

2026 Dubuque 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, 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 innocent people from conception to natural death. We are a nation governed by people elected to public office that are sent to represent us, the citizens. Our Constitution provides limits to governmental power, explicitly details our fundamental rights and ensures 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. Elected officials and candidates for public office are expected to act, vote, and campaign in substantial alignment with the Platform if they are to receive endorsement and/or financial support from the Republican Party.
- 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 believe in the principle of meritocracy. 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 believe that life begins at conception and must be protected to natural death. We believe all such issues protecting the right to life belong under the constitutional authority of the state, and not the federal government.
2. We oppose using public revenues for abortion or funding organizations which advocate it. We commend and support those who provide alternatives to abortion by meeting the needs of mothers and offering adoption services.
3. We oppose the non-consensual withholding of care for all people just as we oppose euthanasia, assisted suicide, and misuse of palliative care.
4. We support non-embryonic stem cell research, such as promoting the use of adult stem cells.
5. We oppose human cloning and the use of aborted fetal or aborted perinatal tissue. We strongly urge that the 2002 human cloning ban, which was repealed in the 2007 Iowa legislature, be reinstated.
6. We support a Protect Life Amendment to the Iowa constitution.
7. Although opposing abortion, we support a “right to know law” for mothers and fathers who are seeking an abortion.
8. We support laws that will make adoptions easier and more affordable!

Liberty

1. 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.
2. We support the 1st Amendment to allow prayer in Public Schools and Public Places.
3. 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, medical and mental health decisions, and education of their children. The educational funding shall follow the student regardless of educational choice.
4. 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.
5. We oppose all efforts of school districts, libraries, and public places regarding the sexual indoctrination of children.
6. We believe that voting rights should be restored statutorily rather than by Executive determination.
7. We oppose gun-free zones, and we call for gun-free zone liability laws, and allowance to special insurance coverage options for schools.
8. We demand Iowa DNR respect the 4th Amendment. They shall have legal probable cause, and/or a search warrant to be on private property.
9. We recognize only two biological sexes, male (XY) and female (XX). Biological sex at birth shall determine one’s participation in or use of restrooms, locker rooms, sports teams or other such accommodations or institutions. We support the original intent of Title IX.
10. We oppose all mandates or coercive activity on the part of any external entity related to medical intervention for individuals or their children. Medical decisions are an inalienable natural right, and medical information should not be stored or shared without explicit consent of the individual or guardian.

11. We support health care providers' rights to prescribe or recommend treatment or therapy in accordance with their Hippocratic oath without interference or threat to their medical license.
12. We support legislation to eliminate asset seizure without a criminal charge and forfeitures without conviction of a crime.
13. We support the termination of all Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion (DEI) instructions, propaganda, and indoctrination in government schools and educational systems. Any educator or administrator attempting to indoctrinate the minds of students (through DEI) shall be prosecuted.
14. We oppose Red Flag Laws.
15. We are strongly opposed to Agenda 2030, and or the Great Reset that will control our food supply.
16. We support making illegal image-based sexual abuse, including but not limited to human-created and AI-generated images and video of people without their consent and any such sexualized content that contains minors.
17. We believe that traditional, two parent (one male (XY) and one female (XX)), marriage-based families are the foundation to a stable, enduring, and healthy civilization. We encourage the repeal of any laws allowing any marriage that is not between one natural man and one natural woman.
18. We strongly support the constitutionally protected natural right of individuals to keep and bear arms, and we oppose the repeal of existing laws that infringe upon those rights.

Property

1. We oppose government using eminent domain to take private property away from the owner for the use of another private party, or for-profit entity.
2. We demand the end of property taxes.
3. We support holding alternative energy producers to the same land use standards as carbon-based producers, and that when energy production ceases at a site, producers shall return the land to its original condition or as near as possible. We do not support tax subsidies for alternative energy sources.
4. We support legislation requiring all regulations by all government agencies (e.g. EPA, Dept. of Ag, Dept. of Interior, etc.) relating to private property and the public good receive congressional authorization prior to their implementation.
5. We support the right of property owners to vote on bond issues in any district where they pay property tax whether a resident of the district or not.
6. We support laws prohibiting ownership of United States farmland, property, or other assets by foreign governments or entities controlled by such.
7. 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.
8. Laws should only be enacted, adjusted, or interpreted in the interest of protecting or expanding personal property rights and individual liberties. 1
9. There should be a legal distinction made between "legitimate tenant's", and "squatter's rights"; Squatter's rights should be eliminated.

National Sovereignty & Defense

1. 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, and securing of our borders including a wall where needed. We oppose amnesty for any illegal alien.
2. We reaffirm our commitment to the State of Israel's right to exist as a sovereign nation.

3. Agreements with foreign nations should only be done by treaty and subject to the approval of Congress.
4. We assert that bequeathing citizenship to babies born to non-citizens in the United States is a misinterpretation of the 14th amendment. U.S. citizenship shall not be afforded to a child born in the U.S. to undocumented parents.
5. We support appropriation of money to harden the U.S. electrical grid and broadband infrastructure to protect it from being destroyed by either natural or nuclear weapon induced EMP and cyber-attacks.
6. We support a free, open choice and efficient healthcare and medication voucher system for veterans.
7. We support terminating government funding and tax-exempt status for entities that do not enforce federal immigration laws.
8. We support E-Verify, and the I-9 Employment Eligibility Verification form being required for all Iowa employers.
9. We oppose funding and donations for any political, agricultural, financial, scientific, commercial, and educational institution which includes members of the Chinese Communist Party.
10. We believe the United States should never sacrifice its sovereignty or relinquish control of its soil or its citizens to the United Nations or any other international body. We believe our armed forces should only serve the United States, our Constitution, and the American flag.
11. We support strict laws and severe prosecution to eliminate human trafficking.
12. We believe terrorism is a national security issue and foreign terrorists should be treated as if they are non-uniformed combatants.

Commerce

1. We firmly oppose the carbon capture initiative, including carbon pipelines, 45Q tax credits, and recognize the importance of carbon to Earth's ecosystem.
2. We oppose government distortion of the free market through, point taxes, subsidies, bailouts, and mandates.
3. We believe energy and critical mineral independence, including clean nuclear must be the goal of our public policy.
4. We support a full, exhaustive, and transparent annual audit of the Federal Reserve.
5. We support the ban of traffic violation cameras.
6. We support review of the current hours of operation and Electronic Log Device ("ELD") regulations of the trucking industry.
7. We oppose Central Bank Digital Currencies (CBDCs) or any other similar means by which our government would seek to control or monitor our transactions.
8. We oppose the creation and use of social scoring such as ESG (Environmental, Social, and Governance).
9. We oppose electronic surveillance of private financial transactions by any government or non-government entity unless a non-FISA warrant is issued.
10. We support withdrawal of taxpayer funding for all Public Broadcasting and related affiliates.
11. We support the elimination of federal government student loan program and its return to the private sector and a return to the original interest rates.
12. We call on Congress to revoke China's, 'Most Favored Nation 'trading status with America.
13. We support abolishing the Iowa Alcoholic Beverage Division (IABD) and allowing the free market to take over distribution of alcohol.
14. We support the ban of mRNA vaccines being used in livestock intended for human consumption.
15. We support the USA being self-sufficient in all industry, production, and supply chain resources, particularly in regard to national security, health, and safety.
16. We support policies solution to create transparent competition among Pharmacy Benefit Managers (PBMs).

17. All government fees assessed must be passed by the duly elected governmental body.
18. We support the transparency of LLC ownerships in Iowa.
19. We support that online businesses and marketplaces should be subject to the same laws and regulations as any other businesses.
20. We support of the definition of manure as a natural fertilizer.

Education

1. We support banning teaching Critical Race Theory, the 1619 project, and DEI from all state-funded Iowa Education and Learning facilities.
2. We support that the public-school curriculum for each grade level must be posted on the website of every school system in the state. Any revisions or additions to the curriculum must be posted 30 days before implementation.
3. We believe an authentic CIVICS education that accurately tells the story of our founding fathers and the moral and ethical principles of the Declaration of Independence, Constitution, and Bill of Rights is essential to preserve our Republic. Therefore, all certified primary and secondary schools will require a minimum of 1 semester of Civics taught each year for grades 6-12, and the student must pass a Civics test to receive a graduation certificate or GED.
4. To promote improved school safety, appropriate and properly trained school personnel should be allowed to carry concealed weapons on campus.
5. Educators should promote abstinence outside of marriage as the surest way to prevent pregnancy, the spread of sexually transmitted diseases, and associated psychological problems. We oppose the distribution of condoms in tax-funded schools.
6. We support the principle that education funding dollars follow the student to the school (whether public, private, religious, charter, homeschool, etc.) of the parents' choice, and to that end, we support the continued use of the ESA (Educational Savings Account) Program.

Government

1. We support the overturning of the 2005 US Supreme Court Kelo Decision.
2. We support the requirement that legislation should pertain to one topic, not omnibus, and that unrelated amendments to bills should be prohibited. We believe legislation should never exempt legislators.
3. We support adequate funding for mental health, including but not limited to facilities, staff and local law enforcement.
4. We support the complete repeal of The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act ("Obamacare") in total and replacing it with a free market solution.
5. We support lowering taxes and reducing the size, scope and scale of government –toward this end, we advocate limiting federal expenditures to those enumerated powers under the United States Constitution. We also support a systemic and expedited reduction of the national debt.
6. We support replacing the current complex progressive income tax system with either a consumption-based tax, or a flat tax.
7. We support English as the official language for the United States.
8. All public support and benefit programs should be audited and polices established such that future viability of program benefits are guaranteed. (Social Security, Medicare, and Medicaid).
9. We believe in equal application of the law and oppose increasing the number of Supreme Court Justices.

10. We support retaining the Electoral College as defined in the Constitution of the United States. We oppose the National Popular Vote Interstate Compact.
11. We support the elimination of the following abusive and unconstitutional federal agencies including but not limited to the IRS, EPA, ATF, TSA, BLM, Department of Labor, and the Department of Education.
12. We support drug testing for welfare, food stamps and Medicaid recipients.
13. We oppose legalizing the recreational use of marijuana.
14. We support laws that limit and restrain the Governor's Authority to act by Executive Action during a medical or other emergency without the guidance or input of the Legislative council after being under emergency order for 15 days. No emergency declaration can usurp constitutional rights.
15. We support free, fair, safe, secure, and transparent elections - Only US citizens with a valid photo ID to vote. No tolerance for voter fraud including ballot drop boxes and ballot harvesting. No foreign or private interference in US elections, strict guidelines for absentee ballots, and auditable election records for all races (to include paper ballots).
16. We oppose same-day voter registration and ranked choice voting.
17. We support making Election Day a holiday and eliminating all other forms of election (such as early voting) to secure our elections.
18. We strongly support and believe in full and adequate funding for our military, veterans, law enforcement, and other first responders.
19. IPERS should be required by law to divest from holdings in China and should not make investments based on ESG, DEI, or political factors.
20. We support the reinstatement of the death penalty.
21. We oppose the use of continuing resolutions to fund the government.
22. We believe all elected Representatives should be subject to term limits.
23. We believe only U.S. citizens and permanent residents should be counted in the U.S. census.
24. Eliminate all non-partisan elections and bond and public measures and schedule these elections on the date and even numbered year of a general election.
25. We support the elimination for vaccine liability protection for pharmaceutical companies.
26. World Health Organization (WHO), United Nations and World Economic Forum (WEF) shall have no power or jurisdiction within the state of Iowa.
27. We support the prohibition of our elected representatives and their families having the ability to do insider trading. They should also be required to place any businesses or investments that could profit from their legislative activities (laws, regulations, policies, etc.) into a blind trust while in office.
28. We believe that when the legislature passes a bill and the governor signs it into law, but the law is subsequently challenged and successfully overturned in court on constitutional grounds, the State of Iowa should be responsible for reimbursement of any legal expenses incurred by the citizens who fought the battle.