



**Report of the Oklahoma  
Republican Party Platform  
Committee  
2013**

**Adopted 4/20/2013**

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## **STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES**

*We believe in limited government, individual liberty, and personal moral responsibility. We believe Oklahoma should be a place of opportunity where people who work hard and abide by the rules can pursue their own dreams with a reasonable expectation of success.*

As Republicans we believe:

1. Our rights of life, liberty, and property are natural rights granted to us by God and protected by the Constitution of the United States.
2. In the right to worship as we please without government intrusion or interference.
3. The founding fathers original intent was to form a Republican government and their original intentions should be the foundation for enacting and interpreting the law.
4. The federal government's power is constitutionally limited, yet responsible for protecting our sovereignty, establishing justice under law, and securing our liberty through a strong national defense and effective law enforcement.
5. God is the Author and Creator of life and that all human life, both born and unborn, should be protected.
6. That the institution of marriage consists of one man and one woman.
7. In capitalism, where the private sector and free market principles best stimulate economic development rather than government subsidies or programs.
8. Taxes collected at all levels of government should be used only for legitimate government functions and those functions carried out efficiently so that tax rates may be kept as low as possible.
9. That government closest to the people governs best and is preferred to centralized control.
10. It is the right of every parent to act in his or her children's best interest including choosing the form of education, whether public school, private school, or home school.
11. We should welcome immigrants who want to legally seek freedom and opportunity, who want to work for a living and who will embrace our values, learn the English language, and respect our national sovereignty.
12. The intent of the Second Amendment is a defense against tyranny and opposes any infringement thereof.

### **I. FAMILY**

#### **Preamble:**

*Traditional marriage, consisting of one man and one woman, is designed to provide for each family member's physical, emotional, financial, spiritual, and social well-being. Both parents are needed to support and encourage happiness, health, and a good education for their children, creating the next generation of citizens who are constructive members of society. We believe God is the Author and Creator of human life and that each individual should be treated with dignity and compassion. We insist that any candidate receiving money and/or support from the Republican Party shall affirm and promote the Pro-Life concept.*

### **A. Marriage, Children, and Adoption**

1. We believe that marriage between one man and one woman is a covenant relationship, instituted by God, and is fundamental to our very existence and survival as a nation. Therefore, we strongly support a U.S. Constitutional amendment defining marriage as between one man and one woman.
2. We believe that the family is the cohesive element that maintains social order and protects individual rights. The duty and privilege of nurturing our young people belongs to parents and the traditional family. We support the sole right and responsibility of parents to rear, educate, discipline, nurture, provide healthcare and spiritually train their children without government interference. We also acknowledge and support those who choose the vocation of homemaking.
3. We support tax policies, enactment of legislation, and public assistance policies that encourage a commitment to traditional marriage and to strengthening families.
4. We support Federal and State legislation which prohibits recognition of same-sex marriages, civil unions, or domestic partnerships.
5. We oppose efforts to redefine marriage. Employers and taxpayers should not be forced to violate their convictions or to bear the cost of granting “same-sex marriages” the benefits that are due traditional marriages.
6. We believe that in order to encourage and protect family values, those promoting homosexuality or other aberrant lifestyles should not be allowed to hold responsible positions over children, which are not their own, or other vulnerable persons.
7. Children are a special gift from God, and their safety and protection are paramount. We support strict adherence to due process of law during child abuse investigations. We oppose the removal of children from responsible family members unless abuse allegations are confirmed or the child is in immediate danger.
8. We believe extended traditional family members should be eligible for foster care payments if a child is being placed into their foster care. These payments should be obtained from the negligent parent(s).
9. We support holding the Department of Human Services and other State agents accountable and provide for civil and criminal penalties when agents are negligent or abuse their authority.
10. We encourage an adoption process that recognizes the rights of parents while maintaining safeguards for the children. Except for adoption by a qualified relative (as defined by existing law), we support adoption by married heterosexual couples and the removal of unnecessary barriers to adoption.
11. We believe marriage should not be entered into casually and should not be dissolved easily. Therefore, we call for states to repeal “no-fault” divorce statutes and support “covenant” marriage.

### **B. Right-to-Life and Medical Ethics**

1. We believe that at the point of conception, a person is granted the rights guaranteed in the U.S. Constitution, including life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.
2. We believe in the sanctity and value of human life from conception through natural death, unless forfeited by capital offense. We oppose abortion (including the use of RU-486 or other abortion-inducing drugs), partial-birth abortion, infanticide, euthanasia, mercy killings, embryonic stem cell research, cloning and distribution of cloned parts. We oppose the funding of such by any government entity, domestic or international or any organization that supports abortion. We believe that human embryos created by In vitro-

Fertilization (IVF) are fully human and if not wanted by the genetic parents, should be preserved until adoption. We support a Constitutional Amendment protecting innocent human life.

3. We support the right of obstetrical and gynecology residency programs to refuse to provide abortion training and the individual's right to refuse to perform or assist in abortions. We also support the right of hospitals, medical professionals, and pharmacists to refuse to participate in abortions or dispense abortion-inducing drugs.

4. We recognize that learning of an unexpected pregnancy is a life-changing moment. Therefore, we desire that a mother-to-be have sufficient time to explore all options regarding this new life. We recommend at least a 14-day waiting period for a woman considering an abortion. We also strongly support and recommend that she be provided with:

- a. Time-informed consent.
- b. Information identifying the developmental status of the unborn child.
- c. At least one ultra sound.
- d. Evidence indicating that the unborn child can feel sensations of pain.
- e. Information regarding the psychological and medical risks associated with abortion, including the link between breast cancer and abortion.
- f. Information on services available to mothers who choose to carry their children to birth.

5. We believe in and support the father's parental rights and responsibilities from conception onward; the rights and responsibilities of the father are equal to the rights and responsibilities of the mother.

6. We support initiatives that provide alternatives to abortion that respect life, including adoption.

7. As long as the unsafe practice of abortion continues, we insist that abortion clinics be required to comply with the same medical and safety standards required of hospitals.

8. As long as abortion is available, we support enactment of legislation to require parental notification and authorization at least 14 days prior to an abortion on a minor.

9. We support the teaching of abstinence outside of marriage and parental notification before a minor is given birth control information and/or contraceptives.

10. We support legislation that prohibits using any unborn child for the purpose of harvesting and/or any service related to the donation or purchase or sale of organs and/or tissue.

11. We support the enactment of laws banning embryonic/fetal stem cell research and encourage adult stem cell, amniotic stem cell, and/or umbilical cord blood stem cell research.

12. We oppose any medical scientific experimentation that does not respect the sanctity of human life.

13. We oppose the manufacture of human life through the process of cloning.

14. No person shall have nourishment and/or water withheld, unless that individual has signed a written legal directive. Hospitals and healthcare professionals shall not be required to violate their conscience by participating in end-of-life procedures.

### **C. Healthcare**

1. We support the patient (family)-doctor relationship and oppose nationalized medicine.
2. We oppose any legislation including international treaties, restricting the manufacture, distribution, sale, or possession of nutritional substances other than those necessary for manufacturing, sanitation, full and accurate listing of all ingredients and tamper proofing.
3. We support full consumer access to safe, alternative treatments including access to any and all information regarding nutritional substances through any means of communication.
4. We believe parents should receive complete information and must give informed consent prior to their child, or themselves, receiving any immunizations and may refuse any such vaccination(s) for medical, religious, or other reasons of conscience without retribution.
5. We oppose any mandate requiring school age girls to be vaccinated with Gardasil, a new vaccine against certain strains of human papilloma virus (HPV) that can cause cervical cancer.
6. We support privatization of the Social Security, Medicare, and Medicaid programs.
7. We support the development of a truly market-driven, health care delivery system that replaces the employer and governmental third party payment systems:
  - a. Personal responsibility and education about maintaining health should be part of the system.
  - b. Options should include Health Savings Accounts (HSA) and/or Medical Savings Accounts (MSA) that can be voluntarily contributed to by a citizen or an employer. These accounts should be made available to Medicare participants.
  - c. These accounts (HSA/MSA) should also allow the individual freedom of choice in services in both traditional and alternative healthcare options.
  - d. We support an individual's right to elect not to have health insurance.
8. We oppose mandatory data collection including but not limited to, the harvesting of DNA of newborns or other individuals, brain scans, or genetic tests.
9. We support allowing individuals, private groups, and small businesses, the freedom to form collective purchasing groups for the purpose of acquiring the healthcare of their choice.

### **D. Elderly and Vulnerable**

1. We support the origin and sanctity of life as an inalienable right from God alone, and as being defined in the Constitution of the United States. This definition of life begins with conception and ends at a natural death due to the failure of the body to survive its environment. We support the protection of those who cannot defend themselves including the unborn, the disabled, and the elderly.
2. To encourage family members to care for their loved ones, we support tax policies that help alleviate costs.
3. We support financial policies that do not penalize the elderly who choose to marry.
4. We support strict standards, which preserve the dignity of the elderly and vulnerable when in a retirement or nursing home.

5. We support vigorous prosecution of those who financially exploit or otherwise abuse the elderly and/or vulnerable.

### **E. Religious Freedom**

1. Our Founding Fathers based our Constitution, Declaration of Independence, Bill of Rights, and early laws on the Bible and on traditional Judeo-Christian ethics and values. We believe these documents are the basis for law, order, and behavior, allowing individuals, including government workers and officials, the freedom to involve God in all activities according to their conscience.

2. We believe the religion clause of the First Amendment was meant to protect individual's freedom of religion, not remove religion from public life.

3. We believe church leaders have the same freedom of speech rights as leaders of other organizations, without the threat of penalties, including the loss of tax-exempt status for their churches.

4. We oppose any government oversight, harassment, licensing, or taxation of religious institutions and their ministries.

5. We support retaining the religious significance of national holidays and the display of religious symbols in public places and oppose the removal of such.

6. We strongly support federal and state legislation to encourage and preserve inscriptions in or on public buildings, and on our currency that have references to God such as "In God We Trust".

7. We strongly support retaining the phrase "One Nation Under God" in the Pledge of Allegiance.

8. We oppose all efforts that violate religious liberty and freedom of conscience by mandating that employers and individuals buy coverage for sterilization and contraceptives, including drugs that induce abortion.

### **F. General**

1. We oppose the promotion of homosexuality, the elimination of laws against sodomy, and the granting of minority protection or special status to any person based upon sexual preference or lifestyle choices.

2. We believe that homosexuality is not a genetic trait, but a chosen lifestyle. No adoption privileges therefore, will be afforded homosexuals.

3. We support limiting welfare benefits only to legal citizens of the United States, including military service members and their dependents. We believe in a welfare policy that promotes family unity, hard work, individual responsibility and work toward self-sufficiency. Those who repeatedly misuse the system, or fraudulently misrepresent themselves, should forfeit further assistance.

4. We support the elimination of the state Lottery because of the negative effects on Oklahoma families.

5. We support drug testing for any person applying for or receiving any type of government aid. If illegal drugs are found to be present, all government assistance should be terminated until that person is drug free for at least six months. We believe anyone who is a habitual illegal drug user should not receive any type of government aid.

6. We support programs including faith-based organizations that promote traditional marriage, marriage enrichment, abstinence education, and encourage responsible parenting.

7. We call for individuals, families, churches, and private organizations to take responsibility in meeting the needs of the citizens of the community.
8. We encourage rigorous enforcement of all anti-pornography laws. Government agencies or tax-supported institutions, especially libraries and public schools, shall not provide access to pornography (e.g. sexually graphic images or statements) and/or shall provide adequate security to prevent such access.
9. We affirm the right of private associations to admit or deny membership based on what that association's conscience dictates.
10. We recommend the FCC strictly enforce rules and regulations currently governing indecency within visual media and all of the broadcast industry to include swift, severe and expensive penalties upon all parties involved.
11. We support citizens being active watchdogs on media, giving positive and negative feedback on shows by letter writing, supporting and/or boycotting advertisers.
12. We believe that government should not fund any organization that opposes the ideas and principles contained in the Republican Platform.
13. We appreciate Republican leaders who recognize that the family is the basic ingredient for a stable and strong community, city, state, and country.
14. We support SB1433, the "Personhood Act", which declares that life begins at conception, and that unborn children have defined protectable rights.
15. We oppose legislation which would nullify state and federal limits on abortion.

## II. EDUCATION

### **Preamble:**

*We acknowledge our dependence upon Almighty God and ask His blessings upon our students and their parents, teachers, and nation. It is the right and responsibility of parents (hereafter to mean parents and/or legal guardians) to direct their children's upbringing and education whether public, private, charter, or home school without interference, regulation, or penalty from the government.*

*The primary goal of public schools should be to teach proficiency in the basic subjects of phonics-based reading, written and oral communication, mathematics, sciences, history, founding documents, Godly heritage of our nation, critical thinking skills, basic morals, and civics. Locally elected school boards should have the authority to determine and implement all public school curricula, policies, and procedures for their districts. We demand excellence and accountability from all tax-funded institutions of education in Oklahoma. The federal government has no constitutional role in education; furthermore, we support the creation of a free-market education system. We believe Oklahoma students are among the best and brightest and deserve a quality education.*

### **A. Philosophy**

1. The traditional family unit, consisting of a (husband) man, (wife) woman, and child(ren) is the foundation of our social structure. The Oklahoma Department of Education and various Boards of Regents should uphold and teach this definition of traditional family at all levels of public and higher education.
2. Individuals should have the right to choose their own education and career tracks.
3. We believe all parents should be allowed to use their education tax dollars for the family's choice of schooling.

4. We affirm the right of students and school employees to the free exercise of religion as guaranteed by the First Amendment, including the right to wear and display religious symbols, voluntary vocal prayer, optional Bible and religious study, religious expression including holidays, and equal access to use of school facilities for these activities.
5. The American flag should be displayed in the classroom. Students should start the day by reciting the Pledge of Allegiance, including “one nation under God”, and be taught the history of and respect for our American flag.
6. We support parental access to examine and evaluate all educational, assessment, psychological, medical, physical, and all other records pertaining to their children. Before any physical or mental screening, active parental consent must be obtained.
7. Student participation in any program should be based upon prior written parental consent, without repercussion (opt in vs. opt out). Notification to parents should be clear, simple, and descriptive.
8. The Ten Commandments should never be barred from view in public schools as a means of moral guidance along with our national motto “In God We Trust” and the Bill of Rights. Public schools shall not prohibit the teaching of the Judeo-Christian worldview upon which our country was founded. Public schools shall be prohibited from promoting other worldviews.
9. Promotion and graduation for all students in Oklahoma should be for demonstrated academic achievement and should not include government-required community service as a condition of graduation.
10. Computer technology and calculators should only be used after basic math and reading and writing proficiency are achieved in order to reinforce, not replace, the learning of basic skills.
11. The Federal Department of Education should be eliminated and defunded and its functions transferred to the States. We oppose the imposition of national curricula, testing and teacher certification, Common Core State Standards, and federally mandated programs such as “No Child Left Behind” or “Race to the Top, and PARCC testing.
12. We believe the K-12 public-school system is for the benefit of children of legal residents, of the United States.

## **B. Curriculum**

1. American heritage should be taught in public schools and include representative government, limited government, the lives and beliefs of the Founders, influence of the Bible and religion on our laws and principles, and the concept of free enterprise. Students should study directly from the primary founding documents, which teach the distribution of power among three branches of federal government and between federal and state government.
2. We believe that the scientific evidence supporting Intelligent Design and Biblical creation should be included in Oklahoma public schools curricula. And where any evolution theory is taught both should receive equal funding, class time, and material. Teachers should have the freedom to cover creation science without fear of intimidation or reprimand.
3. Local school boards should exercise their right to choose curriculum and textbooks, including the Bible as a literature or history text, without state limitations.
4. Parents must maintain the right and responsibility to educate their children regarding sexuality and sexual conduct. Neither classroom instruction nor school-based health services shall usurp parental rights, in order to direct sex counseling, to dispense contraceptives, or promote homosexual or promiscuous behavior.

5. There shall be no formal public school sexual education from birth through 11 years of age. Abstinence or lifetime fidelity shall be presented as the only safe sexual practice.
6. Multiculturalism that promotes cultural segregation should not be taught. We respect different cultures and support teaching our commonalities as U. S. citizens.
7. English, the dominant language of our nation, should be the primary language taught in public schools with other languages offered as electives.
8. We support curricula that promotes national sovereignty and opposes one-world government and global citizenship.
9. We support the right of parents to personally observe all classroom instruction and activities.
10. We oppose participation by Oklahoma in the Common Core State Standards because it transfers control of local schools, student data and curricula from the local school boards.
11. We oppose the federal mandate that social studies curriculum be created or approved by the Center for Civic Education

### **C. Administration and Management**

1. We oppose all un-funded mandates.
2. Teachers should not be coerced to adjust standards for any failing students, including athletes.
3. A positive competitive spirit in all public school activities, including athletics and academics, should be encouraged.
4. Compulsory education should continue to be applied only between the ages of 8 and 16, as set forth in the Oklahoma Constitution.
5. The Teachers Retirement Fund should be actuarially funded with full public disclosure.
6. Extensive background checks of prospective school employees are necessary, with the right of local school boards to refuse employment to anyone.
7. We support decertifying all teachers unions in Oklahoma so that local school boards are free to hire, direct, train, retrain, or terminate any teacher that fails to provide the highest quality of instruction, based on merit, not years of service.
8. We oppose allowing Public School Districts receiving any state funding to pay or collect any employee's organizational and/or union dues by using the payroll deduction system or any other accounting/collection system of the school district to provide centralized dues collection.
9. Teachers, school administrators and the local school board should work together to set and implement policies that give teachers the freedom and authority to lawfully maintain order, discipline and safety.
10. We call for enforcement of the Oklahoma statutes that prohibit teachers from striking during the school year.
11. Local school districts should be able to place year-end excess monies into an interest bearing account to encourage fiscal responsibility and they should not be penalized by the State Department of Education for doing so.

12. We support independent auditing of programs, curriculum and budgeting of all public schools, career-techs and institutions of higher education in Oklahoma.
13. We encourage the state legislature to address “sunset laws” on all career-tech millages.
14. We support the granting of authority to the Oklahoma Legislature to review any tests that must be administered by Oklahoma Public Schools as a result of State or Federal mandates.
15. We support the right of parents to apply for exemption for their children from school vaccination requirements for medical reasons, religious reasons, or other reasons of conscience.
16. We believe a public school should protect the privacy of any personal information or data collected by the school on a student or his family and we oppose data mining by a public school.
17. We support the removal of automatic teacher tenure.
18. We oppose any and all legislation that would raise taxes to increase per child spending to meet the regional average.

#### **D. Higher Education**

1. We support meaningful reform in the structure of our higher education system, including:
  - a. Evaluation of all programs and elimination or reform of substandard programs, including an annual report to the Legislature denoting the programs of study and majors offered separately by each institution under the oversight of the State Regents.
  - b. Budgeting tied to comprehensive planning processes with increases in funding directly related to specific goals and objectives listing expected improvements.
2. Students should be able to use taxpayer-funded scholarships, grants or other financial aid to obtain a degree in the field of their choice, including religious studies.
3. There should be a required course in phonics for elementary teacher certification, as well as for certification at all levels of reading and language arts.
4. College students should have a Students Bill of Rights to ensure their due process rights are protected.
5. We support strict adherence to the law that requires the majority of the nine-member Board of Regents for the Oklahoma Agricultural and Mechanical College (“OSU”) to be actively engaged in farming or ranching.
6. The Board of Regents for Higher Education shall not add additional campuses, beyond existing campuses without the approval of the state legislature.

### **III. STATE**

#### **Preamble:**

*We believe all persons are responsible and should be held accountable for their actions. We believe in transparent and honest government with minimal intrusion, providing protection for all its citizens with fair and equitable treatment, enforcement, and justice. We realize without economic freedom there is no political freedom. We believe the greatest incentive for the creation of wealth lies in the respect for private property rights and the free enterprise system is the best and most efficient distribution of resources.*

## **A. Crime and Punishment**

1. We believe that the final solution to all crime is a change of heart and support the utilization of Christian faith-based and privately-financed programs to reduce recidivism and for the treatment of drug offenders as an alternative to prison.
2. We believe that the judicial process should be completed in a speedy manner while preserving the individual's due process.
3. We believe that the criminal should make restitution to the victims or their heirs for crimes. We believe that taxpayer money should not be used for victim restitution.
4. We support strict law enforcement and punishment for all crimes, including the use of the death penalty when appropriate.
5. We believe violation of state and local laws by federal officials shall not be tolerated, including, but not limited to molestation by airport security personnel.
6. We believe victims and/or their agents shall have the right to attend all hearings pertaining to crime(s) committed against them.
7. We support legislation that would eliminate the filing of frivolous lawsuits, including those filed by incarcerated persons.
8. We oppose all hate crime and "thought" crime laws.
9. We support a profitable compensation when housing criminals from other states in Oklahoma.

## **B. Economic Development**

1. We believe that Oklahoma's efforts to attract industry should be grounded upon the establishment of a favorable and friendly economic climate rather than upon tax and other governmental subsidies to individual businesses.
2. We support the reduction and/or elimination of corporate and business laws and regulations. We support free market principals, not corporate welfare.
3. We support open competition in all industries to encourage economic development.
4. We discourage government competition with the private sector.
5. We support improving Oklahoma's Workers' Compensation system to make it more business friendly while protecting the rights of Oklahoma workers. The present court system should be changed to an administrative system.
6. Because "TIF" Districts only create taxes to fund collaborative public-private real estate investments, we support abolition of Tax Increment Financing district laws.
7. We support stopping the placement of land in trust thereby removing property from tax rolls.
8. We support tort reform.

### **C. Election Reform**

1. We encourage centrally located polling places in each precinct in order to make them more accessible to voters.
2. We support the consolidation of election dates in order to conserve state money and to increase voter participation.
3. We support requiring the Bureau of Vital Statistics to report, in a timely manner, any deaths reported to them to all affected state and county agencies, especially county election boards.
4. We support requiring government-issued picture ID for voting.
5. We believe that all candidates for elective office be required to provide proof of legal qualification at the time of filing for office. This documentation shall be available to the public during the Election Board office hours to include the requirement that all candidates for President of the United States of America be “natural born citizens” as defined by the 14<sup>th</sup> Amendment of the U.S. Constitution and five (5) U.S. Supreme Court decisions.
6. We believe judicial candidates should be legally allowed to speak openly about personal convictions and decisions made regarding matters of public record.
7. We believe only registered Republican voters shall vote in Oklahoma Republican Primary Elections.
8. We support ending absentee and early voting two weeks prior to an election date and requiring the County Election Board to mark all absentee and early ballots on the voter registration roll.
9. We support a requirement that each vote cast in all elections be documented by a paper or other physical record.
10. We support the use of secret ballots for all public, union, and political elections.
11. We support less restrictive ballot access for all ballot initiatives.
12. We support public access to the counting and tabulation of votes at all levels.
13. We oppose a Political Action Committee (PAC) composed of or controlled by Legislators recruiting or supporting any candidate until the primary selection process is complete.
14. We support allowing Oklahomans to hire out-of-state citizens to gather signatures on petitions.
15. We support continuing the current statewide election of state officials rather than appointment by the Governor.
16. We support continuation of the Electoral College for the election of the U.S. President instead of the national popular vote election.
17. We encourage Republican candidates to accept PAC contributions only from those PACs that are in alignment with the party platform.

### **D. Environment, Water, and Energy**

1. The responsible use of natural resources is essential for the benefit for future generations. We support environmental regulations that are based on sound science, that respect the rights of property owners and that do not impose unreasonable burdens on our state’s businesses.

2. We strongly oppose the State of Oklahoma selling water rights to out-of-state buyers.
3. We strongly oppose the use of eminent domain for any water sale.
4. We believe that a sustainable supply of water for a local area should be a priority before any permit is granted that would transfer water outside a local basin or aquifer area. Water is a natural resource, not a commodity, and should be protected for use by local residents, agriculture, and industry.
5. We believe that water permits should not allow the withdrawal of water such that the private property rights of other landowners are infringed including the ability to increase use.
6. We believe the definition of hazardous waste should exclude animal waste.
7. We support the right of states to provide water for present and future use in the next 100 years within their borders by state residents before they can be appropriated or designated for use in other states.
8. We support an energy policy based on the efficient use and expansion of current resources such as fossil fuels, clean coal, and nuclear energy; and exploration and efficient use of other resources such as bio-fuels, wind, solar and water energy.
9. We believe that wind rights are a private property right.

#### **E. Immigration**

1. We support strong enforcement of state and federal laws dealing with illegal aliens. We oppose any form of blanket amnesty.
2. We support the elimination of “sanctuary cities” for illegal aliens.
3. We believe state government social programs should be available only to citizens of the United States who are legal Oklahoma residents.
4. We believe legal guest workers should assume social costs, such as education and health care for themselves and their dependents.
6. We support the implementation of the Oklahoma Taxpayer and Citizen Protection Act (HB 1804 of 2007) as written.
7. We support substantial state fines for employers who knowingly hire illegal aliens.
8. We support issuing driver’s license only to citizens and others who reside here legally, and not to illegal aliens.

#### **F. Insurance**

1. We oppose market interference by the State Legislature in setting insurance premiums.
2. We believe that the Oklahoma Legislature should not implement any form of a government-subsidized insurance exchange. We encourage the Governor to return any federal grants that could create such an exchange.

### **G. State Agencies, All Levels of Government**

1. We support reducing the size of state government to allow citizens to do those things that people can do best for themselves.
2. We believe that outdated and irrelevant statutes should be repealed in keeping with the philosophy of smaller government.
3. We believe in transparent and honest government in the Oklahoma Legislature, all legislative committees, and in state and county agencies.
  - a. We oppose any exemptions to the current Open Meetings and Open Records Act.
  - b. We support providing an enforcement mechanism to ensure compliance with the Open Meetings and Records Act and with audit findings.
4. We support external annual performance and financial audits. We support public disclosure of all financial records of public institutions including trusts, authorities, libraries, community foundations, all state retirement funds and teacher retirement funds.
5. We support the Whistle Blower Act which protects all public employees, including higher education employees.
6. We believe all state agencies should be made accountable for maintenance of their records and accurate enforcement of rules, policies and regulations.
7. We believe election of judges shall be from a ballot of legally qualified candidates who file for said office. Abolish election by retention.
8. We believe that the judiciary should apply the law, and should not make law or policy by fiat. We support a strong review process for sitting justices.
9. We support the Legislature enacting a statutory mandatory retirement age of 65 (or at the oldest 70) for Oklahoma Supreme Court Justices.
10. We support the change of the Oklahoma Constitutional process by which justices are appointed and retained to make it more like the Federal Court System, i.e. nomination by the Chief Executive (Governor) with approval by the Senate.
11. We believe judges who act in violation of the United States or Oklahoma Constitution shall be impeached and removed from office in a timely manner. We encourage our Legislators to do their due diligence in this matter.
12. We demand that all elected and appointed officials aggressively uncover, remedy and prosecute all waste, fraud, and abuse in government.
13. We support the repeal of Title 11, Section 22-104.1 of the OK Statutes, which enables a municipal corporation to engage in any business it is authorized to license.
14. We oppose unfunded mandates by the State Legislature and state agencies.
15. We oppose the declaration of a United Nations Day in Oklahoma.

### **H. State Agencies and Departments**

1. We support mandatory random drug testing for all employees of the State of Oklahoma and recipients of public assistance with sanctions for positive test results.

2. We believe the Attorney General should be removed from the District Attorney's Council so that locally elected officials have the proper degree of autonomy.
3. We oppose the use of foreign law in Oklahoma courts that would restrict any rights and freedoms guaranteed by the US and/or Oklahoma constitution.
4. We call on the Attorney General to vigorously enforce Article XXII, Section 1 of the Oklahoma Constitution which prohibits foreign governments from owning businesses or real estate in Oklahoma.
5. We call on the Attorney General to enforce Article XXIII of the Oklahoma Constitution which limits the use of eminent domain.
6. We believe that no governmental agency should require from any citizen any information that is not essential to the direct performance of the agency's operation or mandate.
7. We support the elimination or consolidation of redundant authorities, boards, commissions, and agencies.

### **I. State Legislation/Legislature**

1. We support any/all legislation that protects our inalienable right to freedom of speech.
2. We believe that it is the responsibility of individual legislators to read and to be knowledgeable of all pieces of legislation prior to voting.
3. We believe all bills should be limited to one issue.
4. We recommend an explanation of the specific Oklahoma and United States Constitutional authority and a statement of its origin when filing a bill.
5. We oppose the final passage of any legislation before the full text has been written and read.
6. We support full funding and administrative consolidation of all state retirement systems under the same authority using the same formula for and providing the same cost of living adjustments (COLAs) and other benefits for all members.
7. We believe that all state-tribal compacts and agreements should require the approval of both houses of the Legislature in addition to the ten-member Joint Committee on State-Tribal Relations.
8. We oppose further erosion or surrender of Oklahoma sovereignty to Indian tribes.
9. We support legislation rescinding Oklahoma's previous calls for a U.S. Constitutional Convention.
10. We believe that Oklahoma should ratify a proposed Balanced Federal Budget Amendment to the U.S. Constitution promptly upon its submission to the states.
11. We support full protection of U.S. Second Amendment rights in Oklahoma by amending the Oklahoma Constitution to mirror the Second Amendment of the US Constitution.
12. We support the rights of college students after reaching legal age to carry a concealed firearm on campus after receiving proper licensing.
13. We support the Tenth Amendment in the Bill of Rights, which explicitly limits the Federal government's powers to those enumerated in the Constitution of the United States. The Sovereign State of Oklahoma shall empower state law enforcement to restore the peace and protect Oklahoma citizens

through the arrest and prosecution of any persons/agents attempting to inflict unconstitutional laws/mandates on its citizens.

14. We believe Oklahoma shall participate only in programs or plans that protect private-property rights and encourage citizens to develop their property in a manner that does not harm others.

15. We oppose using the concept of claiming property is “blighted” as a reason for taking land. We oppose the use of eminent domain for private purposes or increased taxes.

16. We support the fundamental right to own and to enjoy our private property and we oppose restrictions or losses of that right.

17. We support fair, just, and timely compensation for property owners when governmental regulations limit property use.

18. We believe all judges appointed by the Governor shall be confirmed by the Senate.

19. We believe any law or bill that restricts public records to any office in the county courthouse shall be removed from the books.

20. We support animal identification programs only if they are voluntary.

21. We support the implementation of "sunset laws."

22. We support driver's license photos of a lower resolution that is perfectly adequate for visual identification, but not for biometric tracking. High resolution digital photos are necessary for biometric facial recognition technology that enables surveillance and tracking. High resolution digital photos are not necessary for visual identification.

23. We support the repeal of mandatory fingerprinting or other traceable biometric information, and we oppose the maintenance of a biometric database, in connection with an application for a driver's license or government ID.

24. We believe Oklahoma should cease implementation of the benchmarks set forth in the Federal Real ID Act, should not participate in any national or global ID scheme and should prohibit the introduction of a radio frequency identification device (RFID) in any state-issued identification cards.

25. We support lawsuit reform including but not limited to “loser pays”.

26. We support permitting title insurance in lieu of an abstract for property transactions.

27. We believe the Oklahoma Lottery should be repealed or privatized.

28. We oppose the expansion of gambling in any form in Oklahoma.

29. We support strengthening protections for homeowners against arbitrary zoning change, which damage property values and oppose “Sustainable Development”.

30. We support amending the current Right to Farm law to explicitly allow for expansion, production, technological changes and measures to protect these activities.

31. We believe a fee shall be defined as funds collected for voluntary use of government service, be used exclusively for that service and not to exceed the cost of that service.

## **J. Transportation**

1. We support efficient and necessary spending on our state, county and local roads and bridges because they are essential for sustainable economic growth and development.
2. We support legislation requiring that all state fuel and vehicle taxes and tag fees go to state, county & local transportation infrastructure.
3. We support the state and its citizens maintaining control of all transportation instead of selling or leasing control of that right to foreign entities, corporations, private/public partnerships or other states.
4. We oppose the NAFTA superhighway.
5. We support a free market-based public transportation system as opposed to government funding.
6. We oppose public-private partnerships and the use of eminent domain to build and operate toll roads and bridges.

## **IV. FEDERAL**

### **Preamble:**

*The Constitution of the United States is the supreme law of the land and should be interpreted according to the original intent of the founding fathers. We call for reaffirmation of our God-given rights enumerated in the first ten amendments, the Bill of Rights. Our founding fathers based the Declaration of Independence, our Constitution, Bill of Rights and early laws on traditional Judeo-Christian Bible, ethics and values. We believe these documents are the basis for law, order and behavior, allowing individuals, including government officials, the freedom to involve God in all activities according to their consciences.*

*The Legislative, Judicial, and Executive branches, separate but equal, are bound by the powers granted them by the Constitution, which limits the powers of the federal government and protects individual rights from illegal and excessive encroachment by the government. We assert our 10<sup>th</sup> Amendment rights and affirm the validity of the doctrine of nullification to defend our state against Federal unconstitutional overreach. We support foreign policy that acknowledges the sovereignty of the United States and places the interests and values of its citizens above those of the United Nations or any international organization, public-private corporation/partnership or any private corporation. We believe in a strong national defense and support for our military.*

### **A. Defense**

1. We support maintaining a strong national defense and advocate “peace through strength”, constrained by congressional declaration of war as set forth in the U.S. Constitution.
2. We believe that adequate research and development of new weapons and defense technologies, including anti-ballistic missile systems, are a vital part of a strong national defense and should be fully funded.
3. We support defense spending to provide improved pay, living conditions, educational opportunities, clean state of the art facilities, quality training and the best equipment for our armed forces.
4. We oppose the erosion of our military’s readiness through “gender-norming” for training and promotion, co-ed training and housing, “sensitivity training” that supports or promotes the homosexual lifestyle, openly practicing homosexuals serving in the military. We support women in ancillary military roles, but not in direct combat positions.

5. We oppose reinstating the draft except in time of war declared by congress.
6. We oppose the use of U.S. military troops where they would not be under the leadership of American commanders.
7. We support an increase in veterans' and survivors' benefits and support the expeditious fulfillment of the promises written and implied of those benefits.
8. We oppose the relinquishment of strategically essential U.S. military facilities worldwide; and we support the military's unrestricted use of their training areas.
9. We believe any learning institution that inhibits the normal operations of ROTC or military recruiters should be ineligible for government funding.
10. We assert that the oath of allegiance sworn by all U.S. military personnel shall be upheld under all circumstances; and furthermore, we assert that no other oath shall replace or amend it.
11. We support the freedom of military chaplains to provide religious services, including services in the name of Jesus.
12. We believe the military, under the command of the President, is the proper authority to determine the rules of engagement.
13. We support the historical values and uses of our military, and we believe its only mission should be national defense.
14. By definition, no National Guard personnel shall be required to leave the territory of the United States in a combat role, except in time of a congressional declaration of war
15. We believe foreign enemies who have committed or planned acts of aggression against the U.S. are unlawful combatants and are not entitled to citizen rights under the U.S. Constitution. We believe they should be held in detention facilities such as Guantanamo Bay, not the U.S. Prisons Systems, and their cases adjudicated by military tribunals, not by U.S. Criminal Courts.
16. We support the elimination of an "Unemployable" designation for any veteran with a 100% disability rating.

## **B. Foreign Policy**

1. We support the revocation of "Permanent Normal Trade Relations" status and oppose admission to the World Trade Organization for any country that is a security threat to the United States.
2. We recognize the sovereignty of all nations—including Israel—and their right to govern themselves.
3. Global commitments involving foreign aid or peacekeeping forces should be time limited and include specific benchmarks.
4. We oppose any compromise of national sovereignty by treaties or trade agreements.
5. We oppose the sale of dual-use technologies by U.S. corporations not only to designated terrorist nations but also to antagonistic nations.
6. We oppose any transfer of wealth from the U.S taxpayers to any foreign governments, usually referred to as foreign aid.
7. We support the protection of American (our nation's) intellectual property rights including access to our patents.

8. We oppose the creation of a common currency for North, Central, and South America, other than the U.S. dollar as authorized and issued only by the United States.

9. We oppose foreign control over any ports or bases within the jurisdiction of the United States.

10. We support policies that protect all U.S. allies.

11. We support equal access to global markets for U.S. agricultural products and elimination of unfair limits.

12. We oppose the construction of a Transcontinental Super Corridor Highway (also known as NAFTA superhighway), The Security and Prosperity Partnership of North America, and the creation of The North American Union. Additionally, we oppose support of, or participation in, a new global compact called a League of Democracies, as we are a unique and constitutional, representative Republic. Furthermore, we oppose the creation of, or participation in, a Trans-Atlantic Common Market.

13. We oppose efforts by our government to pressure Israel or any other nation into negotiating with terrorists.

14. We urge Congress to withdraw from and avoid free trade pacts—such as NAFTA, CAFTA, and FTAA—because they threaten our national sovereignty.

### **C. United Nations**

1. We believe that the United States Constitution is the supreme law of the land and that no other laws shall supersede it, including conventions, resolutions, rulings, treaties, mandates or any other laws or policies written by the United Nations or any other international organization.

2. We oppose relinquishment of our national sovereignty to the United Nations and oppose the action of any international organization that would supersede the rights of a United States citizen or conscript their person or property in any fashion.

3. We believe the United Nations should be held accountable financially, ethically, and morally.

4. We oppose the United Nations' treaty titled the Rights of the Child.

5. We oppose the Law of Sea Treaty because it would turn 7/10ths of the earth's surface over to the United Nations.

6. We oppose the adoption or implementation of any United Nations sustainable development "Agenda 21" initiatives into the governmental planning authorities, policies, or body of law of the United States. We oppose its implementation in any urban, suburban, or rural community.

7. We believe the United States should withdraw from the United Nations and the United Nations Headquarters be removed from United States territory.

8. We oppose a United Nations tax applied directly or indirectly to citizens of the United States.

### **D. Constitutional Issues**

1. We affirm our right under the First Amendment of the United States Constitution to exercise our freedom of speech including religious speech. We believe the First Amendment's Establishment Clause was intended to prevent a federal government-sponsored or preferred religion, not to separate God from our government or to remove religion from public life.

2. We support the Second Amendment as an individual right of the citizens of the United States to keep and bear arms; therefore, we oppose any attempts, whether by law or regulation at any level of government, to restrict any citizen's right to keep and bear arms (open or concealed), to restrict access to ammunition, or to record the purchase thereof. We also oppose any federal taxation on firearms or ammunition. We oppose universal background checks.
3. We support the repeal of the Brady Bill.
4. We oppose any legislation that would require the use of trigger or other locking devices on firearms.
5. We support legislation that will protect gun manufacturers or resellers from lawsuits attempting to hold the manufacturers or resellers liable for misuse of guns.
6. We oppose any so-called "assault" weapons ban and any effort to register or restrict firearms, ammunition, or magazines.
7. We oppose legislation that would require gun owners to purchase insurance policies covering the misuse of their firearms.
8. We believe the United States Constitution empowers the judiciary to interpret law, not make law or create law through judicial activism.
9. We support the Tenth Amendment that states "the powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the States, are reserved to the States respectively, or to the people."
10. We affirm the other provisions enumerated in the Bill of Rights, including the right to due process and freedom from unreasonable search and seizure, nor should private property be taken for public use without just compensation. Therefore, we oppose the Patriot Act and the NDAA's Sections 1021 and 1022, which allow American citizens to be held indefinitely without due process, and call for its repeal.
11. We support, recommend, and encourage the display of religious symbols, including the Ten Commandments in public places.
12. We support capital punishment.
13. We support the effort to amend 42 U.S. Code Section 1988 of the Civil Rights Act to rescind the authority of judges to award attorney fees in cases brought to remove or destroy religious symbols.
14. We support the present Constitutional requirement that a Presidential candidate be a natural born citizen and documentation supporting that fact be presented at time of filing.
15. The currency of the United States shall be backed by gold or silver, therefore, we support abolishing the Federal Reserve System.
16. We oppose court decisions based on foreign law, such as Sharia Law, instead of American and United States Constitutional doctrine.
17. In keeping with the First Amendment, we believe that freedom of speech is fundamental to our system of governance and our society. We oppose any legislation or regulation that would constrain free speech. In keeping with the First Amendment, we oppose the concept of "Free Speech Zones".
18. We support a constitutional amendment requiring a balanced budget and limiting the size of government to a maximum of 20% GDP.

19. We support a constitutional amendment instituting term limits of 18 years for all elected members of Congress.

20. We support a Human Life Amendment to the U.S. Constitution to affirm legal protection for the unborn child.

21. We support the concept of nullification as a legitimate tool for adjudicating disputes between the states and the federal government when the federal government enacts a law clearly not in pursuance of the constitution, specifically when done outside the powers delegated to it in Article I, Section 8.

22. We support a proportional electoral college as opposed to a winner take all, providing all states do the same.

23. We oppose the use of surveillance or weaponized drones in Oklahoma.

### **E. Social Security**

1. We believe that Social Security and government pension funds should be used only for the original purpose for which they were intended and taken off budget. Social Security is a contract with the United States workers and not an entitlement.

2. We support heightened security to safeguard individual Social Security numbers.

3. We believe Taxpayers should have more ownership and control over individual Social Security accounts, including a percentage of their Social Security tax in private investments of their choosing.

4. We support repealing the 1993 Clinton tax on Social Security benefits.

5. We support the inclusion of the Executive, Legislative and Judicial Branches as part of the same Social Security program and the elimination of their current retirement programs. Furthermore, all future congressional retirement funds should flow into the Social Security System and Congress should participate equally with the United States Citizen.

### **F. Agriculture**

#### ***WE SUPPORT:***

1. The immediate implementation of country of origin labeling on all whole food and fiber products. We strongly support only products “born, raised, slaughtered, and processed” or “sprouted, harvested, grown and processed” in this country to receive a U.S. label.

2. The immediate enforcement of the Anti-Trust Laws by the U.S. Secretary of Agriculture that affect the livestock packer concentration issue (1929 Stackers & Packers Act).

3. Reducing fuel taxes, both federal and state for agricultural use.

4. Eliminating all programs, including tax breaks, that support the production, sale, or distribution of genetically modified food (GMO).

#### ***WE OPPOSE:***

1. Self-audit legislation monitoring large-scale swine and poultry producers.

2. Overly restrictive regulation of carbon and particulate matter emissions, including dust, in the agricultural industry.

3. Animals being granted legal rights in the same fashion as human beings.

4. Our continued participation in the World Trade Organization and urge Congress to withdraw from the WTO.
5. The compulsory registration and electronic chipping of livestock and the related costs to farmers and ranchers, via participation in the National Animal Identification Programs, at any level.
6. Livestock taxation.
7. Any government interference or legislation which would restrict or regulate family farms or farmers' markets.

***WE RECOMMEND:***

1. That the USDA Agriculture appropriations be divided to accurately show the percentage of money set aside for agriculture.

**G. Immigration**

We Support:

1. Legal immigration and appreciate and cherish the immigrants.
2. Enforcement of laws on illegal immigration.
3. Securing our borders against illegal immigrants and potential enemies of the United States.
4. We support the meeting of legal requirements for citizenship, excluding the provision of birthright citizenship to children of illegal residents, and the pathway to citizenship.
5. A strictly regulated and enforced guest worker program. Legal guest workers should assume social costs, such as education and health care for themselves and their dependents.
6. The method for determining the number of immigrants and temporary visa holders allowed in the United States should be revised to prevent an adverse effect on our national security, wages, housing, the environment, medical care or schools.

We Oppose:

1. Illegal aliens being given the same privileges as U.S. citizens or legal aliens, including entitlements such as social security, health, education and earned income tax credits, even if they or their children have work or student status.
2. Non-citizens having the right to vote.

**H. Election Reform**

***WE SUPPORT:***

1. Continuation of the Electoral College as prescribed by the U. S. Constitution.
2. The repeal of the Motor Voter Act.
3. Requiring the use of a government issued ID at polling places.
4. Mandatory and swift penalties for voter fraud.

5. Repeal of the bipartisan McCain/Feingold Campaign Reform Act.
6. Strict verification of voter eligibility when registering.
7. That the current \$3.00 Presidential Primary check-off on Tax Forms be changed to an add-on (where the taxpayer who checks the item pays the \$3.00 by adding it to their tax bill or reducing the \$3.00 from their refund).

***WE OPPOSE:***

1. Broadcast of projected and/or actual election results before all the polls have closed.
2. Same day voter registration and postcard registrations due to the fact that these laws open the door to voter fraud and should be prohibited.
3. Campaign finance laws that restrict our First Amendment right to freedom of speech by limiting private contributions and resources.
4. Voting via the Internet.

**I. Federal General**

***WE SUPPORT:***

1. Limiting the size and scope of government, including but not limited to the removal of unnecessary burdensome regulations that impede economic development and the Constitutional requirements that all levels and branches of government shall comply with, but not exceed, the powers enumerated to them.
2. The idea that the purpose of government is to govern, not engage in business. We endorse the elimination of government funding for the Public Broadcasting System, the National Endowment for the Arts and National Public Radio. We believe they are fully capable of sustaining themselves in today's market and should be denied tax-exempt status.
3. Free, open and fair markets.
4. Review and overhaul of the Endangered Species Act.
5. Abolishment of the Environmental Protection Agency, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, Department of Education, Department of Energy, Department of Labor, the Office of the Surgeon General, and distribution of their powers and responsibilities to state authority.
6. Abolishment of the federal minimum wage.
7. Repeal of federal legislation that requires paying prevailing union wages on government contracts.
8. Protection of public and private sector employee "Whistle-Blowers".
9. The enforcement of the Supreme Court's decision in "Communication's Workers of America vs. Beck" regarding the refunding of union dues used for partisan political activity.
10. Equal rights and opportunity for all. Therefore, we believe affirmative action is more harmful than beneficial.
11. The right of private associations to admit or deny membership based on what each association's conscience dictates.

12. An English Language Act, which would make English our official language in the United States.
13. A National Right-To-Work law.
14. Implementation of "sunset laws" and "zero-based budgeting" and performance audits to require justification for government programs.
15. Restriction of travel and meetings by government employees and elected officials at tax payer's expense.
16. Keeping the phrase "In God We trust" on U.S. Currency and support leaving "Under God" in our Pledge of Allegiance.
17. Tort Reform that provides actual determination of injury costs to a plaintiff and a settlement that is in direct proportion to the injury as if it were suffered by the defendant.
18. Limiting the expansion of new lands in tribal trust.
19. Stricter penalties for the use of stun guns in the execution of criminal acts.
20. The transfer of welfare and any other federal/state entitlement programs, to the private sector, to help those who are truly incapable of self-support, and the removal of those who do not qualify.
21. A requirement for all able-bodied welfare recipients to work.
22. Restoration of the military's practice to allow Scout Troops to meet on military bases.
23. The complete accounting of all MIAs and POWs that were engaged in military actions by the United States.
24. That Congress should impeach all justices – including Supreme Court Justices – who step beyond the boundaries originally intended in our founding documents.
25. The process of habeas corpus for legal U.S. Citizens and oppose any part of any legislation which abrogates it.
26. Repeal the 16th Amendment, elimination of the IRS, lower federal spending, and replacement of the current tax system with a simple system that is fair and understandable.
27. The right of states to provide water for the present and future use in the next 100 years within their borders before water can be appropriated or designated for use in other states.
28. The repeal of Sarbanes-Oxley Law.
29. When U.S. Conference Committees meet, they should consider only those items from the House and/or Senate. No additional expenditures and items shall be added.
30. Retaining the religious significance of national holidays and the display of religious symbols in public places and oppose the removal of such.
31. Drug testing for any person applying for or receiving any type of government aid. If illegal drugs are found to be present, all government assistance should be terminated until that person is proven to be drug free. We believe a habitual illegal drug user should not receive any type of government aid.
32. Preservation of the National Day of Prayer.

33. National adoption of a voting system that requires the vote to be verifiable by paper balloting.
34. The census being used only for enumeration of the people.
35. The Executive, Legislative and Judicial Branches participate equally with the United States citizens in programs such as Medicare, Social Security, and National Healthcare.
36. The concept that Congress shall make no law that applies to citizens of the United States that does not apply equally to the Senators and Representatives. Congress shall make no law that applies to Senators and Representatives that does not apply equally to the citizens of the United States. Furthermore, any laws that are contrary to this should be rendered null and void.
37. The concept that when elected or appointed officials break laws or violate the Constitution, they should be impeached, terminated and prosecuted.
38. We support a full and complete public audit of the Federal Reserve System.

***WE OPPOSE:***

1. Discrimination based on race, creed, disability, or gender.
2. Socialized medicine, the Affordable Care Act, or any other nationalized health care system.
3. Stem cell research based upon cells obtained from embryonic or fetal material.
4. The Kyoto Accord Treaty.
5. All congressional pay increases until the federal budget is balanced.
6. Statehood for the District of Columbia and allowing its representative a vote in Congress.
7. A temporary assistance package for lenders or borrowers in mortgage foreclosures. The free market should be allowed to work.
8. The use of public/private partnerships to fund public infrastructure and services.
9. The so-called "REAL ID" Act is unconstitutional and amounts to an unprecedented grant of power to government in general, and the federal government in particular, we oppose implementation of a "national identification card" or any dermal, sub-dermal, internal or otherwise implanted device for the identification and tracking of any U.S. citizen or their personal property for any reason.
10. All bailout plans or transfer of wealth programs.
11. The creation of a new federal internal security force.
12. The federal creation of wage caps.
13. The seizure of control of the census process by the president and we call for it to remain under the control of the Department of Commerce. We oppose any non-citizen in the census.
14. The appointment and funding of presidential "czars".
15. The designation of United States National Parks and Monuments as World Heritage Sites of the United Nations.

16. Any government oversight, harassment, licensing, or taxation of religious institutions and their ministries. We believe church leaders have the same freedom of speech rights as leaders of other organizations, without threat of penalties, including the loss of tax exempt status for their churches.

17. Any attempts by the Federal Government to reinstitute the “Fairness Doctrine” or institute “Net Neutrality”.

18. We oppose the ability of congress to vote themselves pay raises.

***WE BELIEVE:***

1. The government should be required to operate within a true and accurate balanced budget with the elimination of earmarks.

2. Faith-based organizations and the return of tax dollars to citizens so they can fund the organizations work.

3. That all official business at all levels of government be conducted and printed only in English, our nation's common language.

4. That legislation should come from legislative bodies and not the judiciary or regulatory agencies.

5. That former federal legislators should be restricted from working as lobbyists for a period of seven years following their last legislative term.

6. That whereas, Native Americans have been granted rights and privileges not afforded to other U.S. Citizens, we encourage Congress to reconsider such special rights and privileges to make such more equitable with other citizens of the U.S.

7. That the individual right of a property not be abrogated in favor of another citizen or private entity through the use of eminent domain.

8. That the constitution provides for a clear and distinct separation of powers among the three branches of government. Any governmental action that tends to promote or allow one branch of government to practice the power or powers of the other branches of government is a violation of the limits placed on government by the people.

9. Individuals, families, churches, and private organizations should take responsibility in meeting the needs of the citizens of the community.

10. That while all crimes are abhorrent, any definition of a “hate crime” or harsher penalties based on those definitions are by their nature an infringement of the right of conscience guaranteed by the First Amendment.

11. In a welfare policy that promotes family unity, a strong work ethic, and individual responsibility. Those who repeatedly misuse the system, or fraudulently misrepresent themselves shall forfeit further assistance.

12. That no advertising on television shall be permitted on behalf of welfare and government agencies.

13. Each piece of legislation shall address only a single item.

**J. Energy**

***WE SUPPORT:***

1. Creation and enactment of a national energy policy to reduce dependence on foreign sources. We believe dependence on foreign energy sources is a national security issue.

2. Development of domestic resources, renewable fuels, and research for non-food bio-fuels and other alternative energy sources and allow private market-based development of alternative energy systems without tax subsidies.
3. Reasonable expansion of oil and gas exploration in the Alaska National Wildlife Refuge (ANWR) and in offshore areas where it is currently prohibited. We believe that the federal government should work to ease restrictions in the search for natural resources.
4. We support the private expansion of oil and gas refining facilities, including the Keystone XL Pipeline crossing the Canadian/American border, providing it does not abuse eminent domain to seize private land.
5. The private expansion of nuclear energy.
6. We reject the “Cap and Trade” system for carbon dioxide as the approach to dealing with so-called “climate change”. This is really a pass-on tax, which is a disincentive for energy exploration and production and would result in skyrocketing consumer energy prices.
7. The reversal of federal curbs, moratoriums, punitive taxes and fees on our domestic oil and gas industry.

## **V. BUDGET AND TAXATION**

### **National Preamble:**

*We believe that the Constitution of the United States is the most remarkable civil document in the history of the world. It enumerates the powers that the people have granted to the federal government, reserving all others to the states or to the people. We believe that the federal government, over time, has come to ignore or circumvent the limitations placed on its authority by the Constitution. We are particularly concerned that our God-given rights and the right of states enumerated in the “Bill of Rights” (the first ten amendments to the Constitution) are in grave danger of being eviscerated.*

*We believe in the United States Constitution and that we have a God-given right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. We believe that United States Constitution means exactly what was written and that its language should be strictly followed. We believe that all branches of the federal government are bound by its restrictions and do not have any authority to act outside of the Constitution, no matter how well intentioned, to grant benefits or dispose of personal private property. We reaffirm our belief that the Constitution recognizes the right of each citizen to equal treatment under the law. We oppose efforts by the federal government to create social change through governmental policy, commonly called ‘social or economic engineering.’*

*We believe that American people face a daunting and challenging economic reality. The problems that we face today are the results of decades of ever increasing governmental involvement in the free market system. The solutions to these problems will not be found in Washington, D.C. or in the respective state capitol. The economic success of honest and hardworking individual Americans should be respected and not penalized by calls for ‘fairness’, higher taxation or redistribution of wealth. Freeing the American people to succeed and enjoy the fruits of their labor will be the most effective way to increase jobs, increase real wages, and to generally expand the American economy.*

*We believe in the time-honored Republican tradition of personal accountability and responsibility for our behaviors. We believe that charity belongs in the private and religious sectors and not in the hands of government at any level. All ‘charity’ conducted in the name of the state first requires the confiscations of the resources of private individuals. We believe that the objective of all forms of private charity should be the restoration and independence of individuals. The permanent reliance of able-bodied individuals upon a charity for basic subsistence is a tragedy and a waste of human potential.*

*We support the ownership of private property. We view existing wealth and all income as belonging to the individuals and organizations that rightfully gained such property. Taxes are only valid where they provide for legitimate government functions, where they are the least amount necessary, where they are equitably derived, and where government agencies are held to strict accountability for the efficient use of these funds. We urge government at all levels to lower taxes to stimulate economic growth. We support the promotion of free enterprise with minimal government intervention. We oppose double taxation, the estate tax, any tax increases, fee increases, lottery or other revenue-raising schemes to balance the budget. Federal, state and local budgets should be balanced by decreasing spending, eliminating fraud, and duplication of services.*

#### **A. Federal Budget and Taxation**

1. We support requiring a balanced federal budget, except in times of congressionally declared war.
2. We support repeal or consolidation of federal, state, and local programs found to be non-performing, duplicative, or not authorized by the constitution.
3. We support reform of the congressional budget process that is out of control and laden with earmarks and other “pork barrel” spending. Any ‘earmarks’ must be debated openly and voted on in the Congress.
4. We support zero-based budgeting with transparency in government spending.
5. We support removal of the Social Security Trust Fund off-budget. The Social Security Trust Fund and all other trust funds should be spent only for the stated purpose and not placed in the general fund.
6. We support tax policies that promote personal savings and capital formation.
7. We support the elimination of the marriage penalty, capital gains taxes, the earned income tax credit, the alternative minimum tax, double-taxation of dividends and inheritance tax.
8. We support workable Medical Savings Accounts (MSA's), tax credits for medical insurance, and a free market approach to health care that protects the traditional doctor-patient relationship. We reject further socialization of health care.
9. We support replacing the present special Congressional pension and health care benefits with the same ones that the citizens are forced to use, that is, namely private savings, Social Security, and Medicare.
10. We support replacing the current income tax with a form of taxation such as the Fair Tax that does not penalize productivity and capital formation.
11. We support a requirement that all bills presented in Congress identify the specific Constitutional authorization (reference Article I, Section 8).
12. We oppose taxes or other incentives for businesses that encourage the exportation of jobs from the United States to foreign nations.
13. We oppose governmental efforts to stimulate the economy or bail out troubled entities through massive increases in governmental spending, crushing debt, and massive tax increases. We also oppose proposals to simply ‘print money’ to allow increased spending since it will further devalue our currency through runaway inflation.
14. We oppose federal “make-work” projects. Since money must first be taxed from the productive, private sector, these programs do not generate economic growth.

15. We oppose the nationalization of private businesses and enterprises. We further oppose efforts to establish a governmental authority to provide support or subsidies in return for partial or complete control of private enterprises.
16. We oppose federal programs that enlarge the number of Americans dependent upon government for their basic subsistence. We also oppose federal economic bailouts to the states or other entities.
17. We oppose overly restrictive or punitive fuel taxes and regulation of carbon and particulate matter emissions in the agricultural industry.
18. We oppose any carbon-credit or mileage tax.
19. We oppose government spending that grows faster than the cost of living.
20. We support repeal of the Clinton tax on social security benefits.
21. We support changing the \$3 check-off for Presidential election on the income tax form so that the taxpayers that choose this option actually pay the \$3.
22. We support partial privatization of the social security program.
23. We oppose the use of eminent domain when used to benefit private institutions or individuals.
24. We support an audit of the Federal Reserve.

## **V. Budget & Taxation**

### **State Preamble:**

*We realize that without economic freedom there is no political freedom. We believe that the greatest incentive for the creation of wealth lies in the respect for private property rights and that the free market is the best and most efficient distributor of scarce resources.*

*We reaffirm our belief that the best government is that which is smallest, least intrusive, and closest to the people.*

*We deplore the legislative duplicity of raising taxes through the subterfuge of increasing fees, regulations, licenses, fines, adding toll roads, etc.*

*We applaud the Republican majorities in the Oklahoma State House of Representatives and in the State Senate and their announced agenda of limited and accountable government, lower taxes, economic freedom, property rights, personal responsibility, the sanctity of the unborn, and strong traditional families.*

### **A. State Budget and Taxation**

1. We support annual indexing of the state homestead exemption and any capital gains taxation to account for inflation.
2. We support full funding for the unfunded liability of the Oklahoma Teacher's Retirement Fund.
3. We support eliminating taxation on qualified retirement plans.
4. We support use of all vehicle fuel taxes and license fees for repair and maintenance of roads and bridges, as those taxes were originally authorized. Any tax or fee set up for a particular purpose should be used solely for that purpose or should be repealed.

5. We support lowering or removing the state sales tax on groceries and prescription drugs.
6. We support regular and independent audits of city and county governments and entities such as the Career-Tech school system.
7. We support legislation requiring that state lottery funds be applied in addition to, not as a replacement for, state funding of schools.
8. We support legislation capping property valuation increases for seniors, reduction of state income tax rates and taxes on retirement income to create a more business- and retiree-friendly state.
9. We support a resolution by the Oklahoma Legislature insisting that the United States Congress obey the 10<sup>th</sup> Amendment to the United States Constitution.
10. We support a Taxpayer Bill of Rights plan such as that proposed by the Oklahoma Council of Public Affairs to limit the annual growth in state government and to protect the “rainy-day” fund.
11. We support the use of “zero-based budgeting” to require justification of need.
12. We support setting the state personal exemption and standard deduction rates to be the same as the federal rates.
13. We support the equalization of taxes on retirement income for all classes of taxpayers.
14. We support allowing the voters in a school district to opt out of a Career Tech district and the corresponding millage levies.
15. We support requiring all initiative petitions to define the funding mechanisms.
16. We support the elimination of the Oklahoma state individual income tax over a period of six years.
17. We oppose the setting of salaries for county employees based on the assessed valuation of property in that county.
18. We oppose a state mandated minimum wage.
19. We oppose state franchise taxes and taxes on business inventories and fixed assets.
20. We oppose de-facto (“automatic”) annual increases in assessed valuation of real estate.
21. We oppose de-facto control of the entire state election apparatus by the Senate President Pro-Tempore.
22. We oppose government spending that grows faster than the cost of living.

## **VI. ADDENDUM**

### ***A. Republican Party***

1. The Oklahoma Republican Party will only support candidates for public office who whole-heartedly support the core principles and positions of the Republican Party as expressed in the statement of principles of the Platform of the Oklahoma Republican Party.
2. Knowing the importance of input and participation for all citizens in our republic, we recommend continuing to document individual ideas, concerns, and suggestions from within our Republican Party. Legislators, candidates, or individuals within the Party may not agree with every detail of the platform;

however, we believe Republican candidates should read our Party platform and consider it as a document submitted as a consensus of grassroots concerns.

3. The Oklahoma Republican Party recognizes that morality and good character are a must for all elected officials.

4. In order to strengthen grassroots involvement in elections, encourage the good faith sacrifices made by candidates for office, preserve funds for general election, ensure fair and transparent primaries, and increase local accountability, we urge all Political Action Committees (PAC's) controlled by Republican elected officials – the Oklahoma Republican Senatorial and State House Committees, in particular – to remain neutral in candidate recruitment and in all Republican primary races.

5. The Republican State Committee should distribute rules to clarify the authority of county and state resolutions committees to introduce new resolutions, change precinct and county resolutions, and reject or merely not recommend submitted resolutions at the committee level.

6. The Oklahoma Republican Party believes in equal rights and opportunities for all. Therefore, we believe “affirmative action” is more harmful than beneficial.

7. The Oklahoma Republican Party urges our elected representatives to exercise our prerogative to nullify “Affordable Care Act”.

8. The Oklahoma Republican Party urges our elected representatives to refrain from any and all activities which would enable or implement Affordable Care Act.

#### ***B. Commendations***

1. -We commend the heroic men and women in the United States military who have shown remarkable patriotism and made great sacrifices in the mission to defend our way of life and protect the liberty and freedoms of this nation.

2. We commend Christians of all ages who openly express their faith in the face of increasing opposition and persecution in public places including, but not limited to, opposition to Health and Human Services (HHS) mandate currently persecuting Christians. Furthermore, we applaud their continued adherence to the faith and principles of our Founding Fathers.

3. The Oklahoma Republican Party commends the life, and honors the memory of long-time supporter, party builder, and distinguished leader, Skip Healy of Davis, Oklahoma.

4. The Oklahoma Republican Party commends Hobby Lobby, Chick-Fil-A, and all businesses that publically support traditional Biblical religious freedoms and principles.

#### ***C. Condolences***

1. We offer our condolences to the families of our soldiers and all American citizens who have given their lives defending our country.

#### ***D. Resolutions***

1. *Whereas, as Republicans have made gains in holding public office, PACs that advocate big government, higher taxes, and oppose government reform have tactically sought to expand their influence by contributing to Republican candidates. The liberals' goal is to cause successful Republican candidates, as officeholders, to compromise on important Republican values of limiting the size of government, lowering taxes, and reform of government; core values of the Oklahoma State Republican Party.*

*Therefore, be it resolved that from May 2012 on, the Oklahoma State Republican Party may withhold campaign funding from any Republican candidate or office holder who accepts a PAC contribution from the Oklahoma Public Employees Association (OPEA) or the Oklahoma Education Association (OEA) in the current and/or previous election cycle.*

*Be it resolved, the principled conservative values of limited government, lower taxes, and government reform shall not be compromised to liberal PAC influence within the ranks of the Oklahoma State Republican Party.*

*2. Whereas, many law makers are elected and assume public office each year without a working knowledge of the U.S. Constitution and*

*Whereas, many hours are expended in debate and passage of laws that cannot pass judicial review;*

*It is therefore resolved that all candidates for public office should exhibit a working knowledge of Constitutional Principles, especially the Bill of Rights.*

*3. 2013 Resolution to Restore the Rules of the Republican Party*

*Whereas, in the days immediately prior to the 2012 Republican National Convention Rules Committee meeting, the RNC Standing Rules Committee and the full Republican National Committee had unanimously passed Republican Party Rules amendments that had been studied and debated over the years of meetings since the 2008 Republican National Convention; and,*

*Whereas, it is the opinion of many Republican leaders, RNC members, and grassroots activists that the 2012 Republican National Convention Rules Committee passed multiple extensive rule changes beyond the scope of its purpose and without prior notice; and,*

*Whereas, the 2012 Republican National Convention, being controlled by the power and influence of the Presidential Nominee, passed the 2012 Republican National Convention Rules Committee Rules changes by questionable procedures on the floor of the Convention; and,*

*Whereas, in order to remedy the situation, the RNC Standing Rules Committee must be reconstituted and must meet as soon as possible to consider the best solution to repair public ill will and reverse these overreaching rules; and,*

*Whereas, the RNC passed a Resolution at the 2013 Winter Meeting calling on the Chairman of the Republican National Committee to 1) ask all states to submit their Rules Committee member by March 1, and 2) to call a meeting of the RCN in April of 2013 and conduct a Rules Committee meeting during this RNC meeting for the purpose of considering amendments to Rules; therefore be it,*

*RESOLVED, the State Committee of the Oklahoma Republican Party expresses grave concerns that the 2012 National Convention Rules Committee and Convention, under pressure by agents of the Presidential Nominee, overstepping its historical bounds by proposing and passing these extensive Rules changes; and, be it further*

*RESOLVED, the State Committee of the Oklahoma Republican Party joins the RNC to call for the immediate reconstitution of the RNC Standing Committee on Rules; and, supports the plan of returning the Republican Party Rules to the form as they existed immediately prior to the convening of the 2012 National Convention Rules Committee and Convention.*

*4. Whereas, the "Patriot Act" and Sections 1021 and 1022 of the "National Defense Authorization Act" (NDAA) are an aggression against the Fifth and Sixth Amendments to the Constitution of the United States,*

*Be it resolved, we the Oklahoma Republican Party support the immediate repeal of the "Patriot Act" and Sections 1021 and 1022 of the "National Defense Authorization Act" (NDAA).*

***Thank you to all of the members of the 2013 State Platform Committee who gave their time and effort to work together to produce this document.***

**Co-Chairs:**

Steve Fair – Chairman

Angie LaPlante – Co-Chair

**Members:**

Platform committee 2013:

Gail Stice

Phyllis Hightower

Joshua Tapp

Verne Horsley

Dr. James Taylor

Joe Windes

Lowell LeFebvre

James Crouch

Mattie Crouch

Twana Blevins

Luke Doane

Rogelio Trevino

Fred Haynes

Kerry Cox

Stephen Kern

Daren Ward

Nancy Stirman

Sam Harp

Don Rominger

William Smith

Aaron Brewer

Bruce Baker

Rachel Brewer

Peggy Burgess

Jo Senske

Larry Williamson

Jerry LeFayette

Gary Kilpatrick

Janica Edmonds

Janet Erlands

Scott Everland

Andrew Probst

Van Hayes

Joanne Francisco

Joshua Oldham

Kevin Calvey