



# 2024 Freedom Agenda

In Congress, **New Dems** are center-left House Democrats who are committed to strengthening our economy, breaking through the gridlock in Washington to deliver results for Americans.

At the state and local levels of government, NewDEAL Leaders work to lift the country up by pushing pro-growth progressive policies that support opportunities for all Americans and spur economic growth that is equitable and sustainable.

Together, New Dems and **NewDEAL Leaders** are partnering across all levels of government to defend Americans' fundamental rights while promoting progress and economic opportunities, strengthening communities across the country, and protecting our democracy. This work includes ensuring every American has the chance to achieve the American Dream and the ability to make deeply personal decisions without government interference, while feeling safe, secure, and welcomed in every corner of our country.

The chaos created by Republicans in Congress has underscored both their inability to govern and how extremists have taken over their party. While Republicans work to roll back essential freedoms, New Dems and NewDEAL Leaders are fighting tooth and nail to fortify Americans' rights and create economic opportunities, while working in a bipartisan way at every opportunity.

## Core Values and Shared Principles

Even in this highly polarized political environment, Americans are united around a set of core values. At a time when so many voters have rejected extremism, Democrats have the opportunity to demonstrate our values by leaning into the pragmatic, results-oriented approach to governing that New Dems and NewDEAL Leaders have made the hallmark of their careers.

Freedom and progress are the foundation of our work. As we look to 2024, Democrats must show voters, through rhetoric, ideas, and action, that our agenda and our approach to leadership starts with principles that resonate with the American people and have long united New Dems and NewDEALers: creating opportunity, strengthening community, and protecting democracy.

## 1. Creating Opportunity

Americans deserve the opportunity to earn a good life and to be free to make the deeply personal choices that determine how they live, but unfortunately they currently face GOP-imposed challenges that limit their ability to do so.

Democrats represent the Party that can uniquely offer practical solutions to creating opportunity for all and should be clear that Americans are freer when these barriers are removed. **It is Democrats who believe every American deserves the freedom to:**

### ★ Achieve the American Dream

- ☆ **Strong communities** with access to strong local economies, good schools, affordable housing, transportation, and healthcare in every community through policies that encourage innovation and competition to lower the costs of everyday goods.
- ☆ **Quality jobs**, allowing Americans to take risks, advance their careers, start a business, and own their homes.
- ☆ **Excellent education and training**, including mid-career skills-based learning that provides the tools to compete and economically succeed.
- ☆ **Family support** with access to affordable childcare, paid family leave, and the Child Tax Credit.

### ★ Make Your Own Personal Choices

- ☆ **Comprehensive health care**, including birth control and abortion care, and ensuring medical decisions are made between a patient and their doctor.
- ☆ **Love** whomever you choose wherever you choose.

## 2. Strengthening Community

Everyone deserves the freedom to live in thriving, healthy, and safe communities - and feel as though they belong. Democrats support education, small business, and public safety. At a time when major economic forces like technological advances and climate change have increased geographic disparities and weakened social networks, particularly in rural areas, **we should prioritize investments that ensure all Americans live in a strong community with the freedom to:**

### ★ Feel Healthy, Safe, and Secure

- ☆ **Feel safe from violence and crime.** Communities are safe because we invest in public safety, gun violence prevention, accountability for all, and ending the root causes of violence.
- ☆ **Breathe clean air and drink clean water** in all communities, so that families prosper in safe environments.
- ☆ **Live without increasing fears of extreme weather devastating communities.** Climate change is an existential threat, and leaders must invest in resiliency while supporting the rapid deployment of clean energy to transition to a clean economy, including with direct assistance for communities most affected by this transition.
- ☆ **Be treated with equality/respect,** including freedom from discrimination and prejudice.

### ★ Grow and Prosper

- ☆ **Gain a quality education** by ensuring all families have access to an excellent education with strong parental engagement.
- ☆ **Support for small, local businesses and entrepreneurs** that doesn't hinder innovation or provide excessive barriers to market entry.
- ☆ **Access to trusted information** by supporting broadband expansion so all communities are connected to reliable internet and supporting local journalism so that people can learn more about their surroundings.

## 3. Protecting Democracy

Attacks against our democracy continue unabated as many Republicans, including the new Speaker of the House, refuse to accept the results of the 2020 election and denounce the violence on January 6.

The ongoing attacks on the integrity of our elections, including threats to election workers and voters, mean we cannot lose sight of the threats to our democracy. While protecting our system of government used to be a shared goal of both major parties, it now falls to Democrats to defend against anti-democratic forces in word and deed, **including by protecting the freedoms to:**

### ★ Participate in Our Government

- ☆ **Vote in free and fair elections.** Ensure elections are fair, voting is easy, and the results are respected by both parties – win or lose.
- ☆ **Bravely serve your nation** including in the Armed Forces with access to world-class benefits and care.

### ★ Promote and Strengthen Democracy

- ☆ **Trust their governments work** by operating with transparency and accountability, free from corruption, delivering on promises and providing services that people can trust.
- ☆ **Serve as a global leader looking to defend democracy at home and abroad,** especially when our nation's allies - like Israel and Ukraine - come under threat.

Recent elections underscore the resilience of American institutions. Most voters want leaders who reject extremism and inflammatory rhetoric in favor of pragmatic approaches to building a free society that promotes the American Dream. New Dems and NewDEALers are poised to seize the moment and prove that an approach that promotes our fundamental freedoms by expanding opportunity, strengthening community, and preserving democratic values will grow the Democratic coalition and produce results that deliver for Americans.

Please reach out to [Jonathon Dworkin, NewDEAL](#), or [Emma Weir, New Democrat Coalition](#), with any questions about the New Democrat Coalition and NewDEAL's 2024 Freedom Agenda.