

WNDC PUBLIC POLICY AND POLITICAL ACTION COMMITTEE

Positions on The Economy

The Woman's National Democratic Club (WNDC) asserts that today's U.S. economy is structured to serve the interests of the few at the expense of the many, privileging wealth and power over justice and equity. This system consolidates control in the hands of a small elite, leaving a vast majority of Americans with diminishing access to opportunity, security, and their democratic voice. A truly free and competitive market economy must also guarantee economic and social democracy. This includes a solid foundation of social security, protection for workers and families, and access to opportunity for all. The WNDC remains steadfast in its commitment to economic justice. Policymakers must act decisively to address these urgent challenges, ensuring that economic policies work for all Americans—not just the privileged few.

The WNDC Public Policy and Political Action Committee commits to advocating for the following positions and urges policymakers to:

Reduce the Federal Deficit Without Harming Working Families

- Ensure the adoption of responsible fiscal policies that do not disproportionately burden middle- and low-income Americans.
- Oppose deficit-driven cuts to essential programs such as Social Security, Medicare, and Medicaid.
- Advocate for fair taxation that ensures that the ultra-wealthy and large corporations contribute their fair share to reducing the deficit.
- Recognize that excessive federal deficits lead to higher interest rates, making loans more expensive for individuals and businesses, discouraging investment, and slowing economic growth.
- Prevent deficit-driven inflation, which reduces consumer purchasing power and drives up costs for goods and services.
- Stabilize federal spending by ensuring adequate funding for critical infrastructure, education, and social programs while addressing long-term financial sustainability

Oppose Harmful Tariffs

- Pursue fair trade agreements that support American workers while maintaining economic growth.
- Dispute tariffs that result in higher costs for consumers and businesses, limiting purchasing power and hurting American exports. These policies have contributed to economic instability by increasing prices on essential goods and damaging industries reliant on global trade.
- [Add something here about restoring the role of Congress in adopting and approving of tariffs?]

Address the High Cost of Housing

- Support affordable housing initiatives, including investment in public housing and nonprofit housing cooperatives, rent control measures, and incentives for sustainable urban development.
- Recognize that housing affordability is a fundamental economic issue. Skyrocketing prices have forced working families into financial distress, limiting mobility and suppressing consumer spending.

Protect Immigrant Workers

- Recognize the economic contributions of immigrant communities, which play a vital role in the U.S. economy.
- Stand up against mass deportations, which will lead to labor shortages, particularly in sectors like agriculture, construction, and hospitality. These removals not only reduce economic productivity but also diminish tax revenues essential for funding public services.

Reform the Unfair Tax System

- Advocate for a progressive, balanced, and fair tax system for all rather than a system that benefits large corporations and the wealthiest Americans.
- Ensure that corporations and ultra-wealthy individuals contribute fairly to public infrastructure, education, and health care. Tax breaks for the wealthiest have failed to generate broad economic benefits, instead fueling inequality.

Tackle Inflation

- Implement targeted economic measures to curb excessive inflation while protecting working families.
- Address corporate price gouging, promote wage increases, and improve monetary policies that stabilize the economy.

Protect Health Care Access

- Oppose policies that reduce funding for essential health care programs, including Medicare, Medicaid, and the Affordable Care Act (ACA) marketplace subsidies.
- Advocate for expanded health care funding to ensure universal access to quality medical care.
- Contest cuts to Medicare and Medicaid, which threaten coverage for millions of low-income Americans, while restrictions on Affordable Care Act enrollment make it harder for families to access affordable health care.

Commented [MOU1]: This is already covered in the health care policies

Protect the Social Safety Net

- Provide adequate funding in national, state, and local governments for the protection of social safety net programs.
- Preserve and expand food assistance programs, ensuring that no American goes hungry due to political decisions. Budget cuts to the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program reduce food aid for millions of low-income families.
- Safeguard Social Security by addressing the program's financial instability.
- Oppose the elimination of Social Security taxes, which could accelerate the depletion of the trust fund, jeopardizing benefits for future retirees.
- Strengthen Social Security funding and ensure long-term sustainability without cutting benefits.

Commented [MOU2]: Do we want to specifically say we should end the income cap on contributions?

Strengthen the Labor Market and Address Unemployment

- Support policies that create stable, well-paying jobs and prevent mass layoffs due to economic downturns.
- Invest in workforce development programs that provide training and education for displaced workers.
- Ensure fair labor protections that prevent exploitation and wage suppression.

Ensure Jobs With Livable Wages

- Raise the federal minimum wage to reflect the cost of living and ensure that all workers earn a livable income.
- Encourage businesses to provide fair wages and benefits, reducing their employees' reliance on government assistance programs.
- Support unionization efforts that empower workers to negotiate for better wages and working conditions.

Stabilize the Stock Market and Protect Economic Security

- Advocate for financial regulations that prevent excessive speculation and market manipulation.
- Ensure transparency in corporate financial practices, protecting investors and workers from economic instability.
- Promote policies that reduce volatility, ensuring that stock market fluctuations do not disproportionately harm working-class Americans.