

1 **Lewis County Democratic Central Committee Platform**
2 **Proposal for 2018**

3
4 **Preamble**

5
6 We, the Democratic Party of Lewis County, believe government of the
7 people, by the
8 people, and for the people is the basic foundation of our government.
9

10 **Our principles:**

- 11
- 12 • Actively be involved at all levels of government and community
13 organizations.
 - 14
 - 15 • Education, jobs and economic opportunity for all.
 - 16
 - 17 • Support Labor Union membership. Union’s raise living standards for
18 all people.
 - 19
 - 20 • Universal/Single Payer health care for all Americans.
 - 21
 - 22 • Tax dollars must be efficiently and effectively expended for the benefit
23 of all citizens.
 - 24
 - 25 • We are all responsible for the ethical, economic, and environmental
26 legacy we leave to our children.
 - 27
 - 28 • Civil liberties, including those provided in our state and national
29 constitutions, must be continuously monitored and protected.
 - 30
 - 31 • Government has a responsibility to provide for the basic needs of U.S.
32 citizens who are otherwise unable to provide for themselves.
 - 33
 - 34 • World freedom depends on mutual cooperation with other nations to
35 develop peaceful and respectful solutions to global problems.

36 • A healthy environment is vital to the health and welfare of our
37 children, our economy, and future viability of our nation. We believe
38 protection of the environment is a critical function of local, state and
39 federal governments.

40

41 **AGRICULTURE** - Agriculture is recognized as an important industry
42 in Lewis County.

43

44 We support:

45 • Caution regarding breaching, removing, compromising, or encroaching
46 on waterways to ensure that decisions are based on sound, credible
47 economic and scientific information.

48

49 • Prioritize family farms and the practices that sustain the productive
50 value of the farmland.

51

52 • Effective programs that balance conservation and environmental
53 actions, assure long-term economic viability of agriculture, availability
54 of high quality food, and contribute to the economic security of the
55 nation.

56

57 • Protecting agricultural lands and balancing that protection with the
58 protection of private property rights.

59

60 **BUSINESS AND THE ECONOMY**

61 **We support:**

62 • Business friendly laws beneficial to the entire economy.

63

64 • County planning, investment and regulations that support locally
65 created and owned businesses in Lewis County.

66

67 • Local government spending weighted to stay in Lewis County as
68 another effort to grow our economy.

69

70 • We support small business and the shop local philosophy.

71 • We support bridging the economies between old and new industry. i.e.,
72 energy.

73

74 **We oppose:**

75 • The Supreme Court’s century old precedent that corporations are
76 people, and further oppose corporation rights as persons under our
77 constitution and their associated constitutional rights, including the First
78 Amendment right to make political contributions in the corporate
79 capacity;

80

81 • Tax breaks to corporations unless a plan exists to provide measurable
82 economic improvement to relieve poverty and enhance opportunities
83 such as employment and health care.

84

85 **EDUCATION**

86 **We support:**

87 • A stable funding source for public education of all children as
88 referenced in and provided for the Article IX of the state constitution
89 which states that it is the states’ paramount duty to fund public
90 education.

91

92 • Schools safe from violence, bullying, harassment and retribution and
93 providing training and support to develop conflict resolution skills.

94

95 • The providing of a well-rounded education including but not limited to
96 science, history, civics, the arts, English, geography, math, and programs
97 that advance vocational and technology careers.

98

99 • Access to post K-12 education for all who seek to expand their
100 knowledge and opportunities using financial aid, work study programs
101 and the additional incentive of tuition-free education for high achievers.

102

103 • Provide Pre-K for all preschoolers as part of the basic education needs
104 of our children.

105

106 • School funded meals to support health and education.

107

108 **We believe:**

109 • Public education is the cornerstone of democracy.

110

111 • Public education creates a level playing field for all students.

112

113 • Public education shall be fully funded in order to provide a well-
114 rounded education for all students.

115

116 • Washington State should support our teachers with pay and benefits to
117 support them economically.

118

119 **We oppose:**

120 • Charter Schools supported by tax dollars.

121

122 **HEALTHCARE** -- We believe access to affordable quality health care
123 is essential for all U.S. citizens.

124

125 **We support:**

126 • Universal/single payer healthcare as the next step to support the ACA.

127 • Protection of a woman's right to private consultation regarding
128 reproductive decisions, access to legal drugs prescribed by a physician
129 and the legal protection of free choice for her decisions.

130

131 • Preservation of existing VA hospitals and clinics, and increased
132 funding for the long-term mental and physical care of veterans that is not
133 privatized.

134

135 • Federal programs to assist in funding all communicable disease with
136 prevention and treatment which shall include funding of the full
137 spectrum of proven and effective prevention information and methods.

138

139 • Support Death with Dignity Legislation

140

141 **HUMAN RIGHTS & CIVIL RIGHTS**

142

143 **We support:**

- 144 • Equal protection for all including the right to form a civil union.
- 145
- 146 • Diligent monitoring of the Patriot Act to protect civil right protections.
- 147
- 148 • Withdrawal from all war acts as soon as possible and provide
- 149 alternatives to “Boots on The Ground”.
- 150
- 151 • Defending the right of the people of Washington State to keep the
- 152 initiative process.
- 153
- 154 • Priority legislation to ensure that no goods can enter US markets unless
- 155 they comply with our wage standards, human rights standards and
- 156 environmental standards.
- 157
- 158 • Making a formal request to the appropriate bodies to monitor the next
- 159 US national election.
- 160
- 161 • Support restoration of Voters Rights of 1965.
- 162
- 163 • Equal treatment and opportunity for all citizens without regard to
- 164 ethnicity or gender.
- 165
- 166 • Firearms legislation both local and national that preserves the 2nd
- 167 amendment with emphasis on stopping mass shootings.
- 168

169 **We oppose:**

- 170 • Faith-based initiatives that use public tax money to promote or
- 171 subsidize any religion, including public schools.
- 172

173 **MEDIA**

174 **We believe:**

- 175 • Diversity of ownership is the centermost principle of broadcast
176 licensing.
177
- 178 • The current commercial monopoly of our airwaves undermines our
179 democracy, our free society and a well-informed electorate.
180
- 181 • Contributions and donations from the people are the preferred method
182 of funding public broadcasting to ensure program accountability to its
183 viewers.
184
- 185 • There should be no political interference with the Corporation for
186 Public Broadcasting.
187
- 188 • We believe in “ Net Neutrality” and support keeping the world wide
189 web open to everyone and the necessity for government funding and
190 support to expand coverage to all corners of Lewis County and beyond.
191 • We support Municipal internet.

192

193 **We support:**

- 194 • Increased funding for public broadcasting including documentary
195 films.
196 • Non-commercial news programs.
197
- 198 • Objective, comprehensive newspaper, radio and television coverage of
199 local, state and federal issues.
200
- 201 • The enforcement of laws preventing artificial video news releases paid
202 for and produced by governments or corporations from being used
203 without clear identification of the sponsors involved.
204

204

205 **TRANSPORTATION**

206 **We support:**

- 207 • Support for public transportation, including high-speed rail between
208 Eugene Oregon and Vancouver BC.
209

209

210 • Encouraging the development and use of alternative energy.

211

212 **We oppose:**

213

214 • The transportation of coal and oil tankers through our communities in
215 Lewis County.