

To the Colorado Democratic State Assembly:

After collecting roughly 1450 resolutions from the 28 counties that submitted results from Democratic County Assemblies all across Colorado, the Platform Committee met twice in Denver, as well as conducting extensive on-line discussion and electronic straw polls. Each county resolution was considered by one of eighteen subcommittees charged with a particular area of public policy.

As a starting point, the 2008 Platform was used as the basic underlying platform. Much of the 2008 platform remains clear and valid in 2010, and was retained. Additional content, from the county assemblies, was considered by the 146-member 2010 Platform Committee. Duplicate county proposals were combined, and literally hundreds of proposals were voted on via an on-line polling system. Those items that earned over 80% support were approved automatically for inclusion in this year's platform. Those items earning less than the 80% threshold were discussed individually at our 2nd marathon platform committee meeting, and a vote was taken on each. A simple majority of those present was required for inclusion in this year's platform.

While no document created by a committee, no matter how dedicated, will completely satisfy everyone, this platform represents the consensus of the 2010 Platform Committee, guided by the results of county assemblies across our state. The folks who worked tirelessly on the Committee can rightly be proud of their efforts, and deserve our special thanks.

Hal Bidlack, Chair, 2010 Platform Committee

**Colorado Democratic Party Platform Process 2010-12**  
**Platform Committee Report -v.6 FINAL**  
**May 12, 2010**

**Principles of Colorado Democrats**

We, the **DEMOCRATIC PARTY**, are the oldest political party in America and the youngest in spirit, and will remain so because we are committed to government for, of, and by the people.

We **respect** all people and pledge to build and maintain a nation that is secure and respected worldwide for living up to the basic principles of our Constitution and for maintaining the same high standards for all international relations.

We **support** the equal right of all people to have freedom of expression, religion and the pursuit of happiness as well as a quality public education, a clean and safe environment, a secure and healthy future, a fair living wage, secure retirement, equal opportunity, and universal access to quality health care.

We **honor** the privacy and security of every individual, and an ethical government and society that is fair, open and fully accountable to all people.

We **realize** that citizenship entails responsibility to the commonwealth of our nation and support the fair and just contribution of all citizens.

We **accept** our fundamental responsibility to all future generations to pursue only policies that are sustainable and maintain or improve global well-being. We reaffirm that the constitutional guarantee of separation of church and state is fundamental. We affirm that personhood is for people, and not for corporations.

**Colorado Democratic Party Platform Process 2010-12**  
**Platform Committee Report -v.6 FINAL**  
**May 12, 2010**

## **Core Values**

### **Agriculture and Food Safety**

Global climate change, pollution, and resulting environmental problems may be the biggest crises humankind has ever faced. We believe the U.S. must deal with these urgent issues immediately and pursue policies of rational and sustainable use of resources that maintain ecosystem integrity, species preservation including humans, and the overall health of the planet. Support of financially viable, sustainable, and humane domestic agriculture takes on a new significance as we seek to solve our food needs in a way that won't harm our grandchildren's chances of survival – how to clean up agriculture for the long term.

### **Corporate Personhood**

One of the gravest threats ever to free and fair elections, and therefore to the core of our Republic comes to us via the United States Supreme Court. The Court, led by Bush-appointed Chief Justice John Roberts, actively overturned decades of prior law in concluding that corporations have the same free speech rights as actual people. We, the real people, know that money is not speech and corporations are not people. The Court's stunningly activist ruling this year increases the likelihood that candidates will be bought and paid for. The decision threatens our democratic process by giving unlimited funding-capabilities to moneyed corporate interests. This decision will likely further divide us into a society of haves and have-nots and take us further away from the United States that the Founders fought for. To protect our rights as living persons, we seek an immediate legislative remedy and if necessary, an amendment to the US Constitution.

### **Criminal Justice**

We insist that our criminal justice system have the capacity to solve crimes, prosecute dangerous individuals and incarcerate criminals when necessary to protect our communities. We seek implementation of government policy to support the right of citizens to feel safe and secure in their homes, neighborhoods and communities. We believe that one of the primary responsibilities of state and local government is to provide for adequately funded, staffed and trained public safety resources (police, fire and EMS) to respond to emergencies and prevent crime and disorder.

### **Education**

Democrats believe that state public education policies should provide every student with an opportunity to reach his or her potential and that quality public education is an investment with real and tangible return for our economy. A high quality education is not only a basic right; it is also a necessary component of a healthy democracy. People cannot be expected to participate thoughtfully and responsibly if they lack the ability to understand the complex issues facing our county, our country and the world. The United States and Colorado are increasingly involved in a globally competitive economy. Our workforce must have 21st Century skills to be innovative and solve the problems of tomorrow. Democrats believe federal and state legislation should invest in every student in order to provide a world class education, development of every student's potential, and support for the whole child.

## **Elections, Campaign and Media Reform**

At a time when public confidence in government is the lowest it has been in a half-century, it is up to the Democratic Party to convert the campaign message of "hope" into a reality of integrity and trust all citizens deserve. The details of how we, the people, obtain access to the information we need, how we fund campaigns, and how we elect representatives from amongst ourselves is all of primary importance. Integrity, facts and good ideas must be able to overcome the persuasion of money and power and lies. When control over major media has fallen into fewer hands, we look to our leadership to help restore our mainstream to many streams. We must ensure that information published on broadcast and newspaper media is assessed not only by its income potential, but also by its truthfulness and impartiality. And as votes are tallied, we must be able to trust - *because* of a fully transparent, verifiable and frequently verified election process - that our democratic system is operating soundly.

## **Energy**

Colorado Democrats strongly support a responsible energy policy addressing global climate change that includes energy conservation, energy efficiency and renewable energy in place of subsidized fossil fuel and nuclear produced energy. We support higher standards for production of renewable energy as enacted by the 2010 Colorado legislature. We support President Obama's 2010 order for higher vehicle miles per gallon of fuel. By 2050, we strive toward an 80% reduction of CO2 emissions to decrease the effects of global climate change. We advocate enacting more stringent laws and enforcing laws for currently operating coal fired plants as well as for coal, oil, gas and uranium extraction (drilling and mining). We advocate for a moratorium on new coal-produced electricity.

## **Environment**

The Colorado Democratic Party believes a clean, healthy global environment is vital for today and the future. Today global climate change poses one of the greatest challenges humanity has faced. We call for the preservation and strict enforcement of critical environmental protection and the introduction of science-based sustainable environmental policies to respond to that challenge and to preserve our public lands and Colorado's unmatched natural environment. Those policies include consideration of alternative modes of transportation and energy efficiency, production of clean renewable energy, conservation of resources through reduced consumption and recycling, and reduction of our carbon footprint. We will act to ensure clean air and water today and for future generations.

## **Ethics and Government**

We expect that our elected officials at every level of government be committed to the highest standards of behavior, personal integrity, honesty and a commitment to transparency and open government, with substantial consequences for failure to do so.

## **Growth**

We believe that preserving the diversity and quality of life in Colorado's communities is best served through managed growth, land conservation, thoughtful zoning regulations, policies of cooperation on growth planning within the region, and public involvement in all phases of land use planning. We support consideration of strategic water and transportation development in all planning decisions. We maintain that any development should pay its own way fully reflecting all costs and infrastructure demands. We support the availability of affordable housing.

## **Health**

The health of our citizens is essential to the health of our nation. Our health care system should be focused proactively on wellness, preventive medicine, public health, and disease prevention, as well as primary care. We support the recently enacted healthcare reform legislation as a first step in the process toward a quality universal single-payer health care system, independent of employment. We support the public option and Medicare for All alternatives.

## **Human and Civil Rights**

Every human being has the right to be treated with dignity and all persons residing in the United States deserve equal protection under the law regardless of their race, disability, gender, religion, sexual orientation, national origin or age.

## **Immigration**

We believe contributions from hard-working immigrants are just as significant today as they have been throughout our history. We honor and defend the basic human rights of every person in the United States, regardless of citizenship status. These rights include health care, education, proper nutrition, family unity, protection under the law including labor law, protection from exploitation and entrapment, and the pursuit of happiness.

## **International**

We believe it is imperative that the United States restore its reputation in the international community. To this end, we support: Dedication of significant intellectual, economic, diplomatic and creative resources toward the elimination of world hunger, poverty, disease, environmental degradation, terrorism and conflict; and the U.S. taking a leadership role in the development of policies domestically and internationally that are sensitive to worldwide inequities in resource distribution and use, and that prioritize the long-term environmental security of the planet.

## **Jobs and Economy**

We believe that the current economic crisis, trade deficit, and the upwards redistribution of our nations' wealth over the last 10 years demand that we re-think our financial regulations, taxation, jobs programs, trade treaties, and priorities for the spending of dwindling taxpayer dollars. Additionally, the overarching and unprecedented challenges of both global warming and "peak oil", necessitate investment in domestically produced and sustainable energy sources, the upgrading of the energy grid and the repair and replacement of other critical infrastructure. We strongly urge our legislators to seize this opportunity to address our economic crisis through a massive jobs program that would put America back to work and would also address these critical challenges of our time. Such substantial investment in our economy of today is also the necessary deposit on a liveable future for future generations of Americans.

## **Labor**

Anyone who does a fair day's work deserves a fair day's pay with adequate benefits, right to organize, and a safe working environment.

## **Military and Veterans**

In recognition of their service to our country, we support our military and veterans, and advocate competitive pay for personnel in our armed forces and supplying our troops with the equipment needed to protect them when put in harm's way. We call for protecting and maximizing benefits to veterans and their families and stopping the erosion of promised benefits. We demand policies that fully fund Department of Veterans Affairs hospitals and military hospitals. We support rescinding the Dont Ask, Dont Tell policy and allowing gays and lesbians to serve openly in the military. We oppose the privatization of the military.

## **Science and Technology**

We believe in the power of the human mind to gain understanding of the world around us to solve problems facing humanity. To that end, we support funding research and education in science and technology and call for an end to politicizing scientific study. We insist on freedom of inquiry for scientists, appointing qualified scientists to panels without regard to political or religious beliefs, and allowing scientists to publish their results without political interference.

## **Taxation and Fiscal Policy**

The last decade has seen an unprecedented transfer of wealth from the middle class to less than five per cent of Americans, via legislated tax "relief" for the ultra-wealthy, a decrease in inheritance taxes, offshore tax-free accounts, massive tax loopholes, lax collection of taxes from the wealthy, and high risk speculative financial schemes that have pillaged stock-based pension plans, resulting in placement of the debt burden on the wages of the American middle class. We believe that long-term economic stability requires regulated, transparent, and fully accountable fiscal policies, supported by a progressive tax system, with the goals of providing proportionate fairness to all groups, reducing the national debt, providing stimulus to the real economy, and striving to balance the federal budget.

# **2010-12 Platform Table of Contents**

(on a machine, you may be able to click on the below headings to reach each section)

## **Agriculture and Food Safety**

**Colorado Family Farms**  
**Food Safety and Nutrition**  
**Sustainable and Safe Agricultural Practices**  
**Water Policy for Agriculture**

## **Criminal Justice**

**Firearms Issues**  
**Drug Issues**  
**Domestic Violence**

## **Education**

**Funding and Inclusivity**  
**Evaluation**  
**Teacher's Rights**  
**Curriculum and Students**  
**Post-secondary Education**

## **Elections, Campaign and Media Reform**

**Elections**  
**Media Reform**  
**Campaign Finance Reform**

## **Energy**

**Vehicle Fuel Efficiency**  
**Carbon Footprint Reduction**  
**Energy Conservation and Efficiency**  
**Incentives**  
**Energy Regulation**  
**Oil & Gas Extraction Issues**

## **Environment**

**Public Lands and Wildlife**  
**Water**  
**Piñon Canyon Maneuver Site**  
**Global Climate Change**  
**Mining and Drilling**  
**Transportation and the Environment**

## **Ethics and Government**

**Investigations**  
**Responsibilities of Congress**

## **Growth**

## **Health**

## **Human and Civil Rights**

**Equal Protection**

**Civil Rights and Liberties**

**Privacy**

**"Patriot" Act**

**FISA and Domestic Spying**

**Geneva Convention, Torture, Human Trafficking**

**Guantanamo Bay**

**Eminent Domain**

**Equality for women**

**Reproductive Choice**

**Equal Opportunity**

**GLBT Issues**

**Indigenous People**

**Americans with Disabilities / Citizens with Disabilities**

**Separation of Church and State**

## **Immigration**

**Separation of Church and State**

## **International**

**Middle East**

## **Jobs and Economy**

**Economic Justice and Equality**

**Corporate Responsibility**

**Fair Trade**

## **Labor**

## **Military and Veterans**

## **Party Policies and Practices**

**Platform Transparency**

**Using the Party Platform**

## **Science and Technology**

**Transportation**

**Internet**

**Libraries**

## **Taxation and Fiscal Policy**

**Reducing Poverty and Providing for Basic Necessities**

**Progressive State/Federal Taxes**

**Fiscal Policy to Restore & Sustainably Support Our Real Economy**

**Banking and Lending Regulation**

**Colorado Fiscal Policy and Taxation**

## **Guide to reading this platform document:**

There are 18 sections listed alphabetically. Each has a summary statement as an introduction, followed by detailed policy statements many of which are from the 2008 platform document. These are signified by a "\*P" or "\*C" number in the right hand column that refers to the paragraph in the same section where it was located in the 2008 document. The column marked Y/N shows for each issue voted by the 2010 committee the votes for "Agree / Disagree", and the middle column marked "Y/Y+N" shows the percentage adoption of the language. To the right of these two numbers is the number of committee members who chose to Abstain on that ballot question.

New language for planks is also identified by the county or counties of origin- this is shown between [ and ].

Please visit the link below and click on "About Your Party" to find more information on-line.

<http://www.coloradodems.org>

If you have comments or suggestions, please direct them to the following address:  
platformcomments [at] coloradodems [dot] org

[Click to send a comment](#)

## Colorado Democratic Party Platform Process 2010-12

Colorado Democratic Party Platform Committee Report 2010-12	Y/N	Y/Y+N	Abstain
v.6 May 12, 2010			
<b>Agriculture and Food Safety</b>	Agree/Disagree	%Y/Y+N	Abstain
<b>Global climate change, pollution, and resulting environmental problems may be the biggest crises humankind has ever faced. We believe the U.S. must deal with these urgent issues immediately and pursue policies of rational and sustainable use of resources that maintain ecosystem integrity, species preservation including humans, and the overall health of the planet. Support of financially viable, sustainable, and humane domestic agriculture takes on a new significance as we seek to solve our food needs in a way that won't harm our grandchildren's chances of survival – how to clean up agriculture for the long term.</b>	42/2	95%	3
We recognize and celebrate the fact that agriculture and ranching have long been a staple of the Colorado economy and heritage.	41/1	98%	3
<b>Colorado Family Farms</b>			
We support family owned and operated farms. We believe government subsidies should be reserved for small family farms only.	40/1	98%	4
A diverse and healthy local agricultural sector benefits our communities. Our food system should provide access to high-quality, fresh and affordable agricultural products for all residents. When considering industry regulations, care should be taken to avoid measures that would place significant financial burdens on small local producers, including organic farmers. [Mesa]	40/1	98%	4
We call for balancing the needs for urban development, open space, and recreation with preserving agriculture and ranching as a traditional base of Colorado's economy; and we encourage expanding and strengthening local and state conservation easement programs.	38/2	95%	5
We ask that the State of Colorado review its definition and treatment of agricultural status to ensure that only legitimate agricultural land receives the property tax advantage, and to keep family-owned farms in agricultural operation rather than converted to residential development. [Ouray]	39/1	98%	3
We continue to oppose the U. S. Army's attempted acquisition of additional lands surrounding the Piñon Canyon Maneuver Site in Southeastern Colorado. [Arapahoe]	37/0	100%	6
Change state law so that, rather than the current 35 acres, land subdividers must have county approval for any subdivision of 160 or less acres to prevent sprawl. [Montrose]	20/11	65%	12
<b>Food Safety and Nutrition</b>			
We support safe food practices, including full disclosure of all ingredients, labeling of genetically engineered or modified (GMO) food, irradiated food, food from cloned animals and their offspring, pesticides used, and "Country of Origin" ("COO"). [Pueblo, many counties]	41/0	100%	1
We support wellness initiatives such as school lunch programs focusing on healthful food in school breakfasts, lunches, and snacks. We call for enactment of policies that will promote healthy foods not only in school nutrition programs but also in society at large. [Boulder] We support revising standards for federal food distribution programs to conform to latest health guidelines. [Denver]	39/0	100%	3

Colorado Democratic Party Platform Committee Report 2010-12	Y/N	Y/Y+N	Abstain
We support greater investment by U.S. Government and the cattle industry for prevention of mad cow and other diseases.	31/5	86%	6
We support an increase in import inspections as critical for the protection of the American consumer, especially in light of many recent discoveries of unsafe and poisonous products entering our country. Relevant Agency budgets must expand to pay for more inspections.	39/0	100%	3
We oppose the imposition of federal laws that undermine more stringent or specific state laws governing food safety, particularly when industry lobbyists are attempting to weaken food safety laws designed to protect the consumer.	38/0	100%	3
We support action by appropriate federal, state and local departments, including the FDA, and legislation, to regulate and reduce consumers' exposure to bisphenol A (BPA), lead, phthalates, petroleum-derived ingredients, and other substances that have been proven harmful to humans in food, water and personal products. [Summit]	39/1	98%	1
We oppose attempts to weaken the organic standards of the National Organic Program that govern the quality of our organic food supply.	38/0	100%	3
<b>Sustainable and Safe Agricultural Practices</b>			
We support farmers' markets and buying food and goods produced locally.	40/0	100%	1
We support legal channels for future flows of immigrants to fill jobs in the United States for which there are no U.S. workers. These channels must include portability to other authorized employers, appropriate living conditions, and the right to travel between the United States and the immigrant's home country. [Boulder]	33/2	94%	6
State and Federal governments should encourage the shift from high-input agriculture to low-input agriculture. Agriculture should use less fossil fuel to run machines, and to make fertilizers and pesticides. It should save water through more efficient irrigation systems. To do this, government needs to change the orientation of agricultural research at Colorado State University by providing research funds for low-input and organic agricultural methods so that research no longer depends heavily on private funds from corporations that profit from high-input agriculture. The University Extension Services (literature, workshops, advice by agents, videos, etc.) should also shift their emphasis away from reliance upon petroleum-heavy practices. Instead, their focus should be on building the health of the soil, integrated pest management, water-reducing irrigation, and raising and marketing grass-fed animals for food. [Eagle, Park, Denver]	33/4	89%	4
We call for reducing waste runoff and reducing use of pesticides, herbicides, chemical fertilizers, antibiotics, and growth hormones.	39/0	100%	2
We support efforts to encourage the growth and development of organic farming, including legislation providing substantial tax incentives for farmers who engage in organic farming, and farmers who employ sustainable farming practices. We support ending food subsidies for crops such as corn, which result in the high-fructose saturation of our food system. [Denver]	35/3	92%	3
We call for efforts to ensure fairness to farmers and ranchers in their dealings with biotech companies that sell genetically engineered seeds, plants, and animals. Community access to non-GMO sustenance crops cannot be limited through patenting by multi-national corporations. [Jefferson]	36/1	97%	4

Colorado Democratic Party Platform Committee Report 2010-12	Y/N	Y/Y+N	Abstain
We call for a moratorium on open-air field trials of pharmaceutical-producing food crops, and protecting farmers whose crops have been contaminated by genetically modified organisms. Biotech companies should be held liable for damage and injuries due to the release of genetically engineered organisms into the environment. We support limitations on genetically engineered organisms (GMO) pending completion of sound, scientific research on their safety and long-term impacts on health and the environment. [Jefferson]	33/1	97%	7
We support agricultural policies and practices that minimize environmental degradation and maximize public health and consumer safety.	39/0	100%	2
We call for strengthening regulations that require the humane treatment of farm animals, as well as those animals used for scientific research. We support limits on factory farming of animals. [Denver]	32/4	89%	5
We support the legalization of non-psychoactive hemp production for fabric, rope, construction, industrial uses, and more.	33/1	97%	7
<b>Water Policy for Agriculture</b>			
We support legislation that requires the board members of the Colorado water conservancy districts be chosen by election. [Gunnison]	27/3	90%	11
We support keeping Arkansas River Valley water resources in the Arkansas River Valley, resisting all attempts to transfer water out of the Valley, thereby protecting the Valley's agriculture and economy. [Pueblo]	28/4	88%	9
Water is the "Life Blood" of Colorado. We urge the state legislature, through the inter-basin roundtables, to develop a statewide water plan that would include rehabilitation and enlargement of existing dams, water banks utilizing storage in underground aquifers, development of alternatives to agriculture dry-ups, and promoting the use of grey water for home and business consumption. [Arapahoe]	34/3	92%	4
Water rights and water systems should not be privatized. [Jefferson]	30/5	86%	6
<b>Criminal Justice</b>			
We insist that our criminal justice system have the capacity to solve crimes, prosecute dangerous individuals and incarcerate criminals when necessary to protect our communities. We seek implementation of government policy to support the right of citizens to feel safe and secure in their homes, neighborhoods and communities. We believe that one of the primary responsibilities of state and local government is to provide for adequately funded, staffed and trained public safety resources (police, fire and EMS) to respond to emergencies and prevent crime and disorder.			* P12
We support a statewide approach to crimes by and against children that links family, school and social institutions and the general community in the prevention, detection, and prosecution of crime. We support violence prevention, drug education, and dispute resolution, as well as programs in schools dealing with these issues that have proven effective in reducing violence among children. We encourage their continuation and expansion.			* P1

Colorado Democratic Party Platform Committee Report 2010-12	Y/N	Y/Y+N	Abstain
We call for the criminal justice system to recognize the inherent difference between children and adults in the criminal justice system. We advocate for: separate trial and sentencing procedures for serious offenses; juvenile facilities, not prisons, as the best rehabilitation facilities; and a reasonable opportunity for parole and community corrections of convicted juvenile offenders currently serving life in adult prison. The decision as to whether juveniles should be prosecuted as adults should be made by judges after a full and fair hearing.			* P2
We support a thorough overhaul of the current system of retributive justice that incarcerates prisoners with little hope for, or assistance with, rehabilitation. We call for alternative sentencing and restorative justice programs, particularly for non-violent offenders, and a revision of sentencing guidelines to restore more discretion to judges.			* P3
We support the treatment of mental illness and drug addiction as opposed to incarceration.			* P4
We support the application of best practices for women in prison, especially mothers, including women who give birth while in prison. [Denver]	34/1	97%	4
We call for the devotion of more resources to programs that prevent crime, provide rehabilitation, and reduce repeat offenses, with the understanding that violent criminals definitely need to be imprisoned.			* P5
We demand the elimination of for-profit private prisons that have no current incentive to rehabilitate or release prisoners.			* P6
We call for a major overhaul of the current probation system, which is fraught with opportunity for abuse.			* P7
We support restoring the right to vote for felons who have served their time and informing them of their rights.			* P8
We support full habeas corpus rights.			* P9
We believe that the death penalty should be abolished in Colorado and that a lifetime in prison, without the possibility of parole, should be the maximum penalty.			* P10
We call for the protection of the safety of all incarcerated persons.			* P11
We support legislation and policies that promote dignity and safety for all incarcerated persons, including LGBT individuals. Dignity and safety must extend to asylum for immigrants who would face persecution from their home country's government due to their political views, labor views, social views and sexual orientation or gender identity.	36/1	97%	2

Colorado Democratic Party Platform Committee Report 2010-12	Y/N	Y/Y+N	Abstain
We believe our criminal justice system should be fair and all persons should be given due process and access to high quality legal counsel regardless of age, race, gender, socioeconomic status, and ethnic and cultural boundaries etc. [Douglas]	37/1	97%	1
We oppose DNA testing of accused persons without either a warrant, informed consent, or an actual conviction. [unanimous PC 2010]	19/6	76%	14
Judges should continue to be selected based on merit, not politics.	37/0	100%	2
<b>Firearms Issues</b>			
We support the Brady law, the ban on semi-automatic weapons, and measures to keep guns out of the hands of criminals and children. We oppose making concealed weapons permits more readily available. The mechanism to conduct background checks should be available to private parties as well as licensed dealers. We encourage closing the loophole that permits ineligible people to purchase guns at gun shows.			* P14
<b>Drug Issues</b>			
Colorado spends too much of its money on prisons. The drug war and mandatory sentencing have resulted in the overpopulation of prisons with non-violent criminals and the early release of violent criminals. Financial resources have been drained away from important state responsibilities such as quality public education, health care, job training, etc. We call for the re-evaluation of the drug war and for the creation of a realistic drug policy. We support the elimination of mandatory minimum sentencing for all non-violent drug offenses.	30/3	91%	6
Marijuana/cannabis should be legal for both medical and non-medical purposes. The regulation of medical marijuana should be left up to the states. [multiple counties, Weld][14/2 PC 2010]	20/9	69%	7
<b>Domestic Violence</b>			
We believe that the federal and state government must crack down on domestic violence. Children deserve to have homes that are safe and nurturing. We encourage the establishment and maintenance of shelters for victims of domestic violence and the creation of the creation of education and rehabilitation programs for violent offenders.			* P16
We support funding training of all new police recruits, experienced officers and prosecutors in the issues surrounding domestic violence. There must be mandatory reporting by physicians, teachers and social workers of suspected child abuse or neglect, and abusers must be prosecuted to the full extent of the law, recognizing that both children and parents must be afforded due process.			* P17

## Education

**Democrats believe that state public education policies should provide every student with an opportunity to reach his or her potential and that quality public education is an investment with real and tangible return for our economy. A high quality education is not only a basic right; it is also a necessary component of a healthy democracy. People cannot be expected to participate thoughtfully and responsibly if they lack the ability to understand the complex issues facing our county, our country and the world. The United States and Colorado are increasingly involved in a globally competitive economy. Our workforce must have 21st Century skills to be innovative and solve the problems of tomorrow. Democrats believe federal and state legislation should invest in every student in order to provide a world class education, development of every student's potential, and support for the whole child.**

### Funding and Inclusivity

To this end, we demand full funding of a thorough and uniform education with public monies in public schools that are locally controlled. We support allocating education funding with balance and equity across the state. We support recommendations to create a unified comprehensive system of education in Colorado.

44/0

100%

3

We support stable education funding that will bring Colorado up to the national funding average. We call on the Legislature to maximize education funding through reexamination of state funding limits; funds from severance tax increases; and creative uses of, and innovative ways to increase, the revenues generated by the School Trust Lands (such as wind farms), while also protecting the environment.

\* P3

We call for the repeal of TABOR, and an increase in funding above and beyond Amendment 23, which, at a minimum, should remain in place with guaranteed annual funding increases to meet the state's long-term public education needs. We support efforts to build an adequate tax base for quality public education (both K-12 and higher education).

\* P4

We oppose vouchers and all unfunded mandates. We call for improved educational opportunity for all through equal access to quality public education from early childhood through adulthood, including: workforce preparation and re-training; English Language Acquisition programs for adults; parenting classes; increased investment in educational materials, especially for small and rural districts; and focusing on closing socioeconomic, racial, linguistic and disability related achievement gaps.

\* P5

We oppose vouchers and tuition tax credits because they take public tax dollars away from public education and give them to unregulated private and religious schools. They also diminish the State's already insufficient financial support for public schools and erode the very foundation of our democracy.

\* P10

Schools of choice such as charter schools and other public options should not be used to undermine neighborhood public schools. Schools of choice should be accountable and should have the same regulations and standards as other public schools. We believe that charter schools should only be approved by the local elected school board. We oppose using any public funds to support students in private or parochial institutions including charter schools run by religious organizations. We support the separation of church and state in public education.

39/2

95%

2

We oppose charter schools when they undermine the diversity of our neighborhood schools and encourage socio-economic division. [Denver]

34/4

89%

5

Colorado Democratic Party Platform Committee Report 2010-12	Y/N	Y/Y+N	Abstain
<p>We demand an educational system which is inclusive of our diverse population, guarantees funding, encourages community involvement, and educates the whole individual through academic rigor, athletic competition, artistic endeavor, and career/technical training. We support full funding for Head Start, preschool and full-day kindergarten, English Language Acquisition programs, Special Education, Gifted and Talented programs, Career and Technical Education (vocational), science and technology, quality on-line programs, adult literacy, dropout prevention, after-school programs, and capital investment in crumbling schools to provide a safe learning environment. We believe public education should balance an emphasis on core knowledge with applied knowledge, problem solving, creativity, information gathering, and learning skills.</p>	40/1	98%	2
<p><b>Evaluation</b></p>			
<p>We support a review and revamping of the Colorado Student Accountability System (CSAP). We recognize that CSAP alone does not adequately represent the quality of our schools. We support content standards and a state accountability system that emphasizes academic performance rather than seat time to incorporate 21st century and workforce knowledge. Testing should provide student and program evaluation, career planning for individuals and immediate feedback for instruction. Any state accountability system should be grounded in fair measurement and provide longitudinal measures (growth over time) that enhance student achievement in a safe and healthy environment which respects differences of sexual orientation, gender, and gender-identity. It must communicate useful information to parents, schools, teachers, and communities. We support reducing the number of assessments for the Colorado Student Assessment Program, and we seek to increase teaching critical thinking skills and decrease emphasis on high stakes testing.</p>	40/0	100%	3
<p>We are concerned that the current Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA / No Child Left Behind) is both punitive and overly burdensome. Federal mandates must be federally funded. We call on the federal government to abolish or significantly revamp the ESEA so that it is fully federally funded, supportive of districts; reduces redundant reporting; measures growth longitudinally (over time); supports disadvantaged students; fully funds initiatives and provides multiple pathways for students. We oppose ESEA allowing military recruiter's full access to student records.</p>	40/2	95%	1
<p><b>Teacher's Rights</b></p>			
<p>We support our public school teachers. We support the recruitment, retention and fair compensation of highly qualified educators. Teacher training must be ongoing and of the highest quality. It must prepare teachers to meet the diverse needs of their students, close achievement gaps, and develop well rounded citizens. Accordingly, instructors should be paid a professional wage based on the quality of their job performance. Loan forgiveness programs would encourage teachers to work in environments that are the most in need. Teacher's rights to due process should not be weakened. We should continue to require that educators be licensed and that they receive adequate benefits, such as health insurance. In order to attract and retain the best educators possible, we believe professors working at Colorado's public universities and colleges should be paid professional wages that are competitive with those of professors working at peer institutions.</p>	41/1	98%	1
<p><b>Curriculum and Students</b></p>			
<p>We urge the Federal Government to heed research that links education in music and the arts to citizenship, social effectiveness, and creative thinking. We support the arts being given equal weight with reading, writing, science and math in American schools in order to ensure development of the creativity that future leaders will require to develop a prosperous and sustainable American economy.</p>			* P11

Colorado Democratic Party Platform Committee Report 2010-12	Y/N	Y/Y+N	Abstain
We support facilitating student achievement by limiting primary classes sizes to 20 and intermediate classes sizes to 23, giving clear standards and expectations for each grade to all parents at the beginning of the school year, and using innovative strategies to increase parental involvement and partnerships with schools.			* P12
We support requiring seat belts on all public school buses in the State of Colorado.			* P13
<b>Post-secondary Education</b>			
We support funding for schools to provide curriculum that addresses citizenship, civics, and leadership development. We believe teaching civic engagement, and modeling fairness, tolerance and participation in the political process, supports democratic ideals and gives youth a way to pay back society. Therefore we call for Congress to restore funding to programs similar to the National Civilian Conservation Corps and AmeriCorps.			* P14
We support providing access to affordable quality public higher education for all residents of the state, including the continuation of affirmative action programs, and the broader use of scholarships, loans and grants to enable all qualified students to attend higher education and vocational programs. Federal funding for financial aid programs must be sufficient to compensate for tuition increases nationwide. We support funding for Hope scholarships that provide an incentive and reward for graduates with good grades. We call upon the state and federal governments to enhance college access for disadvantaged youth by improving the ties between the K-12 education system and the higher education system.			* P15
We support the DREAM Act (Development, Relief and Education for Alien Minors), which provides state college access and in-state tuition for all state residents, regardless of documentation, if they entered the United States before the age of 16, have resided continuously in the United States for at least five years, have earned a high school diploma or a general education development certificate (GED) or have been admitted to an institution of higher education in the United States.			* P16
We believe that higher education must be funded at a level that allows it to maintain excellence in its mission, and that academic integrity and freedom of expression for college students, faculty and administration is essential for promoting democracy.			* P17
We recommend that the State of Colorado move toward providing eight semesters (or the equivalent) of tuition-free public post-secondary education to all eligible Colorado residents who meet necessary admission requirements.			* P18
<b>Elections, Campaign and Media Reform</b>			
<b>At a time when public confidence in government is the lowest it has been in a half-century, it is up to the Democratic Party to convert the campaign message of "hope" into a reality of integrity and trust all citizens deserve. The details of how we, the people, obtain access to the information we need, how we fund campaigns, and how we elect representatives from amongst ourselves is all of primary importance. Integrity, facts and good ideas must be able to overcome the persuasion of money and power and lies. When control over major media has fallen into fewer hands, we look to our leadership to help restore our mainstream to many streams. We must ensure that information published on broadcast and newspaper media is assessed not only by its income potential, but also by its truthfulness and impartiality. And as votes are tallied, we must be able to trust - because of a fully transparent, verifiable and frequently verified election process - that our democratic system is operating soundly.</b>	362	95%	1

Colorado Democratic Party Platform Committee Report 2010-12	Y/N	Y/Y+N	Abstain
We believe trustworthy elections are a cornerstone of democracy. To ensure the effective functioning of our democratic government, we advocate effective campaign reform, public access to the full spectrum of political opinion, full voter registration and accuracy of voting with verification.			* C352
<b>Elections</b>			
We support free, fair, and transparent elections using voter-verified paper ballots. Accurate voting should be the main priority for the Democratic Party and full reform should occur before the next general election. [Weld-Park-Eagle-Larimer-Montrose-Grand-Pueblo-Denver-Archuleta-Boulder-Arapahoe-Mesa]			* C395
We believe a comprehensive review of the election process should be conducted, recommendations formulated and improvements made.			* P18
We believe all machines employing Direct Recording Electronic (DRE) technology used for voting in any public election must, as a minimum, produce a voter-verifiable record, meet all National Institute of Standards & Technology (NIST) requirements for data encryption and security, and that it be independently auditable with respect to source code, reliability, and vote integrity. Validation of DRE results should be performed by manual comparative audit of a random sample of between one and five per cent of the paper records. All recounts must be done strictly with paper records (ballots).			* C400
We support a voting process that allows voters, including voters with disabilities, to hand mark or machine mark their votes onto full-text paper ballots, that allows voters to check their votes before they cast them, to know that the votes on their paper ballot are what get counted, and to have access to proof that every ballot is accounted for and that every vote is correctly understood and counted; and which includes physical (paper) audit trails, including for voting machines.			* C396
We oppose privatization of any area of the voting system. Should secure systems not be in place, we support a system that uses a human countable paper ballot system as is done in countries such as Canada. [Eagle]			* C403
To ensure better representation and more fair elections, we support Rank Choice Voting in which voters have one vote, but can rank candidates in order of preference. If no candidate receives a majority of first choices, the candidate with the fewest number of votes is eliminated, and ballots cast for that candidate are redistributed to the surviving candidates according to the voters' indicated preferences. This process is repeated until one candidate obtains the support of a majority of voters casting ballots, although in some cases this may require a runoff. [Boulder-Larimer-Montrose-Arapahoe]	25/9	74%	5
Participation in the election process and in voting must be assured for all eligible individuals, with special care to ensure that previously disenfranchised or discriminated groups (including minority groups, persons with disabilities, felons who have completed their sentence, homeless persons, etc.) have full access to the election process. [Arapahoe]			* C385
We support the right of people on parole to vote. [Denver]	28/3	90%	8
We support changing the Colorado eligibility rules for voters so that voters who will be 18 by the date of the general election can vote in the caucuses or primaries.			* C390
We support voter registration that is convenient for voters and even simpler to renew, and that produces complete, accurate, valid and verifiable lists of citizens who are eligible to vote.			* C384

Colorado Democratic Party Platform Committee Report 2010-12	Y/N	Y/Y+N	Abstain
We call for Colorado to comply with the National Voter Registration Act (NVRA) of 1993, which requires state agencies to offer voter registration services to citizens when applying to public assistance.			* C389
We call for the full funding of the Help America Vote Act (HAVA).			* C473
Election discrepancies (such as significant discrepancies between appropriately conducted exit polls and election results) demand recounts. Voting integrity also requires appropriate hand count sampling (to affirm count integrity) before declaring election results. [Arapahoe]			* C416
We call for election discrepancies to be examined through elective audits as requested by the candidates before certification of election results.			* P22
We oppose using bar codes to audit or recount votes.			* C415
We call for the elimination of computerized voting using secret/ proprietary programs that cannot be audited or independently verified.			* P15
We support a statutory random audit that is a true audit of 5% (at least two) of the voting machines used where all of the ballots of each randomly chosen machine are hand counted and verified against the machine total.			* C414
We call for citizen-monitored vote processing at every stage of ballot processing, including the manned central tabulation unit.			* C406
We call for all polling places to have enough ballots on hand for all voters at all elections.			* C405
We should elect the President of the US by popular vote, not through the Electoral College. We support adoption of the National Popular Vote Bill in a compact with other states.			* C361
We support government sponsored door-to-door voter registration (as in Canada). [Boulder]	26/7	79%	6
8. We believe the number of signatures required for all initiatives should be increased, and more signatures should be required for constitutional initiatives than for statutory initiatives. [Routt]	28/6	82%	5
11. We support legislation that all ballot initiatives must be written in plain, easily understood language [Larimer]	37/0	100%	2
<b>Media Reform</b>			
Freedom of speech and press are the most vital of our constitutional rights in a democratic society. Given the concentration of our media in fewer partisan hands, we believe there needs to be increased support for independent, unbiased, investigative reporting in order to ensure an informed public. [Mesa][Eagle][Boulder]	34/0	100%	5
We seek an independent media that fosters critical thinking in separating fact from propaganda, knowing that fairness and balance may be an illusion.			* P32
We support federal laws that guarantee and encourage the absolute freedom of the media to provide critical oversight of governmental activities and public access to information. [Boulder]			* C451
Roll back media ownership limits to pre-1996 levels. We oppose the recent steps taken by the FCC to allow greater market ownership by a single organization and we believe this action is an egregious abuse of the public trust. [Boulder]			* C433

Colorado Democratic Party Platform Committee Report 2010-12	Y/N	Y/Y+N	Abstain
A free and informed democratic society requires free and unfettered public access to the full spectrum of political opinion. The broadcast airwaves are, by law, public property and must be licensed for use. It is therefore reasonable to expect broadcast media outlets to provide benefits for the public good. [Arapahoe]			* C444
We oppose the consolidation of media industry power in a handful of large corporations and support simplification of the FCC licensing process to encourage the creation and licensing of new media outlets and diverse ownership of the media. [Arapahoe-Denver]	33/2	94%	4
We seek full, fair, and readily available public access to all public information. [Boulder]	37/0	100%	2
The public has a necessary right to be informed on the platforms and views of all candidates for office and referendum issues. To this end, the Fairness Doctrine and Equal Time Doctrine should be re-enforced and no broadcast media has the right to set any arbitrary exclusionary rules for candidates or issues. Broadcast license holders should be required to give free substantial airtime, equal in both quality and quantity, to all qualified candidates [Arapahoe, Boulder, Mesa]			* C437
Henceforth, be it resolved that all those seeking public office, and having secured signatures representing 10% of the registered voters of the District that they wish to represent shall, in accordance with this resolution, be awarded free and equal media time up to and including advertising and debate time. The broadcast bands belong to the people just like the national parks and we would like them to be used in our service for the equalizing of our democracy. [Saguache]	24/5	83%	10
All political debates should follow a traditional debate format, not a format dictated by the participants or the press. [Eagle]			* C469
We call for all duly certified Democratic Party candidates to be included and allowed approximately equal time in all party debates and forums.			* C471
We call for increased government funding for public broadcasting. [Boulder]			* C442
The Democratic Party condemns corporate commercial print and video news media for not reporting accurate and unbiased news, and for slanting the information they do publish in such a way as to benefit their commercial sponsors. [Eagle]	32/5	86%	2
Supporting an end to War News Censorship: The Democratic Party believes it is time for increased transparency for all wars through television, other media, and disclosure [Grand]	35/2	95%	2
We support "network neutrality" of the Internet and oppose the efforts of large broadband networks to charge content providers for access to customers. [Arapahoe]	34/0	100%	5
We resolve that money is not speech and that human beings, not corporations, are persons entitled to constitutional rights. [El Paso]	36/0	100%	3
<b>Campaign Finance Reform</b>			
Corporations are not human beings, and therefore are not covered by the Bill of Rights. [Douglas]	35/1	97%	3
We support public financing of election campaigns. Public financing of elections should be the sole mechanism for fair elections and should be an urgent priority at every level of government [Arapahoe-Weld-Larimer-Pueblo-Boulder-Denver-Park-Eagle-Montrose-Grand-Douglas-Eagle]			* C418
We support full disclosure of all sources of funding for all political advertising and activities. We call for open, honest and fair campaigning, and the elimination of anonymous advertising. [Mesa-Gunnison]			* C427

Colorado Democratic Party Platform Committee Report 2010-12	Y/N	Y/Y+N	Abstain
The integrity of the election and referendum process demands full public disclosure of participating individuals and companies that fund 527 committees since these committees create unfair competition in public discourse and tend to create campaigns that improperly impugn candidates or civic referenda. [Arapahoe]			* C467
We believe legislative campaign finance reforms should be reviewed every two years with the intent of eliminating newly discovered loopholes and abuses.			* C425
We support the campaign reform called “Clean Money/Clean Elections.” This system already exists in Arizona, Maine, Massachusetts, New Mexico, North Carolina, Connecticut and Vermont. [Boulder]			* C423
We resolve to make Election Day a national holiday in Lieu of President’s Day. [El Paso]			* C357
Reform redistricting laws to reduce gerrymandering. [Boulder]			* C380
We denounce the practice of push polling, that is, “polls” designed to influence or change the views of voters under the guise of impartial polling.			* C431
We support efforts to ensure that all caucus and voting locations be accessible in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act.			* C354
We support lengthening the period of Colorado term limits to 12 years to allow office holders to gain more experience and leadership, and to provide greater historical perspective in their decision-making process. We support increased funding for legislative research and support staff.			* C381
We support legislation requiring that meetings of and documents created by elected officials concerning election procedures, including those meeting and documents of the Colorado County Clerks Association, not be exempted or deemed not covered by open meeting and open records laws, and creating an administrative remedy for violation of those open meeting and open records laws.			* C457
We reject the US Supreme Court’s ruling in Citizens United v The Federal Election Commission granting first amendment rights to corporations. We support an amendment to the US Constitution to firmly establish that money is not protected speech and that people, not corporations, are entitled to first amendment protections. [Douglas-Larimer-Weld-Grand-Pueblo-Jefferson-Park-Rio Blanco-Eagle-Denver-Arapahoe-Archuleta-Washington-Boulder-El Paso]	37/1	97%	1
We resolve to support the establishment of a Constitutional Amendment that shall enumerate the rights of corporate entities and restrict them from being considered equal under the law to individual citizens, while also protecting the rights of citizens to form advocacy groups. [El Paso]	31/5	86%	3
Corporate Personhood: Includes State Constitutional Amendment: We support constitutional amendments that define person as ‘individual human being,’ for the purposes of rights, as appropriate, under the Colorado Constitution and the US Constitution. [Rio Blanco]	30/5	86%	4
We believe the Supreme Court of the United States erred in their recent decision regarding personhood status for corporations, especially in political matters. We support immediate legislation to correct this error. [Summit-Ouray]	34/2	94%	3
We support initiatives to clarify that First Amendment rights of free speech do not include corporate money donations as a form of free speech. [Larimer-Weld-Chaffee]	34/1	97%	4

Colorado Democratic Party Platform Committee Report 2010-12	Y/N	Y/Y+N	Abstain
We support an amendment to the US Constitution to put strict spending caps on campaign financing for all federal offices similar to what has been implemented in the State of Vermont, including limits on a candidate's personal financing of their own campaign. [Eagle]	30/6	83%	3
We support legislation to require nonprofits (501.c.4) to provide a list of all contributors who make a donation for/on any political advertisement. [Larimer]	32/4	89%	3
We seek immediate passage of the Fair Election Now Act (HR 1826 and SB 752) in order to remove the inappropriate influence of money on federal elections. [Larimer-El Paso]	34/0	100%	5
We support initiatives to require corporations to obtain an affirmative vote for each political contribution to a political candidate at a public meeting of stockholders where a quorum is present. Plans for such a vote must be on the agenda with each specific candidate listed. [Larimer, Denver]	30/3	91%	6
We call for legislation prohibiting former Congresspersons or other Federal elected officials from becoming registered, paid lobbyists. [Larimer]	31/5	86%	3
We endorse the use of an independent blue ribbon committee to write election finance law which will include all the necessary checks, balances and enforcement needed to prevent special interest lobbying groups, corporate associations and individuals from influencing our elections [Eagle]	30/3	91%	6
We resolve to restore the principles of the McCain-Feingold Campaign Finance Act. [El Paso]	23/3	88%	13
We resolve that Democratic elected officials should represent their constituents and legislate rather than place their main focus on re-election. [El Paso]	25/3	89%	11
In order to ensure fair and independent judiciary, we support the continuance of Colorado's merit selection process. [Archuleta]	28/1	97%	10
<b>Energy</b>			
<b>Colorado Democrats strongly support a responsible energy policy addressing global climate change that includes energy conservation, energy efficiency and renewable energy in place of subsidized fossil fuel and nuclear produced energy. We support higher standards for production of renewable energy as enacted by the 2010 Colorado legislature. We support President Obama's 2010 order for higher vehicle miles per gallon of fuel. By 2050, we strive toward an 80% reduction of CO2 emissions to decrease the effects of global climate change. We advocate enacting more stringent laws and enforcing laws for currently operating coal fired plants as well as for coal, oil, gas and uranium extraction (drilling and mining). We advocate for a moratorium on new coal-produced electricity.</b>	33/6	85%	5
We believe that conservation, the use of renewable energy, and the elimination of energy waste are significant components of responsible energy policy, and key to addressing global climate change.			* P1
We resolve to arrest global warming through legislation promoting carbon neutrality. [El Paso]	37/1	97%	4

Colorado Democratic Party Platform Committee Report 2010-12	Y/N	Y/Y+N	Abstain
We support implementation of a national policy and massive program for energy independence which prioritizes practices that promote the development of renewable energy technologies, the installation of alternative energy systems, and energy conservation -- including a significant increase in Federal Corporate Average Fuel Economy (CAFE) standards as has been done by the Obama Administration.	38/4	90%	3
This program should include a massive effort (similar to prior federal efforts like the Apollo-Moon Project) to develop alternative energy sources such as wind, solar, tidal, geothermal, atmospheric gases, water, nuclear, magnetic, biological and as-yet unimagined alternatives to begin immediately providing incentives to explore and support these ideas. The program should set a date certain for the nation/state to become energy independent. For example, United States should adopt an energy standard achieving 20% of our national domestic energy used from renewable energy sources by the year 2020.	35/5	88%	4
We support the rapid development and increased utilization of renewable and alternative sources of energy generally, and specifically, sufficient to supply 30% (Colorado law -passed 2010) of Colorado's state power needs from renewable sources by 2020 while extending Amendment 37 requirements to all utilities in the State; and working toward the elimination of any consumption of foreign oil by 2025.	40/2	95%	2
We resolve that the Democratic Party make climate change legislation a major priority. The ultimate goal should be to reduce carbon dioxide emissions by 80-90% by 2050 starting this year and ultimately reducing carbon dioxide concentration in the atmosphere to no more than 350 ppm. The legislation should also contain concrete ways to stimulate "green job" creation, rapid switch from fossil fuels to renewable energy sources, and energy conservation efficiency. [El Paso]	37/1	97%	4
We resolve that State House Bill 1001 be amended to include Municipal Utilities, so that they too must provide 30% of their power with renewable energy. [El Paso]	36/2	95%	4
We believe that environmental problems are global in nature and that it is in the best interest of all nations to pursue policies of sustainable development. We believe the federal government's current inaction to be grossly irresponsible and immoral. We support assisting other countries to reduce their use of fossil fuels, as well as promote a national world view that focuses on the importance of interdependency among all nations.			* P5
<b>Vehicle Fuel Efficiency</b>			
We support requirements for manufacturers to produce street vehicles that achieve average mileage rates of 40 mpg by 2015.			* P1
We also support conversion of government fleets to 100 percent "light on energy consumption" vehicles such as hybrid, electric and alternative-energy vehicles.			* P2
We support reducing our reliance on corn-based ethanol. [Denver]	32/6	84%	4
<b>Carbon Footprint Reduction</b>			
We support dramatic reduction of net greenhouse gas emissions and air pollutants. As part of that effort, we support a national fossil fuel carbon tax to fund renewable energy (both distributed and grid supported) and renewable energy-based transportation.			* P3
We oppose the licensing of any new coal-powered power plants.			* P4
We should aggressively phase out our energy dependence on fossil fuels including creating an emergency sustainable energy plan which incorporates wind, solar, geothermal, hydroelectric, biomass, and other waste-to-fuel technologies. [Arapahoe, Park]	37/2	95%	3

Colorado Democratic Party Platform Committee Report 2010-12	Y/N	Y/Y+N	Abstain
<b>Energy Conservation and Efficiency</b>			
We believe in conservation as a significant component of energy policy with increased funding for research on conservation methods, efficient use of energy, renewable energy, recycling and innovation, including the use of more energy-efficient construction methods and materials, and increased citizen education on reducing energy consumption.			* P5
We support policies to encourage the development, manufacturing, and consumer use of energy-saving devices and procedures, and installation and design of alternative energy and energy/water conservation/anti-pollution retro-fitting measures in U. S. homes and businesses.			* P6
We support green construction standards. We resolve that federal solar tax credits be extended indefinitely, and that the cap on tax credits for solar PV residential systems be eliminated.	34/2	94%	2
We support legislation requiring all government buildings to meet standards equivalent to the U.S. Green Building Council's Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) certification; requiring newly developed property to fully reflect the cost of sewers, roads, schools, public transportation, protection of biodiversity, water and other infrastructure demands -- developers should not be allowed to simply pass these costs on to the general community; and adopting "Green Energy" building code standards that utilize energy conservation, efficiency and sustainability principles to accomplish large savings in energy usage.			* P7
To reduce our use of fossil fuels, we call for legislation at the state and national levels to implement the Passive House Standard for buildings; to encourage increased functional use of solar energy and energy conservation in new and retrofit building design; and to require alternative energy options in new home construction. We call for legislation supporting investing in green (environmentally friendly) localized economic development. We support requiring all government buildings to meet standards equivalent to the U.S. Green Building Council's Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) design standards and certification.	34/2	94%	2
<b>Incentives</b>			
Cost Disclosure We believe that when considering the cost of electricity generated from nuclear, coal and gas-fired, solar, wind, demand-reduction, or new technologies, there are additional costs that must be included in the equation. Those are the currently excluded costs, both short and long-term, of air and water pollution, health costs, risk of fossil fuel depletion, mercury contamination, carbon costs, the water used, and the resulting non-availability of water for other uses due to water scarcity. [Douglas-Park]	35/2	95%	5
<b>We support incentives and funding for individuals and businesses for alternative energy/water conservation/anti-pollution measures, including the following:</b>			* P8
We support incentives for electric power generated from wind farms.			* P9
We support incentives and funding of university programs that educate and research areas of non-polluting and renewable energy development, including funding workforce training for jobs created as a result of expanding alternative energy employment sectors, and including close monitoring of potential negative effects from the development of alternative energy sources as pertains to the health and welfare of citizens here and worldwide.			* P10
We call for funding of large scale education and training programs on energy issues (New Deal scale).			* P11
We call for incentives to encourage the development and use of hybrid and alternative fuel vehicles.			* P12

Colorado Democratic Party Platform Committee Report 2010-12	Y/N	Y/Y+N	Abstain
We support a residential solar tax credit.			* P13
Significant funding must be available for environmental education, research and tax credits for the purchase and use of renewable energy systems for residential and commercial buildings and transportation. [Arapahoe]	37/3	93%	2
We resolve to support and pursue alternative energy, to increase funding for new technology, storage and delivery, and to provide tax incentives to make alternative energy affordable for the general public .	37/2	95%	3
We support funding and incentives to restructure and rebuild the national electrical grid to increase efficiency, redundancy (backup systems that prevent outages), and robustness.			* P14
We call for the elimination of all subsidies for fossil fuels and for nuclear power, and redirecting current federal energy subsidies from coal and oil producers to renewable energy sources, phasing out over time to allow oil and coal companies to retool and retrain their workers to develop fuel cells, wind farms, and solar systems.			* P15
<b>Energy Regulation</b>			
We support policy that will better regulate the power and control, transparency and accountability of Rural Electric Associations (REAs).			* P16
We support raising renewable energy standards within Colorado to insure REAs will purchase renewable energy produced within Colorado, made by small producers (including those produced by private homeowners) and allow these small-scale renewables to be sold on the grid.			* P17
We support rescinding emission and fuel efficiency exemptions for SUVs, tractor-trailer type diesels, ATV's, snowmobiles, golf carts, etc.			*
We support requiring all utilities to begin using energy sources that are renewable (non-fossil fuel) in ever increasing percentages.			* P19
We support requiring transparency of all energy providers (including REA's) to include all environmental impacts both in economy and carbon emission.			*
We support requiring all utilities to buy-back all energy produced by individuals and residences that stems from renewable and non-fossil fuel sources.			* P21
We call for considering imposing "a 'resource tax' on pollution, development, and fossil fuel to pay for development of renewable energy and environmental restoration.			* P22
We affirm that federal laws should not preempt the ability of states and local governments to enact stricter green initiatives.	42/0	100%	1
We support the use of cap and trade allowances for natural resource restoration. [Denver]	28/5	85%	9
We can only support the enactment of a cap and trade bill without exemptions for large sources of emissions. [Denver]	29/8	78%	5
We call for Colorado legislation that will set standards for Rural Electric Associations to provide a fair system of net metering statewide.			*

Colorado Democratic Party Platform Committee Report 2010-12	Y/N	Y/Y+N	Abstain
<b>Oil &amp; Gas Extraction Issues</b>			
We support the reassessment of oil shale leases granted by the previous administration. [Denver]	34/1	97%	7
We call on the Colorado Legislature and the Congress of the United States to delay the leasing of any further Federal Lands for oil shale and natural gas development until environmental concerns have been satisfactorily reviewed and resolved.			* P32
We support stringent requirements and fees for commercial or consumptive access to our mineral, petroleum, forest, and water resources along with strict financial and liability mechanisms and reclamation bonds to ensure safe practices and full restoration at project's completion, and insist upon surface owners receiving fair compensation for damage or disturbance done in the investigation, development, or extraction of minerals.			* P25
The principles of environmental justice must be used to equalize damage or repair between stakeholder communities when mining- and drilling-related activities may change the environment. Democrats favor regulating the oil and gas industry to minimize adverse impact on the lives of surface owners living near extraction and transportation sites; and Democrats favor legislation that establishes fair compensation to surface owners for damage or disturbance done.	33/2	94%	3
Promote Economic Resilience in the Time of Peak Oil. Peak Oil is defined as the point in time when the maximum rate of global petroleum extraction is reached, after which the rate of production enters terminal decline. The world will soon reach peak oil production, but the total demand for energy that presently is derived from oil will continue to rise. Peak Oil will mean steadily increasing energy prices. Be it resolved that elected Democrats shall prepare our economy to survive the coming of Peak Oil and ever increasing fuel costs. This includes reducing our dependence on oil, creating local economies, and ensuring food availability. [Routt]	34/3	92%	6
The impact on local government caused by energy related mineral extraction must be accompanied by a fair and equitable distribution of severance tax revenues. An increase in the severance tax rates to make them more comparable to neighboring states is long overdue. [Mesa]	36/1	97%	6
We support the repeal of the severance tax exemption for resources extracted from Colorado lands.	37/1	97%	5
We support increasing Colorado's severance tax rate on the extraction of mineral and other natural resources to levels comparable to similar taxes in our neighboring states. A portion of these new funds should be used to further develop alternative and renewable energy technologies.			* P29
The development and use of renewable energy resources and technologies and conservation of energy is essential to achieving lasting national security and energy independence. The transition to this new energy economy will require increased use of natural gas. We insist that all energy exploration in COLORADO must be undertaken with the utmost regard for the continued protection of our health, our water, our air and with minimal environmental impact on the traditional uses of public lands and waterways. [Mesa]	39/2	95%	2

## Environment

**The Colorado Democratic Party believes a clean, healthy global environment is vital for today and the future. Today global climate change poses one of the greatest challenges humanity has faced. We call for the preservation and strict enforcement of critical environmental protection and the introduction of science-based sustainable environmental policies to respond to that challenge and to preserve our public lands and Colorado's unmatched natural environment. Those policies include consideration of alternative modes of transportation and energy efficiency, production of clean renewable energy, conservation of resources through reduced consumption and recycling, and reduction of our carbon footprint. We will act to ensure clean air and water today and for future generations.**

37/0

100%

1

Significant funding must be available for environmental education in schools and for the general public. We must increase support and funding for research into conservation methods, efficient use of energy, renewable energy, recycling, and environmental innovation. We call for efforts to promote or require recycling of all reclaimable materials in Colorado and across the nation. We support measures to promote or require alternative methods of disposal of organic residue, such as grass and yard clippings, tree trimmings, etc. We support legislation to phase out plastic drink and food containers, partly by substituting recyclable biodegradable containers.

\* P16

We support limiting the use of hazardous cleaning materials in schools and public buildings, and encourage the use of certified "green" (non-toxic) materials.

\* P18

We recognize the importance of forests everywhere to the health of our climate, our planet, and our future. Commercial activity on public lands must be consistent with sustainable healthy forests. Forest management and protection must be based on scientifically sound policies, such as forest fire prevention or abatement. Healthy forests protect watersheds, and are an integral component of healthy, stable ecosystems.

34/2

94%

2

### Public Lands and Wildlife

The public has a right to be fully informed about and to participate fully in decisions regarding the management of public lands and resources. We value our shared resources and hold our elected representatives responsible for their efficient management in a publicly accountable manner. Publicly transparent administrative land exchanges are essential, including Environmental Impact Statements and opportunities for public input. Public resources such as our national forests and parks, clean air and water, and the Earth's complex ecosystem cannot be easily measured in economic terms. Since the value of these resources far exceeds their perceived market value, they must be protected in perpetuity for the common good of future generations. We support the development of methods that accurately measure the real costs of pollution clean-up and associated human illness. We urge the reestablishment of a Committee for Environmental Conservation, independent from the Legislatures' Agriculture Committees, to reflect the critical importance of protecting Colorado's natural resources. We must consider the wide-ranging effects of our actions and support global environmental and economic sustainability. [Archuleta]

35/1

97%

2

Colorado Democratic Party Platform Committee Report 2010-12	Y/N	Y/Y+N	Abstain
<p>We call for an end to the policies of increased exploitation of national parks, monuments, forests and wilderness areas for private economic gain. We oppose selling public lands outright, or leasing them at minimal rates. We oppose mountain top mining on public lands. We support studies to determine equitable and environmentally responsible guidelines for managing access to state and national parks and monuments. Public lands are a national treasure --they must be funded and stewarded in ways that will preserve them for future generations of Americans and ensure the survival of native plant and animal ecosystems. We celebrate the 100-year anniversary of the National Park Service by supporting the restoration and reinvigoration of our National Parks. We urge the designation of new Colorado wilderness areas and consideration of new National Monument designation for Chimney Rock. [Archuleta]</p>	33/2	94%	3
<p>We support the protection of wildlife, as well as the preservation and expansion of interconnected habitat areas, roadless lands, and wilderness. We oppose resource exploration and exploitation in these areas. We support stronger state and federal laws and regulations to protect and preserve our public lands and wildlife from energy development including geothermal exploration. [Gunnison]</p>			* P8
<p>We support policies that direct Congress to ensure that the entire Arctic National Wildlife Refuge is maintained as an intact ecosystem off limits to development. Few places as untrammled as the "1002 area" remain on the planet, and fewer still on the same magnificent scale. Any but the most transitory intrusions (e. g., visits for recreation, hunting, fishing, subsistence use, research, etc.) will create irreparable and permanent harm.</p>			* P9
<p>We support the Endangered Species Act, urge that Endangered Species lists be kept current and be based upon solid scientific evaluations. We call for strengthening enforcement of the Threatened and Endangered Species programs, and their associated funding.</p>			* P10
<p>We support permanent protection, as part of the National Wilderness Preservation System, all plans categorized as Management Area 1 in the draft San Juan Forest and BLM management plan, as well, as wilderness recommendations for places such as the HD Mountains, Grizzly Peak, and the San Miguel Range, Cascade Creek, Ice Lake Basin, Engineer Mountain, the South San Juan Mountains, and all of Hermosa Creek, the largest pristine landscape left in Colorado.</p>			* P34
<p>We support public and private efforts to conserve and preserve land through open space programs. We support coordinated regional and state control of growth and open space acquisition. Prior to public notice of a tax property sale, we support pre-notification of local governments and stakeholders about possible open space tax sale properties for their review.</p>			* P33
<p>It is important for government to support community amenities including art and culture, parks (including dog parks and other pet-friendly facilities) and recreation, libraries, historic preservation and the acquisition of open spaces.</p>			* P14
<p><b>Water</b></p>			
<p>We call for water policies that prioritize water conservation and careful management of limited water supplies. New construction should be allowed only when adequate supplies of water exist and water purity is protected for humans and nature. America's wetlands are a critical component in the complex web of sustainable, healthy ecosystems, and must be rigorously protected. We support prohibiting trans-basin water diversions, including from the Arkansas River basin, the Yampa River basin, and San Luis Valley water diversion projects, which damage the basin-of-origin's economy and environment. We urge the preservation of minimum stream flows to preserve the existing ecosystems. Recreational in-stream water use is a beneficial use and should have the same status in the water rights system as more traditional uses.</p>			* P11

Colorado Democratic Party Platform Committee Report 2010-12	Y/N	Y/Y+N	Abstain
<p>We support strengthening and strong enforcement of the Clean Water, Clean Air Acts, and the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). We believe it is essential to ensure that all U. S. waterways continue to be safeguarded by the Clean Water Act in its original form which protects Americas waters. We demand the restoration of the Clean Water Acts scope of power after its weakening through several recent Supreme Court decisions.</p>	36/1	97%	1
<p>We call upon Congress to develop a federal water policy to preserve, protect, and efficiently and equitably distribute existing water resources. This policy should develop new methods of increasing water collection and managing those water resources for both rural and urban uses. We urge the Colorado Legislature, through the inter-basin roundtables, to develop a statewide water plan that would include rehabilitation and enlargement of existing dams ,the development of water banks through storage in underground aquifers, and , and efforts to restore stream flow. We call for the use of gray water and the reuse of water for irrigation purposes, rather than using potable water. We support efforts to educate and inform the public about water issues.</p>	33/2	94%	3
<p>We support a compromise and modification to Rep. Kathleen Curry's HR 1188 to include the same floating rights for private citizens and commercial rafting companies.</p>	21/2	91%	8
<p>We oppose construction of the proposed Northern Integrated Supply Project's Glade Reservoir on the Cache La Poudre River, due to serious concerns about its negative impact on the vibrancy and health of the river and environmental, economic, and recreational well-being of Northern Colorado. We believe that present and future agricultural, municipal, and industrial water needs can be met by water conservation, increased efficiency, reuse, and water sharing partnerships among users.</p>			* P14
<p>We support holding responsible for their cleanup all government agencies, businesses, organizations, or individuals who have caused a site to become contaminated. We believe that cost-effective environmental protection and hazardous waste site clean up are a sound investment in a strong Colorado economy and safeguarding its citizens health, welfare and quality of life.</p>	33/1	97%	4
<p><b>Piñon Canyon Maneuver Site</b></p>			
<p>We demand open, secrecy-free, public hearings in Congress regarding environmental issues on military bases. We oppose further expansion of the Piñon Canyon Maneuver Site, and support the federal law that prohibits appropriated funds from being used for any action related to the expansion of the Maneuver Site.</p>			* P23
<p><b>Global Climate Change</b></p>			
<p>We believe global climate change is a major security threat and may pose the greatest challenge mankind has ever faced. We support shifting our economy to a sustainable one based on energy efficiency and clean renewable energy production. We support immediate action to halt global climate change, as a U.S. foreign policy priority. We support implementation, as U.S. foreign policy priority, immediate action to halt global climate change, including but not limited to ratification of and adherence to the Kyoto Protocols on global warming by the United States. We support partnership efforts to address the problems of global climate change, environmental degradation; and outlawing the patenting of native species.</p>			* P24
<p>We support air quality protection efforts and the repeal of the Clear Sky Initiative, which undermines critical air quality protection efforts. We demand significant reductions in the emission of air pollutants and greenhouse gases; and insist upon strengthening and enforcing air pollution regulations. We support the new CAFÉ standards and other proposals to limit greenhouse gas emissions. We support large scale tax credits for alternative energy. [Arapahoe]</p>			* P25

Colorado Democratic Party Platform Committee Report 2010-12	Y/N	Y/Y+N	Abstain
We support a comprehensive review of laws and regulations addressing environmental concerns, for the purpose of re-directing spending and enforcement activities to the areas most beneficial for mitigating global warming, protecting clean water, clean air, and healthy ecosystems, with due regard for the landowners' rights and the realities of agricultural production.			* P5
<b>Mining and Drilling</b>			
Deep water offshore oil drilling has been promoted as a means by which to continue to meet our domestic demands for fossil fuels. It poses grave environmental risks, most recently demonstrated by the explosion and massive leakage of crude oil into the Gulf of Mexico. The cost/benefit imbalance strongly militates against further off shore drilling. Colorado Democrats are opposed to expansion of deep off-shore oil exploration drilling and production, and we promote expansion of liability limits for environmental degradation imposed on oil well operators as well as enforcement of environmental and drilling regulations.	32/1	97%	5
We urge the repeal of the 1872 Mining Act, an antiquated law used today by mining companies to obtain approval for mining projects that would not otherwise be considered or approved.			* P26
Due to the threat to public health, the environment, and the economic well-being of the affected area including aquifers, we call for the banning of in situ uranium leach mining in Northern Colorado. We also call for the review and possible banning of all in situ leach mining in Colorado, as well as the banning of open pit or strip mining within close proximity' to populated areas.			* P27
We oppose in situ uranium mining and support Colorado HB 10-1348, the Uranium Accountability Act which calls for the protection of the environment, transparency of regulatory reviews, public notification of groundwater contamination, and licensing of companies accepting toxic waste. [Larimer, Pueblo, Fremont]	36/0	100%	2
We urge the State Legislature to protect citizens from irresponsible mining, protect water quality, make mining exploration permits public' and give local officials a say in the mining process.			* P28
We support increased state regulation protecting animal habitat around the development of geothermal exploration. [Gunnison]	27/0	100%	4
We urge the Department of Interior, the State of Colorado and Garfield County to prohibit any natural gas leases or any more drilling on the Roan Plateau.			* P31
<b>Transportation and the Environment</b>			
We believe that transportation policy has important impacts on our environment and our quality of life. We support effective transportation systems to meet the diverse needs of our communities. We urge policy makers at all levels of government to include transportation in evaluating the environmental impacts of development and to promote and fund alternative modes of transportation when they will enhance air quality and reduce congestion. These systems should be viewed as a cost of growth, and be fully reflected in the price of development. We believe public transit should be expanded, including rail, light rail, and bus rapid transit, especially in underserved communities.			* P35
We urge Congressional enactment of a High Speed Rail designation for Colorado and other western states as part of a comprehensive mass transport and commuter rail system. [Routt, Garfield]	32/1	97%	5

Colorado Democratic Party Platform Committee Report 2010-12	Y/N	Y/Y+N	Abstain
We urge all elected officials, especially our US congressional delegation, to champion designation of a US High Speed Rail Corridor as described in the final Draft Report of the RMRA HSR Feasibility Study, and to collaborate with congress people and other elected officials from the Metropolitan Planning Organizations and states in the Western HSR Alliance, as well as other potential partners such as Texas, to get the Intermountain West states, including Colorado, designated as a high speed rail corridor. [Routt]	28/1	97%	2
Recognizing the increased speed and sophistication of off-road vehicles, we support legislation that would license off-road vehicles with license plates clearly visible at a distance, and increase penalties including seizure of vehicles for travel off designated routes inside restricted areas.			* P36
<b>Ethics and Government</b>			
<b>We expect that our elected officials at every level of government be committed to the highest standards of behavior, personal integrity, honesty and a commitment to transparency and open government, with substantial consequences for failure to do so.</b>			* P1
We support restoration of accountability, common sense ethics and integrity in all branches of government and lessening the influence of lobbyists in crafting legislation.			* P2
We support a ban on former members of Congress or former senior Congressional staff lobbying or being in any way involved in lobbying Congress or any government agency for two years after termination of association with Congress.			* P3
We support prohibiting political candidates or office holders from accepting gifts/payments from lobbyists, other than as specifically permitted by law.			* P4
We support restoration of checks and balances between the Executive, Legislative, and Judicial Branches of the United States Government.			* P5
We specifically reject Bush Administration principle of the “unitary executive” which significantly disturbs the balance of power between the three branches of our government.			* P6
We denounce Bush Administration overstepping of Presidential powers through excessive use of internal legal opinions (signing statements) which presume to allow the Executive Branch to diverge from the original intention of Congress in legislation.			* P7
Candidates and elected officials should reject abuse of power, violation of American’s civil liberties, and contempt for the Constitution. [Mesa]	32/3	91%	6
The primary duty of our elected federal representatives is to uphold and defend the Constitution of the United States. [Arapahoe]	26/6	81%	9
We support legislation that prohibits voter caging and other methods of depriving voters of their right to vote. [unanimous at PC 2010 meeting]	21/12	64%	8
We support reform procedures that prohibit one senator or a minority of senators from holding legislation hostage for an indefinite period of time. [Pueblo-Jefferson-Arapahoe-Larimer-Grand-Douglas]	35/4	90%	2
We call on the US Senate to abolish the super-majority filibuster. [Larimer]	32/4	89%	5

Colorado Democratic Party Platform Committee Report 2010-12	Y/N	Y/Y+N	Abstain
<b>Investigations</b>			
We support the re-establishment of robust and effective Congressional ethics investigational committees. [Eagle 57/2]	29/1	97%	2
We urge the U.S. Senate and House of Representatives to restore constitutional order by fully investigating members of the G.W.Bush Administration for violations of Constitutional law, statutory law and international law with respect to the Iraq War and occupation, electronic surveillance inside the United States in violation of FISA, extraordinary rendition, torture, and illegal wiretapping, and attempts to retro-actively legalize such violations, and to pursue further prosecution if it is found to be appropriate. No elected or appointed government official should be above the law or immune to appropriate prosecution. [unanimous as amended PC 2010]	19/16	54%	6
The American people have overwhelmingly concluded that G.W.Bush administration policies have led America in the wrong direction. Therefore, we recommend that all policies, directives and executive orders issued or established by the Bush administration be re-examined by Congress and the new administration, and if necessary, be rescinded. [amended/unanimous @ PC 2010]	11/27	29%	3
We hereby declare that the investigations into the 9/11 terrorist attacks, the illegal invasion of Iraq, Abramoff and other lobbyists, the Hurricane Katrina response, and other major issues were inadequate and warrant review. [12/9 PC 2010]	13/23	36%	5
Whereas many disturbing facts were consciously ignored by the 9/11 Commission; Be it resolved, therefore, that the CDP calls for the establishment of a truly independent Grand Jury and public investigation into these and other anomalies in order to find the truth of the September 11, 2001 attacks, so that we have a greater probability of preventing attacks of this nature in the future. [Eagle 16/3]	15/6	71%	11
<b>Responsibilities of Congress</b>			
We demand that the Congress heed its Constitutional mandate for oversight of the Judicial and Executive branches of our government. We encourage our elected representatives to speak out publicly in support of that oversight.			* P10
The American people have a right to know what its Government is funding with all the money it spends, including the portion financed with revenues from taxpayers as well as the portion financed with the ever-growing federal debt. To that end, Democrats elected to the U.S. Congress shall support and enact legislation which requires complete transparency in the budgeting and appropriating of all Federal funds, especially military expenditures, in such a way that the average American taxpayer can easily see what is approved for expenditure on a real time basis.			* P11
<b>Growth</b>			
<b>We believe preserving the diversity and quality of life in Colorado's communities is best served through managed growth, land conservation, thoughtful zoning regulations, policies of cooperation on growth planning within the region, and public involvement in all phases of land use planning. We support consideration of strategic water and transportation development in all planning decisions. We maintain that any development should pay its own way fully reflecting all costs and infrastructure demands. We support the availability of affordable housing.</b>	34/1	97%	1

Colorado Democratic Party Platform Committee Report 2010-12	Y/N	Y/Y+N	Abstain
We support county and municipal efforts to plan for and manage their growth and to protect their quality of life and the diversity of their communities. Local governments must develop and implement enforceable policies of cooperation and regional planning, and cooperate to prevent competition for local sales tax revenue. We support public involvement in the planning process at all levels of government. We support statewide strategic water planning, and the consideration of water availability in all planning decisions.			* P1
We support local governments balancing growth with preservation of quality of life, conservation of open space, thoughtful zoning, and involvement of the public in the planning process. Local government must enforce all zoning regulations and seek adherence to Master and Community Plans, while allowing limited flexibility where the overall community health, both economic and environmental, is at risk. Standards and statistics must be used to guide approval or disapproval of development projects for example: population trends; economic trends; income levels; population densities; public and private traffic patterns; environmental impact; and many others.			* P2
Development must pay its own way. The price of newly developed property should fully reflect the cost of sewers; roads; schools; public transportation; protection of biodiversity; water; and other infrastructure demands. Developers should not be allowed to simply pass these costs on to the general community.			* P3
We urge policy-makers at all levels of government to look at transportation in evaluating the environmental impacts of development and to promote and fund alternative modes of transportation when they will enhance air quality and reduce congestion.			* P4
We support the availability of affordable housing with affordable day care in close proximity for all people, especially for those with modest means and disabilities; and urge universal (disability accessible) design in all new housing, and call for the creation of state and federal housing trust funds to increase affordable housing within the means of people with fixed and very low incomes and provide more temporary housing for families experiencing homelessness.	34/1	97%	1
We seek to find solutions to homelessness, housing, job training and job creation patterned after existing successful programs such as that of Denver Mayor Hickenlooper's and the Green Jobs for Vets by Brett KenCairn [Routt]	26/0	100%	6
We support achieving business growth in an environmentally friendly, sustainable manner.			* P6
<b>Health</b>			
<b>The health of our citizens is essential to the health of our nation. Our health care system should be focused proactively on wellness, preventive medicine, public health, and disease prevention, as well as primary care. We support the recently enacted national health insurance reform legislation as a first step in the process toward a quality universal single-payer health care system, independent of employment. We support the public option and Medicare for All alternatives.</b>	34/3	92%	2
In the United States, as a matter of social justice, we support a quality universal health care system not tied to employment, as a basic right of all citizens. The health of our citizens is essential to the health of our nation.			* P1

Colorado Democratic Party Platform Committee Report 2010-12	Y/N	Y/Y+N	Abstain
To that end, we support guaranteed, quality, affordable and comprehensive health care for all through a not-for-profit single-payer financed system. This is a system that provides patient choice and continuity of care within our system of private providers; is portable and not tied to employment; returns medical decisions to the patient and health care provider (eliminating insurance company interference); includes strong cost containment measures; and reduces administration costs. We recommend a plan in Colorado that adopts the principles central to “the Colorado Single-Payer Health Services Plan” submitted to the 208 Health Care Reform Commission.			* P2
Comprehensive health care includes, but is not limited to: prescribed drugs, mental health care, dental care, rural health care, home health care, long term care, chronic disease care, end of life/hospice care, preventive medicine, physical and occupational therapy, durable medical equipment, drug abuse rehabilitation, prenatal care, and postnatal maternal care.			* P3
Caveat: Creation of this Single-Payer system shall not preclude the continued existence of for-profit health insurance companies for the purpose of providing supplemental health care insurance coverage.			* P4
We believe our health care system should be focused proactively on wellness, health promotion, preventive medicine, public health, disease prevention, as well as primary care.	35/2	95%	2
We support increased funding and accountability for mental health care, and call for government funded providers to have users of services on their staff and governing boards.			* P6
We support educating the public about scientifically sound policies regarding STDs/HIV/AIDS and comprehensive programs for their research, prevention, and treatment.			* P7
We support increasing availability of hospice care, and home and community based services that address the needs of all, including people with all levels of disabilities of any age.			* P8
We support increasing availability of shelters and programs for victims of domestic violence.			* P9
We support federally-funded research and investigation involving stem cells for the purpose of seeking treatments and cures for heart disease, diabetes, cancer, diseases of the nervous system and renal failure.			* P10
We call for full legalization of use of medical cannabis prescribed for a patient by a physician.			* P11
We support providing for the long-term solvency of Medicare; full and adequate funding of Medicare and Medicaid sufficient to promote the participation of health care providers; ensuring that enrollees in traditional Medicare do not subsidize through their premiums enrollees in private Medicare Advantage and permitting Medicare to negotiate prescription drug costs directly with the pharmaceutical industry.			* P13
We support full funding for SCHIP (State Children’s Health Insurance Program).			* P14
We support proper funding for community health care centers and clinics, as well as dental and medical-care vans moving in a regular circuit throughout the state’s less populated or rural counties.			* P15
We support regulating premium increases on health insurance; prohibiting pre-existing condition exclusions by insurance companies; and reinstating “no fault” automobile insurance coverage for medical expenses.			* P16

Colorado Democratic Party Platform Committee Report 2010-12	Y/N	Y/Y+N	Abstain
We support community choice in long-term care programs, emphasizing choice/independence rather than institutionalization.	36/1	97%	2
<b>Human and Civil Rights</b>			
<b>Every human being has the right to be treated with dignity and all persons residing in the United States deserve equal protection under the law regardless of their race, disability, gender, religion, sexual orientation, national origin or age.</b>	36/1	97%	1
On the topic of differing opinions, we resolve that the Democratic Party is the party of inclusion. We respect the individual conscience of each American on difficult issues, and welcome all our members to participate at every level of our party. We view this diversity as a source of strength, not as a sign of weakness, and we welcome into our ranks all Americans. Recognizing that tolerance is a virtue, we are committed to resolving our differences in a spirit of civility, hope and mutual respect.			* P39
<b>Equal Protection</b>			
We believe in equal protection under the law. We believe that all people are created equal. It is imperative that our laws fully protect the equality of every individual residing under the jurisdiction of the United States regardless of race; ethnicity; national origin; gender or gender identity; sexual orientation; age; religious affiliation; and physical or mental differences.. We support policies that promote equality, safety, and respect for all in all aspects of life, including but not limited to employment, public accommodations, education, health care, spousal equality and beneficiary rights and responsibilities.			* P1
There shall be no new amendment to the Constitution that infringes on, limits, denies, or circumvents the equal rights or civil rights of citizens.			* P2
<b>Civil Rights and Liberties</b>			
Our nation was founded upon the principles of individual rights and liberties. The G.W. Bush administration violated our constitutional rights and we believe the individual rights of liberty and freedom have priority over the power of government. We must ensure all citizens are protected from the abuses and intrusions of government into our personal lives. We also need to elect and support leaders who will support and defend our Constitution as a priority, not an option.			* P4
Claims of national security should not be used to limit those individual civil liberties guaranteed in the Constitution and Bill of Rights on which this country was founded.			* P5
We believe the American people must stand united in common defense against global threats while ensuring that individual civil liberties and democratic principles are not circumscribed.			* P3
We strongly support protection of the right to free speech under the First Amendment. We support legislation to disallow “free speech cages” (restricted designated area for exercise of free speech in a public setting).			* P37
<b>Privacy</b>			
We believe that our government’s duty to protect its citizens includes a duty to protect each citizen’s privacy. The government has no legitimate authority to intrude into the private lives of individuals who have not displayed evidence of being a threat to the security of others.			* P6
We believe that all medical decisions and information about an individual are matters of privacy that may not be breached by any government or private entity, whether at home or abroad.			* P7

Colorado Democratic Party Platform Committee Report 2010-12	Y/N	Y/Y+N	Abstain
<p><b>"Patriot" Act</b></p> <p>We support the affirmation of the importance of civil liberties contained in our Bill of Rights and demand repeal of the USA Patriot Act and subsequent enhancements thereto which permit non-judicial abrogation of Constitutional rights of citizens or non-citizens of the United States.</p>			
			* P8
<p>We strongly oppose passage of H.R. 1955, the so-called Violent Radicalization and Homegrown Terrorism Prevention Act of 2007, which expands the scope of the Patriot Act and threatens our First Amendment and other basic rights.</p>			* P9
<p>We reject Bush Administration claims of legal powers to fight terrorism in ways that violate the rights of U.S. citizens under the Bill of Rights. These excesses include the following: the use of secret, warrantless searches and seizures of the persons, homes and private records of American citizens without required probable cause; the jailing of U.S. citizens by Presidential designation as an "enemy combatant"; intrusive surveillance and investigative practices that limit freedom of speech, peaceful assembly, privacy, and religion; and the imposition of secrecy or other obstacles to prevent U.S. citizens, their families and lawyers, from objecting to these excesses, or exercising their right to have these violations promptly reviewed by Federal courts.</p>			* P10
<p><b>FISA and Domestic Spying</b></p>			
<p>We denounce the use of domestic electronic surveillance without the strictest court oversight, and believe it is unconstitutional and contrary to the Bill of Rights. We support adherence to the Federal Intelligence Security Act (FISA). We oppose the continuing surveillance of U.S. Citizens by the government without appropriate and specific warrants and judicial oversight.</p>			* P11
<p>No immunity shall be granted to telecommunication companies involved in government spying on U.S citizens.</p>			* P12
<p>To protect our rights, we shall work towards even stronger regulations limiting government wire tapping and other forms of surveillance of American citizens.</p>			* P13
<p><b>Geneva Convention, Torture, Human Trafficking</b></p>			
<p>We support applying the principles of the Geneva Convention and habeas corpus to all prisoners and detainees, and we oppose the use of torture and the use of extended detention without the filing of timely charges, under any circumstance.</p>			* P14
<p>We believe torture debases all those involved, and is contrary to the ideals, traditions, Constitution, and laws of the United States. The United States must therefore honor all international agreements that prohibit torture, and must deny material support and training to any persons who engage in it, or who abuse human rights. The United States should also cease and desist from any involvement in "extraordinary rendition" of persons, that is, the seizure, detention and transportation of persons across international lines without due process of law.</p>			* P15
<p>The institution formerly known as the School of Americas, located at Fort Benning, GA, (now known as Western Hemisphere Institute of Security Cooperation—WHINSEC), should be closed, as it teaches Latin American Military how to torture, assassinate, &amp; murder. [Eagle 44/3]</p>	19/3	86%	10
<p>We condemn human trafficking, modern slavery, and forced labor, and we support the victims of human trafficking whatever their legal status in the United States. Many people in the commercial sex trade are victims of human trafficking and are being forced, against their will, to engage in these acts by traffickers.</p>			* P25
<p>The United States should cease cooperation with nations that practice torture and abuse, and other human rights violations.</p>	28/3	90%	5

Colorado Democratic Party Platform Committee Report 2010-12	Y/N	Y/Y+N	Abstain
<b>Guantanamo Bay</b>			
We support immediate closure of the detention facility at Guantanamo Bay.			* P16
Specifically for all Guantanamo prisoners, we call for strict adherence to the Geneva Conventions, and for individual, independent review of the status of those prisoners as required by the Conventions. Consistent with the results of that required review, we support the transfer of legal jurisdiction for Guantanamo Bay prisoners to the proper authorities within the US judicial system and/or the International Court for processing.			* P17
<b>Eminent Domain</b>			
We support laws preventing Federal, state, and local governments from using eminent domain to usurp property rights for the economic gain of a private individual, organization, or corporation and a stricter definition of “blight” in this context.			* P18
<b>Equality for women</b>			
We believe that women are entitled to the full rights and privileges, public or private, legal or institutional, available in the United States. We support efforts to address the current inequities between men and women. We support strong U.S. leadership and active participation in international efforts to improve conditions for and eliminate abuses of women and children across the planet.			* P19
Women should be paid equal pay for equal work.	35/0	100%	1
<b>Reproductive Choice</b>			
We support a woman’s right to choose, and strongly oppose the overturning of Roe v. Wade. Reproductive choice is a private matter between a woman and her doctor. It is not the province of any other person, private entity, or the government. Democrats oppose any legislation or initiative that would restrict a woman’s right of access to abortion. Such restriction is a violation of privacy. This right of privacy should not be abridged by a requirement for notification or consent from spouse, parents or guardians. No female should be forced to undergo an abortion against her will.			* P20
We believe abortion should be affordable, safe, and legal, but rare. We support educational and legal initiatives to accomplish this without making criminals of women or doctors. We oppose legislation, such as that passed and signed into law in South Dakota in 2006 and more recently introduced in Ohio, Indiana, Kentucky, Georgia, and Tennessee, that changes state law to make abortion illegal and/or to prosecute individuals who assist women to cross state borders to obtain a legal abortion in another state.			* P21
To promote health and well-being, Democrats believe Colorado residents must be guaranteed affordable, safe, legal and confidential access to the full range of reproductive health services, to be provided without posing undue burdens or unwarranted governmental intrusion. All women should have access to emergency contraception (the “morning-after pill”), birth control, and birth control information. Pharmacists should not be allowed to limit this access. We must ensure that prescription birth control is covered equally with other prescription drugs, such as Viagra.			* P22
We oppose back door or deceptive tactics to undermine Roe v. Wade such as the attempt to legally redefine a fertilized egg as a “person” through the “Recognition of Life” amendment to the Colorado Constitution.			* P23

Colorado Democratic Party Platform Committee Report 2010-12	Y/N	Y/Y+N	Abstain
<b>Equal Opportunity</b>			
<p>Many children born in the United States do not yet enjoy equal access to the benefits of prenatal healthcare; preschool and early childhood development programs; quality schools; and other critical education and career development resources. Therefore, we support affirmative action programs and public assistance programs to enhance equal access, and resolve to protect equal opportunity. We strongly oppose the upcoming ballot initiative deceptively named “Colorado Civil Rights Initiative”, or any similar legal measure that would destroy current affirmative action programs.</p>			* P24
<p>We promote equality, safety and respect for all citizens, regardless of sexual or gender orientation or gender identity, in all respects of life including: employment; housing; education; healthcare; spousal equality; beneficiary rights and responsibilities. We oppose any Amendment to either the Colorado or U.S. Constitution that discriminates against or denies civil rights or equal rights to any person. We support the expansion of the current definition of civil rights and hate crime laws to include sexual orientation, gender identity and disability; and support efforts that promote training about and the reporting of hate crimes.</p>			* P26
<b>GLBT Issues</b>			
<p>We support civil unions for all couples with all the benefits, protections and responsibilities of married spouses; and urge the defeat of the Federal Marriage Amendment and the repeal of the Defense of Marriage Act.</p>			* P27
<p>We urge our elected representatives at all levels to vigorously oppose legislation or ballot initiatives that would narrow the definition of marriage to a partnership between two persons of opposite genders thus excluding other committed, but non-traditional relationships.</p>			* P28
<p>We call on the Colorado Legislature and U.S. Congress to enact legislation that extends basic protections and provides all benefits of heterosexual married couples and heterosexual civil unions under common law to same-sex partners in marriages and civil unions. These benefits will include but not be limited to: health insurance and other insurance benefits to partners; legal custody of children; second-parent and co-parent adoption rights; employment benefits; property rights; pension coverage; inheritance rights; and access by partners to emergency rooms and intensive care units in hospitals. Civil unions should be honored across state borders.</p>			* P29
<p>We support legislation and policies that promote dignity and safety for incarcerated members of the Gay, Lesbian, Bi and Transgender community and extends true asylum to Gay, Lesbian, Bi and Transgender immigrants who might face persecution from their home country’s government due to their orientation or gender identity.</p>			* P30
<b>Indigenous People</b>			
<p>The United States and the state of Colorado shall support the rights of indigenous people and their right to self determination, the right to protect their environment, and preserve their way of life.</p>	32/0	100%	4
<b>Americans with Disabilities / Citizens with Disabilities</b>			
<p>We urge the immediate and full implementation of the Americans with Disabilities Act Accessibilities Guidelines, enforcement of the Americans with Disabilities Act , the Fair Housing Act, as amended, and the Architectural Barriers Act, to provide improved access to housing, transportation, medical assistance, education, and employment opportunities for those with disabilities.</p>			* P31
<p>We support the rights of people with disabilities to live freely in the most integrated setting in their communities. We believe that we must develop more opportunities for individuals with disabilities through more accessible systems of cost-effective community-based services, including services to those people with developmental disabilities. The waiting list for services and care must be eliminated.</p>			* P32

Colorado Democratic Party Platform Committee Report 2010-12	Y/N	Y/Y+N	Abstain
We support vouchers that allow individuals with disabilities to choose independently between home care or care in an institution for their health and long-term care needs. The administration of health care should be self-directed whenever possible, and should be guided by the concept of "nothing about me without me." We also support efforts to extend workers' rights to caregivers.			* P33
We urge the participation of people with disabilities in policy-making bodies for issues that may involve them, as they are the experts.			* P34
People with disabilities must be able to live without fear, abuse, or retaliation. Complaints about retaliation against people with disabilities must be taken seriously. We support reporting retaliation to the appropriate authorities for a swift and just resolution.			* P35
We call for increased funding for group homes and sheltered workshops to serve the disabled population who are adults (over 18 years of age). It is suggested that the sheltered workshops be modeled after centers such as the Tommy Nobis Center of Marietta, Georgia, which secure funds partly through contracts with the private and public sector for simple work projects. This helps defray some of the costs of the program.			* P36
<b>Separation of Church and State</b>			
We are committed to the fundamental principle of the separation of church and state on which our country was founded: the freedom of our citizens to practice their religion or the lack thereof without interference from the state; protection from the intrusion of the state into private decisions such as individual and family medical decisions; women's reproductive rights; same sex civil unions; the elimination of the use of public funds for faith based social services and vouchers for religious schools; the elimination of the use of public property for the display of religious symbols such as the ten commandments, as well as precluding religious views from eliminating family planning funds from U.S. foreign aid.			* P38
<b>Immigration</b>			
<b>We believe contributions from hard-working immigrants are just as significant today as they have been throughout our history. We honor and defend the basic human rights of every person in the United States, regardless of citizenship status. These rights include health care, education, proper nutrition, family unity, protection under the law including labor law, protection from exploitation and entrapment, and the pursuit of happiness.</b>	35/2	95%	2
The United States is a diverse nation built by people from all parts of the world.			* C766
All persons residing in the United States deserve equal protection under the law regardless of their race, gender, religion, sexual orientation, and national origin. [Boulder]	36/1	97%	1
We support efforts to restore medical and other benefits to legal immigrants on the basis of equal protection of the laws. The 1996 welfare reform law made most legal immigrants, including those of long-standing residency, ineligible for health care, welfare and other essential programs. This exclusion must be reversed at local, state, and federal levels.			* C767
We support access to health care and other essential programs for all immigrants as a protection for all citizens, labor laws that prevent exploitation, stricter health and safety inspections, the opportunity for access to education, and the opportunity for all workers to engage in collective bargaining. [Arapahoe]			* C771
We support increases in federal funding for English language and civic education classes. [Summit]	33/1	97%	4

Colorado Democratic Party Platform Committee Report 2010-12	Y/N	Y/Y+N	Abstain
Immigrant populations should be educated about and encouraged to participate in the political process.	34/1	97%	3
We oppose denial of an immigrant's civil rights and attempts to limit or discourage civic engagement by immigrants.			* C796
We reject attempts by anyone to provoke isolation and xenophobia (fear and hatred of strangers or foreigners) against particular groups or communities among us, including our newest immigrant residents. This is a politics of "divide and conquer" that has outlived its usefulness.			* C769
We oppose the institutionalization of undocumented immigrants as a marked and permanent underclass, and we oppose the classification of illegal immigration as a criminal offense. Undocumented immigrants who have committed no criminal offense should not be subject to incarceration other than temporary detention.			* C785
We call for repeal of the Clear Law Enforcement for Criminal Alien Removal (CLEAR) Act which denies undocumented immigrants a voice to report crimes without fear of deportation.			* C770
We support enforcement of existing legislation penalizing businesses who recruit and employ undocumented immigrants, and funding for enforcement of existing border control laws.			* C772
We support taking down the border wall. [Denver] [16/5 PC 2010]	21/6	78%	11
We support federal legislative efforts to create a fair and easily managed guest worker program which is workable for small businesses, and which includes a "path to citizenship" for undocumented workers and their families. We advocate for federal immigration reform because state reform in this area will be by nature less effective.			* C769
We support a comprehensive immigration reform bill that promotes a more direct path toward citizenship for undocumented immigrants. [Denver]	35/0	100%	3
We support streamlined immigration regulations to allow for a rational, just and humane process, including the restoration of judicial review. [Denver]	35/0	100%	3
We support family reunification. [Denver]	31/2	94%	5
We call for the establishment of an expedited process for easy and early registration of undocumented residents. Once documented, they should be allowed to work and have equal access to services provided by law including the right to obtain an immigrant driver's license.			* C776
We support the federal bipartisan DREAM Act that provides citizenship for students who finish high school and complete two years of college or military service. We also support in-state tuition rates for undocumented students who graduate from Colorado high schools. The DREAM Act should include civil service as a qualifying option (along with military service and college course work). This will help prevent the DREAM Act from becoming a back-door military draft.			* C790)
We call for US trade agreements and US foreign policy to be structured in a way that supports economic opportunity for developing nations while honoring basic human and civil rights in all countries party to the agreements or affected by the foreign policy.			* C792
We support the use of incentives for other countries to expand their economies in order to provide their citizens with work opportunities; we support labor rights that improve their standard of living and so make it unnecessary for their citizens to seek work in the United States.			* C793

## International

**We believe it is imperative that the United States restore its reputation in the international community. To this end, we support dedication of significant intellectual, economic, diplomatic and creative resources toward the elimination of world hunger, poverty, disease, environmental degradation, terrorism and conflict; and we support the U.S. taking a leadership role in the development of policies domestically and internationally that are sensitive to worldwide inequities in resource distribution and use, and that prioritize the long-term environmental security of the planet.**

41/0

100%

2

We believe that keeping citizens safe from terrorism must not undermine international agreements affirming the fundamental rights of all human beings including the Geneva Conventions, the Nuremberg Principles, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and the International War Crimes Tribunal.

36/2

95%

4

We support non-violent conflict resolution and foreign policies based on diplomatic engagement, and strongly oppose preemptive military action, violence, or threats as tools of our foreign policy. We believe it is in the best interests of our nation to normalize, if possible, our relations with any country

39/1

98%

3

To that end, the United States should partner within the community of nations toward peaceful resolution of conflict, protection of human rights, and economically just trade policies. We believe the global threat of international terrorism must be attacked at its source through education, reduction of poverty, reduction of ethnic disputes, reduction of resource limitations, and reduction of extremism; in addition to the appropriate use of force as a last resort. Extremism can best be fought by giving hope, eliminating injustice, lifting the blinders of ignorance, and promoting mutual respect that leaves no room for demonizing those from other cultures or questioning of their right to self determination.

\* P3

We strongly support our military personnel, but insist upon our right as citizens to disagree with and protest against our government's decision to go to war, a position that is not inconsistent with that support.

\* P6

We support expanding the current War Powers Act to preclude any type of invasion onto foreign soils without a formal declaration of war by Congress.

\* P9

We support free and fair elections in all countries, and we condemn the use of military and financial support of coups against freely and fairly elected governments. [Jefferson-Park-Eagle-Pueblo-Arapahoe-Larimer-Weld]

38/0

100%

5

We resolve that the "War on Terror" is not a war. Terrorists are criminals to be dealt with by international systems of criminal justice. War on terror incorrectly implies the world is legally a battlefield, and fosters a culture of fear.

\* P10

We support full adherence to the Anti Land-Mine, Anti Cluster-Bomb, and Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaties, as well as honoring all international treaties for the non-militarization of space. We also call for full United States participation in the International Court of Justice and the International Criminal Court, and ratification of the Law of the Sea. We believe the United States should work energetically toward achieving the goal of a world free of nuclear weapons.

\* P11

We support worldwide nuclear non-proliferation. The U.S. must support mandatory accountability of all nations having nuclear weapons or nuclear energy programs via International Atomic Energy Association (IAEA) processes." [Larimer-Weld-Denver-Park-Washington]

38/1

97%

4

Colorado Democratic Party Platform Committee Report 2010-12	Y/N	Y/Y+N	Abstain
We ask Congress and the Administration to work together to continue to pay the debt the United States government owes to the United Nations for past dues and peacekeeping expenses, so as to help restore America's standing in the world community. We support the United Nations initiatives to intervene where necessary to prevent genocide. [Eagle]			* P12
We believe that the U.S. should establish a strategic global energy policy framework and should take a leadership role in the development of international policies that consider worldwide inequities in resource distribution and use, and that prioritize the long-term environmental security of the planet. We call for a new U.S. foreign policy objective: to halt global warming. [Boulder-Jefferson]	41/0	100%	2
We support a Department of Peace, which focuses energy and resources toward working with communities on a global level to establish peace and unity.			* P13
We support the end of the U.S. embargo on Cuba and the normalizing of relations with that nation.			* P15
We recognize the critical situation in Darfur and urge our country to provide strong humanitarian assistance and fully fund and support peacekeeping forces to stop the genocide there.			* P16
We reject the restriction that foreign aid be tied to "Abstinence Only" method of birth control, or limiting financial aid to organizations that exclude other methods for birth and sexually transmitted disease control.			* P18
We oppose the conscription of children by foreign militaries and we support the Child Soldiers Prevention Act.	39/1	98%	2
We oppose the militarization of space and the reckless pursuit of defense systems with dubious, untested merit. [Jefferson]	32/3	91%	7
<b>Middle East</b>			
We ask the Democratic leadership to stand up and prevent any pre-emptive invasion or attack or military action against Iran.	29/7	81%	6
We demand that Congress prohibit creation of an agreement between the United States and Iraq forcing United States forces to remain in Iraq.			* P7
We call for the immediate, safe and responsible withdrawal of all U.S. troops from Iraq and Afghanistan, coordinated with multilateral and international political, military, financial and humanitarian efforts to promote Iraqi and Afghan regional stability. We call for the closing of all U.S. bases in Iraq and Afghanistan, the end of funding for the U.S. occupation of those countries, and the recognition of the United States' obligation to reduce the suffering of the Iraqi and Afghan people.	33/5	87%	5
We support returning ownership and control of Iraqi petroleum production and infrastructure to the Iraqi people.			* P5
We support a multi-national effort to ensure the rule of law in Afghanistan.			* P8

Colorado Democratic Party Platform Committee Report 2010-12	Y/N	Y/Y+N	Abstain
We are fundamentally committed to using dialogue and diplomacy to achieve a comprehensive, just and lasting peace between all the peoples of the Middle East. We call upon the U.S. Government to dedicate its influence and financial leverage to engage the governments of Israel and Palestine in negotiations leading to resolution of their conflict. Agreements must include the end of the use of violence against each other, acceptance of the other's right to exist, and, if a two state solution is chosen, a division of territory that provides each with an economically and socially viable geography, a sovereign state with full internal control, and specific, secure borders. Until such time as a peace agreement is accepted by both Israel and Palestine, international law regarding human rights and the Geneva Conventions needs to be enforced. [El Paso, Eagle]	32/3	91%	7
The U.S. should apply an even-handed policy in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. [Eagle 81 /2]	27/4	87%	10
We support a just process and equitable solution to the Israel/Palestine conflict. [Eagle 91/0]	33/3	92%	5
The Middle East conflict requires a new paradigm to achieve peace in that region of the world. The international community must help these people get beyond the issues of law, occupation, suicide bombers, and economic controls and handouts. The Israeli-Palestinian Peace initiative should follow a 'reconciliation process' similar to that used in South Africa and other African nations. [Eagle 80/3]	29/4	88%	8
The Democratic Party supports a two-state solution and a reduction of Israel's settlement program in occupied territories. [Pueblo]	26/5	84%	10
We support a just process and equitable solution to the Israel-Palestinian conflict, including support for a two state solution. (Weld, Larimer, Park, Washington, Eagle, Jefferson)	29/2	94%	10
<h2>Jobs and Economy</h2>			
<p><b>We believe that the current economic crisis, trade deficit, and the upwards redistribution of our nations' wealth over the last 10 years demand that we re-think our financial regulations, taxation, jobs programs, trade treaties, and priorities for the spending of dwindling taxpayer dollars. Additionally, the overarching and unprecedented challenges of both global warming and "peak oil", necessitate investment in domestically produced and sustainable energy sources, the upgrading of the energy grid and the repair and replacement of other critical infrastructure. We strongly urge our legislators to seize this opportunity to address our economic crisis through a massive jobs program that would put America back to work and would also address these critical challenges of our time. Such substantial investment in our economy of today is also the necessary deposit on a liveable future for generations of Americans.</b></p>			
<h3>Economic Justice and Equality</h3>			
We support government that promotes economic justice for all. We believe the poverty-line threshold must be adjusted to support a reasonable quality of life for the working families of Colorado, seniors, children, people with disabilities, and individuals with limited financial resources.	41/4	91%	2
We support legislative programs that provide access to basic necessities, including: adequate medical care; shelter; nutrition; education; job training and a fair living wage.	43/1	98%	3

Colorado Democratic Party Platform Committee Report 2010-12	Y/N	Y/Y+N	Abstain
Colorado Democrats believe job creation is an urgent priority and is essential to the health of our economy and to ensuring its competitiveness in the global economy.	44/1	98%	2
A healthy economy also depends upon the maintenance of our public infrastructure, including: roads; bridges; water; sewer; energy grid; earth friendly transportation systems; and funding of fire, police and education.	42/0	100%	2
We call for our elected representatives to restore funding cuts from the National Civilian Conservation Corps and AmeriCorps.	35/1	97%	8
We call for legislative support for a national public works program, job training and re-training programs that will put our underemployed and unemployed citizens back to work, and for programs that relieve underemployment and counteract homelessness.	43/0	100%	1
We call for legislation supporting the creation of jobs that address Peak Oil Production (capacity limit) and Global Climate change and that ensure the health of our economy and our planet, including jobs in alternative energy production, conservation and non-petroleum-based food production.	40/1	98%	3
We support increasing the minimum wage to exceed federal guidelines defining poverty. A 'living' wage must be indexed to inflation and take into account the costs for food, housing, utilities, health care, and transportation.	41/2	95%	1
We resolve to implement cost of living adjustments on Social Security disability benefits equal to actual increases in the cost of living.			* P3
We support reintroduction of the Colorado Earned Income Tax Credit and other measures to ensure a living wage and to mitigate the "cliff effect" that occurs when a small increase in income leads to termination of a work support benefit.			* P10
We support a gradual reduction of public assistance as individuals become increasingly able to support themselves. Welfare reform should prioritize the development of skills adequate for the individual to earn wages that will provide self-sufficiency. Lifetime limits on public assistance should be rescinded.			* P9
All workers should receive equal pay for work that is comparable in terms of skill, effort and responsibility, regardless of gender, race, age, disability, ethnicity, sexual orientation, or religious affiliation. We support the Employment Non-discrimination Act and Affirmative Action programs that have helped to ensure diversity and equal access to education and economic opportunity.	43/0	100%	1
We support policies that improve the competitiveness of small businesses, and businesses owned by women, minorities, and individuals with disabilities.			* P7
A healthy economy depends upon the ability of individuals, families, minorities and small businesses to obtain needed loans, with transparent and reasonable terms. We support legislative policies that enable borrowers to appropriately and urgently modify loans that were offered with unsound premises, terms or procedures.	41/0	100%	3

Colorado Democratic Party Platform Committee Report 2010-12	Y/N	Y/Y+N	Abstain
We condemn the victimization of economically disadvantaged individuals through unreasonably high interest rates and fees. We believe that payday and short-term lenders should be regulated under state and federal banking regulations.			* P15
We support efforts to protect young adult credit ratings and to help youth (18-25) establish good credit practices. We call for the ban of predatory lending practices by the credit card industry, targeting youth.	42/0	100%	2
In order to improve access to services for those in need, Democrats support legislation that requires all publicly supported social services offices to provide adequately staffed case management services to all clients.			* P13
We resolve that Colorado provide adequate funding for legal representation to low income and under-represented citizens.			* P18
We support affordable housing for working families in all parts of Colorado with affordable day care in close proximity.			* P16
We support the Colorado Housing Investment Fund to provide needed housing for low-income workers, individuals with disabilities, seniors, young adults, and others with modest means.			* P16
We also support funding of the National Housing Trust Fund Act, which would create 1.5 million new housing units over the next decade, especially for low-income renters and owners, and focus on low-income households in mixed-income neighborhoods. (NHTFA has passed, but is as yet unfunded)			* P16
We believe that, regardless of their place of work, the law should protect the earned and vested retirement benefits of all working people and their families.	43/0	100%	1
We support the protection of private pensions and encourage the prosecution of corporate entities raiding these funds.			* P19
We support cohort status for Rocky Flats employees to ensure government benefits and health care for work-related ailments.			* P8
We believe that the Federal government must make honest, genuine efforts to assure fair and just payment of all past, present and future royalties due Native American beneficiaries for the use of their lands and resources.			* P19
<b>Corporate Responsibility</b>			
We encourage the fostering of ethical business leadership based on social responsibility.			* P1
We believe corporations must be accountable to the common good and receptive of public oversight, and that they must pay their full share of taxes and be recognized as business entities legally separate and distinct from individuals.			* P1
We believe that government regulation of industry is essential for the common good. We support strong anti-trust laws and believe Federal regulatory agencies must enforce adequate safeguards on behalf of the people and the environment.			* P4
Federal regulatory agencies must regulate, not protect the industries they were created to regulate. Industry must not be allowed to write the legislation that affects them.	39/0	100%	4

Colorado Democratic Party Platform Committee Report 2010-12	Y/N	Y/Y+N	Abstain
Government must not enable or support businesses that behave contrary to the betterment of society. We support the full prosecution of corporations and their officers who violate securities and investment laws and regulations.			* P1
Regulatory agencies must receive adequate funding and staffing levels to enforce the law.	41/0	100%	2
We call for the repeal of Colorado and Federal laws that provide special, unequal protection to corporations from lawsuits, such as major pharmaceutical manufacturers, medical providers, the tobacco industry, and Colorado homebuilders			* P2
We call upon Congress to enact legislation preventing business from using bankruptcy as a tool to abrogate labor contracts and pension obligations.			* P3
We believe that U.S.-based multi-national corporations must be held accountable for human rights abuses, in this and other countries, committed in their factories and subsidiaries.			* P5
<b>Fair Trade</b>			
Fair trade requires respect for the life, health, and dignity of all people on the planet. We have the right as a sovereign nation to establish laws regarding the behavior of Americans abroad and foreign corporations in the United States.			* P3
We support fair trade laws and treaties that guarantee worker protections, safe working conditions, limitations on child labor, a living wage, environmental protections, public safety and human rights.			* P1
We call for the renegotiation of terms in or the repeal of existing trade laws and treaties, including NAFTA and CAFTA, to guarantee worker protections, safe working conditions, limitations on child labor, a living wage, environmental protections, public safety and human rights.			* P2
We support incentives to stem the loss of domestic jobs and domestic production facilities, directly related to “free trade” policy terms, including the application of tariffs for off shore labor and production and tax credits for domestic labor and domestic production facilities.	35/3	92%	4
We believe that ensuring essential services and addressing critical issues in our economy, environment, and energy sources are of the highest priority for our nation, and that our worldwide military operations and expenditures must be scaled back in order to adequately address these primary priorities of our nation.	35/4	90%	3
Water rights and water systems should not be privatized by multi-national corporations. Community access to sustenance crops should not be limited through patenting by multi-national corporations.			* P3
We oppose the proposed super highway out of Mexico into the United States without adequate protection of American workers, our national security, and highway safety.			* P4
<b>Labor</b>			
<b>Anyone who does a fair day's work deserves a fair day's pay with adequate benefits, right to organize, and a safe working environment.  </b>	35/1	97%	1
We resolve that the Democratic Party support the Employee Free Choice Act, including card check and employer neutrality. [Denver, El Paso]	28/3	90%	6

Colorado Democratic Party Platform Committee Report 2010-12	Y/N	Y/Y+N	Abstain
<p>We support passage of a Labor Rights Amendment to the Colorado Constitution which would restore the right of workers to belong to a labor union of their own choosing, participate in democratic union elections and engage in collective bargaining when voted upon by a majority of employees in their workplace. The amendment would also provide penalties against employers who attempt to prohibit or infringe upon workers exercising those rights. [Arapahoe]</p>	30/3	91%	4
<p>We oppose the so called "Right to Work" legislation, which restricts worker's rights to organize and collectively bargain for fair wages and working conditions.</p>			* C867
<p>We oppose any measure that limits public employees' right to participate in a labor union including any measure that limits the deduction of dues and political contributions from employee paychecks.</p>			* C868
<p>We opposes any measure that restricts the right of employees to belong to and participate in a labor union including any measure that restricts the right of unions to bargain representation or agency fee provisions in collective bargaining contracts.</p>			* C870
<p>We resolve to support keeping state labor law reform in the hands of the Colorado General Assembly, and not embodied in the State Constitution.</p>			* C871
<p>We believe that all workers have a fundamental right to assemble, organize, bargain collectively, and jointly petition businesses and government for better working conditions, and to vote on all matters without intimidation or coercion from management or outside influences.</p>			* C872
<p>We endorse restoring majority rule for union certification and the right to strike without fear of retribution. The hiring of permanent replacements in strikes or the preferential treatment of workers who cross picket lines must be prohibited.</p>			* C875
<p>We support the right of workers to pay union and professional membership dues through payroll deductions.</p>			* C876
<p>We oppose the privatization of postal services. We oppose all anti-worker initiatives or legislation proposed in Colorado or at the national level.</p>			* C879
<p>Colorado Public Employees Retirement Association is an actuarially sound defined benefit plan, directed by a board elected by the membership, and establishing a 30-year actuarial period. We support maintaining PERA and oppose any attempts to undermine or abolish it.</p>			* C881
<p>The PERA board should continue to be comprised of those who have a direct stake in the health of PERA. Any changes that may be needed to insure the actuarial health of PERA should be done with the consent of its membership. We oppose any attempt to create a two-tier plan for old and new (PERA) members.</p>			* C883
<p>We advocate guaranteeing a safe and healthy workplace for all workers by maintaining the Occupational Safety Health Administration (OSHA), the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA), the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), and other similar agencies with adequate funding for enforcement and training.</p>			* C886
<p>National Guard Reservists' jobs must be protected for the duration of their active service. We support providing tax credits to businesses that employ Guard Reservists who are activated for service.</p>			* C887

Colorado Democratic Party Platform Committee Report 2010-12	Y/N	Y/Y+N	Abstain
We support classified State employees and their civil service protections as currently provided for in the State Constitution.			* C889
We demand the strict enforcement of the child labor laws throughout Colorado. We encourage employers to implement practices for the safety and protection of minor employees.			* C890
We call upon Congress to enact legislation preventing business from using bankruptcy as a tool to abrogate labor contracts and pension obligations.			* C942
We support the repeal of the requirement for a super majority vote in the Colorado Peace Act since this provision negatively impacts the right of workers to control collective bargaining rights. [Arapahoe]	25/2	93%	10
<b>Military and Veterans</b>			
<b>In recognition of their service to our country, we support our military and veterans, and advocate competitive pay for personnel in our armed forces and supplying our troops with the equipment needed to protect them when put in harm's way. We call for protecting and maximizing benefits to veterans and their families and stopping the erosion of promised benefits. We demand policies that fully fund Department of Veterans Affairs hospitals and military hospitals. We support rescinding the Dont Ask, Dont Tell policy and allowing gays and lesbians to serve openly in the military. We oppose the privatization of the military.</b>			
We support providing superior health care to all injured soldiers and their families, in a timely manner, regardless of cost, utilizing civilian as well as military facilities. We advocate that all active duty personnel, veterans and their spouse and dependent children receive free and thorough lifetime physical, mental and dental health care for injuries and conditions sustained during or as a result of their service, including medical answers that are based in truth. We support legislation that facilitates the Department of Veteran Affairs' ability to contract with community health providers to provide the medical care that rural isolated veterans would have received at a Department of Veterans Affairs medical facility, authored by Senator Jim Webb of Virginia, and enacted.			* P3
Military personnel should be able to make an informed choice on experimental drugs or treatments. Paperwork and "red tape" must be aggressively minimized, and rules and regulations must be rewritten as needed to recognize all medical and psychological conditions that may afflict a veteran.			* P4
We support improving educational benefits for veterans, and urge restoring benefit levels to match those provided to veterans of the Second World War. Armed Forces assessment of disability at discharge shall be presumptive in determination of benefits. We support the 21st Century lifetime GI Bill, enacted by Congress, which provides 36-months of benefits that cover tuition and living costs for our veterans.			* P5
We urge lifting the ban on gays in the military and repealing "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policies. Members of the GLBT community in the military should be able to openly live normal lives.			* P6
No veteran should be homeless. We support eliminating the homelessness of our veterans by whatever means necessary.			* P7
We support legislation that provides aid for ex-spouses with dependent children of U.S. military troops in a manner consistent with those extended to spouses.			* P8

Colorado Democratic Party Platform Committee Report 2010-12	Y/N	Y/Y+N	Abstain
We advocate the immediate and permanent cessation of the use of all depleted uranium weapons.			* P9
We oppose the privatization of the military including the use of private contractors for jobs traditionally done by military personnel. [Denver]			* P10
We condemn the practice of requiring service members who received reenlistment or other bonuses, and who subsequently become disabled due to combat-related injuries received by virtue of their reenlistment, to reimburse the government those payments.			* P11
Our Veterans deserve to be honored and if they so desire, to be interred with fellow Veterans in a National Veterans Cemetery. Ft. Logan National Cemetery will be filled in 4-5 years and funding for a new national cemetery is in the President's budget. We urge legislative action to create and establish a new National Veterans Cemetery in the Colorado Springs area. [Routt]	20/3	87%	8
<b>Party Policies and Practices</b>			
Democratic elected officials must stand up for legislation that will benefit the greatest number of United States Citizens. We ask for a strong, determined resistance to the ongoing obstructionist tactics of the Republicans in Congress. [Saguache]	27/1	96%	3
We support policy/rule changes for the Democratic Party to do away with super delegates. [Larimer] [12/3 PC 2010]	18/5	78%	8
The Democratic Party endorses proposals to join with other western states in holding western primary elections on a single date early in the election calendar. [Eagle]	21/2	91%	8
The order of first primaries should vary from cycle to cycle, including some western states early in the calendar. [Eagle]	17/2	89%	12
For the long-term interest of the nation, all political parties must work together in a spirit of cooperation and civility rather than simple opposition on all items. To that end, all newly elected members of Congress of all political parties must be trained in the congressional processes in like manner, at the same time, and in the same room so there is no misunderstanding of procedure. [Custer]	23/3	88%	5
We demand the National party not endorse or support any candidate in a contested primary race. [Denver]	31/5	86%	5
The Democratic Party shall not endorse or give monetary support to any Democratic candidate prior to the primary election. [Pueblo]	32/5	86%	4
Democratic elected officials should adhere to the core values outlined in the Democratic Party platform (as opposed to any specific piece of legislation) or risk losing support of the party infrastructure. [Rio Blanco] [PC2010 17/5 amended]	25/7	78%	9
The Democratic Party stands for a return to civility in the political discourse in our local, state, and federal governments. Citizens should have the right to peacefully assemble and discuss their disagreements without being threatened and intimidated as a means of silencing dissent. Legislators should meet with the intent of promoting legislation to better our communities rather than obstruct legislation for strictly political gains. [Arapahoe]	39/0	100%	2

Colorado Democratic Party Platform Committee Report 2010-12	Y/N	Y/Y+N	Abstain
<b>Platform Transparency</b>			
The Colorado Democratic Party should tabulate the results of resolutions presented at Caucus and make that information available to party members, County Platform committees, and the State Platform Committee. [Washington-Weld-Park-Montrose-Grand]	22/3	88%	6
In the interest of promoting democratic principles in the operation of our Party, the national Democratic Party should appoint a committee to review the platforms that have been prepared with due consideration by each state and produce a consensus statement. This consensus statement should be included in the national Democratic Party Platform, as a public expression of the grassroots Democratic Party values. It should be used as a guideline in the legislative considerations of our elected Democratic representatives and by appointed Democratic Party officials. Candidates should be familiar with the party platform and be willing to publicly discuss their positions on these issues. The State Party should provide results of caucus resolutions. [Arapahoe]	24/3	89%	4
<b>Using the Party Platform</b>			
We encourage elected officials to serve the best interests of their constituents and adhere to the party platform by avoiding divisive tactics and the undue influence of lobbyists. [Douglas]	25/3	89%	3
The Colorado Democratic Party (CDP) Platform is the basis for CDP policies, and therefore all Party candidates should be asked to publicly state their position on planks of the CDP platform. [Jeffco,Eagle] [16/0 PC 2010]	19/8	70%	4
<b>Science and Technology</b>			
<b>We believe in the power of the human mind to gain understanding of the world around us in order to solve problems facing humanity. To that end, we support funding research and education in science and technology and call for an end to politicizing scientific study. We insist on freedom of inquiry for scientists, appointing qualified scientists to panels without regard to political or religious beliefs, and allowing scientists to publish their results without political interference.</b>	38/1	97%	1
Science and technology are tools of progress that help maintain a stable, educated workforce.			* P1
We support public research and development programs and public/private partnerships to stimulate job growth, including the generation of funding for innovative research and technology.			* P2
We support the fair and responsible use of technology that advances and promotes civil rights, justice, government services, culture, environment, public safety, health, transportation, communications and jobs.			* P3
We applaud the return of freedom of inquiry to scientists, appointing qualified scientists to panels without regard to political or religious beliefs, and allowing scientists to publish their results without political interference in order that we may have open, honest debate on public policy.			* P4
<b>Transportation</b>			
We support expanding public transit, including rail, light rail, bus, and other alternatives, to create comprehensive and efficient public transit systems, and decrease the need for automobile transportation. Road projects (avoiding toll roads) should be only one component of integrated, multi-modal links between local, regional, and national transportation.			* P5

Colorado Democratic Party Platform Committee Report 2010-12	Y/N	Y/Y+N	Abstain
We advocate improving access along the I-70 central mountain corridor through alternatives to wholesale highway widening. We support a mass transit solution to I-70 congestion which is comprehensive enough to be actually viable. We concurrently support a supplemental draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement to address the egregious bias and methodological deficiencies of the I-70 PEIS, as manifested in its disregard for environmental, cultural, and local economic impacts.			* P6
A healthy economy relies on appropriate maintenance of our public infrastructure, including roads, bridges, water, sewer, earth friendly transportation system, and funding of police, fire protection and school facilities. We support effective transportation systems to meet the diverse needs of our communities. These systems should be viewed as a cost of growth, and be fully reflected in the price of development.			* P7
We call upon Congress to enact legislation creating tax incentives to redevelop rail links for efficient long distance transportation of bulky and heavy cargo.			* P8
We believe that a Colorado Transit Task Force comprised of members from throughout Colorado should develop and implement a strategic plan for public transit, including the use of efficient alternative energy in public transit systems.			* P9
We support the promotion and consideration of construction and maintenance of bicycle lanes in all of the road construction projects at the local, state and national levels, and support continued expansion and integration of bike and pedestrian trail systems throughout Colorado.			* P10
We support extension of the RTD Light Rail/Commuter Rail system to Denver International Airport, to Louisville, Longmont, Castle Rock, Colorado Springs and other cities along the Front Range.			* P11
<b>Internet</b>			
We support open and equal access to the Internet with restrictions on large conglomerate control, as well as implementation of broadband service choice for all, especially in small communities and rural areas.			* P12
<b>Libraries</b>			
We support the adequate funding of all public and academic libraries.			* P13
<b>Taxation and Fiscal Policy</b>			
<b>The last decade has seen an unprecedented transfer of wealth from the middle class to less than five per cent of Americans, via legislated tax “relief” for the ultra-wealthy, a decrease in inheritance taxes, offshore tax-free accounts, massive tax loopholes, lax collection of taxes from the wealthy, and high risk speculative financial schemes that have pillaged stock- based pension plans, resulting in placement of the debt burden on the wages of the American middle class. We believe that long-term economic stability requires regulated, transparent, and fully accountable fiscal policies, supported by a progressive tax system, with the goals of providing proportionate fairness to all groups, reducing the national debt, providing stimulus to the real economy, and striving to balance the federal budget.</b>	33/1	97%	4

Colorado Democratic Party Platform Committee Report 2010-12	Y/N	Y/Y+N	Abstain
<b>Reducing Poverty and Providing for Basic Necessities</b>			
Our economy must meet the basic needs of all Americans for housing, food, healthcare, education, energy, transportation and infrastructure, essential public services such as police, fire, judicial, legislative, as well as socially necessary public spaces and programs such as parks, open space, recreation facilities, libraries, arts and cultural programs.	36/0	100%	2
We strongly support adequate federal and state funding for programs that provide access to basic necessities, essential services, and socially necessary infrastructure for all Americans. We also support additional fiscal policies such as progressive taxation, economic stimulus to the real economy, and financial reforms that seek to reduce and eliminate poverty, unemployment and underemployment.			* P3
Certain necessary public functions and services carry a larger inherent burden of public trust, as their abuse causes great harm, including public functions such as our military, police, tax collection, intelligence, prison and detention facilities. Therefore we reject the outsourcing of such functions to private and for-profit entities as a massive conflict of interest and demand that such services be performed and overseen only by our government.			* P16
We support preserving the long-term solvency of essential social support programs, such as Social Security, Medicare, Medicaid and Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF), without privatization.			* P4
We support legislation to raise the threshold for income taxation on Social Security benefits to \$50,000, adjusted for inflation.			* P5
We support the removal of the income cap (currently set at \$106,800) on Social Security wage taxation, so that all earned income is taxed for Social Security, enabling this critical program to be viably funded in perpetuity.	35/0	100%	2
<b>Progressive State/Federal Taxes</b>			
Democrats are realists who know essential services require tax funding. Given that our middle class is shrinking and an inefficient tax system is causing widening economic disparity between the ultra wealthy and wage earners, we support a more progressive tax system that would address that widening disparity. Progressive taxation would also eliminate tax cuts and tax avoidance and evasion schemes for the wealthiest Americans and largest corporations, and would necessarily reject consideration of a flat tax (since it disproportionately favors the very wealthy).	32/2	94%	3
If progressive taxation is not quickly instituted, we call for targeted tax cuts for lower and middle income earners and small businesses.	27/4	87%	5
We call for removal of the Alternate Minimum Tax , since it no longer functions to tax the wealthiest Americans who would otherwise pay no taxes, but is in fact adding an additional tax burden to families making between \$100,000 and \$200,000 per year.			* P10
We support legislation that, for all compensation packages that are more than 40 times the average compensation package of an employee, taxes the difference in compensation as windfall income at a higher marginal rate.			* P11
The estate tax is the only significant federal tax on accumulated wealth and is an essential part of a fair tax system. We believe that the estate tax is an essential part of a fair and balanced tax system, and must be preserved. There is an exemption built into the law that is specifically designed to exclude family-owned farms from estate taxes. We support reasonable reforms that allow these legacies to remain, but also preserves the principle of a tax on inheritances.			* P22

Colorado Democratic Party Platform Committee Report 2010-12	Y/N	Y/Y+N	Abstain
We support the taxation of high-risk, speculative transactions (such as hedge funds, securitized derivatives, short selling) at a minimum 2% per transaction and require an acknowledgment that the U.S. government will not insure nor be liable for any portion of such speculative transactions.	28/4	88%	5
<b>Fiscal Policy to Restore &amp; Sustainably Support Our Real Economy</b>			
We support an economic stimulus package that rebuilds our infrastructure and creates jobs (similar to the HRA of the 1930s), with policies strengthening the U.S. dollar and reducing interest rates on home mortgages.			* P2
We support policies that promote diversity, social justice and economic opportunity, and balance the federal budget by adopting a pay-as-you-go policy. We must stop borrowing from our children's future.			* P6
We support a return to federal fiscal responsibility and a strong monetary policy which will reduce the national debt, restore our country's long-term financial stability, and safeguard our children's future.	32/1	97%	4
We support the closing of excessive loopholes and government incentives given to large corporations. Government subsidies should only be used to promote the public good, such as creating jobs in a depressed economy.			* P12
We urge the repeal of tax incentives for U.S.-based corporations who export work to other nations to avoid paying the real cost of goods and services formerly obtained from U.S. workers, and we demand that the U.S. government be prohibited from doing business with formerly U.S.-based corporations who move offshore to escape paying U.S. corporate taxes.			* P13
To encourage the restoration of jobs and production in the USA and in support of small business, we support offering substantial tax credits to American companies which do not use foreign, outsourced labor or production facilities.	31/4	89%	2
We support a tax break for lower and middle income brackets, along with a tax raise for higher income brackets and corporations. Corporate tax loopholes should be closed so corporations pay their fair share.	30/1	97%	6
We believe accountability procedures for programs which receive government money should be instituted with appropriate oversight, multi-level review, and mechanisms for reporting fraud.	34/0	100%	3
We recommend increased funding and staff for the Internal Revenue Service to allow for collection of unpaid taxes and to increase the frequency of corporate auditing.			* P17
All corporations which received bailout funds must "display and disgorge," i.e, be subject to GAO government oversight and repay all public monies, in full, at a 10% interest rate within 10 years.	31/1	97%	4
We support a full audit of the Federal Reserve.	32/1	97%	3
We call for the disclosure of the actual costs of military spending and funding through their inclusion in the annual federal budget as opposed to "supplemental" funding bills. We oppose awarding no-bid contracts.	34/0	100%	2
In the interest of national security and fiscal accountability, all defense contracts should be randomly audited as necessary by the General Accounting Office, and unauthorized payments or overcharges must be reimbursed by the contractors. The contractors should also be charged with crimes when appropriate.	33/1	97%	2

Colorado Democratic Party Platform Committee Report 2010-12	Y/N	Y/Y+N	Abstain
<b>Banking and Lending Regulation</b>			
Credit Cards: We believe our financial institutions have acted immorally in their treatment of consumers in perpetuating a cycle of debt at usury levels. In order to restore order and a sense of fairness in the treatment of consumer lending, the “free market” demands regulation to curb these abuses. The Democratic Party supports legislation to create a hard cap on (annual) credit card interest rates of 15%. [Archuleta-Douglas-El Paso-Park-Weld-Larimer]	18%-9	15%-12	9%-4
Payday Lenders: While appreciative of the efforts thus far to properly regulate pay day loans we continue to believe our financial institutions have acted immorally in their treatment of consumers in perpetuating a cycle of debt at usury levels. In order to restore order and a sense of fairness in the treatment of consumer lending, the “free market” demands regulation to curb these abuses. We support legislation to set a hard cap on (annual) payday lending interest rates Of 15% . [Archuleta-Douglas-El Paso-Park-Weld-Larimer-Denver]	30%-4	18%-13	15%-4
Foreclosures Moratorium: Be it resolved that the House banking committee should investigate the failure of banks to release funds, and should apply measures to reduce the foreclosure rates by requiring more re-negotiation of loans, and that a Presidential Executive Order be issued, effective immediately, to place a moratorium on primary residence foreclosures. [Routt]	21/4	84%	7
Homeowners in foreclosure should be given an opportunity to rent their homes from the bank at an equitable rate [Eagle 41/5]	25/2	93%	5
Homeowners in foreclosure should be given the right of first refusal to buy their own homes back from the bank. [Eagle 50/3]	28/1	97%	3
The Democratic Party supports the reinstatement of prudent and necessary financial regulation such as the Glass-Steagall Act and other regulatory measures that ensure transparent accountability and eliminate public liability for speculative investment practices. [Washington, Eagle, Park, Arapahoe]	30/0	100%	2
Congress shall pass legislation to create a strong financial consumer protection agency independent of the Federal Reserve and FDIC with subpoena and regulatory authority. [Routt ]	28/1	97%	3
<b>Colorado Fiscal Policy and Taxation</b>			*
We support the role that state services play in the lives of Colorado families and wish to ensure that essential services and access to basic necessities are adequately funded. Across-the-board cuts are unacceptable.	26/3	90%	7
We strongly support ensuring that the State of Colorado has an adequate tax base to meet the demands of quality public education and all other essential public services.	34/0	100%	2
The State of Colorado should examine all corporate tax breaks granted by the state as it attempts to maintain an effective safety net for Colorado families.	30/2	94%	4
We require the restoration of an adequate tax base to fund state programs cut during times of financial adversity in the areas of health, K-12 through higher education, and transportation, especially as directed by Amendment C, and urge the State Legislature not to enact any new tax cuts.			* P14
We request simplification of the tax code and revocation of the TABOR amendment.			* P18
We support the restoration of funding to state programs cut during times of financial adversity in the areas of health, education and transportation	33/1	97%	2

Colorado Democratic Party Platform Committee Report 2010-12	Y/N	Y/Y+N	Abstain
The financial crisis in this state was precipitated by the interaction of the TABOR Amendment, the Gallagher Amendment and Amendment 23 and needs to be addressed by constitutional reform.	27/5	84%	4
We support repeal of the Taxpayer Bill of Rights provisions of the Colorado State Constitution, which have resulted in unacceptable curtailing of state services, especially the human services safety net.	29/4	88%	3
We oppose passage of Proposition 101 and Amendments 60 and 61 in the November, 2010, election, in order to guarantee the future of Colorado and its citizens. Proposition 101 and Amendments 60 and 61 would cut user fees, Colorado's ability to borrow money, limit or end bonding capacity, repeal school district property taxes, nullify de-Brucing efforts already approved by taxpayers, and would make Colorado jurisdictions unable to pay for needed services in a civil society.	31/0	100%	5
We support an in-depth study of the current Colorado tax system prior to the enactment of any reform of the tax system.	27/4	87%	5
We urge the state legislature not to enact any new tax cuts, as they undercut important state programs, lower our funding base, and undermine the ability of Referendum C to accomplish its objectives.	27/2	93%	7
We support reintroduction of the Colorado Earned Income Tax Credit, and other measures to ensure a living wage and to mitigate the "cliff effect." A "cliff effect" occurs when a small increase in income leads to termination of a work-support benefit.	31/1	97%	4