

21st Century Economic Bill of Rights

Whereas in his 1944 State of the Union Address, President Franklin Roosevelt articulated popular American hopes and aspirations by calling for a Second Bill of Rights—an Economic Bill of Rights for all Americans; and

Whereas polls conducted by the White House in 1943 had revealed that after the war Americans wanted guaranteed healthcare, guaranteed employment, and guaranteed aid to students; and

Whereas the increasing concentration of wealth, the widening inequalities, and the intensifying crisis of American democratic life demands that we advance this call now; and

Whereas empowered by those findings, FDR declared, “We have come to a clear realization of the fact that true individual freedom cannot exist without economic security and independence. ‘Necessitous men are not free men’ . . . We have accepted, so to speak, a second Bill of Rights under which a new basis of security and prosperity can be established for all regardless of station, race, or creed”; and

Whereas all of which is as true today as it was 78 years ago.

Therefore be it Resolved, that we the Democrats, gathered at this 2023 Arizona State Democratic Party Meeting, call on all Democratic candidates and officeholders to actively and vigorously support a 21st Century Economic Bill of Rights, that affirms:

- The right to a job that pays a living wage.
- The right to a voice and protections in the workplace through a union and collective bargaining.
- The right to comprehensive quality health care.
- The right to a complete cost-free public education and access to high speed and reliable broadband internet.
- The right to decent, safe, affordable housing.
- The right to a clean environment and a healthy planet.
- The right to a meaningful endowment of resources at birth and a secure retirement with dignity.
- The right to sound banking and financial services
- The right to an equitable and economically fair justice system.
- The right to vote and otherwise freely participate in public life.

Embracing this 21st Century Economic Bill of Rights will draw a sharp distinction between Democrats and Republicans: Only Democrats truly stand for the type of economy and society which the overwhelming majority of Americans yearn to secure.

Nonetheless, determined to enhance freedom, equality, democracy and dramatically improve the lives of all Americans, we invite everyone to help us build the America it projects.

Upon passing the ADP State Committee as a whole this resolution will be referred to the ADP Platform Committee for inclusion.

Submitted by: Paul Stapleton-Smith, Brianna Westbrook, Dan O'Neal, Jenise Porter, Patti Serrano, Lupe Conchas