

THE RESOLUTIONS

All Were Approved at the Pueblo County Democratic Party Assembly on March 16, 2024

- 1 - Water Usage in Community** - We support the mindful and efficient use of water for all aspects of use in our community.
- 2 - Concerning Higher Voter Turnout** - The Pueblo Democratic Party should support cultivating higher voter turnout in traditional low turnout precincts and districts
- 3 - Regarding Rank Choice Voting** - To Increase the electability of good quality candidates we support rank choice voting for city, county, state, and federal elections
- 4 - Recommending Year-Round State Voter Registration Program** - "We the Democratic Party support a statewide initiative to create a 12-month comprehensive program to register voters at all available public events and places in our respective counties"
- 5 - Concerning Christian Nationalism / Supporting Separation of Church and State / Supporting All Religion and Beliefs or Non-Beliefs** - The Pueblo County Democratic Party recognizes that Christian nationalism poses a significant threat to the democratic fabric of the United States. This political movement, cloaked in religious rhetoric, aims to exert theocratic control over our nation's citizens and institutions. It's important to clarify that Christian nationalism does not reflect the tenets of Christian faith. Instead, it is a distortion that merges political power with religious identity in a manner that endangers our pluralistic society and democratic values. We are committed to countering this ideology and upholding the constitutional principle of separation of church and state, ensuring that all individuals, regardless of their religious beliefs or non-belief, can live in a society that respects and protects their freedom and rights.
- 6 - Repeal of Tabor** - With Tabor, taxpayers get some money back, but our roads are a mess. Would like to see money used to improve infrastructure.
- 7 - Seeking Guaranteed Quality Health Care for Life** - We support Simple Guaranteed Quality Health Care for All for Life such as improved Medicare for All at the state and national levels and Colorado's state bill, HB24-1075, that addressed how to make that work in Colorado
- 8 - We Support Coloradans for Protecting Reproductive Freedom** - the nonpartisan ballot measure campaign supporting a constitutional amendment guaranteeing a right to an abortion here in Colorado, regardless of insurance status. When the U.S. Supreme Court overturned the Constitutional right to abortion in 2022, it became clear that Coloradans must act to protect our rights in case the state's political winds shift directions. Even in a state like ours, barriers to care exist, rights are not guaranteed, and not every Coloradan has the freedom to access abortion care that they should.
(This relates to Colorado Initiative #89 - Right to Abortion - approved for petition circulation by the State Title Board and seeking a November vote to make a state constitutional change. Signed petitions due 4/26/24.)
- 9 - Concerning Protection of Wild Horses and Burros on Public Land** - The Pueblo County Democratic Party recognizes the value of preserving Colorado's western heritage and the spirit of the west. With intense pride in the spirit of the west and a deep desire to protect the earth's ecological balance, we support preserving wild horses and burros in the wild, on our public lands. These animals are federally protected by the Wild Free Roaming Horses and Burros Act, passed unanimously by Congress, and signed into law by President Nixon. Declared "living symbols of the historic and the pioneer spirit of the West", they contribute to the diversity of life forms within the Nation and enrich the lives of the American people. The horses and burros are fast disappearing from our public lands. There is little evidence to show that the agency tasked by Congress in protecting wild horses and burros, the Bureau of Land Management, within the Department of Interior, are protecting them. On the contrary, the BLM's actions and their treatment of the horses and burros are based on a prioritization of ranching and other commercial interests on public lands. We oppose the millions of taxpayer dollars spent to round-up wild horses and burros and then warehouse them in cruel living conditions, all to the benefit of private government contractors. Federal helicopter roundups traumatize wild horses and burros. Far too many of these innocent animals are injured or even killed because of this cruel practice. Deaths from broken necks and legs are routine, and sometimes the horses are literally chased to death. We as Pueblo democrats choose to endorse that the horses and burros are left in the wild and to not use taxpayer dollars to provide funding for one industry using our public lands for their commercial benefit. We choose to celebrate the spirit of the West and leave the wild horses and burros in the wild, free.
- 10 - Opposition to Nuclear Power and Nuclear Power Waste in Colorado** - "We the Democratic Party oppose the building of a nuclear power plant or storage of nuclear power plant waste in Colorado. We support local ordinances, state legislation, and federal programs that prohibit development and operation of new

nuclear power reactors in Colorado. We further object to the mischaracterization of nuclear power and its radioactive waste as "green", "clean" or "carbon-free" in public policy."

11 - Concerning a Proposed Small Nuclear Reactor in Pueblo County / Honoring History / Supporting Labor / Encouraging Alternate Ideas / Seeking Just Transition in Property Tax Policy -

Democrats all want the best for Pueblo County and southern Colorado citizens and appreciate the concern some have over the eventual planned shutdown of one of the biggest polluters in the state – Xcel Energy's Comanche Power Plant. The plant has long supplied electric production for northern parts of the state, not Pueblo.

We also understand our county has a multi-generational history of toxic industries that has damaged citizen health, kept a lid on economic growth compared to the rest of the state, and most importantly contributes to a negative image that stifles rather than uplifts our residents.

Efforts to portray a proposal to replace the coal-fired plant with a -vision- of a nuclear-energy producing industry many years down the road as an uplifting event trades one unsound environmental practice for another risky one and will continue the negative perception for another generation.

It would also add nonrenewable and toxic uranium mining to the mix and create another issue of dealing with deadly radioactive waste. It will continue federal government officials and others to look to Pueblo for such things as dismantling mustard gas stockpiles rather than really focusing of positive industries and jobs that will bring the rest of the state here for our visionary efforts. Maybe that's groundbreaking conservation industries to help retrofit housing and business construction to use less energy or look to gear up with iron-air battery technology to support storing energy produced from renewable sources.

Pueblo workers are proud of the industry work we have accomplished – the steel mill, smelters, coal and iron mines, concrete plant, coal-fired power plant and more. We honor that and the people and unions that have been central to those industries.

It does not have to end with Comanche. New industries and Union workers can thrive. We can all work together – thinking outside the box and regardless of political party - to turn the page and not just envision "making us whole," but decide we want our leaders to stop digging a deeper hole for Pueblo County and create a sustainable and better future for our families.

We also encourage our state legislators to revise property tax policy that handcuffs a county when a public good, such as energy, benefits others elsewhere in the state and maintains a dependency virtually impossible to modify. Times change and this, too, needs "just transition."