



NEW MEXICO FEDERATION DEMOCRATIC WOMEN

Presented by Idalia Lechuga-Tena, NMFDW 2022 Chair of Legislative/Resolutions Committee

The New Mexico Federation of Democratic Women is honored to announce its priorities for the 2022 Legislative Session. The Second Session of the 55th Legislature, January 18-February 17, 2022.

PRIORITIES:

- 1. PRIORITY #1: RAISES FOR TEACHERS AND CHILDCARE WORKERS**
- 2. PRIORITY #2: RAISES FOR ALL HEALTHCARE WORKERS**
- 3. PRIORITY #3: ADDRESS FOOD INSECURITIES**
- 4. PRIORITY #4: ADDRESS HOUSING INSECURITIES / HOMELESSNESS**
- 5. PRIORITY #5: PROVIDE ADEQUATE BEHAVIORAL HEALTH FUNDING**
- 6. PRIORITY #6: ENVIRONMENTAL RIGHTS**

VISION: Elect Democratic leaders at the county, state, and national levels.

NMFDW MISSION: Unite women of the Democratic Party of New Mexico and to fully participate in every level of the Democratic Party.

OBJECTIVES: Inform and educate the membership on issues and activities vital to the Democratic Party. Promote opportunities for members and encourage strong County and Native American Tribal NMFDW organizations. Encourage members to become involved in the political process at local, county, state, and national levels.

HISTORY: New Mexico Federation of Democratic Women (formerly Democratic Women of New Mexico) was formed in 1977 to give women a stronger voice in the Democratic Party of New Mexico. The state organization became an affiliate of the National Federation of Democratic Women in 1977. The following is a brief timeline of that affiliation history. The National Federation of Democratic Women started in 1972 and the first Convention was in Tennessee in 1973. An early Western Region Director remembers going from Arizona to New Mexico to talk with New Mexico Democratic Women who were not totally convinced about joining the National Federation organization. NMFDW hosted the NFDW National convention in 1988. Candidates for President Michael Dukakis and Jesse Jackson both were speakers at the convention. NMFDW hosted the NFDW Annual Convention again in 2010.

QUESTIONS: Please contact Madam President, Beverly Michael – bevmike505@gmail.com / 505-980-0886 or Resolutions Chair, Idalia Lechuga-Tena – idalialt@gmail.com / 505-550-3868

PRIORITY #1: RAISES FOR TEACHERS AND CHILDCARE WORKERS

OUR PLATFORM AFFIRMS: A high-quality public education is a basic right and a sound investment with real and tangible returns for our citizens and economy and is a necessary component of a healthy democracy; That we must adequately fund and incentivize advanced research in our Universities and National Laboratories to restore our country's scientific edge and global competitiveness; New Mexico should meet or exceed the nationwide average salary and benefits for educational professionals; Democracy depends upon an informed public, thus education should prioritize financial literacy, critical thinking, civics, and the US Constitution; That teachers are highly dedicated and motivated professionals; their performance and the quality of the schools in which they teach should not be evaluated solely on standardized test data; Educators should not have to pay for their own classroom supplies and professional development.

LEGISLATION NMFDW SUPPORTS:

HB 13: TEACHER RESIDENCY CHANGES

- ✓ AN ACT: RELATING TO PUBLIC EDUCATION; AMENDING SECTIONS OF THE TEACHER RESIDENCY ACT; MAKING AN APPROPRIATION
Sponsor: Debra M. Sariñana, Joy Garratt, William Soules, Mimi Stewart

HB 44: AFFIRMATIVE CONSENT POLICY IN SCHOOLS

- ✓ AN ACT: RELATING TO EDUCATION; REQUIRING PUBLIC SCHOOLS AND PUBLIC AND PRIVATE POST-SECONDARY EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS TO ADOPT POLICIES AND PROCEDURES ADDRESSING AFFIRMATIVE CONSENT AND PREVENTION OF SEXUAL ASSAULT, DOMESTIC VIOLENCE, DATING VIOLENCE, HARASSMENT AND STALKING; AMENDING THE PUBLIC SCHOOL CODE TO INCLUDE A REQUIREMENT TO SET AFFIRMATIVE CONSENT AS THE STANDARD FOR SEXUAL ACTIVITY.

Sponsor: Elizabeth "Liz" Thomson, Deborah A. Armstrong, G. Andres Romero

HB 45: PROGRAM UNITS FOR LICENSED SCHOOL EMPLOYEES

- ✓ AN ACT: RELATING TO SCHOOL PERSONNEL; PROVIDING FOR PROGRAM UNITS FOR LICENSED SCHOOL EMPLOYEES CERTIFIED BY THE NATIONAL BOARD FOR PROFESSIONAL TEACHING STANDARDS.

Sponsor: Joanne J. Ferrary

HM 1: NM NATIONAL BOARD CERTIFIED TEACHERS DAY

- ✓ A MEMORIAL: DECLARING JANUARY 31, 2022 "NEW MEXICO NATIONAL BOARD CERTIFIED TEACHERS RECOGNITION DAY" IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Sponsor: Debra M. Sariñana

PRIORITY #2: RAISES FOR ALL HEALTHCARE WORKERS

OUR PLATFORM AFFIRMS: While healthcare professionals deserve to be well-compensated, the healthcare sector should be a publicly funded service that is provided to all people regardless of their ability to pay; Medicare, Medicaid, contracted agencies, and the state of New Mexico should be allowed to negotiate for lower drug prices; A majority of New Mexicans are already on a form of publicly funded healthcare including Medicare, Medicaid, Indian Health Services, and Veterans Health Administration; The United States pays more for health insurance, has statistically worse healthcare outcomes, and is the only country among 33 developed nations in the world to not provide publicly funded health care; All healthcare services should be culturally and linguistically appropriate; neither fear nor immigration status should be barriers that impede healthcare access; Public health facilities and/or services should be available to all people within a reasonable distance; The value of science and we will appropriate state money toward public investment in research, development, and innovation that creates lifesaving drugs, technologies, and procedures and lowers overall health costs; Addiction is a disease and should be treated as such; Congress should fully fund the FDA while providing oversight of that agency to ensure generic and foreign drug applications are reviewed according to science and the interests of citizens. Procedures for reviewing applications should be standardized, transparent and free from industry lobbying; Quality, affordable comprehensive health care, evidence-based sex education and a full range of family planning services help reduce the number of unintended pregnancies; and All people in New Mexico, including people of color, rural populations, and the disenfranchised, deserve access to high-quality healthcare.

LEGISLATION NMFWD SUPPORTS:

HB 17: EXPAND RURAL HEALTH PRACTITIONER TAX CREDIT

- ✓ AN ACT: RELATING TO TAXATION; ADDING CERTAIN PHARMACISTS, NURSES, SOCIAL WORKERS, BEHAVIORAL HEALTH COUNSELORS AND THERAPISTS AND PHYSICAL THERAPISTS TO THE RURAL HEALTH CARE PRACTITIONER TAX CREDIT.

Sponsor: Miguel P. Garcia

HB 61: TRIBAL AGREEMENTS WITH EARLY CHILDHOOD DEPT.

- ✓ AN ACT: RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD; AUTHORIZING THE EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION AND CARE DEPARTMENT TO ENTER INTO JOINT POWERS AGREEMENTS WITH TRIBAL GOVERNMENTS.

Sponsor: Derrick J. Lente

HB 63 HEALTH COMMITTEE AS PERMANENT COMMITTEE

- ✓ AN ACT: RELATING TO THE LEGISLATURE; INCREASING THE NUMBER OF MEMBERS THAT COMPRISE THE LEGISLATIVE HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE; ASSIGNING MONITORING AND OVERSIGHT DUTIES TO LEGISLATIVE HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE MEMBERS; PROVIDING YEAR-ROUND STAFF TO THE LEGISLATIVE HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE; REQUIRING STATE AGENCY COMPLIANCE WITH THE LEGISLATIVE HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE'S AND ITS SUBCOMMITTEES' REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION; ESTABLISHING THE COMMITTEE'S AND SUBCOMMITTEES' POWER TO ADMINISTER OATHS AND ISSUE SUBPOENAS; MAKING AN APPROPRIATION.

Sponsor: Miguel P. Garcia

*** HB 73 EDUCATIONAL RETIREES RETURNING TO WORK**

- ✓ AN ACT: RELATING TO EDUCATIONAL RETIREMENT; ALLOWING CERTAIN RETIREES TO RETURN TO WORK WITHOUT A SUSPENSION OF RETIREMENT BENEFITS.

Sponsor: Joy Garratt

HM 3 PAID FAMILY AND MEDICAL LEAVE TASK FORCE

- ✓ A MEMORIAL: REQUESTING THE WORKFORCE SOLUTIONS DEPARTMENT TO CONVENE A TASK FORCE TO FINISH THE WORK OF RECOMMENDING LEGISLATION FOR PAID FAMILY AND MEDICAL LEAVE AND REPORT TO THE GOVERNOR AND THE LEGISLATURE BY OCTOBER 1, 2022.

Sponsor: Linda Serrato

PRIORITIES #3 &4: ADDRESS FOOD INSECURITIES & ADDRESS HOUSING INSECURITIES / HOMELESSNESS

OUR PLATFORM AFFIRMS: 1. All New Mexicans have the right to a job that provides them with a living wage; 2. The Healthcare sector is a vital element of New Mexico's economy and recognize that when Medicaid is protected and expanded, all healthcare jobs are protected and expanded; 3. The opportunity to be a world leader in the renewable energy revolution and the substantial growth potential by requiring that all new generating facilities be renewable, aggressively advancing the date for implementation of the Renewable Portfolio Standards, and reinstating the New Mexico solar energy tax credit; 4. That government, healthcare, retail, and food service sectors are vital components of the New Mexico economy and should be supported and encouraged to hire locally; 5. We support direct job creation through investments in infrastructure and transportation projects and renewable energy projects; 6. That strong economic growth that provides equal opportunity to all results in reduced crime, domestic violence, and substance abuse rates; 7. It is a right of all New Mexicans to have available a strong safety net of services including child care, food and nutrition support, affordable housing, free school breakfasts and lunches, job training and retraining, and comprehensive and accessible high-quality health services; 8. Small businesses should be supported with policies that: promote and guarantee low-interest small business loans and start-up grants to provide the seed capital to launch and expand job creating businesses; offer incentives for investing in technologies developed by New Mexicans; implement tax policies that provide a higher degree of equity including a fair self-employment tax rate and the elimination of tax loopholes that allow out-of-state corporations to benefit from preferences intended for small, local businesses; 9. The value of workforce education programs in all regions of the state including investments in vocational education and training programs for all individuals interested in entering skilled trades and technical careers; 10. New Mexicans deserve a stable state budget supported through diversified revenue streams that hedge against market volatility; 11. The necessity for strong oversight and regulation of banks and other financial institutions; 12. That government, microloan, and assistance programs should be supported to meet the needs of high-risk borrowers fairly and transparently and oppose predatory interest rates; 13. Our strong opposition of privatization of essential government functions and outsourcing of public sector jobs; and 14. The role of state and federal government to regulate monopolies in the public interest.

FOOD LEGISLATION NMFDW SUPPORTS:

HM 2 AGRITOURISM INSURANCE COVERAGE

- ✓ A MEMORIAL REQUESTING CERTAIN STATE AGENCIES TO DETERMINE POTENTIAL ACTIONS TO FACILITATE INSURANCE COVERAGE FOR AGRITOURISM ACTIVITIES.

Sponsor: Marian Matthews

SB 49 EXEMPT SOCIAL SECURITY FROM INCOME TAX

- ✓ AN ACT: RELATING TO TAXATION; INCREASING THE RATE OF THE CIGARETTE TAX; INCREASING THE RATE OF TAX ON TOBACCO PRODUCTS; INCLUDING NICOTINE, REGARDLESS OF SOURCE, IN THE DEFINITION OF "TOBACCO PRODUCT" IN THE TOBACCO PRODUCTS TAX ACT; EXEMPTING SOCIAL SECURITY INCOME FROM INCOME TAX FOR CERTAIN INDIVIDUALS.

Sponsor: Bill Tallman

HOUSING INSECURITIES / HOMELESSNESS LEGISLATION NMFDW SUPPORTS:

***HB 65 HOUSING MODERNIZATION CHANGES**

- ✓ AN ACT: RELATING TO HOUSING; CLARIFYING THE REQUIREMENT FOR A WRITTEN STATEMENT OF DEDUCTIONS IN CERTAIN CIRCUMSTANCES; INCREASING CERTAIN CIVIL PENALTIES; INCREASING THE TIME PERMITTED TO REMEDY NONPAYMENT OF RENT FOR A RENTAL AGREEMENT; INCREASING PERIODS OF TIME REQUIRED FOR NONPAYMENT NOTICES; REQUIRING THE ISSUANCE OF A JUDGMENT OF RESTITUTION PRIOR TO A WRIT OF RESTITUTION; CLARIFYING THAT ISSUANCE AND EXECUTION OF A WRIT OF RESTITUTION ARE STAYED DURING AN APPEAL; PROHIBITING AN OWNER FROM REFUSING TO RENEW OR SEEKING TO TERMINATE A RENTAL AGREEMENT DURING A DECLARED EMERGENCY OR DISASTER; DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Sponsors: Andrea Romero, Kristina Ortez, Angelica Rubio

HM 9 HOUSING & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT TASK FORCE

- ✓ A MEMORIAL: REQUESTING THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRIES DIVISION OF THE REGULATION AND LICENSING DEPARTMENT TO CONVENE A HOUSING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT EFFICIENCY TASK FORCE TO STUDY AND MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS TO ALLEVIATE PROBLEMS IN HOUSING AVAILABILITY AND AFFORDABILITY BY IMPROVING EFFICIENCY IN THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY AT ALL LEVELS OF GOVERNMENT.

Sponsors: Meredith A. Dixon, Randal S. Crowder, Gail Armstrong, Ambrose Castellano

HJR 1 PUBLIC ASSISTANCE FOR HOUSEHOLD SVCS., CA

- ✓ A JOINT RESOLUTION: PROPOSING TO AMEND ARTICLE 9, SECTION 14 OF THE CONSTITUTION OF NEW MEXICO TO ALLOW PUBLIC ASSISTANCE TO PROVIDE ACCESSIBILITY TO ESSENTIAL HOUSEHOLD SERVICES PRIMARILY FOR RESIDENTIAL USE, INCLUDING INTERNET, ENERGY, WATER, WASTEWATER AND OTHER SERVICES AS PROVIDED BY LAW, UPON THE ENACTMENT OF GENERAL IMPLEMENTING LEGISLATION BY A MAJORITY VOTE OF THE MEMBERS ELECTED TO EACH HOUSE OF THE LEGISLATURE.

Sponsors: Anthony Allison, Christine Chandler, Candie G. Sweetser, Linda Serrato

SB 19 NEW MEXICO HOUSING TRUST FUND

- ✓ AN ACT: MAKING AN APPROPRIATION TO THE NEW MEXICO HOUSING TRUST FUND. ENDORSED BY THE MORTGAGE FINANCE AUTHORITY ACT OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE AND THE LEGISLATIVE HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE

Sponsor: Nancy Rodriguez

PRIORITY #6: ENVIRONMENTAL RIGHTS

OUR PLATFORM AFFIRMS: We affirm the right to live in a healthy environment and we work for clean air, land, and water; and historically, people of color are disproportionately and negatively impacted by climate disruption and/or pollution.

LEGISLATION NMFWDW SUPPORTS:

HJR 2 ENVIRONMENTAL RIGHTS

- ✓ A JOINT RESOLUTION: PROPOSING TO AMEND THE CONSTITUTION OF NEW MEXICO BY ADDING A NEW SECTION OF ARTICLE 2 THAT PROVIDES THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE WITH ENVIRONMENTAL RIGHTS, INCLUDING THE RIGHT TO A CLEAN AND HEALTHY ENVIRONMENT AND THE RIGHT TO PROTECTION OF THE ENVIRONMENT, AND DIRECTS THE STATE TO SERVE AS TRUSTEE OF THE NATURAL RESOURCES OF NEW MEXICO FOR THE BENEFIT OF ALL NEW MEXICANS AND BY REPEALING THE CURRENT POLLUTION CONTROL PROVISIONS OF ARTICLE 20, SECTION 21

Sponsors: Joanne J. Ferrary / Tara L. Lujan