

# LPRC Platform Committee Report

10 May 2023

This is a report of proposed changes to the Platform of the **Libertarian Party Radical Caucus**. The base document to which these proposed changes apply is the version as amended 27 May 2022.

For each proposal, there is a summary followed by more details. The format of the details varies depending on the nature of the changes being proposed. In the case of an entirely new plank, just the text of the proposed plank is shown. In the case of proposed revisions to an existing plank, if the changes are relatively small there is a description along with marked up text showing deletions and insertions. In some cases where the changes would only affect one paragraph in a large plank, just that paragraph is shown marked up. If the changes result in a significant restructuring of the plank, then the complete resulting text is shown.

To facilitate consideration of these proposals during the membership meeting, they are arranged into groups roughly as follows: relatively minor changes to existing planks that we do not expect to require discussion, then entirely new planks, and finally changes to existing planks that are longer or more likely to require further explanation or debate.

However, although some of these proposals may be *somewhat* more likely to prompt discussion than others, they all received strong support among members of our committee. All of them received at least four 'yes' votes within the committee, and none of them received any 'no' votes. In other words, looked at in terms of voting within the committee (which is noted for each proposal), there were only two levels of support: 5 yes votes (unanimous), or 4 yes votes with one abstention.

We hope that you will give all of these proposals your serious consideration.

## ***LPRC 2023 Platform Committee***

- *Joe Dehn (chair)*
- *Tiffany Diaz De Leon (secretary)*
- *Richard Fast*
- *Don Stacy*
- *Keith Thompson*

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*Notes: Proposals marked "\*" would change multiple planks. Proposals to add new planks or move planks imply renumbering of existing planks.*

# Revise: miscellaneous minor corrections

Recommended by a vote of 5 to 0

## Summary

This proposal would make minor corrections to wording/punctuation/capitalization in five planks.

## Text Showing Revisions

*In 1.15 Criminal and Civil Laws (remove extraneous period before semi-colon):*

a. The repeal of all laws prohibiting the production, sale, possession, or use of drugs and alcohol, and of all medicinal prescription requirements for the purchase of vitamins, drugs, and similar substances and call for the abolition of any agencies that exist to enforce any of these restrictions including the Drug Enforcement Agency and the Food and Drug Administration~~;~~;

*In 1.16 Safeguards for the Criminally Accused (remove extraneous comma after "guilty"):*

People must be accorded all possible respect for their individual rights until such time as they are proven guilty of a crime. The rights of due process, a speedy trial, legal counsel, trial by jury, and the legal presumption of innocence until proven guilty~~,~~ must not be denied.

*In 2.11 Monopolies (make usage of "the" consistent):*

We condemn all coercive and government-granted monopolies including public utilities and the United States Postal Service. In order to facilitate their elimination, we advocate a strict separation of business and state, and call for the repeal of all antitrust laws, including the Sherman Antitrust Act, the Clayton Antitrust Act, [the](#) Robinson-Patman Act, and [the](#) Celler-Kefauver Act.

*In 2.13 Intellectual Monopoly and File Sharing (move misplaced comma, from after "goods" to after "idea"):*

The phrase "intellectual property" is a misnomer. What the state calls intellectual property is more accurately referred to as "intellectual monopoly" as the state grants a monopoly on the use of an idea, or goods~~,~~ and services derived from an idea~~,~~ to a certain limited group.

*In 4.14 Candidate Debates (remove capitalization in middle of sentence):*

Competition in ideas and government policies is important to the electoral process and is a cornerstone of fundamental freedoms. At the national level, ~~The~~[the](#) Commission on Presidential Debates (CPD), created in 1987 by the Republican and Democratic national parties for the express purpose of keeping minor party and independent candidates out of debates, intentionally limits participation in the nationally-televised debates to the Democratic and Republican Party nominees.

# Revise: make format of all lettered lists uniform

Recommended by a vote of 5 to 0

## Summary

There are eight planks which contain lettered lists, but they vary in the punctuation marks used at the end of each item, whether the listed items start with a capital letter, whether there is an "and" at the end of the second-to-last item, and whether that "and" is followed by a comma. This proposal would make changes as necessary so that the listed items all start with lower case letters, end with semi-colons, except for the last which ends with a period, and including the "and" without a trailing comma. *(The lists in the following planks already meet these standards: 4.2 Taxation, 4.3 Government Debt.)*

## Changes

Updates would be made to lists in the following planks:

- 1.15 Criminal and Civil Laws
- 3.1 Consumer Protection  
*but note there is a separate proposal that would re-write this plank entirely*
- 3.3 Environment *(two lists)*
- 3.15 Epidemics
- 4.4 Government Employees
- 4.9 Emergency Powers

# Revise: make placement of quotation marks consistent

Recommended by a vote of 5 to 0

## Summary

There are three places where periods or commas are located within quotation marks, in accordance with a traditional style that is not used elsewhere in the document, even though the quotation marks are actually being used to delimit just a word or phrase. This proposal would move the quotation marks in those cases to follow the more modern style.

## Text Showing Revisions

*In 4.2 Taxation:*

We oppose any and all increases in the rate of taxation or categories of taxpayers, including the elimination of deductions, exemptions, or credits in the spurious name of "fairness," "simplicity," or alleged "neutrality to the free market." No tax can ever be fair, simple, or neutral to the free market.

*In 4.3 Government Debt:*

d. that no exception be made for periods of so-called "national emergency."

*In 5.11 Presidential War Powers:*

We call for the reform of the Presidential War Powers Act to end the President's power to initiate military action, and for the abrogation of all Presidential declarations of "states of emergency." There must be no further secret commitments and unilateral acts of military intervention by the Executive Branch.

## Revise: miscellaneous minor wording improvements

Recommended by a vote of 5 to 0

### Summary

This proposal makes a few very minor wording improvements in various planks.

### Text Showing Revisions

*In 3.2 Agriculture (remove two words from first sentence):*

We seek a return to a free, dynamic market with every ~~possible-and~~ desirable crop being produced and sold by as many market participants as possible, using any method that meets with the approval of the buying public that does not spread external harm.

*In 3.11 Energy (shorten phrase in last paragraph):*

We favor the creation of a free market in all forms of energy by respecting ~~for~~ property rights and ~~by-the-repeal-of~~ ~~repealing~~ all government controls over output in the energy industry. All government-owned energy resources must be returned to private ownership.

*In 5.4 National Borders (add one word in second paragraph):*

We oppose the building of walls, fences, or any other type of physical barrier by governments. Such barriers are not only a waste of taxpayer money, but ~~also~~ have proven to be ineffective at deterring refugees and contraband. We instead support the right of private property owners to determine who and what may come on their property as an alternative to national borders.

## Revise: 1.13 Justice for the Individual

Recommended by a vote of 5 to 0

### Summary

This proposal inserts a sentence supporting private arbitration.

### Text Showing Revisions

As violators of foundational principles, aggressors must be required to compensate their victims and pay for costs of their trial and apprehension. We support restitution to the victim to the fullest degree possible at the expense of the criminal or wrongdoer and oppose any laws which deprive the victim of the right to recover damages from those responsible in the case of injury. Those unwilling to make payments towards a court-ordered judgment must be placed in a competitive private prison agreed upon by arbitration, in lieu of the state-subsidized Prison Industrial Complex whose sole motive is profit with little concern for making the victim whole. We support private arbitration wherever possible as an alternative to, and replacement of, the government-run system. We also support the right of the victim to pardon the criminal or wrongdoer, barring threats to the victim for this purpose.

## Revise: 1.19 The Right to Self-Defense

Recommended by a vote of 5 to 0

### Summary

This proposal modifies the second paragraph of this plank by adding firearm accessories to a list of things we don't think government should be regulating. (The first paragraph would remain unchanged.)

### Text Showing Revisions

The only legitimate use of force is in self-defense. This right inheres in the individual, who may seek to be, or agree to be, aided by any other individual or group. Private property owners shall be free to establish their own conditions regarding weapons. The right of defense extends to defense against aggressive acts of government.

We oppose all laws at any level of government restricting, registering, or monitoring the ownership, sale, manufacture, transport, or transfer of firearms, [firearm accessories](#), ammunition, or any other tool that could be used for self-defense, including any requirements for background checks. Accordingly, we support abolishing the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives (BATFE) and favor the implementation of fully-legal carry of weapons, open or concealed, without any permit requirement.

## Revise: 2.3 Money and Inflation

Recommended by a vote of 5 to 0

### Summary

This proposal restructures the second and third paragraphs to apply the same principles to various forms of alternative money. (The first paragraph would remain unchanged.)

### Text Showing Revisions

We recognize that government control over money and banking is the primary cause of inflation and depression. Individuals engaged in voluntary exchange must be free to own and use as money any mutually agreeable item. We favor the elimination of all government fiat money and call for the repeal of all legal tender laws and of all compulsory governmental units of account.

~~We call for recognition of the right of individuals to use gold and other commodities as money, and an end to taxes imposed on "gains" in their value that are actually a reflection of a decrease in the value of fiat money. All restrictions upon the private minting of coins must be abolished so that minting can be open to the competition of the free market.~~

~~We call for an end to attempts to regulate or limit use of cryptocurrencies and for the legalization of domestic deposits denominated in foreign currencies.~~

We call for recognition of the right of individuals to use gold and other commodities, cryptocurrencies, and foreign currencies as money, and the legalization of domestic deposits denominated in foreign currencies. Restrictions upon the private minting of coins must be abolished so that minting can be open to the competition of the free market.

We call for an end to attempts to regulate or limit use of these other forms of money, and an end to taxes imposed on "gains" in their value that are actually a reflection of a decrease in the value of U.S. government-managed fiat money.

## Revise: 2.12 Postal Service

Recommended by a vote of 5 to 0

### Summary

This proposal adds language to the last paragraph to say that in addition to eliminating the USPS we also want the language allowing for it removed from the Constitution. (The other paragraphs would remain unchanged.)

### Text Showing Revisions

...

We call for the immediate elimination of the United States Postal Service and removal of reference to it from the U.S. Constitution.



## Revise: 3.7 Education

Recommended by a vote of 5 to 0

### Summary

This proposal adds testing requirements to the list of ways that government should not be involved with education.

### Text Showing Revisions

We advocate the complete separation of education and state. Government schools lead to the indoctrination of children and interfere with the free choice of individuals. We condemn compulsory education laws and call for their immediate repeal. Government should not be in the business of deciding what is taught, whether in the form of curriculum guidelines, [testing requirements](#), "standards", or approval of textbooks. We call for the abolition of the federal Department of Education and all similar agencies at the state and local level, including school boards.

...

## Revise: move 3.12 Juries

Recommended by a vote of 5 to 0

### Summary

This proposal moves the Juries plank from 3.12 (between the energy and mental health planks) to after 4.9 (where other government functions are addressed). The name and text would remain unchanged.

### Text Showing Revisions

~~3.12~~[4.x](#) Juries

## Revise: 3.13 Government and Mental Health (#1)

Recommended by a vote of 5 to 0

### Summary

This proposal changes the name of the plank to "Mental Health" and modifies the second paragraph by adding a point about reporting to government and rewording the last sentence to be more direct. (The first paragraph would remain unchanged.)

### Text Showing Revisions

#### 3.13 ~~Government and~~ Mental Health

We oppose the involuntary treatment or commitment of any person for mental health concerns, as well as government pressure requiring parents to obtain counseling or psychiatric drugs for their children. We advocate an end to the spending of tax money for any program of psychiatric, psychological, behavioral research, or treatment.

Human beings should not be treated as government test tubes. The treatment of mental health should be a private matter between practitioner and patient and there should be no required reporting of it to government. ~~Where, with whom, why, and any other aspect of how a person seeks and obtains counseling should not be under the realm of government control or receive government funding.~~ Government should have no control nor should it provide any funding, which would give it an indirect means of control, over why, from whom, or any other aspect of how a person seeks counseling or any other mental health service.

## Revise: 3.14 Health Care

Recommended by a vote of 5 to 0

### Summary

This proposal adds a paragraph to the end of the plank addressing "certificates of need", through which government limits the supply of hospital services.

### Text Showing Revisions

...

We oppose all Certificate-of-Need laws. Such laws only limit access, degrade quality, and increase costs. In a free-market healthcare system, consumers (not state regulatory mechanisms) will decide how many hospitals are needed in a particular region, how many beds are needed at healthcare facilities, and will never obstruct ambulatory services entering a market.

## Revise: 3.17 Social Security

Recommended by a vote of 5 to 0

### Summary

This proposal adds two sentences about private alternatives.

### Text Showing Revisions

Retirement planning is the responsibility of the individual not the government. Therefore, we call for the elimination of the coercive government-sponsored Social Security system. In the interim, we support making participation optional as a way to phase-out the program in favor of private alternatives. Individuals who favor a collective retirement scheme should be free to do so voluntarily and independent of the coercion of the state.

## Revise: 4.11 Electoral Systems

Recommended by a vote of 5 to 0

### Summary

This proposal makes minor changes in wording for consistency with the way NOTA is typically referenced in LP documents.

### Text Showing Revisions

...

In order to grant voters a full range of choice in federal, state, and local elections, we propose the addition of the alternative ~~"None of the above is acceptable"~~ "none of the above" (NOTA) to all ballots, to indicate that none of the listed candidates are acceptable. We further propose that in the event that "none of the above-~~is acceptable~~" receives a plurality of votes in any election, either the elective office for that term must remain unfilled and unfunded, or there shall be a new election in which none of the losing candidates shall be eligible.

## Revise: 4.13 Campaign Finance

Recommended by a vote of 5 to 0

### Summary

This proposal breaks the first sentence into two to make it more understandable (allowing phrases to be separated using commas rather than semicolons) and broadens the scope to include state-level agencies.

### Text Showing Revisions

We demand repeal of all ~~regulations and regulatory structures~~ campaign finance laws and regulations, including the Federal Election Campaign Act, and the elimination of the ~~FEC~~ Federal Election Commission and similar agencies at the state level, ~~which~~ These suppress voluntary support of candidates and parties; ~~compel~~ compel taxpayers to subsidize ~~some~~ politicians and political views which many do not wish to support; ~~invade the privacy of American citizens;~~ invade the privacy of American citizens; and protect the Republican and Democratic parties from competition. We call for an end to all government subsidies to candidates or parties and the repeal of all laws which regulate or restrict voluntary financing of election campaigns.

## Revise: 5.2 World Government

Recommended by a vote of 5 to 0

### Summary

Because "policeman of the world" is more commonly used in describing the role of a single country (generally the U.S.), and is in fact already used in that way elsewhere in our platform, this proposal would instead here make use of the phrase "the world's police force" to describe a role that we don't want to see the UN playing.

### Text Showing Revisions

We support the immediate withdrawal of the United States government from, and an end to its financial support for, the United Nations (UN). Specifically, we oppose any policy designating the UN as ~~policeman of the world~~ the world's police force, committing troops to wars at the discretion of the UN, or placing troops under UN command. We oppose our government's participation in any world or international government and oppose any treaty under which individual rights would be violated.

## Revise: 5.5 Immigration

Recommended by a vote of 5 to 0

### Summary

This amends the list of criteria that government should not be using to limit immigration by adding "socioeconomic status" and changing "sexual preference" to "sexual orientation/identity".

### Text Showing Revisions

Non-citizens, whether "documented" or "undocumented", must not be denied the fundamental freedom to labor and to move about unmolested, nor should citizens be denied the right to assist in whatever manner they choose. Furthermore, immigration must not be restricted for reasons of nationality, race, religion, political creed, age, socioeconomic status, or sexual ~~preference~~orientation/identity.

## Revise: 5.6 Trade Barriers

Recommended by a vote of 5 to 0

### Summary

This proposal changes the word "nations" to "governments", because it is really governments that make trade policies.

### Text Showing Revisions

Free trade does not require a treaty, but only for the government to stay out of the way. Tariffs and quotas give special treatment to favored interests and diminish the welfare of everyone. We therefore support abolition of all trade barriers and all government-sponsored export-promotion programs. We affirm this as a unilateral policy, independent of the trade policies of other ~~nations~~governments.

## Revise: 5.7 Foreign Aid

Recommended by a vote of 5 to 0

### Summary

This simplifies the language by breaking up long sentences and making other minor changes in wording.

### Text Showing Revisions

We support the elimination of tax-supported military, economic, technical, and scientific aid to foreign governments or other organizations, ~~and~~. We call for the repeal of all prohibitions on individuals or firms contributing or selling goods and services to any foreign ~~country or organization~~entity. We ~~support the abolition of~~oppose government underwriting of arms sales. We ~~further support~~call for the abolition of ~~federal~~all agencies that make American taxpayers guarantors of export-related loans, ~~and~~. We oppose the participation of the United States government in international commodity circles which restrict production, limit technological innovation, and raise prices.

## Revise: 5.12 Weapons of Mass Destruction

Recommended by a vote of 5 to 0

### Summary

This proposal makes two minor changes to make the meaning more clear.

### Changes

Replace "i.e." with "e.g.", because destruction of a specific geographic area is not the only way that a weapon might be excessively destructive. Insert "then" to complement the preceding "if".

### Text Showing Revisions

We believe that no government agency must be allowed to acquire, purchase, or otherwise accept for use any vehicles, equipment, or weapons unless such hardware is readily available in an open commercial market. If any tool in its intended use is deemed too powerful or destructive for any individual to own, ~~i.e.~~e.g. weapons that would destroy towns or neighborhoods in their applications, then those tools are also too powerful for any government to own.

## **New Plank: Civil Asset Forfeiture**

Recommended by a vote of 5 to 0

### **Summary**

This proposal adds a new plank, after the existing plank 1.16 Safeguards for the Criminally Accused, addressing the subject of civil asset forfeiture.

### **Text**

#### **1.x Civil Asset Forfeiture**

The only just case for involuntarily seizing another's property is to set right an injustice such as theft. Civil asset forfeiture takes the property of individuals before any criminal guilt is found and often deprives them of that property far longer than is reasonable, if not indefinitely. Civil asset forfeiture is legal plunder in the most literal sense; it is the law stealing that which it wishes without the burden of proof or the necessity of a crime. We call for an end to legal plunder and the return of all property stolen by the state under civil asset forfeiture.

## **New Plank: Government Whistleblowers**

Recommended by a vote of 5 to 0

### **Summary**

This would add a new plank, after 4.7 Government Police and Law Enforcement, expressing support for those who expose government wrong-doing.

### **Text**

#### **4.x Government Whistleblowers**

We support the right of government employees and contractors to expose unethical and unconstitutional government practices to the public, the people the government was intended to serve. The value of such exposure has been shown in such areas as financial corruption, privacy violations (e.g., Edward Snowden), and war crimes (e.g., Chelsea Manning). We oppose government retaliation against such whistleblowers, including revocation of citizenship or passport credentials. We support measures taken, privately or publicly, to promote their safety, including repatriation in such a manner that does not automatically castigate them should they return. We call for a full restoration of rights taken as retaliation for raising an alarm on governmental activity.

## **New Plank: Gambling**

Recommended by a vote of 5 to 0

### **Summary**

This proposal adds a new plank, after the existing plank 1.20 The Right to Property, addressing government restrictions on gambling.

### **Text**

#### **1.x Gambling**

We support the right of individuals to engage in gambling in any form they deem appropriate (e.g., online betting markets), with the understanding that it is the responsibility of each individual to accept the outcome of their actions and to incur such wins or losses they receive. The debts of private individuals should never be the burden of taxpayers. Accordingly, we oppose all efforts of the government to prohibit, restrict, or undermine in any way people's ability to gamble in person or online. We further oppose all legally-mandated age restrictions on such activities.

## **New Plank: Emigration**

Recommended by a vote of 5 to 0

### **Summary**

This proposal adds a new plank titled "Emigration", after 5.5 Immigration.

### **Text**

#### **5.x Emigration**

We oppose all governmental restrictions on leaving the country, including limits on the amount or value of cash or other monetary commodities that can be physically or electronically brought out of the country, documentation required to exit the country, controls on means of transportation or exit locations, and required government approval associated with changing citizenship and/or tax status.



## **New Plank: Languages**

Recommended by a vote of 5 to 0

### **Summary**

This would add a new plank, after the current 1.4 Freedom of Communications, addressing government regulation of languages.

### **Text**

#### **1.x Languages**

Government should have no role in regulating, standardizing, or mandating which language people use in schools, places of work, or any other private situation. Although English is the most widely used language in the United States, it is not the official language of the country, despite various states attempting to mandate its use, including instruction in schools. We support complete separation of government and language and leave it to the individuals in question which mode of communication they deem most appropriate.

## **New Plank: Organ Transfers**

Recommended by a vote of 5 to 0

### **Summary**

This proposal adds a new plank, after the existing plank 1.8 End of Life Decisions, addressing the subject of donating/selling bodily organs (including blood).

### **Text**

#### **1.x Organ Transfers**

We assert that every individual has the right to donate their possessions, including blood and bodily organs. We oppose any government decree that forces or prohibits voluntary organ donation for any purpose. Likewise, we support the right of any individual or business to buy or sell blood and organs for any purpose. We further oppose the government restriction of blood donation based purely on sexual orientation or identity.

# **New Plank: Subsidized College**

Recommended by a vote of 5 to 0

## **Summary**

This proposal adds a new plank, after the existing plank 3.7 Education, addressing the subject of government-sponsored student loans.

## **Text**

### **3.x Subsidized College**

The current so-called student loan crisis would have easily been avoided if the government had stayed out of student loans in the first place. Since the 1950s the federal government increasingly and incrementally became more involved with student loans so much that it is now practically a monopoly. The government has been directly lending funds to students for some time.

Colleges know that as they continue to increase tuition, significantly faster than the general rate of inflation, government will continue to cover costs. This has created a subsidized-college-campus-industry where colleges now need to compete to get students, hence more government money. Guaranteed, easy-to-access loans has now created multiple generations of financial ignorance and entitlement.

We call for the abolition of all federal student loan programs.

We call for the end of all student loan relief programs.

We call for an end to subsidization of college.

## Revise: 3.8 Libraries

Recommended by a vote of 5 to 0

### Summary

This proposal makes a minor wording change in the first paragraph and adds a new paragraph addressing discrimination in government-funded libraries.

### Text Showing Revisions

We advocate that all libraries be 100% private and neither run nor funded by government at all. This could be done in a multitude of ways: subscription-based, donor-based, voluntary staffing, or general philanthropy (which was, historically, the way that many libraries now run by government were originally ~~set-up~~established).

Voluntary communities, businesses, and individuals should be free to open any type of library they wish, with any kind of lending or content policies they wish. Complete privatization would also eliminate the politicization of such controversies as who is invited to read during a story hour, or whether books on a particular subject should be made available to the public.

As long as governments fund libraries with coercive taxation they have no right to discriminate or base collection policies on personal characteristics such as race, sex, gender, or sexual orientation/identity.

## Revise: 5.8 Colonialism

Recommended by a vote of 5 to 0

### Summary

This proposal would amend the Colonialism plank to address the disposition of land for which a legitimate owner cannot be identified, to address the issue of local tyranny arising after a colonial power withdraws, and to make one additional minor wording change.

### Text Showing Revisions

We favor immediate self-determination for all individuals living in colonial dependencies, freeing these individuals from American dominance accompanied by the termination of their subsidization ~~of them~~ at taxpayers' expense. Land seized by the United States government must be returned to its rightful owners. If they cannot be identified, the land should be open to homesteading.

Anti-colonialism encompasses not only throwing off the shackles of the colonial power(s), but ensuring that such authoritarianism and tyranny does not recur after independence. In the spirit of such freedom, we support all local efforts at ousting local and native tyranny against individual liberty.

# Revise: 1.9 Gender and Sexuality

Recommended by a vote of 5 to 0

## Summary

This proposal shortens what is currently one of the longer planks by modifying the language of several paragraphs. It also adds a sentence about names/pronouns.

## Text Showing Revisions

Individuals have the sole authority to determine and express their own sexual~~/~~ and gender identities.

¶

~~None of the individual characteristics relating to these matters~~ No intrinsic human characteristic such as gender, gender identity, or sexual orientation should be the subject of law or ~~other government policy~~ the policy of any level of government. ~~Neither physical characteristics, at any level from chromosomes to anatomical features, and whether considered at birth or after voluntary modification, nor behavioral characteristics such as gender expression, sexual orientation, or sexual preference, should have any bearing on individual rights or responsibilities.~~

~~Since~~ gGovernment has no ~~business taking~~ right to take such distinctions into account in matters such as marriage, child custody, adoption, immigration, or military service, and there is no need for government to track or classify people in these ways, or even to create definitions for such classifications. We specifically oppose the requirement and use of such classifications on government-issued identification documents.

As long as governments continue to issue birth certificates, any sexual characteristics recorded therein should be used solely for the purpose of later identification of the individual, e.g., in prosecution of real crimes or establishment of property rights, and should not be carried forward into other kinds of government records or used as the basis of any other action by government.

To the degree that distinctions of this type are relevant to personal interactions and relationships, they are only the business of those involved. Government should not be compelling, regulating, or prohibiting any such interaction or relationship.

To the degree that such classifications are considered useful or necessary in various larger-scale activities, such as scientific research, medicine, or sports, they should be determined voluntarily by the organizations involved, using whatever criteria they consider relevant in the particular field.

We condemn ~~existing and proposed~~ any legislation that interferes with the lives of gender and sexual minority (GSM) individuals. ~~We oppose all laws which attempt to restrict a transgender patient's access to gender-affirming medical care. Likewise, we oppose actions taken by another individual for or against such care with an unwilling participant.~~ Transgender individuals possess full self-ownership, as all people do, and cannot rightly be prevented from or coerced into receiving gender-affirming care. We oppose all laws which mandate or forbid the use of an individual's preferred name or pronouns.

## Revise: 1.7 Families

Recommended by a vote of 5 to 0

### Summary

This proposal adds a paragraph defending the right of children to not have their bodies modified without their consent.

### Text Showing Revisions

...

Additionally, children are not property. We deplore any action taken by parents, in their role as guardians of their young children, to mutilate or remove a functioning body part from their child without the child's informed consent, whether justified on religious or cultural grounds, as in female genital mutilation, or in order to benefit another, as in organ donation. Children have the right, as all individuals do, to be free from the initiation of violence. Relatives, close friends, or other concerned people should be free to advocate for and protect the rights of children, including removing them from situations where bodily harm is imminent.

## Revise: 3.16 Poverty and Unemployment

Recommended by a vote of 5 to 0

### Summary

This proposal adds a new 4th paragraph about voluntary approaches to helping the homeless and private management of where homeless people live.

### Text Showing Revisions

We oppose all attempts to criminalize homelessness. We therefore call for the immediate repeal of all laws against sleeping, camping, eating, feeding, or solicitation.

Traditional, voluntary sources of emergency support from families, churches, private charities, and mutual aid societies have always been more humane, more effective, and willingly borne by the givers rather than being coercively taken from others. Therefore we call for the complete disbandment of the welfare state.

As long as we are being oppressed by the current tax system, we advocate dollar-for-dollar tax credits for all charitable contributions, as a way of shortening the time when governmental programs are replaced by effective private institutions.

We support voluntary efforts and organizations to feed and clothe the homeless as a means of rehabilitation and re-entering society and the workforce. We oppose all laws prohibiting the assistance of homeless individuals and of sleeping or loitering; these decisions are best left to private property and business owners who know their community better than politicians, and would be even more effective if property rights were extended to sidewalks and roads.

Government fiscal and monetary measures that artificially foster business expansion guarantee an eventual increase in unemployment rather than curtailing it. We call for the immediate cessation of such policies as well as any governmental attempts to affect employment levels.

We support repeal of all laws that impede the ability of any person to find employment, such as minimum wage laws, so-called "protective" labor legislation for women and children, governmental restrictions on the establishment of private day-care centers, and the National Labor Relations Act. We deplore government-fostered forced retirement, which robs the elderly of the right to work.

## Revise: 2.1 Social Services

Recommended by a vote of 5 to 0

### Summary

This proposal adds two sentences explaining how voluntary social services are better than ones provided by government.

### Text Showing Revisions

We oppose government funded social services. However, we support the right of individuals to voluntarily form mutual aid and philanthropic societies to help those in need. These voluntary support services are more responsive and effective than government bureaucracies that have an incentive to prolong and even worsen existing social problems, for the sake of their job security and program funding.

## Revise: use word "state-socialist"

Recommended by a vote of 4 to 0 with 1 abstention

### Summary

The word "socialist" currently appears in two places in the platform. This proposal replaces that with "state-socialist" to make clear that we are not referring to voluntary types of socialism.

### Text Showing Revisions

*in 2.7 Universal Service*

... Treating young people as a "means of production" that can be better managed by government than by their own choices is a state-socialist idea that is inconsistent with a free market.

*in 4.4 Government Employees*

... Having the government acting as an employer distorts the job market as a whole, and creates even greater distortions in those sectors where it dominates. Entire sectors of our economy now operate on what is basically a state-socialist model. This creates a serious conflict of interest for elected officials, who in their role as employers should be looking out for interests of citizens and taxpayers at large, but depend for their re-election on the support of their own employees, who through their privileged position and numbers have in many cases become major political players. ...

## Revise: 1.20 The Right to Property (#1)

Recommended by a vote of 5 to 0

### Summary

This proposal adds a paragraph to the end of the plank asserting the right to defend ones property from threats such as balloons and drones.

### Text Showing Revisions

...

We support the right of individuals to defend their private property, including the right to terminate perceived threats such as surveillance balloons or drones operated by domestic or foreign governments or other hostile entities.

## Revise: 1.20 The Right to Property (#2)

Recommended by a vote of 5 to 0

### Summary

This proposal adds a paragraph to the end of the plank clarifying that we don't oppose collective ownership of property as long as the arrangement is voluntary.

### Text Showing Revisions

...

We support the right of individuals to own land and property collectively, if they so choose, for the purpose of living together (e.g., hippie communes, Israeli kibbutzim) or other activities (e.g., community gardens), and to decide amongst themselves how that collective ownership works in practice.



## Revise: 3.1 Consumer Protection

Recommended by a vote of 4 to 0 with 1 abstention

### Summary

This proposal re-organizes and rewords the plank in a style that is more similar to other planks.

### Text Showing Revisions

~~The natural right to produce and purchase products and services must not be restricted by law. In the free market, consumers would be protected because:~~

- ~~a. A good name is an asset to a business and it can best be maintained by fair and honest dealing;~~
- ~~b. The use of certificates, guarantees, and warranties issued by manufacturers and suppliers of goods and services is a protection to the consumer;~~
- ~~c. Both professional and non-professional people can voluntarily form associations for the specific purpose of maintaining high standards both in work and behavior; and,~~
- ~~d. Privately-owned consumer protection organizations producing journals and magazines would proliferate in a free market.~~

~~We therefore endorse and advocate the elimination of all government consumer affairs bureaus or departments such as the Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC), and the Food and Drug Administration, (FDA), and the repeal of all laws regulating the production, transportation, sale, possession, advertising, quality, safety, or use of any product or service.~~

The natural right to produce and purchase products and services must not be restricted by law. We advocate the elimination of all government consumer affairs agencies such as the Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) and the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), and the repeal of all laws regulating the production, transportation, sale, possession, advertising, quality, safety, or use of any product or service.

These functions would be better served, in a truly free market, because:

- a. a good name is an asset to a business that can best be maintained by fair and honest dealing;
- b. certificates, guarantees, and warranties issued by manufacturers and suppliers of goods and services would be enforced;
- c. both professional and non-professional people would voluntarily form associations for the specific purpose of maintaining high standards both in work and behavior; and
- d. privately-owned consumer protection organizations producing reviews, ratings, and recommendations would proliferate.

## Revise: 3.13 Government and Mental Health (#2)

Recommended by a vote of 4 to 0 with 1 abstention

### Summary

This proposal adds a paragraph to the end of the plank about the disservice government does to those who really could benefit from help by promoting the idea that everybody is somehow mentally ill and therefore in need of assistance.

### Text Showing Revisions

...

Government labeling mental health "crises" often ends up blurring the lines between mild conditions and serious disorders such as schizophrenia. This "something for everyone" approach results in those truly needing care going untreated, unmedicated, and often ending up in emergency rooms or jail. Having more hospitals and smaller more-accessible services available would better and more cost-effectively help those who truly need assistance.

## Revise: 2.15 Space Exploration and Development

Recommended by a vote of 4 to 0 with 1 abstention

### Summary

This proposal removes the word "therefore" from the paragraph about NASA to make it independent of the previous paragraphs, and adds a new paragraph about space aliens.

### Text Showing Revisions

...

~~Therefore, w~~We support the replacement of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration with private-sector alternatives.

Should extraterrestrial life be discovered, we support the right of individuals to decide for themselves whether to interact with or host these lifeforms. We oppose any government law or action that forbids humans from interacting with, hosting, or otherwise supporting intelligent extraterrestrial life in mutual peaceful exchange.

## Revise: 4.15 Secession

Recommended by a vote of 4 to 0 with 1 abstention

### Summary

This replaces the word "or" with the word "and" in listing the types of entities that might secede.

### Text Showing Revisions

We recognize the right to political secession by political entities, private groups, ~~or~~and individuals. We believe that individuals must be allowed to decide for themselves if and how they will be governed, if at all. Exercise of this right, like the exercise of all other rights, does not remove legal and moral obligations not to violate the rights of others.