our capabilities are overwhelming compared to what Iran's are. And frankly, when you combine our Air Force with the Air Force of the Israeli Defense Forces, it's the two most powerful Air Forces in the world. The ability for us to be up over the top and hunting with more conventional munitions, gravity bombs, 500-pound, 1,000-pound, 2,000-pound bombs on military targets, we haven't even really begun to start that effort of the campaign, which is going to showcase even more how we will execute on those objectives. So, he's trying to explain the fact that we have an overwhelming advantage, which we do, but we'll decide when our objectives are met and we'll get there.

Major Garrett (06:04):

You mentioned America-first. Some who identify with that movement, Megyn Kelly, Tucker Carlson, Candace Owens, Marjorie Taylor Greene, have said from their perspective, this isn't an America-first campaign. Do you want to address that criticism?

Pete Hegseth (06:17):

All I know is I'm in the room every day and I see how President Trump operates and what he's putting first and it's America, Americans and American interests at every level. How long should our bases be tolerating thousands of short-range ballistic missiles in one-way attack drones pointing at our bases and our people? After 47 years of Americans being targeted and killed, the men I served with in combat in Iraq coming home with no arms and no legs targeted by Iranian EFPs, thousands of Americans killed. Beirut. You want to go back? We can go back to how long...

(06:48)

I mean, the regime itself is premised on death to America. So, 47 years, thousands of missiles, and an unrelenting pursuit of nuclear ambitions. I

mean, President Trump's right. When he says we obliterated their nuclear program, he's right. We did. We dropped those bombs exactly where they needed to be, set them back. But that doesn't mean they've stopped their pursuit. Doesn't mean in the back of their mind they're thinking, "Well, maybe we'll wait it out and keep..." They've miscalculated the resolve of President Trump. Ask Nicolás Maduro about that. Ask the Houthis about that. Look at the Southern Border. Look at the cartels and drug boats. When President Trump says he'll take care of something, he's going to take care of it.

Major Garrett (07:27):

Let's talk about the nukes for a second. Is it possible to achieve the objectives President Trump has set before you if we don't locate and obtain and extract the highly-enriched uranium?

Pete Hegseth (07:38):

There's a lot of different ways we can get after that. They've used a conventional umbrella of missiles that was growing every single day, their production capacity to try to cover over their nuclear blackmail ambitions. As far as how you get at that nuclear option, we'll make sure that their nuclear ambitions are never achieved.

Major Garrett (07:56):

Will we take it out ourselves?

Pete Hegseth (07:58):

Well, I would never tell you or anybody else what our options are. See, that's another thing. People keep asking-

Major Garrett (08:02):

It's a legitimate question.

Pete Hegseth (08:03):

It's a very fair question. People ask, "Boots on the ground? No boots on the ground? Four weeks, two weeks, six weeks? Go in? Go in?" President Trump knows, I know, you don't tell the enemy, you don't tell the press, you don't tell anybody what your limits would be on an operation. We're willing to go as far as we need to in order to be successful. We want the Iranians guessing and second guessing and

triple guessing what we might be willing to do because under President Trump, we just might and they need to factor for that.

Major Garrett (08:33):

Do we have any overt or covert forces inside Iran now?

Pete Hegseth (08:40):

I wouldn't tell you that if we did.

Major Garrett (08:43):

Only reason I ask is earlier this week you said no, is that still the answer?

Pete Hegseth (08:48):

Yeah, that's still the answer, but we reserve the right. We would be completely unwise if we did not reserve the right to take any particular option, whether it included boots on the ground or no boots on the ground.

Major Garrett (08:59):

President Trump also said this week he would like to protect some of the people who he would like to come to power in Iran. Is that a new mission for your department?

Pete Hegseth (09:07):

No.

Major Garrett (09:08):

How would you protect people that are inside the country that he might think could rise to the level of leadership there?

Pete Hegseth (09:14):

Well, the best way to protect them is what we're doing right now. What you see right now between American efforts and Israeli efforts is a generational opportunity for the people of Iran. What happens, how that gets followed through with, they'll choose. The president has been clear, "Now, is your time." Not yet. Bombs are dropping, be careful. But over time, the Iranian people are going to have a great opportunity. And if they do seize that opportunity, they will have President Trump to thank for it.

Major Garrett (09:40):

Do you want the Kurds involved to help them with that?

Pete Hegseth (09:43):

That would be up to them, but that's not currently part of our mission scope.

Major Garrett (09:46):

You know they're massing in Northern Iraq and some of them are approaching the border, thinking it might be a good time for them to go in.

Pete Hegseth (09:52):

Well, we know a lot about what's going on.

Major Garrett (09:55):

Would you discourage them from that?

Pete Hegseth (09:56):

I would say that when you look at our mission set, we have described it very clearly what it is. Whatever other groups attempt to take advantage of that, that's on them and we wish them well, but that's not part of what we're doing.

Major Garrett (10:07):

Would we coordinate with them?

Pete Hegseth (10:09):

Well, I wouldn't tell you who we are willing to coordinate with or not.

Major Garrett (10:11):

Understood. It has been said that the Israelis, through Benjamin Netanyahu, the Israeli prime minister, provided on February 23rd, key information about intelligence they had developed about the likely whereabouts of Ali Khamenei and many in his inner circle. That the US then checked it out through the CIA, confirmed that, and that was an opportunity that presented itself to the president. And that was the precipitating factor for this war. That's the way it's been reported. Is that accurate, Mr. Secretary?

Pete Hegseth (10:40):

President Trump's approach has been our interest in advancing those interests from the beginning. And so, the fact that intelligence was gathered, whether from Israelis or ours, and always checked by our intel agencies to make sure it's accurate. A lot of times the best way to start operations is a trigger-based or condition-based moment. And you can work together on whether that makes sense, but we were always controlling the throttle about whether or not to go or not go. And ultimately, to advance American interest and protect American lives.

Major Garrett (11:11):

Some might look at that sequence of events and say, "Well, then it was an opportunity more than an imminent threat."

Pete Hegseth (11:16):

I mean, I think much of that discussion is silly and academic. They've been killing us for 48 years, 47 years. They have unabated nuclear ambitions. And when we obliterated their nuclear program at the end of the 12-day war in Operation Midnight Hammer, they should have come to the table and said, "Okay, we get it. You mean business? We're not going to have nukes," and they haven't. And as a result, when the president looks at it, generationally, he sees a threat that would continue to gather. And if they build more missiles with a conventional shield, then that's a danger to US persons, US people and our interests. And unlike previous presidents, President Trump had the courage and the boldness to act, and I'm grateful we have such a commander in chief.

Major Garrett (12:00):

You said, "This is not a regime change war, but the regime has changed. That's obvious." Can you square the two?

Pete Hegseth (12:06):

Sure.

Major Garrett (12:07):

Go ahead.

Pete Hegseth (12:09):

I meant what I said. It's not a regime change war in the conventional George W. Bush context of hundreds of thousands of troops. I mean, in Afghanistan, what I watched as a young captain was Americans thinking we were going to remake a society that was basically biblical times with AK-47s and cell phones. The hubris of, "We're going to take Afghanistan and turn it into a Jeffersonian democracy by building Western-style forces and Western-style institutions." It was never going to work and I saw it and watched it play out. And it doesn't dispel the courage of the Americans who fought there, who I know there, but this is not a remaking of the Iranian society from an American perspective. We tried that. The American people have rejected that. President Trump called those wars dumb, and we're not fighting that way.

(12:55)

And so, that's the paradigm I hope Americans will look at this... This is a president who believes that American strength is important, that we get more peace in the world when we are strong, and that the Iranian regime seeking these kinds of nuclear weapons, it was an unacceptable risk for the United States of America, and he took action. And what you're seeing now is overwhelming swift action, not to simply compel a slight change in a week, but to truly get rid of that threat and provide maximum options and decision space for the president on behalf of American interests in the world.

Major Garrett (13:27):

President also said this week, "Venezuela is a model." What did he mean by that in Iran?

Pete Hegseth (13:33):

I heard a few senators in our closed door briefings say, "Well, how do you know this is going to end up like Venezuela?" Citing now Venezuela as the positive model of what these types of things can look like. Of course, it would be incredible if it ends up looking like Venezuela. They're very different countries. We're not foolish enough to think that they look the same or have the same dynamics. Again, these comparisons are thrown out there as if we don't understand that, we very much do. But Venezuela is a great example of American power

and pressure on an adversary who had a lot of capabilities in our own hemisphere, which previous presidents tolerated for far too long.

(14:09)

The Trump corollary to the Monroe doctrine, the Donroe doctrine is alive and well. We just held a conference yesterday, America's Counter Cartel Conference, where we're building together countries in Central South and America and the Caribbean to fight the cartels. I mean, he's going on offense against problems that have been lingering for a long time, but we're doing it smartly. We're doing it with a power projection and application, seeking certain outcomes. And so far, because of the way the president leads, we've achieved them.

Major Garrett (14:37):

Since you brought us into that room where you got that question from those senators, "How could it be like Venezuela?" What did you tell them?

Pete Hegseth (14:44):

Well, that was more of an observation. We didn't say anything on that. Just the fact that they're now citing Venezuela as a positive outcome, considering two months ago, everyone was saying, "You can't do Venezuela." I mean, the reality is what a shining example of what American strength can produce and outcome folks thought was almost unforeseeable. And now, we've got American officials there, we're reestablishing relationships. We've got an embassy there. They're participating and making sure that oil only goes through the proper processes, expelling Iranians, totally remaking what was an adversary into a strategic opportunity. I think it's an incredible thing and a story that needs to be told.

Major Garrett (15:21):

Let's talk about oil. President said this week, "The Strait of Hormuz will be taken care of." How will that be taken care of? And how will the ships that are there, that are not moving, start to move and be moving with a degree of confidence that they will not be inhibited by what remains of the Iranian either boats or gun placements along that strait?

Pete Hegseth (15:40):

Well, we're taking care of a lot of that.

Major Garrett (15:42):

How?

Pete Hegseth (15:42):

Well, American firepower. What was the Iranian Navy is largely no more. There'll be more boats to be sunk for sure. So, their ability to project any power in that area in a naval sense is being-

Major Garrett (15:55):

Is diminishing?

Pete Hegseth (15:57):

Diminishing, and will be increasingly diminished. Again, what I want your viewers to understand is this is only just the beginning. We are only just now getting over the top of the country with impunity where now the munitions we're dropping are still precision-guided munitions. We've got unlimited supplies of them and we'll be picking those targets and sinking those boats. But I would also remind your audience, it's early. It's six days into this campaign, six days. So, we are going to have a lot more options over time on critical waterways like that to ensure that we can safeguard them and make sure safe passage-

Major Garrett (16:30):

From your vantage point, and I imagine from the direction of the president, we are not going to have a global oil shock as a result of this conflict?

Pete Hegseth (16:38):

Well, certainly, we've got a world-class energy secretary and treasury secretary and interior secretary, all who know that industry really well and have a deep reservoir of relationships, so they've got an eye on that for sure. And we've got allies and partners willing to participate in mitigating that. But the president's also been clear that, hey, he's prepared to see this through, mitigating that, but also not allowing that to be a limiting factor. This is a generational challenge he's prepared to be addressing. When we want to manage all those things, but ultimately taking care of Iran's power-projection capabilities

changes the world for a generation and gives an opportunity to that region in ways that we haven't experienced before.

Major Garrett (17:18):

So, when I just heard you say, Mr. Secretary, "not a limiting factor," is that a way of saying to the American public, "You might have to deal with something that's a little bit uncomfortable in terms of oil and gas prices for a little bit of while because it's a larger, more important goal to achieve"?

Pete Hegseth (17:32):

Well, it's my way of saying that it is an important goal to achieve, but we have the best team on the planet addressing it. So, anything that does happen on the energy side is after maximum mitigation and not done so lightly. But ultimately, this objective and achieving this objective is critically important. And we can do it not just with overwhelming lethality, but with precision as well, and that's how we aim to do it.

Major Garrett (17:55):

You were asked earlier in the week about this girls' school. You said the US was investigating it. Have you made any conclusions about whether or not the United States advertently or not was involved in any military strike at that school?

Pete Hegseth (18:07):

Well, we're still investigating, and that's where I'll leave it today. But what I will emphasize to you into the world is that unlike our adversaries, the Iranians, we never target civilians.

Major Garrett (18:17):

There was a report late in the week from two officials that it was likely US involvement. Is that report false?

Pete Hegseth (18:22):

I've already said we're investigating.

Major Garrett (18:24):

If you could tell the American public, "It definitely was not us," you would tell us, wouldn't you?

Pete Hegseth (18:29):

I would say that it's being investigated, which is the only answer I'm prepared to give.

Major Garrett (18:33):

There's reporting from our Margaret Brennan that not us, but allies in the region are running very low on interceptors. Is that true, number one? Number two, how prepared are we to help them restock interceptors to protect them as we continue this campaign?

Pete Hegseth (18:49):

Very prepared. We plan for that. As you heard Admiral Cooper yesterday layout, the CENTCOM commander, their missile projection is down 90% from that height. Excuse me, missile shots. So, if they can't shoot anywhere near that volume, our projections and munitions are well beyond what we would need and we can cross-load for allies if need be. Always ensuring that our forces and our troops and our bases are taken care of first, but where we can help allies, we will.

(19:17)

And I will just say that as we continue to attrit missile launchers... That's the biggest one. They have a very limited supply of missile launchers. It's like lots of bullets without a gun. If you got 5,000 rounds of 9mm, but you'd only have two pistols, once you get rid of the two pistols, you don't have anything. And so, those launchers are what we've been targeting with great success. And if they want to continue shooting, they have to continue exposing them, which means we continue to target them. And then, you get at the missiles as well, and then you get at the missile production, and then you get at the drones. And the more you do that, the less interceptors you need in that process.

(19:50)

That's one of the theories of the case is that you've got all these American troops and all these American bases and others with missiles pointed at them in a way that you can't tolerate with a country that's seeking nuclear weapons. So, we don't have concerns on munition. Our projections are clear and we're also supercharging the defense industrial base in our own country. And there's a reason I spent the

previous month on an Arsenal of Freedom Tour, going across the country, ensuring that our defense contractors are delivering. We're about to meet with them and talked about ensuring that they deliver.

(20:18)

Speed, scale, under cost. We're setting out demand signals for years of critical munitions to make sure that we're full up beyond what we need. We have more munitions than we need. We need even more for that for the world that we live in. And that's why the president's spending \$1.5 trillion on defense next year. We take this deadly seriously. There's a lot of countries that talk about this stuff. There's a lot of forums that happen in Europe and they debate these questions and problems. President Trump takes them head on, on behalf of the security of the American people. He's a unique and generational leader.

Major Garrett (20:47):

Admiral Cooper also made reference to drone capabilities for the Iranians. What would you assess them to be and how much of a risk factor is that, not just for those US forces' position, but our allies in the region?

Pete Hegseth (20:57):

We're taking them on. As we see in the war in Ukraine and Russia, drone warfare is part of future warfare, there's no doubt about it. We're ahead-

Major Garrett (21:05):

It's exponentially advanced in the last four or five years.

Pete Hegseth (21:09):

No doubt. And we've advanced with it. That's why we've made drone dominance one of the top priorities of the Pentagon. The Department of War is ahead and going to surge ahead in our ability to scale drones, simple drones, attributable drones, one-way attack drones, exquisite drones. I mean, it's Predator drones that do a lot of the hunting of these mobile launchers and others. So, when it comes to drone technology, we're surging quickly. We

know what they've got and we know how to mitigate it and we're getting after it.

Major Garrett (21:38):

Are they harder to stop?

Pete Hegseth (21:40):

I wouldn't say harder, it's just a different problem set. What is good to see though six days in is that they're having to scoot and shoot because they see-

Major Garrett (21:47):

What does that mean?

Pete Hegseth (21:48):

Meaning, if you're not under threat, just like anything else with a rifle, you can take your time and aim and point. It's a lot easier. But when there's a threat of a loitering munition or something striking you once you shoot, you get out there quickly and set up and try to fire more quickly and then hide again. You're just not as accurate in that context. So, their salvos are less accurate and a lower volume, which allows us more opportunities to shoot them down.

(22:11)

I want to say though, and the president's been clear about this, it doesn't mean they won't have some get through, as we tragically saw, and we're going to greet those families at Dover and honor and respect the sacrifice they gave. And president's been right to say there will be casualties. Things like this don't happen without casualties. There will be more casualties. And I mean, especially our generation knows what it's like to see Americans come home in caskets, but that doesn't weaken us one bit. It stiffens our spine and our resolve to say, "This is a fight we will finish on behalf-

Major Garrett (22:43):

You said at CENTCOM rededicate.

Pete Hegseth (22:44):

Rededicate to the mission on behalf of recognizing their service and sacrifice in Operation Epic Fury. So, that will happen, it's combat, it's war, as the president has... We don't say that callously or loosely, but if Iran thinks

they're going to attrit our will, they're wrong. Our capabilities are better. Our will is better. Our troops are better. The providence of our almighty God is there protecting those troops, and we're committed to this mission.

Major Garrett (23:12):

And you made that reference to the providence of Almighty God. Is there any part of you, Mr. Secretary, that views any of this in a religious context?

Pete Hegseth (23:19):

I mean, obviously, we're fighting religious fanatics who seek a nuclear capability in order for some religious Armageddon. But from my perspective, I mean, obviously, I'm a man of faith who encourages our troops to lean into their faith, rely on God. There's no atheists in foxholes. Your mortality's right in front of you. I remember prayer for me on combat missions, how important that was. That's why we're making the Chaplain Corps great again and active again, making sure we're pouring into the faith of our troops. My Christian faith, faith in general is important to the president, it's important in our fighting ranks to give them perspective on human nature, on their own humanity, on our own mortality. And we lost a lot of that with self-help, self-esteem nonsense, which is not what troops need. They need a connection with their almighty God in these moments. And I'm proud of how our troops are conducting themselves and I pray for them every day.

Major Garrett (24:15):

There were some who interpreted, Mr. Secretary, what you said earlier in the week that reporting about casualties is done to make the president look bad. Do you believe that?

Pete Hegseth (24:25):

I just know the media spends a lot of time making cheap shots at the commander-in-chief. They made a whole industry doing it. And so, ultimately, far too often, networks and reporters spend all their time trying to find things that are wrong. That was not to dismiss casualties. Tell a combat vet and guys like us who've served and under... I don't wear this bracelet for decoration.

I wear it because I remember the men that I served with that are lost, that paid the ultimate sacrifice for me to be sitting in this chair and for us to be having this conversation. That's real every single day, the decisions that we make. And I think part of the reason recruiting is so high in our military right now is they understand they got leadership that has their back, that has walked in their boots, that's not going to use them callously or recklessly or for some nebulous mission, but is going to pour into them and give them every authority they need to be successful. I think that's motivating for troops.

(25:19)

So, my point was, as it was after Midnight Hammer or the Maduro raid, simply put, the media immediately jumps to try to find what's wrong or what maybe didn't happen perfectly. Instead of stepping back and saying, "Man, I live in a country of the United States of America where our military can do things no other country's military can conceivably do." Maybe we should celebrate that and recognize the significance of that, other than just trying to find what's wrong. Casualties are casualties and they should be reported and I understand that. No one's taking away from that, but ultimately-

Major Garrett (25:52):

And the act of reporting them and speaking to their families and their loved ones is not part of a mission to hurt the president or any president?

Pete Hegseth (25:56):

It's all a part. And the president and I are going to go honor the troops at Dover, as we should. And no one's hiding from that and we're going to stand there, and I'm going to stand there and I'm going to salute these incredible American heroes. It stiffens our resolve. And my simple point is that often the press is trying to look for the bad stories, as opposed to the incredible professionalism and courage of what our troops can accomplish. No other country can do what our guys do and it's humbling to be able to have a chance to lead them.

Major Garrett (26:23):

Mr. Secretary, it's been a pleasure.

Pete Hegseth (26:24):

Thank you very much, Major.

Major Garrett (26:25):

Thank you.

Pete Hegseth (26:25):

Appreciate it. Thank you.

Major Garrett (26:27):

Thank you.

TOPICS: Politics

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MA v. Lindsay Clancy
Day 7

Trump Event in Las
Vegas

Abdul El-Sayed Wins
Michigan Senate
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EXHIBIT 22



On This Page





Our state's greatest strength is our people: honest, hard-working people from all walks of life. We believe in growing the good life for ALL Nebraskans, not just for the few at the top.

At the Nebraska Democratic Party, we want to do well for ourselves and our families—and do our part for our communities, state, and country. We respect the dignity of every person—no matter who you are, what you look like or where you come from.

Each of us has something valuable to contribute to our state. When Nebraskans work together, we can accomplish anything. Democrats fight every day to move our state forward and make our government and our economy work for every Nebraskan—not just powerful special interests.

Party Leadership

Sometimes it can be confusing how to navigate the Party structure, so we hope you reach out to us with any questions or attend your County Party Meeting to connect with Democrats from your area.

All Democrats are welcome to attend our four State Central Committee meetings each year where we conduct Party business and our Congressional Districts, Caucuses and Councils meet.

If you have any questions, please email info@nebraskademocrats.org.

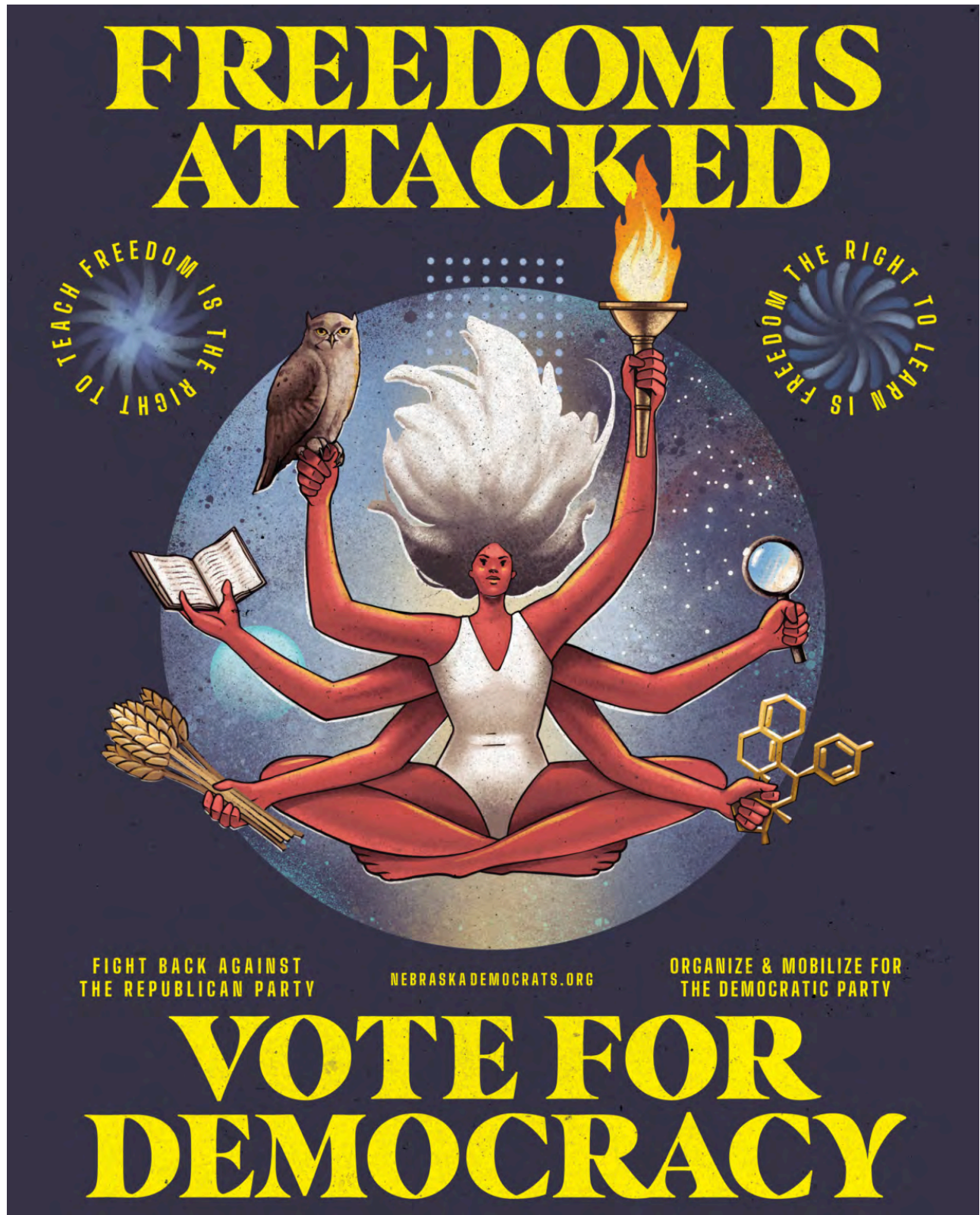
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Party Leaders

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County Parties

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Key Party Documents

Platform

The national and state Democratic Party Platforms are position statements that guide the party on key issues from climate change, to gun safety, to racial justice, and jobs.

In 2016 and again in 2020, the national Democratic Party adopted the most progressive and compressive platform describing the ideas and values Democrats across our country hold.

The Nebraska Democratic Party Platform, the Foundation Statement, and the Permanent Policy Positions File are, in combination, the statement of beliefs that the State Party has adopted as a basis for guiding its actions. They have been adopted by a majority of delegates to the State Convention, and remain in force until the next State Convention.

[Read the Nebraska Democratic Party Platform](#)

[Read the National Democratic Party Platform](#)

Resolutions

Resolutions are discussed and voted on at our NDP meetings held four times a year and at our state convention once every two years. Resolutions are statements on current topics and issues.

We place all resolutions that did pass the NDP State Central Committee and the proposed resolutions that did not pass into a Google Drive. The resolutions are organized by “passed” and “proposed”.

[View resolutions from 2016 - Now](#)

[Guide to Submitting a Resolution](#)

Constitution and Bylaws

The Nebraska Democratic Party Constitution and Bylaws govern our Party structure. Learn how our political organization operates and organizes to help elect Democrats to office.

View the current NDP Constitution & Bylaws

2024 Delegate Selection Plan

Every four years, an election for President of the United States is held. As part of that process, each political party engages in a primary election in order to decide which candidate advances.

As a part of this primary process, each state is responsible for electing a slate of delegates who will represent the state at the Democratic National Convention. The Delegate Selection Plan lays the outline for how these Delegates will be elected.

Read the 2024 Delegate Selection Plan





Code of Conduct

[Read Our Code of Conduct](#)

[Process for Filing a Code of Conduct Violation](#)

State Central Committee



SCC Delegate Manual

The State Central Committee (SCC) is the governing body of the NDP.

We have four SCC meetings a year where Democrats gather to conduct the business of the state party.

Democrats and Independents are welcome to attend as guests. All SCC meetings are steamed on our Facebook page for the public to view. Only SCC Delegates can

vote on the agenda items.

We archive the agenda packets, minutes, and attendance lists for our State Central Committee Meetings.

Current Meeting Schedule

Accommodation Request: To request reasonable accommodation for accessible participation at NDP meetings, please contact scc@nebraskademocrats.org or call our office at (402) 434-2180.

February 7, 2026 Via Zoom

- **30-Day Packet**
- **10-Day Packet**
- **Day of Agenda Packet**
- **Meeting Minutes**

April 24-26, 2026, Norfolk (State Convention & SCC Orientation meeting)

- **Agenda Packet**
- Meeting Minutes

August 21-22, 2026, Omaha (Big Blue Weekend)

- **30-Day Packet**
- 10-Day Packet
- Day of Agenda Packet
- Meeting Minutes

October 10-11, 2026, Kearney

- 30-Day Packet
- 10-Day Packet
- Day of Agenda Packet
- Meeting Minutes

December 13, 2026, Via Zoom

- 30-Day Packet
- 10-Day Packet
- Day of Agenda Packet
- Meeting Minutes

State Central Committee Structure

- Our statewide officers along with Caucus and Council Chairs are members of the SCC.
- Two Delegates, of a different gender, are elected from each Legislative District. Additionally, two Alternates, of different genders, are SCC members but only vote in the absence of Delegates. All Delegates are elected, for a two-year term, at the Legislative District Caucus at the State Convention which takes place every two years.
- If a Delegate moves, resigns, passes away, or does not attend two meetings without notifying the alternate and the designated NDP contact, a replacement will be elected at the next quarterly meeting of the Congressional District Caucuses.
- In addition to SCC Delegates from the LDs, we also elect and appoint Committee Members along with Caucus and Council Leaders.

Who can be a SCC Delegate?

Qualifications:

- Registered Democrat
- Active in Local County Democratic Party
- Assists in Voter Registration
- Supports Local, State and National Democratic Candidates
- Supports Local, State and National Democratic Elected Officials

Serving in a Party Role

You can serve in various leadership positions by getting elected at the county, legislative district, Congressional District or state level. All of these leadership positions help build the Party. When we have a strong Party infrastructure we win elections!

If you want to serve on the SCC as a Delegate, you should notify the NDP Office (scc@nebraskademocrats.org) and let us know you are interested in serving in one of the vacancies listed.

Your LD is the same as your State Legislative District. [You can find your LD here.](#)

You can see vacancies for SCC Delegates, Committees and County Parties [here.](#)

2017-2025 SCC Meetings Archived

▶ 2025

▶ 2024

▶ 2023

▶ 2022

▶ 2021

▶ 2020

▶ 2019

▶ 2018

▶ 2017

County Parties

How the State Party Works with County Parties

The State Party provides support and guidance to County Parties. Some of the support and services we have available to county parties include:

- **VAN-** You can sign the MOU and access the Voter File for your county. The Voter file gives you access to tools you can use to make managing your county party and getting Democrats elected much easier.

- **Infrastructure-** We have extensive email and phone lists, we have access to texting platforms, we have a mail permit that allows us to send bulk mail at a discounted rate. We can use these resources to help you build your county party and reach Democrats in your area.
- **Literature-** The state party creates lit pieces for outreach and voter education. We make these pieces available to counties and have worked with groups to develop targeted pieces.
- **Block Captains-** Our Block Captains get 50 doors in their neighborhood and they talk to their neighbors about voting and civic engagement 3 times a year.
- **Blue Bench Training-** We provide training opportunities several times a year and if you are interested in something specific, please reach out and we will do what we can to accommodate your request!



See The List of County Chairs Here







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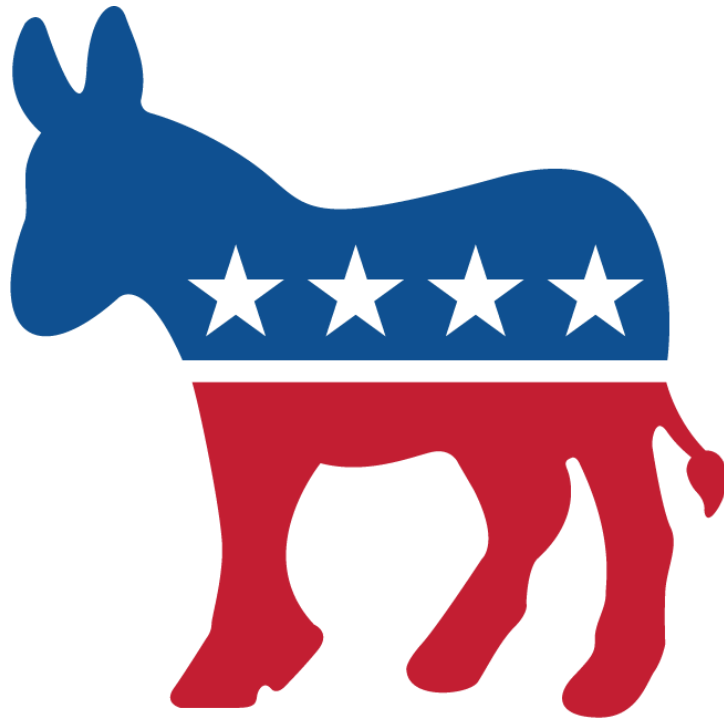


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CHANGE LANGUAGE

EXHIBIT 23



NEBRASKA
DEMOCRATIC PARTY

PLATFORM

2026-2028 Platform Approved at the State Convention

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Nebraska Democratic Land Acknowledgement

We, as members of the Nebraska Democratic Party, wish to acknowledge that we gather together to state our values on lands that have been stewarded through many centuries by the ancestors and descendants of Tribal Nations who have been here since time immemorial.

We honor all Native communities, relatives, two-spirit, and elders of this continent and recognize that our great State was built on Indigenous homelands, including those Nations forcibly removed from their territory. We pay our respects to the millions of Indigenous people throughout history who have protected our sacred lands, waters, and animals.

Today, we respectfully acknowledge the four federally recognized tribes in Nebraska – the Omaha Tribe (Umoⁿhoⁿ), the Ponca Tribe, the Santee Sioux Nation (Isanti), and the Winnebago Tribe (Ho-Chunk).

Preamble

"We the People of the United States, in Order to form a more perfect Union, establish Justice, ensure 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, regardless of one's diversity of abilities, origin, gender, orientation, beliefs, status, or 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 believe that with afforded rights come civic duties to be assumed according to each person's capacity including:

- Service to our state, 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 and Rural Nebraska

We Support:

- Preserving the livability, economic viability, sustainability, and culture of our rural communities, family farms and ranches, and small businesses.
- Providing property tax relief to family farms by taxing their real estate solely on its ability to produce income.
- Restoring Fair Market competition for purchasing seed, feed, fertilizer, and supplies.
- Restoring Fair Market competition to sell crops and livestock.
- Safeguarding a strong, sustainable export strategy of Nebraska's agricultural products.
- Mandatory country-of-origin labeling.
- Strong Farm Bill programs.
- Raising the payment cap on Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) enrolled farm ground to reflect current production values.
- Efforts to ensure that farm subsidies and disaster relief benefit actual Nebraska family farmers and ranchers.
- The Right to Repair: Producers and their mechanics should have the right to fix the equipment they use to produce agricultural products.
- Ensuring that farmers have control over the data produced by their equipment and implements.
- Protecting landowners' rights to manage their land in a lawful manner.
- Labeling of all food products produced through artificial genetic modifications.
- Investments and research for the improved profitability of Nebraska agriculture.
- Continued investment in innovative research to maintain Nebraska as a leading agricultural state.
- Livestock and crop diversification.
- Empowering local markets and regional food hubs to sell fresh local products.
- Locally accessible healthcare, including timely and reliable ambulance services.
- Fully funded local rural public schools.
- Public-private partnerships such as agrivoltaics, etc. and incentives for the economic revival of rural Nebraska,
- Laws requiring businesses that have received tax relief or subsidies, and then abandon facilities to be responsible for community impacts.

- The establishment of local co-op or individually owned slaughter/packing/cold storage facilities across the state.
- Expansion of voluntary programs for sustainable and regenerative agricultural practices.
- Investing in research and development to support climate-resilient, sustainable, low-carbon, and modern agricultural methods.
- Increasing organic farming in our state.
- The development of the hemp industry, including processing capacity for food, fuel, medicine, and fiber/paper.
- Regenerative agriculture using conservation methods.
- Statewide high-speed broadband internet.
- The construction of divided highways including the completion of the expressway systems throughout Nebraska.
- Programs to help farmers recover from difficult growing seasons or natural disasters.
- Access to credit at reasonable terms and interest rates.
- Strengthening international trade.
- Research, development, and deployment of advanced biofuels.
- Net-Zero emissions.

We Oppose:

- Tariffs that negatively affect the agricultural community in our state.
- The concentration and monopolistic control of U.S. agricultural production, processing, and marketing by multi-national corporations.
- The use of grain or livestock as bargaining chips in trade wars, which worsen financial outcomes for farmers and ranchers.
- Subsidizing large agribusiness.
- Invasive data collections by farm equipment manufacturers.
- Foreign and non-family corporate ownership of farm and ranch land.
- The use of eminent domain by non-governmental entities.
- Unreasonable barriers on land owners' usage of their property to generate electricity.

Civil Rights:

Black Rights

We Support:

- The belief that Black lives matter.
- Black voters, especially Black women, as an active and reliable voting block of the Democratic Party.
- Restoration of the Voting Rights Act and legislation that guarantees the right to vote for all Americans.
- Passage of the John Lewis Voting Rights Act by the U.S. Congress.
- Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) education and activities in all situations and all institutions.
- Education without discriminatory policies and practices.
- Racial justice.
- The end of racial profiling, police brutality, white supremacy, and racial violence by law enforcement.
- Closing the wage gap between Black, Indigenous and People of Color (BIPOC) and white employees.
- Reform of the criminal justice system which disproportionately affects BIPOC defendants.
- A commitment to remove the barriers of systemic and institutional racism.
- Sound policies, practices, economic, and political structures that provide minority racial and ethnic groups equitable opportunities.
- A commitment to identifying and rectifying policies and practices that lead to inequities in healthcare, family life, employment, and political power.
- The dismantling of the complex web of racial and cultural barriers integrated into society.
- Creating spaces where marginalized voices can be heard.

Disability Rights

We Support:

- Appropriate and accessible institutional environments that fully address the individual needs of those unable to manage in a more independent home.
- Improved vetting and regulation of guardians, conservators, and other caretakers to assure there is no neglect or abuse of persons who need such support.

- The full enforcement of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA) as amended and its implementing regulations.
- The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act.
- The Fair Housing Act.
- The Civil Rights of Institutionalized Persons Act.
- Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act.
- The Mental Health Parity and Addiction Equity Act.
- The Help America Vote Act, among other statutes protecting the rights of people with disabilities.
- Governmental incentives and assistance to businesses and organizations that employ people with disabilities.
- Individuals with autism and their families.
- Promoting equitable treatment of students on the autism spectrum in schools and educational settings.
- Early Childhood screening, particularly in underserved communities.
- Accessible and affordable health care and medication for people with disabilities.
- Expanding accessible transportation and affordable housing while also protecting people with disabilities in emergencies.
- Ensuring that new technologies benefit, and are affordable and accessible to people with disabilities.
- Expanding access to tax-advantaged ABLE savings accounts.
- Placement in the least restrictive environment including moving people from institutions into home and/or community-based services.
- Supported Decision-Making (SDM).
- Improving access to home and community-based care for people with disabilities.
- Enforcing the Medicaid Home and Community-Based Settings Rule, ending the institutional bias within Medicaid.
- Expanding the home care workforce to end state waiting lists for long-term services and supports.

We Oppose:

- The use of restraints and seclusion for the convenience of caretakers.
- Exploitation of disabled workers.

Latino American Rights

"Sí Se Puede" - Spanish for "Yes, We Can" - Dolores Huerta, Civil Rights Leader

We Support:

- Dismantling structures that define lasting economic, political, and social inequities based on racism against Latino persons.
- The promotion of racial justice through fair, just, and equitable governing of all public-serving institutions.
- Forming future public policy for the fair treatment of Latino Nebraskans.
- A belief that there is no place for racism or racial harassment against Latino individuals in our governmental systems, organizations, businesses, state, or country.
- Protecting the rights and civil liberties of citizens and non-citizens.

We Oppose:

- Racism or racial harassment against Latino individuals.
- Racial profiling.

Queer Rights

We Support:

- Amplifying the voices of the queer community within our political process and public discourse.
- Full parental rights for parents who identify as queer as well as parents of children who identify as queer.
- Pursuant to Title VII, we support queer persons as a legal 'protected class'.
- Addressing the high rates of suicide by queer individuals.
- Accessible and affordable gender-affirming healthcare.
- Legislation that grants equitable access to employment, housing, and accommodations, including gender-neutral bathrooms in schools and public places.
- The inclusion and appreciation of the service of transgender individuals who have served and who want to serve in the U.S. military.
- The acknowledgement of the epidemic of violence against the transgender community, particularly against transgender women of color and trans women who are immigrants and refugees.

- Legislative solutions to transphobic violence, including a ban on the “trans panic” defense and adding gender identity wording to Nebraska hate crimes laws.
- Non-discrimination protections based upon sexual orientation, gender identity, and gender expression in the areas of employment, housing, medical and mental health care, public accommodation, education, credit, state and locally funded programs, family leave, adoption, and foster care.
- Passage of the Equality Act in Congress to the extent that it amends the Civil Rights Act of 1964.
- Gender affirming care.

We oppose:

- Conversion therapy.
- Legislation negatively targeting the transgender community.
- Violence against the transgender community, which is more common against transgender women of color.
- Claims that transgender people are in any way a danger to our society.
- The requirement for trans women to receive Sexual Reassignment Surgery (SRS) to update gender markers.

Women’s Rights

We Support:

- Ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment.
- The right to vote, run for office, and hold leadership positions.
- Equal pay for equal work, fair employment, property ownership, and entrepreneurship.
- Equal and fair access to all levels of education and professional training.
- Access to quality healthcare, reproductive healthcare, contraception, safe childbirth, and bodily autonomy.
- Protection from domestic violence, sexual assault, harassment, trafficking, stalking, and abuse.
- The belief that there is no place in a civilized society for sexism, sexual violence, sexual harassment, sex discrimination, stalking in the workplace, politics, schools, health care systems, or in any place where a power differential may exist.
- The rapid and complete processing and preservation of all rape kits and other evidence.

- Equality before the law, freedom from discriminatory laws, and equal rights in family matters, such as marriage and divorce.
- Freedom of movement, expression, thought, and religion.
- Eighteen as the age of marriage without parental consent.
- Sixteen as the age of sexual consent, including “Romeo and Juliet laws” .

We Oppose:

- Economic, political, employment, and social inequities for women.
- Forced marriage.
- Forced sterilization.
- The requirement for trans women to receive Sexual Reassignment Surgery (SRS) to update gender markers.
- Genital mutilation

Criminal Justice and Law Enforcement Reform

We Support:

- Access to skilled training opportunities, fair wages, and worker protections for inmates.
- Investments in education, jobs, health care, and housing that are proven to keep communities safe.
- Continued reform of the state correctional system, including issues of appropriate staffing, mental health and medical treatment.
- Ending qualified immunity.
- Reducing the number of Americans held in jails and prisons through sentencing reform.
- Independently auditing sentences against sentencing guidelines.
- Offering incarcerated persons rehabilitation opportunities.
- Law enforcement training in implicit bias, trauma, crisis intervention and interaction with disabled individuals.
- Adopting oversight measures of law enforcement including the creation of a public database of law enforcement misconduct.
- All people receiving fair and equitable treatment in the criminal justice system.

- Ensuring prisons are habitable and meet the basic living needs of the incarcerated.
- Releasing prisoners who are no longer a threat to reoffend or negatively impact the community due to their age or physical limitations.

We Oppose:

- The use of jails in place of mental health and substance abuse treatment.
- Private prisons.
- Capital punishment.
- Cruel and unusual punishment, including, but not limited to, solitary confinement.
- Prison overcrowding.
- Use of pre-trial detention in non-violent offenses.

Education

We Support:

- Fully funded public education, at all levels, to meet the needs of all students.
- The Nebraska Constitutional provision that all public schools shall be free of compulsory religious instruction.
- Public schools providing specialized educational programs such as vocational training programs.
- Retired teachers covering one substitute for a medical illness or maternity leave per semester without a retirement benefits penalty.
- Local control of public schools through direct election of school board members.
- Direct election of members to the Nebraska State Board of Education (NSBOE).
- Changing Nebraska state statute to revise the appointment process for vacant seats on the NSBOE and permitting vacancies to be filled by the board.
- Public tax dollars going only to public schools.
- Fair and equitable compensation and benefits for teachers, faculty, and staff members.
- Alternative and flexible methods to obtain substitute teaching credentials through accredited institutions and programs.
- A broad curriculum featuring core subjects (english, math, science, social studies and world languages) and the arts, physical education, technology, vocational education, and school supported extra-curricular activities.
- Civics education as a graduation requirement.

- The establishment of a media literacy curriculum for K-12 by the State Board of Education.
- Academic freedom that embraces critical and independent thinking for students and faculty and ensures academic freedom of speech.
- Requiring human relations training for teachers.
- Strong co-curricular programs.
- Accessible, high quality libraries and information systems.
- Age appropriate, comprehensive, and inclusive sex education.
- A fully funded early childhood program available at no cost to every child in the State of Nebraska.
- Affordable and equitable access to Nebraska's public post-secondary educational institutions.
- Reform of the student loan program and a system of student loan forgiveness.
- Investment in behavioral and mental health professionals to assist students and staff in their social and emotional well-being.
- Free access to healthy and nutritious meals to pre-K through 12 students.
- A safe educational environment that is conducive to learning and free from all forms of bullying, harassment, or violence.
- Limit class sizes using research-appropriate student-to-teacher/faculty ratios.
- A ban of firearms at educational institutions with exceptions for sanctioned school sponsored shooting clubs, Reserve Officers' Training Corps (ROTC) students, emergency responders, and for select school resource officers.
- Initiatives to break the school-to-prison pipeline.
- The enforcement and full funding of both the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) for students, families, faculty and staff with disabilities.
- Queer students, families, and staff.
- The enforcement of Title IX to ensure all education programs that receive federal funding are free of gender and/or sex discrimination or harassment.
- Increasing the resources and programs for students, families, and staff of all languages and cultural, economic, and racial backgrounds.
- Development of comprehensive policies to combat gender-based discrimination, harassment, and violence.
- Re-issuing federal guidance from the Department of Education and the Department of Justice to prevent the disparate disciplinary treatment of BIPOC children and children with disabilities in educational settings.

- Supplying sufficient funding to employ guidance counselors, social workers, nurses, and school psychologists rather than turning to law enforcement to resolve disciplinary issues.
- Science-based vaccination requirements.
- School accreditation and certified staff.

We Oppose:

- Banning books.
- Charter schools.
- Voucher programs.
- Arming teachers.
- Mandatory religious instruction in public schools.
- Using test results to determine the quality of a school and its teachers.

Environment

We Support:

- Development of clean, sustainable, and affordable energy generation.
- Peer-reviewed and credible research based on scientific consensus.
- Protecting waterways within and bordering our state, including our most precious resource, the Ogallala Aquifer. Mni Wiconi. L'eau est la vie. "Water is life".
- Clean air and clean water as basic rights of all people.
- Water conservation by citizens and industry.
- Statutes and regulations that impose meaningful water conservation standards on agricultural, urban, and industrial water uses to ensure continued quality and access.
- Implementing legislation to regulate data centers and enforce closed loop cooling for data centers.
- Establishing a more robust assessment process to assess pollution violations with penalties which are enforced to prohibit industrial dumping of waste products.
- Being a good neighbor to those who use the water downstream.
- Meaningful consultation with communities impacted by siting, decommissioning, and land reclamation decisions to ensure that large corporations do not disproportionately benefit at the expense of local communities and to ensure that the communities that host projects reap a meaningful amount of the wealth generated as a result of the projects in their communities.

- Sensible zoning regulations which do not restrict renewable energy projects but respect reasonable setbacks and protections.
- Strengthening protections for our natural and cultural resources, increased access to parks and public lands for all Americans, protection of endangered and native species and wildlife, and harnessing the immense ecological and social potential of our public lands and waters.
- A successful public power grid.
- Providing consumers the flexibility to install renewable energy projects without overregulation from Public Power Districts (PPDs), state and local governments.
- Maintaining Nebraska as an all public power state.

We Oppose:

- Continued dominance of fossil fuels.
- Unsustainable development of AI, in particular through the harmful effects of data centers on the local water supply and increased energy demands.
- Proposed climate solutions that poorly balance the costs imposed on local communities against any benefits yielded as a result of the proposed climate solution.
- All efforts to politicize scientific results.

Family and Parental Rights

We support:

- Increasing supply and reducing the costs of quality, affordable childcare, preschool, early childhood development centers and afterschool programs.
- Paid family and medical leave.
- Early childhood development and improving school readiness and educational outcomes in disenfranchised, underserved communities.
- Providing public education for every student in an accredited school with credentialed teachers, community-based afterschool, summer, and vacation programs.
- Ensuring that Child Protective Services and social workers utilize trauma-informed practices and have the resources needed to protect children in family (domestic) and non-family (institutional) environments and addressing the disproportionate effect that our child welfare system has on families of color.
- Reunifying foster youth and families when safe and possible.

- Improving the foster care system, to ensure that child abuse and neglect court proceedings that protect the welfare of children, are accessible, swift, and unbiased;
- Expanding access to adoption services with fewer arbitrary hurdles while still protecting the identity, choices, and rights of the child.
- Enforcing child-support payment rulings; ensuring child support payments are timely paid, urging enforcement in a manner that maintains a payor's ability to pay.
- Encouraging foster youth to successfully complete high school.
- Addressing the disproportionate effect that our child welfare system has on families of color.
- Addressing the education, healthcare, employment, and housing needs of youth that age out of the state's foster care system and students that age out of the state's special education system.
- Ending disparities in and access to maternal, reproductive, and pregnancy healthcare.
- Ensuring access to affordable infertility services and providers.
- Pairing public assistance and education programs with skill building to break the cycle of poverty.

Firearms

We Support:

- Gun ownership as an individual right and responsibility.
- Responsible gun ownership practices, which include but are not limited to:
 - Storing firearms and ammunition separately and securely.
 - Universal background checks and closing of loopholes on all firearm purchases.
 - Education regarding gun responsibility and safety.
- A society free of gun violence.
- The right of communities to assess their own needs and respond democratically to gun violence by passing local ordinances, including limiting the carrying of concealed weapons without a permit.
- The repeal of the federal Protection of Lawful Commerce in Arms Act (PLCAA).
- The American Medical Association's (AMA) proposals regarding firearms, which include but are not limited to:
 - Limiting the purchase of guns to individuals 21 and over.

- Legislation that allows relatives of suicidal people or those who have threatened imminent violence to seek court-ordered removal of guns from the home (also known as red flag laws).
- Better training for physicians to recognize patients at risk for suicide.
- Ensuring domestic abusers do not have access to firearms.
- Criminal and civil liability for those who do not safely secure their guns.
- A national gun buyback program.
- Passage of common sense gun safety legislation.
- A tax on weapons and ammunition to fund school security measures.
- Fully funding the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) programs.
- The American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) proposals, which include but are not limited to:
 - Enacting a strong, effective assault weapons ban.
 - Requiring mandatory background checks and waiting periods for all firearm purchases, including long guns, and purchases from gun shows and private sales.
 - Enacting a ban on high-capacity magazines.
 - Enacting strong handgun regulations.
 - Requiring safe firearm storage under federal law.
- Scientific research into gun violence by the National Institutes of Health (NIH), the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), and other research agencies.

We Oppose:

- The use of firearms for intimidation and unlawful purposes.
- Unpermitted concealed carry.
- Straw firearm purchases.
- Laws prohibiting local jurisdictions from imposing gun control measures that are more restrictive than state law.
- Bump stocks, Ghost Guns, and kit firearms purchased without serial numbers.

First Amendment

We Support:

- Freedom of speech.
- Freedom of the press.
- Freedom of and/or from religion.

- Right to peaceably assemble and protest.
- Right to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.

We Oppose:

- Any and all attempts to limit the provisions of the 1st Amendment.
- Any infringement on the separation of church and state.

Gender-based Violence

We support:

- Victim-and-survivor-centered, trauma-informed, and equitable care and access to all available resources and supports.
- More funding for programs committed to advocating for and supporting all victims and survivors of gender-based violence, including rape, sexual harassment, sexual assault, domestic violence, human trafficking, and stalking, regardless of race, gender, gender identity, sexuality, disability, or religion.
- Greater access to affordable health care, including mental health, sexual, and reproductive health care.
- The rapid and complete testing, and preservation of all rape kits in the custody of law enforcement.
- Expansion of laws to increase prevention of sexual assault, sexual harassment, sex discrimination and stalking.
- Financially-accessible legal representation for victims.
- The right of all survivors to be believed and to testify of their experiences.
- Legal Aid Services, counseling and income support for low income survivors.
- The right to feel safe and secure, regardless of gender identity.

Government

We support:

- A non-partisan Unicameral.
- Providing the Legislature with the power to make appointments to vacancies left by the Governor within 90 days.
- Eliminating the power of corporations to make campaign contributions at the state level.
- Union representation on relevant governing and administrative boards.

- Amending the State Constitution to limit political contributions to a set amount.
- Major campaign finance reform that eliminates special interests' ability to buy elections.
- Automatic voter registration.
- A free and fair election process.
- Protecting the confidentiality of voter information files at the state level.
- Standards and a Code of Ethics for elected officials.
- A reasonable salary for State Legislators to promote broader representation of Nebraskans.
- An independent commission to draw our legislative and congressional districts.
- Expanding the number of members in Congress.
- Legislation to repeal Citizens United.
- The United States Postal Service's mission to provide prompt and reliable mail services at reasonable cost to all Nebraskans.
- Public assistance programs.
- Protecting property rights of all Nebraska landowners, farmers, ranchers, and homeowners.
- Providing residents of U.S. territories and federal districts full integration into the electoral process and statehood if desired.
- Recognizing Native People's sovereignty, dignity, and equality, and honoring all portions of Treaties with Native and Indigenous Peoples.
- The right of citizens to petition for initiatives and referendums to be placed on the ballot and to be fully and faithfully implemented in a timely manner.

We oppose:

- A Convention of States calling for an Article V Convention.
- Gerrymandering.
- Privatization of the United States Postal Service.
- The use of eminent domain for private gain.
- Efforts by the federal government to manage Nebraska's voting rolls, policies, and procedures.
- Penalization of homelessness.

Healthcare

We support:

- A robust, science-based, and thoroughly integrated public health system to support the state and the country with any future pandemic outbreaks.
- Expanding the current healthcare system to Medicare for All.
- Expanding Medicaid coverage in Nebraska.
- Full funding for the Children's Health Information Program (CHIP).
- Expansion of all available reproductive choices for all Nebraskans and increased healthcare access for individuals and their newborns to decrease the maternal mortality and fetal mortality rates in Nebraska.
- Increased access and funding to rural health clinics, critical care hospitals, community hospitals, health centers and nursing homes.
- Mental health as an essential part of health and healthcare and that access to supportive interventions should be available to all Nebraskans.
- Medical cannabis as a prescribed treatment for medically diagnosed conditions.
- Reduced prescription drug costs.
- Full access to healthcare, resources, and community HIV prevention and testing programs.
- Expanded rehabilitation and destigmatization for persons struggling with drug addiction.
- Government negotiations for better prices on healthcare and prescriptions.
- Healthcare that is affordable and does not result in bankruptcy or significant hardship for individuals and families.
- Education regarding HIV/AIDS.
- Healthcare cost transparency with itemized disclosure of hospital procedure costs, for pre-op comparison, and insurance reconciliation.
- Public health funding and Affordable Care Act subsidies to purchase health insurance.
- The right of individuals to make end-of-life decisions without government interference.

We oppose:

- Any and all attacks on our health benefits.
- Using Social Security or the Medicare Trust Fund for other than its original purpose.
- Denials to life-preserving medical care, medications, or medical supplies due to cost or pre-existing conditions.
- Any local, state or federal laws that impede a person's right to a safe and legal abortion and other reproductive care.

Housing

We Support:

- Housing/Homeownership that is accessible to all citizens.
- Increasing the availability of affordable housing.
- The rights of tenants to organize without fear or retribution.
- Affordable homeowners' and renters insurance.
- Funding programs that enable the purchase and redevelopment of distressed properties to be sold as affordable homeownership opportunities.
- Legislative action to address the shortage of safe and affordable housing units across the state.
- Legislation to protect and assist Nebraskans living in substandard housing .
- Increased funding for assistance to first-time buyers to help navigate the financing and servicing of their homes.
- Action to end the crisis of homelessness.
- Strong protections against housing discrimination.
- Providing Section 8 housing support for every eligible family and support protections that keep landlords from discriminating against voucher recipients.
- The Uniform Residential Landlord and Tenant Act and the Mobile Home Landlord and Tenant Act.
- Increasing investments in publicly owned and maintained workforce housing across Nebraska to expand its availability and to improve and upgrade existing public housing to ensure safe living conditions for residents, protecting tenants' rights to return if extensive renovations are needed.
- A People First approach to all matters of housing.

We Oppose:

- Redlining and predatory lending practices.
- Large investment firms that buy up single family homes.

Immigration

We Support:

- Abolishing Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) and the creation of an immigration and naturalization agency.

- Fair, effective, and humane immigration reform.
- The intent and spirit of the 14th Amendment that grants citizenship to all people born in the U.S.
- Refugee protections for individuals fleeing war and violence.
- Employment-based visas that meet labor market needs.
- Guaranteed legal counsel in all immigration proceedings.
- Legal counsel that can fluently communicate with the immigrant they are representing.
- Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) recipients (aka Dreamers) in their pursuit of a pathway to citizenship.
- Expedited protections for foreign nationals who assisted U.S. military or diplomatic efforts in conflict zones.
- Culturally appropriate immigrant integration services, including expanded English language education, workforce development, and legal aid.
- Inclusion of immigrants' contributions in this nation's history.
- The location of detainees is known and available to attorneys at all times.
- Secure borders.

We Oppose:

- Use of local facilities in Nebraska used as detention centers without
- consultation of stakeholders and community leaders.
- Any freeze on green cards, Temporary Protective Status (TPS), or asylum
- protection for new immigrants.
- Detention, caging, and/or separation of children from their families.
- Any fast-track pathway to citizenship that allows wealthy non-citizens to purchase preferential access.
- Immigration enforcement practices by ICE or other agents that instill fear, rely on racial profiling, deny due process, or target safe space locations such as schools, places of worship, hospitals, and social service centers.
- Rhetoric and policies that demonize immigrants and deny their essential role in building and sustaining our nation.
- Attacks on asylum and lawful dual, naturalized, and birthright citizenship.
- Efforts to penalize those who follow the current immigration and asylum law.
- Abuse of employment-based visas.

Labor and Economy

We Support:

- Efforts to protect labor from the negative effects of the development of artificial intelligence.
- Inclusion of Cost-of-Living Adjustments (“COLA”) in defined benefit plans.
- Enhanced enforcement to punish wage theft, including wage theft perpetrated against tipped employees.
- Development, funding, and promotion of intrastate and interstate passenger rail service.
- Small businesses.
- An economy that creates jobs, invests in industries, and improves infrastructure.
- Investment that elevates minority and BIPOC owned businesses.
- Access to credit for those who are disenfranchised by the current system that holds back those that lack starting capital.
- Rural economic development to support economic revival, affordable housing, and access to quality education.
- Investment in Rural Broadband and subsidizing innovation in underserved areas.
- Access to health care including telehealth, mental health professionals and senior care and investments that recognize the geographical challenges posed in rural areas.
- Strengthening rural postal services.
- Economic development in urban areas benefiting the diverse communities and elevating those people and areas that need it the most.
- Urban development that considers input from affected communities and gives weight to the negative impact on long standing residents and businesses as well as those who will benefit.
- The right of all workers to organize and join Unions.
- Safe workplaces for everyone including the many agricultural workers, railroad workers, first responders, medical professionals, and construction workers.
- A livable wage that includes a COLA.
- Retirement security, access to affordable health care and child care, maternity and paternity leave, paid sick leave, and earned paid time off for workers.
- Area wage standards and continued support for Davis-Bacon laws.
- Protecting Labor agreements.

- Stronger penalties for employers that commit illegal acts during organizing campaigns.
- Responsible bidder requirements for public projects.
- State licensing of trades workers.
- Immigrant workers.

We Oppose:

- Public investments that inordinately benefit owners/investors over the public.
- Union busting.
- Subminimum wage for minors.
- So-called “Right to Work” laws that provide neither rights nor work, these laws should be repealed.
- Any changes in workplace regulations that do not consider the effect on safety in the workplace.
- Increasing the age of full retirement under Social Security.
- Workplace harassment.
- Restricting of Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA)’s access to workplaces.

Legalization of Recreational Cannabis

We support:

- Legalization of recreational cannabis for those 21 years of age and older under a state-regulated system.
- Modifying Nebraska business and tax law, zoning, grower and business permissions to promote the regulation, growing, and sales of cannabis for recreational use.
- Use of tax revenue from the regulation and sale of cannabis to help reduce the reliance on property and income taxes, and bolster Nebraska’s economy.

Libraries and Information

We support:

- Adequate public financing.

- Public libraries, librarians, and the information/community space they provide are valuable to our communities.
- Employment of certified professional librarians.
- Access to supportive technologies and multiple forms of technology.
- The right of the public to read what they choose.
- The right of public libraries to develop library collections to meet community needs.
- Protection of librarians as they perform their duties to support the public's right to read and obtain information.
- The right to privacy of patrons for their records and reading choices.

National Security and International Policy

We Support:

- Strengthening our relationship with the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO).
- Free elections and democracy.
- Foreign aid that helps people achieve economic self-sufficiency.
- Protection and promotion of women's rights, including comprehensive, adequately funded international family planning programs and women's reproductive healthcare.
- United Nations mediation of international conflicts and global reduction in armed forces, nuclear, and conventional weapons.
- International cooperation to address the climate crisis.
- Reinstating the United States Agency for International Development ("USAID").
- Multilateral sanctions on non-life sustaining industries and materials.

We Oppose:

- Facism and authoritarianism.
- Terrorism, dictatorial, exploitative domestic and international policies.
- Groups such as militias, cults, and reactionary organizations which weaken democracy, and are a clear and present danger to our Constitution.
- Candidates who advocate for the abolishment of government offices and bureaus which have provided services to people in need.

- Efforts by individuals and groups in the United States which cause internal divisions and weaken the Union.
- Supplying offensive and defensive arms and funds to ANY country, group, organization, or occupation (ally or not) committing human rights violations because of our commitment to the U.S. Leahy Laws and our Duty to Act under the Geneva Conventions.

Native American Rights

We support:

- An Executive Order countermanding the Executive Order issued by President Theodore Roosevelt in 1904 and returning the Oglala Lakota treaty land including the Whiteclay Extension to the Oglala Lakota Sovereign Nation.
- Policy makers in all legislatures affected to fully fund its obligations to the health and welfare of all Native Peoples and Tribal Nations.
- Federal government commitment to providing full funding to meet trust and treaty obligations to Tribal Nations and Native American peoples.
- Increased funding, resources, and financial tools for Tribes, particularly in the key areas of criminal justice, health care, education, housing, and economic development.
- The security of Native peoples (Native Americans, Alaska Natives, and Native Hawaiians) to ensure that Tribes have the resources needed to investigate and prosecute crimes in their communities, including cooperation from law enforcement agencies outside Tribal lands.
- The fight for justice for Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women (MMIW), Missing and Murdered Indigenous People (MMIP), and Indigenous children. We also support the MMIW Awareness Day and the allocation of federal resources to address these epidemic crises, and the enforcement and expansion of the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA).
- Expansion of the crimes that can be prosecuted under the federal statute to include stalking, child abuse, and trafficking. We also support Indian Tribal jurisdiction over Tribal lands, and further efforts to address the *Oliphant* decision.
- The Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA) and the enforcement to protect Native families and involve Tribes in child welfare cases.
- Federal programs to reduce the disproportionate incarceration and sentencing disparities of Native American, Alaska Native, and Native Hawaiian individuals
- Full funding and assurance that all formerly incarcerated Native persons reentering back into their Tribal communities have access to housing, employment

services, and health care, including mental health and substance use disorder treatment.

- Full funding to ensure that all formerly incarcerated Native persons reentering back into their Tribal communities have access to housing, employment services, and health care, including mental health and substance use disorder treatment.
- The recognition of Tribal documents as proof of citizenship.

Reproductive Rights

We support:

- The right to choose when and whether or not to bear children.
- An end to racial disparities in reproductive health and pregnancy care for BIPOC and low-income birthing people.
- Comprehensive reproductive care across the lifespan.
- Universal access to routine contraception, emergency contraception, and abortion.
- Access to doulas, midwives, and/or obstetricians.
- Treatment for postpartum depression and anxiety.
- Health insurance coverage for full spectrum reproductive health care.
- ~~Free~~ Placement of free menstrual products in prisons, homeless shelters, and public schools.
- Access to medication abortion via Telehealth.

Senior Rights

We Support:

- Protecting and fully funding Social Security, Medicaid (Access Nebraska), and Medicare.
- Annual COLA that reflects ~~for the~~ actual costs that seniors face.
- Maintaining Social Security Field Centers across Nebraska, including mobile offices.
- Medicare coverage of hearing, vision, dental, and medically indicated services and products.
- Protection of older workers and job applicants against age discrimination and unfair treatment in the workplace.

- Protecting and preserving retirement benefits, including hard-earned private and public pensions.
- Policies which protect pensioners from corporate bankruptcy and confiscation of earned benefits.
- Programs that allow seniors to age in place, with dignity, including in-home care, meal delivery, and respite services for family caregivers.
- Awareness and access to vocational training and independent living programs.
- Expanding compensation to be competitive with market wages for in-home assistance/family care.
- Revising the property appraisal system and increasing the homestead exemption to prevent seniors from being taxed out of their homes.
- Lender requirements that are designed to protect seniors from financial abuse.
- Local, affordable, community based, independent, assisted, and memory level senior living facilities.
- Programs that provide training and education for community members to care for elderly family members and/or neighbors.
- Enhancing local educational opportunities to address the critical shortage of staffing in the state's rural care facilities.
- Education, enforcement and promotion of laws, and services that protect seniors from consumer fraud, identity theft, sexual abuse, and elder abuse.
- Funding intergenerational childcare and senior care in shared facilities.

We Oppose:

- Efforts to reduce Social Security, Medicare, and Medicaid benefits owed to seniors.
- The diversion and/or privatization of dedicated Social Security, Medicare, and Medicaid resources for other purposes.
- Predatory financial practices targeted at Seniors.
- Mandatory retirement.
- Efforts to use retirement benefits to balance budgets.

Taxation

We Support:

- Increasing the earned income tax credit.
- Excluding tips from income taxes.
- Excluding overtime income from income taxes.

- Creating a childcare tax credit.
- More progressive income tax tables to provide tax relief for lower income Nebraskans.
- Taxing billionaires through the creation of a wealth tax.
- Restoring balance among Nebraska's income taxes, property taxes and sales taxes.
- Tax incentives that promote reindustrialization in urban and rural communities, including:
 - Targeted tax incentives to promote the development of skilled labor through apprenticeships,
 - Tax incentives that support infrastructure investments, such as broadband internet.
 - The expansion of existing workforce housing programs and the creation of new tax incentives to grow the supply of budget friendly housing.
 - The periodic reevaluation of state tax incentive programs for effectiveness.
- Reforms of the Tax Increment Finance (TIF) program.
- Economic Development projects which provide local benefits, including by:
 - Developing Nebraska's worldwide competitiveness in energy, agriculture, and education.
 - Expanding the renewable energy sector of our economy through the nameplate capacity tax.
- Increased tax collection enforcement.
- Broadening the sales tax base and lowering the sales tax rates.

We Oppose:

- Eliminating the inheritance tax.
- Taxing food, medicine, personal hygiene products, and similar basic necessities.
- Reducing the corporate income tax.
- Tax exemptions and credits to large corporations.

Technology

We Support:

- Artificial Intelligence ("AI") policies that prioritize and protect workers, individual privacy, the environment, and intellectual property rights.
- AI regulations.

- Net neutrality.
- Equal access to information.
- High-speed Internet connectivity.
- Stricter limits on the collection of personal and consumer data.
- Legislation to protect data privacy.
- Expanding broadband infrastructure capable of supporting business, education, and personal requirements.
- Technological access to local hospitals, telehealth services, community clinics, senior care facilities, and mental health providers.
- Increased funding to update the technology for local hospitals, telehealth services, community clinics, senior care facilities, and mental health providers.
- Reasonable regulation of technology use and development.
- Reclaiming stolen personal data.

United States Supreme Court Code of Conduct

We Support:

- An enforceable United States Supreme Court Code of Conduct.
- Fair and impartial Supreme Court Justices.

We Oppose:

- Supreme Court Justices who preside over cases in which they may have a conflict of interest.
- Use of the so-called Shadow Docket to hand down decisions.
- Supreme Court Justices accepting gifts.

Veteran and Military Families

We Support:

- Full funding of Veteran Administration services.
- Affordable quality housing opportunities and services for homeless and disabled veterans.
- Interstate travel for necessary healthcare from their residence or place of deployment.

- Full and complete access to health coverage including mental health services for Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (“PTSD”) and other conditions.
- Expansion and maintenance of vocational rehabilitation and employment services and veteran employment and training services.
- Continued funding of the G.I. Bill.
- The preservation of rights for all who want to serve in the Military including an environment free from discrimination.
- Improved paths to career advancement, promotion, combat, and leadership positions for underserved groups including Queer, Women, and BIPOC individuals.

We Oppose:

- Predatory recruitment practices.
- Predatory lending practices and predatory schools tuition/VA lending practices who target veterans.
- Use of active duty military forces or National Guard forces as law enforcement assets.
- Discrimination against veterans and their families by ICE Officers.
- The draft.

Young Democrats

We support:

- Fostering intergenerational partnerships among Nebraska Democrats.
- Focused voter registration of young Democrats.
- GOTV (Get out the Vote) among young Democrats.
- Efforts to encourage the retention of young Nebraskans in rural communities through the development of arts and cultural programs.
- Employment that provides a living wage and opportunity for advancement.
- Adequate funding for quality community colleges and trade schools.
- Building high school and college Democratic Party chapters.
- Mentoring young people by creating opportunities for them within the party and recruiting young people to run for office.
- Education on voter registration and voting.

Nebraska Democrats Believe:

Our State's greatest strength is our people: honest, hard-working people from all walks of life. We want to do well for ourselves and our families and do our part for our communities, state and country. Democrats respect the dignity of every person—no matter who you are, what you look like, who you love or where you come from. Each of us has something valuable to contribute to our state. Democrats fight every day to move our state forward and make our government and our economy work for every Nebraskan, not just a select few at the top or special interests. We believe in growing the good life for all Nebraskans.

In this, Democrats believe:

- In electing people who know that the proper role of government is to use the people's common resources to provide conditions in which We the People can be the best people we can be, contributing to their communities and can live living "The Good Life".
- In a country that's founded on the principle that all of us are created equal and are endowed with have inalienable rights including life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.
- In a government formed to secure those rights by forming a more perfect union, establishing justice, ensuring domestic tranquility, promoting common welfare and securing the blessings of liberty for We the People. policies and government budgets that ensure Nebraskans a fair shot at success and at the American Dream.
- In an economy in which working people can take care of themselves and their families without having to choose between food, shelter or clothing on one hand or healthcare on the other hand.
- In a market economy in which farmers and business owners receive fair prices for their goods and services and have a level playing field without unfair competition or monopolies.
- In a strong fully funded public school system to ensure that every child has an opportunity for quality public education to help them become a contributing member of our community.
- In protecting our air, water, and land in order to pass down a legacy of a clean environment by taking action on climate change.
- The rights of working people to join a union for just, safe and productive workplaces and a secure retirement.

NDP Platform and Resolutions Committee Acknowledgments:

We extend our sincere gratitude for the inspiration, ideas, and plank language that came from National and State Democratic Party Platforms, Nebraska Democrats, Nebraska Democratic Party Platform Committee, and the Nebraska Democratic State Convention Delegation.

EXHIBIT 24

WFP MEMBERSHIP: FAQ

What do WFP members do?

WFP members are involved in different ways, big and small! From elections to issue advocacy, it's a true “get in where you fit in” environment. Many members follow WFP in the media and take action by signing petitions or reaching out to their representatives on key issues. Others join our volunteer events to contact voters by text, phones or hit the pavement in support of WFP champions.

WFP members also take on leadership roles within the party; some folks co-lead the national WFP Text Team, others join their local WFP affiliate and participate with fellow members at home in their communities. Members sometimes help identify and recruit candidates to run for office, participate in endorsement interviews, mobilize and campaign for WFP champions to win and after election day, and hold them accountable to co-govern with us once in office. As a member, you also get to vote on important decisions affecting the direction of the party. There are so many ways to participate in our party's work.

Why should I become a dues-paying WFP member?

To achieve our long-term vision of a society rooted in equality, dignity, solidarity, and compassion requires building governing power by and for the multiracial working class. It means out-organizing what organized capital has bought. That's why we formed a party — a group of individuals that organize together to engage in elections to advance a transformative structural change platform that locks in real gains for working class people.

The Working Families Party model — and especially our success over the last few years—provides a promising roadmap to progress: building a truly multiracial, working class coalition capable of building the governing power required to make our nation one that truly cares for us all.

We have a history of winning concrete improvements for the working class, including but not limited to:

- Seven state \$15 minimum wage increases, 11 state paid family leave or sick day policies, and pay equity legislation in two states.
- Progressive revenue in New York, including \$2.1 billion to distribute relief to workers excluded from other federal relief—mainly undocumented immigrants.
- Democracy reforms, including small-dollar public financing, state/federal primary consolidation, and automatic voter registration in New York; mass mail-in voting in New Jersey; Native voter access protection and improved mail-in voting in New Mexico; and public financing and the restoration of voting rights to incarcerated people in DC.

- \$15 million cut from DC's police budget, with funds reallocated toward community programs, while securing far-ranging police and justice reforms.
- Historic public investments in New Mexico schools and crucial funds for Milwaukee, WI's schools as they dig out from the wreckage of the Walker years.
- Expanding public consciousness and the limits of what is possible, including tectonic shifts around taxing the rich, climate, and spending toward the public good that have taken large-scale investments like Build Back Better out of the fringe and into the mainstream.

However, if we are to build political power for the working class year after year, race after race, we need sustained political funding by our people. This allows us to:

- Build the progressive movement's electoral engine, fueled by and for our working class membership, and integrate smooth cycles of elections, legislative advocacy, and movement building.
- Continue developing nationwide non-delusional leaders—leaders who don't just determine what's wrong, but set a clear-headed path to power to make things different.
- Counter the Democratic Party leadership's focus on self preservation and make a principled push for the most visionary agenda for working people.
- Run essential programs in off-cycle time periods to build our base, leadership, and candidate and campaign staff pipelines.
- Work in deep alignment with candidates at the earliest stages of their campaigns in their primary and general elections.

What if I'm not a citizen of the USA?

Under federal law, “foreign nationals” — anyone who isn’t an American citizen or green card holder — may not make contributions to or participate in decision making for a political organization. If you still want to support our goals, you can make a monthly contribution to our ally Working Families Power, a 501(c)(4) organization that works to build the power of the multi-racial working class through organizing and advocacy across the country. [Click here](#).

What if I'm not ready to become a dues-paying member?

You should learn more about the Working Families Party and get involved in your area! Here are two easy steps to get started:

1. Learn more about us:

1. Get a sense of WFP’s vision and values by taking a look at our [endorsed candidates](#) and [recent news highlights](#).
2. Attend a WFP Welcome Gathering, where you can meet other WFP members and learn more about our vision and strategy. We hold Welcome Gatherings on a monthly basis; [sign up here for the next one](#).
3. [Join us at another upcoming WFP event](#) or volunteer opportunity, either online or in your community.

2. Work with us:

1. One of the best ways to get involved is in your local community and we have a growing number of WFP affiliates across the country. See if there’s a local WFP affiliate in your

area! [You can search by zip code here for events and opportunities near you.](#)

2. [Join our National Text Team!](#) Nearly every Tuesday, we come together to text with voters about key races and issues.

How do I know if I'm a dues-paying member?

Go to <https://secure.actblue.com/signin>. If you contributed with a Gmail account, click the “**sign in with Google**”. If you contributed with another kind of email, click “**create an account**” and use the email you made your transaction with and add a password.

Select “**Recurring**” from the left panel. If you are a dues-paying member, you will see a recurring donation to WFP there of at least \$10 a month.

If you still have questions, contact us at member@workingfamilies.org

What is the difference between a member and a dues-paying member?

General individual members of WFP are defined as individuals who state their intent to join as a member (including through actions such as online actions, contributions, and signups) and either pay regular membership dues or otherwise annually reaffirm their intent to remain a member.

Dues-paying members are defined as individuals who contribute \$10 or more a month or \$120 in the past year. Dues-paying members

receive a package with WFP swag, and receive 15% off at our WFP store and occasional discounts at WFP events.

My voter registration is with the Democratic or other party. Can I still become a dues-paying member?

Yes! Becoming a member of WFP does not change your voter registration. Many WFP members choose to keep their voter registration status as Democrat so they can participate in closed elections where WFP endorsed candidates are running on the Democratic Party line. Whether your voter registration is with the Democratic Party, another party, or unaffiliated, you can still join as a WFP member.

What about in Connecticut, New York and Oregon?

In Connecticut, New York, and Oregon, the Working Families Party has statewide ballot access and you can vote on the Working Families Party line. In those states, you can choose to change your voter registration status to Working Families Party. However, changing your voter registration status to WFP is not necessary to join as a dues-paying member.

I'm going through a really hard time financially, but I still want to become a member. What should I do?

If you're unable to contribute at this time, we'd still love you to be a part of the WFP as a member! If you're not already a member, [add your name here to join us](#) and then [search by zipcode for events and opportunities near you](#) to get involved.

How to change your monthly dues amount

1. Go to <https://secure.actblue.com/signin>
2. If you contributed with a gmail account click the “**sign in with google**”. If you contributed with another kind of email, click “**create an account**” and use the email you made your transaction with and add a password.
3. (If you have an admin act blue account, you may need to select “Manage” in the top right navigation, and click “Contributions” in the drop down menu)
4. Select “**Recurring**” from the left panel
5. Click on the appropriate recurring contribution
6. At the bottom select the gear that says “**Change recurring settings**”
7. On the Recurring Settings page you will be able to change the amount, how long it recurs (blank means unlimited until you cancel) and then click save.





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CONTACT BY MAIL

Working Families Party

77 Sands St. #6

Brooklyn, NY 11201

Made with Middle Seat

By taking action on this page, I affirm my intent to join or continue as a member of the Working Families Party, and to receive periodic updates from WFP.

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EXHIBIT 25

POLITICO

New York Playbook PM

Your afternoon must-read briefing informing the daily conversation among knowledgeable New Yorkers



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The Dems' WFP problem

By **JASON BEEFERMAN** | 11/18/2025 05:18 PM EST

POLITICO



SOMETHING'S SPOILED: The lefty Working Families Party — by its own admission — has been “hijacked” by its GOP opponents at the ballot box. And Democrats are likely losing because of it.

On Long Island, an 83-year-old grandma said she had “no idea” she was on the ballot for Huntington town supervisor. That’s despite the fact that she nabbed 1,195 votes as the WFP

candidate on Election Day — more than the Democrat ended up losing the race by.

In the Hudson Valley, the Clarkstown Town Council's lone Democratic seat was flipped red when a Working Families Party candidate named Ryan Orlando — whom Democratic leaders say they've never heard of — also nabbed more votes than the Republican candidate's margin of victory over the Democratic incumbent.

"I have no idea who he is," said Gregory Sheehan, the co-chair of Clarkstown's Democratic Committee. "I've never seen him around anywhere, doing any events across the town... it's a relatively small town."

Around the state, the "tax the rich" third party hoping to push Democrats to the left continues to fall prey to unknown "spoiler" candidates that WFP leaders say are really GOP operatives acting in disguise to hurt Democrats' chances.

The operatives appear to be unknown to the WFP until it's too late, but have nonetheless waltzed their way to victory in WFP primaries in suburbs where the third party sees few primary voters. Then, the candidates run in the general and pull lefty voters away from Democrats, the WFP alleges.

The phenomenon played out in at least two races this month, had an infamous role in a competitive congressional race last year and — if Election Day is any indication — threatens to upend Democrats' chances in the Hudson Valley yet again.

"The system is being manipulated," said Sheehan.

The practice of raiding minor parties has been common for a long time — and has become only more common since 2019 changes to state election law led to the demise of entities like the Independence Party.

Democrats passed a bill on the last day of this year's legislative session that would let the WFP disenroll any members who don't actually seem to be in sympathy with the party's goals. Since it's the only party in New York these days without county-level organization, it's the only one that doesn't currently have a path to ousting potential raiders. The bill will need to be acted on by Gov. Kathy Hochul by the end of the year.

It was motivated by a situation last year, when Republican Rep. Mike Lawler handily defeated Mondaire Jones in NY-17. In that race, Anthony Frascione, whom WFP leaders decried as a "MAGA plant," won a WFP primary and appeared on the general election ballot. That forced the WFP to spend money on a "robust program" to tell voters not to vote

on its own party line. Party leaders even confronted Frascone at his doorstep with a “Fake Candidate” sign and scoldings about his supposed WFP bona fides. Frascone responded by sassily telling WFP co-chair Ana María Archila that she reminded him of former presidential candidate Kamala Harris (which was an apparent insult).

Jones ended up losing by more votes than Frascone garnered anyway, and, one year later, the WFP is still decrying apparent GOP use of their ballot line in Lawler’s district.

“Republicans have tricked voters and hijacked the Working Families ballot line to skew the election results,” Sydney Watnick, a spokesperson for the WFP, said when asked about Orlando’s victory. “What happened in Clarkstown is proof that Republicans have little respect for our democracy and for working people who stand to lose so much with their disastrous policies.”

She acknowledged that Orlando has no affiliation or connection whatsoever with the WFP. When Orlando was reached by phone and asked about accusations he’s a “spoiler,” Orlando said “I don’t know what you’re talking about” and hung up.

The party gave a similar statement about Maria Delgado, the 83-year-old who may have unknowingly spoiled the Huntington race.

Watnick said the WFP is “working hard to prevent this from happening” by “exploring every potential solution with our team” but wouldn’t share what that strategy is.

“Rest assured, this is being addressed — more soon,” she said.

According to Sheehan, Republicans have exploited the WFP ballot line in Clarkstown for years. He recalled one instance in which a party volunteer went to canvass and door-knock a WFP voter’s home but arrived to see a Trump flag in the yard.

Clarkstown is in Rockland County, where Lawler serves as the county’s GOP chair.

When reached by Playbook, Lawler did not directly answer questions about whether he was involved with Frascone’s candidacy or thinks a similar situation will happen again in the competitive 2026 race for his seat — but he has a message for Democrats.

“They lost an election. Run a better campaign next time and stop whining,” Lawler said in a statement. “The Democrats and WFP should do a better job of recruiting candidates and making sure they win elections.” — **Jason Beeferman**

A message from Amazon:

Amazon Prime members save \$500 yearly on delivery costs — helping make it more affordable to get essentials, groceries, household items and more delivered when they need them. [Learn more.](#)

FROM CITY HALL

STANNING FOR THE ‘STAN: Just as Mayor Eric Adams was preparing to jet off to Uzbekistan, his former aide was getting sentenced in federal court for organizing a scheme for an Uzbek-American businessperson to give straw donations to Adams’ mayoral campaign.

Adams’ former Muslim community liaison Mohamed Bahi got three years probation, with the first year on home detention, and will have to pay \$32,000 in restitution, a spokesperson for the U.S. Attorney’s Office for the Southern District of New York said.

Bahi pleaded guilty in August to conspiracy to commit wire fraud after prosecutors accused him of directing Tolib Mansurov, founder and CEO of construction firm United Elite Group, to reimburse his employees for donations made to Adams’ campaign as part of a scheme to nab public matching funds in December 2020.

Mansurov cooperated with investigators and wasn’t charged. But the feds found he was serving as a proxy for the Uzbek government, which hoped to benefit from its access to the mayor, as THE CITY reported. Adams is now visiting Uzbekistan for a five-day stay on invitation from the country’s president.

The related charges against Adams were infamously dropped by the Trump administration earlier this year. Adams denied knowing about the state donor scheme, and no evidence was presented to suggest that he had directed it.

Asked about the ironic timing of the visit to the Central Asian nation, Adams’ spokesperson Fabien Levy said he’s always honored the city’s diverse communities.

“This visit has everything to do with making the city a better place to live for New Yorkers of all types of ethnic backgrounds,” he said, “despite any false political narrative that members of the media may want to create.” — **Jeff Coltin**

A message from Amazon:



FROM THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT

FREE TO GO?: Federal prosecutors agreed to conditionally drop charges against New York elected officials arrested in September at 26 Federal Plaza, but New York City Comptroller Brad Lander rejected the deal and wants a trial.

On the building's notorious 10th floor, Lander and 10 state lawmakers were arrested earlier this fall after they demanded to inspect holding rooms described by migrants as unsafe and unsanitary. Each was facing a petty misdemeanor for things like blocking an elevator. At the time, a Department of Homeland Security official called the scene a "stunt."

But prosecutors agreed to drop the charges if the lawmakers don't get arrested inside another federal building in the next six months, according to the legislators.

During an arraignment on Tuesday, most of the lawmakers — including state Sens. Jabari Brisport, Julia Salazar and Gustavo Rivera and Assemblymembers Emily Gallagher, Marcela Mitaynes, Tony Simone, Jessica González-Rojas and Claire Valdez — waited while their attorneys conferred with a prosecutor from the Southern District of New York before a deal was reached. Two other assemblymembers, Robert Carroll and Steven Raga, were not present but had legal representation.

"We were afforded due process today, but so many others have been robbed of that right," Valdez said in remarks outside a Manhattan courthouse.

Lander, who is planning a run for Congress, wants to fight the September charge.

"I requested a trial — the crime is on the other side of the 10th floor door," he said.

Lander, who was also arrested but not charged at the same facility in June, said he wants to use a trial to uncover more information about the conditions at 26 Federal Plaza via the discovery process and cross-examine immigration authorities who could be witnesses.

Separately on Tuesday, Trump's border czar, Tom Homan, warned of increased immigration enforcement actions in New York City. Asked about those comments, Lander said Homan seems to be "threatening a lot of people" and mocked Homan's comments last week criticizing the Catholic Church's stance on immigration.

"He went at the pope as if he knew what God wants," Lander said. — **Ry Rivard**

FROM THE CAMPAIGN TRAIL

BUFF-A-WOE BILLS: Buffalo mayor-elect Sean Ryan's first order of business is making his soon-to-be-former Albany colleagues aware of the financial problems facing the Queen City.

"The city of Buffalo faces a very deep fiscal hole," said Ryan, who will leave his state Senate seat at the start of the year. "They've had a structurally imbalanced budget for a long time. Any gimmick, any money under the couch cushions, is gone."

Ryan was at the state Capitol this week to meet with Hochul budget chief Blake Washington to discuss Buffalo's budget woes and a potential plan to address them. The issue stands to define his first years as mayor of the state's second-largest city.

"We won't get out of it alone. We have to work with our government partners," Ryan told reporters after his meeting with Washington.

But Buffalo's budget issues will almost certainly be overshadowed by New York City mayor-elect Zohran Mamdani's agenda next year, when he will press for free bus service and universal child care – and state funding to achieve those goals.

Ryan, though, is getting a low-key start now to lobby Albany on the issue. It may help that the governor is a Buffalo resident herself.

"We all know Kathy Hochul loves her hometown of Buffalo, but unless there is a plan in place that makes sense for the taxpayers, there's not much she can do," he said. "We're going to put that plan in place." — **Nick Reisman**

CHANGE AGENT: Mamdani took in \$200,000 for his transition committee today, with around half that haul coming in the hour after posting a new fundraising video this

morning, according to a spokesperson.

The 34-year-old employed social media to great effect during the campaign, and has continued to appeal to his very-online-base as he seeks to raise \$4 million for his transition team, which is building out the administration that will take over government in January.

So far, Mamdani has raised more than \$1 million in the roughly two weeks since his general election win, his team announced over the weekend and confirmed today. — **Joe Anuta**

A message from Amazon:

In New York, convenience can also mean savings. Prime members save \$500 yearly on delivery costs, helping make it more affordable to get everyday essentials, groceries, household items and more delivered when they need them. It's one more way Amazon helps New Yorkers save time and money. [Learn more.](#)

FROM CITY HALL

TELL ME HOW YOU REALLY FEEL: Gov. Kathy Hochul has a policy of almost never commenting on pending legislation — but one of her top advisers widely sent out an email revealing her true thoughts on a highly-controversial climate bill in an apparent error.

“I am hugely against the bottle bill. Incredibly problematic,” said Kathryn Garcia, the state’s director of operations, in an email that unknowingly copied a list of several reporters.

The email was first reported by the New York Post’s Vaughn Golden.

Garcia was apparently referring to a measure backed by environmental advocates and some Democratic lawmakers which would expand the state’s bottle redemption program and double the 5 cent deposit that’s remained stagnant since its inception in the 1980s.

They say the uneven application to different types of beverages is confusing to consumers. Increasing the deposit and payments for redemption centers will ultimately increase recycling rates, supporters of the bill say.

While expanding the bottle bill has been a quixotic priority for environmental advocates for years, Hochul hasn’t ever embraced the push. She’s never included a bottle bill expansion

or change in her budget proposals. Garcia, a former mayoral hopeful, previously opposed similar measures as the city's sanitation commissioner.

Still, Ken Lovett, a spokesperson on energy and the environment for Hochul, indicated we shouldn't read into Garcia's leaked point of view. "The Administration does not take positions on legislation that hasn't passed both houses of the Legislature. If the bill does pass both houses, we will review the final bill," he said in a statement. — **Jason Beeferman and Marie French**

DEMS LAUNCH FOR ROLISON SEAT: Three Democrats have launched campaigns in the Poughkeepsie-area district currently held by Sen. Rob Rolison. That seat is one of the top Democratic targets next year, following the party's strong showing in area contests like those for the Dutchess County Legislature earlier this month.

One of the Democrats who contributed to that string of victories, County Legislator-elect Emma Arnoff, announced her plans to run for the Senate seat this morning.

She joins a Democratic field that already includes Poughkeepsie Councilman Evan Menist and County Legislator Lisa Kaul. One Democrat familiar with the district says the number of contenders in a potential primary will likely grow by one or two more candidates in the coming weeks. — **Bill Mahoney**

IN OTHER NEWS

— **ICE'D OUT:** A judge dismissed Trump's challenge of a New York law barring immigration arrests in state and local courthouses. (The New York Times)

— **PIPE DOWN:** A coalition of environmental nonprofits is suing New York and New Jersey over both states' decisions to green-light a gas pipeline. (POLITICO Pro)

— **LEFT BEHIND:** Bronx Rep. Ritchie Torres has gone from progressive darling to progressive target. (Hell Gate)

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