Majorities of Both Democrats and Republicans Agree on Over 100 Policy Proposals

Majorities of both **Democrats** and **Republicans** support every policy on this sheet. The findings come from national surveys conducted by the University of Maryland's Program for Public Consultation (PPC), February 11 – March 19, 2026, with 3,709 Americans; the policies were drawn primarily from Congressional legislation, and in some cases from the Executive Branch. Numbers are the percent of Republicans and Democrats in support. Questions are abbreviated here — full wording, toplines and methodology are at **vop.org/cgoap**.

THE NATIONAL COMMON GROUND — 100+ POLICIES ACROSS 14 ISSUE AREAS

100+
policies supported by majorities of both Democrats and Republicans

80+
policies supported by more than two-thirds of both Democrats and Republicans

HEALTHCARE COSTS National survey fielded February 11 – 26, 2026

PROPOSAL	NATIONAL	
	REP	DEM
Cap prescription drug prices to what other developed countries pay (would reduce prices by about half)	90	86
Ban drug companies from paying generic makers to delay putting cheaper drugs on to the market	79	77
When a drug is unaffordable and was developed with federal funds, let the government override the patent and license other drug companies to make it	83	78
Reinstate the expired enhanced ACA subsidies to lower premiums and deductibles	73	90
Increase federal Medicaid spending to cover more low-income people	59	83
Let people 55–64 buy into Medicare	75	84
Create a government-run public health insurance option anyone can buy into	76	86
Spend $13 billion more on substance-use treatment so nearly everyone who needs and wants it can get it	69	83
Make it a high priority for the government to ensure that everyone who needs and wants substance-use treatment can get it (very or somewhat high priority)	86	93
Common ground positions	**9**	

SOCIAL SECURITY National survey fielded February 11 – 26, 2026

PROPOSAL *(AND ITS EFFECT ON THE BUDGET SHORTFALL)*	NATIONAL	
	REP	DEM
Subject income over $400,000 to the payroll tax (-61%)	77	83
Gradually raise the payroll tax from 6.2% to 6.5% (-15%)	61	66
Reduce benefits for the top 20% of lifetime earners (-11%)	62	69
Gradually raise the full retirement age from 67 to 68 (-15%)	58	55
Raise the minimum monthly benefit to $1,630 (125% of the poverty line) (+8%)	76	81
Base cost-of-living adjustments to what older adults actually buy (+12%)	70	73
Common ground positions	6	

FAMILIES & CHILDREN National survey fielded February 11 – 26, 2026

PROPOSAL	NATIONAL	
	REP	DEM
Provide $25 billion to states and cities for to create or expand free universal preschool programs	69	89
Subsidize childcare so low- and middle-income families pay no more than 7% of income	77	89
Raise the Child Tax Credit to $3,600 and make it fully refundable for all income levels	74	84
Create a national 12-week paid family and medical leave program for all workers, funded by a 0.2% payroll tax	68	84
Common ground positions	4	

HOUSING AFFORDABILITY National survey fielded March 11 – 19, 2026

PROPOSAL	NATIONAL	
	REP	DEM
Tax incentives for builders to build or repair homes affordable to low- and middle-income households	80	88
Invest $40 billion to build high-density housing affordable to very low- and low-income households	64	86
Provide $25 billion to local governments to build affordable high-density housing for low- and middle-income households	63	84
Increase funding for rental vouchers for the very low-income, elderly and disabled by $24 billion	74	89
Prohibit large corporations from owning single-family homes	77	82
Common ground positions	5	

LOW-INCOME ASSISTANCE National survey fielded February 11 – 26, 2026

PROPOSAL	NATIONAL	
	REP	DEM
Raise monthly SNAP benefits for individuals living alone above the current $170 (allowed to choose the amount)	70	88
…for single mothers above the current $530	52	67
Offer discounts on fruits and vegetables bought with SNAP	90	93
Increase federal Medicaid spending to cover more people (allowed to increase, keep the same, or decrease)	59	83
Raise the federal minimum wage above $7.25 (allowed to choose the amount)	90	97
Raise the maximum Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) for workers without children from $630 to $1,300	73	82
Raise the savings limit for EITC eligibility	77	87
Lower the EITC eligibility age from 25 to 21	63	76
Common ground positions	7	

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE National survey fielded February 11 – 26, 2026

PROPOSAL	NATIONAL	
	REP	DEM
Create a federal agency to monitor and regulate AI	79	85
Require new AI programs that make critical decisions (e.g. review health insurance claims) to pass a government test to: ensure they follow the law, are unbiased, have security protections	78	82
For critical decision-making AI programs already in use, let the government audit them	73	77
Require deepfakes to be labeled as AI-generated	89	88
Prohibit campaigns and PACs from using deepfakes in ads	85	83
Work toward an international treaty regulating large-scale AI	78	82
Work toward an international treaty banning fully autonomous weapons (use AI to fire on targets without human command)	81	82
Common ground positions	7	

IMMIGRATION National survey fielded February 11 – 26, 2026

PROPOSAL	NATIONAL	
	REP	DEM
Deport undocumented immigrants convicted of a crime	94	79

PROPOSAL	NATIONAL	
	REP	DEM
Offer legal status to long-term undocumented immigrants with no criminal record who pay a penalty and back taxes	69	87
Offer a path to citizenship to those brought here illegally as children	76	90
Require E-Verify for all new hires AND increase the number of work visas to match labor demand	82	84
Hire hundreds more asylum judges and staff to cut wait times (which are currently several years on average)	73	83
Common ground positions	**5**	

ABORTION & BIRTH CONTROL National survey fielded February 11 – 26, 2026

PROPOSAL	NATIONAL	
	REP	DEM
Do not make abortion a crime before fetal viability (chose between multiple options for criminalization)	74	91
Fund clinics to provide free or low-cost birth control to women who can't afford it	72	91
Prohibit states from restricting access to birth control	73	86
Continue to require that health insurance cover birth control	77	90
Common ground positions	**4**	

ENERGY & ENVIRONMENT National survey fielded February 11 – 26, 2026

PROPOSAL	NATIONAL	
	REP	DEM
Make reducing air pollution a high priority	79	94
Make reducing greenhouse gas emissions a high priority	69	93
Adopt a goal of cutting U.S. emissions 2% a year	72	90
Provide tax credits for producing energy that has not greenhouse gas emissions (solar, wind, geothermal, nuclear)	71	86
Require electric companies to get a minimum share of power from zero-carbon sources	67	87
Tax credits for making homes and buildings more energy-efficient	79	91
Require new cars to get more miles per gallon	75	86
Commit with other countries to reduce greenhouse gas emissions	75	91
Take part in international efforts to study and share climate and energy data	76	89

PROPOSAL	NATIONAL	
	REP	DEM
Provide financial assistance and job training to fossil-fuel workers who lose their jobs in the transition to clean energy	82	89
Common ground positions	**10**	

FEDERAL TAXES National survey fielded February 11 – 26, 2026

PROPOSAL *(AND ITS EFFECT ON FEDERAL REVENUE)*	NATIONAL	
	REP	DEM
Wealth tax of 2% on wealth over $50 million and 3% over $1 billion (+$200B)	72	88
Tax capital gains like ordinary income for households earning $200,000–$500,000 (+$26B)	61	69
Tax capital gains like ordinary income for households earning $500,000–$1 million (+$18B)	65	79
Tax capital gains like ordinary income for households earning $1 million or more (+$120B)	70	83
Raise the effective income tax rate on households with $500,000–$1 million income from 25% to at least 28% (allowed to increase, keep same or decrease tax rate) (+$48B)	54	67
Raise the effective income tax rate on households with $1 million+ income from 27% to at least 29% (allowed to increase, keep same or decrease tax rate) (+$73B)	55	69
Tax hedge fund managers' income like ordinary income (end the carried-interest break) (+$1B)	70	78
Apply the estate tax to more inherited wealth, by lowering the tax exemption from $15 million to $5 million (chose between multiple options, including eliminating the tax) (+$17B)	59	71
Raise the effective corporate tax rate from 12% to at least 14% (allowed to increase, keep same, or decrease) (+$41B)	56	71
Impose a 0.01% tax on stock purchases (+$30B)	53	62
Common ground positions	**10**	

GOVERNMENT REFORM National survey fielded February 11 – 26, 2026

PROPOSAL	NATIONAL	
	REP	DEM
Require that all Congressional redistricting be done by non-partisan citizen commissions (equal numbers of Republicans, Democrats and independents)	81	83

PROPOSAL	NATIONAL	
	REP	DEM
Pass a Constitutional amendment setting term limits for Congress (four terms in the House, two in the Senate)	85	83
Use ranked choice voting in Congressional elections with three or more candidates	64	70
Prohibit members of Congress from trading stocks in individual companies	78	75
Prohibit the President, Vice President and Supreme Court Justices from trading stocks in individual companies	74	70
Require Supreme Court Justices to follow the same ethics standards as all other federal judges	87	86
Common ground positions	6	

CAMPAIGN FINANCE National survey fielded February 11 – 26, 2026

PROPOSAL	NATIONAL	
	REP	DEM
Pass a Constitutional amendment allowing Congress and state legislatures to restrict corporate and PAC spending on elections (overturning Citizens United)	82	85
Encourage small donors by making half of small campaign contributions refundable as a tax credit	63	72
Require corporations, unions and other groups to immediately report campaign-related spending to their shareholders and members, the public and the FEC	85	85
Require the FEC to publicly disclose the names of significant donors paying for TV or radio ads about candidates or controversial issues	80	85
Require federal contractors to publicly disclose donations to groups that spend on campaign-related activities	82	83
Keep the prohibition on nonprofits that receive tax-deductible donations (e.g. churches, universities) from endorsing or funding candidates	80	80
Common ground positions	6	

CRIMINAL JUSTICE National survey fielded February 11 – 26, 2026

PROPOSAL	NATIONAL	
	REP	DEM
Require police officers to intervene when another officer is using excessive force, and train them to do so	88	91
Prohibit chokeholds that cut off breathing or blood flow to the brain	70	86
Require police departments to have body cameras and officers to wear them and turn them on when responding to calls or interacting with suspects	90	90

PROPOSAL	NATIONAL	
	REP	DEM
Require law enforcement agencies to report officer misconduct to a national database available to other agencies making hiring decisions	87	92
Fund states to hire independent prosecutors when an officer is charged with using deadly force	73	85
Lower the mandatory minimum sentence for major drug offenses from 10 years to 5, and let the judge decide whether it should be more	60	74
Let federal judges release prisoners convicted as juveniles who have served at least 20 years, with 5 years of supervised release	70	79
Restrict solitary confinement so it cannot be used as punishment for minor violations, or for no more than 30 days in a row	75	90
Prohibit employers and licensing boards from disqualifying someone who was arrested but never charged or convicted	66	65
…or convicted of a petty, nonviolent crime (e.g. littering, jaywalking, loitering)	59	63
…or convicted of a crime unrelated to their ability to do the job	57	58
Limit how long employers and licensing boards can disqualify a person: one year after a misdemeanor sentence, five years after a felony	79	82
Automatically seal the record of a non-violent drug conviction five years after the sentence is completed	73	83
Common ground positions	**13**	

AMERICA'S ROLE IN THE WORLD National survey fielded February 11 – 26, 2026

PROPOSAL	NATIONAL	
	REP	DEM
Make upholding collective security a high priority — contributing to collective military operations or using economic sanctions in response to aggression	87	76
Continue to be part of NATO	79	89
Continue to provide military assistance to Ukraine (equipment, ammunition, training and intelligence)	58	75
Have nuclear arms control treaties with Russia that limit both arsenals and require inspections	81	79
Continue to abide by the moratorium on testing nuclear weapons	77	81
Require the President to get a Congressional declaration of war before using nuclear weapons first (sole authority kept for responding to a nuclear attack)	77	64
Automatically cut off funding for a military action started by the President if Congress does not approve it within 60 days (except in response to a direct attack)	63	82
Spend at least 1% of the federal budget on foreign aid	85	97

PROPOSAL	NATIONAL	
	REP	DEM
Provide foreign aid for humanitarian relief (food, medical care and shelter for victims of famine, floods or war)	89	94
…for global health (treating and preventing disease, training doctors and nurses, clean water)	87	93
…for economic development (food production, infrastructure, private enterprise and financial systems)	76	86
…for education (training teachers, school attendance, literacy)	80	90
…for the environment (reducing pollution, cleaner energy, preparing for natural disasters)	74	91
…for democracy (free and fair elections, human rights, a free press and the rule of law)	82	91
Common ground positions	**14**	

THE NATIONAL COMMON GROUND

100+

policies supported by majorities of both Democrats and Republicans

80+

policies supported by more than two-thirds of both Democrats and Republicans

THE ROLE OF "WE THE PEOPLE" National survey fielded February 11 – 26, 2026

POSITIONS	NATIONAL	
	REP	DEM
If Congress were more influenced by the people, it would be more likely to find common ground	89	88
Listening to the people would help break the logjam in Congress, because the people are less polarized than members of Congress	71	75
News stories on policy should include relevant public opinion data most of the time or always	79	81
When Congress is going to vote on a bill, it's very important for news to report whether a majority favors the law	79	75
Estimated share of the time federally elected officials do what the majority of the public wants (*mean %)*	*47*	*38*

ABOUT THE SURVEY

The surveys were conducted by the University of Maryland's Program for Public Consultation (PPC). This national list is the baseline for the Common Ground in the Battlegrounds? series, which is testing whether the same bipartisan common ground holds in 11 competitive states and 28 competitive U.S. House districts. Those results are at vop.org/battlegrounds-aggregate.

The national surveys were fielded February 11 – 26, 2026, to 2,509 adults, and March 11 – 19, 2026, to 1,200 adults. The confidence interval for both is ±2.9%.

Samples were drawn from multiple online opt-in panels, including Cint, Dynata, and Prodege. Samples were pre-stratified and/or weighted to match the adult population by key demographics (gender, age, race/ethnicity, income, education and Census region). The samples were also weighted by partisan affiliation to balance the sample and ensure a roughly representative distribution of Republicans and Democrats, as well as Independents, including those that register as unaffiliated, or chose another party affiliation.

Project partners are PPC and the Civic Innovation Center at the University of Maryland, and Voice of the People. They do not advocate for policy positions or endorse candidates.

National questionnaire with toplines and crosstabs: **publicconsultation.org — Common Ground National Questionnaire 2026**
All states and districts: **vop.org/battlegrounds-aggregate**