

The Delray Democrat

The Democratic Contract with Florida

*David Kulick*¹

Democrats in Tallahassee are as marginalized today as Republicans were in Washington before Newt Gingrich's *Contract with America* helped them flip Congress. If we hope to flip the Florida Legislature in 2024, we must explain what Democrats will do, if given the majority. Here are some suggestions:

1. Expand Medicaid under the Affordable Care Act to save our state money while providing healthcare services to the working poor.
2. Reverse draconian abortion laws and enact a law that codifies the reasonable compromise instituted by the Supreme Court in *Roe v. Wade*.
3. Institute commonsense gun control measures such as banning assault weapons and large capacity magazines intended for combat operations.
4. Build affordable housing, not as an adjunct to large luxury developments, but as a policy.
5. Restore Vote By Mail so that people do not have to jump through hoops to do what should be a simple civic activity.
6. Automatically restore voting rights to persons convicted of felonies after completion of their sentences. Many countries, including Canada, Germany, France, Greece, Spain, and Israel, as well as the states of Maine and Vermont, even allow most prisoners to vote. Virtually all democracies other than the United States restore voting rights upon release from prison, as do 41 U.S. states, although some also require that parole be completed. Florida is not one of them.
7. Separate hurricane policies from standard homeowner insurance and use Citizens or some other government backed carrier to handle the hurricane portion. This is akin to FEMA handling flood insurance and will result in lower policy costs for Florida homeowners.

¹ [The Delray Democrat](#), March 2023, p. 1