

## I. Ending the Era of Influence & Restoring True Representation

- **Abolish Lobbyist Corruption:** Transition beyond simple “curbing” by banning lobbyist-led fundraising and bundling. We must close the “revolving door” with a lifetime ban on former Presidents, Cabinet members, and Members of Congress from ever becoming lobbyists.
- **Overturn “Dark Money”:** Pass a constitutional amendment to overturn *Citizens United*, explicitly declaring that corporations are not people and money is not speech.
- **Establish Free Elections via Public Financing:** Replace special interest dependence with a small-donor public matching system. This empowers everyday citizens and allows qualified candidates to run regardless of their net worth.
- **Radical Transparency:** Mandate 24-hour online disclosure of all political contributions and use a centralized “[lobbyists.gov](http://lobbyists.gov)” platform to track every meeting between officials and special interest groups.
- **Restore Constitutional Due Process:** Repeal NDAA provisions that allow for the indefinite detention of citizens without trial, ensuring the government remains accountable to the Bill of Rights.

### Implementation Roadmap: Online Elections & Ranked Choice Voting

The transition to a modernized, 21st-century democracy can be achieved reasonably through the following steps:

#### 1. Achieving Ranked Choice Voting (RCV)

RCV ensures winners have a true majority (over 50%) and eliminates “spoiler” candidates.

- **State-Level Adoption:** States like Maine and Alaska already use RCV. Other states can adopt it via ballot initiatives, as seen recently in **Washington D.C.**, which funded RCV for its 2026 elections.
- **Simplified Ballots:** Use a standard grid where voters mark their 1st, 2nd, and 3rd choices. If no one gets a majority, the last-place candidate is eliminated, and their votes move to the voters’ next choice until a winner emerges.
- **Local Implementation First:** Towns and cities can serve as “test beds” to build public trust before scaling to federal elections.

#### 2. Implementing Secure Online Elections

Transitioning to online voting requires a “security-first” architecture to protect the integrity of the vote.

- **Digital Identity Verification:** Use existing secure government infrastructure (like **MyGov** or **SSA** frameworks) to create unique, one-time “Voter Keys” for every eligible citizen.
- **End-to-End Encryption:** Utilize **256-bit encryption** and blockchain-style ledgers to ensure votes are anonymous but can be independently verified as “counted” by the voter without revealing their choice.
- **Paper Audit Backups:** To prevent digital-only failures, systems should generate a **Voter-Verified Paper Audit Trail (VVPAT)**, allowing for manual recounts if the digital results are contested.
- **Phased Rollout:** Start with **Overseas and Military (UOCAVA) voters** who already face logistical barriers, then expand to the general public once the system is proven resilient against foreign interference.

## II. Economic Fairness for Working Families

**Middle-Class Tax Relief & Simplification** We will implement “Main Street Tax Reform” to unburden working families by:

- **Doubling the standard deduction** to keep more money in every paycheck.
- **Expanding the Child Tax Credit** to provide a critical financial cushion for parents, a key initiative frequently discussed in current [bipartisanpolicy.org/is...](https://bipartisanpolicy.org/is...)
- **Simplifying the code** so everyday people don’t need expensive accountants to get their fair share.

**Rebalancing the Scales** We must ensure the system works for everyone, not just the top 1%:

- **Restore corporate and top-tier tax rates** toward levels seen in the 1950s (when the statutory corporate rate was over 50%) to fund better roads, bridges, and local services.
- **Ensure the wealthiest pay their fair share** proportionate to the massive benefits they receive from our national infrastructure.

## Living Wages & Lowering Everyday Costs

- **Implement a Federal Living Wage** that automatically tracks inflation. Recent proposals like the [epi.org/publication/rtw...](https://epi.org/publication/rtw...) aim to lift the floor to \$17 per hour to help over 22 million workers.
- **Aggressively tackle “essential costs”** like rising utilities and insurance premiums that quietly eat away at family savings.

### Housing for Families, Not Wall Street

- **Ban large institutional investors** from buying up single-family homes. New legislation like the [mayerbrown.com/en/insig...](https://mayerbrown.com/en/insig...) and recent Executive Orders aim to stop Wall Street from outbidding local families.
- **Strengthen renter protections** to stop predatory evictions. This includes supporting “just cause” eviction standards and ensuring tenants have at least 30 days’ notice before termination, as highlighted by groups like the [nlihc.org/news/nlihc-st...](https://nlihc.org/news/nlihc-st...)

### III. Modernizing Infrastructure & National Resilience

- **Audit & Reclaim Defense Spending:** Cut the “use-it-or-lose-it” spending sprees at the Department of Defense (DoD), which reportedly saw [openthebooks.com/pentag...](https://openthebooks.com/pentag...) on luxury items like lobster tails and ribeye steaks.
- **Secure Our Water Supply:** Launch a national initiative to prepare the U.S. water supply for climate-driven shortages, modernizing aging infrastructure to ensure every American has reliable access to clean water.
- **Support Regional Food Resilience:** Shift federal food policy from “industrial efficiency” to “nutrient density.” Support regional food hubs that connect local farmers directly to schools and grocery stores, improving food quality and security.
- **Revitalize Family Agriculture:** Protect family-owned farms from consolidation by [nhc.org/the-most-bipart...](https://nhc.org/the-most-bipart...) and securing American farmland from foreign interests to ensure domestic control of our food production.

### IV. Justice & Lifelong Care

- **Equal Bench, Equal Justice:** Implement bipartisan commissions to ensure judicial appointments reflect the diversity of the communities they serve. A court that understands the lived experiences of women and minorities is more equipped to deliver impartial rulings.

- **Zero-Tolerance for Bias:** Standardize mandatory, data-driven “blind charging” protocols. By removing names and races from initial case files, we ensure prosecutors make decisions based on facts alone, eliminating the subconscious bias that historically affects women and minority defendants.
- **Ending Economic Penalties:** Modernize the bail and fee system so that justice isn’t determined by a bank account. We must ensure that a mother or a minority worker isn’t trapped in the system simply because they cannot afford the price of their “innocence until proven guilty.”
- **Transparency in Sentencing:** Launch a national, real-time “Justice Dashboard” that tracks sentencing outcomes by demographic. Sunlight is the best disinfectant; data ensures that two people who commit the same crime receive the same time, regardless of their background.
- **Protecting the Most Vulnerable:** Strengthen legal protections and specialized court divisions for cases primarily affecting women and minority groups—specifically regarding domestic safety and workplace discrimination—ensuring the court is a shield, not a barrier.

### **The 5-Year “80% Consensus” Strategy**

- **Objective:** Move the conversation from “opinion” to “fact.”
- **Action:** Launch a non-partisan “National Audit of Fairness.” By showing the fiscal cost of unfair sentencing (taxpayer money wasted on unnecessary incarceration), you win over fiscal conservatives and social advocates alike.

### **Year 2: The Pilot Program Phase**

- **Objective:** Prove it works without breaking the system.
- **Action:** Implement “Blind Charging” and “Ranked Choice Judicial Selection” in five “purple” states. Success here provides the “proof of concept” needed to convince skeptics that these changes increase safety and fairness simultaneously.

### **Year 3: The “Common Ground” Media Blitz**

- **Objective:** Reach the 80% threshold.
- **Action:** Launch a massive storytelling campaign featuring diverse voices—police officers, female judges, and exonerated individuals—emphasizing that “Fairness for one is protection for all.”

### **Year 4: Legislative Implementation**

- **Objective:** Codify the changes.
- **Action:** Introduce the “**American Justice Fairness Act.**” Because of the 80% public support built in Year 3, politicians will view a “No” vote as a political liability.

#### **Year 5: The Systemic Handover**

- **Objective:** Sustainability.
- **Action:** Integrate the AI-driven “Justice Dashboards” into federal oversight. Make the data public so the next generation of voters can hold the system accountable in real-time.