

DALLAS COUNTY REPUBLICAN PLATFORM

As Approved at the Dallas County Republican Convention, March 10, 2018

PREAMBLE

- ❖ We believe that the Declaration of Independence and the United States Constitution are the foundations of all U.S. law in their original intent and remain the organic law of this nation.
- ❖ We acknowledge God's blessing on our country and our continued dependence upon God for the preservation of our nation. We believe that religious liberty, under Law, is foundational to our Constitutional rights.
- ❖ We affirm that America is historically a Christian nation, whose founding and guiding principles have been and continue to be profoundly influenced by the Judeo-Christian Holy Bible and its Christ.
- ❖ We commit ourselves to the primacy of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness; and accordingly, we refrain from calling for government action for any purpose which would run contrary to those values.
- ❖ We believe that the sound philosophy of constitutionally limited government, individual initiative, fiscal responsibility, free enterprise and equal rights for all, provides the best framework for responsible government at all levels.
- ❖ We believe that the proper role of government is to secure our freedoms as granted by God and acknowledged in the Bill of Rights, to protect us from foreign enemies, and to provide the framework within its constitutional boundaries for the advancement of life, liberty, and pursuit of happiness. The most effective government is a government closest to the people.
- ❖ The highest standard of character should be embodied by all Americans in both private and public life. We expect Republican candidates and Republican incumbents in office to adhere to the fundamental beliefs stipulated in the following Republican Party Platform. We encourage the proliferation of these principles and their passage to future generations.

1. RIGHT TO LIFE

- 1.1 Because the Creator has endowed every human with the right to life from conception to natural death, it is the role of government to protect innocent life from wrongful death by abortion. No human, made in God's image, must forfeit his life unless by due process of law, he is convicted and sentenced to death for his crime.
- 1.2 We support the appointment of originalist judges.
- 1.3 We support limiting private sector stem cell research to adult or umbilical stem cells only.
- 1.4 We are opposed to all human cloning (reproductive or therapeutic). We strongly urge that the 2002 Human Cloning Ban, which was repealed by the Democratic Party in the 2007 legislature, be reinstated.
- 1.5 We support a Personhood Amendment to the United States Constitution.
- 1.6 We encourage private programs that facilitate alternatives to abortion by meeting the needs of mothers and offering adoption services.
- 1.7 Government must ban the use of tax dollars for abortion and abortion providing entities.

2. FAMILIES

- 2.1 We support a state constitutional amendment that defines and supports marriage as the union of one man and one woman.
- 2.2 We support the enforcement of the Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA) that defines and supports marriage as the union of one man and one woman.
- 2.3 We oppose civil unions.
- 2.4 We believe it is in the best interests of children to be adopted by married couples, consisting of one man and one woman.
- 2.5 We support a Parental Rights Amendment to the U.S. Constitution which affirms the God-given right of parents to direct the upbringing, discipline (including corporal) and education of their children. Neither the United States nor any other entity shall infringe upon this fundamental right.
- 2.6 We oppose the ratification of the U.N. Treaty on the Rights of the Child.
- 2.7 We oppose government-funded or subsidized day care.

3. EDUCATION

- 3.1 We believe that the federal government should not be involved in education. We support eliminating the Federal Department of Education. This would allow the citizens of each state to determine its educational goals and methods.
- 3.2 Homeschooling has proven itself to be an effective option for parents to educate their children and has saved taxpayers in Iowa hundreds of millions of dollars. With this

proven record and studies nationwide indicating that over-regulation by state Departments of Education impedes home education, we believe the education laws should be revised to eliminate unnecessary reporting requirements imposed on homeschooling families.

- 3.3 We believe schools should give equal explanation and discussion of, plus access to, the Biblical creation account, the Theory of Evolution and the concept of Intelligent Design in their required curriculum.
- 3.4 We believe it is the responsibility of the parent to determine pre-Kindergarten education for their children.
- 3.5 All education should emphasize study of the Declaration of Independence, the Constitution of the United States, the Bill of Rights and each state's Constitution for training in responsible citizenship and appreciation of our heritage.
- 3.6 We acknowledge and affirm that the First Amendment allows and protects the display of the Ten Commandments and the American Flag along with the daily recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance in its entirety in schools. This Amendment also protects voluntary teacher or student-led prayer in the schools and open display and use of the Judeo-Christian Bible and other religious texts.
- 3.7 Sex education is best left between parents and their children and abstinence is the best form of birth control/STD prevention.
- 3.8 We support local control of all educational curricula.
- 3.9 We support a tax credit system for home schooling families to prevent them from paying twice for their children's education.
- 3.10 We support a voucher system that allows parents to choose the best education for their children, should they decide to use public, private or charter schools.
- 3.11 We support school choice, by letting tax dollars follow the student.

4. THE SECOND AMENDMENT

- 4.1 The right to bear arms is inherent in the responsibility of self-defense, defense of the family, and defense against tyranny, conferred on the individual and the community by our Creator to safeguard life, liberty, and property, as well as to help preserve the independence of the Nation.
- 4.2 We support legislation to prohibit state and local governments from registration and/or confiscation of firearms from law-abiding citizens in the event of a natural or man-made disaster.
- 4.3 We oppose the United Nations' or any other entity's policy of civil disarmament, which would result in the confiscation of legal weapons from private citizens.
- 4.4 We support Constitutional Carry, which allows law-abiding citizens to carry firearms for

self-defense without begging government permission.

- 4.5 Public school buildings should allow possession of firearms by those legally possessing a concealed carry permit, as this increases protection for our children.
- 4.6 We call for the repeal of all federal and state firearms legislation, except that which applies to citizens who have had their 2nd Amendment rights revoked by Due Process.
- 4.7 We call for the rescinding of all executive orders, the prohibition of any future executive orders, and the prohibition of treaty ratification, which would in any way limit the right to keep and bear arms or to obtain ammunition.
- 4.8 We support amending the Iowa Constitution to specifically recognize and protect the natural right of individual citizens to keep and bear arms.
- 4.9 We oppose any attempt by the State or Federal Government or the U.S. EPA to ban or restrict any form of ammunition.
- 4.10 We support legislation that clarifies Iowa Code 724.28 and prevents local governing boards from prohibiting the right to carry firearms, ammunition, or accessories at any city hall, hospital, courthouse, library or other public or government facilities.
- 4.11 We support establishment of a “Stand Your Ground” law for the State of Iowa.
- 4.12 We support strong and fair background checks on those purchasing firearms, while still supporting the second amendment.

5. IMMIGRATION

- 5.1 We support legal immigration when in America’s best interest.
- 5.2 The granting of citizenship to newborns of illegal aliens in the U.S. is unconstitutional and demonstrably not the original intent of the 14th Amendment.
- 5.3 We oppose the granting of blanket amnesty to illegal immigrants. We oppose chain migration, where citizens and lawful permanent residents are allowed to bring in their non-nuclear family members.
- 5.4 We support laws that will prohibit illegal aliens from receiving benefits at taxpayer expense, and for legal immigrants, a law to ban benefits for an initial period of five years.
- 5.5 We support the federal government providing additional resources for the strict enforcement of current and future laws in order to halt illegal immigration. This includes increased border control, fencing and physical impediments.
- 5.6 Driver’s licenses should only be issued to those who can show proof of insurance and legal residency, and licenses must have special identification for non-citizens.
- 5.7 We call for an end to the policy of “Catch and Release” which requires the Border Patrol to release illegals that claim, without proof, to have been in the U.S. since January 2014 and which requires a certain minimum number of illegal immigrants be apprehended before deportation requirements are enforced.

5.8 We acknowledge the citizenship of a person born in the U.S. if the person is born of parents, one of whom is (1) a citizen or national of the U.S., (2) an alien lawfully admitted for permanent residence, or (3) an alien performing active (U.S. military) service.

5.9 We support banning sanctuary cities.

6. LAW ENFORCEMENT/JUSTICE

6.1 We support laws that provide harsher penalties for sexual offenses against children.

6.2 We support reinstatement of the death penalty.

6.3 We support strict enforcement of existing federal obscenity, pornography and human trafficking laws.

6.4 We deny the validity of judicial rulings that use foreign court rulings, non-ratified treaties or Sharia law. We support education about, and use of, jury nullification for bad laws.

6.5 Border patrol agents should not be prosecuted or hindered from doing the job they were hired to do.

6.6 We demand the removal of activist judges, the defunding of activist courts, and we oppose any attempt by the executive or legislative branches to enforce unconstitutional opinions.

6.7 We support the ban of all traffic and public surveillance cameras in the state of Iowa.

6.8 We support the ban of all surveillance by drones on U.S. citizens in accordance with the Fourth Amendment.

6.9 We acknowledge that judges and courts do not have law making authority or the powers to repeal or strike down existing laws. Only congress has this power. Judges and courts can only give an opinion.

6.10 We support state constitutional provisions that victims of crime and/or their families be provided the same rights as the accused.

6.11 We support an individual's right to control their own digital privacy.

7. NATIONAL DEFENSE / TERRORISM

7.1 We believe a strong national defense and military, essential to the security of this nation, must be maintained and supported, to be used within Constitutional limits.

7.2 Military personnel, often targeted, must be allowed their 2nd Amendment rights at all times.

7.3 We believe that the federal government must reduce the threat of terrorism by securing the United States' borders at all points of entry.

7.4 We do not support the reading of Miranda Rights to non-U.S. citizens.

7.5 We call for the repeal of the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA), and an end to

the unconstitutional detention and/or execution of American citizens without formal charges or a constitutionally guaranteed trial by jury.

7.6 We support continuation and improvement of Veteran benefits.

7.7 We oppose the registration or drafting of women into the military.

8. FOREIGN POLICY

8.1 We oppose any funding of foreign governments that are not our allies.

8.2 We support the United States withdrawing from and defunding the corrupt United Nations.

8.3 We urge continued economic and military support for Israel, our strong ally.

8.4 We believe current public officials and their foundations should not be allowed to accept money/gifts/compensations from foreign governments or entities.

8.5 We oppose the transfer of any public lands or properties to foreign governments and entities.

8.6 We reject the Central American Free Trade Agreement (“CAFTA”) and the proposed Free Trade Area of the Americas (“FTAA”), which effectively erases national borders, while we encourage free trade within the structure of a strong and sovereign United States of America.

8.7 We support withdrawal from the North American Free Trade Agreement (“NAFTA”) and the Security and Prosperity Partnership (“SPP”) and we oppose the NAFTA Super Highway.

8.8 We oppose the ratification of the Law of the Sea Treaty (LOST).

8.9 We oppose ratification of any treaty that threatens the sovereignty of the US. An agreement between the U.S. and another country, being unratified, shall be illegal and unenforceable until ratified by the Senate.

9. TAXATION / GOVERNMENT SPENDING

9.1 We believe that government must act as a careful steward of the public trust. We support the State of Iowa adhering to the 99% expenditure law. The governor and legislature should adopt a budgeting approach that justifies existing programs on an annual basis.

9.2 We support the abolition of the Internal Revenue Code and replacing it with a Fair Tax or Flat Tax concept.

9.3 If the current tax system is retained, we support removing all taxes on pensions and Social Security income.

9.4 We support permanent elimination of federal and state taxes on estates and inheritances.

- 9.5 We affirm that the Internet must remain tax-free and under the stewardship/control of the U.S. and not a foreign country of the U.N.
- 9.6 We believe that the federal debt and deficit are a serious threat to the security of the United States. The Constitution should be amended to require a balanced budget that includes aggressive payments to retire the national debt.
- 9.7 We support a two-year moratorium on defeated bond and tax issues before they may be brought up for re-election.
- 9.8 We support the ability of Iowans to fully deduct the amount they pay in federal income taxes on their Iowa income tax return and oppose any attempt to impose a state tax on money used solely to pay a federal tax.
- 9.9 We support a full and exhaustive financial audit of the Federal Reserve's books annually, until such time as the agency is abolished and a commodity-backed currency is adopted.
- 9.10 We resolve that the State of Iowa must commit to responsible budgeting and immediately cease the practice of transferring funds from designated trust-fund to general-fund expenditures.
- 9.11 We support infrastructure spending based on cost over the life of the structure rather than cheapest upfront costs.
- 9.12 We support abolishing the Iowa corporate income tax.
- 9.13 We propose a tax on money sent outside the USA by individuals. The proceeds to be spent on protecting the borders only.
- 9.14 We call for repealing the local option sales tax.

10. GOVERNMENT

- 10.1 We believe Congress should uphold their congressional duty to impeach and remove or defund judges who are not upholding the original intent of the Constitution.
- 10.2 We oppose same-day voter registration, and support previous Iowa law requiring registration 10 days prior to an election or primary.
- 10.3 We support stricter control and limited use of absentee voting. We support making sure our overseas military personnel are afforded every opportunity and the necessary return time to ensure their absentee ballots are counted.
- 10.4 Because we jealously value the integrity of our voting process, we support a law that requires proof of U.S. citizenship to register to vote and a valid photo ID presented on the day of the vote.
- 10.5 We call for the repeal of the "Motor-Voter" Act because it lacks safeguards to prevent illegal aliens from becoming registered to vote, plus the inaccuracy in the rolls caused by this Act has thrown into doubt the integrity of our electoral system.
- 10.6 We believe government should not take on functions that compete directly with the

private sector.

- 10.7 Ex-felons should not be automatically granted voting rights without a traditional review process.
- 10.8 U.S. citizens shall not be compelled nor obligated to provide advertisements, legal documents, or informal communications in any language other than English.
- 10.9 Congress shall make no law that applies to the citizens of the United States that does not apply equally to the Senators and Representatives and Congress shall make no law that applies to the Senate and Representatives that does not apply equally to the citizens of the United States.
- 10.10 We oppose the Fairness Act or the Fairness Doctrine.
- 10.11 All bills, federal and state, must be debated and voted on individually. Attachments, riders, or amendments that are not germane to the core of the bill shall not be allowed.
- 10.12 We believe each elected official must read every bill in its entirety before voting on the bill.
- 10.13 We believe in smaller, constitutionally limited, and local government.
- 10.14 All laws, federal and state, shall have a 10-year sunset, after which each old law must be reintroduced as a new bill. Failure to do so shall void the law.
- 10.15 We believe government should have true transparency. Bills scheduled for a floor-vote in the House or Senate should be posted online for a period of at least five days prior to the vote.
- 10.16 We believe there should be term limits for all Congressional Representatives and Senators at the State and Federal levels. Senators should be limited to two consecutive terms and Congressional Representatives should be limited to six consecutive terms. Salaries and franking privileges shall extend no longer than their terms.
- 10.17 We call for the repeal of the Congressional Pay Raise Act.
- 10.18 We support the repealing of lifetime retirement benefits for all federal elected officials.
- 10.19 We oppose Cap-and-Trade legislation.
- 10.20 We demand the President use his constitutional check and balance function to execute no judicial ruling unless it is ratified into law by the Congress.
- 10.21 We support restricting the number of cabinet members, and we support eliminating unconstitutional political appointments (Czars) by the President.
- 10.22 We believe that Congress shall pass no law on any matter without referencing that portion of the Constitution granting them authority to act on that matter.
- 10.23 We believe that no department or agency of the government should spend any tax money that would be used to promote any issue in consideration by the legislature or executive branches, neither should they spend any tax money for advertising that is designed to "sell" the services of the government to the people, nor for government

propaganda.

10.24 We oppose the convention of the states and any sort of U.S. constitutional convention. Therefore we urge our state legislature to ignore any consideration of this movement.

11. DOMESTIC POLICY

11.1 We support English as the official language of the United States.

11.2 We support banning pornography in libraries, schools and other publicly-owned establishments. We oppose the use of tax money that allows access to pornography.

11.3 We support alternatives to the current Social Security system. We call for the partial privatization of Social Security including the development of personal accounts. We support allowing individuals to invest in their own retirement.

11.4 We believe private property rights are sacred. The use of eminent domain should be limited to projects for public infrastructure purposes, and not for private development. A reimbursement rate of 150% of fair market value of property seized should be the minimum restitution.

11.5 The federal government has authority to “own” real estate as an enclave or for enumerated purposes only. Land not needed for such purposes must be disposed of within a reasonable time. We call on the government to return all unconstitutionally held lands to the states, and to refrain from unconstitutionally acquiring more lands from the states.

11.6 To make Iowa more attractive to business, we support reducing the tax burden on commercial property.

11.7 Unions should not be able to fund political parties if employee participation is mandatory.

11.8 “In God We Trust” should remain on the face of all coinage and currency of the United States.

11.9 “Under God” should remain in the Pledge of Allegiance.

11.10 Repeal the Real ID act, a National Identification Numbering system, and oppose any biometric identification system.

11.11 We call for the repeal of all laws, regulations, and statutes that require the use of the Social Security number for any purpose other than Social Security and tax identification.

11.12 We believe that welfare benefits should require performance-based demonstration of the active pursuit of gainful employment. If targets are not met, welfare benefits will be reduced.

11.13 We call for welfare rolls to be annually checked for fraud against all prison population rolls nationwide, against the E-Verify system, and for fraudulent cases to be prosecuted as a deterrent.

11.14 All welfare benefits should be contingent upon the recipient passing a test for illegal

drugs.

- 11.15 We support welfare reforms designed to break the cycle of dependency by requiring welfare recipients to work, learn, or train in exchange for their benefits.
- 11.16 We support repeal of the ability of public employees to organize into unions.

12. HEALTH CARE

- 12.1 We demand the full repeal of Obamacare.
- 12.2 We support private health care and oppose expansion of government sponsored health care. We believe in the free market system for insurance providers, and in the principle of competition to provide the best rates for those seeking insurance.
- 12.3 We support tort reform to help eliminate frivolous lawsuits that add higher cost to everyone's health care.
- 12.4 We support the expanded use of Health Savings Accounts.
- 12.5 We believe the government cannot constitutionally mandate that health insurance be provided by employers, nor can it require private individuals to purchase health insurance.
- 12.6 We encourage continued private, not public, investment in pioneering science that will result in better treatments to prevent and lessen the toll of chronic disease.

13. ECONOMICS AND COMMERCE

- 13.1 We support capitalism and oppose the government takeover and involvement in private industry.
- 13.2 We support Iowa remaining a "Right-to-Work" state and are against weakening the Right-to-Work laws.
- 13.3 We support de-unionizing of teachers for public schools in Iowa.
- 13.4 We are not in favor of government bailouts for any industry.
- 13.5 We believe that government should not be in the business of picking winners and losers, and that the use of government-provided grants and loans, mandates and special tax credits should be prohibited. Government should instead concentrate on creating a low-tax, low-regulation environment that is friendly to all entrepreneurs and businesses.
- 13.6 We believe that government projects should not be classified as Project Labor Agreements (PLA) or Davis-Bacon projects.
- 13.7 We support the repeal of Dodd-Frank legislation.
- 13.8 We support abolishing the Iowa alcoholic beverage department and allowing the market to handle alcoholic beverage distribution.

14. ENERGY POLICY

- 14.1 We support energy independence in the United States by using our own available and potential energy resources before relying upon foreign suppliers.
- 14.2 We oppose governmental mandates on the supply or use of renewable fuels.
- 14.3 We should reduce our dependence on foreign oil and instead allow the private sector to increase production of renewable and non-renewable fuels as the market dictates.
- 14.4 We support environmentally aware fracking, as well as development of the oil reserves in the Alaskan National Wildlife Reserve (ANWR) and off America's coastlines to reduce our dependence on foreign oil.
- 14.5 We support the construction of an oil pipeline from Canada to Texas.
- 14.6 We support efforts to construct more oil refineries in the United States with broader refining capabilities and less burdensome regulations.
- 14.7 We support clean nuclear power as an energy alternative.

15. AGRICULTURE AND THE ENVIRONMENT

- 15.1 We believe in the value of Iowa family farms, as they are models of economic efficiency and performance. We encourage efforts to protect and promote their continued visibility, viability, and vitality.
- 15.2 We call for good stewardship and conservation of Iowa farmland.
- 15.3 We support elimination of the EPA.
- 15.4 We support less government interference in agriculture, the lifting of sanctions, and opening of foreign trade of our commodities.
- 15.5 We support laws that prohibit foreign ownership of Iowa farmland.
- 15.6 We believe total subsidy payment limits for each farmer should be greatly reduced to a maximum \$250,000 and ultimately phased out.
- 15.7 We support the "Country of Origin" labeling on food products.
- 15.8 We believe that previously drained, frequently cropped land labeled as farmed wetland and all agricultural lands assessed for benefits by drainage districts should be exempted from wetland conservation (swamp buster) provisions of the farm program.
- 15.9 We believe that all regulations affecting production agriculture, including water and air quality standards should be transferred from the DNR to Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship.
- 15.10 We support the definition of livestock manure as natural fertilizer.

- 15.11 We support responsible use of our natural resources.
- 15.12 We oppose U.S. government participation in international environmental treaties, such as the Kyoto Protocol, that ties the US Government to other nations in the world.
- 15.13 We oppose government policies that define carbon dioxide as a pollutant.
- 15.14 Because we believe in individual responsibility and liberty, we support legislation that allows the sale of raw milk with the appropriate labeling.
- 15.15 We oppose non-operational ownership of Iowa farmland by corporations which effectively treat and trade the land as a commodity.

16. SPECIAL RIGHTS

- 16.1 We oppose “hate crimes” legislation that unconstitutionally limits free speech, creates “thought crimes” and criminalizes the reasoned actions of persons who oppose the granting of special status or privileges to defined groups.
- 16.2 We oppose every effort to grant special rights to groups of people based on sexual orientation.
- 16.3 We oppose the criminalization of counseling for homosexuals who want to change their lifestyle.
- 16.4 We support the elimination of Affirmative Action legislation because it constitutes a violation of equal protection and rights guaranteed by the U.S. Constitution.
- 16.5 We oppose the Iowa Governor’s office hosting, supporting, or lending its name to the Gay, Bisexual, Lesbian, Questioning, and Transgendered (GBLQT) conferences.

17. GAMBLING

- 17.1 We are opposed to the expansion of gambling and gaming, including online gambling, and we support a moratorium on issuing new gambling licenses in Iowa.
- 17.2 We oppose government ownership of any gambling facility or activity.
- 17.3 We support the effort to remove ATM’s from gambling establishments.
- 17.4 We oppose the use of EBT (Electronic Benefit Transfer) cards for gambling purposes.