

WNDC PUBLIC POLICY AND POLITICAL ACTION COMMITTEE

Positions on Democracy and the Constitution of the United States

The Woman's National Democratic Club (WNDC) asserts that in a democracy, the government must be accountable to all people, not just the powerful. Strong institutions and shared values are the foundation of that accountability. At the core of our democracy is the Constitution, which limits government power through three co-equal branches and affirms the rule of law. We support the ongoing work of forming a more perfect union—advancing equality under the law, protecting the right to vote, defending freedoms of speech and religion, and fighting discrimination in all forms. These values are essential not only in the United States but also in democracies around the world.

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

Protect Constitutional Rights for All

- Guarantee full constitutional protections to all people in the United States, regardless of citizenship status.
- Defend First Amendment rights—freedom of religion, speech, press, assembly, and petition—against erosion or misuse.
- Preserve constitutional provisions such as birthright citizenship and the two-term limit for presidents.

Uphold the Separation of Powers

- Resist any effort to weaken the independence of the three co-equal branches of government.
- Hold accountable lawmakers who surrender legislative authority to the executive branch or unelected officials.
- Oppose the misuse of the Department of Justice for political retribution.
- Challenge any executive overreach that ignores or undermines rulings by the federal judiciary.

Defend Secular Governance

- Maintain the constitutional separation of church and state as intended by the Constitution's framers.

Protect Democratic Norms and Institutions

- Oppose movements toward autocracy or totalitarianism in any form.
- Safeguard the integrity of elections and remove artificial barriers to voting in all jurisdictions.
- Defend the rights of non-governmental organizations to operate freely and without political interference.
- Ensure academic freedom by protecting educational institutions from government control or censorship.

Demand Fair and Humane Immigration Policies

- End deportations that lack due process or humanitarian review.
- Oppose blanket deportations of individuals labeled as gang members without verified legal or criminal grounds.
- Stop the detention or deportation of international students, scholars, or staff for lawful speech or dissent.
- Reject deportations to foreign prisons or detention without charges.
- Prevent the forced separation of families, including U.S. citizens who are the children of undocumented parents.
- Uphold the right to seek asylum at official U.S. ports of entry.
- Preserve and respect Temporary Protected Status for refugees.

Support DC Statehood and Protect Home Rule

- Support upholding the District of Columbia Home Rule Act of 1973, which established limited self-government for DC.
- Oppose the numerous attacks by Congress and the federal government on the city government's budget authority and the laws and regulations enacted by the DC mayor and city council.
- Encourage the more than 700,000 DC residents to continue advocating for their rights and freedoms.