

2024 Linn County Republican Platform

PREAMBLE

As Republicans, we uphold the principles of individual responsibility and liberty, adherence to traditional moral standards, a strong national defense, a free enterprise system and equal rights for all. Respect for the sanctity of human life, and freedom of religion and the free exercise thereof. We believe in retaining the original intent of our Constitution. We believe high moral character is a necessity for public servants. The highest standard of character should be embodied in both private and public life. We encourage the proliferation of these principles and their passage to future generations.

PLATFORM PRINCIPLES

The following are the fundamental principles that make up the platform of the Republican Party of Iowa.

I. Our nation is a Constitutional Republic whose Foundation is the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution.

We acknowledge our rights derive from God, our Creator, and are therefore unalienable and include Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness (e.g. private property). Further, the Right to Life shall be understood to include all people from conception to natural death. We are a nation governed by people elected to public office who are sent to represent us, the citizens. Our Constitution provides limits to governmental power, explicitly details our fundamental rights and insures that only the enumerated powers contained within the Constitution are executed by the federal government. All other functions of government are left to the state and local governments.

II. We are a Sovereign Nation.

We are a Sovereign Nation with defined borders, governed by a set of laws determined by our representatives, guided by our Constitution and protected by a military strong enough to defend our nation and its interests.

III. The Oath of Office of all civil servants, elected and employed, should guide their actions.

As citizens, we demand that our elected officials take their office and its duties and responsibilities to us, our country and our Constitution seriously and act in accordance with their individual Oaths of Office.

IV. Fiscal Responsibility is a fundamental function of any local, state, or federal entity.

It is a fundamental expectation that government entities act in a financially responsible manner; it follows that limiting the size and scope of government is a necessary component of achieving this end.

V. Personal Responsibility is the primary duty of all citizens.

We are a nation of individuals held together by a common vision. We are not servants of the government; we are not dependent on the benevolence of society for our survival. Our possibilities are limitless where a free market is allowed to operate without government distortion; they should not be limited by our local, state and federal government. We are citizens of our country. We as individuals are responsible for our successes and failures.

LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

This section enumerates what we Republicans of Iowa identify as the legislative priorities and stances for our elected representatives.

Life

1. We move the Iowa Republican party aggressively support a “life begins at conception” bill without exceptions. We believe that all human beings, from conception to natural death, have a God given and constitutionally protected right to life, which cannot be infringed. We believe all such issues belong under the constitutional authority of the state, not the federal government.
2. We support adding a Life Amendment to the Iowa constitution.
3. We oppose using public revenues for abortion or funding organizations which advocate it. We commend those who provide alternatives to abortion by meeting the needs of mothers and offering adoption services.
4. We reaffirm our support for appointment of judges who respect traditional family values and the sanctity of life.
5. 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.
6. We believe that traditional, two parent (one natural male and one natural female), marriage based families are the foundation to a stable, enduring, and healthy civilization. Therefore, public policy must always be pro-family in nature, encouraging marital and family commitment, and supportive of the parental rights and responsibilities.
7. 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.
8. We believe the selling, brokering or marketing of aborted fetal and perinatal tissue should be illegal.
9. We support adequate funding for state 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.
10. We support providing the father legal standing to intervene and advocate on behalf of his unborn child.

Liberty

1. We support the 1st Amendment to allow prayer in Public Schools and Public Places.
2. We believe that parents are responsible for their children, and we support the rights of parents to be the ultimate authority for the discipline, protection, and education of their children.
3. We believe money should follow the child in education whether that child attends public, private, parochial, or home school to assist parents financially in educating their children using the option best suited to their family’s educational needs.
4. We strongly believe in the constitutionally protected natural right of individuals to keep and bear arms, as recognized, and protected by the Second Amendment, and we support the repeal of existing laws that infringe upon those rights. We support maintaining the “castle doctrine” provisions of Iowa law.
5. 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.
6. We support legislation that would prohibit any organization, (for example, Planned Parenthood), from entering public school properties for the purpose of promoting promiscuous behavior and abortion products, videos, or printed material.
7. We insist that the actions of national intelligence agencies must not infringe upon American citizens’ Constitutional rights.
8. We call for the repeal of sexual orientation and gender identity as a protected class in the Iowa Civil Rights Code and reject any additional similar legislation to local, state, or national code.

9. We support full local control in schools and therefore oppose any forced national education standard.
10. We support authorized personnel with the proper training, being allowed to carry firearms in our schools.
11. We support teaching Iowa and US Constitutions in depth in our schools.
12. We believe that voting rights be restored statutorily.
13. We support the elimination of gun-free zones.
14. We demand that all Iowa DNR game wardens respect landowners and hunter's 4th amendment constitutional rights. They shall have legal probable cause and/or search warrant to be on private property.
15. We oppose Red Flag laws as they are a violation of the U.S. Constitution.
16. We believe that athletes should compete in their sport according to their birth sex.
17. We support the removal of all sexually explicit and pornographic content from public school.
18. We support legislation requiring school curriculum be made available to parents.
19. Individuals have the sovereignty to make decisions about their and their child's healthcare.
20. We oppose mandates of all kinds on private business, individuals, and communities.
21. We oppose surveillance of private financial transactions by any government or non-government entity unless a non-FISA warrant is issued.
22. We demand legislation that jurors be informed of their common law rights and duty to consider both the facts and the law in reaching just verdicts including jury nullification.
23. We support Iowa becoming a 2nd Amendment sanctuary state.
24. We oppose school facilitated healthcare pertaining to "gender affirmation" or reproductive health without the parents' permission.

Property

1. We support greater congressional oversight of all government agencies relating to private property and the public good.
2. We support the right of United States citizen property owners to vote on bond issues in any district where they pay property tax whether a resident of the district or not.
3. We support laws that prohibit ownership of United States farmland, property, and other assets by foreign governments or entities controlled by such government.
4. We believe anyone moving into or already living in areas zoned previously for a particular use be prohibited from filing "nuisance lawsuits" which are antagonistic to such zoning if defendants are in compliance with all governing laws.
5. We believe all government fees assessed must be passed by the duly elected governmental body.
6. We oppose federal or state government taking private property away from the owner for the use of another private party. Eminent domain should be used only for public use.
7. We support elimination of all state and federal "estate" taxes, but support retaining the stepped-up basis for estates to ensure heirs inherit assets with no additional tax burden.
8. We recognize that a vehicle is private property. The government should not be able to take control of any private property without due process.
9. We call on Congress to bar the EV (Electrical Vehicle) mandates.
10. We oppose the CO2 pipeline project.

National Sovereignty & Defense

1. We believe the United States should never sacrifice its sovereignty or relinquish control of its soil to the United Nations or any other international body.
2. We support legal immigration based on the merit System, common sense improvements to our immigration process (including ending chain migration and the lottery visa), strict enforcement of our current immigration laws, no government benefits for illegal aliens (except for emergency medical care), securing of our borders including a wall where needed.
3. We reaffirm our commitment to the State of Israel's right to exist as a sovereign nation.

4. We believe agreements with foreign entities should only be done by treaty, therefore subject to the approval of the Senate.
5. We assert that bequeathing citizenship to babies born to non-citizens in the United States is a misinterpretation of the 14th amendment.
6. We believe our military exists solely to support and defend the Constitution of the United States.
7. We believe military veterans should be treated with dignity and respect, and that “veterans services” should be consistent and delivered with equality and expedience.
8. We oppose any non-US government-based initiatives which restrict or destroy the property rights of Americans.
9. We support the prosecution and/or sanction of illegal immigration sanctuary cities or states and the withholding of federal or state funds from these cities or states.
10. We believe it is necessary to harden the U.S. electrical grid to protect it from being destroyed by either natural or nuclear weapon-induced EMP (electromagnetic pulse) and cyber-attacks.
11. We oppose amnesty for any illegal aliens.
12. We support a free and open choice healthcare system.
13. We believe the State of Iowa should develop its own strategic energy fuel reserve for emergencies that occur within the State of Iowa.
14. We believe in a restrictive border and a speedy and effective legal immigration policy. We would like more immigration judges to make the legal process faster. *Submitted by Junior Delegates*

Commerce

1. We oppose government distortion of the free market through subsidies, bailouts and mandates.
2. We believe energy independence must be the goal of our public environmental and energy policy.
3. We call for legislation that would eliminate all public sector unions.
4. We oppose all mandates associated with preventing alleged man-made climate -change.
5. We support a full and exhaustive annual audit of the Federal Reserve.
6. We support the ban of traffic control cameras.
7. We support legislation providing for tax equality between custodial and non-custodial parents.
8. We support transparency for the cost of medical services.
9. We support reasonable country of origin labeling on all agricultural products offered for sale and online in the United States.
10. We reject any mandating of a cashless society.
11. We oppose the use of ESG (Environmental, Social, and Governance) rating system and support legislation restricting its use.
12. We call on congress to revoke China’s ‘Most Favored Nation’ (MFN) trading status with America, due to their violating the terms of the MFN.
13. We oppose the construction of CO2 pipelines using federal subsidies, tax credits, and eminent domain.
14. We oppose the blanket government cancellation of federal student loan debt.

Government

1. We support the requirement that legislation should pertain to one topic and that unrelated amendments to bills should be prohibited. Additionally, omnibus bills should be broken up topically in order to increase oversight and accountability in the legislative and accounting processes.
2. We support the repeal of the Affordable Care Act (Obama Care).
3. We support a systematic reduction of the national debt.
4. We support replacing the current complex progressive income tax system with either a consumption-based tax or a flat tax.
5. We support legislation that election commissioners only send an absentee ballot request form at the individual request of the voter.
6. We reject any action to alter election law originating outside the state legislature.

7. We support a complete paper record for all ballots. We reject an all digital and internet connected voting system.
8. We believe that only US citizens bearing proper photo ID should be allowed to vote.
9. We believe legislation should never exempt legislators.
10. We support the federal legislative branch members to turn control of their stock investments into a blind trust.
11. We support the adoption of English as the official language of the United States of America.
12. We support an audit of Social Security, Medicare, and Medicaid to establish policies that would promote the future viability of benefits to potential recipients.
13. We support legislation designed to enact tort reform.
14. We call for the repeal of the 17th Amendment of the U.S. Constitution.
15. We support retaining the Electoral College. We oppose the National Popular Vote Compact.
16. We support the elimination of abusive and unconstitutional federal entities, including but not limited to: the IRS, the EPA, the ATF, the TSA, the BLM, the Department of Labor, and the Department of Education.
17. We believe that courts have the power of judicial review, but not to create legislation.
18. We believe an Iowa driver's license should only be issued to legal U.S. residents.
19. We support drug testing for welfare, food stamps and Medicaid recipients.
20. We oppose legalizing the recreational use of marijuana.
21. We support Social Security benefits being nontaxable.
22. We oppose changing the number of Supreme Court Justices.
23. We support convening an Article V Convention of States to produce a balanced budget amendment, a congressional term limit amendment, and an amendment to end federal overreach.
24. We support laws limiting the Governor's authority to act by executive action during a declared emergency for a period of more than 30 days.
25. We support abolition of public funding for public broadcasting entities.
26. We support reforming the Communications Decency Act (Section 230) and oppose ideological censorship by entities.
27. We call on congress to repeal Equity, and Inclusion-related policy and praxis.
28. We call for an independent investigation of the DOJ, Treasury, and DHS due to the weaponization of government entities.
29. We oppose the use of continuing resolutions to fund the government.

Republican Party

30. We believe that the Linn County Republican precinct caucuses should be held in as many locations as practically possible to encourage participation.
31. We encourage targeted outreach efforts by the Republican Party and conservative organizations to reach groups that have historically not voted Republican.
32. We emphasize that voting members of the Republican Party of Iowa (RPI) State Central Committee (SCC) should remain publicly neutral and should not endorse or denounce candidates in contested Republican primaries and presidential caucuses; believe that voting members of the SCC should not support non-Republican candidates in a general election; and insist that any voting member of the SCC who does otherwise should resign or be removed from the SCC.
33. We call for an end to gender-specific roles within the Republican Party of Iowa, the Republican National Committee, and the Republican National Convention.