

Our Wisconsin Revolution Platform

Our Wisconsin Revolution (OWR), a state affiliate of Our Revolution (OR), supports OR's national policy platform and the following program for state and local government in Wisconsin.

A Real Democracy

We aim to take Wisconsin government back from corporate elites and make it by and for the people. We should:

- Establish a right to vote in the Wisconsin Constitution and automatically register all citizens to vote
- Secure the voter-verified paper ballot and citizens' right to verified election results before they are declared final
- Support adequate (fully competitive) public financing of all elections and a national popular vote for President
- Create and ensure a nonpartisan, transparent process for the redrawing of all election districts that requires local public commentary from diverse communities, including public hearings, and ensure independent, nonpartisan election administration.
- Honor treaty rights, consultation rights, jurisdiction, and sovereignty of native nations in local and state decisions
- Expand local control over revenue and government regulation
- Require full compliance with Government Accounting Standards Board directions for public accounting
- Enforce and expand prohibitions of discrimination based on race, ethnicity, language, religion, creed, sex, gender, sexual orientation, gender expression, national origin, age, familial status, pregnancy, veteran status, disability, , and varying cognitive abilities
- Refuse compliance with federal efforts to harass or deport undocumented immigrants
- Protect and provide a resident tuition fee based education opportunity to the qualified young who, through no fault of their own, still lack resident or citizen documentation
- Address racial disparities in areas such as education, employment, and the justice system by applying an "equity lens" to all planning, budgeting, and other public decisions
- Work to increase informed citizen participation in government affairs, including reinstatement of a robust K-12 civics curriculum and the Office of Public Intervener to assert and defend the public's interest
- We support the national and state US Constitutional amendments stating that money is not speech, and that only human beings have US Constitutional rights
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An Economy That Works for All

We recognize great income and wealth inequality as a clear and present danger, and believe Wisconsin deserves an economy that generates broadly shared prosperity in environmentally sustainable ways. We should:

- Implement a living wage (minimum \$15 per hour, as well as an annual cost of living adjustment) for all Wisconsin workers and regional and industry wage boards to reward worker productivity and ensure pay equity for all
- Support locally-owned, independent businesses, cooperatives, and worker-owned cooperatives
- Support family farms and regional food systems instead of factory farms and corporate farming subsidies
- Assert and defend the right of all workers to unionize and act collectively to improve jobs and employment
- Support employee ownership and democratic cooperatives of all kinds (producer, consumer, worker)
- Put standards on government purchasing to encourage local purchasing, local union labor and the corporate practices we wish to see everywhere
- Encourage regional and industry labor-management partnerships to increase productivity, reduce waste, and benefit our local economy
- Invest in modernizing our physical infrastructure (roads, bridges, railways, airports, public buildings, etc.) and pay local workers prevailing local wage for work on these projects
- Invest in jobs for the future, making Wisconsin a national leader in full application of available technology and best practice in renewable energy generation and energy efficiency. maximally efficient and restorative use of nonrenewable resources, advanced manufacturing, and precision sustainable agriculture
- Make much fuller use of our public education and extension systems in assisting local and regional economic development efforts consistent with the above
- Charter a publically owned state bank modeled upon the Bank of North Dakota
- Support an audit of the federal military, noting how it takes money away from local and needs
- Oppose perpetual war that funds the military industrial complex

- Work toward publicly funded, high quality childcare
- Work toward strong pay legislation to close the gender and race pay gap
- Work toward fully paid family leave by extending and defending the Family Medical Leave Act (FMLA)

Quality Public Goods and Services for All

We must restore and improve the quality and fair distribution of Wisconsin public goods and services, and do our part in addressing the existential crisis of human created global warming. We should:

Environment

- Vigorously defend and restore the clean water and air we all depend on, including limits on high capacity wells, CAFOs (concentrated animal feeding operations), mining, and other environmentally-harmful practices
- Adequately fund the DNR and insist on the independence of its scientists from political control
- Show leadership on climate change with goal and plan to decarbonize Wisconsin energy production by 2030

Healthcare

- Provide a healthy ecosystem for species with whom we share the earth
- Press for universal single-payer (“Medicare for all”) in Wisconsin
- Sustain and improve current coverage for necessary health services, including comprehensive reproductive health services, and ensure coverage of pre-existing health conditions
- Require transparency by providers in health care costs and outcome quality
- Require access to quality treatment on demand for alcohol, drug and mental health services
- Define dental, vision, hearing aid services, and chiropractic and osteopathic services as essential health services
- Increase support for high quality in-home and in assisted-living home services

Public Education

- Enable local districts to develop their public schools by increasing state funding and local control
- Provide additional funding based on low-income, special needs and minority share of student population
- Provide salaries, benefits and working conditions that attract and retain the most capable teachers
- Halt public financing of vouchers and privatized charter schools and protect academic freedom
- Transition to “free” (publicly funded) tuition for all UW and Technical colleges and universities
- Support refinancing of student loan debt and enactment of uniform, reasonable exceptions to the bankruptcy prohibition

Housing

- Recognize housing as a human right and adopt and implement a plan to realize that right for all residents
- Significantly increase resources to expand affordable housing stock, or require mixed-income developments
- Remove constitutional and statutory barriers to affordable housing creation
- Strengthen protections for residential tenants, including, but not limited to requiring good cause for eviction and increasing tenant remedies for landlord abuses or violation of habitability standards

Broadband Access

- Establish cheap, reliable, high-speed internet and wireless access, aiming at 100Mbps, throughout the state
- Make internet access a public utility

Public Safety and Criminal Justice

- Oppose efforts to turn local law enforcement into an extension of immigration and customs enforcement
- End police brutality and government violations of civil and human rights
- Reward high-quality community policing in all communities by tying funds, advancements to use of community policing strategies,
- Diversify law enforcement including the Sheriff’s Department, FBI, and local police departments
- Work to end mandatory minimum sentencing requirement, truth-in-sentencing laws, abuse of prosecutorial

discretion, excessive detainment, poverty-inducing court and jail fees, school to prison pipeline, limits on retroactive expungement of criminal records for all non-violent offender upon release, and all racial disparities in arrest rates for like behaviors and time of imprisonment for like crimes

- Reinststate parole board
- Make prison truly rehabilitative by greater opportunity treatment, counseling, and education
- Ease reentry through addictions and mental health treatment housing, other social assistance, training and job search assistance, “ban the box,” and full funding of pardon and parole boards
- Reassert public control over the criminal justice system, reversing decades of privatization and profit-seeking rather than investments in public safety and the communities that support that
- Ensure access to justice by adequately funding Legal Aid and the Public Defender’s office
- Bring probation/parole under the control of local government.
- Enforce the right to vote for all those under the control or supervision of the criminal justice system
- Strengthen the Violence Against Women Act and related state programs to combat domestic and sexual violence

Transportation

- Promote “complete streets” and accessible multimodal transportation options in all communities, while everywhere encouraging active transportation and electrification of all motorized transportation
- Promote the fair and sustainable development of all communities, not just the wealthy
- Upgrade this multimodal system’s quality and enact a vehicle miles traveled (VMT) tax

Security and Care

- Along with all of the above, maintain and strengthen programs of assistance to our elderly, disabled, children, immigrants, People of Color, and members of the LGBTQ community; explore the feasibility of a state basic income guarantee; and enact a state-sponsored retirement plan for private workers
- Support universal child-care by increasing the number of childcare centers that are culturally appropriate, increasing nighttime childcare options, and reducing the cost of childcare
- Support a universal long-term care policy
- Encourage the development of prenatal care, outreach, and services

Fair Taxes

We aim for a fair and adequate public revenue system. We should:

- Make state taxes based on ability to pay by raising top rates on top incomes, treating capital gains like other income, and removing regressive loopholes (like the manufacturing tax credit)
- Widen the sales tax base to include all goods and services outside food, education, and healthcare; make it progressive by raising it steeply on purchases more than twice the median state family income
- Establish “circuit breakers” on property taxes for those on fixed incomes