

End the Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation

WHEREAS the Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation (WEDC) was created in 2011 to replace the Department of Commerce; and

WHEREAS the WEDC was created to grant loans that would give assistance to various companies' attempts to grow and employ more workers within the state; and

WHEREAS the WEDC has been plagued by mismanagement and questions about handing out loans without properly vetting recipients; and

WHEREAS Governor Scott Walker has already proposed in 2015 that all elected officials be removed from the board of the WEDC to be replaced by appointees; and

WHEREAS the Wisconsin State Legislature has already removed in 2015 the Governor from being the Chairman of the Board of the WEDC, but still allows the Governor to appoint the Chairman of the Board; and

WHEREAS it is not the role of government to develop or plan the economy and any such role simply distorts the free market; and

WHEREAS having a large pool of money essentially controlled by elected officials, whether directly or through appointees, is an open invitation to corruption and cronyism; and

WHEREAS the practices of the WEDC have already led to accusations of favoritism and *quids pro quo* between corporations offering political donations and elected officials; and

WHEREAS the WEDC can and inevitably will be leveraged by whichever party is in power to repay its donor class and punish its opponents; and

WHEREAS WEDC successes will not be covered by the mainstream media and any failures will be made into front page news to embarrass Governor Walker; now, be it therefore

RESOLVED that the Republican Party of Dane County, in caucus assembled, urges the Wisconsin legislature and governor to disband and dissolve the WEDC immediately and cease all further direct loans and assistance to corporations, choosing instead to use constitutionally sound means of promoting a free market through reduction of taxes and regulation-

Repeal Common Core State Standards in Wisconsin

WHEREAS Common Core State Standards establish a top-down, one-size-fits-all, standardized approach to educating children; and

WHEREAS Common Core State Standards and associated aligned high stakes testing destroy all meaningful local control over curriculum; and

WHEREAS Wisconsin prides itself on being a local control state; and

WHEREAS Common Core State Standards were adopted by Department of Public Instruction Secretary Tony Evers in 2010 without the approval or consent of the Wisconsin legislature; and

WHEREAS the Republican Party of Dane County has called on the Wisconsin governor and legislature for the past three years to repeal Common Core State Standards in Wisconsin; and

WHEREAS in July, 2014 the Governor called upon the Wisconsin legislature to “*pass a bill to repeal Common Core and replace it with a set of standards set by the people of Wisconsin.*”; and

WHEREAS in January, 2015 the Governor said that “*We will work with the legislature making sure that there are not things like the Smarter Balanced test going forward that require schools to use a test that’s based on Common Core*”; and

WHEREAS the biennial budget had language stating that “*no effect shall be given to Common Core standards*”; and

WHEREAS according to Department of Public Instruction *the model standards of Wisconsin remain nonetheless Common Core State Standards*; and

WHEREAS the biennial budget did indeed remove funding for the Common Core aligned Smarter Balanced assessment known as the Badger Exam; and

WHEREAS according to information obtained from the DPI the Badger Exam was simply replaced with *another Common Core aligned assessment* to create the new Wisconsin Forward exam; and

WHEREAS despite promises and budgetary language, Common Core still remains the de facto academic standard and basis of testing in Wisconsin; now, be it

RESOLVED that the Republican Party of Dane County, in caucus assembled, urge the Wisconsin governor and legislature move immediately to issue a full, clear, and unequivocal **repeal** of Common Core State Standards in Wisconsin and replace them with a set of standards set by the people of Wisconsin, ceasing all mandated testing aligned with the Common Core.

Ban the Sale of Baby Body Parts in Wisconsin

WHEREAS the platform of the Republican National Committee and the Republican Party of Wisconsin state that the party is clearly pro-Life and against abortion; and

WHEREAS nearly every Republican candidate for office in Wisconsin has run on this pro-Life platform, many even insisting that no exceptions be made in the case of rape, incest, or even the life of the mother; and

WHEREAS we have recently seen numerous videos illustrating how Planned Parenthood profits from the sale of aborted fetal tissue ("Baby Body Parts"); and

WHEREAS allowing the sale of baby body parts has led Planned Parenthood to coerce women into risking their own health by carrying their baby longer and undergoing riskier procedures to produce more developed baby body parts that fetch higher prices; and

WHEREAS though it may be more convenient for the University of Wisconsin system and certain corporations to use aborted baby body parts for their research, most, if not all such research can be done more ethically and nearly as economically with non-aborted and even non-fetal tissue; now, be it therefore

RESOLVED that the Republican Party of Dane County, in caucus assembled, finds the practice of profiting from the sale of aborted baby body parts reprehensible; and be it further

RESOLVED that the Republican Party of Dane County, in caucus assembled, finds it hypocritical and unacceptable that Republican leaders who have pledged themselves to be pro-life would protect the interests of the University of Wisconsin and certain research organizations over the interests of the unborn; and be it further

RESOLVED that the Wisconsin legislature move swiftly to pass a law prohibiting the sale of aborted fetal tissue in Wisconsin.

Create a Statewide Appellate Court

WHEREAS challenges to state law are made first to Dane County Circuit Court only because the State Capitol is located in Dane County; and

WHEREAS while statutes are enacted by lawmakers elected by voters throughout the state, the Dane County judiciary is elected by voters from only one of the state's 72 counties; and

WHEREAS Dane County circuit court decisions are almost routinely overturned by higher courts, most notably in cases challenging Act 10 and Voter ID; and

WHEREAS the national government in 1982 created the United States Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit, which is the only federal court that has exclusive jurisdiction based upon subject matter rather than geographic location; now, be it therefore

RESOLVED that the Republican Party of Dane County, in caucus assembled, recommend the Wisconsin State Constitution be amended to create a separate, five-member appellate court appointed by the governor from the existing Court of Appeals membership and confirmed by both houses of the Legislature for the sole purpose of hearing lawsuits challenging state legislation, appealable only to the state supreme court.

End the War on Police

WHEREAS Barack Obama, Hillary Clinton and Bernie Sanders have engaged in systematic denigration of law enforcement agencies; and

WHEREAS none of these Democrats have anything to say about the 145 homicides recorded last year in Milwaukee (up from 86 in 2014) — 86% of whom were African-Americans; and

WHEREAS President Obama has spoken out on behalf of Michael Brown, the Ferguson man who tried to take away a police officer's service weapon, and sent three White Houser aids to represent him at Brown's funeral but has not done accorded similar respect to any of the 91 law enforcement officers shot and killed in 2014 and 2015; and

WHEREAS Democratic candidates Clinton and Sanders invoked the name of Dontre Hamilton, shot by a police officer in Milwaukee even though the shooting was ruled self-defense by the district attorney; and

WHEREAS neither candidate mentioned 5-year-old Laylah Petersen, fatally shot while sitting on her grandfather's lap the same year (2014) by three home invaders; and

WHEREAS Sanders excoriated "over-policing in African-American neighborhoods" due to "institutional racism," and called police "an occupying force"; and

WHEREAS Clinton blamed "systemic racism" (after seven years of Barack Obama); and

WHEREAS Milwaukee is not the only city seeing an increase this year — Baltimore, St. Louis, Oakland, New Orleans, Detroit, and Washington have seen alarming increases — murder nationally was up 17% in 2015; and

WHEREAS FBI Director James Comey cites the "Ferguson Effect" — caused by the denigration and prosecution of police — for reducing needed police intervention in the prevention of crime, an observation seconded by the acting chief of the Drug Enforcement Administration, Chuck Rosenberg; and

WHEREAS the liberal-progressive-socialist culture now includes felons in its every-growing list of victims and police as perpetrators; and encourages that our prisons be emptied; and

RESOLVED that the Republican Party of Dane County, in caucus assembled, declare that all lives matter; and be it further

RESOLVED to promote safe neighborhoods and reduce gun violence, Wisconsin must resist calls to empty the prisons back into the community; and be it further

WE URGE that the next President direct the Justice Department to coordinate with the states and local governments a multi-pronged strategy to quell the killing fields of America's inner cities; and be it further

WE URGE that America's leaders — political, sports, entertainment, and journalistic — propagate a message of personal responsibility, community service, educational achievement, delayed gratification, work experience, respect for women, and adherence to law in our troubled neighborhoods as they would in their own families.

Improve Wisconsin Surface Transportation

WHEREAS The Wisconsin Taxpayers Alliance released a 2015 report card that rated the condition of Wisconsin highways with the letter “D” grade; and

WHEREAS The U.S. Department of Transportation lists 71% of Wisconsin’s roads in mediocre or poor condition, placing Wisconsin 47th out of 50 states; and

WHEREAS a national survey of CEOs and consultants cited access to highways scored as the most important factor in locating business (a skilled workforce ranked number two); now, be it therefore

RESOLVED that the Republican Party of Dane County, in caucus assembled, recommend funding highway maintenance with a flat user fee, collected at the pump or charging station; and be it further

RESOLVED that the Republican Party of Dane County, in caucus assembled, calls for creation of a transportation funding system which is (a) supported by all vehicles based on miles driven and their relative impact on the roads, including a gas tax increase, and (b) generates sufficient revenue to improve Wisconsin's roads to good condition which supports our economy and finances maintenance of the roads.

Appoint the State Secretary of Education

WHEREAS the President of the United States appoints his secretary of education; and

WHEREAS Education is too important not to have a seat at the governor's cabinet and direct input into the state budget and legislative process; now, be it therefore

RESOLVED that the Republican Party of Dane County, in caucus assembled, recommends the state constitution be amended to abolish the office of State Superintendent of Public Instruction and permit the governor to appoint a secretary of a cabinet-level education department.

End Government Regulation of Political Free Speech

WHEREAS The Bill of Rights to the Constitution has never been amended since its creation in 1791; and

WHEREAS A national movement called Move to Amend is calling for a constitutional amendment to eliminate the First Amendment's guarantee of free speech; and

WHEREAS President Obama, Democratic candidates Hillary Clinton and Bernie Sanders, U.S. Sen. Tammy Baldwin, candidate for Senate Russ Feingold, U.S. Rep. Mark Pocan, and the Dane County Democratic delegation to the State Legislature support this assault on free speech; and

WHEREAS The Federal Elections Commission in oral argument before the Supreme Court argued that even a book could be banned under the terms of McCain–Feingold Act — overturned by Citizens United. Prohibits corporations from delivering political messages 30 days before a primary or 60 days before a general election — when political speech, that most protected of First Amendment forms of speech — is most important.

WHEREAS even anonymous speech is protected. The intellectual godfather of the American Revolution, Thomas Paine, published his famous pamphlet, “Common Sense,” anonymously. So did the authors of the Federalist Papers, James Madison, Alexander Hamilton, and the first chief justice, John Jay; and

WHEREAS Any regulation of political speech has the potential to unleash the speech police; witness the IRS and its officer, Lois Lerner, conducting punitive audits of conservative issue groups; and

WHEREAS The Government Accountability Board and Milwaukee County D.A. John Chisholm authorized speech police to invade private homes of conservative activists in pre-dawn, armed, paramilitary-style raids in which bright floodlights were used to illuminate the targets' homes and battering rams in pursuit of “a legal theory;” and

WHEREAS The Wisconsin Supreme Court on July 16, 2015, finally ordered a halt to the three-year inquisition, noting “The breadth of the documents gathered pursuant to subpoenas and seized pursuant to search warrants is amazing.

WHEREAS any regulation of political speech, especially any requiring financial disclosure, will tempt the next over-zealous partisan prosecutor; and

WHEREAS in the immortal words of Justice Scalia, “The Amendment is written in terms of “speech, not speakers. Its text offers no foothold for excluding any category of speaker, from single individuals to partnerships of individuals, to unincorporated associations of individuals, to incorporated associations of individuals. All the provisions of the Bill of Rights set forth the rights of individual men and women—not, for example, of trees or polar bears. The individual person's right to speak includes the right to speak in association with other individual persons. Surely the dissent does not believe that speech by the Republican Party or the Democratic Party can be censored because it is not the speech of “an individual American;” now be it

RESOLVED that the Republican Party of Dane County, in caucus assembled, condemns *Move to Amend's* efforts to negate the First Amendment and applauds the 2010 Citizens United v FEC decision; and be it further

RESOLVED that candidates who choose to do so may disclose a state-supervised audit of their financial contributions and/or expenditures for the judgment of the voter.