

Wisconsin Progressive Party Platform

Article 1 - Mission Statement

The Wisconsin Progressive Party is a big tent party for socialists, communists, anarchists, social democrats, democratic socialists, social liberals, progressives, greens, and any other political identity which both supports human rights and collectivist solutions to address the failures of Capitalism which has proven itself to fail at addressing the issues facing the state and peoples of Wisconsin. A horizontal power structure is imperative for the Wisconsin Progressive Party to eliminate hierarchy which limits the agency of the rank and file members in traditional political parties. We have no need for draconian, stratifying party structures when we can rely on consensus building and direct democracy in party affairs. The Wisconsin Progressive Party is represented by the colors red, black, and green to symbolize leftist unity. In order to have a unique color association, black should be used to signify our outright opposition to the established capitalist order and those who enable it.

Our public discourse can only improve with the addition of the Left publicly making serious arguments for anticapitalist solutions on the merits of those positions. We offer a transformative vision of Wisconsin's future that is achievable through gaining legitimate political power through electoral politics and will put people over profits.

Article 2 - The Third Party Problem

On the primary ballot in Wisconsin, there are five parties: Republican, Democratic, Libertarian, Green, and Constitution. Republicans and Democrats run many candidates in every election, as you would expect from a real political party. The Libertarian, Green, and Constitution parties have no serious plan to run candidates and gain large scale political power to enact their agendas beyond running spoiler candidates in big elections. The WPP will not follow this example.

The Wisconsin Progressive Party will not run spoiler candidates which serve only to cede power to the Republican Party. Progressive lawmakers shall caucus with the Democratic Party in the senate and assembly. By forming a popular front between Democrats and Wisconsin Progressives, that is to alternatively that is to say Liberals and Leftists, we can lead Wisconsin Forward. Our first electoral priority is to run candidates in local and otherwise uncontested or noncompetitive races.

We can unite to cause a paradigm shift in Wisconsin politics and re-imagine what is possible for our state. To Democratic politicians and voters, this will not be easy, but we can do it if we choose to do so. Competition between us can only improve the political discourse and the quality of our candidates. If we join together in coalition we can engage disaffected voters and deliver all the power to all the people of Wisconsin.

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Article 3 - Human Rights

Maintaining individual freedoms of self determination, bodily autonomy, and social participation are paramount. An attack on one group of people is an attack on all. Systemic forces of oppression including but not limited to racism, sexism, classism, and ableism directly attack our most vulnerable groups. Marginalized groups must be centered in delivering equity to all groups. We live in a multicultural society which will be the case for the remainder of Wisconsin's history.

Participation in society must not be predicated on membership to select groups of people.

Everyone is entitled to their own beliefs and have those beliefs dictate how they choose to live their life, but they are not entitled to demand that others follow those same beliefs.

The freedom to not be exploited for the benefit of another is critical as is the equity of outcome for every one, even if they are unable to perform labor or other tasks that have historically "made one useful."

Current attacks on bodily autonomy, including but not limited to the policies that would micromanage the medical care for pregnant people and children going through puberty via sweeping legislation must be opposed by every level of government and every portion of the general public.

Article 4 - Wisconsin Centered Solutions

Since the second inauguration of Donald Trump, it has become clear that the federal government cannot be seen as reliable as it was from the New Deal through the Biden Administration. There is no limit to what might happen at the Federal level at any point in the future. Wisconsin must become self-sufficient in meeting the basic needs of Wisconsinites. We must strengthen our ties with our natural regional allies: Minnesota, Illinois, Michigan, Iowa, Indiana, and the nation of Canada. Local control of decisions that directly affect the health and well-being of people in those communities, such as drinking water quality and land usage, should be prioritized over business interests.

Article 5 - Wisconsinization

Collectivization is critical to provide for the basic needs of all people who call Wisconsin their home without wasting money in the form of profits to line the pockets of the wealthy few. By returning ownership of corporate-owned and extravagant personal assets which are needed to provide for the basic needs of Wisconsinites, we can fight back against the growing wealth inequality

Article 6 - Basic Needs

As a state, we must provide the basic necessities that people need to live a full and rewarding life. Housing, healthy food, healthcare, education, scientific innovation, and income are the right of every person in Wisconsin. As a state we have ample resources to achieve these goals if we

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simply change our priorities from allowing the wealthy few to hoard money and assets to providing a high quality of living for every last person who calls Wisconsin home.

Housing:

The government must have the ability to better invest in new public housing development. New developments must have a majority of low-income units with regulated profit structures. It is necessary to bolster tenant protections by mandating transparency in rental finances, legal representation to those facing eviction, and reducing barriers to access housing that currently have no standardized rules. Wisconsinization of hoarded housing held by corporate entities and individuals will reduce the profit incentive from providing existing housing.

Public Utilities

As Fighting Bob did 100 years ago, we demand public ownership of electric utilities. The means of providing Wisconsinites with the necessities we use every day including electricity, heat, water, and internet connectivity should be controlled by the people of Wisconsin instead of businesses striving to increase their value on the stock market.

Food:

We have the resources to end industrial agriculture and provide healthy food to all Wisconsinites. Wisconsinization of corporate-owned farmland will provide opportunities to develop an agricultural system free from factory farming with an emphasis on local food. The immense amount of farmland currently devoted to monocropping and Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations can be used to grow diverse food crops on small farms tended by skilled farmers. In distributing these parcels of land, priority shall go to the current agricultural workers who have the experience in doing the hard work required to feed us all. All current farm owner-operators must keep their land as part of our goal to deindustrialize agriculture in Wisconsin.

Healthcare:

Wisconsinization of insurance companies, the middlemen who profit off of denying healthcare that is deemed necessary by patients and their trusted practitioners while providing no positive benefit, and for-profit medical facilities will aid Wisconsin in developing a free-at-point-of-service universal healthcare system. We must seek guidance from experts in countries that have achieved socialized healthcare to develop a realistic plan to implement universal, single payer healthcare in Wisconsin. Wisconsin has a population size similar to the Kingdom of Denmark which is able to provide healthcare for all of their people without lining the pockets of insurance and private medical executives.

Education and Scientific Innovation:

A quality public school education is the right of all people. Public schools are the bedrock of a democratic society. A well-rounded education including academic courses, experience with the arts, and practical skills is a human right. We have an excellent system of Universities of

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Wisconsin and technical colleges. Bolstering their ability to educate all who seek higher education and career preparation programs will improve our ability to function as a state economically and socially. Supporting scientific research is necessary for us to advance as a society as we improve our understanding of the universe and social science. Solutions to provide support to research universities without reliance on federal grants are critical due to capricious decision making from the federal executive branch.

Income:

Wisconsin's minimum wage is still the federal minimum wage: 7 dollars and 25 cents per hour. This is far from a living wage for a single person, much less a family. To correct this injustice which worsens each year as living costs continue to rise, Wisconsin's minimum wage must be raised to 20 dollars per hour. By shifting the burden of providing health insurance from employers to the state, we create more opportunities for entrepreneurship and small business ownership.

Article 7 - Wisconsin Progressive Party Candidate Platforms

The preceding Articles describe the policies which unite the Wisconsin Progressive Party. Individual candidates shall develop their own personal platform by including any number of additional Articles.