

## 2008 Boulder County Democratic Party Platform Survey

The 2008 BCDP platform survey is the result of nearly a year of open public input, panel discussions, questionnaires, and on-line blog feedback and is intended to help:

- Assess the will of the people on an ongoing basis
- Restore interest, trust and participation in the political process and
- Enhance communications between Democratic voters and their candidates and elected officials.

Your participation is essential to the fulfillment of these goals.

Line items receiving a simple majority of the votes cast will be included in the final platform proposal and brought before the Boulder County Democratic Party Assembly in March for its approval. **To have your vote count, please complete the accompanying tally sheet: circle Y (yes), N (no), A (abstain) for each line item on the survey. Please rank issues in order of importance (1-11 with "1" indicating your top priority).** For your choices to count, **ALL issues must be ranked.**

Thank you for your input!

### The Boulder County Democratic Party Preamble:

The Boulder County Democratic Party seeks to create and support a community of informed citizens actively engaged in the processes of democracy. We believe government must be open and accountable, and that it must dedicate itself to the common good today and for future generations.

Boulder County Democrats are champions of peace, equality, social justice and civil liberties. We believe that freedom of conscience and freedom of choice are innate rights of every human being. We are dedicated to ensuring that every citizen has access to adequate food, shelter and medicine and real opportunity to prosper.

We recognize that these values are mute if we do not maintain the life-giving health of the planet. We must prioritize inter-generational sustainability with the understanding that this includes environmental protection, economic vitality and social justice on a global scale, and that these three sectors are deeply inter-dependent.

We are prepared to defend our nation and our values. Still, we believe that war is waged only as a last resort. The powerful should never be allowed to silence the powerless. The immense blessings bestowed upon our county, state and nation obligate us to provide leadership toward international cooperation, peace and prosperity for all.

### Issue A: Health Care

A1. Boulder County Democrats believe that affordable health care is a basic human right. We believe that the current, privately administered health care system in the United States is wildly inefficient, fails to meet the needs of our people and damages our nation and our entire economy. Far too many are uninsured or under-insured; costs have escalated dramatically; and the entanglement of coverage with employment encourages discrimination against workers and their family members with mental or physical health challenges and is a major factor in the outsourcing of American jobs.

#### Boulder County Democrats support:

A2. Development of a not-for-profit universal health care system that provides equal and affordable access to quality health care for every citizen, regardless of preexisting conditions, marital status and age. We feel such a system is essential to the economic vitality of our state and nation, and the health and well-being of all Americans.

A3. Funding for community health centers for as long as the current system of private medical bureaucracy prevails. When the emergency room is the only option for the poor, community health centers play a crucial role. They meet the needs of those without health insurance and reduce the overall cost of health care.

A4. Programs that emphasize preventative care for physical and behavioral health to help stem the ever-increasing costs of healthcare.

#### Policy Preferences - We support:

A5. A single payer, universal health care system. This is a system that: provides patient choice and continuity of care within our system of private providers; is portable and not tied to employment; returns medical decisions to the patient and health care provider, eliminating insurance company interference; includes strong cost containment measures; and reduces administration costs. The single payer system is the most effective and efficient means of providing equal access to quality health care for every individual.

A6. Repeal of the Medicare reform act.

A7. Preservation of Medicaid.

A8. Legalization of safe prescription drug purchases in the United States from countries such as Canada.

A9. Equal coverage for mental and physical health needs.

A10. Reintroduction of no-fault health coverage in car insurance.

A11. Full funding for SCHIP (State Children's Health Insurance Program).

### Issue B: Foreign Policy and National Security

The American people must stand united in common defense against global threats without sacrificing the nation's central values, and with an unwavering commitment to international cooperation and prosperity. We call on our country to:

B1. Dedicate its significant intellectual, economic, diplomatic and creative resources toward the elimination of world hunger, poverty, disease, environmental degradation, terrorism and conflict.

B2. Honor existing international treaties and strengthen collective security relationships, including those of the United Nations.

Item B3. - **Choose a or b below (pick only one or reject both):**

- a. Reject the policy of unilateral preemptive strike unless there is overwhelming evidence of an imminent threat.
- b. Reject the policy of preemptive military aggression and call on our government to refrain from attacking any country including Iran under any circumstances without a formal declaration of war (as specified in the U.S. Constitution).
- B4. Support the humane treatment of prisoners of war and reject the use of torture.
- B5. Implement as a U.S. foreign policy priority, immediate action to halt global warming.
- B6. Consider energy policy (with emphasis on development of renewable alternatives) a U.S. foreign policy priority.
- B7. Provide international leadership toward the elimination of nuclear weapons.
- B8. Honor all international treaties for the non-militarization of space.
- B9. Support human rights globally.
- B10. Recognize that the importance of expressing support for military personnel does not in any way conflict with or impinge upon the right to disagree with and protest against our government's decision to go to war.

#### **Policy Preferences**

B11. We believe the United States should agree to resolve disputes with – and become a party to – the International Criminal Court.

#### **Item B12. - Choose a, b or c below (pick only one or reject all three):**

- a. We support the immediate withdrawal of all U.S. troops from Iraq and the closing of all U.S. bases in Iraq.
- b. We call for the withdrawal of all U.S. troops from Iraq by October 2008. A multi-national plan should be implemented for the deployment of an international peacekeeping force. No additional money should be expended in Iraq until a specific exit strategy is in place.
- c. We support a full and detailed evaluation of our current role in Iraq. We support the rapid development of an exit strategy and an immediate transition to a broad international presence in Iraq.

B13. Democrats call for a new cabinet level Department of Peace.

B14. We support funding sufficient to complete the full reconstruction of Iraq from damage resulting from U.S. military action.

#### **Item B15. - Choose a or b below (pick only one or reject both):**

- a. We support an immediate end to nuclear arms development by the United States and leadership to ensure similar action internationally.
- b. We endorse setting the goal of a world free of nuclear weapons and working energetically on the actions required to achieve this goal.

B16. Democrats support a two-state solution for the Israeli / Palestinian conflict.

B17. Democrats support fair trade and call for re-examination of NAFTA and other trade agreements.

B18. Democrats call for a reduction in the military budget.

B19. We support ratification of the law of the sea.

#### **Item B20. - Choose a or b below (pick only one or reject both):**

- a. We call for a change in tax law such that any company profiting directly from a foreign conflict will be taxed at the rate of 80% of its net profits.
- b. Democrats believe that all Americans should share the sacrifices necessitated by war, and that those sacrifices must not be transferred to future generations through war deficits. Consequently, we support a graduated income tax surcharge on individuals and corporations whenever troops are engaged in conflicts for more than 90 days.

### ***Issue C: Conservation and Energy Independence***

C1. It is now widely held that environmental problems are global in nature and that it is in the best interest of all nations to pursue policies of sustainable development (United Nations' Brundtund Commission report, 1987). Furthermore, there is broad international consensus on the human impact on observed changes in the Earth's climate including atmospheric composition, global average temperatures, ocean conditions, and other climate changes (Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change). Boulder County Democrats find the federal government's current inaction to be grossly irresponsible and immoral, and we call on our leaders to take immediate and drastic action to ensure the health of the planet and its inhabitants for current and future generations. This action should include policies that mandate sustainable development, rapid movement toward energy independence, and protection of precious natural resources including air, water, wildlife, forests and public lands.

#### **Policies Preferences**

Boulder County Democrats call for enactment of policies that will:

- C2. Establish conservation as a significant component of energy policy with increased funding for research on conservation methods, efficient use of energy, renewable energy, recycling and innovation.
- C3. Dramatically reduce net greenhouse gas emissions and air pollutants.
- C4. Support rapid development of clean, renewable alternative energy sources.
- C5. Establish a national fuel carbon tax to fund renewable energy (both distributed and grid supported) and renewable transportation.

#### **Item C6. - Choose a or b below (pick only one or reject both):**

- a. Increase CAFE standards to 40 mpg by 2015 (CAFE = Corporate Average Fuel Economy).
  - b. Dramatically increase CAFE standards over levels passed by the Senate in 2007 (35 mpg by 2020) which do not sufficiently challenge auto makers nor address the severity of the problem.
- C7. Provide incentives for hybrid and alternative fuel vehicles.
- C8. Provide funding adequate to create public transportation systems that are comprehensive and efficient. Emphasis should be on alternative "rapid or reasonably equivalent" transportation for both local and long distance transit.

- C9. Mandate conversion of government fleets to 100 percent "light on energy consumption" vehicles such as hybrid, electric and alternative-energy vehicles.
- C10. Eliminate entirely any consumption of foreign oil by 2025.
- C11. Support environmental education in public schools.
- C12. Mandate ratification by the United States of the Kyoto Protocol on Climate Change.
- C13. Implement mandatory recycling measures similar to, or stronger than, those established by California.
- C14. Phase out all coal plants and/or energy consumption by coal-fired generation.
- C15. Eliminate all subsidies for fossil fuels.
- C16. Eliminate all subsidies for nuclear fuels.
- C17. Establish stringent requirements and fees for commercial or consumptive access to our mineral, petroleum, forest, and water resources along with strict financial and liability mechanisms and reclamation bonds to ensure safe practices and full restoration at project's completion.
- C18. Mandate severe penalties and no-tolerance policies for polluters.
- C19. Require all government buildings to meet standards equivalent to the U.S. Green Building Council's Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) green-building certifications.
- C20. Establish new building code standards for Boulder County with greater emphasis on green-design requirements for all new construction.
- C21. Uphold the Clean Air Act, Clean Water Act, EPA's National Environmental Protection Act and the Forest Protection Act to the highest standard in Colorado.
- C22. Balance local growth with thoughtful zoning, public education, open space protection and true regional taxing, planning and revenue sharing districts to mitigate or eliminate the negative impact of local sales tax competition.
- C23. Require newly developed property in Boulder County to fully reflect the cost of sewers, roads, schools, public transportation, protection of biodiversity, water and other infrastructure demands. Developers should not be allowed to simply pass these costs on to the general community.
- C24. Boulder County Democrats acknowledge the intersection of environmental justice and sustainability and, in the interest of fairness, are committed to ensuring that disproportionately effected populations are included in all stages of public policy development and implementation.

#### ***Issue D: Civil Liberties***

**Government's duty to protect its citizens includes a duty to protect each citizen's privacy.** We affirm the absolute rights defined by the Constitution, legal precedent and those granted by international treaty. We hold that:

- D1. The government has no legitimate authority to intrude into the private lives of individuals who have not displayed evidence of being a threat to the security of others.
- D2. The President of the United States is an elected official, bound by public trust, and is fully obligated to adhere to the laws of the United States, including those that protect the privacy of the individual citizen.
- D3. Government must be open and accountable, with power balanced among all three branches of the federal government.

#### **Policy Preferences**

- D4. We call for the repeal of the PATRIOT Act with concurrent enactment of appropriate safeguards to ensure the well being of Americans and the civil liberties we hold so dear.
- D5. We call for strict adherence to the writ of habeas corpus.
- D6. We call for the closing of Guantanamo and release of all prisoners.
- D7. With respect to all Guantanamo prisoners, we call for strict adherence to the Geneva Conventions. Prisoners shall be considered either "prisoners of war" (and treated in accordance with the Geneva Conventions) or civilians entitled to humane treatment and the right of due process in a timely manner.
- D8. The United States must honor international agreements that prohibit all forms of torture, including water boarding.
- D9. The United States should cease and desist from any engagement in extraordinary rendition (exporting of prisoners for interrogation by another country whose laws are more lax than ours).
- D10. We call for a full independent investigation of the circumvention of the FISA Court by the Bush administration, and, if necessary, the enactment of laws to clarify the absolute illegality of spying on the American people. (FISA = Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act).
- D11. We affirm the principle of separation of church and state and believe that our government should not judge a citizen by his or her religious beliefs, nor should religious belief have any bearing whatsoever on one's qualification for public office. We oppose religious harassment and coercion. We affirm the right of everyone to practice his or her religion, or lack thereof.
- D12. Democrats recognize domestic partnerships and believe that laws and enactment of laws in Colorado that provide for civil marriage between any two consenting, committed, unrelated adults, should accord the same rights, privileges and responsibilities accorded to all married couples.
- D13. We support the Constitutional reproductive rights of women including the right to be fully informed of reproductive options and the right in the early months of pregnancy to terminate that pregnancy.

#### ***Issue E: Education***

**Equal access to a high-quality, publicly-funded education is a central tenet of American democracy.** It also is critical to the economic, social and intellectual health of our state, our nation, and the world. Consequently, Boulder County Democrats strongly support:

- E1. Public funding adequate to guarantee a quality education for every American with the recognition that inadequate funding is a major impediment to a quality education.
- E2. Funding for education that is allocated equitably across the state.

- E3. Funding adequate to maximize the recognized benefits of smaller class size and inclusion mandates.
- E4. Training and wages for teachers consistent with the high value of their contribution to society.
- E5. Strong financial support from the state for all Colorado's public universities and colleges.
- E6. Federal funding for financial aid programs sufficient to compensate for tuition increases nationwide.
- E7. Public education that balances emphasis on core knowledge with applied knowledge, problem solving, creativity, information gathering and learning skills.
- E8. Funding of vocational training and training for those who may not be college bound.

#### **Policy Preferences**

- E9. We oppose vouchers. We believe that the potential socio-economic and religious segregation created by a voucher system will be detrimental to the quality of education for all children.
- E10. In order to attract and retain the best educators possible, we believe professors working at Colorado's public universities and colleges should be paid professional wages that are competitive with those of professors working at peer institutions.
- E11. Boulder County Democrats believe that the availability of quality early childhood education programs, particularly for those from disadvantaged backgrounds, is vital toward breaking the cycle of poverty and providing academic and economic opportunity for the next generation.
- E12. The Boulder County Democrats call upon the state and federal government to enhance college access for disadvantaged youth by improving the ties between the K-12 education system and the higher education system.
- E13. We seek to decrease emphasis on high stakes testing and call for reexamination of the effectiveness of CSAP tests.
- E14. We call for elimination and replacement of No Child Left Behind policies with new, more effective assessment strategies.
- E15. We support funding for schools to provide curriculum that addresses citizenship, civics and leadership development.
- E16. We support the Dream Act providing state college access and in-state tuition for all state residents regardless of documentation.
- E17. We support funding for "hope scholarships" that provide an incentive and reward for graduates with good grades.
- E18. Democrats support the funding of programs for parents of disadvantaged students such as English as a Second Language classes and parenting classes.
- E19. We call for repeal of TABOR to allow for adequate funding of public education.
- E20. We support hiring policies in state-funded colleges and universities that ensure that professors are qualified but not intent on using their position solely for the purpose of espousing personal views, political or otherwise.

#### **Issue F: Economic Prosperity and Social Justice**

We support policy that promotes diversity, social justice and economic opportunity for every individual. Every individual must be assured access to the basic necessities of life, including adequate medical care, shelter, nutrition, clean water, clean air, and a fair and living wage.

#### **Specifically, U.S. policy should provide long-term economic stability while prioritizing:**

- F1. Reduction of the national debt.
- F2. Long-term solvency of our Social Security system and other programs such as Medicare and Medicaid.
- F3. Increased funding for education and training to enhance American competitiveness in global markets.
- F4. Support only for those free trade agreements that guarantee the right of sovereign governments to protect the economic, environmental and physical health of their own citizens. In the event an administration fails to enforce these agreements, Congress should be empowered to nullify the agreements.
- F5. Support for family planning efforts worldwide to dramatically improve the health and well-being of women and children.

#### **State, county and local policy should support:**

- F6. The right of citizens to feel safe and secure in their homes, neighborhoods and communities. It is one of the primary responsibilities of state and local government to provide for adequately funded, staffed and trained public safety resources (police, fire and EMS) to respond to emergencies and prevent crime and disorder.
- F7. A criminal justice system with the capacity to solve crimes, prosecute dangerous individuals and incarcerate criminals when necessary to protect our communities.
- F8. A criminal justice system that is fair to all people across economic levels, races, ages and ethnic and cultural boundaries.
- F9. Alternatives to incarceration when appropriate. This involves the reduction of recidivism and jail crowding through proven methods including restorative justice and community-based, wrap-around services. Incarceration by itself does not break cycles of dependency, abuse and mental illness that often result in criminal behavior.
- F10. The elimination of privatization within the justice system recognizing the potential for discrimination and conflict of interest.

#### **Policy Preferences**

- F11. Although we recognize the economic value of government subsidies to serve the public good, we call for the elimination of subsidies that are best categorized as corporate welfare.
- F12. Permanent tax cuts are irresponsible fiscal policy and therefore are opposed by Democrats.
- F13. The federal, state and local minimum wage should be raised to a level that provides a reasonable living.
- F14. We support efforts to restructure student loan programs to enable reasonable access to economic opportunity.
- F15. Free trade agreements should be rewritten to emphasize fair trade.
- F16. Legislation should be enacted that establishes corporations as business entities separate and distinct from individuals, and without the rights of legal persons (as is currently the case).

- F17. Corporations that do not honor their obligation to the public trust and common good should be subject to revocation of their corporate charter.
- F18. We support the right of all workers to organize and form a union, and call on Congress to pass the Employee Free Choice Act (to amend the National Labor Relations Act to establish an efficient system to enable employees to form, join or assist labor organizations and to provide for mandatory injunctions for unfair labor practices).
- F19. Affirmative Action programs that have helped to ensure diversity and equal access to education and economic opportunity should be maintained.
- F20. Universal health care is an issue of social justice and must be enacted.
- F21. Democrats call for public support for mental health programs to ensure that assistance is available to anyone who is a danger to themselves or others.
- F22. Democrats support cohort status for Rocky Flats employees (to ensure government benefits and health care for work-related ailments).
- F23. Democrats support the guarantee of affordable access to quality child care.
- F24. Democrats support welfare reform that prioritizes development of skills adequate for the individual to earn wages that will provide self-sufficiency.
- F25. In order to improve access to services for those in need, Democrats support legislation that requires all publicly supported social services offices to provide adequately staffed case management services to all clients.
- F26. We oppose efforts to place the responsibility for enforcement of federal immigration laws onto local law enforcement agencies. These efforts are in violation of constitutional principles, which clearly place this responsibility on the federal government. These efforts undermine the trust and cooperation needed for crime victims to call for help from their local police departments regardless of their immigration status.
- F27. We call on Congress to adjust the Employment Non-Discrimination Act (ENDA) to include trans-gendered individuals currently excluded. This is already law in Colorado.
- F28. We call for government support for micro-loans for small businesses and farms.
- F29. In order to assure equal access to public information, Democrats support Net neutrality and universal access to the Internet.

### ***Issue G: Campaign Reform and the Media***

A healthy democracy is dependent upon an informed electorate with fair and equal representation in government. We support:

- G1. Election and campaign laws to ensure that the powerful have no advantage over ordinary citizens.
- G2. Federal laws that guarantee and encourage the absolute freedom of the media to provide critical oversight of governmental activities and public access to information.
- G3. Policies that will limit media consolidation and encourage competition and independent media to ensure the media's role as critical and unbiased observers.
- G4. Efforts to restore the proper balance of power between all three branches of government.

**Policy Preferences** - We support:

- G5. A transparent, technically verifiable and legally verified voting process with the preference of paper ballots.
- G6. Public funding for elections and we oppose privatization of any part of the election management process.
- G7. Periodic upgrading of the 2002 Bipartisan Campaign Reform Act. After every congressional election (every two years), we believe these reforms should be reviewed specifically with the intent of eliminating newly discovered loopholes and abuses.
- G8. Reinstitution of equal time laws. Recognizing that the airwaves are public property, we support laws requiring broadcast license holders to give free substantial airtime, equal in both quality and quantity, to all qualified candidates.
- G9. Clean Money/Clean Elections. We support and will seek to institute a system of campaign reform called "Clean Money/Clean Elections." This system already exists in Arizona, Maine, Massachusetts, New Mexico, North Carolina, Connecticut and Vermont, and allows for:
- 1) a very limited number of modest contributions to use as seed money for the campaign;
  - 2) a certain number of moderate, per person contributions that will be used to determine eligibility for the program;
  - 3) participants in the CM/CE program to receive public funding to match non-participating candidates' soft money and special-interest donations.
- G10. Rollback of media ownership limits to pre-1996 levels. We oppose the recent steps taken by the FCC to allow greater market ownership by a single organization and believe this action is an egregious abuse of the public trust.
- G11. Increased government funding for public broadcasting.
- G12. Full, fair, and readily available public access to all public information.
- G13. Instant runoff elections in which voters have one vote, but can rank candidates in order of preference. If no candidate receives a majority of first choices, the candidate with the fewest number of votes is eliminated, and ballots cast for that candidate are redistributed to the surviving candidates according to the voters' indicated preference. This process is repeated until one candidate obtains a majority.
- G14. Reform of redistricting laws to reduce ease of gerrymandering.
- G15. Laws that allow for election-day registration.
- G16. Government sponsored door-to-door voter registration (as in Canada).

### ***Issue H: Immigrants and Foreign Nationals***

We believe that current contributions from hard-working immigrants are just as significant today as they have been throughout American history. **We honor and defend the basic human rights of every person in the United States regardless of citizenship status, and believe the rights of immigrant members of our society, whether documented or undocumented, should be defended by all who are truly concerned with justice.** Additionally, we believe:

H1. The current immigration system is broken and we therefore support the development of a system that honors the human dignity of every worker whether documented or undocumented, includes the full protection of U.S. labor law, protects against exploitation, values diversity and provides the opportunity for workers to earn citizenship.

H2. Health care and proper nutrition are basic human rights.

H3. New immigrant populations and other underrepresented groups should be educated about and encouraged to participate in the political process – and we pledge to do so.

**Policy Preferences - We support:**

H4. "Earned Legalization," allowing current undocumented immigrants to apply for permanent status by demonstrating their good moral character and contributions to the United States.

H5. The federal bipartisan DREAM Act, providing citizenship for students who finish high school and complete two years of college or military service. We also support in-state college tuition rates for undocumented students who graduate from Colorado high schools. DREAM Act should include civil service as a qualifying option (along with military service and college course work). This will help prevent the DREAM Act from becoming a back-door military draft.

H6. Legal channels for immigrants to fill jobs in the United States for which there are no U.S. workers. These channels must include the right to travel between the United States and the immigrant's home country.

H7. Application of basic rights guaranteed by the U.S. Constitution and the Bill of Rights to all relatives of U.S. citizens, legal residents or any resident gainfully employed in the United States.

H8. Public funding for citizen education programs for immigrants.

H9. Repeal of Colorado House Bills 1023, 1343 and 1017. (HB 1017 requires employers to attest that employees are legally in the country and that the employer has not altered or falsified the employee's ID documents. HB 1023 requires each state agency or political subdivision to verify that anyone 18 or over who applies for public benefits is in the country legally. HB 1343 requires state contractors to use a federal database to check the immigration status of new hires and denies state contracts to businesses that knowingly hire illegal immigrants).

H10. U.S. trade agreements and U.S. foreign policy structured in a manner that supports economic opportunity for developing nations while honoring basic human and civil rights.

H11. Establishment of an expedited process for easy and early registration of undocumented residents. Once documented, they should be allowed to work and have equal access to services provided by law including the right to obtain an immigrant driver's license.

**We oppose:**

H12. All legislation that militarizes or creates an "iron curtain" border, includes mass deportation of non-criminal community members, changes unlawful entry from a petty offense to a felony, or criminalizes human acts of assistance to undocumented immigrants.

H13. Any attempt to require local or state government to enforce federal immigration law. This position is consistent with legal precedent established in federal courts.

H14. The use of the immigration issue for political advantage and/or discrimination.

H15. Any exploitation of immigrants, denial of an immigrant's civil rights and any attempts to limit or discourage civic engagement by immigrants.

**Issue I: Impeachment**

**The Boulder County Democratic Party firmly believes that the laws set forth by the US Constitution demand a Congressional Inquiry into the legality of actions the President and his administration have undertaken.** We support the creation of a committee to examine this Administration's: a) intent to go to war in Iraq before congressional authorization, and the manipulation of pre-war intelligence to achieve that aim; b) manipulation of intelligence; c) encouragement and countenance of torture; d) retaliation against critics, including, but not limited to, the outing of the CIA operative, Valerie Plame; e) the illegal circumvention of the FISA Court; f) repeated assertions that the federal government could not have anticipated the 9/11 attacks or the breaching of the New Orleans levees, with indisputable evidence to the contrary; and g) failure to disclose accurate information on the lack of a current nuclear arms program in Iran.

I1. Should the President and his administration be found liable of any of the above actions, we support the drafting of articles of impeachment.

I2. For the reasons cited above, Boulder County Democrats also support the impeachment of Vice President Cheney.

**Resolutions**

**Issue J: Repeal of Defense of Marriage Act**

J1. Marriage between two consenting, committed adults is a fundamental right. There are 1,138 benefits, rights, and protections under Federal law that are provided on the basis of marital status, but none of these are available unless a couple is heterosexual.

J2. We call for repeal of the Defense of Marriage Act, originally signed into law by President Bill Clinton in 1996, that defines marriage as a legal union between one man and one woman.

**Issue K: Additional Single Payer Health Insurance Language**

K1. The Boulder County Democratic Party supports guaranteed, quality health care for everyone in the United States through a single-payer financed system as outlined in HR 676, "The US National Health Insurance Act."

K2. We recommend a pilot project in Colorado that embodies the principles central to "The Colorado Single Payer Health Services Plan" submitted to the 208 Health Care Reform Commission.