

Report of 2018 Permanent Platform & Resolutions Committee

2018 Permanent Platform Committee Members

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1 Preamble

2 1. Affirming our belief in God, we still hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal,
3 that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty
4 and the Pursuit of Happiness. Throughout the world, people dare to dream of freedom and opportunity.
5 The Republican Party of Texas unequivocally defends that dream. We strive to preserve the freedom
6 given to us by God, implemented by our Founding Fathers, and embodied in the Constitution. We
7 recognize that the traditional family is the strength of our nation. It is our solemn duty to protect innocent
8 life and develop responsible citizens. We understand that our economic success depends upon free
9 market principles. If we fail to maintain our sovereignty, we risk losing the freedom to live these ideals.

10 Principles

11 2. We, the 2018 Republican Party of Texas, believe in this platform and expect our elected leaders to
12 uphold these truths through acknowledgment and action. We believe in:

13 3. 1) "The laws of nature and nature's God" and we support the strict adherence to the original
14 language and intent of the Declaration of Independence and the Constitutions of the United States
15 and of Texas.

16 4. 2) The sanctity of innocent human life, created in the image of God, which should be protected
17 from fertilization to natural death.

18 5. 3) Preserving American and Texas sovereignty and freedom.

19 6. 4) Limiting government power to those items enumerated in the United States and Texas
20 Constitutions.

21 7. 5) Personal accountability and responsibility.

- 22 8. 6) Self-sufficient families, founded on the traditional marriage of a natural man and a natural
23 woman.
- 24 9. 7) Having an educated population, with parents having the freedom of choice for the education of
25 their children.
- 26 10. 8) The inalienable right of all people to defend themselves and their property.
- 27 11. 9) A free enterprise society unencumbered by government interference or subsidies.
- 28 12. 10) Honoring all of those that serve and protect our freedom.

29 **Business, Commerce, and Transportation**

- 30 13. Carbon Tax: We oppose all efforts to classify carbon dioxide as a pollutant. We further urge the US
31 Senate to defeat the “Cap-and-Trade” legislation, as it is outside the authority of the US Constitution.
32 [Federal]
- 33 14. Counseling and Therapy: No laws or executive orders shall be imposed to limit or restrict access to
34 sexual orientation counseling for self-motivated youth and adults. [State]
- 35 15. Energy Production: We support free market solutions and immediate removal of government barriers
36 and direct subsidies to the production, reformulation, refining, and distribution of energy. [Federal/State]
- 37 16. Environment: We oppose environmentalism that obstructs legitimate business interests and private
38 property use, including the regulatory taking of property by governmental agencies. We oppose the abuse
39 of the Endangered Species Act to confiscate and limit the use of personal property and infringement on a
40 property owner’s livelihood. “Climate change” is a political agenda promoted to control every aspect of our
41 lives. We support the defunding of “climate justice” initiatives and the abolition of the Environmental
42 Protection Agency and repeal of the Endangered Species Act. [Federal/State]
- 43 17. Ethanol: We support the repeal of legislation mandating ethanol as a fuel additive and/or primary fuel.
44 [Federal]
- 45 18. Government Accountability: We call upon the State Legislature to eliminate all special collective
46 bargaining statutes for public employees and to hold all public servants accountable to taxpayers through
47 existing civil statutes. We oppose any distribution of taxpayer dollars to unions. [Federal/State/Local]
- 48 19. Hemp: We recognize industrial hemp as a valuable agricultural commodity. We urge the Texas
49 Legislature to pass legislation allowing cultivation, manufacture, and sale of industrial hemp and hemp
50 products. [State]
- 51 20. Insurance: We encourage free market solutions for providing utilities whenever possible. We support
52 that all types of insurance rates, to include (but not limited to) health, life, title, auto, and homeowners
53 insurance, should be set through free-market forces alone. [State]
- 54 21. Windstorm Association: We urge the Texas legislature to phase out the Texas Windstorm Insurance
55 Association to reduce the liabilities it imposes on state taxpayers. [State]
- 56 22. International Organizations: We support United States withdrawal from the International Monetary
57 Fund, the World Trade Organization, and the World Bank. [Federal]
- 58 23. Intrastate Commerce: We believe that goods and services that are not transported across state lines
59 should not be subject to federal regulations. [Federal]

- 60 **24. Licensing:** We call upon the Texas Legislature to review all business/professional licensing programs
61 and associated licensing for boards for the purpose of abolishing as many as reasonably possible and
62 repealing those laws, rules, and regulations that exist merely to generate revenue from the licensing
63 process. [Texas]
- 64 **25. Minimum Wage:** We believe the Minimum Wage Law should be repealed. [Federal]
- 65 **26. Municipal Preemption:** We encourage the Legislature to preempt local government efforts to interfere
66 with the State's sovereignty over business, employees, and property rights. This includes but is not limited
67 to burdensome regulations on short-term rentals, bags, sick leave, trees, and employee criminal
68 screening. We support preemption of city ordinances that dictate sick leave policies to private businesses.
69 [Local]
- 70 **27. Oil and Gas Producing Counties:** Counties with oil and gas production, and adjacent counties, should
71 receive a portion of the production taxes the state collects so that the road system can be maintained for
72 the dual purpose of accommodating the needs of the industry and providing adequate public safety.
73 [Local]
- 74 **28. Power Grid:** We urge that the Texas Legislature pass legislation to harden the Texas Electric Grid
75 against:
- 76 1. Cyber attacks on the grid's computerized command and control system.
77 2. Physical attacks on substations and major high voltage transformers.
78 3. Geomagnetic storms created by solar flares from the sun.
79 4. Electromagnetic Pulse (EMP).
80 [State]
- 81 **29. Practice Law:** We support allowing any person to sit for the Texas State Bar Exam regardless of
82 where he or she received their law education as long as criminal and ethical background requirements are
83 met. **[State]**
- 84 **30. Prevailing Wage:** We oppose prevailing wage laws. **[State]**
- 85 **31. Regulatory Burden:** We support action by the Texas Legislature clarifying existing state law without
86 attaching new taxes or fees to the fantasy sports industry, which would grow the size and scope of
87 government.
- 88 **32. Blue Laws:** We urge the Texas Legislature to eliminate antiquated "Blue Laws."
- 89 **33. Dodd-Frank:** We support the immediate repeal of Dodd-Frank legislation.
- 90 **34. Three-Tier Alcohol System:** We urge the Texas Legislature to adopt legislation eliminating the
91 mandatory three-tier system of alcohol production, distribution, and retail. Texans should have the
92 freedom to purchase alcohol directly from manufacturers, just as any other retail product.
- 93 **35. Regulating the internet:** We oppose all efforts to further regulate the internet in the United States or
94 internationally, such as Net Neutrality.
- 95 **36. Sarbanes-Oxley:** In light of the high compliance costs imposed by the Sarbanes-Oxley regulations
96 and the destructive effects this law has had on innovation and capital formation, we support repeal of the
97 Sarbanes-Oxley legislation.
- 98 **37. Retirement Accounts:** We support the repeal of the required minimum disbursement from retirement
99 accounts and inheritances.

- 100 **38. Social Security Opt-Out:** We support reform to Social Security that allows young people to opt out.
- 101 **39. Rural and Volunteer Fire Departments:** We urge Congress to overturn the rules of the United States
102 Department of Labor restricting volunteerism by paid firefighters and emergency medical technician
103 personnel and support protections similar to those provided to National Guardsmen for service during
104 declared emergencies.
- 105 **40. Small Business:** We urge the federal and state legislatures to reduce regulations on small businesses
106 and home-based work.
- 107 **41. Smart Meters:** The Republican Party of Texas supports a no-cost opt-out for all Texas PUC
108 customers, and the phase out of Smart Meters (aka Advanced Meter Infrastructure), to be replaced with
109 mechanical, non-transmitting analog meters when software upgrades are required or the computer smart
110 meters require replacement due to mechanical failure or model upgrade requirements.
- 111 **42. Tidelands/Water Resources and Rights to State Waters:** We demand that the State of Texas and all
112 coastal states enjoy and maintain jurisdiction and control of their offshore waters up to the international
113 water boundaries as well as state inland waterways in regards to all natural resources therein, and that the
114 federal government shall not set limits on harvesting or taking natural resources therein, nor allow foreign
115 entities to harvest or take such natural resources therein, including minerals, game, fisheries, and
116 hydrocarbons. Also, we demand that no entity shall usurp Texas's original tideland boundaries.
- 117 **43. Trade Agreements:** We support free trade as a necessary component of American capitalism and of
118 the United States' influence in the world. We strongly oppose the Trans-Atlantic Trade and Investment
119 Partnership (TTIP), the Trade In Services Agreement (TISA), and the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP). We
120 demand the immediate withdrawal from the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA), and the
121 Central American Free Trade Agreement (CAFTA). We demand the repeal of the current Fast Track
122 Authority/TPA.
- 123 **44. Toll Roads:** We believe that tolls should come off the road when the debt is retired, and if the debt is
124 ever restructured or refinanced, the pay-off date needs to remain the same or receive voter approval in
125 order to extend the toll tax longer. Maintenance should then revert to the Texas Department of
126 Transportation (TxDOT). We oppose public-private partnerships, specifically regarding toll projects. We
127 oppose conversion of existing roads or lanes to toll roads.
- 128 **45. Toll Projects:** We oppose the use of taxpayer money to subsidize, guarantee, prop up, or bail out any
129 toll projects, whether public or private, and we call upon both state and federal lawmakers to adequately
130 fund our highways without hidden taxes, tolls, or raiding emergency funds.
- 131 **46. Vehicle Inspection:** No non-commercial vehicles should be required to obtain a state safety
132 inspection.
- 133 **47. Vehicle Registration:** Vehicle Registration should only be a one-time occurrence at the point of sale.
- 134 **48. Vehicle Sales:** We support allowing consumers in Texas to be able to purchase automotive vehicles
135 directly from manufacturers.
- 136 **49. Unions:** We support legislation requiring labor unions to obtain consent of the union member before
137 that member's dues can be used for political purposes. We oppose card check. Texas should prohibit
138 governmental entities from collecting dues for labor unions through deductions from public employee
139 paychecks. We also encourage the adoption of a National Right to Work Act.
- 140 **50. Water:** We support the decision made by the Texas Supreme Court rejecting regulation, regulatory

141 taking, metering, and restricting production of individuals' underground water. We support fair market
142 value for the taking of an individual's private water supply and groundwater rights of property owners.

143 **51. Flooding Mitigation, Hurricane and Early Warning of Impending Disaster:** We support the immediate
144 study, implementation, and construction of projects that will:

- 145 1. Address river, bayou, reservoir, and other flood threats to public and private property.
- 146 2. Seek the input of those most likely to be affected by a casualty to public and private property to
147 include infrastructure and facilities that affect national security.
- 148 3. Address the risk of storm or tidal surge that affects the critical industries along the Gulf Coast.
- 149 4. Immediately create an early warning system that will immediately alert residents to an impending
150 flood, wind, or casualty weather event.
- 151 5. Establish regional Flood Control Districts where necessary for counties to resolve joint flooding
152 issues.
- 153 6. Provide for funds to complete these projects from federal, state, and local funds to include
154 specifically targeted taxes for the purpose and never for any other purpose.

155 We strongly urge that the Republican Party of Texas make this a Legislative Priority for the 2019
156 Legislature. Government at all levels must work together to avoid the historical bent to push projects,
157 safety, and implementation into the future. Projects must be of most urgent priority now in order to avoid
158 further trauma; loss of life; loss of personal, government, and business wealth; and diminution of the tax
159 base.

160 **52. Workers Compensation:** We urge the Legislature to resist making workers' compensation mandatory
161 for all Texas employers.

162 **Constitutional Issues**

163 **53. Keep Oath to the Constitution:** The Republican Party of Texas calls for all who swear the oath to
164 support and maintain the limitations and clear meaning of the United States Constitution.

165 **54. Article V Convention of States:** We reaffirm our support for our Texas State Legislators' call for a
166 limited Article V Convention of States for the specific purpose of reducing the power of the federal
167 government, including fiscal responsibility, balanced budget, and term limits. Any proposed amendments
168 must be ratified by 3/4 of the states.

169 **55. State Sovereignty:** Pursuant to Article 1 Section 1 of the Texas Constitution, the federal government
170 has impaired our right of local self-government. Therefore, federally mandated legislation, which infringes
171 upon the 10th Amendment rights of Texas, should be ignored, opposed, refused, and nullified. Regulation
172 of Commerce in Article I Section 8 of the Constitution has exceeded the original intent. All attempts by the
173 federal judiciary to rule in areas not expressly enumerated by the United States Constitution should be
174 likewise nullified. Any federal enforcement activities that do occur in Texas should be conducted under the
175 authority of the county sheriff. (SCOTUS Ruling in 1997 Mack-Prinz vs. US)

176 **56. United States Senators:** We support the repeal of the 17th Amendment of the United States
177 Constitution and the appointment of United States Senators by the state legislatures.

178 **57. Affirmative Action:** We believe in equal opportunity for all citizens without regard to race or gender.
179 We believe in Martin Luther King's dream of a color-blind society.

180 **58. Equal Rights Amendment:** We call upon the 86th Texas Legislature to adopt a resolution clarifying
181 that the 1972 ratification by the 62nd Texas Legislature of the proposed Equal Rights Amendment to the

- 182 United States Constitution was valid only through March 22, 1979.
- 183 **59. Census:** In accordance with Article I Section 2 of the United States Constitution, we support an actual
184 count of United States citizens only, and oppose Census Bureau estimates and the collection of all other
185 data.
- 186 **60. Recall Elections:** We support the right to recall our elected officials.
- 187 **61. Executive Orders:** We call upon the President of the United States to revoke all of President Obama's
188 executive orders that violate our platform.
- 189 **62. Family Values:** We support the affirmation of traditional Judeo-Christian family values and oppose the
190 continued assault on those values.
- 191 **63. Flag Desecration:** We call for a constitutional amendment banning desecration of the flag.
- 192 **64. National Sovereignty:** We will not enter any agreements with foreign countries or entities that violate
193 our Constitution.
- 194 **65. No Taxes for UN:** We condemn any mechanism that allows US citizens to be taxed in order to fund
195 the UN.
- 196 **66. Defending Sovereignty:**The United States is and must remain a sovereign nation independent of all
197 foreign entities with power held solely by the people. Therefore, we insist that the President and Congress
198 defend our national sovereignty in accordance with their oaths of office. The United States government
199 must remain free of all external control and influence.
- 200 **67. Preservation of Republican Form of Government:** We support our republican form of government as
201 set forth in the Texas Bill of Rights. We oppose initiative and referendum. We oppose socialism in any
202 form. We support the Texas Legislature and the United States Congress in enacting legislation that
203 prohibits any judicial jurisdiction from allowing any substitute or parallel system of law, specifically foreign
204 law (including Sharia Law), which is not in accordance with the United States or Texas Constitutions. We
205 further resolve that all amendments to the Texas Constitution require a majority of the voters in at least
206 191 counties (three-fourths) instead of a simple majority of the votes.
- 207 **68. American Law for American Courts:** No foreign law or international edict shall preempt the United
208 States Constitution or the Texas Constitution, or be used as the basis for any decision, except required by
209 contract between the individual parties.
- 210 **69. Right to Self-Defense:** We affirm that lawful gun ownership and carry by the people protects us from
211 those who wish to do harm and guards against tyranny by our own government. We call upon our elected
212 officials to resist the narrative that the solution to every problem is less freedom and more regulation, and
213 instead pursue policies that respect freedom while also increasing safety.
- 214 **70. Constitutional Carry:** We support constitutional carry legislation through any legislative means so law-
215 abiding citizens may carry any legally owned guns openly or concealed while maintaining the option of a
216 permit for reciprocity purposes only.
- 217 **71. Intrastate Protection Act:** We support an Intrastate Protection Act to clarify that guns made and sold
218 in Texas are not subject to the Interstate Commerce Clause of the US Constitution, and legislation
219 denying state funding to any state or local agencies that enforce federal weapons laws not also affirmed
220 by the laws of the State of Texas
- 221 **72. Gun-Free Zones:** We oppose governmental prohibitions on citizens who have a constitutional right to

222 own and carry firearms and knives from doing so. We oppose state-mandated location restrictions, the
223 Federal Gun-Free School Zones Act of 1990, and the National Firearms Act.

224 **73. Red Flag:** We oppose monitoring programs including the Red Flag (that would deprive someone of
225 their right to keep and bear arms without being convicted of a crime or found mentally incompetent by a
226 medical psychiatric professional) or iWatch proposals and any program that causes gun owners to be
227 investigated by law enforcement or appear before a judge when there is no reasonable cause of a crime
228 committed. We oppose increased background checks, as they are highly prone to “false positives” and
229 hinder law-abiding citizens’ ability to defend themselves, rather than reduce crime.

230 **74. Firearms Storage:** We oppose mandates on personal firearms storage, maintaining that it is the
231 responsibility of an individual to safely store his or her firearms and choose responsibly when and how to
232 make them available to minors.

233 **75. Weapons Restrictions:** We support all legislation and policies that reduce restrictions on legal gun
234 owners to purchase, own, or carry any type of gun, ammunition, accessory, knife, or other weapon, and
235 oppose all that hinder the same.

236 **76. Amend Texas Constitution:** We call for the Texas Legislature to propose to the people of Texas a
237 Constitutional Amendment to strike the following words from Article I Section 23 of the Texas Constitution:
238 “but the Legislature shall have power, by law, to regulate the wearing of arms, with a view to prevent
239 crime.”

240 **77. Responsible Gun Owners:** We call upon gun owners of Texas to regulate themselves through
241 exercising safe handling procedures, voluntarily receiving training and helping others to train others, and
242 safely carrying firearms as a deterrent to crime.

243 **78. Gun Owner Age:** We believe law-abiding citizens 18 years and older have the right to purchase,
244 possess and carry firearms, including hand guns.

245 **79. National Reciprocity:** We support national reciprocity and call upon Congress to pass it.

246 **80. TSA:** We urge Congress to abolish the TSA.

247 **81. Term Limits:** We support term limits of twelve years for federal and state offices.

248 **82. Unfunded Mandates:** Unfunded mandates are unacceptable. Therefore, the State of Texas must fully
249 fund the cost of indigent criminal defense, as it has cost local taxpayers \$2.4 billion since its passage in
250 2001.

251 **83. Texas Speaker Issues:** Republicans in the Texas House should select their Speaker nominee by
252 secret ballot in a binding caucus without Democrat influence.

253 **84. The Rights of a Sovereign People:** The Republican Party of Texas supports the historic concept,
254 established by our nation’s founders, of limited civil government jurisdiction under the natural laws of God,
255 and we oppose the concept that the state is sovereign over the affairs of men, the family, and the church.
256 We believe that government properly exists by the consent of the governed and must be restrained from
257 intruding into the freedoms of its citizens. The function of government is not to grant rights, but to protect
258 the unalienable, God-given rights of life, liberty, property, and the pursuit of happiness of all, including the
259 unborn. Texans should be free to express their religious beliefs, including prayer, in public places.

260 **85. Habeas Corpus:** We oppose any bill or provision that would suspend habeas corpus for American
261 citizens, except as addressed by the US Constitution.

262 **86. War Powers:** Congress shall not abdicate the war powers to the executive branch except when under
263 imminent threat and not to be used as a preemptive strike unless approved by Congress.

264 **Criminal and Civil Justice**

265 **87. Abortion Homicide Exemption:** We support repeal of the physician homicide exemption of the Texas
266 Penal Code Section 19.06 unless it is absolutely required to save the life of the mother.

267 **88. Parents' Rights:** We support legislation ensuring that the parents' rights to raise and educate their
268 children are protected in Texas law as a fundamental, constitutional right and that there is a presumption
269 that fit parents act in the best interest of their children. So long as the parent is fit, there will normally be no
270 reason for the state to interject in the private realm of the family to question the ability of that parent to
271 make the best decisions concerning the rearing of that child.

272 **89. CPS:** We call for the eventual abolishment of CPS, and in the interim we support reform and any
273 legislation that would support due process in family court proceedings and fully support a jury determining
274 the outcome of any case if requested by either party.

275 **90. Capital Punishment:** Properly applied capital punishment is legitimate, is an effective deterrent, and
276 should be reasonably swift and unencumbered.

277 **91. Police Appreciation and Accountability:** We express our gratitude and appreciation for police officers,
278 first responders, armed forces, and veterans. And furthermore we support local law enforcement agencies
279 and associated personnel to the extent local and state police officers are properly and adequately trained
280 and supervised or otherwise internally and individually held accountable for any conduct which is found to
281 violate state law or the Texas State Constitution.

282 **92. No Jail for Non-Jailable Offenses:** We call upon the Texas Legislature to end the practice of jailing
283 individuals for offenses for which jail is not an allowable consequence under the law.

284 **93. Obscenity Exemption:** We urge repeal of the Texas Penal Code "Obscenity Exemption" that allows
285 children access to harmful, explicit, or pornographic materials under the guise of education materials.

286 **94. Civil Asset Forfeiture:** We call upon the Texas Legislature to abolish civil asset forfeiture and to
287 ensure private property only be forfeited upon a criminal conviction. We also request the State Party Chair
288 and the SREC consider the abolishment of civil asset forfeiture as a legislative priority for the Republican
289 Party of Texas for the 2019 legislative session and to utilize reasonable Party resources necessary to
290 promote and support its passage.

291 **95. Driver Responsibility Program:** We call upon the Texas Legislature to abolish the Driver
292 Responsibility Program and to immediately restore the driver licenses of the citizens whose licenses were
293 suspended by the DRP and to cancel their debt.

294 **96. Administrative Justice:** Citizens have a right to full participation in administrative law processes and
295 courts not of record.

296 **97. Victims of Human Trafficking:** We call upon the Texas Legislature to amend the Code of Criminal
297 Procedure to allow victims of human trafficking to have convictions within the previous five years for
298 prostitution offenses set aside, if they received these convictions as a direct result of being trafficked.

299 **98. Government Surveillance:** We oppose all forms of warrantless government surveillance of United
300 States citizens and businesses.

301 **99. Freedom Act and Government Spying:** We support the repeal of the Freedom Act. Spying on law-
302 abiding Americans must stop immediately. We support court-ordered warrants on an individual basis in
303 cases directly involving national security.

304 **100. Written or Recorded Consent:** We call upon the Texas Legislature to require officers to get written or
305 recorded consent (i.e., body cams) to conduct a search and inform motorists that they can decline to give
306 such consent.

307 **101. Location and Data Privacy:** We call upon the Texas Legislature to protect citizens' current and
308 historic technologically available location data by requiring a warrant based on probable cause for
309 governments to request access, except in the case of an immediate, life threatening situation. We also call
310 on the Texas Legislature to require appropriate policies regarding the disclosure of data collection when
311 no criminal case is filed.

312 **102. Hate Crimes:** We urge the complete repeal of the Hate Crimes Law since ample laws are currently in
313 effect to punish criminal behavior towards other persons.

314 **103. Right to See Charge:** Defendants charged with violating a governmental regulation should have the
315 right to see the enabling law.

316 **104. Indefinite Detention:** We oppose the indefinite detention of United States citizens without due
317 process. We urge our government to terminate detention without due process, including, but not limited to,
318 any military enforcement of federal law within the State of Texas, under NDAA Sections 1021 and 1022.

319 **105. Juries:** We support the right to privacy and security of prospective jurors. Courts must show
320 relevance in questioning jurors and balance the prospective juror's right to privacy and lawyers' need to
321 know. We support the right to inform the jurors of their common law power to judge law (jury nullification),
322 as well as the evidence, and to vote on the verdict according to their conscience.

323 **106. Frivolous Lawsuits:** We support further reform to discourage frivolous lawsuits. We oppose the
324 abusive use of class action lawsuits.

325 **107. Civil Penalty:** We support a change in the law to make it a civil, and not a criminal, offense for legal
326 adults only to possess one ounce or less of marijuana for personal use, punishable by a fine of up to \$100,
327 but without jail time.

328 **108. Marriage Officiation:** We believe religious institutions have the freedom to recognize and perform only
329 those marriages that are consistent with their doctrine.

330 **109. Law Enforcement Equipment:** We call upon the Texas Legislature to implement reporting and training
331 standards to disclose how much military-grade material is sent to local law enforcement under the
332 Department of Defense's 1033 program and ensure that it is being used appropriately and to require the
333 local governing authority over a police force to approve, by vote, an application or grant request prior to
334 the request being made to a federal agency.

335 **110. Photo Enforcement Cameras:** We urge the Texas Legislature to enact legislation for the statewide
336 ban of all photo enforcement ticket cameras, such as red light cameras, speed cameras, and external-
337 facing cameras on buses.

338 **111. Raise the Age:** We call upon the legislature to raise the age of criminal responsibility from 17 to 18
339 years.

340 **112. Abby's Law:** We believe that rape victims should gain justice for the sexual assault crimes committed
341 against them within 90 days, that Texas will rightly prioritize the inalienable right of the victims' safety and

342 justice, and that Texas will establish a standard protocol to be followed in regards to claims of sexual
343 assault, and the funding of rape kit processing where the assailant is unknown will be continuous with
344 mandatory annual reporting to ensure that the money is being allocated for this intent.

345 **113. Warrant Validity:** The filers of search warrants should be held responsible for the validity of the
346 information used to obtain the warrants.

347 **114. Unborn Child Protection:** We believe that a person who injures or kills an unborn child should be
348 subject to criminal and civil litigation.

349 **115. Debtor's Prison:** We call upon the Texas Legislature to enact laws that end the incarceration of
350 individuals because they cannot pay tickets, fines, and fees for Class C Misdemeanors, including traffic
351 violations.

352 **Education Subcommittee**

353 **116. Campus Speech:** We urge the Texas Legislature to recognize the rights of those on college
354 campuses to practice their faith and their right to free speech. We further urge that the Texas Legislature
355 write legislation to protect the right of anyone who steps onto college campuses, to prohibit college
356 campuses from stripping away their First Amendment rights of free speech and practicing their religion.
357 We support withdrawal of public funding from any college or university within this state that actively or
358 passively discriminates or permits discrimination against the free speech of either students or guest
359 speakers. Student groups shall have the unfettered right to elect their leaders, choose their members, and
360 set their organization's mission, purpose, and standard of conduct. **[Federal, State]**

361 **117. Foreign Charter Schools:** Charter schools should have accountability and transparency to local
362 parents, taxpayers, and the State of Texas, as do current public schools, including United States
363 citizenship of public school trustees. We oppose public funding of charter schools that receive money from
364 foreign entities. We urge the Texas Legislature to enact legislation that requires charter school operators
365 to be American citizens. **[State]**

366 **118. Supporting Military Families in Education:** Existing truancy laws conflict with troop deployments. We
367 believe that truancy laws should be amended to allow a 5-day absence prior to deployments. We support
368 the waiver of out-of-state tuition for any dependent of military personnel stationed in Texas. **[State, Local]**

369 **119. Abolish Department of Education:** Since education is not an enumerated power of the federal
370 government, we believe the Department of Education should be abolished, and prohibit the transfer of any
371 of its functions to any other federal agency. **[Federal]**

372 **120. School Health Advisory Councils:** Until the legislature removes sex education from the curriculum of
373 public schools, the State of Texas should adopt changes to Texas Education Code 28.004 to require every
374 member of the School Health Advisory Council (SHAC) to be appointed by the Board of Trustees; require
375 every school district to post SHAC meeting minutes, full and fair disclosure of the contents of the human
376 sexuality instruction, and proposed changes to health education; close loopholes and prohibit
377 contraception distribution and demonstration; and expand the grievance process to cover the entire
378 section of Texas Education Code 28.004. **[State, Local]**

379 **121. Sexual Education:** We demand the state legislature pass a law prohibiting the teaching of sex
380 education, sexual health, or sexual choice, or identity in any public school in any grade whatsoever, or
381 disseminating or permitting the dissemination by any party of any material regarding the same. All school
382 districts, individual schools, or charter schools are prohibited from contracting with or making any payment

383 to any third party for material concerning any of the above topics. Until this prohibition goes into effect,
384 sexual education shall only utilize sexual risk avoidance programs and promote abstinence outside of
385 marriage. **[State, Local]**

386 **122. Extracurricular Opportunities:** We encourage nonpublic school parents to create extracurricular
387 opportunities for their children where they are not readily available and in a manner that they can be free
388 from discriminatory testing, intrusive government oversight, or harmful school policies regarding mixed-
389 gender students in bathrooms and locker rooms. We encourage the legislature to find ways to allow
390 nonpublic school students' participation. Any home school student that does not participate will be
391 unaffected. **[State, Local]**

392 **123. Religious Freedom and Public Schools:** We urge school administrators and officials not to infringe on
393 Texas school students' and staffs' rights to pray and engage in religious speech, individually or in groups,
394 on school property without government interference. We urge the legislature to end censorship of
395 discussion of religion in our founding documents and encourage discussing those documents, including
396 the Bible as their basis. Students and district personnel have the right to display religious items on school
397 property. **[State, Local]**

398 **124. Special Treatment:** Our state universities and public schools shall not make special concessions
399 based on religious practices, which create undue burdens and costs for the institution. **[State, Local]**

400 **125. Equal Access:** All Texas students shall have equal access to all state-supported grants, scholarships,
401 and loans, based upon measurable academic criteria. Illegal aliens shall not be eligible for state or federal
402 grants. We support the suspension of federal funding from universities that prohibit military recruitment on
403 campus. We support Texas college admissions based solely on merit. **[State]**

404 **126. Tenure:** We support certification of tenure requirements every five years to maintain the quality of the
405 teaching staff. **[State]**

406 **127. College Tuition:** We call upon the Texas Legislature to take reasonable measures to curtail tuition
407 increases. The Legislature should pass a law clearing the way for all Texas public universities to adopt at
408 least one applied major through the "Affordable Baccalaureate Program." **[State, Local]**

409 **128. Student Loans:** Congress shall amend the law governing underwriting the student loans to require
410 the amount of cumulative loans guaranteed for any individual by any government program shall be less
411 than or equal to one year of the average annual earnings actually paid in the marketplace by those with
412 that degree. **[Federal]**

413 **129. College Tuition:** We oppose in-state college tuition for illegal aliens. **[State]**

414 **130. Juvenile Daytime Curfew:** We strongly oppose juvenile daytime curfews. We believe truancy laws or
415 harassment by any school district, education agency, or child protective services employee are a real
416 threat to our liberty, and we will defend the educational liberties we have gained in Texas with diligence
417 and urgency. **[State, Local]**

418 **131. Local Control for Education:** We believe that all children should have access to quality education.
419 Under the US Constitution, the power to regulate education is reserved exclusively to the States and to the
420 people. Parents have the primary right and responsibility to educate their children. The classroom should
421 be a place where all viewpoints are welcomed, free speech is celebrated, and "person before politics"
422 beliefs are preached. We support the right of parents to freely choose public, charter, private, parochial, or
423 home schooling for their children. We support the right of parents to choose the specific public school that
424 their children attend. No child should be forced to attend a failing school. We reject the imposition of
425 federal education standards and the tying of any government funding to the adoption of federal education

426 standards. We reject the intrusion of government in private, parochial or home schools. We affirm that the
427 policies, procedures, activities, and finances of public education in Texas at all levels should be fully
428 transparent. To ensure transparency, the check register of all traditional school districts and charter
429 schools should be posted online with the link on the homepage. We respect parental authority regarding
430 sex education. We believe that abortion providers and affiliates should be prohibited from providing any
431 curriculum or instruction in schools. **[State, Local]**

432 **132. Elected SBOE:** We believe that the SBOE should continue to be an elected body consisting of fifteen
433 members. Their responsibilities must include:

- 434 1. Appointing the Commissioner of Education.
- 435 2. Maintaining constitutional authority over the Permanent School Fund.
- 436 3. Maintaining sole authority over all curricula content.
- 437 4. The state adoption of all educational materials. This process must include public hearings.

438 The SBOE should be minimally staffed out of general revenue. **[State]**

439 **133. School Options:** We support the distribution of public educational funds in a manner that they follow
440 the student to any school, whether public or nonpublic, through means of tax exemptions and/or credits,
441 that would take effect upon voter approval of an amendment to the Texas Constitution that stipulates that
442 no educational institution shall ever be required to accept public educational funds and requires that all
443 educational institutions, which includes homeschools, that do not accept public educational funds be
444 permanently exempted from any curricular or academic regulation whatsoever. **[State, Local]**

445 **134. Basic Standards:** The educational system should focus on basic standards which include, but is not
446 limited to a curriculum of reading (with an emphasis on phonics), spelling, writing, civics, the arts, music,
447 literature, mathematics, science, geography, economics, and United States and world history. We
448 encourage teaching critical thinking skills, including logic, rhetoric and analytical sciences within these
449 subjects. **[State, Local]**

450 **135. Scientific Theories:** We support objective teaching of scientific theories, such as life origins and
451 environmental change. These should be taught as challengeable scientific theories subject to change as
452 new data is produced. Teachers and students should be able to discuss the strengths and weaknesses of
453 these theories openly and without fear of retribution or discrimination of any kind. **[State, Local]**

454 **136. National Core Curriculum:** We oppose the use of national or international standards in the State of
455 Texas (i.e. Common Core, CSCOPE, United Nations Inclusion, etc.) We also oppose the modification of
456 college entrance exams to reflect any national core philosophies. Any school district that violates state law
457 banning the use of a national core curriculum or standards shall lose all state funding until said curricula or
458 standards are removed and no longer utilized in classrooms. **[Federal, State, Local]**

459 **137. Textbook Approval and Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS):** The Texas Education Code
460 (TEC) must be amended to empower the State Board of Education (SBOE) to require each school district
461 that adopts non-state approved instructional materials to conform to the SBOE higher approval process to
462 protect citizens' right to petition, correct factual errors, prevent corruption and fulfill legislative intent in the
463 TEC. Local school district boards must hold public hearings prior to adoption on such materials and
464 citizens should have access to review classroom materials upon request at any time. We encourage the
465 Texas Legislature to develop a review and compliance process to ensure that Texas's local school
466 districts' curriculum complies with the TEKS standards, and, if not, funding should be denied. **[State,
467 Local]**

468 **138. American Identity:** We favor strengthening our common American identity, which includes the
469 contribution and assimilation of diverse racial and ethnic groups. Students shall pledge allegiance to the

470 United States and Texas flags daily to instill patriotism. Students have the right to display patriotic items on
471 school property. **[State, Local]**

472 **139. Bilingual Education:** We encourage non-English speaking students to transition, via best practices, to
473 English within one year, allowing them to quickly assimilate and succeed in American society. **[State,**
474 **Local]**

475 **140. Gender Identity:** The official position of the Texas schools with respect to transgenderism is that there
476 are only two genders: male and female. **[State, Local]**

477 **141. Healthcare in Public Schools:** Legislators shall prohibit reproductive health care services, including
478 counseling, referrals, and distribution of condoms and contraception through public schools. We support
479 parents' right to choose, without penalty, which medications are administered to their minor children. We
480 reaffirm that the age of consent in Texas is 17 years old. **[State, Local]**

481 **142. School Security:** The Texas Legislature shall pass a statute that allows Texas school teachers, or
482 other school employees, who are certified and insured, to be authorized to carry a concealed gun on the
483 premises of their assigned school for security and protection purposes. The Texas Republican Party
484 supports teachers and staff, who obtain concealed carry licenses, and obtain additional training required
485 by the district, to have the right to carry firearms on school premises. **[State, Local]**

486 **143. School Security Plan:** The Legislature is urged to adopt as a legislative priority to mandate by state
487 law that all publicly funded school districts be required to submit a viable school security plan as part of an
488 accountability program. The school security plan must explicitly provide for the personal security of
489 students and staff by responding with an equal and opposite force to an aggressor that uses deadly
490 weapons or devices. In an effort to customize plans for each district, a parent oversight commission will be
491 consulted and advised as to the threat assessment status of schools at all times and must be allowed to
492 partake in strategy sessions for the creation of the school security plan. **[State, Local]**

493 **Finance Subcommittee**

494 **144. Government Spending:** Government Spending is out of control at the federal, state, and local levels,
495 and action is needed. We urge Congress to become fiscally responsible by immediately enacting the
496 following items:

- 497 1. Adopt zero-based budgeting.
- 498 2. Adopt a policy of requiring private sector efficiency commission for each governmental department.
- 499 3. Oppose the use of "earmarks" as a part of the budget and spending process.
- 500 4. Prohibit Congress from passing appropriations bills unless each appropriations group is considered
501 and passed separately.

502 **145. Economic Stabilization Fund:** Amend the Texas Constitution to narrow the permissible uses of the
503 Economic Stabilization Fund to cover revenue shortfalls in the current biennium and expenses related to a
504 state of disaster as declared by the Governor. **[State]**

505 **146. School Property Tax Abatements:** We support repealing Tax Code Chapter 313 school property tax
506 abatements. **[Local]**

507 **147. Bailouts and Subsidies:** We encourage government to divest its ownership of all businesses that
508 should be run in the private sector and allow the free market to prevail; this includes all businesses run by
509 school boards and Texas Educational Service Centers. We oppose all bailouts of domestic and foreign
510 government entities, states, and all businesses, public and private. **[Local]**

511 **148. Community Reinvestment Act:** We support the repeal of the Community Reinvestment Act. **[Federal]**

512 **149. Lending Institutions:** We support the sale of the federal government's interest in Federal National
513 Mortgage Association (Fannie Mae) and Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation (Freddie Mac).
514 **[Federal]**

515 **150. Special Funds:** We urge the Texas legislature to abolish the Major Event Trust Fund and the Moving
516 Image Industry Incentive Program. **[State]**

517 **151. Government Pensions:** The Texas legislature shall enact new rules to begin to transition government
518 pensions for ERS and TDCRS members from a defined benefit pension to a defined contribution
519 retirement plan similar to a 403(b). **[State]**

520 **152. Pro Stadiums:** Tax dollars should not be used to fund the building of stadiums for professional or
521 semi-professional sports teams. **[State, Local]**

522 **153. Gambling:** We oppose the expansion of legalized gambling.

523 **154. Line-Item Veto:** We support strengthening the line-item veto authority of the Governor. **[State]**

524 **155. Veto Session:** We support a constitutional amendment permitting the Legislature to return for a three-
525 day session in response to the Governor's veto. **[State]**

526 **156. Management Districts:** We oppose the creation of management or special purpose districts with the
527 authority to impose taxes and bonded debt, and we oppose the use of eminent domain by these districts.
528 **[State, Local]**

529 **157. Permanent School Fund:** Since the Permanent School Fund is not paid by taxpayers, the principal
530 balance should be safeguarded and not used as a source of additional funding for our state budget, but for
531 its constitutionally intended purposes of instructional materials that have been approved by the State
532 Board of Education. **[State]**

533 **158. Homeowners Association:** We urge the Legislature to enact legislation to allow dissolving a
534 homeowners association by a majority vote of the association's voting members. **[State]**

535 **159. Real Estate Transaction Tax:** We oppose any creation of a real estate transaction tax. **[Federal,**
536 **State]**

537 **160. Diversion of Property Taxes:** We oppose the diversion of property taxes to build, subsidize, and/or
538 guarantee the loans of toll projects, which is primarily being done through transportation reinvestment
539 zones. The State needs to properly fund the Texas state highway system to prevent the use of local
540 property taxes being diverted to state roads. **[Local]**

541 **161. Abolish Property Tax:** We urge replacing the property tax system with an alternative other than the
542 income tax and requiring voter approval to increase the overall tax burden.

543 **162. Property Tax Rollback Elections:** We urge the Legislature to establish a property tax revenue growth
544 trigger of 2.5% per year that can only be exceeded by a vote held on a November uniform election date
545 while working to eliminate and replace the M&O school property tax.

546 **163. Homestead Appraisals:** We support allowing homeowners to contest their homestead appraisals in
547 Justice of the Peace court.

548 **164. School Finance:** We support a simple, fair, and efficient method for financing our public school
549 system. We oppose the "Robin Hood" system of public school finance and believe the Texas Legislature,

550 not the courts, should determine the amount of money spent on public education and the distribution
551 thereof. We oppose the Edgewood I and II decisions that legislate school finance from the bench.

552 **165. Additional School Funding:** Before receiving additional dollars through the school finance formulas,
553 school districts must spend at least 65 percent of their current funding in the classroom.

554 **166. School Maintenance and Operation Property Tax:** We call upon the Texas Legislature to use surplus
555 revenue to buy down the school maintenance and operation property tax rate as a prelude to replacing it
556 with a broader based consumption tax.

557 **167. Social Security:** We support an immediate and orderly transition, with minimal or no impact to those
558 at or near retirement, to a system of private pensions based on the concept of individual retirement
559 accounts, and gradually phasing out the Social Security tax. We oppose taxation of Social Security
560 benefits.

561 **168. Spending Limit:** adopted under the heading budget federal.

562 **169. Spending Limitations:** Amend the Texas Constitution and state statute with a stricter spending
563 limitation based on US census population growth plus inflation as measured by the Consumer Price Index
564 and apply the new limit to Texas's total government budget.

565 **170. Tax Burden:** We in the Republican Party of Texas believe in the principles of constitutionally limited
566 government based on federalist principles. To this end we encourage our elected officials at all levels of
567 government to work to reverse the current trend of expanding government and the growing tax and debt
568 burdens this places on "We the People." We believe the most equitable system of taxation is one based
569 on consumption and wish to see reforms towards that end at all levels of government.

570 **171. State Income Tax Ban:** We support maintaining the current ban on state income taxes in Texas.

571 **172. Truth in Taxation:** We urge that taxes established for a particular purpose shall not be used for any
572 other purpose.

573 **173. Public Posting:** We support statewide, local taxing entities, and government entities compiling and
574 publicly posting their current debt, future obligations, financial statements, check registers, and local
575 government contracts on their official websites. **[State, Local]**

576 **174. Transportation and Fuel Taxes:** We resolve that tax revenue derived from gasoline taxes and all
577 other taxes/fees on our vehicles (including vehicle sales tax) should only be used for road construction
578 and maintenance, and not be diverted to any other use, including mass transit, rail, restrictive lanes, and
579 bicycle paths. **[State, Local]**

580 **175. Special Taxing Districts:** We support restricting the authority of special taxing districts, such as
581 Municipal Utility Districts and Municipal Management Districts, so that they are accountable to the people
582 they serve and may not incur bonded debt without a vote of their residents. **[State, Local]**

583 **Government and Foreign Affairs**

584 **176. Bond Elections:** State and local bond election ballots should be required to include the amount of
585 debt currently outstanding, current debt service payments, current per capita debt obligations, the amount
586 of new debt being proposed, estimated debt service for the new debt, and estimated per capita burden
587 being proposed. Any bond election (state or local) must pass with at least a $\frac{2}{3}$ majority of voters to affirm
588 the bond. The bond issue must obtain a yes vote of a minimum of 20% of registered voters. All elections of
589 personnel responsible for adopting a budget and a property tax rate and all elections involving bond

590 indebtedness shall be held on the November uniform election date and administered by the County Clerk
591 or the County Elections Administrator. No public funds are to be spent influencing a bond election. We
592 oppose bundling of items on bond election ballots.

593 **177. Council on American-Islamic Relations (CAIR):** We hereby call on all law enforcement and
594 governmental agencies in Texas to avoid and suspend all contact and outreach activities with the Council
595 on American-Islamic Relations (CAIR), named unindicted co-conspirators in the Holy Land Foundation
596 Trial, with ties to terrorist groups such as Hamas.

597 **178. Candidate Eligibility:** A candidate running for office should be required to reside within the
598 geographical boundaries of the office sought. The Secretary of State shall be required to certify that state
599 and federal candidates placed on ballots proffered in Texas meet the statutory requirements for the office
600 sought. For federal offices, all candidates must submit written authorization for the Secretary of State to
601 obtain a certified copy of the candidate's birth certificate from the original issuing authority, so as to prove
602 they are constitutionally eligible, in order to have their name placed on the general election ballot.

603 **179. Judicial Candidate Speech:** We support a state constitutional amendment that would enable judicial
604 candidates to express their beliefs in general terms before elections to thus inform voters of their views.

605 **180. Campaign Endorsements:** We oppose the buying and selling of endorsements in all elections.

606 **181. Statute Reduction:** We support efforts to eliminate duplicative and unnecessary government statutes.

607 **182. Cybersecurity:** We support government efforts in cybersecurity to safeguard for privacy, election,
608 intellectual property, and public safety while respecting civil rights.

609 **183. Cybersecurity Voter Registration:** The State of Texas should use any undedicated federal election
610 funds received to improve the security of our online voter registration data.

611 **184. Elected Appraisal Boards:** We support the election, by registered voters in the geographically
612 affected area, of appraisal boards and appraisal review boards.

613 **185. Conflicts of Interest:** We support legislation prohibiting the influencing or voting of any elected official
614 or appointee where a conflict of interest exists.

615 **186. Elected Removal:** We support that any state elected official convicted of or placed on deferred
616 adjudication for a felony or misdemeanor that constitutes a crime of moral turpitude while in office be
617 permanently removed from office.

618 **187. Sexual Harassment:** RPT supports a zero-tolerance policy for sexual harassment.

619 **188. Early Voting:** We support that early voting will be limited to 7 days, ending on the Friday before
620 Election Day.

621 **189. Fair Election Procedures:** We support modifications to and the strengthening of election laws to
622 ensure ballot integrity and fair elections. We support the Secretary of State strictly enforcing printing of
623 results tapes for electronic voting for early voting and Election Day at polling locations after the polls close
624 for all counties. We support increased scrutiny and security in balloting by mail, prohibition of internet
625 voting and any electronic voting lacking a verifiable paper trail, prohibition of "rolling polling" for bond and
626 tax rate increase elections, prosecution for election fraud with jail sentences, repeal of the unconstitutional
627 Help America Vote Act, and assurance that each polling place has distinctly marked, where possible,
628 separate locations for Republican and Democrat primary voting. We support all means of protecting the
629 integrity of our elections, including the optional use of paper ballots. We oppose countywide polling
630 locations due to heightened potential for fraud.

631 **190. Offense Enforcement for In-Person Voting:** We support raising to felony status infractions of the
632 Texas Election Code during in-person voting, including allowing persons not in the poll book to vote a
633 regular ballot, willfully misclassifying the reason for a provisional ballot, giving one voter multiple ballot
634 access codes or multiple ballots, and all forms of voter assistance not compliant with TEC, especially
635 “assistants” who force themselves on voters to influence their votes.

636 **191. Residency Requirements:** We support legislation that defines voter and candidate residency and is
637 enforced by the Secretary of State.

638 **192. Felon Voting:** We support the constitutional authority of state legislatures to regulate voting, including
639 disenfranchisement of convicted felons.

640 **193. Voter Photo ID:** We continue to fight for meaningful voter ID requirements for all elections and
641 support other states’ attempts to pass the same.

642 **194. Actual Residence:** We support changes to the appropriate sections of Texas law that would deny or
643 cancel Homestead Exemptions, driver’s licenses, vehicle registrations, License to Carry, and hunting and
644 fishing licenses if the addresses on those documents DO NOT match the address on the voter’s
645 registration.

646 **195. Consolidated Elections:** All public elections, with the exception of specially called elections, should be
647 consolidated to Primary and General Election days and locations.

648 **196. Voter Registration:** We support restoring integrity to the voter registration rolls and reducing voter
649 fraud. We support the repeal of all motor voter laws, re-registering voters every four years, requiring photo
650 ID of all registrants, proof of residency and citizenship, along with voter registration application, retention
651 of the 30-day registration deadline, and requiring that a list of certified deaths be provided to the Secretary
652 of State in order that the names of deceased voters be removed from the list of registered voters. We
653 should give the Secretary of State enforcement authority to ensure county registrar compliance with
654 Secretary of State directives. Revise the Title 19 funding to avoid incentivizing retention of ineligible
655 voters.

656 **197. Nursing Home Voting:** County election officials should provide an Election Judge, Alternate Judge,
657 and Election Clerk for an in-person voting time during the early voting period in every healthcare/nursing
658 home/retirement facility in the county. This will allow bedside voting, if necessary, and the ability to provide
659 fraud-free elections for handicapped and elderly voters.

660 **198. Campaigning at Poll Sites:** We encourage free speech at polling sites outside of the existing
661 boundaries. The right to campaign, including the display of signage, with respect to current state law, at an
662 appropriate distance (100 feet) from the polling place, shall not be infringed.

663 **199. Voting Rights:** We support equal suffrage for all United States citizens of voting age who are not
664 felons. We oppose any identification of citizens by race, origin, or creed and oppose use of any such
665 identification for purposes of creating voting districts. We urge that the Voting Rights Act of 1965, codified
666 and updated in 1973, be repealed and not reauthorized.

667 **200. Direct Elections of State Judges:** We support our right to select our judges by direct vote.

668 **201. Government Authority:** We believe any government authority that has the ability to level a tax or fee
669 on the people should be accountable to those who pay the taxes via the electoral process, from the local
670 level to the federal level.

671 **202. English Only Ballots:** English, and only English, shall appear on any ballot for any election in the

672 United States of America and in the State of Texas

673 **203. Foreign Policy:** We support a foreign policy that relies on peace through the strength of our national
674 defense and avoids foreign deployments or entanglements. We support free market enterprise, private
675 humanitarian aid to developing countries, continued favorable treatment of proven allies, censure of
676 adversarial entities that seek destruction of other countries, and strong policy on confronting terrorists. We
677 strongly oppose religious or ethnic cleansing. We oppose US aid to any foreign entity that consistently
678 votes against our interests or is openly hostile to our nation.

679 **204. China:** We strongly recommend the removal of Communist China's "Most Favored Nation" status.

680 **205. Foreign Aid:** We support foreign aid in non-monetary form (goods and services) only to our allies in
681 cases of national defense or catastrophic disasters, with congressional approval.

682 **206. Iran and North Korea:** We oppose development of nuclear weapons by Iran and North Korea, and
683 oppose easing sanctions on either country until their hostile behavior and nuclear proliferation cease.

684 **207. Israel:** We are grateful that the U.S. Embassy in Israel has been moved to Jerusalem. We believe
685 that Jerusalem should remain Israel's undivided capital, accessible to people of all faiths. The United
686 States should continue to support Israel militarily, financially and technologically. We oppose any
687 pressuring of Israel to make concessions they believe would jeopardize their security. We strongly oppose
688 the anti-Semitic Boycott, Divestment, and Sanctions (BDS) movement, on all levels, including and
689 especially on college campuses, at the United Nations and by anti-West Non-Governmental
690 Organizations. We believe there should not be a Palestinian state within the historical borders of Israel.
691 Our policy is inspired by God's biblical promise to bless those who bless Israel and curse those who curse
692 Israel and we further invite other nations and organizations to enjoy the benefits of that promise.

693 **208. Israel's Sovereignty:** We further insist upon Israel's right to exist, its right to secure borders, and its
694 right to the land secured by practicing self-defense from aggressive enemies. We strongly encourage
695 other nations of the world to respect Israel's sovereignty, right of self-determination, and right of self-
696 defense.

697 **209. Taiwan:** We call upon the United States to move toward full diplomatic recognition of Taiwan as an
698 independent and sovereign nation and to renew our commitment to defend our security interests in the
699 Western Pacific region in the face of China's military provocations which threaten its neighbors and critical
700 maritime trade routes.

701 **210. UN Arms Trade Treaty:** The United States should withdraw from the UN Arms Trade Treaty.

702 **211. UN Treaty on the Rights of Child:** We unequivocally oppose the United States Senate's ratification of
703 the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child.

704 **212. Taxation by a Foreign Entity:** We believe that any attempt to allow the United Nations or any other
705 foreign entity to levy taxes on United States citizens or governments should be rejected.

706 **213. United Nations:** The United Nations is a detriment to the sovereignty of the United States and other
707 countries, and because of this we support:

- 708 1. Our withdrawal from the current United Nations.
- 709 2. The removal of the United Nations from United States soil.
- 710 3. The rejection of all Agenda 21 and Agenda 2030 policies and programs.
- 711 4. The rejection of all related NGOs, councils, and environmental programs.
- 712 A zero budget allotment of American tax dollars to any United Nations programs.

- 713 5. The opposition of any designation of World Heritage Sites in the United States and especially in
714 Texas.
- 715 **214. Federal Land in Texas:** All federal land in Texas should be returned to and administered by Texas,
716 except for land specifically authorized in the Constitution, (military bases, federal buildings, post offices).
- 717 **215. Federal Offices Location:** Offices attached to the seat of the Federal Government should not be
718 required to exercise their offices in the District of Columbia. It is no longer necessary for all Federal
719 agencies to be located in the District of Columbia and we call on both the Senate and Congress to
720 expunge Chapter 3 of Title 4, Section 72, United States Code and the President to sign such change.
- 721 **216. Lobbying Limitation:** We support legislation to prohibit former officials and government employees
722 from lobbying for a foreign government and/or any business for five years after leaving public service. We
723 support legislation to prevent lobbying by any organization receiving federal grants except that relating to
724 its tax status.
- 725 **217. Tax-Funded Lobbying:** We urge that the Texas Legislature enact legislation that prohibits tax-funded
726 contract lobbying.
- 727 **218. Texas Speaker of the House:** We oppose the use of pledge cards and call for the Republican
728 members to caucus after each November general election to determine by secure secret ballot, their
729 candidate for Speaker. We also call for the Republican members to vote as a unified body for their
730 selected speaker candidate when the legislature convenes in regular session.
- 731 **219. Ghost Voting:** We expect the Texas House of Representatives to enforce house rules and prevent
732 ghost voting.
- 733 **220. Updating Texas House Rules:** We request the House Republican Caucus work with the Republican
734 Party of Texas on House rule changes prior to the next legislative session that would facilitate the passage
735 of legislation based on the Republican platform and Legislative Priorities. Such changes should not have
736 the result of disenfranchising the minority party, but should ensure that the majority party can get its own
737 business done. These changes should include, but not be limited to, changing House Rule 6 Section
738 21(2017 House Rules) to allow for a motion to place a bill on the calendar after 7 days instead of 30 days.
- 739 **221. Calling for Open Calendar Committee Meetings:** The Calendars Committee of the Texas House of
740 Representatives should be open to the public.
- 741 **222. Government Shutdown:** In the case of United States government shutdown, the only salaries to be
742 suspended are for the United States Senate and House of Representatives.
- 743 **223. Closed Primary:** We support protecting the integrity of the Republican primary election by requiring a
744 closed primary system in Texas.
- 745 **224. Remove Gender Requirements:** We suggest that the Chair, Vice Chair and members of the SREC be
746 elected on merit and not based on gender (Sec. 171.002 of the Texas Election Code).
- 747 **225. Enforcing the Platform:** Every Republican is responsible for implementing this platform. Party
748 candidates should indicate their positions on platform planks before their acceptance on the ticket, and
749 such information should be available on the Party website.
- 750 **Candidate Support:** The Republican Party of Texas should provide financial support only to those
751 candidates who support the right-to-life planks.
- 752 **226. Texas Protecting Texans:** We support federal legislation remanding all authority over abortion back to
753 the individual states and removing all standing on this issue from the federal judiciary as given by Article III

754 in the US Constitution. We also support family control of end-of-life decisions.

755 **227. Protecting Active Military Right to Vote:** We urge the Texas Secretary of State and the United States
756 Attorney General to ensure that voting rights of our armed forces will neither be denied nor obstructed,
757 and all valid absentee votes shall be counted.

758 **228. Unelected Bureaucrats:** We oppose the appointment of unelected bureaucrats, and we support
759 defunding and abolishing the departments or agencies of the Internal Revenue Service; Education;
760 Energy; Housing and Urban Development; Commerce; Health and Human Services; Labor; Interior
761 (specifically, the Bureau of Land Management); Transportation Security Administration; Alcohol, Tobacco,
762 Firearms and Explosives; and National Labor Relations Board. In the interim, executive decisions by
763 departments or agencies must be reviewed and approved by Congress before taking effect.

764 **229. Sunset Commission:** We support a majority citizen-led Sunset Commission.

765 **230. Legislative Accountability:** We support a transparent and accountable legislative process which
766 includes a recorded and published vote and prohibits a legislative change without a recorded vote. All
767 content of any bill must be germane to the title of the act. We support that all bills presented in the United
768 States Congress and Texas Legislature include citations to the authorizing constitutional provision, cost to
769 implement, and impact on the family. We oppose omnibus legislation and the insertion of “pork barrel”
770 funding for special interests. We oppose the use of signing statements by the President to circumvent the
771 law.

772 **231. Permanent Voting Record:** We support Texas House and legislative rules that prohibit the practice of
773 changing the actual recorded votes of Texas legislators after the vote on final passage.

774 **232. Public Information Act:** We support legislation that would close contractor and trade secret loopholes
775 in the Texas Public Information Act, while providing due process protections for private companies wishing
776 to keep trade secrets private.

777 **233. Cell Network Access:** Cell phone network access is a needed and important tool in emergency
778 situations, especially for first responders; we support the state facilitating first responder access to clear
779 cell phone channels for emergency use.

780 **Health and Human Services**

781 **234. Caring for Our Mentally Disabled Citizens:** We urge the Legislature to continue funding and operating
782 all state-supported living centers for mentally disabled legal Texas residents, and to continually seek
783 common sense improvements to increase efficiency.

784 **235. Mental Health:** We request that the Texas Legislature provide appropriate funding for the
785 improvement of mental health services for children and adolescents. This includes funding for training
786 everyone who touches the life of a child in the foster care system in trauma and trauma-informed care.

787 **236. Welfare Reform:** Welfare reform should encourage partnerships with faith-based institutions,
788 community, and business organizations to assist individuals in need. We encourage welfare reform in the
789 following areas:

- 790 1. Denying benefits to individuals who cannot prove citizenship.
- 791 2. Reforming welfare programs to require recipients to work, learn, and train.
- 792 3. Reforming welfare programs to require recipients to remain substance-abuse free in exchange for
793 temporary benefits not exceeding two years.

- 794 4. Requiring all welfare recipients to to submit to random drug testing in order to receive benefits.
795 5. Requiring that money provided through the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) be
796 used only for nutritious foods consistent with those included under the WIC program, and be
797 released only with a photo ID of the approved user.
798 6. Implementing a non-monetary-based assistance program for providing supplemental food benefits.
799 7. Removing prisoners from welfare rolls.

800 **237. Federal Welfare Programs:** We support the abolition of all federal welfare programs, as they are not
801 an appropriate role of the Federal Government.

802 **238. Defunding HUD's AFFH:** We support defunding HUD's Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing (AFFH).

803 **239. Child Support Related to Welfare:** Mothers applying for government financial support, exempting rape
804 victims, should provide the verifiable name and any known contact information of the birth father, which
805 information shall be turned over to the State of Texas Attorney General's Office within 30 days for
806 collection of child support.

807 **240. Gender Identity:** We oppose all efforts to validate transgender identity. We call upon our legislature to
808 enact laws prohibiting the use of hormones before the age of 18 in an attempt to change gender. We
809 believe it should be illegal to remove healthy body parts in minors in an effort to try to transition to the
810 opposite sex.

811 **241. No Taxpayer Funding for Sex Change:** We oppose the use of taxpayer funds for any type of gender
812 dysphoria treatments or sex change operations and/or treatments.

813 **242. Addiction:** We oppose legalization of illicit and synthetic drugs. We also oppose any needle exchange
814 programs. Faith-based rehabilitation programs should be considered as a part of an overall rehabilitation
815 program.

816 **243. Healthcare Decisions:** Health care decisions, including routine preventative care such as
817 immunizations, should be between a patient and health care professional and should be protected from
818 government intrusion. Texas public schools have a duty to inform parents they can opt out of CDC
819 recommended vaccinations for their children. Abortion is not healthcare. Government has no right to
820 mandate specific medical procedures or methods of healthcare.

821 **244. Healthcare Choice:** We urge the passage of healthcare reform which results in more affordable
822 healthcare through a market-based, competitive, and transparent healthcare system, including tort reform,
823 interstate competition, health savings accounts, genuine accountability and oversight.

824 **245. Fluoride in Water Supply:** The Republican Party of Texas supports banning the fluoridation of the
825 Texas water supply.

826 **246. Compassionate Use Act:** We call upon the Texas Legislature to improve the 2015 Compassionate
827 Use Act to allow doctors to determine the appropriate use of cannabis to certified patients.

828 **247. Cannabis Classification:** Congress should remove cannabis from the list of Schedule 1 and move to
829 Schedule 2.

830 **248. Medicaid Reform:** We support Medicaid block grants to the states and returning Medicaid to its
831 original purpose to be a temporary assistance. We oppose any further expansion of Medicaid.

832 **249. Medicare Reform:** Medicare Part A should have a parallel opt-out to Part B for those who have health
833 insurance through their employer and continue to work. Part A will then kick in when they retire.

834 **250. Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (“Obamacare”):** We demand the immediate repeal of the
835 Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, which we believe to be unconstitutional.

836 **251. Medical Records and Informed Consent:** We oppose any state or federal medical record computer
837 database or registry (with exception to diseases that are a public health threat, i.e., HIV and/or
838 Tuberculosis), which stores personal identifiable records on citizens without their written consent.

839 **252. Right to Try:** We urge the Texas State Legislature and Governor to enact laws that allow patients and
840 their doctors to have access to experimental medications and procedures that can potentially be lifesaving
841 or improve quality of life.

842 **253. Healthcare Savings Accounts:** All individuals should be allowed to establish health savings accounts.
843 Individuals should be allowed higher annual contributions to health savings accounts, and employers
844 should be allowed to offer "portable" health savings-linked insurance that workers could take with them if
845 they change jobs or retire.

846 **254. Texas HSA:** We recommend the creation of the State of Texas Health Savings Account, with funds in
847 excess of those needed in the Rainy Day fund with the purpose of enabling the state to develop reserves
848 sufficient to exit the federal Medicaid program.

849 **255. Fetal Tissue Harvesting and Stem Cell Research:** We support legislation prohibiting experimentation
850 or commercial use of human fetal tissue, which requires or is dependent upon the destruction of human
851 life. We encourage adult stem cell research using cells from umbilical cords, from adults, and from any
852 other means that does not kill human embryos.

853 **256. Homosexuality:** We believe there should be no granting of special legal entitlements or creation of
854 special status for homosexual behavior, regardless of state of origin, and we oppose any criminal or civil
855 penalties against those who oppose homosexuality out of faith, conviction, or belief in traditional values.

856 **257. Parental Rights and Responsibilities:** Local, state, or federal laws, regulations, or policies that limit
857 parental rights in the rearing of both biological and adopted children shall not be enacted. Parents have
858 the God-given right and responsibility to direct and guide their children’s moral education.

859 **258. Parental Consent:** We support parental consent for all medical care, counseling, etc., for all minors.

860 **259. Conscience Clause:** All persons and legal entities have the right of conscience, and should be
861 protected under Texas law if they conscientiously object to participate in practices that conflict with their
862 moral or religious beliefs. This includes, but is not limited to, abortion, the prescription for and dispensing
863 of drugs with abortifacient potential, human cloning, embryonic stem cell research, eugenic screenings,
864 euthanasia, assisted suicide, harmful futile procedures, and the withdrawal of nutrition and hydration.

865 **260. Alternatives to Abortion:** Until abortion is made illegal in Texas, we urge the Republican Party of
866 Texas and the Texas Legislature to assist in educating the public regarding alternatives to abortion,
867 especially adoption.

868 **261. Discriminatory Abortion:** We support legislation such as the “Preborn NonDiscrimination Act”
869 (PreNDA), to close existing discriminatory loopholes that fail to protect unborn children suspected of
870 having a "fetal anomaly" or disability and to enact anti-discriminatory language to apply additional
871 protections to unborn children at risk of being aborted because of their sex, race, or disability, in addition
872 to providing families with information about life-affirming social and medical services available to them in
873 Texas, such as perinatal palliative care.

874 **262. Planned Parenthood:** We support completely eliminating public funding for Planned Parenthood and

875 any other abortion providers and all their affiliates, and we oppose their digital or physical presence in our
876 schools and other public institutions. We also support elimination of public funding for embryonic stem cell
877 research, research on fetal tissue, or human cloning.

878 **263. Human Embryos:** We support the adoption of human embryos and the banning of human embryo
879 trafficking.

880 **264. End-of-Life Patient Protection:** We support patients' rights, especially near the end of life, and call for
881 reform of existing legislation so that:

- 882 1. Texas law should provide that medical personnel may not deny care, change advanced directives,
883 or originate directives for any patient without the permission of the patient or the patient's
884 designate.
- 885 2. We also support the passage of legislation to amend the Advance Directive Act by requiring
886 hospitals intending or threatening to withdraw life-sustaining treatment against the patient's wishes
887 or their advance directive to continue all treatment and care for such patients pending transfer to
888 another facility.
- 889 3. We also support legislation repealing the unethical "Ten-Day Rule" in Section 166.046, Health and
890 Safety Code, that allows physicians to withdraw basic life-sustaining treatment (like a ventilator)
891 after an impending countdown.

892 **265. Home and Community-Based Services:** We call on the Texas Legislature to support Home and
893 Community-Based Services (HCBS) as a pro-life alternative, and to enact language to apply additional
894 protections and to address any loopholes that fail to protect or provide appropriate home and community-
895 based alternatives for children and people with disabilities, in addition to providing families with information
896 about life-affirming social and medical services available to them in Texas as alternatives to abortion and
897 costly institutional care.

898 **266. Modernized Social Security Card:** We support the improvement of our 1936 Social Security Card to
899 use contemporary anti-counterfeit technology. The Social Security card will not be considered a National
900 ID card for United States citizens.

901 **267. Social Security Disability:** We support appropriate limits on the length of time to receive Social
902 Security Disability benefits for all but those truly not able to do ANY kind of paid employment.

903 **268. Toxic Exposure:** We support the passage of the Toxic Exposure Act of 2015 which will ensure that
904 the Federal Government will establish a database on all exposed veterans and their families.

905 **269. VA Medical Benefits Not Limited:** Allow veterans to use VA medical benefits at private medical
906 providers and not be limited to VA Hospitals.

907 **270. Replace the VA:** Replace the Veterans Administration with a commercial insurance plan that allows
908 eligible veterans to obtain health services from any licensed provider.

909 **National Defense and Border Security**

910 **271. Support of Our Armed Forces:** The men and women who wear our country's uniform, whether on
911 active duty or in the Reserves or National Guard, are the most important assets in our military arsenal.
912 They and their families must have the pay, health care, housing, education, and overall support they need.
913 Injured military personnel deserve the best medical, mental health, and rehabilitative care our country has
914 to offer. We must always remember those who have given the ultimate sacrifice; their families must be
915 assured meaningful financial assistance. It is the solemn duty we owe and honor we give to those who

916 bravely don the uniform of freedom. We support our government in continuing to seek and act upon all
917 information concerning our military personnel and other citizens listed as missing in action or prisoners of
918 war. Veterans Administration monetary benefits shall match present national price index value in all
919 programs.

920 **272. Proof of Legal Residency for Public Services:** Texas requires proof of legal residency for obtaining a
921 Texas driver's license and enrolling in public school, and requires proof of citizenship for obtaining voter
922 registration and public benefits.

923 **273. Strong National Defense:** We support a strong national defense that protects United States interests,
924 freedoms and sovereignty at home and abroad.

925 **274. Reject NDAA:** We reject the unconstitutional provisions of the National Defense Authorization Act
926 (NDAA), that includes (but is not limited to) indefinite detention without trial and detention in military
927 custody. We demand the state's congressional delegation to immediately commence efforts to repeal the
928 unconstitutional provisions contained in this act, which are repugnant to the sovereign rights of the citizens
929 of this state and are usurpations of authority by the federal government.

930 **275. No Gender Norming in Military:** We oppose gender norming in the military. Transgendered persons
931 should not serve in the military as a special class; no special considerations or medical treatment shall be
932 required or offered.

933 **276. Self-Protection on Military Bases:** We call for base commanders to provide sufficient armament of
934 military personnel on military bases to provide for their self-defense.

935 **277. Missile Defense:** We urge the United States Congress to continue funding the Strategic Defense
936 Initiative for missile defense. We further call for continued efforts and funding for nuclear shield
937 development and for its immediate implementation for the United States, and possibly our allies when in
938 our national interest.

939 **278. National Guard Deployment:** Congress shall not abdicate the war powers to the executive branch
940 except when under imminent threat and not to be used as a preemptive strike unless approved by
941 Congress. The Texas National Guard and the Texas Air National Guard should only be deployed to
942 overseas combat zones under authorization of Congress through a declaration of war.

943 **279. Military Rules of Engagement:** Military Rules of Engagement, as defined by the President or
944 Congress, should not preclude the safety nor deny the immediacy of tactical decision-making of the
945 military personnel in the field. Military personnel shall not be criminally or civilly liable for reasonable
946 actions taken in the field.

947 **280. Military Readiness:** We support a military force of sufficient strength and readiness to deter any threat
948 to our national sovereignty or to the safety and freedom of our citizens. We oppose placement of US
949 troops under command of the United Nations.

950 **281. Defeat Terrorism:** We support an aggressive war on terrorism, including radical Islamic terrorists,
951 cooperating with our allies, and sanctioning nations that sponsor terrorists. We support the reasonable use
952 of profiling, the prosecution of national security breaches, and the revision of laws or executive orders that
953 erode our liberties. We call on the federal government to designate the Muslim Brotherhood a foreign
954 terrorist organization, and we call on governmental agencies to avoid and suspend all activities with all
955 radical Islamic organizations, such as the Council on American-Islamic Relations.

956 **282. All-Volunteer Force:** We call for the removal of draft registration and to continue to have an all-
957 volunteer armed forces.

958 **283. Women in Combat:** We oppose the use of women in military combat units.

959 **284. Abolish Refugee Resettlement Program:** We call for the abolition of the refugee resettlement
960 program.

961 **285. Citizenship Qualification:** We call on the United States Congress to pass a constitutional amendment
962 that defines citizenship as those born to a citizen of the United States or through naturalization.

963 **286. Amnesty:** Any form of amnesty with regard to immigration policy should not be granted, including the
964 granting of legal status to persons in the country illegally.

965 **287. Border Security Funding:** We expect both the Texas Legislature and the United States Congress to
966 make a priority of allocating funds to effectively secure the border through whatever means necessary,
967 including but not limited to barriers, a border wall, or fence everywhere along the border where it is
968 feasible and useful, as well as personnel and technology over land, sea, and air.

969 **288. Interstate Compact:** The State of Texas shall establish an interstate compact allowing the
970 participating states to enforce existing federal immigration laws, and the State of Texas shall support all
971 efforts to enter into a border security interstate compact and gain control of the border.

972 **289. Citizenship Identification:** We propose that every Texas driver's license shall indicate whether the
973 driver is a United States citizen. Licenses shall not be issued to anyone illegally in the country. The State
974 of Texas shall not recognize as valid any state driver's license photo where the person's face is obscured.

975 **290. Eliminate Illegal Immigration Magnets:** No tax dollars should be provided for social or educational
976 programs for illegal aliens. All existing laws providing for in-state tuition and non-emergency medical care
977 shall be rescinded. All non-verifiable foreign-issued identification cards shall be legally invalid in the
978 United States.

979 **291. E-Verify:** Texas should require all employers to screen new hires through the free E-Verify system to
980 prevent the hiring of illegal aliens and of anyone not legally authorized to work in the US, and to protect
981 jobs for American workers. We call upon the 86th Texas Legislature to pass legislation to this effect.

982 **292. Priority:** We call on the Republican Party of Texas to make eliminating magnets for illegal immigration
983 a legislative priority for the 86th Texas Legislature, beginning by eliminating the employment magnet by
984 requiring all employers to screen new hires through the free E-Verify system to prevent the hiring of illegal
985 aliens and of anyone not legally authorized to work in the US.

986 **293. Sanctuary Cities:** State and federal funds shall be denied to any public or private entity, including but
987 not limited to sanctuary cities, that are not in compliance with immigration laws.

988 **294. Immigration System:** We demand that state and federal law enforcement officers enforce our
989 immigration laws, implement an entry/exit tracking system for visa-holders, and expedite hearings on
990 deporting both violent and non-violent illegal immigrants and visa overstays. Chain migration and the
991 diversity visa lottery should be eliminated. Our legal immigration system should be strictly merit based,
992 and the total number of new immigrants should be limited to a level that facilitates assimilation.

993 **295. Reintegration of Veterans:** We support the accommodation and reintegration of our troops once their
994 military commitment has expired. Returning veterans must have access to educational benefits, job
995 training, and a wide variety of employment options.

996 **State Affairs**

- 997 **296. Alamo:** We believe the Alamo should be remembered and not “reimagined.” We believe Texas’s
998 authority regarding the Alamo shall not be infringed upon by any organization or authority, including but
999 not limited to local governments, the federal government, the United Nations, or UNESCO. We demand
1000 that the decision-making authority for the Alamo never be removed from Texas, and the custodians of the
1001 Alamo be required to: 1) affirm and emphasize the intrinsic significance of the 1836 battle in telling the
1002 story of the Alamo, and 2) maintain transparency in finances and operations of the Alamo. Specific
1003 protection shall be afforded the site, including all land and existing monuments, including the Cenotaph,
1004 which SHALL NOT be moved from its present site.
- 1005 **297. Campaign Finance Transparency:** We support laws requiring full disclosure by political candidates of
1006 the amounts and sources of any campaign contributions, whether contributed by individuals, political
1007 action committees, or other entities. We oppose reporting requirements that infringe on the free-speech
1008 rights of citizens. We urge immediate repeal of all limits on campaign contributions by American citizens to
1009 the candidates or causes of their choice.
- 1010 **298. No Restrictions on Charities:** We oppose any restrictions by any government agency on individual
1011 taxpayer contributions to churches, faith-based charities, and other non-profit organizations.
- 1012 **299. Citizenship Definition:** We call on the United States Congress to pass a constitutional amendment
1013 that defines citizenship as those born to a citizen of the United States or through naturalization.
- 1014 **300. Honor Our Flags:** We appreciate and honor our flags and what they represent and strongly advocate
1015 for all public schools to display the US and Texas flags in every classroom and to begin each school day
1016 with the Pledges to both.
- 1017 **301. Freedom of Assembly:** Because we believe in the freedom of assembly, we urge repeal of the
1018 Freedom of Access to Clinic Entrances Law. Those who assault peaceful protesters acting under the
1019 Constitution should be vigorously prosecuted. Picketing and literature distribution do not fall under the
1020 Racketeering Influence and Corrupt Organizations (RICO) Act.
- 1021 **302. Freedom of Speech on University Campuses:** We support the protection of free speech rights on
1022 public universities, including the elimination of politically correct speech codes and “bias-response teams.”
- 1023 **303. Religious Freedom for Business Owners:** We support the removal of laws and regulations that are
1024 used to force business owners and employees to violate their sincerely held beliefs.
- 1025 **304. Public Accommodations:** We support legislation at the state and federal level that concretely defines
1026 public accommodations as originally defined and understood in the Civil Rights Act of 1964, that it prohibit
1027 any expansion of that legal definition by any federal, state, or local law to expand government control to
1028 restrict any First Amendment rights; and to proscribe any law that requires any private business or
1029 individual to create or provide a custom product or service, or any kind of expressive work, or enter into a
1030 contract, or be coerced into any speech that is not their own.
- 1031 **305. Religious Freedom of Speech and Practice:** We call on the Texas Legislature to repeal the Johnson
1032 Amendment that assaults the free speech of pastors and religious organizations. We further resolve to
1033 protect the First Amendment rights of any citizen to practice their religion and exercise their right to free
1034 speech in the public square, as well as in religious organization affiliations.
- 1035 **306. Religious Freedom:** As America is a nation under God, founded on Judeo-Christian principles, we
1036 affirm the constitutional right of all individuals to worship as they choose.

1037 **307. Daylight Saving Time:** We urge the Texas Legislature to enact legislation to end Daylight Saving
1038 Time in Texas.

1039 **308. Electoral College:** We support the Electoral College.

1040 **309. Fairness Doctrine:** We oppose any attempt by Congress or any federal agency to implement any
1041 policy comparable to the Fairness Doctrine as terminated in 1987.

1042 **310. Gender Identity Facilities in Businesses:** We support enacting legislation in the State of Texas
1043 ensuring no government entity in the state be allowed to take it upon itself to define for any private
1044 business or private entity how it must segregate its restrooms, changing facilities, or showers; nor may any
1045 government agency be allowed to require businesses to profess, espouse, or adopt specific views on sex,
1046 sexuality, gender, or gender identity, other than to guarantee that views and positions on these matters
1047 are not used as a basis to deny access to public accommodations, as defined by the Civil Rights Act of
1048 1964, nor to deny employment, or discriminate in employment decisions, solely on the basis of a person's
1049 views on these matters.

1050 **311. Child Rights:** We call on the Texas Legislature to pass legislation to protect privacy in public schools
1051 and government buildings as allowed by Title IX of the Civil Rights Act, by ensuring multi-use facilities,
1052 including showers, changing rooms, and bathrooms, are designated for and used only by persons based
1053 on the person's biological sex.

1054 **312. No Sexuality Indoctrination:** We call on the state legislature to pass legislation so that no public
1055 school or other educational institution may force, require, or pressure any child or student to profess,
1056 espouse, or adopt, or otherwise be indoctrinated without explicit parental consent, specific views on sex,
1057 sexuality, gender, or gender identity.

1058 **313. Gender Identity Pronouns:** We oppose any attempt to criminalize and/or penalize anyone for the
1059 wrong use of pronouns.

1060 **314. Heritage:** We call upon governmental entities to protect all symbols of our American and Texan
1061 heritage. We oppose governmental action to remove the public display of the Ten Commandments or
1062 other religious symbols. We support the Pledge Protection Act. We urge that the national motto "In God
1063 We Trust" and National Anthem be protected from legislative and judicial attack. Penalties should be
1064 established for any form of desecration of the American or Texas Flag. We support adoption of American
1065 English as the official language of Texas and of the United States. Holidays such as Thanksgiving,
1066 Christmas, Easter, Columbus Day, St. Valentine's Day, St. Patrick's Day, Good Friday, Veterans Day,
1067 Memorial Day, Labor Day, and the 4th of July as historical holidays should remain on our governmental
1068 and public school calendars. We support preservation of Texas history and historical sites. Visitors to the
1069 Alamo should conduct themselves with decorum and reverence inside the shrine out of respect for the
1070 sacrifice of the heroes who are honored there. We call for restoration of plaques honoring the Confederate
1071 Widow's Pension Fund contribution that were illegally removed from the Texas Supreme Court building.

1072 **315. Historical Monuments:** We believe all historical war memorials including Confederate monuments in
1073 Texas should be protected from future removal or defacement and that those monuments that have been
1074 removed should be restored to their historical locations.

1075 **316. Homosexual Behavior:** We affirm God's biblical design for marriage and sexual behavior between
1076 one biological man and one biological woman, which has proven to be the foundation for all great nations
1077 in Western Civilization. We oppose homosexual marriage, regardless of state of origin. We urge the Texas
1078 Legislature to pass religious liberty protections for individuals, businesses, and government officials who

1079 believe marriage is between one man and one woman. We oppose the granting of special legal
1080 entitlements or creation of special status for homosexual behavior, regardless of state of origin. We
1081 oppose any criminal or civil penalties against those who oppose homosexuality out of faith, conviction, or
1082 belief in traditional values.

1083 **317. Definition of Marriage:** We support the definition of marriage as a God-ordained, legal and moral
1084 commitment only between one natural man and one natural woman.

1085 **318. State Authority over Marriage:** We support withholding jurisdiction from the federal courts in cases
1086 involving family law, especially any changes in the definition of marriage.

1087 **Spousal Benefits:** We shall not recognize or grant to any unmarried person the legal rights or status of a
1088 spouse, including granting benefits by political subdivisions.

1089 **No-Fault Divorce:** We urge the Legislature to rescind no-fault divorce laws and support covenant marriage.

1090 **319. Overtum Unconstitutional Ruling:** We believe this decision, overturning the Texas law prohibiting
1091 same-sex marriage in Texas, has no basis in the Constitution and should be reversed, returning
1092 jurisdiction over the definition of marriage to the states. The Governor and other elected officials of the
1093 State of Texas should assert our Tenth Amendment right and reject the Supreme Court ruling.

1094 **320. Pro-life:** Until the abolition of abortion is achieved, we support laws that restrict and regulate abortion
1095 including, but not limited to:

- 1096 1. Parental and informed consent.
- 1097 2. Prohibition of abortion for gender selection.
- 1098 3. Prohibition of abortion due to the results of genetic diagnosis.
- 1099 4. Prohibition of licensing, liability, and malpractice insurance for abortionists and abortion facilities.
- 1100 5. Prohibition of financial kickbacks for abortion referrals.
- 1101 6. Prohibition of partial-birth, late-term abortions.
- 1102 7. Prohibition of abortions after the time an unborn child's heartbeat is detected.
- 1103 8. Prohibition of the manufacturing and sale of abortifacients (e.g., morning after pill).
- 1104 9. Elimination of causes of action for "wrongful birth."
- 1105 10. Enactment of any other laws which will advance the right to life for unborn children.
- 1106 11. Health insurance coverage for abortion services and abortifacients, which under Texas law should
1107 be considered supplemental coverage and billed to the beneficiary.

1108 **321. Abolish Abortion:** We call upon the Texas Legislature to enact legislation stopping the murder of
1109 unborn children; and to ignore and refuse to enforce any and all federal statutes, regulations, executive
1110 orders, and court rulings that would deprive an unborn child of the right to life.

1111 **322. Dismemberment Abortion:** We strongly support the prohibition of elective dismemberment abortions,
1112 a type of dilation and evacuation abortion, which take the life of preborn children by removing their limbs.

1113 **323. State Authority over Abortion:** We urge the federal congressional delegation from Texas to take
1114 immediate action, under the authority extended to them in Article III of the Constitution of the United
1115 States, to put forth legislation remanding all authority over abortion to the individual states and removing
1116 all standing on the issue of abortion from the federal judiciary.

1117 **324. Fundamental Right to Life:** All innocent human life must be respected and safeguarded from
1118 fertilization to natural death; therefore, the unborn, the aged, and the physically or mentally challenged
1119 have a fundamental individual right to life, which cannot be infringed.

- 1120 **325. Reverse Roe v Wade:** We are resolute in our support of the reversal of Roe v. Wade.
- 1121 **326. Property Annexation:** Homeowners and landowners in an area proposed for annexation should have
1122 the right to vote to approve or reject the annexation, regardless of the population of the county. No
1123 annexation can occur within 45 days of any election.
- 1124 **327. HOA Open Meetings:** We support legislation to require ALL homeowners associations to comply with
1125 the Texas Open Meetings Law. We further support legislation prohibiting HOAs from using “policies” to
1126 bypass the process of residents’ voting on changes in Deed Restrictions. **[Local]**
- 1127 **328. Property Rights:** Property ownership and free enterprise, the foundation of our collective wealth,
1128 must not be abridged nor denied by government. We support legislation to protect these bedrock rights.
1129 Areas of concern are: annexation, eminent domain (including foreign entities), property forfeiture,
1130 extraterritorial jurisdiction, seizure for public or private development, natural resources and conservation
1131 easements, groundwater and/or mineral rights, nationalization of lands, and the preservation of our 4th
1132 Amendment right to privacy. Property owners should be notified of their rights with regard to
1133 condemnation, annexation, or easement; and the condemner should be required to petition a court of
1134 jurisdiction to show public necessity. Taking of property should result in immediate compensation of fair
1135 market value to the owner. These issues should be administered by elected officials accountable to voters.
1136 **[State, Local]**
- 1137 **329. Eminent Domain:** The use of Eminent Domain must exclude the seizure of private property for private
1138 economic development or increased tax revenue. **[State/Local]**
- 1139 **330. Save the USS Texas:** Since the USS Texas was given to the State of Texas in 1948, the Republican
1140 Party of Texas supports the previous and future allocation of funds that are necessary to preserve the
1141 USS Texas as a permanent monument to the ship, her crew of two world wars, and the history of the State
1142 of Texas. **[State]**
- 1143 **331. Unfunded Mandates:** We urge the legislature consider the impact on taxpayers for any mandate they
1144 pass.

1145 **Resolutions**

1146 1. The Texas Republican Party concurs in the censure of Texas State Representative Byron R. Cook,
1147 pursuant to Texas Republican Party General Rules for Conventions and Meetings, for committing three (3)
1148 or more acts in contravention of the Republican Party of Texas Core Principles. Further, we the delegates
1149 of the Texas Republican Party impose any and all sanctions, penalties, or punishments available upon
1150 Texas State Representative Byron R. Cook, Pursuant to Texas Republican Party General Rules for
1151 Conventions and Meetings, Rule #44.

MINORITY REPORT

(received 10:48 pm, Platform Committee Adjourned 10:22 pm)

PREFACE

Our platform planks should be strong, clear assertions of the contemporary principles of our party membership. They should unite our membership under shared ideals rather than divide the membership with fractious detail.

These assertions should be tailored for brevity, clarity, unity, and to distinguish our positions from those of our opponents.

This platform has planks that define the principles of the Republican Party. In addition to this platform we have included specific action items that would help implement principles in our platform.

1. PREAMBLE

On “the seventeenth day of September in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred eighty-seven, and in the independence of the United States of America the twelfth”, the thirteen colonies constituting the United States of America, came together to form a more perfect union. A union predicated on the conviction that all men are created

equal, endowed by their Creator with inalienable rights to Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Happiness. They entered into a covenant, the Constitution of the United States of America, to “establish justice, ensure domestic tranquility, provide for the common defense, promote the general welfare” and secure their God given Rights to themselves and their posterity. Today, as man rebels against the God of our fathers, seeking to remove every vestige of Him from the public eye, our Constitution and freedoms face an unparalleled assault. The Republican Party of Texas is unequivocally committed to the spirit and intent of our founding fathers, and defense of the written Constitution so bravely undertaken by them.

THE PROPER ROLE OF GOVERNMENT

2. We believe government properly exists by the consent of the governed and must be restrained from intruding into the freedoms of its citizens. No office holder should be granted privileges or provisions greater than that of his constituents.
3. We believe that one proper function of government is to protect and support the unalienable, God-given rights of life, liberty, property, and the pursuit of happiness, which rights extend to the unborn from conception.
4. We believe one proper role of government is to establish and defend a capitalist system that preserves the individual’s ability to improve his or her quality of life through productivity and personal achievement.

PRIVATE PROPERTY

6. We recognize the right of the individual to own property.

7. We resist any effort by government to take private property without a demonstrable public need.
8. We strongly oppose civil forfeiture of private property absent the conviction of its owners for a crime involving its use.

REAFFIRMATION OF STATES' RIGHTS

9. We oppose congressional, judicial, and executive abrogation of the principle that the powers not delegated to the Federal Government by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the States, are reserved to the States respectively, or the people.
10. We oppose unreasonable and intrusive federal mandates.

ETHICS AND STANDARDS

11. We demand honesty, integrity, morality, and accountability of our public officials.
12. We expect our Republican public officials to strongly and faithfully support our platform.
13. We will work to expose and stop corruption.
14. We reject the buying and selling of endorsements in all elections.
15. We believe that both state and federal elected officials must be subject to the same laws, regulations and ordinances as their constituents.

NATIONAL SECURITY AND PUBLIC PROTECTION

16. We support a military force of sufficient strength and readiness to deter any threat to our national sovereignty or to the safety and freedom of our citizens.
17. We support the Constitutional mandate to protect and secure our national borders.
18. We oppose placement of United States troops under any foreign command, including the United Nations.
19. We support lawful efforts of local law enforcement agencies to protect citizens in their homes and in their communities.
20. We urge reform of the legal system to accomplish a swift and balanced administration of justice, including the consideration of rights of the victim.
21. We support capital punishment as a sentencing option for violent crimes.
22. We support efforts in cyber-security to safeguard for privacy, election, intellectual property, and public safety.

SELF DEFENSE

23. Americans have the right to be safe in their homes, on their streets, and in their communities; and both the responsibility and unalienable right to defend themselves and their neighbor, wherever they may be, with no duty to retreat. The right to keep and bear arms shall not be infringed.

FREEDOM OF RELIGION

24. We uphold freedom of religion for every citizen and expect the protection of government in securing to us this unalienable right.
25. We affirm the right to religious expression, including prayer, in both private and public.
26. We acknowledge that the Church is a God-ordained institution with a sphere of authority separate from that of civil government and thus the Church is not to be regulated, controlled or taxed by any level of civil government.

FAMILY VALUES

27. We recognize the family as the fundamental unit of society.
28. We support the definition of marriage as a God-ordained, legal and moral commitment only between one natural man and one natural woman.
29. We affirm that parents have the fundamental right and primary responsibility to direct the upbringing of their children and to provide nurturing care, discipline and training in moral values.

RIGHT TO LIFE

30. We believe all human life is sacred and must be protected from conception to natural death.

HUMAN SERVICES

31. We support requiring welfare recipients to work towards self-sufficiency.
32. We reject the notion that the federal government may mandate the purchase of any insurance or other products or penalize the failure to do so.

EQUALITY UNDER THE LAW

33. We believe that no citizen deserves nor requires special legal entitlements. All citizens should be considered equal under the law. Therefore, there should be no granting of special legal entitlements or creation of special status for any person, regardless of religion, race, age or sex.
34. We oppose any criminal or civil penalties against those who refuse to do business with any person out of faith, conviction, or belief in traditional values.

EDUCATION

36. Having a well educated population is critical to American prosperity, but traditional colleges are becoming more renowned for the breeding of social unrest, and anti-American propaganda, than their educational acumen. No federal money should be extended to such institutions.
37. Under the US Constitution, the power to regulate education is reserved exclusively to the States and to the people.
38. Parents have the primary right and responsibility to educate their children.
39. We support the right of parents to freely choose public, charter, private, parochial, or home schooling for their children.

40. We support the right of parents to choose the specific public school that their children attend. No child should be forced to attend a failing school.
41. We reject the imposition of federal education standards and the tying of any government funding to the adoption of federal education standards.
42. We reject the intrusion of government in private, parochial or home schools.
43. We affirm that the policies, procedures, activities, and finances of public education in Texas at all levels should be fully transparent.
44. We respect parental authority regarding sex education including full and fair disclosure of school district health education and health committees.
45. We believe that abortion providers and affiliates should be prohibited from providing any curriculum or instruction in schools.

TAXATION

46. We encourage further simplification of tax systems, the elimination of the estate tax, elimination of all taxation marriage penalties, the indexing for inflation of all currently fixed IRS taxation thresholds, and broad-based rate reduction.
47. We reject the imposition of a state income tax and support all taxing authorities in their efforts to provide a meaningful cap on increasing property taxes.
48. We urge the repeal of the state franchise tax.

REGULATION

49. Regulatory power now improperly exercised by the federal government must be eliminated and returned to state and local governments.

IMMIGRATION

50. America is a nation of immigrants, and its doors should be open to all who come to it lawfully, respecting its heritage and laws, desiring to become a contributing part of its success, desiring to be "American". There are no white, black, yellow, brown, red or any other color or hyphenated American. One is either an American or not. We are proud of our Christian heritage and its work ethic, and will not respect or welcome anyone that will abase it. Those who seek to immigrate here and transplant their failed systems, either of laws or traditions, should be permanently returned to from whence they came. Our official language is English, and while we may individually speak many languages, there shall be no law mandating a plurality of languages either in private or in public governance.
51. We oppose granting government benefits to those illegally present in the US.
52. We believe that current laws against employing illegal immigrants should be vigorously enforced.
53. We support expeditiously deporting residents with expired visas.

TEXAS STATE SOVEREIGNTY

54. It is the sacred responsibility of the States as creators of the Federal Government to keep the federal powers within the limits set by the Constitution.
55. We recognize that any usurpation of State Sovereign Powers by the Federal Government should be corrected by the State Legislature and enforced by the Governor's office thus protecting Texas State Sovereignty.

Action Items:

CHILD PROTECTIVE SERVICES

56. We encourage the adoption of legislation that reinforces that a CPS investigation of a family should be done only upon probable cause of harm to a child, and that the removal of a child from his home should be done only as a last resort to protect the child from clear and imminent physical or psychological harm.

Reference Plank 1. **The Proper Role of Government**

TEXAS DRIVER RESPONSIBILITY

57. We urge the Texas Legislature to enact legislation repealing the Texas Driver Responsibility Program and immediately restore the driver licenses of the citizens whose licenses were suspended by the DRP and canceling their debt.

Reference Plank 1. **The Proper Role of Government**

PERSONHOOD

58. We encourage the Congress to define by law human life as beginning at conception, thus giving the unborn child the status of personhood.

Reference Plank 9. **Right to Life**

AFFORDABLE CARE ACT AKA OBAMACARE

59. We call upon Congress to repeal ObamaCare.

***Reference Plank 10. **Human Services** ***

HEALTH SAVINGS ACCOUNTS

60. We call upon Congress to pass legislation which would allow Health Savings Accounts for all health plans and encourage businesses to promote and participate in them for their employees.

Reference Plank 10. **Human Services**

ABOLITION OF ABORTION

61. We believe that the Supreme Court of the United States acted beyond its authority when it struck down the Texas law prohibiting abortion, and we therefore call upon all members of the legislative, judicial, and executive branches at all levels of government to ignore and refuse to enforce any and all federal statutes, regulations, executive orders, and court rulings which would deprive an unborn child of the right to life.

Reference Plank 9. **Right to Life**

FEDERAL RESERVE

62. The Republican Party of Texas urges that the Federal Reserve be audited.

BIRTHRIGHT CITIZENSHIP

63. We urge Congress to make explicit that Birthright Citizenship does not apply to those here illegally or those here on a visa.

STATE SOVEREIGNTY

64. We urge the Texas Governor to recognize the existing right to nullify as described in the SCOTUS Ruling in 1997 Mack-Prinz vs. US, Justice Scalia delivering majority opinion, and to use this power immediately to limit federal government overreach.

***Reference Plank 16 **Texas State Sovereignty** ***

END DEBTOR'S PRISON

66. We call upon the Texas Legislature to enact laws that end the incarceration of individuals because they cannot pay tickets, fines, and fees for minor infractions, including traffic violations.

TREAT DRUG ADDICTION AND REDUCE CRIME

67. We call upon the Texas Legislature to reclassify possession of very small quantities of addictive drugs from a felony to Class A misdemeanor and use some of the savings to support increased access to drug addiction treatment.

SCOTT WALKER JUVENILE JUSTICE MODEL

68. We call upon the Texas Legislature to close Texas' five remaining youth prisons and follow Scott Walker's model in Wisconsin, shifting youth to smaller facilities closer to family and focused on rehabilitation.

CONSENT SEARCHES AT TRAFFIC STOPS

69. We call upon Texas Legislature to enact legislation to require officers get written or recorded consent to conduct a search, and inform people that they can decline to give such consent.

MEDICAL CANNABIS

71. We call upon the Texas Legislature to improve the Compassionate Use Program to allow doctors to determine the appropriate use of cannabis for the patients.

PRE-TRIAL RELEASE

73. We call upon the Texas Legislature to ensure jurisdictions rely on data about risk in making release decisions and set the least restrictive release conditions on each defendant eligible for pre-trial release.

HUMAN TRAFFICKING

74. We call upon the Texas Legislature to amend the Code of Criminal Procedure to allow victims of human trafficking to have convictions within the previous five years for prostitution offenses set aside, if they received these convictions as a direct result of being trafficked.

PROTECTING PRIVACY OF STUDENT INFORMATION

76. We call upon the Texas Legislature to change the default of the statute concerning Student Directory Information to OPT-OUT unless a parent or guardian specifically requests for directory information about their student to be included in the Student Directory Information.

SCHOOL DISTRICT ACCOUNTABILITY FOR CAMPUS SECURITY

77. We urge the Texas Legislature to mandate by state law that all publicly funded school districts be required to submit a viable school security plan as a part of an accountability program that includes personnel armed with equal and opposite deadly force weapons and must report monthly threat assessments to the local school board of trustees.

Reference Plank 12. **Education**

WINDFALL ACT

78. We urge the Congress to modify the Windfall Act so that all workers who have paid into social security and a private retirement system receive a larger portion of their social security pension payments.

PROLIFE

79. We call upon the Texas Legislature to close existing discriminatory loopholes that fail to protect pre-born children suspected of having a “fetal abnormality” or disability and enact anti-discriminatory language to apply additional protections to pre-born children aborted because of their sex, race, or disability, in addition to providing families with information about life-affirming social and medical services available to them in Texas, such as perinatal palliative care.

CONTRACEPTION IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS

80. We urge the Texas Legislature to prohibit contraception distribution and demonstration in public schools.

81. ABBY’S LAW

We believe that rape victims should gain justice for the sexual assault crimes committed against them within 90 days, that Texas will rightly prioritize the inalienable right of the victims’ safety and justice, and that Texas will establish a standard protocol to be followed in regards to claims of sexual assault, and the funding of rape kit processing where the assailant is unknown will be continuous with mandatory annual reporting to ensure that the money is being allocated for this intent.

We the undersigned to agree to and submit this Minority Report to the convention for consideration as a replacement for the full committee report.

Undersigned by:

Steven Armbruster, SD5
Henry Peyton Inge, SD12
Todd Gallaher, SD18

Brandey Batey, SD20
Brian Hill, SD21
Stephen Broden, SD23

Beth Cubriel, SD25
Morgan Graham, SD27
Mark Dunham, SD29

