

2006 DALLAS COUNTY REPUBLICAN PLATFORM

As ammended and ratified at the Dallas County Republican Convention
Adel Elementary School, Saturday March 11, 2006

1. ECONOMICS/ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

- 1.1 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 should be prohibited. Government should instead concentrate on creating a low-tax, low-regulation environment that is friendly to all entrepreneurs and businesses.

2. ALTERNATIVE ENERGY/RENEWABLE FUELS

- 2.1 We believe the use of non-refundable tax credits should be increased in order to encourage the market for renewable energy. We oppose governmental mandates on the supply or use of such fuels.
- 2.2 We should reduce our dependence on foreign oil and instead allow the private sector to increase production of renewable fuels as the market dictates.
- 2.3 Vehicle with efficient engines whether gasoline, diesel, or hybrid should have less expensive registration fees.
- 2.4 We support environmentally-aware development of the untapped reserves in the Alaskan National Wildlife Reserve (ANWR).

3. IMMIGRATION

- 3.1 We oppose the granting of citizenship to newborns of illegal aliens.
- 3.2 We oppose the granting of blanket amnesty to illegal immigrants.
- 3.3 We support new laws that will clearly prohibit illegal aliens from receiving benefits at taxpayer expense.
- 3.4 We support the federal government providing additional resources for the strict enforcement of current and future laws in order to halt illegal immigration, including increased border control, fencing and physical impediments, and other efforts in support of those laws.
- 3.5 Driver's licenses should only be issued to those who can show legal proof of residency.
- 3.6 We oppose the establishment of a guest worker program.

4. DOMESTIC POLICY

- 4.1 We support stricter control and limited use of absentee voting.
- 4.2 We support English as the official language of the United States.
- 4.3 We support banning pornography in libraries, schools and other publicly owned establishments. We oppose the use of tax money that allows access to pornography.

- 4.4 We support alternatives to the current Social Security system, including personal accounts.
- 4.5 We call on Iowa's legislature to strengthen laws against abuse of eminent domain.
- 4.6 We believe in private property rights and the use of eminent domain should be limited to projects for public infrastructure purposes, and not for private development.
- 4.7 In order to make Iowa more attractive to business, we support eliminating the tie between residential and agricultural property tax assessment, reducing the rollback on residential property, and thus stopping the shifting of property tax from residential property to commercial and industrial property. Accordingly, we support HF847, 2005 session.

5. LAW ENFORCEMENT/JUSTICE

- 5.1 We support laws that provide harsher penalties for sexual offenses against children and that differentiate from domestic offenses involving only adults or individuals of similar ages.
- 5.2 We support the death penalty for cases that involve the kidnapping, rape, and murder of a child.
- 5.3 We favor stricter penalties for those found guilty of hit and run accidents, especially in cases where the victim is killed.

6. TAXATION / GOVERNMENT SPENDING

- 6.1 We believe that Iowa's complicated sales-tax system hinders small businesses and holds back economic growth in Iowa. We call for the leveling of sales taxes throughout the state to a single, statewide flat-rate tax.
- 6.2 We believe that government must act as a careful steward of the public trust. To that end, we call for state government to immediately return to a balanced budget without depending upon trust funds and other extraordinary sources of revenue to achieve fiscal balance. 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.
- 6.3 We believe that less government is better government. We support every reasonable effort on the part of all governments and tax payers to limit taxing and spending. We believe that the purpose of taxation is to fund the constitutionally mandated functions of government, not to redistribute the wealth or to fund ever increasing social programs. We should always strive to have less government, fewer government employees, and lower taxes.
- 6.4 We support the proposal to discount Iowan's income taxes at just 1% of earned income, with interest, dividends, pensions, social security, and capital gains being tax free, or the ability of Iowans to file on the basis of their current deductions, whichever results in the lowest tax liability.
- 6.5 If the current tax system is retained, we support removing all taxes on Pensions and Social Security income, as well as removing taxes on interest, dividends, capital gains, and other appreciation in order to encourage investment and savings.

- 6.6 We support permanent elimination of federal and state taxes on estates and inheritances.
- 6.7 We support a taxpayer bill of rights (TABOR) restricting the growth of government to the greater of population growth or economic development.

7. GOVERNMENT

- 7.1 We believe Congress should uphold their congressional duty to impeach and remove judges who are not upholding the original intent of the Constitution.
- 7.2 We support requiring registered voters to show a picture ID prior to being allowed to vote
- 7.3 We oppose voter registration on election day.
- 7.4 We believe government should not take on functions that compete directly with the private sector.
- 7.5 Ex-felons should not be automatically granted voting rights without a traditional review process.

8. SPECIAL RIGHTS

- 8.1 We oppose the expansion of “hate crimes” legislation that unconstitutionally limit free speech and criminalize the reasonable actions of persons who oppose the granting of special status or privileges to defined groups.
- 8.2 We oppose every effort to grant special rights to groups of people based on sexual orientation.

9. FAMILIES

- 9.1 We oppose any government funded or subsidized day care.
- 9.2 We support a state constitutional amendment that defines and supports marriage as the union of one man and one woman.
- 9.3 We oppose Civil Unions.
- 9.4 We believe that it is in the best interests of children to be adopted by married couples consisting of one man and one woman.

10. RIGHT TO LIFE

- 10.1 We believe that every human being has an intrinsic right to life from conception to natural death, and it is the role of government to protect innocent life from being killed, especially when the innocent victim is so called “unwanted”, “burdensome”, or “useable for research”. Government should ban the use of tax dollars from supporting abortion, and we encourage private programs that facilitate alternatives to abortion by meeting the needs of mothers and offering adoption services.

- 10.2 We support the appointment of judges who would uphold the original intent of the Constitution, and reverse Roe v. Wade and Doe v. Bolton.
- 10.3 We support private sector stem cell research limited to adult stem cells only.

11. EDUCATION

- 11.1 We support the inherent right of every parent to choose and direct the education of their children. We support the use of vouchers so that tax dollars can be used for public, private, home, or alternative education.
- 11.2 We believe that the federal government should not be involved in education, and we support eliminating the federal Department of Education and repealing the “No Child Left Behind” Act.
- 11.3 We support the right of schools to include Creationism and Intelligent Design along with Evolution in their curriculum.
- 11.4 We believe it is the responsibility of the parent to determine pre-kindergarten education for their children
- 11.5 Iowa’s education system should emphasize the study of the U.S. and Iowa Constitution. Our education system should test and set standards for our students on this important matter.
- 11.6 We support allowing local school districts to display the Ten Commandments and the American Flag along with the daily recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance in its entirety in Iowa schools and classrooms. Additionally, we support voluntary teacher or student lead prayer in the schools and use of the Bible should be allowed as a local option.
- 11.7 We recommend that educators stress abstinence outside marriage as the surest way to prevent pregnancy and the spread of sexually transmitted diseases and associated psychological problems.
- 11.8 We oppose the use of tax dollars for the distribution of condoms in public schools.

12. HEALTH CARE

- 12.1 We support utilizing all taxes currently collected from the sale of tobacco products to offset costs associated with smoking-related health issues.
- 12.2 We believe that AIDS should be classified as a communicable disease and treated as such under current law.
- 12.3 We support the expanded use of health savings accounts.

13. NATIONAL DEFENSE

- 13.1 We urge continued economic and military support for Israel, our strong ally.
- 13.2 We believe in a strong national defense and the support our military.
- 13.3 We believe that the federal government should reduce the threat of terrorism by securing the United States’ borders at all points of entry by any means necessary, military or otherwise.

14. GAMBLING

- 14.1 We are opposed to the expansion of gambling and gaming and we support a moratorium on issuing new gambling licenses in Iowa.
- 14.2 We support the State making all gambling and video lottery "Touch Play" machines outside of licensed casinos illegal
- 14.3 We oppose government ownership of any gambling facility or activity.
- 14.4 We support the effort to remove ATM's from gambling establishments.
- 14.5 We believe that Iowa is a wonderful place to live, raise a family, and develop a career. In order to insure that Iowa maintains its positive, family-friendly reputation, we ask for a complete ban on ALL Lottery TouchPlay devices. We request that all current devices be removed from their existing locations within thirty (30) days from the date of this convention.

15. GUN CONTROL

- 15.1 We continue to support the upholding of the Second Amendment freedom. We don't support more laws, but better enforcement of the laws already on the books.
- 15.2 We support legislation to prohibit state and local governments from confiscating firearms from law-abiding citizens in the event of a natural disaster.
- 15.3 We oppose the United Nations' policy of civil disarmament, which would result in the confiscation of legal weapons from private citizens.
- 15.4 The Dallas County Republicans believe that all non-disqualified persons who have completed the State of Iowa approved course(s) for concealed weapons permits shall receive such permit from their county sheriff or the Iowa Commissioner of Public Safety.

16. FOREIGN POLICY

- 16.1 Under the Central American Free Trade Agreement ("CAFTA"), as well as the proposed Free Trade Area of the Americas ("FTAA"), our borders with Canada and Mexico will be erased, We should remain a sovereign nation and encourage free trade without the FTAA and CAFTA.
- 16.2 We support the United States withdrawing from the United Nations.

17. ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS PROPOSED BY THE JUNIOR DELEGATION

- 17.1 We believe that goods from China should have a tariff on them.
- 17.2 We support the right to parents homeschooling their children to be able to teach Driver's Ed after taking appropriate courses.
- 17.3 We believe that state welfare programs should be utilized with steps to help them get to a point where they can support themselves and their families without being government supported.
 - a. Society has an obligation to help those with disabilities sufficient enough that they cannot provide for themselves.
 - b. Welfare assistance for those who can provide, but need help will be time limited to encourage progress towards independence.
 - c. We don't believe society should provide welfare for those who can work, but choose not to.