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County: \_\_\_\_\_  
Legislative District: \_\_\_\_\_  
Precinct: \_\_\_\_\_

# Washington State Democratic Party Values Statement

*Democrats think with our heads...and with our hearts.*

These are the Democratic Party's basic principles:

**1. Our purpose is to promote popular participation in self-government.**

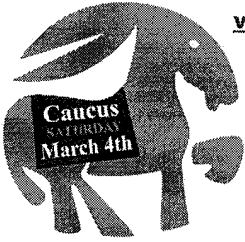
Democrats believe that democracy can only thrive when ordinary people cherish their freedom and take pride in constitutional self-government. Only engaged citizens can make democracy work, and our primary purpose as a political party is to provide opportunities for people to participate -- directly, personally, and effectively -- in the political life of our communities and our country.

Comments:

**2. Community is diversity with a common purpose.**

Democrats believe that individual rights and community responsibilities are two side of the same coin. Healthy communities make healthy individuals possible -- and vice versa. All of us -- regardless of our age, gender, race, income, or sexual orientation -- have both a right to be treated with dignity and respect, and a responsibility to care for each other. All of us must work together to find the right balance between individual freedom and mutual obligation.

Comments:



3. **Our birthright as Americans is opportunity. Our responsibility as Americans is an honest effort.**

Democrats believe that a healthy economy is one that provides all Americans with a world-class education, and opportunities to work, and to learn the skills necessary to advance in their field. In the coming century, the right to learn new skills will be as important to working people as the right to organize unions was earlier this century. And the availability of family-wage jobs and good job training is the best -- indeed the only -- antidote to welfare dependency.

Comments:

4. **We want our tax dollars to be responsibly invested in our common future.**

Democrats believe that credible, responsible policies on taxes and government spending must flow from our most basic values as Americans: inter-generational responsibility, honesty, thrift, and compassion for those in need.

Comments:

5. **We are all responsible for the moral, economic, and environmental legacy we leave our children.**

Democrats believe that by working together -- and working harder -- Americans can overcome the problems we face today and build a future that is worthy of our children and our grandchildren. Many people worry about the moral decline of America. Democrats are engaged in the moral renewal of America -- in our family lives, our communities, our churches, mosques, temples, and synagogues, and in the political life of our country.

Comments:

(Continue on the other side or use additional sheets as needed)

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