

2022 REPUBLICAN PARTY OF POLK COUNTY CONVENTION PLATFORM

With trust in God, and in fidelity to generations past and generations to come, we respectfully submit this platform to the Polk County Republican Convention.

As United States citizens and Republicans, we affirm our nation is a Constitutional Republic. We affirm our founding documents, which outline the Creator God given inalienable, natural rights to Life, Liberty, Property, and the pursuit of happiness. Further, the Right to Life shall be understood to include all people from conception to natural death. We support an originalist interpretation of the Constitution and believe its language and Declaration of Independence is as relevant today as they were penned. We believe that a properly limited Federal Government will be constrained to its constitutional roles of protecting National Sovereignty and facilitating Interstate Commerce. We also believe the proper relationship of the Federal Government and States will allow the State and Local Governments to maintain decision-making responsibilities for all other issues.

1. LIFE

We carry forward the knowledge of our forefathers that all people are created with equal value, and endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable rights. Because the humanity of the unborn is not just a religious or philosophical view, we acknowledge is an established fact that from conception human beings are individuals, distinct from their mother, with an inalienable right to life, which makes killing them legally recognizable as murder. The US Constitution requires every state to outlaw murder. Therefore, we believe that, in order to properly protect the right to life of the vulnerable among us, every human being at every stage of life must be recognized as a person possessing the right to life in federal and state laws without exception and without compromise.

2. PERSONAL LIBERTY

We believe that citizens have fundamental rights of personal liberty, as granted by God and recognized in the U.S. Constitution. These rights carry personal accountability and should not directly interfere with the life, liberty, or property of any other person. We believe the people have the freedom and responsibility to make their own decisions without encumbrance or undue interference from government or corporations.

3. PRIVATE PROPERTY

We believe property is the result of one's labor, ingenuity, skills, and capital. Property rights include the right to transfer property by gift, inheritance or otherwise without encumbrance of taxes. We believe that a function of government is to protect the property and resources of one from being taken without their consent and given to another. We reject the abuse of eminent domain.

4. FACILITATE INTERSTATE AND INTERNATIONAL COMMERCE

We believe a free market economy works; bringing new products, inventions, and increased prosperity to all levels of society. We believe unfettered fair trade is an essential part of equality between sovereign peoples. It strengthens our international relations and improves the quality of life for all parties involved. We recognize limited functions of our federal government, including regulating interstate and international commerce without picking winners or losers. Government interference leads to unintended consequences such as: corporatism, monopoly, special interest lobbying, and distortions of the economy.

5. NATIONAL SOVEREIGNTY

We affirm the United States to be a free, independent, and sovereign nation, accountable only to God and her citizens. We charge our federal government to defend our national interests at home and abroad. We believe national defense is a primary role of our federal government. Our nation must maintain a strong and effective military. All aspects of our national defense must uphold our Constitution and the fundamental, inalienable rights of individual citizens.

6. STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT

We believe that the people of our state and nation are best served when decisions are made at the local level. We charge our state and local governments to reclaim their purpose as empowered by the Constitution and the 10th Amendment. We believe that the Federal Government should be limited and the states' role is to foster growth, prosperity and well-being of its citizens. State and local governments have the right to Independently make decisions that are best for its citizenry regarding education, public safety, infrastructure, taxation and all other issues reserved to the states. Our elected officials and government agencies shall be accountable to its constituency before the Federal Government.

1. LIFE

We carry forward the knowledge of our forefathers that all people are created with equal value, and endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable rights. Because the humanity of the unborn is not just a religious or philosophical view, we acknowledge is an established fact that from conception human beings are individuals, distinct from their mother, with an inalienable right to life, which makes killing them legally recognizable as murder. The US Constitution requires every state to outlaw murder. Therefore, we believe that, in order to properly protect the right to life of the vulnerable among us, every human being at every stage of life must be recognized as a person possessing the right to life in federal and state laws without exception and without compromise.

Therefore, as we continue to defend innocent life, we support these measures:

- 1.1 We oppose using public revenues to fund abortions or organizations, such as Planned Parenthood, which advocate abortion.
- 1.2 We support scientific inquiry focused on non-embryonic stem cell research.
- 1.3 We support private entities that provide alternatives to abortion by meeting the needs of both parents and offering adoption services.
- 1.4 We support a “right to know law” for mothers and fathers who are seeking an abortion. This includes procedural information, risks involved, documented psychological effects to the mother and the trauma to the unborn child, which results in death.
- 1.5 We recognize that in cases where a mother’s life is at risk, every effort should be made to save the life of the unborn child and mother.
- 1.6 We oppose assisted suicide, euthanasia, infanticide, embryonic stem cell research, and procedures that intentionally destroy innocent human beings; including such procedures as partial birth abortions and chemical abortifacients.
- 1.7 We support enactment of legislation by the Iowa legislature prohibiting the sale or gift of any and all aborted babies or any part thereof including organs, limbs, or tissues by Planned Parenthood or any other entity.
- 1.8 We support non-embryonic stem cell research, such as promoting the use of adult stem cells, while opposing human cloning and research using fetal tissue from abortions
- 1.9 We believe that aborted fetal cell research for any reason, including biologics, pharmaceuticals, or consumer products, is immoral and should be unlawful.
- 1.10 Iowa should enact a State Constitutional Amendment to defend the sanctity of innocent human life, created in the image of God, from fertilization until natural death.
- 1.11 We oppose the non-consensual withholding or withdrawal of care or treatment, including food and water, from people with disabilities, including newborns, as well as the elderly and infirmed, just as we oppose active and passive euthanasia and assisted suicide.

2. PERSONAL LIBERTY

We believe that citizens have fundamental rights of personal liberty, as granted by God and recognized in the U.S. Constitution. These rights carry personal accountability and should not directly interfere with the life, liberty, or property of any other person. We believe the people have the freedom and responsibility to make their own decisions without encumbrance or undue interference from government or corporations. Therefore:

- 2.1 We strongly believe in the natural right of individuals to keep, carry and bear arms, as recognized and protected by the Second Amendment to the Constitution of the United States, and we support the repeal of existing laws that infringe upon those rights, i.e., “red flag” laws. We support adding the language of the Freedom Amendment (SJR7), placing Second Amendment language in the Iowa Constitution.
- 2.2 We strongly believe that the right for an individual or parent to decline a vaccination, immunization, or any other medical treatment for themselves or their children is an inalienable natural right. We oppose medical treatment requirements or mandates and believe medical decisions should remain private between an individual and their doctor. And further, that statutory protections for citizens against coercion, loss of employment, fines, penalties, civil actions, or retaliation in any form, private or government, shall be enacted.
- 2.3 We believe that emergency powers in the Iowa code must be reformed, such that no emergency should last more than 15 days without a direct authorizing vote of the Iowa House and Senate. The First Amendment guarantees assembly and

religious worship are beyond the authority of any state power to regulate, limit, or forbid.

- 2.4 We support physicians' rights to prescribe or recommend drugs, supplements, or therapies according to their best judgement without interference by the medical boards, or medical groups, and without threat of losing their license. Doctors need freedom to "follow the science." Science is best followed when opposing evidence is addressed, not censored or ignored by regulatory agencies and non-regulated fact checkers.
- 2.5 We recognize the rights of parents in the education of their children and to be informed as to what is being taught in schools.
- 2.6 Iowa parents and guardians should have the right to select schools, whether public or private, for their children, and the funding should follow the student.
- 2.7 We oppose all efforts of school districts, libraries, and public places regarding the sexual indoctrination of children including but not limited to the distribution of pornographic and obscene materials, teaching on gender identity and sexual orientation, or promoting sexual deviancies.
- 2.8 We believe that no law should infringe on faith-based adoptive service agencies who offer their services in accordance with their beliefs.
- 2.9 We reaffirm our First Amendment rights of the free exercise of religion, including the freedom of religious institutions to preach, teach and advocate according to their beliefs; and including the right of conscience in all business dealings and professional duties.
- 2.10 We strongly support that education follow the basic traditional and long-standing focus on reading, writing, math, civics, and sciences, and reject social indoctrination of children by any name: Critical Race Theory, Identity-based theories, Social Emotional Learning, or any form of group victimization.
- 2.11 The Republican Party recognizes only two biological genders from birth, male and female. Such that, biological gender shall determine one's participation in or use of restrooms, locker rooms, sport teams or other such accommodations or institutions.
- 2.12 We oppose discrimination based on social credit scoring, such as and including Environmental, Social, and Governance, (ESG) scores.
- 2.13 Traditional, marriage-based (one male and one female) families are intrinsically procreative and thereby essential to a stable, thriving, and lasting civilization.
- 2.14 We support the enactment of a state version of the Religious Freedom Restoration Act.
- 2.15 We support a ban on Gender reassignment procedures for minors. Studies show majority of children overcome gender dysphoria at puberty.
- 2.16 We support "Conscience Clause" legislation so that no person, business, or organization can be penalized for its exercise of religious freedom by not providing services that violates their religious beliefs.
- 2.17 We support entitlement reform including mandatory drug testing for welfare recipients.
- 2.18 We support the complete repeal of The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act ("Obamacare") in total, and replacing it with a free market solution.

3. PRIVATE PROPERTY

We believe property is the result of one's labor, ingenuity, skills, and capital. Property rights include the right to transfer property by gift, inheritance or otherwise without encumbrance of taxes. We believe that a function of government is to protect the property and resources of one from being taken without their consent and given to another. We reject the abuse of eminent domain. Therefore:

- 3.1 We demand the end of property tax to allow citizens to truly own their own property and not have it taken from them or taxed away, thus restructuring education funding from a sales tax.
- 3.2 We oppose any limits being placed on firearm ownership at the state and federal level.
- 3.3 Eminent domain should be used solely for public use; therefore, we support legislation preventing the seizure of private property for economic development purposes.
- 3.4 We support the elimination of all federal and state "death taxes" with the continuation of the stepped-up basis on inherited property

- 3.5 We support a limited national retail sales tax and the repeal of the Sixteenth Amendment to the United States Constitution.
- 3.6 We support a review of all professional licensing requirements to eliminate licensing regulations that do not protect public safety but instead protect existing licensees from new competition or protect the incomes of sellers of licensing education services.
- 3.7 We support the return to regular order by requiring congress to consider all budget bills separately, rather than in omnibus form.
- 3.8 We oppose taxpayer funded forgiveness of college debt and free college for all.
- 3.9 We oppose taxpayer funding of transition surgery for transgender individuals.
- 3.10 Civil Asset Forfeiture should be banned. Asset Forfeiture should only be for convicted criminal cases.
- 3.11 We support the expansion of the disabled veteran's exemption to include a reduction in property taxes corresponding with VA disability ratings.
- 3.12 We support legislation requiring all new proposed regulations to receive legislative authorization prior to their implementation.
- 3.13 We support amending the Iowa Constitution to require a 2/3 vote of both Houses of the Iowa General Assembly to pass any bill that raise taxes.

4. FACILITATE INTERSTATE AND INTERNATIONAL COMMERCE

We believe a free market economy works; bringing new products, inventions, and increased prosperity to all levels of society. We believe unfettered fair trade is an essential part of equality between sovereign peoples. It strengthens our international relations and improves the quality of life for all parties involved. We recognize limited functions of our federal government, including regulating interstate and international commerce without picking winners or losers. Government interference leads to unintended consequences such as: corporatism, monopoly, special interest lobbying, and distortions of the economy. Therefore:

- 4.1 We call for the abolition of the Federal Department of Agriculture, returning control back to the state and local governments.
- 4.2 We oppose any taxes or regulations intended to mitigate greenhouse gas emissions or climate change. Free markets will provide the best solution to any environmental crisis.
- 4.3 We support and will actively pursue immediately a full and complete independent audit of the Federal Reserve, along with a release of the complete audit results to the American citizenry.
- 4.4 We support reform of the social security system to make it solvent. return it to an independent trust fund free to invest.
- 4.5 We support review of the current hours of operation and Electronic Log Device ("ELD") regulations of the trucking industry.
- 4.6 We support energy independence by finishing our pipelines, mining coal, drilling and exploring for oil and natural gas, as well as building new refineries in the United States and its Territories.
- 4.7 We believe in reinvigorating research, development, and implementation of nuclear power and other sources in support of the United States returning to energy independence.

5. NATIONAL SOVEREIGNTY

We affirm the United States to be a free, independent, and sovereign nation, accountable only to God and her citizens. We charge our federal government to defend our national interests at home and abroad. This includes, but is not limited to, securing our borders and aligning our immigration policies to accomplish this goal. We believe national defense is a primary goal of our federal government. Our nation must maintain a strong and effective military. All aspects of our national defense must uphold our Constitution and the fundamental, inalienable rights of individual citizens. We decline to participate in any convention, agreement or other international instrument that is legally binding under international law if it conflicts with the sovereignty of the United States of America or the liberties of its people. This includes, but is not limited to instruments presented by the UN, WHO, NATO, the World Economic Forum, WTO, WBG, IMF, et al. Therefore:

- 5.1 We support national responsibility for advocacy, timely financial and medical support for veterans and all the affairs related to honoring their service and commitment to our nation.
- 5.2 We support the completion of the border wall and other immigration reforms the Trump administration began.
- 5.3 We support securing the borders of the United States, the vigorous enforcement of current immigration laws, increased screening of immigrant applicants-including refugees, and the immediate deportation of illegal aliens who are convicted

felons.

- 5.4 We support terminating funding for government entities that do not enforce federal immigration laws.
- 5.5 We support legal, merit-based immigration while defending the border patrol and ICE, requiring local law enforcement cooperation. We strongly oppose any measures, including “new way forward act”, to weaken our immigration laws and their enforcement.
- 5.6 We must maintain a strong military in both the active and reserve branches of our military with resources and equipment to be more efficiently allocated and maintained.
- 5.7 We support the abolition of the Department of Homeland Security. We support the restructuring of federal agencies to ensure coordination on matters of domestic and international terrorism.
- 5.8 The United States should not enter into any treaty or international body that limits the sovereignty of the nation or inalienable rights of individual citizens of the United States.
- 5.9 National defense should include but not be limited to; border security, terrorism, cyber security, and infrastructure security.
- 5.10 We support the withdrawal of foreign aid from any country that supports our enemies or is recognized as an enemy of the United States.
- 5.11 We state our unequivocal support for Israel as a beacon of democracy, shared values and freedom; we reaffirm America's commitment to Israel's security. We support Israel's right to defend itself against attacks upon its people and against alternative forms of warfare being waged upon it legally, economically, culturally, and otherwise. We urge continued economic, military, and political support for our ally, Israel.
- 5.12 We support the 4th amendment protections against unreasonable search and seizure by governmental agencies against U.S. citizens.
- 5.13 We support the original intent of the 14th Amendment words as written which exclude “birth right citizenship” and “chain immigration”.
- 5.14 We support English as the official language for the United States and the state of Iowa.
- 5.15 We oppose the unconstitutional proposal of granting statehood to the District of Columbia.
- 5.16 We support a federal balanced budget amendment.
- 5.17 We support revision of the War Powers Act to oppose long-term military commitments.

6. STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT

We believe that the people of our state and nation are best served when decisions are made at the local level. We charge our state and local governments to reclaim their purpose as empowered by the 10th Amendment of the Constitution. We believe that the Federal Government should be limited and the states’ role is to foster growth, prosperity and well- being of its citizens. State and local governments have the right to independently make decisions that are best for its citizenry regarding education, public safety, infrastructure, taxation and all other issues reserved to the states. Our elected officials and government agencies shall be accountable to its constituency and not the Federal Government. Therefore:

- 6.1 Republicans support joining the call for an Convention of the States according to Article V of the United States Constitution that can, 1) limit federal spending, 2) limit terms of office for federal officials, and 3) limit federal power. Once all 34 states call for an Article V Convention of States, all states will meet to discuss Constitutional amendments related to these three topics with each state having just one vote each. Every amendment proposal must be approved by 38 states after the Convention. We must use the Founders tool to stop the federal government overreach
- 6.2 We support the implementation of waste and fraud elimination measures across all agencies of the government.
- 6.3 We believe that current textbooks and teachers should clarify that evolution of species as the origin of man is not scientific fact. We support local school districts' decisions to teach critical thinking skills regarding the origins of life.
- 6.4 We support local control of land use and zoning.
- 6.5 We support adequate funding for mental health facilities dedicated to inpatient services and outpatient mental health facilities and services. We support an increase in trained mental health professionals and staff sufficient to meet the needs of our state.

- 6.6 We support maintaining the electoral college as defined in the Constitution of the United States.
- 6.7 We support the repeal of the 17th Amendment (regarding direct election of Senators) to the Constitution of the United States, which will return States to their rightful relationship with the federal government.
- 6.8 The Iowa Legislature should pass law(s) prohibiting the collection of intrusive non-academic data collection to protect students and parents. We oppose the transfer, selling, or sharing of student level academic data with the federal government or any 3rd party outside the state's department of education without prior authorization.
- 6.9 We support the elimination of the Federal Department of Education, and restoring control to States, in accordance with the 10th amendment to the Constitution.
- 6.10 We support the government defunding of Iowa Public Television and Iowa Public Radio.
- 6.11 We support legislation to protect all Iowans in our schools and all other government buildings. We must stop designating or promoting these public gathering places as gun-free zones
- 6.12 We support returning Iowa to its place as first in the nation in education where schools are controlled locally by parents, teachers, School Boards, and state. This would include eliminating Common Core, No Child Left Behind, and similar "one size fits all" systems.
- 6.13 All legislation shall be single subject Bills.
- 6.14 We support requiring all educators to successfully pass three survey courses (Western Civilization, American History, and American Government) prior to getting a teaching certificate in the state of Iowa.
- 6.15 We support the repeal of hate speech/crime laws. People should be held accountable for their actions not for their thoughts or feelings.
- 6.16 We support reverting to the statutes which held that private held student loan debt can be included in bankruptcy.
- 6.17 We support Employment of Unauthorized Aliens Bill (SF 339), E-Verify, and the I-9 Employment Eligibility Verification form being required for all Iowa employers.
- 6.18 Republican Party encourages voting in person rather than early voting or vote by mail. Early Voting should be limited to two weeks before the election day only. Absentee voting should be limited to traditional reasons of physical incapacity or absence on Election Day.
- 6.19 We support securing our elections. We oppose voting machines that can be connected to the internet. We need to continue paper ballots. We should number all ballots sequentially and place tracking on ballots for added security. Voters should be able to check their ballot online for accuracy.
- 6.20 We demand full forensic audit of all our elections. Ballot chain of custody should be made more secure. Everyone should have to submit only their ballot.