





2016 NHLA Presidential Candidate Questionnaire Responses

On February 24, 2016, NHLA issued a questionnaire, based on its 2016 Hispanic Public Policy Agenda, to each of the presidential candidates from both major political parties. All of the candidates were invited to provide their responses to these questions by March 25, 2016. As of April 1, 2016, no responses have been received from candidates Ted Cruz, John Kasich, or Donald Trump. This table will be updated if their responses are received. NHLA does not endorse or oppose any candidate for public office. This document is based on the responses that were provided to NHLA by the presidential candidates. It is not intended to interpret, examine, or opine on any of the responses or the lack thereof. Any candidate's fitness for office should be judged on a variety of qualifications that go beyond their responses to the questions below. This report of candidates' responses is not intended for distribution or use as a voter guide.

| TOPIC | BACKGROUND | QUESTION | CANDIDATE RESPONSE |
|------------------------------|---|---|--|
| <p>FEDERAL BUDGET</p> | <p>Since 2011, federal efforts to reduce the deficit have relied more on cuts to domestic discretionary programs rather than raising revenue. The 2011 Budget Control Act set strict caps on discretionary funding through across-the-board budget cuts known as sequestration. While a partial lifting of sequestration was included in the 2013 and 2015 Bipartisan Budget Acts, investments in non-defense domestic discretionary programs have been cut dramatically in recent years.</p> | <p>In your investment agenda for the federal budget, what domestic programs would you prioritize for increased or decreased funding?</p> | <div data-bbox="1519 419 1743 747">  <p>CLINTON</p> </div> <p>As president, I would prioritize investments that drive job creation, productivity, and higher wages — including infrastructure that will put Americans back to work, education from early childhood to college to unlock the potential of every American, basic research, clean energy, job training and apprenticeships, and more.</p> <p>For example, I would increase federal infrastructure funding by \$275 billion over a five-year period, fully paying for these investments through business tax reform. According to the White House Council of Economic Advisers, every \$1 billion in infrastructure investment creates 13,000 jobs. Moreover, the vast majority of the jobs created by infrastructure investment are good-paying, middle-class jobs — paying above the national median.</p> <p>We also need to make it much easier for every American to join and stay in the labor force and find a good job by making quality child care more affordable, ensuring America is no longer the only developed nation without paid leave, and ensuring that workers are provided with fair schedules, fair wages and overtime pay. That’s how we will create a full employment economy with a tight labor market that drives rising pay for workers, gives every worker a pathway to a good job, and ensures everyday Americans share in the rewards — not just those at the top.</p> <hr/> <div data-bbox="1519 1020 1743 1348">  <p>SANDERS</p> </div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Create 1 million jobs for disadvantaged young Americans by investing \$5.5 billion in a youth jobs program. ● Expand Social Security. Over half of workers between the ages of 55-64 have no retirement savings. More than a third of senior citizens depend on Social Security for virtually all of their income. The average Social Security benefit is just \$1,328 a month. <p>Our job must be to expand Social Security so that every American can retire with dignity and respect. Social Security has a \$2.8 trillion surplus. It can pay every benefit owed to every eligible American for the next 19 years. Social Security invests in U.S Treasury bonds, the safest interest-bearing securities in the world. These are the same bonds wealthy investors have purchased, along with China and other foreign countries. These bonds are backed by the full faith and credit of the U.S. government, which in our long history has never defaulted on its debt obligations. Right now a billionaire pays the same amount of money into Social Security as someone who makes \$118,500 a year. That’s because there is a cap on taxable income that directly goes into the Social Security system.</p> <p>I have introduced legislation to lift this cap so that everyone who makes over \$250,000 a year pays the same percentage of their income into Social Security as the middle class and working families. This would not only extend the solvency of Social Security for the next 50 years, but also bring in enough revenue to expand benefits by over \$1,300 for seniors making less than \$16,000 a year; lift seniors out of poverty by increasing the minimum benefits paid to low-income seniors; and establishing a more accurate formula for Cost-of-Living-Adjustments based on the true spending patterns of senior citizens.</p> |

**ECONOMIC
EMPOWERMENT**

Latinos are overrepresented in low-wage occupations and have lower levels of household wealth than other racial and ethnic groups. Because Latinos are overrepresented in low-wage jobs, the effect of wage stagnation on their sense of economic well-being is particularly profound, with 67 percent of Latinos reporting in a recent poll that they are not earning enough to meet their basic expenses. Forty-two percent of all Latinos earn poverty-level wages despite having the highest rate of labor force participation among all racial and ethnic groups.

What tax and wage policies would you pursue to help working families earn a living that supports their needs?



The typical Latino household earns more than 20% less than the typical white household, and Latinas earn, on average, 55 cents for every dollar earned by a white man. I have fought to raise the minimum wage for many years and will do so as president. A higher minimum wage doesn't just help those at the bottom of the pay scale, it strengthens the economy and helps American workers and families. We should also support state and local efforts to go above the federal floor where it makes sense to do so. I was pleased to see President Obama expand overtime rules, which was an important step. We also need to work to close the wage gap for Latinas. And throughout all of this, we need to ensure workers have the collective bargaining power they need to fight for fair wages and decent benefits.

We also need a more progressive tax system, to make sure that corporations and those at the top pay their fair share. As president, I will provide middle class tax relief and ask the wealthiest Americans to pay more. That means getting rid of the loophole that allows hedge fund managers to pay a lower tax rate. It also means implementing the "Buffett Rule," so that millionaires never pay a lower effective tax rate than middle class families; imposing a surtax on the incomes of multi-millionaires; and cracking down on loopholes that allow corporations to shift profits overseas. We need a fairer tax system and a safer financial system that works on behalf of all working families.



Latinos make up a shocking 12 million of those living below a conservative poverty line, or almost 1/4th of the entire Latino Population. Latinos are fortunate to be amongst the most employed ethnic groups in America, but unfortunate to be among the lowest paid, least promoted, and most exploited.

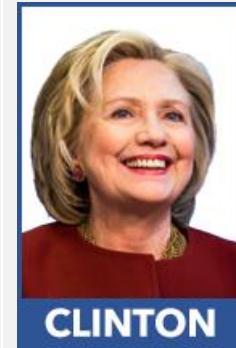
Latinos are like every other major working group in America - in need of a major boost in pay and opportunity. I am proposing to rebuild the middle class with a \$1 trillion infrastructure investment that will put 13 million people to work repairing our roads and highways. I am also proposing to raise the minimum wage to \$15 an hour. In the year 2016, no one who works 40 hours a week should be living in poverty. My Medicare-for-all health care plan will guarantee health care as a right to everyone in this country, including aspiring Americans.

As president, I would end the international embarrassment of the United States being the only major country on earth that does not guarantee paid leave to workers. I would require employers to provide at least 12 weeks of paid family and medical leave. At a time when over 65 percent of women and over 80 percent of men work more than 40 hours a week, we must require employers to provide at least two weeks of paid vacation. And, we must require employers to provide at least one week of paid sick leave so that parents can stay home to take care of a sick child, among other things.

**WORKING
CONDITIONS**

Many Latino workers experience violations of minimum wage, overtime pay and other labor protections. In many cases the workers are laboring for a company that denies it is an "employer" of such workers; it contends that a staffing agency or labor contractor is the sole "employer" or misclassifies the workers themselves as "independent contractors." Such companies deny responsibility under labor laws while often failing to pay the labor contractor or intermediary enough to ensure compliance with the law.

What policies and employment-law enforcement approaches do you support to reduce exploitation of workers subjected to abuses through such economic arrangements?



It is vital that we modernize basic labor standards. Worker protections and basic labor standards have failed to keep pace with changes over the past half century. I was an original co- sponsor of the Employee Free Choice Act, and I support the WAGE Act. We also need to raise wages and reduce poverty among working families, including supporting and strengthening workers' right to organize and bargain collectively, raising the minimum wage, eradicating wage theft, ensuring that employers do not misclassify true employees as "independent contractors" to skirt their obligations, and leveling the playing field for women and people of color. I was pleased to see President Obama expand overtime protections to make overtime pay meaningful again for middle class workers. That was one important step in the right direction.



I have fought for workers' rights all of my adult life. As President, I will stand unabashedly and unequivocally on the side of labor unions and working people.

I share NHLA's concerns about the unprecedented attacks on the working class. Republicans are trying to undermine the very laws and protections that unions fought so hard to pass over the past century. From Scott Walker's assault on unions in Wisconsin, to efforts to turn back the rights to organize, collectively bargain, to eliminate prevailing wage laws, defined benefit pension plans, workers' compensation, workers' safety, unemployment insurance, and more, a war is being waged against the working class by some of the wealthiest people in this country whose greed has no end. This is a war that we cannot let them win.

One of the very first bills that I introduced in Congress was the Workplace Democracy Act. I recently reintroduced an updated version of this legislation, and when I am President, I will make it a priority to sign this bill into law. This legislation would establish majority card check recognition, guarantee the right to a first contract, and strengthen and expand the enforcement authority of the National Labor Relations Board in cases where there are violations of labor laws.

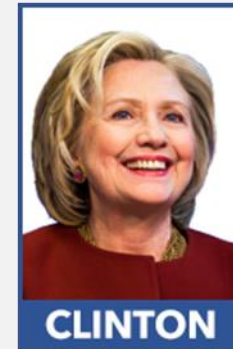
One of the many proposals in my agenda includes the protection of undocumented immigrant workers exercising their rights. My agenda would establish a whistleblower visa for workers reporting labor violations, and would establish an affirmative process for these individuals to request deferred action. Many employers regularly abuse immigrant workers knowing employees will not hold them accountable for fear of deportation.

We have got to do everything we can to make it easier, not harder, for workers to join unions and collectively bargain for better wages and benefits.

**PUERTO RICO'S
FINANCIAL CRISIS**

The Puerto Rican government faces a \$72 billion debt that it cannot pay and a \$30 billion shortfall in public pension funds. To deal with the deficit, the government has cut services and raised taxes. Citizens are feeling the strain, with a 12.5 percent unemployment rate and a 41 percent poverty rate. Hundreds of thousands of Puerto Ricans have moved to the mainland U.S. in search of employment during the current nine-year recession.

What efforts do you support to address the immediate crisis in Puerto Rico, and what steps would you take to promote medium and long term economic development on the island and help it prevent another such financial crisis?



CLINTON

Puerto Ricans are proud American citizens who work hard and contribute to our nation and they deserve a chance to get ahead. Giving Puerto Rico a shot at overcoming its critical budgetary problems is the fair thing to do. As president, I would partner with Puerto Rico to do the hard work needed to put the island on a path towards stability and prosperity.

The challenge is multi-faceted and will require Puerto Rico to find a way to pay back its debtors. Congress needs to immediately ensure that there is a quick restructuring solution for all of Puerto Rico's debt, while respecting Puerto Rico's local self-government. The deficit is a consequence of an economy that has lagged that of the States for decades and shrunk for eight of the last nine years. Puerto Rico needs a longer-term plan to address a declining population, eroding employment base, high utility rates and the impact of unequal federal investments. One example

of this inconsistent and incoherent treatment of Puerto Rico under federal laws is the unequal federal funding for Puerto Rico under Medicaid and Medicare. Congress should continue to help Puerto Ricans get equal treatment under Medicaid and Medicare and other federal programs.

Underlying all of this is the fundamental question of Puerto Rico's status. I believe that the people of Puerto Rico deserve a resolution of the status of their island and am supportive of whatever the people of Puerto Rico decide, as long as it is congressionally sanctioned.



SANDERS

Puerto Rico's unsustainable debt has everything to do with the policies of austerity and the greed of large financial institutions. I will fight to ensure that Puerto Rico is able to rebuild its economy, create good-paying jobs, expand its tax base, protect the environment, and empower Puerto Ricans to define their own political future by:

- Fighting to give Puerto Rico the same Chapter 9 bankruptcy protections that exist for municipalities in the U.S. so it can restructure its debt in a rational and organized way that protects its people without harming ordinary U.S. investors and pension funds.
- Auditing Puerto Rico's debt to determine whether it was incurred legally. Any debt issued to creditors in violation of Puerto Rico's Constitution must be immediately set aside.
- Reversing austerity measures that have harmed children, senior citizens, and the most vulnerable people.
- Creating more than 150,000 good-paying jobs in Puerto Rico and making Puerto Rican businesses more competitive by enacting a national jobs program to rebuild crumbling infrastructure, including Puerto Rico's aging electric grid. The single largest debt – more than \$9 billion – is owed by the Puerto Rico Electric Power Authority. 99% of Puerto Rico's energy mix currently comes from imported oil that is extraordinarily expensive.
- Fighting for a U.S. congressionally-sanctioned and binding referendum where the Puerto Rican people would be able to decide on whether to become a state, an independent country, or to reform the current Commonwealth agreement. This is an issue that should be decided by the Puerto Rican people.
- Expanding and making permanent tax incentives for renewable energy, and taxing carbon, using the revenue to make significant investments in wind, solar, and geothermal energy.
- Introducing and enforcing federal environmental and public health laws to address the proposed 2,100-ton-per-day municipal solid waste incinerator in Arecibo, the severely polluted Martin Peña Canal in downtown San Juan, and the pressing needs in Vieques.
- Preventing college students from going deeply into debt.
- Fighting for a Medicare-for-all plan that will cover everyone and apply equally to states and territories, including Puerto Rico.

ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION

The Every Student Succeeds Act of 2015 was signed into law last year, reauthorizing the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, which was first enacted in 1965 as a civil rights bill written to ensure equal access to a quality education. Within those fifty years, the Latino community has grown from roughly three percent of the nation’s population, to 17 percent today, and 25 percent of the public school student population.

How would you hold states and school districts accountable to ensure that Latino students are receiving a quality and equitable education?



The public school system is one of the pillars of our democracy and a pathway to opportunity for our children. But in too many communities across the country, the promise of education in America has not been fulfilled.

I believe that every child deserves a world class education, regardless of their ZIP code. That is what I will fight for as president. First, we should begin a national campaign to elevate and modernize the teaching profession and pay our teachers as if the future of our country was in their hands—because it is. Second, we need to implement the best learning strategies — find what works and put it to use. And finally, we have to support communities as they work to improve their schools. Poverty and a legacy of discrimination are holding back too many schools, and it’s up to all of us to fix that.

The bi-partisan Every Student Succeeds Act, while not perfect, puts us on a path to make progress for our students. It provides states and teachers flexibility to serve the needs of their classrooms, while also ensuring schools are held accountable to raise achievement for all students — particularly for low-income students, students of color, and English Language Learners. But much work lies ahead. Effectively implementing this law will take commitment and cooperation — from our parents, teachers, schools, and states. And critically, it will require that we work together to increase our investment in our public schools.



At a time of economic decline and stagnation for families, federal and state funding has not kept pace with the educational needs of their communities – particularly poor communities. As President, I will:

1.) **Combat Poverty and Income Inequality:** Address the main driver of poor educational performance – poverty and concentrated poverty.

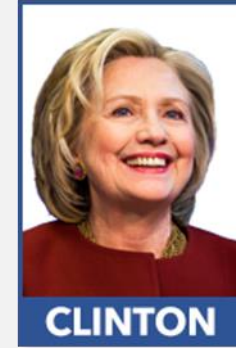
● Double federal funding in our high-need schools. The flawed No Child Left Behind Act had one thing right – it set out to significantly increase Title I funding, which directly funds our neediest schools, to \$25 billion a year by 2007. Today we are way below this goal at \$14.9 billion a year for Title I. We need to invest in our most important resource – our children – and double Title I funding to \$30 billion a year and continually increase it to meet growing needs.

- Through the most recent reauthorization of ESEA, I was proud to help end the school closure, staff firing, and rigid, federally prescribed ways to improve struggling schools. As President, I’ll provide support not punishment or closure for struggling schools. I will ensure struggling schools have more funding so they can access wrap-around supports for every child.
 - Harness the power of the federal government to reduce and end child poverty.
 - Immediately act to reduce child poverty by raising the minimum wage to \$15 an hour and put people back to work restoring our national infrastructure.
- 2.) **Require States to Equitably Fund Their Schools:**
- Increasing the share of federal formula funds that are based on state funding efforts to ensure states adequately fund schools that serve poor children.
 - Require states to close resource gaps between poor and wealthy schools.
 - Penalize states that do not take steps to close resource gaps between wealthy and poor school districts.

HIGHER EDUCATION

For the first time, Latino enrollment of 18-24 year olds in college surpassed that of White students in 2012, at 49 percent and 47 percent respectively. However, Latino college completion rates lag far behind those of other groups, with less than a third of Latinos graduating from four-year institutions on time.

What policies do you propose to improve college retention and completion rates among Latinos?



Nearly 67 percent of Latino students who earn bachelor's degrees leave school with debt. Latino students are also less likely to complete a bachelor's degree — sometimes out of a sense of responsibility to support their families financially. Through my New College Compact, I will fight to ensure that cost is not a barrier for anyone who wants to attend college — and that debt won't hold them back after they graduate. My plan will also support, encourage, and reward the Hispanic Serving Institutions that help our students succeed. And it will provide scholarships and child care support for student parents, impacting 32% of Hispanic women in college and almost 18% of Hispanic men, so that these parents can finish their education and build a brighter future for their families.



MAKE TUITION FREE AT PUBLIC COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES.

This is not a radical idea. It's what many colleges and universities used to do. The University of California system offered free tuition until the 1980s. In 1965, average tuition at four-year public universities was just \$243 and many of the best colleges did not charge tuition at all.

STOP THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT FROM MAKING A PROFIT ON STUDENT LOANS.

Over the next decade, it has been estimated that the federal government will make a profit of over \$110 billion on student loans. I will use this money, instead, to significantly lower student loan interest rates.

SUBSTANTIALLY CUT STUDENT LOAN INTEREST RATES.

Under my plan, the formula for setting student loan interest rates would go back to where it was in 2006. If this plan were in effect today, interest rates on undergraduate loans would drop from 4.29% to just 2.37%.

ALLOW AMERICANS TO REFINANCE STUDENT LOANS AT TODAY'S LOW INTEREST RATES.

It makes no sense that you can get an auto loan today with an interest rate of 2.5%, but millions of college graduates are forced to pay interest rates of 5-7% or more for decades.

ALLOW STUDENTS TO USE NEED-BASED FINANCIAL AID AND WORK STUDY PROGRAMS TO MAKE COLLEGE DEBT FREE.

My plan would require public colleges and universities to meet 100% of the financial needs of the lowest-income students. They would be able to use federal, state, and college financial aid to cover room and board, books, and living expenses. I would more than triple the federal work-study program.

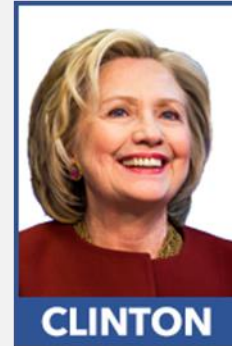
FULLY PAID FOR BY IMPOSING A TAX ON WALL STREET SPECULATORS.

The cost of this \$75 billion a year plan is fully paid for by imposing a tax of a fraction of a percent on Wall Street speculators.

DETENTION FACILITIES

Since 2003, the number of immigration detention beds increased by 86 percent from 18,000 to a congressionally mandated bed quota of 33,400. According to DHS data the majority of immigrants detained had no criminal record. Concurrently, for-profit prison companies have increased their share of operating ICE immigration detention beds, from 49 percent in 2009 to 60 percent today.

What changes do you propose to the immigration detention system?



As president, I will put an end to private immigrant detention centers. We should move away from contracting out this critical government function to private corporations and from private industry incentives that may contribute — or have the appearance of contributing — to over-incarceration. I also believe we should end family detention for parents and children who arrive at our border in desperate situations. Detention should be for those who pose a threat to the community or are a flight risk. We have alternatives to detention to monitor immigrants going through our court system who pose no flight or public safety risk, such as supervised release, that have proved effective and cost a fraction of what it takes to keep families in detention.



END FOR-PROFIT DETENTION.

As President, I will fight to end federal, state, and municipal contracts with for-profit private prisons within two years. Termination of these contracts will eliminate the incentive for the private prison industry to support punitive, over-inclusive laws that lead to the detention of 34,000 immigrants on any given day. A Sanders Administration will also work with Congress to enact the Justice is Not for Sale Act, which would reinstate a federal parole program that will include immigrants.

END FAMILY DETENTION.

As President, I will end family detention. I will work to ensure that detention centers do not hold families and adhere to the letter and spirit of the Flores Order. The detention of families, most of which come to our country seeking protection under our laws, is an affront to the values our nation was founded upon.

PROPOSE BUDGETS WITH SMART, TARGETED ENFORCEMENT.

I will demand Congress to defund the detention bed quota. Detention should be based on actual need and not arbitrary numbers set by Congress. At the other end of the deportation pipeline, I will, like President Obama, request Congress to defund the Department of Justice's State Criminal Alien Assistance Program.

ALTERNATIVES TO DETENTION.

A Sanders Administration will promote alternatives to detention, which can cost as little as 70 cents a day. The use of these substitutes to detention would allow thousands of non-violent immigrant detainees to reunite with their families as they wait for their day in court.

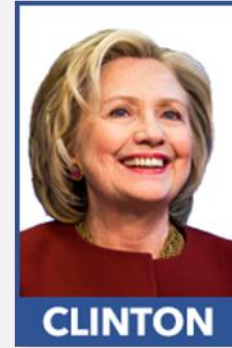
GUARANTEE DUE PROCESS AND BOND HEARINGS.

As president, I will ensure that immigrants have their day in court, including bond hearings and access to due process protections.

ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION

On June 15, 2012, the Obama administration announced Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA), a program to protect immigrants who were brought to the United States as children and meet other specific requirements against deportation and in November 2014, the Administration announced Deferred Action for Parents of Americans (DAPA).

How do you intend to use presidential prosecutorial discretion until Congress enacts comprehensive immigration reform, including continuing initiatives like DACA and DAPA?



I will defend and implement DACA and DAPA to protect an estimated 5 million DREAMers and parents of Americans and lawful permanent residents from deportation. These actions are necessary to keep millions of families together, as we continue to fight for comprehensive immigration reform.

I will also do everything possible under the law to go further to protect families. For example, if Congress continues its refusal to act on comprehensive immigration reform, I will put in place a simple, straightforward, accessible system for persons with sympathetic cases -- such as parents of DREAMers, and others with a history of service and contribution to their communities -- to be able to make their case and be eligible for deferred action as well.



EXPAND DACA AND DAPA.

As President, I will expand President Obama's Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program and the Deferred Action for Parents of Americans (DAPA) to provide broad administrative relief to the parents of DREAMers, the parents of citizens, the parents of legal permanent residents, and other immigrants who would have been given legal protections by the 2013 Senate-passed immigration bill.

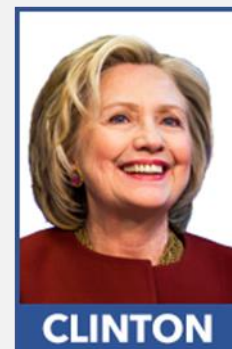
This would allow all undocumented people who have been in the United States for at least five years to stay in the country without fear of being deported. This broad administrative relief is well within the President's executive authority.

- Over 85% of the nation's aspiring Americans have resided in the United States for at least five years.
- Under this plan, close to nine million individuals would be able to apply for deferred action.

CENTRAL AMERICAN REFUGEES

Immigration from Latin America has been on a decreasing trend in recent years. One notable exception is the case of Central American adults and children who have been fleeing violence in Honduras, El Salvador, and Guatemala.

What is your position on addressing those children who have arrived in the U.S. from Honduras, El Salvador, and Guatemala?


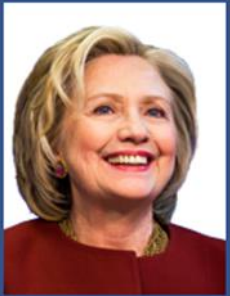



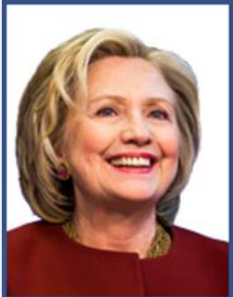

I believe we should not be conducting raids and roundups of children and mothers fleeing violence in Central America. These raids have caused unnecessary fear and disruption in immigrant communities. We have laws for people who come here without documentation. But in enforcing them, we have to live up to our values.

I believe every person should receive meaningful due process — a full and fair opportunity to make their case for relief. It's one of the great strengths of the American system. We need more immigration judges and asylum officers, and we need to be especially protective of children. Half of unaccompanied minors today go through immigration hearings without a lawyer. And recently, a federal immigration judge said that's okay — because 3 and 4-year olds can learn immigration law well enough to represent themselves in court. That's outrageous. I believe we should

guarantee government-funded counsel for all unaccompanied children in immigration court.

Above all, we need a comprehensive, long-term solution to this challenge. We should work with our regional partners to strengthen conditions on the ground in Central America, crackdown on criminal organizations, and invest in sustained economic development. That's how we're going to address this humanitarian crisis once and for all.

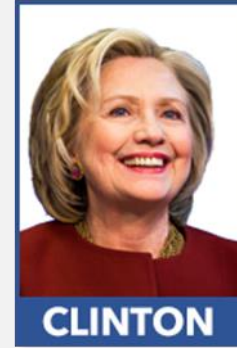
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| | | |  <p>SANDERS</p> <p>Implement the “Best Interests of the Child” Standard. It is imperative that a “best interests of child” standard is used in all decision-making and implement child welfare screenings that are conducted by CBP officers along with child welfare experts. In addition, I will ensure that all children at our borders will be provided procedural protections by providing counsel and legal orientation programs in the child’s native language.</p> |
| <p>IMMIGRATION REFORM</p> | <p>The Senate passed a bipartisan immigration reform measure in 2013 that included a pathway to legal status and citizenship to the majority of the 11 million undocumented immigrants in the United States, the creation of more legal opportunities for future immigrants to come into the country, and shortened pathways to citizenship for DREAM students and agricultural workers.</p> | <p>What policies do you propose to reform the immigration system?</p> |  <p>CLINTON</p> <p>I support comprehensive immigration reform (CIR) and a pathway to citizenship, not just because it's the right thing to do, but because it strengthens families, strengthens our economy, and strengthens our country. I was a strong supporter of CIR as a Senator, cosponsoring Senator Ted Kennedy’s 2004 bill and supporting the Comprehensive Immigration Reform Act in 2006 and 2007. In 2003, 2005 and 2007, I cosponsored the Dream Act in the Senate. Immigrants and their families have been waiting too long for a fair path to citizenship. It’s past time to fix our broken system and bring 11 million immigrants out of the shadows. As president, I will fight for comprehensive immigration reform with a path to full and equal citizenship, and I will work to bring a reform bill to Congress in the first 100 days of my presidency.</p> <p>I also believe our enforcement system should be humane and targeted. We should focus our enforcement efforts on criminals who pose a violent threat to public safety, and we should remove the 3 and 10 year bars to keep families together. And we should enhance opportunities for naturalization by expanding fee waivers so more people can get a break on costs; increasing access to robust language programs to help people boost their English proficiency; and enhancing outreach and education so more people are informed about their options and engaged in the process.</p> <hr/>  <p>SANDERS</p> <p>In 2013, I voted for the comprehensive immigration reform bill that would have legalized millions of aspiring Americans. That legislation, however, contained a series of compromises that should now be rejected. In a Sanders Administration, a legislative solution to modernize our immigration system will be a top priority. In addition, I will not stand idly by waiting around for Congress to act. Instead, beginning in the first 100 days of my administration, I will work to take extensive executive action to accomplish what Congress has failed to do and to build upon President Obama’s executive orders.</p> <p>Unfortunately, our nation’s Latin America policy has made difficult economic and political problems even worse. Supporters of the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) claimed free trade would increase the standard of living in Mexico and significantly reduce the flow of undocumented immigrants into this country. History has demonstrated the opposite. Since NAFTA’s implementation, the number of Mexicans living below the poverty line has increased by over 14 million. The number of undocumented immigrants from Mexico increased 185 percent between 1992 and 2011.</p> |

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| | | | <p>A political revolution that mobilizes millions of Americans inclusive of Latinos and immigrants will ensure that Congress acts on what the majority of Americans demand – comprehensive and humane immigration reform policies.</p> <p>I will implement a humane and secure immigration policy that will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dismantle inhumane deportation programs and detention centers; • Pave the way for a swift and fair legislative roadmap to citizenship for 11 million undocumented immigrants; • Ensure our border remains secure while respecting local communities; • Regulate the future flow of immigrants by modernizing the visa system and rewriting bad trade agreements; • Enhance access to justice and reverse the criminalization of immigrants; • Establish parameters for independent oversight of key U.S. Department of Homeland Security agencies. |
| <p>APPOINTMENTS</p> | <p>The NHLA launched the Latino Appointments Program in 2014 to identify and advocate for the appointment of qualified Latino candidates at all levels in the President’s administration and on federal commissions and boards. There is currently a record number of four Latinos serving in the President’s cabinet, leading the U.S. Departments of Labor, Housing and Urban Development, Education, and the Small Business Administration.</p> | <p>What would you do as president to meet or exceed the current level of Hispanic representation in presidentially-appointed positions?</p> | <div data-bbox="1538 667 1759 997">  <p>CLINTON</p> </div> <p>As Secretary of State, I had the privilege of working with and promoting a number of Latino political appointees that made our department and foreign policy stronger. I believe that presidential appointees should reflect the rich diversity of our country and represent a wide range of life experiences. If elected president, I will build on President Obama’s progress of appointing Latinos throughout the executive branch. From special assistants to cabinet members, Latinos will play a key role in helping to shape my policy priorities and be effectively represented in our agencies. If elected, I look forward to working with the NHLA to identify future Latino appointees and build a new generation of Hispanic leaders.</p> <hr/> <div data-bbox="1538 1145 1759 1473">  <p>SANDERS</p> </div> <p>A Bernie Sanders Administration would reflect the diverse make-up of the country. Our country is best when a diverse group of people with different backgrounds and different points of view come together behind a common cause. I can think of no place more vital for such diversity than in the cabinet of the President of the United States of America.</p> |

CIVIL SERVICE

Hispanics are the most underrepresented ethnic or racial group in the federal workforce. In 2014, Hispanics represented about 16.1 percent of the civilian labor force but only 8.4 percent of the Federal Government's workforce. Hispanic representation in the career Senior Executive Service (SES) is 4.4 percent.

What steps would you take to increase Hispanic representation in the federal workforce, including the Senior Executive Service?



Federal employment can provide long-term economic stability, and too often, ethnic and racial minorities have been shut out of opportunities to enter careers in public service. That's why in 2000, President Clinton issued an executive order to improve the representation of Latinos in the federal workforce. Since then, the percentage of Latinos serving in federal agencies has steadily increased. Despite this progress, Latinos remain severely underrepresented and their numbers in the highest ranks of leadership actually decreased in 2013. As president, I will be fully committed to addressing the underrepresentation of Latinos in our federal workforce. Our federal government should reflect the diversity of our country, and the Latino community should have a voice throughout our government.



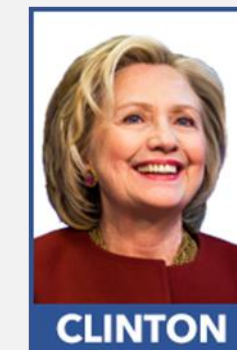
To bolster our federal workforce, I proposed the Employ Young Americans Now Act with Rep. John Conyers (D-MI) to provide \$5.5 billion in immediate funding to employ one million young Americans between the ages of 16 and 24, and to provide job training to hundreds of thousands of others. I introduced the Rebuild America Act to invest \$1 trillion over 5 years to rebuild and modernize our nation's crumbling infrastructure, creating and maintaining at least 13 million good-paying jobs while making our country more productive, efficient and safe. The best way to quickly put millions of people to work is to repair our nation's roads, bridges, dams, wastewater plants, railways, airports, and other infrastructure needs. The projects that would be funded by this legislation require new equipment, supplies, and services. And, the hard-earned salaries from the jobs created will be spent in countless restaurants, shops, and other local businesses. Further, all of this economic activity will generate new tax revenues to pay for the services that Americans expect and deserve.

And as stated above, a Bernie Sanders Administration would reflect the diverse make-up of the country. Our country is best when a diverse group of people with different backgrounds and different points of view come together behind a common cause. I can think of no place more vital for such diversity than in the cabinet and the Senior Executive Service of the President of the United States of America.

VOTING RIGHTS



As a fast-growing voting group, Latinos face barriers at local and state level to their electoral participation. The 2013 Supreme Court decision in Shelby County v. Holder eliminated a critical tool -- preclearance -- to prevent attempts to stem the growth in Latino electoral power by restricting access to the ballot

What measures, including steps in response to Shelby County, such as a new preclearance formula for the Voting Rights Act, would you propose and support to protect the growing Latino electorate from disenfranchisement?



I believe we need to expand access to the ballot box for all Americans and defend against the systematic, deliberate efforts to stop millions of citizens from participating in our democracy. I support the Voting Rights Advancement Act, and will work with Congress to fix the damage done to the Voting Rights Act by the Supreme Court and restore the full protections American voters need and deserve.

I will also work to establish a new national standard of at least 20 days of early in-person voting, including opportunities for evening and weekend voting, and universal automatic registration when individuals turn 18, unless they choose to opt out. This will help reduce long lines and give more people an opportunity to vote, especially those who have work or family obligations. It will also add tens of millions of voters to the rolls, cost less, and reduce the potential for errors or irregularities.

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| | | |  <p>SANDERS</p> <p>There is ample evidence that persons of color are still facing discrimination at the ballot box. Voter ID laws are still being passed. Early voting periods are being shortened and the number of sites offering early voting are being reduced. Non-English speaking voters and those with limited English proficiency face mistreatment at polling places. Laws, such as preclearance, are important safeguards to ensure that everyone has access to voting.</p> <p>There is no better example than the recent Arizona primary. The number of polling places was reduced by 70%. Few if any polling places were placed near concentrations of Latinos. And provisional ballots were not counted as real votes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Congress must restore the “pre-clearance” formula under the Voting Rights Act, which extended protections to minority voters in states and counties where they were clearly needed. • We must expand the Act’s scope so that every American, regardless of skin color or national origin, is able to vote freely. • We need to make Election Day a federal holiday to increase voters’ ability to participate. • We must make early voting an option for voters who work or study and need the flexibility to vote on evenings or weekends. • We must make no-fault absentee ballots an option for all Americans. • We must automatically register every American to vote when they turn 18 or move to a new state. The burden of registering voters should be on the state, not the individual voter. • We must put an end to discriminatory laws and the purging of minority-community names from voting rolls. • We need to make sure that there are sufficient polling places and poll workers to prevent long lines from forming at the polls anywhere. |
| <p>CRIMINAL JUSTICE</p> | <p>The United States continues to have the highest proportion of prisoners per capita of any country in the world. Latinos are disproportionately subject to more frequent stops by law enforcement, higher incidences of police brutality, the highest rates of pre-trial detention and bail amounts, and greater obstacles to post-incarceration re-entry.</p> | <p>What policies will you advance to ensure criminal justice, policing and drug policy reform?</p> |  <p>CLINTON</p> <p>We must work to strengthen the bonds of trust between our communities and our police, end the era of mass incarceration, and ensure a successful transition of individuals from prison to home. As president, I will make new investments to support law enforcement training programs on issues such as implicit bias, use of force, de-escalation and community policing. I will support legislation to end racial profiling and provide federal matching funds to make body cameras available to every police department. I will create federal guidelines on the use of force, support state and local efforts to appoint independent prosecutors of police-involved or in-custody deaths, and strengthen the Department of Justice’s Civil Rights Division that holds law enforcement agencies accountable if they engage in unconstitutional policing.</p> <p>I will work to cut mandatory minimum sentences for nonviolent drug offenses in half, apply the Fair Sentencing Act of 2010 retroactively, and eliminate the sentencing disparity between crack and powder cocaine offenses. I will end private prisons and prioritize treatment and rehabilitation — rather than incarceration — for low-level, nonviolent drug offenders. I will work to dismantle the school-to-prison pipeline, including by providing \$2 billion in support to schools to reform overly punitive disciplinary policies, calling on states to reform school disturbance laws, and encouraging states to use federal education funding to implement social and emotional support interventions.</p> <p>I will take executive action to “ban the box” so applicants have an opportunity to demonstrate their qualifications before being asked about their criminal records; invest \$5 billion in job supports for people who have been involved in the criminal justice system; and support legislation to restore voting rights to those who have served their sentences, among</p> |

other reentry initiatives.



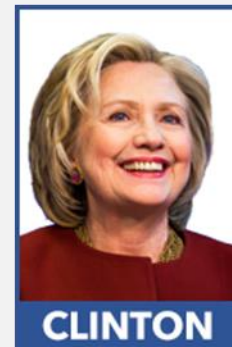
We need to:

- Demilitarize police forces.
- Invest in community policing, including increasing civilian oversight of police departments.
- Create a police culture that allows for good officers to report the actions of bad officers without fear of retaliation and allows departments to follow through on such reports.
- Make police forces reflect our communities' diversity, including training academies and leadership.
- Establish a new model police-training program, with input from the community, activists and civil rights leaders, that will reinvent how we police America.
- Fund and require body cameras for law enforcement officers.
- Require police departments and states to collect data on all police shootings and deaths that take place while in police custody and make that data public.
- Set new rules on the allowable use of force. Police officers need to be trained to de-escalate confrontations and to humanely interact with people who have mental illnesses.
- Reward states and localities that make progress in this area with more federal justice grant money, and slash funding for those that do not.
- Crack down on illegal activities of hate groups.
- Ban prisons for profit.
- Turn back from the failed "War on Drugs" and eliminate mandatory minimums.
- Take marijuana off the federal government's list of outlawed drugs.
- Allow people in states which legalize marijuana to be able to fully participate in the banking system.
- Invest in drug courts, medical, and mental health interventions for people with substance abuse problems, so they end up in treatment, not prison.
- Boost investments that help people who have gone to jail rebuild their lives with education and job training.
- Investigate local governments that are using implicit or explicit quotas for arrests or stops.
- Stop local governments that are relying on fines, fees, or asset forfeitures as a steady source of revenue.
- Require police departments to investigate all allegations of wrongdoing, especially those involving the use of force, and prosecute aggressively, if necessary. If departments are unwilling or unable to conduct such investigations, the Department of Justice must step in and handle it for them.

CIVIL RIGHTS AND THE JUDICIARY

Hate crimes, racial profiling, employment discrimination, and other forms of discrimination continue to take place far too often. Historically, the courts have played an important role in checking abuses against the civil rights of vulnerable populations.

What factors will you consider when making judicial nominations?



I will appoint justices who will protect the constitutional principles of liberty and equality for all, regardless of race, gender, sexual orientation, or political viewpoint; make sure the scales of justice aren't tipped away from individuals toward corporations and special interests; and protect citizens' right to vote, rather than billionaires' right to buy elections. I have also said that I will only appoint Justices who believe that Roe v. Wade is settled law that must be preserved and Citizens United is bad law that must be overturned.



As President, any of my Supreme Court nominees will be committed to overturning the disastrous Citizens United decision by the Supreme Court. Getting money out of politics will go a long way towards enabling Congress to pass laws to make America a better, safer place for all residents, including those who have, historically, had to fight the hardest for their rights.

It is my strong belief that the courts should protect the rights of ordinary Americans, not just corporate America. This includes affirming civil rights and making sure that the courthouse doors stay open to all.

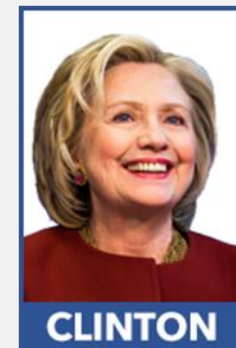
It is no secret that, over the last fifty years, the Supreme Court has become a very conservative institution. We are long past the days when the Court respected and applied the full implications of the Bill of Rights and vigorously protected the freedoms provided us by the founders of our country and the framers of the Constitution. Instead, we have a Supreme Court that says we no longer need key provisions of the Voting Rights Act; that makes it harder for consumers to bring class action suits; and that consistently chooses the best interest of corporations over workers, whether it's about access to birth control, wage discrimination, or unionizing.

Any nominee of mine will help curb this corporatist trend and put the court back on a path of respecting the rights of individual Americans, the environment, and other laws passed by Congress.

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

Half of all U.S. Latinos live in the country's most polluted cities, and pesticides affect Latinos who are agricultural workers in rural areas of the nation. Asthma and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease are more prevalent in Latinos living in inner cities near carbon-emitting plants, truck routes, and factories. Studies have shown that exposure to toxic chemicals leads to infertility, miscarriage, low birth weight, fetal malformation, and retarded fetal growth.

What policies will you support to address pollution and toxins that impact Latinos' health?






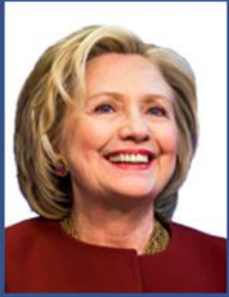

The neglect we witnessed in Flint, Michigan reminds us that there are too many communities in our country that have been left to struggle with the cumulative impacts of air pollution, water pollution, toxins, and other public health threats. Politicians have pledged that it can never happen again--but we know there are already too many Flints in our country.

Environmental justice can't just be a slogan — it has to be a central goal. I'm not new to this fight. As first lady, I worked with the EPA to bring attention to the link between air pollution and child asthma. In the Senate, I fought for more support for lead paint and soil remediation in New York and across the country, pushing the EPA to establish indoor air quality standards for schools, and working across the aisle to call for a national program tracking the health effects of pollution. At the State Department, I took the fight for environmental justice worldwide with the Clean

Cookstoves Initiative.

As president, I will make environmental justice a central part of my comprehensive commitment to low-income communities and communities of color — by pursuing cleaner transportation; ambitious steps to reduce air pollution; dedicated efforts to clean up toxic sites; and greener, more resilient infrastructure. And I will set a national goal of eliminating lead as a major public health threat within five years. Because clean air and clean water are basic human rights — and our rights shouldn't change between ZIP codes.

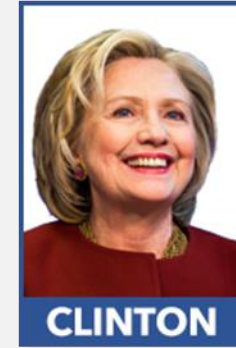
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| | | |  <p>SANDERS</p> <p>We must create a national environmental and climate justice plan that recognizes the heightened public health risks faced by low-income and minority communities. Low-income and minority neighborhoods will continue to be the hardest hit if we don't act to stop climate change now. Ten years ago, Hurricane Katrina decimated the Gulf Coast, flooding 80 percent of the city of New Orleans. Some areas of the city were submerged in as much as 10 feet of water, and 28 percent of residents had no way to leave the city. Almost 100,000 African American residents who left New Orleans after Hurricane Katrina never returned. The reality of the impacts of the storm on the African American community in New Orleans exposed the broader trend that low-income and minority communities face the brunt of climate change impacts first and worst.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We must have equal enforcement of environmental, civil rights, and public health laws. • We need to address the inadequate environmental cleanup efforts of Superfund hazardous waste sites in communities of color. • We must stop the unequal exposure of people of color to harmful chemicals, pesticides, and other toxins in homes, schools, neighborhoods, workplaces, and challenge faulty assumptions in calculating, assessing and managing risks, discriminatory zoning, land-use practices, and exclusionary policies. |
| <p>CLIMATE CHANGE</p> | <p>Latinos are more vulnerable to the impacts of climate change due to their economic standing.</p> | <p>What steps do you intend to take to address climate change?</p> |  <p>CLINTON</p> <p>As Secretary of State, I mobilized a global response to combat climate change, creating a high-level post at the State Department dedicated exclusively to climate diplomacy, putting climate squarely on the agenda in my first trip to China as secretary, and building new coalitions to combat emissions from methane and phase down the use of super-polluting HFCs through the Montreal Protocol.</p> <p>As president, I will work to make America the clean energy superpower of the 21st century. On my first day in office, I will set bold goals to generate enough renewable energy to power every home in America within 10 years, install 500 million solar panels by the end of my first term, and cut energy waste and oil consumption by one-third. We will launch a Clean Energy Challenge to partner with cities, states, and rural communities that are ready to lead on clean energy and energy efficiency. I will defend the Clean Power Plan, prioritize building resilient infrastructure in communities that are already grappling with climate impacts, and elevate environmental and climate justice to protect the health and well-being of the communities that are most at risk from the impacts of climate change.</p> <p>My plan will deliver on the pledge President Obama made at the Paris climate conference last December. We will reduce greenhouse gas emissions by up to 30 percent in 2025 relative to 2005 levels and put the country on a path to cut emissions more than 80 percent by 2050.</p> |

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| | | |  <p>SANDERS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cut U.S. carbon pollution by 40 percent by 2030 and by over 80 percent by 2050 by putting a tax on carbon pollution, repealing fossil fuel subsidies, and making massive investments in energy efficiency and clean, sustainable energy, such as wind and solar power. • Create a Clean-Energy Workforce of 10 million good-paying jobs by creating a 100% clean energy system. Transitioning toward a completely nuclear-free clean energy system for electricity, heating, and transportation is not only possible and affordable; it will create millions of good jobs, clean up our air and water, and decrease our dependence on foreign oil. • Return billions of dollars to consumers impacted by the transformation of our energy system and protect the most vulnerable communities in the country suffering the ravages of climate change. I will tax polluters causing the climate crisis, and return billions of dollars to working families to ensure fossil fuel companies don't subject us to unfair rate hikes. I know that climate change will not affect everyone equally – disenfranchised minority communities and the working poor will be hardest hit. • The carbon tax will also protect those most impacted by the transformation of our energy system and protect the most vulnerable communities in the country suffering the ravages of climate change. |
| <p>AFFORDABLE CARE ACT</p> | <p>As you know, the Affordable Care Act has provided over 2.6 million previously uninsured Latinos with affordable health insurance. However, millions of Latinos remain locked out of the benefits of the ACA due to their immigration status, as the Administration's regulations prohibit DACA-eligible youth from accessing the Health Insurance Marketplace and the law bars undocumented immigrants from going onto the Health Insurance Marketplaces to purchase unsubsidized health insurance with their own money.</p> | <p>What steps will you take, including elimination of these exclusions, to ensure equal access to health care?</p> |  <p>CLINTON</p> <p>I believe every person in this country should have access to affordable health care, and that's exactly why we need comprehensive immigration reform. Comprehensive reform with a path to citizenship will help address the unacceptable situation we have today — where millions of people live in the shadows, afraid to go to the hospital or the doctor to get the care they need.</p> <p>As we work towards reform, we should be doing more to give all people — especially kids — access to health care. That's why I believe we should allow all families—regardless of immigration status—buy into the Affordable Care Act exchanges. Families who want to purchase health insurance should be able to do so.</p> <p>This is not a new fight for me. I helped create the Children's Health Insurance Program in the 1990s, which today covers 8 million kids. I also sponsored the Immigrant Children's Health Improvement Act in the Senate, which later became law and allows immigrant children and pregnant women to obtain Medicaid and CHIP.</p> <hr/>  <p>SANDERS</p> <p>I strongly believe that all immigrants, including undocumented workers and their families, must be able to purchase health insurance through the Affordable Care Act's (ACA) marketplace exchanges. Aspiring Americans represent a large portion of the remaining uninsured, and allowing these Americans to purchase health insurance is critical to reducing healthcare costs and moving forward with universal health care coverage. Moreover, I will direct the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services to promulgate regulations that restore access to the ACA for all immigrants with deferred action, including DACA and DAPA recipients, by classifying them as "lawfully present."</p> <p>And, my Medicare-for-all plan would guarantee health care as a right to everyone in this country, including aspiring Americans.</p> |

LATINA HEALTH

Latinas are more likely to be low-income, of reproductive age, and to experience unintended pregnancy. Additionally, Latinas are among the most likely to suffer and die of cervical cancer, an almost entirely preventable and highly treatable disease, for the simple reason that Latinas lack access to preventive care.

What will you do to ensure that all Latinas, regardless of zip code, immigration status, income level, have access to health care including reproductive health care?



I've been fighting for universal health care coverage for decades, and I won't stop now. My first health care priority is to strengthen the Affordable Care Act. Thanks to the ACA, about 4 million Latinos gained health coverage — but despite this progress, Latinos continue to have disproportionately high uninsured rates. My plan would help Latino communities seek and secure much needed coverage by capping drug costs, making more doctor visits free from an individual's deductible to save money, and offering tax relief to people with excessive out-of-pocket costs. I will also work to end health disparities among Latinas.

One reason for the high rate of uninsurance among Latinos is that they make up a disproportionate share of immigrants who are ineligible for Medicaid or participation in state and federal marketplaces due to their immigration status. According to Kaiser, 7% of those asked why they remained uninsured said that the main reason they were without insurance was immigration status. That's why I will make sure that all families can buy into the ACA exchanges, regardless of immigration status. I will also stand up to Republican attempts to defund Planned Parenthood, which would restrict access to critical health care services, like cancer screenings.



I have consistently fought against Republican attacks on the fundamental rights of women to control their own bodies. As president, I would expand, not cut, funding for Planned Parenthood, the Title X family planning program, and other initiatives that protect women's health, access to contraception, and the availability of a safe and legal abortion.

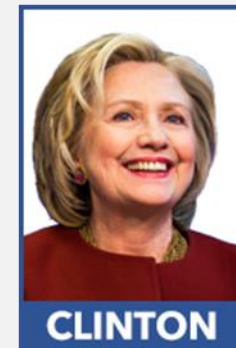
As the Ranking Member of the Budget Committee, I helped lead the effort in the Senate against Republican attempts to cut the WIC program that provides nutrition assistance to pregnant mothers, women, and infants. As president, I would substantially increase funding for this program so that every low-income mother and her children receive the nutrition they need to live healthy lives.

As president, I will fight for a Medicare for all, single-payer healthcare system, to make healthcare a right for everyone. If the United States joined every major country on earth and enacted a universal healthcare program, women would benefit the most. Today, women have much higher healthcare expenses than men and pay a greater portion of their healthcare costs out of their own pockets. Women make up two-thirds of the low-wage workforce and only about 23 percent of low-wage jobs provide health insurance.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimate that nearly one-third of U.S. women will experience domestic violence in their lifetime. In the No MAS study of 800 Latinas and Latinos nationwide, 56% reported knowing a victim of domestic violence. Domestic violence is associated with an array of short-term and long-term health consequences.

What steps will you take to address domestic violence, particularly as it impacts Latinas, regardless of immigration status and including those with limited English proficiency?



I have worked to address violence against women for my entire career. As first lady, I supported the creation of the Department of Justice's Office on Violence Against Women. I also led the U.S. delegation to the U.N. Fourth World Conference on Women in Beijing where I denounced violence against women as a clear violation of human rights. As senator, I co-sponsored the 2005 reauthorization of the Violence Against Women Act and introduced the CARE Act twice, to ensure that rape and incest victims had access to emergency contraception in hospital emergency rooms. In response to the spike in reports of sexual assault cases in the military, I introduced legislation to make emergency contraception available to servicewomen.

As president, I will continue to work to end violence against women -- regardless of race, national

origin, or immigration status – and promote policies that respond to the needs of all women. I will strengthen the safety net for survivors of domestic violence by increasing funding for domestic violence shelters and services. I will work to increase accountability of perpetrators by prohibiting domestic abusers from buying and possessing guns, and supporting law enforcement training. And I will expand efforts to stop violence from happening in the first place by increasing community prevention efforts and supporting anti-violence education.



As president, I will make sure that we don't go back to the days when survivors of domestic violence had no access to services or recourse against their abusers, because domestic violence was swept under the rug, as a shameful and private issue. Worse yet, it was not so long ago that spousal abuse was legal in many states. We must expand services provided through the Violence Against Women Act and the Family Violence Prevention and Services Act, and fight any attempts to undermine these laws.

With regard to immigration status, I will offer humane treatment and asylum to victims of domestic violence and minors fleeing from dangerous circumstances in Latin America. We must create a system where domestic violence survivors can access services without worrying about their immigration status. We also must give providers cultural competency training so they can better serve the immigrant population in their communities, and make sure multilingual services are available. We must create an environment where survivors know if they seek help, they will receive it—and more than that, we must create an environment where survivors feel like they can ask for help in the first place. Expanding services will help.