



PLATFORM

We the Republicans of Franklin County of the State of Washington, affirm our dedication to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. We believe these rights are derived from God and therefore are not to be usurped by governments, and are protected under our Constitution. We believe the best government is the one nearest the people. Government should neither do for the people what free people can do for themselves, nor what a person cannot do legally by himself.

Freedom is being abused and usurped by a large and increasingly remote and unresponsive government, and is attacked by bureaucratic and humanistic ideology which, for its own self-preservation, seeks to limit individual liberty. We demand that our government protect our liberties, and we support the just aspiration of all peoples to liberty worldwide. We encourage citizens to be engaged, active and educated in civics at all levels. We discourage career politicians.

Family, Social and Moral Issues

- a) We oppose the use of tax dollars to fund abortion, abortion research and education, and human cloning research and activities.
- b) We believe marriage is between a man and a woman and should not be redefined to include alternative lifestyles.
- c) We believe that business owners should be able to exclude themselves from activities that go against their religious beliefs.
- d) We believe all humans from conception have a right to life. We oppose abortion at all stages of development, except in cases when the life of the mother is medically endangered. We support adoption for unwanted pregnancies, and educating teens on abstinence and the risks of sexual behaviors.
- e) We believe in the sole right of parents to direct the upbringing and medical care of their children.
- f) Since all people are equal, we oppose legislation that confers special protection status to any group of people.
- g) We believe that public and private entities have the right to assign bathroom facilities without blending genders; the right to segregate by the gender that facility was assigned for use.
- h) h) We support religious freedoms.
- i) We oppose physical alterations or drugs that block normal puberty for minors in lieu of mental health counselling.

Economy

- a) The present national debt is a shameful burden on future generations and we call for swift action to reduce that debt through spending cuts rather than tax increases.
- b) We believe government handling of tax money should be regularly and openly audited.
- c) We support efforts to balance the budget of the federal government, including a Balanced Budget Amendment and a payment plan to reduce the national debt.
- d) We support free market systems and oppose all forms of income redistribution programs
- e) We oppose a state income tax and call for significant reductions in business regulation and taxation to attract business. Additionally, state B&O tax must be based upon net income rather than gross income.

- f) We oppose ratification of the Law of the Sea Treaty and cap and trade schemes.
- g) We oppose bail-out packages. No entity is too big to fail.
- h) We oppose unfunded mandates from all levels of government.
- i) We encourage elimination of Federal estate taxes, and federal and state inheritance taxes.
- j) We oppose the initiation and growth of taxation, fees, fines, and penalties by unelected boards, commissions, councils, and agencies.
- k) We oppose spending tax dollars for any purpose other than what they were collected for.
- l) We believe government should not impose or attempt to create taxes on religious real properties.
- m) We oppose pay per mile vehicle taxes.
- n) We oppose title only bills.
- o) We oppose a minimum wage in any form and support a free market.

Constitutional Rights

- a) We believe the Constitution supports rather than prohibits references to God at government sanctioned activities and in public facilities, locales and settings.
- b) Separation of powers requires that the judicial branch cease its attempts to impose new laws from the bench.
- c) We reaffirm the critical importance of the Tenth Amendment constraints on federal government authority and call on Washington State to reassert its rights as a state within the constraints of the United States Constitution.
- d) We believe the Federal legislature must immediately cease passing laws and usurping powers not given to it under the Constitution.
- e) We believe the Second Amendment guarantees an individual the right to bear arms and call for the repeal of all laws that infringe on that right.
- f) Citizens have the exclusive right to private property and its use free from government intrusion and the abuse of eminent domain.
- g) We proclaim our devotion to the concept of a limited central government created by the Founding Fathers of our Constitutional Republic.
- h) We oppose non-elected government officials dictating and promulgating regulations or restrictions on any industry or individual.
- i) We oppose any federal expenditure not expressly authorized by the Constitution.
- j) We support the constitutionality of the Pledge of Allegiance.
- k) We believe any tax levied on our nation for any purpose by the United Nations or any other foreign body is unconstitutional.
- l) We support the XII Amendment and believe no state has the right to abolish the Electoral College.
- m) We believe self-reliance and oppose government service to those who can support themselves.

National Defense

- a) National defense is the first responsibility and primary obligation of the federal government; therefore its funding is our first priority.
- b) We believe the United States must maintain a strong, technologically-advanced military to deter exterior threats and request that they be given the tools, training, support and discretion to defeat the enemy and win wars
- c) We support the death penalty for anyone convicted of carrying out a terrorist attack against the United States and its people.

- d) We support U.S. military cooperation with our allies. Military personnel must only be commanded by U.S. commanders, and only wear U.S. uniforms and insignia.
- e) We believe it is the duty of the Federal Government to defend our borders and support strict control of our borders against all illegal entry.
- f) We support building the wall on our nation's southern border.

Entitlements or Programs

- a) We support returning to free market solutions to curb health care costs; therefore we oppose national and or state health care plans run by government.
- b) We believe the Medicare system must be drastically reformed and made to operate with efficiency.
- c) We believe Social Security funds must never be borrowed for general fund spending.
- d) We support government services only for those American citizens who absolutely cannot provide for themselves.
- e) We support proven methods to reduce drug costs.
- f) We believe mail in ballots should be abolished except for absentee and military.

Electoral Process

- a) We believe the people's right of referendum and initiatives shall not be challenged or infringed upon. Referendums and initiatives shall not infringe upon our constitutionally guaranteed rights.
- b) We believe candidates for judicial positions should be required to publicly declare previous party affiliations, their beliefs concerning legal and constitutional issues.
- c) We believe the legislature should require an audit of voter rolls prior to every presidential election. Voters flagged in the audit should be required to re register and show valid proof of US citizenship.
- d) We believe due to weakening Department of Motor Vehicles standards, "motor voter" should be abolished.
- e) We support the Electoral College as originally designed.

Immigration

- a) We oppose public welfare benefits for non-citizens who are in this country illegally, except medical benefits in life and death situations.
- b) We believe existing immigration laws must be enforced of by ALL federal, state and local officials.
- c) We support legal immigration, an efficient temporary worker system requiring workers to apply from their own country not from the United States, and prompt assimilation of those who qualify to become American citizens.
- d) We support immediate prosecution and deportation of any foreign felons.
- e) We oppose chain migration in any form.
- f) We oppose all immigration sanctuary laws.
- g) We believe all refugees must agree to assimilate and become United States citizens or be subject to deportation.

Rule of Law

- a) We support tough legislation to punish sex offenders and drug dealers, including mandatory sentences and post-release supervision.
- b) We support the death penalty and mandatory financial restitution by convicted criminals to their victims.
- c) We support the use of internet pornography filters in all publicly funded facilities, including but not limited to schools and libraries.
- d) We support tough drunk driving penalties that remove dangerous drivers from our streets.
- e) We believe constitutional rights shall not be infringed upon by referendums or initiatives.
- f) We support aggressive enforcement of our national laws against treason and terrorism.

Education

- a) We support mandatory education on the Declaration of Independence, the Constitution and the importance of the ideas they contain.
- b) We support policy that allows parents to send their children to the school of their choice; whether public, private, or home school.
- c) We oppose any legislation that undermines legitimate, lawful parental authority over minor children and their education.
- d) Education is primarily the responsibility of the family, and secondarily, that of the local community and the state; therefore we support eliminating the federal Department of Education and returning decisions and responsibility to states and local school boards.
- e) We oppose legislation imposing teacher certification requirements on private and home schools.
- f) We believe competency in reading, civics, US history and math must be mandatory for receiving a diploma from public, private and home schools.
- g) We oppose laws that allow violent juvenile criminals to attend public schools without notification to affected individual school employees.
- h) We believe important moral and value education belongs in the home; therefore, we believe parents should have the right to opt out from mandatory sex education, death education, and values clarification, or any other sexual education alternatives.
- i) We support parental rights to opt their children out of sex education.
- j) We oppose mandatory sex education.

International Affairs

- a) We believe the sovereignty of the United States must first be protected and respected in all international dealings.
- b) We oppose United Nations declared parks and biospheres in the United States under Agenda 21.
- c) We believe U.S. foreign aid and loan guarantees should be a rare and temporary practice.
- d) We believe contracts for services affecting national security should be awarded to American owned firms and not to foreign entities.
- e) We support President Trump's policies on China, North Korea, and the Middle East.

Agriculture

- a) We believe free market principles apply to agriculture products; therefore, we oppose price supports.
- b) Imported agricultural products must meet the same health and quality standards as domestically produced products. and that country of origin must be labeled.

- c) We believe water rights are a private property right when that water exists on private property.
- d) We believe sound agricultural policy rests on the right of private ownership and the right to manage resources for a profit.
- e) We believe private land owners should be fairly compensated for government actions affecting the use, value, or ownership of their land.
- f) We support the taxation of agricultural land based on its actual use and not its potentially highest use.

Energy and the Environment

- a) We support the continued maintenance of the hydroelectric dams on the Snake and Columbia rivers and classification as renewable energy.
- b) We support a national energy policy that includes domestic oil drilling and refineries, hydropower, clean coal, wind power, solar power and nuclear power. We believe markets are better deciders of what products are successful and efficient; therefore we oppose government subsidies for ethanol production and other unproven and inefficient alternative energy sources.
- c) We believe environmental problems can be solved faster and cheaper with innovation and new technology, than with litigation, regulation and mandated use of specific forms of energy based on its environmental impact.
- d) We oppose laws, regulations, tax and trading schemes, and treaties based on unproven science.
- e) We support local control of Government owned lands of the Hanford Reach.
- f) We insist on the return of federally managed public lands to the states as promised in their Enabling Act, excluding existing national parks, congressionally designated wilderness areas, tribal lands and military installations. Federal public lands shall become state public lands to be managed in accordance with proven husbandry techniques.
- g) We believe that federal ownership of one-third of our nation's land does not fit the fundamental American model of private enterprise and limited government authority; therefore we support the privatization of public lands.

Franklin County Issues

- a) We support responsible diversification of the economic base of the whole county.
- b) We believe county hiring practices should be merit based only.
- c) We oppose local government interference with private use of property through over-regulation.
- d) We believe hiring practices must include verification of legal status consistent with state and federal law.
- e) We believe maintaining rural roads is essential to support the agricultural components of our county economy.
- f) We oppose transfer of homeless into Franklin County and the idea of sanctuary cities.
- g) We support county funding for mental health and the treatment and prevention of sexually transmitted diseases and sexually transmitted infections.