

2026 OWR Endorsement Form



Name Dylan Ray Helmenstine

Office Wisconsin State Treasurer

Phone _____

Email contact@dylanforwi.com

Preferred Method of Contact Email

Primary Points of your platform We must use public power for the public good and bring government transparency into the 21st century in Wisconsin. I will defend the Common School Fund, make government understandable, and expose voucher program costs

Questions when completing this application? Email Executive Director William Walter at william@ourwisconsinrev.com

Process

1. When a Candidate for an Office requests an Endorsement from Our Wisconsin Revolution, all Candidates for that Office are sent this Questionnaire.
2. Responses to the Electoral Committee are requested within fourteen (14) days. OWR's endorsement process is overseen by a volunteer committee overseen by the OWR Executive Director and Electoral Strategy Organizer. The committee identifies candidates who merit consideration for endorsement, invites them to complete an initial screening questionnaire, conducts candidate interviews (If deemed necessary by the committee), makes endorsement decisions by majority ranked choice vote of the committee/members, and notifies endorsed candidates.

In local primary or general elections for school board and municipal or county offices, local chapters with a governing committee or endorsement panel of at least six members may act independently to evaluate candidates in their area and make endorsement decisions. In areas with no local chapter or one lacking the capacity to establish an endorsement committee with six or more members, the state endorsement committee handles the endorsement process in

consultation with local OWR activists.

3. If no Response is received, a Candidate **will not be considered for Endorsement**.

4. After the initial endorsement form is returned to the endorsement committee, the candidate(s) may be asked to fill out a follow-up questionnaire to clarify their stances on specific issues, if further clarification is needed. The endorsement committee may ask the candidate(s) to do a video interview for the endorsement committee to review. (This interview will not be shared with the general public. Only endorsement committee members).

4. For any Office, OWR may Endorse a Candidate or provide No Endorsement; for a Primary Election, should No Endorsement occur, a Candidate will automatically be considered for Endorsement in the General Election.

6. All Candidates will be informed about the outcome.

Our Wisconsin Revolution Platform

The following are the local components of our platform and organizational goals, please affirm your support with an initial where indicated. Please use space at the end to explain any responses as you see fit.

A Real Democracy - DAH

We aim to take Wisconsin's government back from corporate elites and make it by and for the people. We should:

- Create and ensure a nonpartisan, transparent process for the redrawing of all election districts that requires local public commentary from diverse communities, including public hearings, and ensure independent, nonpartisan election administration
- Honor treaty rights, consultation rights, jurisdiction, and sovereignty of native nations in local decisions
- Expand local control over revenue and government regulation
- Require full compliance with Government Accounting Standards Board directions for public accounting
- Enforce and expand prohibitions of discrimination based on race, ethnicity, language, religion, creed, sex, gender, sexual orientation, gender expression, national origin, age, familial status, pregnancy, veteran status, disability, and varying cognitive abilities
- Refuse compliance with federal efforts to harass or deport undocumented immigrants
- Address racial disparities in areas such as education, employment, and the justice system by applying an "equity lens" to all planning, budgeting, and other public decisions
- Work to increase informed citizen participation in government affairs, including

reinstatement of a robust K – 12 civics curriculum and the Office of Public Intervener to assert and defend the public's interest

- Support US and Wisconsin Constitutional amendments stating that money is not speech and that only human beings have Constitutional rights

An Economy That Works for All - DAH

We recognize massive income and wealth inequality as a clear and present danger and believe Wisconsin deserves an economy that generates broadly shared prosperity in environmentally sustainable ways. We should:

- Implement a living wage (minimum \$20 per hour, as well as an annual cost of living adjustment) for all Wisconsin workers and regional and industry wage boards to reward worker productivity and ensure pay equity for all
- Support locally owned, independent businesses, cooperatives, and worker-owned cooperatives
- Support family farms and regional food systems instead of factory farms and corporate farming subsidies
- Assert and defend the right of all workers to unionize and act collectively to improve jobs and employment
- Support employee ownership and democratic cooperatives of all kinds (producer, consumer, worker)
- Put standards on government purchasing to encourage local purchasing, local union labor, and the corporate practices we wish to see everywhere
- Encourage regional and industry labor-management partnerships to increase productivity, reduce waste, and benefit our local economy
- Invest in modernizing our physical infrastructure (roads, bridges, railways, airports, public buildings, etc.) and pay local workers prevailing local wage for work on these projects
- Invest in jobs for the future, making Wisconsin a national leader in the full application of available technology and best practices in renewable energy generation and energy efficiency, maximally efficient and restorative use of nonrenewable resources, advanced manufacturing, and precision sustainable agriculture
- Make much fuller use of our public education and extension systems in assisting local and regional economic development efforts consistent with the above
- Work toward publicly funded, high-quality childcare
- Work toward strong pay legislation to close the gender and race pay gap

Quality Public Goods and Services for All

We must restore and improve the quality and fair distribution of Wisconsin public goods and

services, and do our part in addressing the existential crisis of human-created global climate change. We should:

1. Environment - DH

- Vigorously defend and restore the clean water and air we all depend on, including limits on high-capacity wells, CAFOs (concentrated animal feeding operations), mining, and other environmentally harmful practices
- Adequately fund the DNR and insist on the independence of its scientists from political control
- Show leadership on climate change with the goal and plan to decarbonize Wisconsin municipalities' energy production by 2030

2. Healthcare- DH

- Provide a healthy ecosystem for species with whom we share the earth
- Draft and support local resolutions in favor of Medicare for All
- Sustain and improve current coverage for necessary health services, including comprehensive reproductive health services, and ensure coverage of pre-existing health conditions
- Require access to quality treatment on demand for alcohol, drug, and mental health services
- Increase support for high-quality in-home and assisted-living home services

3. Public Education- DH

- Enable local districts to develop their public schools by increasing state funding and local control
- Provide additional funding based on low-income, special needs, and minority share of student population
- Provide salaries, benefits, and working conditions that attract and retain the most capable teachers
- Halt public financing of vouchers and privatized charter schools and protect academic freedom

4. Housing- DH

- Recognize housing as a human right and adopt and implement a plan to realize that right for all residents
- Significantly increase resources to expand affordable housing stock, or require mixed-income developments

- Remove constitutional and statutory barriers to affordable housing creation
- Strengthen protections for residential tenants, including, but not limited to requiring good cause for eviction and increasing tenant remedies for landlord abuses or violation of habitability standards

5. Broadband Access- DAH

- Establish affordable, reliable, high-speed internet and wireless access, aiming at 100Mbps, throughout the state
- Make internet access a public utility

6. Public Safety and Criminal Justice- _____

- Oppose efforts to turn local law enforcement into an extension of immigration and customs enforcement
- End police brutality and government violations of civil and human rights
- Redirect funding from police and sheriff's departments into resources that stop crime proactively and provide resources that our communities need.
- Work to end mandatory minimum sentencing requirement, truth-in-sentencing laws, abuse of prosecutorial discretion, excessive detainment, poverty-inducing court and jail fees, school-to-prison pipeline, limits on retroactive expungement of criminal records for all non-violent offenders upon release, and all racial disparities in arrest rates for like behaviors and time of imprisonment for like crimes
- Reinstate the parole board
- Make prison truly rehabilitative through greater opportunity treatment, counseling, and education
- Ease re-entry through addictions and mental health treatment housing, other social assistance, training, and job search assistance, "ban the box," and full funding of pardon and parole boards
- Reassert public control over the criminal justice system, reversing decades of privatization and profit-seeking rather than investments in public safety and communities that will
- Bring probation/parole under the control of local government

7. Transportation- DAH

- Promote "complete streets" and accessible multi-modal transportation options in all communities, while everywhere encouraging active transportation and electrification of all motorized transportation
- Promote the fair and sustainable development of all communities, not just the wealthy

- Upgrade this multi-modal system's quality and enact a vehicle miles traveled (VMT) tax

8. Security and Care- DH

- Along with all of the above, maintain and strengthen programs of assistance to our elderly, disabled, children, immigrants, People of Color, and members of the LGBTQ community; explore the feasibility of a state basic income guarantee; and enact a state-sponsored retirement plan for private workers
- Support universal child-care by increasing the number of childcare centers that are culturally appropriate, increasing nighttime childcare options, and reducing the cost of childcare
- Encourage the development of prenatal care, outreach, and services

Fair Taxes- DH

We aim for a fair and adequate public revenue system. We should:

- Make local taxes based on the ability to pay by raising top rates on top incomes, treating capital gains like other income, and removing regressive loopholes (like the manufacturing tax credit)
- Widen the sales tax base to include all goods and services outside food, education, and healthcare; make it progressive by raising it steeply on purchases more than twice the median state family income
- Establish "circuit breakers" on property taxes for those on fixed incomes
- Oppose any local taxes that will be regressive and disproportionately impact lower-income families

Please comment on any Sections or Sub-sections you did not check and why, and feel free to add additional thoughts to sections you did check. Be as brief or thorough as necessary:

Please See Attachment 1 for comments on Public Safety and Criminal Justice and for additional thoughts regarding Environmental Point 3.

Please provide any supporting documents you'd like us to consider.

Thank you for participating in the Our Wisconsin Revolution Endorsement Process.

Our Wisconsin Revolution Platform: Dylan or Treasurer Clarifications

Environmental Point Three: Municipal Decarbonization by 2030

I support rapid deployment of clean energy production in Wisconsin to reduce our state's reliance on fossil fuels and limit greenhouse gas emissions. During my service on the Wisconsin Heights School Board and the Village Board of Black Earth, our community has invested in large grid projects. This includes solar installations at the school and a new transformer for the village utility. These projects take several years to complete. With the rollback of the IRA, and local financial control still being restricted in Wisconsin our momentum has slowed. We should set ambitious, well planned goals to meet the climate crisis we face. We also must present a plan that can be completed to keep the public's trust. 2030 is likely not achievable, but a goal to decarbonize by 2035 or 2040 is achievable with proper urgency and resources.

Transportation Point Three: Vehicle Miles Traveled Tax

I support a Vehicle Miles Traveled tax as a modern solution for financing road maintenance. It would be an effective way to raise revenue in a market with more fuel-efficient and electric vehicles. However, I also believe such a system should come with regional variations to account for different transportation patterns. For example, rural regions of the state should have a lower VMT rate or charge to account for the lack of transit options and longer distances to travel for personal and business needs.

Public Safety and Criminal Justice

I support all points except for Point 3. We must invest in proactive measures and programs to stop crime and build stability and safety in our communities. Such programs and measures take time to create and implement. More importantly, it takes time for such programs to gain the trust of communities and residents that they are meant to support. While we fund and build a more robust system for community safety and stability, we must maintain public funds for police and sheriff departments. In rural communities like mine, the sheriff's deputies and leadership are one of the few remaining resources for people to turn to. They are known to provide support in accessing health care, de-escalating familial crises, and supporting summer programming for students. Our district also relies on the sheriff's department to respond to threats to the school or student body.

In the long term, Wisconsin can rebalance its public safety investments as proactive and reconstructive strategies mature and gain trust. Currently, public safety in Wisconsin requires maintaining funding for local police and sheriff's departments. We must turn away from the trickle-down created scarcity mindset when it comes to public safety. Wisconsin can broadly invest in measures that improve public safety to help bring stability and a sense of peace to every neighborhood.

MEET DYLAN HELMENSTINE

Dylan Helmenstine grew up in a small, rural Wisconsin town. He was raised in a big family of farmers, nurses, teachers, and small business owners. After graduating with a Master's of Public Affairs from the La Follette School of Public Affairs, he returned home to serve his community.

He was the first LGBTQ+ elected to his local school board and village board. He has chaired many committees, was president of the EMS district, and is a governor's appointee to the oversight board for Wisconsin's pension funds. He also previously served as a frontline pandemic responder, an auditor, and a financial analyst for Wisconsin Medicaid programs.

Through this work, Dylan has seen the impacts of Wisconsin's policies from many different angles. One thing is clear: our systems are fundamentally broken. After decades of outdated funding plans, ridiculous red tape, and broken promises, it's time for real change.

As State Treasurer, Dylan will put the megaphone back in the hands of the people and bring government transparency into the 21st century so we can use public power for the public good.

DYLAN'S PRIORITIES

Dylan has seen how outdated systems hold communities back and knows we can unlock Wisconsin's potential by using public power for the public good and by rebuilding trust through transparency.

As State Treasurer, Dylan will:

- **Protect and Grow School Trust Funds:** Ensure Wisconsin's public trust funds and lands are responsibly managed and remain a strong example of using public power for the public good.
- **Bring Government Transparency into the 21st Century:** Create a state budget dashboard to show how money impacts communities to make publicly available information publicly understandable.
- **Build "Treasurer's Guides to the System":** Publish write ups, info-graphics, and video essays to breakdown complex government systems so that voters have the knowledge they require to make change their communities need.

PATH TO VICTORY

Dylan wins by running a disciplined, well-funded campaign backed by a strong donor table and the support of key elected leaders and trusted stakeholders. Using paid media and local validators, we'll reach voters across the Democratic spectrum and show that Dylan is the Treasurer candidate who strengthens the entire ticket in a closely contested cycle.

- **Power Levers:** Use Dylan's natural charisma, comfort on camera, and youth to push a strong "always-on" social media presence, reliable grassroots fundraising, and impactful statewide listening tours.
- **Disciplined Execution:** A strong team operating on two-week sprints and weekly dashboards to hit key regions for travel, fundraising, contacts, and votes.
- **Targeted Wins:** Build rural & urban coalitions by highlighting Dylan's experience as a rural school and village board member from southwest Wisconsin, and leveraging strong organizing relationships in the Dane, Milwaukee, and Fox Cities regions.
- **Hometown Validators:** Develop an extensive list of endorsements from local, trusted voices to build Dylan's credibility as an authentic and effective leader. Leverage Dylan's relationships with local elected leaders, standout organizers, and state-level elected leaders.



A MEGAPHONE FOR THE VOICES OF WISCONSIN



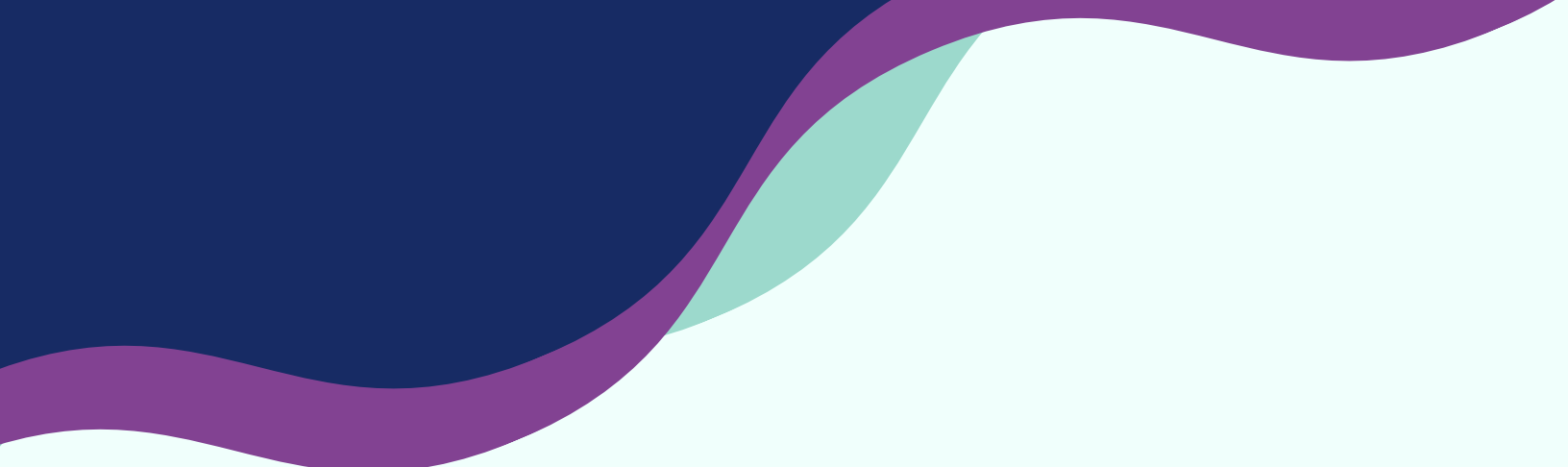
PUBLIC POWER FOR THE PUBLIC GOOD



dylanforwi.com

BRINGING GOVERNMENT TRANSPARENCY INTO THE 21ST CENTURY





LINKS TO DYLAN'S SPEECHES:

[Dylan Helmenstine, Dem Candidate for WI Treasurer Talks
School Vouchers to CoCo Dems at May Meeting](#)

[Dylan Helmenstine at CD 6 Convention](#)

