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# Pledge Update: Agenda Wins, Social Security Bill, Sectoral Bargaining, DNC Vote, **Job-for-All Reports**

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#### Update for Signers of Pledge to Fight for Good Jobs, Sustainable Prosperity, & Economic Justice



You are receiving this Update because you are a signer or ally of the Pledge to Fight for Good Jobs, Sustainable Prosperity, and Economic Justice, now with over 11,000 signatures. Please share Pledge on Facebook and Twitter. And check our Organizing Resources and Polling Research.

#### Candidates Run on Jobs, Sustainable Prosperity, and Economic Justice Planks

Our agenda is a winning agenda. Last week, Alexandria Ocasio Cortez, Ben Jealous, and other progressives won big primary races. Their campaigns put working people front and center, including calls for job guarantees, medicare-for-all, and student debt cancellation.

> Their Agenda Is Our Agenda. Join Us. Sign the Pledge to Fight for Jobs, Sustainable **Prosperity, and Economic Justice**



Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez **Ben Jealous** 

Here's the economic agenda now embraced by over 11,000 signers, including 90 of the biggest voices from the progressive movement.

Pledge to Fight for Jobs, Sustainable Prosperity, and Economic Justice

- 1. Jobs for All Created by Rebuilding America
- 2. Invest in a Green Economy
- 3. Empower Workers to Reduce Inequality
- 4. Opportunity and Justice for All With Focus on Communities Harmed by Racism
- 5. Guarantee Women's Economic Equality
- 6. High-Quality Public Education Pre-K to University
- 7. Medicare for All And Shared Economic Security
- 8. Make Corporations and Wealthy Pay Their Fair Share
- 9. A Global Economic Strategy for Working People
- 10.Close Wall Street's Casino
- 11.Rescue Democracy from the Special Interests

Read Alexandria's Platform, read Ben's Platform, and check out some additional coverage:

Alexandria Ocasio on The Late Show with Colbert

Ben Jealous Is Ready to Make Maryland America's Laboratory of Democracy, John Nichols Alexandria's 2018 Digital Town Hall: Student Loan Cancellation w/ Economist Stephanie Kelton (If you like this, check out Freedom to Prosper, the movement to cancel student debt.)

### 7. High-Quality Public Education—Pre-K to University

Sen. Sanders introduces bill to end the silent war on Social Security. Become a Co-Signer. The Social Security Administration has been the target of budget cuts for nearly a decade. SSA exists to make sure everyone can access the benefits they've earned, but because of these budget cuts, it has closed offices, instituted long hold times on the phone, and built up a million-person backlog among disability applicants. This is nothing less than a silent war on our Social Security system—and Sen. Bernie Sanders just introduced a bill to end it once and for all.

Join Bernie by signing as a citizen sponsor on the Social Security Administration Fairness Act, which would finally give SSA the funding it needs to provide the services we deserve.

### 3. Empower Workers to Reduce Inequality

"The time has come for sectoral bargaining," said Pledge signer and former CWA president Larry Cohen. Especially after the terrible SCOTUS Janus decision, a new union model is needed, with all workers in an economic sector represented in wage negotiations. See Larry's full article in the New Labor Forum and interview on The Real News.

- "...The 2018 teacher walkouts and resulting statewide negotiations in West Virginia, Kentucky, Oklahoma, and Arizona signal a new opportunity for workers in the U.S. sectoral bargaining...Teachers were able to negotiate statewide, not only on key issues affecting them but also on state funding of education."
- "...Most important, we need to act as if collective bargaining on a nearly universal scale is essential if we are serious about combating income inequality and empowering workers. Enterprise-based organizing and bargaining has played a useful role, but the promise of universal, sectoral bargaining is now much brighter. We can learn from the teachers that much more is possible— "If We Believe That We Will Win!"

## 7. Rescue Democracy from Special Interests

DNC Officials Vote to Cut the Role of Superdelegates. "A day after scoring dramatic victories in Maryland and New York primaries, progressives have notched another major win in the Democratic Party. A Democratic National Committee panel has voted to drastically curtail the role 'superdelegates' play in the party's presidential nominating process. The DNC's Rules and Bylaws Committee voted 27 to 1 to block officeholders, DNC members, and other party dignitaries from casting decisive votes on the first ballot of presidential nominating conventions. DNC Chair Tom Perez said the shift is part of a broader effort to rebuild trust and heal the wounds of the still-lingering 2016 primary. "No candidate should have an accumulated lead, before a first ballot is cast," Perez said.

Eliminating superdelegates has been a top priority for Vermont Sen. Bernie Sanders. Sanders called the vote "a major step forward," saying, "this decision will ensure that delegates elected by voters in primaries and caucuses will have the primary role in selecting the Democratic Party's nominee." Read full article on NPR.org.

In a statement, Our Revolution Board Chair and Vice-Chair of the Unity Reform Commission Larry Cohen declared, "This is a huge step towards making our presidential primary process more democratic. For those of us involved in primaries or general elections, it is as critical to movement building as the

candidates we support." This, and other critical URC measures, will face a final vote at the Summer DNC convention in Chicago.



### 1. Jobs for All—Created by Rebuilding America

Take a look at two recent reports on the federal jobs guarantee — put out by the Levy Economic Institute and the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities.

Public Service Employment: A Path to Full Employment,

Kelton, Wray, et al.; Levy Economic Institute

The Federal Job Guarantee - A Policy to Achieve Permanent Full Employment,

Paul, Darity, and Hamilton; Center on Budget and Policy Priorities

# **Full Pledge Platform**

- Jobs for All Created by Rebuilding America
- Invest in a Green Economy
- Empower Workers to Reduce Inequality
- 4. Opportunity and Justice for AII—With Focus on Communities Harmed by Racism
- Guarantee Women's Economic Equality
- High-Quality Public Education—Pre-K to University
- 7. Medicare for All And Shared Economic Security
- 8. Make Corporations and Wealthy Pay Their Fair Share
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Thanks for all your good work! Will be back with more Updates soon.

Best.



Roger Hickey



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