

Gwinnett County GOP Platform

Principles of the Gwinnett Republican Party

The Gwinnett County Republican Party takes the term Republican seriously. A Republic is a society based on the rule of law, with all individuals treated equally under the law without consideration for race, class, ethnicity, sex, or economic condition. We believe in the constitutional form of government, and economic freedom that results from free, open and competitive markets. Therefore, in simplest terms, the Gwinnett County Republican Party measures all government action by the following test: Does this action protect the life, liberty, and property of the individual?

Section 1. Taxes

We believe government should tax only to raise money for its essential functions. We believe Americans deserve to keep more of their own earnings to save and invest for the future. We support policies that lower the tax burden and expect elected officials to be good stewards of public funds which helps drive a strong economy that leads to prosperity for all. We believe in Tax Reform that will lead to a simpler and fairer tax code, such as the Fair Tax or Flat Tax.

Section 2. Right to Keep and Bear Arms

As Republicans we believe in the right to defend of one's self, family and community and support the right of all law-abiding citizens to keep and bear arms, without infringement by government restriction and regulation. An individual's right to defend life, liberty, property and family is an unalienable right. We cannot disarm criminals by disarming law-abiding citizens because such a plan would only make us more likely to become victims. We oppose any attempt to diminish the right of all law-abiding citizens to own and bear arms as guaranteed in the Bill of Rights. We expect our elected officials to actively protect this fundamental right.

Section 3. Criminal Justice

As Republicans, we are committed to making our communities safe and secure for all citizens. We are committed to protecting the rights of crime victims. We support law enforcement and sentencing that is fair, firm, and focused on effectively eliminating recidivism.

We support the sovereignty of U.S. Laws in U.S. Courts. We support local, county, state and federal law enforcement.

Section 4. Property Rights

The right to private property is protected in the Constitutions of the United States and the State of Georgia. As Republicans we believe in the individuals' right to private property and believe that no one should be deprived of such property except by due process. The right to keep and own property is sacred and crucial in a free society. We oppose laws, rules and regulations that limit or restrict the use and transfer of private property. Further, we hold that no person's property shall be seized or forfeited by and to government without due process of law.

Section 5. Education

We support quality public education for all. We believe that is best achieved by ensuring local control of education resources, curricula and testing. We believe that a quality education includes courses in civics and the founding principles of our nation. We believe parents should play a significant role in setting the community's education standards. The role of the federal government in education is not enumerated in the Constitution and must be constrained. Control must be returned to teachers, parents, and local school boards. We support policies that encourage school choice including; home-schooling, charter schools, and private school vouchers.

Section 6. Immigration

We support legal immigration and the federal government's efforts to secure our borders as a sovereign nation. We support a pathway to citizenship that rewards those most likely to contribute economically to the United States. As a nation founded by immigrants, we believe that the process for legal immigration should be fair and reasonable for those who desire to participate in and embrace American principles and rule of law. Those who have entered the United States illegally should not receive amnesty nor taxpayer support.

Section 7. Infrastructure

Gwinnett Republicans recognize the need for public infrastructure which include facilities, structures, equipment, services and institutions that are essential to the economy and quality of life of Gwinnett County. To the extent that the private sector can supply any service, government should yield to, or partner with, private business, thus ensuring the fairest, most competitive, most efficient means of delivering the desired service for the people of the County.

Section 8. Health Care Reform

As Republicans, we believe that policies that encourage free market solutions provide the greatest access to health care. We support reforms that put patients and their doctors in charge, that reduces costly mandates, that increase healthcare options, and contain costs. We support price transparency, purchasing pools for individuals and small businesses, options to purchase insurance across state lines and portability of insurance coverage for today's mobile work force. We support local control of Medicaid dollars through block grants to states. We believe that individuals with pre-existing conditions who maintain continuous coverage should be protected from discrimination. We support tax policies that promote the individual purchase of insurance including Health Savings Accounts and Health Reimbursement Accounts. We support extending benefits to allow veterans access to private healthcare.

Section 9. Protecting Human Life

We support equal opportunity for all people. We believe the Declaration of Independence, the U.S. Constitution, and the Georgia State Constitution recognize life is a basic human right that extends to all people, including the unborn. We support policies that encourage adoption, informed consent, and mandatory waiting periods. We support policies that prohibit partial-birth abortion. We support funding for pre-natal healthcare and adoption assistance. We support laws that prohibit the use of tax payer dollars funding for abortion or organizations that advocate for it.

Section 10. Welfare

As Republicans, we believe that any system of welfare should be crafted to lead to economic independence. We support programs that elevate the dignity and power of the individual and reduces their dependency on government. We believe government welfare should incentivize work, promote cohesion of the family unit, civic participation, and charitable giving.

Section 11. Religious Freedom

We are a country founded on Judeo-Christian principles as articulated in The Constitution. As Republicans, we support laws that are consistent with these principles and support the freedom of Americans as protected by the 1st Amendment to act in accordance with their religious beliefs. We support tolerance of all religions and oppose any government policy that hinders or unduly burdens the free expression of religion.

Section 12. State of Israel

As Republicans, we recognize the right of the State of Israel to exist and encourage the actions of any country that support Israel's right to freedom, peace and human rights. We support the relocation of the U.S. Embassy to Israel's capital city of Jerusalem.

Platform Summary

The price of freedom is constant vigilance. We invite all citizens of Gwinnett County, indeed every American, to become more aware and more involved in limiting government and securing individual freedom. Not every Republican will support every plank in this document. It is meant to serve as a framework for the basic ideals and character guiding our Gwinnett County Republican Party. Further, this platform statement is meant to be a supplement to the official Platform of the Republican National Committee under which the Georgia Republican Party and the Gwinnett County Republican Party operate.
