

WNDC PUBLIC POLICY AND POLITICAL ACTION COMMITTEE

Positions on Health

The Woman's National Democratic Club (WNDC) asserts that comprehensive health care is a fundamental human right—not a privilege reserved for the few. In the United States, access to science-based, equitable, and affordable health care must be guaranteed for all, regardless of race, ethnicity, religion, gender identity, sexual orientation, immigration status, or ability to pay. Every person, from birth through their final years, deserves high-quality, medically sound health care without the burden of financial insecurity or political interference. Health care in America must be shaped by the principles of justice, scientific integrity, and human dignity, not profit-driven motives or political agendas.

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

Protect Universal Access and Affordability

- Preserve and strengthen the Affordable Care Act (ACA). The ACA has been transformative, providing health insurance coverage to millions of middle- and low-income Americans. Dismantling or weakening it would be a direct attack on vulnerable populations.
- Expand Medicaid in all states. The refusal of certain states to expand Medicaid has denied millions of low-income Americans access to lifesaving care. Every state must commit to this essential safety net.
- Guarantee full funding for Medicare, Medicaid, and Social Security. These programs are lifelines for millions, ensuring that seniors, people with disabilities, and lower-income families receive the care they need.

Ensure Women's Health and Reproductive Freedom

- Protect women's right to comprehensive health care. Reproductive health, including contraceptive access, pregnancy care, and prenatal and post-partum support, must be safeguarded against political interference.
- Defend the right to abortion care. Every woman must have the autonomy to make decisions about her own body and reproductive health without coercion or restriction.
- Eliminate federal funding for anti-abortion centers. So-called "crisis pregnancy centers" that deliberately mislead women about reproductive health, including making false claims about abortion risks, should no longer receive public funds.

Preventing Discrimination in Health Care

- Oppose any efforts by providers to deny care based on personal bias. No health care provider operating in taxpayer-funded facilities should be permitted to refuse medical treatment to any patient for any reason—whether based on religion, gender identity, or other discriminatory motives.

- Strengthen protections for patient privacy. Health care providers must never be forced to share confidential medical information with employers or government entities without explicit patient consent.

Support Public Health and Disease Prevention

- Restore full U.S. membership in the World Health Organization (WHO). Global collaboration is essential in combating emerging health threats, including pandemics and infectious diseases. The United States must recommit to WHO leadership.
- Ensure sustainable funding for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC): The CDC's ability to monitor disease trends, establish treatment guidelines, and address workplace hazards, gun violence, and environmental toxins is critical to the health and safety of all Americans.
- Commit to a global early-warning system for biological threats. Rapid response efforts must be prioritized to prevent future pandemics.

Supporting Veterans and National Health Policy Leadership

- Guarantee full funding for veterans' health services. Veterans and their eligible family members deserve unwavering support for their medical needs, including mental health, rehabilitation, and long-term care.
- Ensure medical expertise in making policy decisions. Every national health policy director must hold medical credentials to prevent non-experts from making harmful decisions about public health.