

# Report of 2018 Permanent Platform & Resolutions Committee

## 2018 Permanent Platform Committee Members

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### 1 Preamble

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

### 10 Principles

- 11 2. We, the 2018 Republican Party of Texas, believe in this platform and expect our elected leaders to  
12 uphold these truths through acknowledgment and action. We believe in:
- 13 3. 1) "The laws of nature and nature's God," and we support the strict adherence to the original  
14 language and intent of the Declaration of Independence and the Constitutions of the United States  
15 and of Texas.
- 16 4. 2) The sanctity of innocent human life, created in the image of God, which should be protected  
17 from fertilization to natural death.
- 18 5. 3) Preserving American and Texas sovereignty and freedom.
- 19 6. 4) Limiting government power to those items enumerated in the United States and Texas  
20 Constitutions.
- 21 7. 5) Personal accountability and responsibility.

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

## 29 **Business, Commerce, and Transportation**

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

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

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

141 rights to their groundwater under their property and their right to capture it, we support tying surface rights  
142 of ownership to groundwater rights of ownership. We support regulations that may put limits on a person's  
143 capture and use of groundwater if such use will negatively impact adjoining owners' use of their  
144 groundwater for private wells, their water supply, or agricultural use.

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

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

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

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

## 164 **Constitutional Issues**

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

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

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

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

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

- 182 **58. Equal Rights Amendment:** We call upon the 86th Texas Legislature to adopt a resolution clarifying  
183 that the 1972 ratification by the 62nd Texas Legislature of the proposed Equal Rights Amendment to the  
184 United States Constitution was valid only through March 22, 1979.
- 185 **59. Census:** In accordance with Article I Section 2 of the United States Constitution, we support an actual  
186 count of United States citizens only, and oppose Census Bureau estimates and the collection of all other  
187 data.
- 188 **60. Recall Elections:** We support the right to recall our elected officials.
- 189 **61. Executive Orders:** We call upon the President of the United States to revoke all of President Obama's  
190 executive orders that violate our platform.
- 191 **62. Family Values:** We support the affirmation of traditional Judeo-Christian family values and oppose the  
192 continued assault on those values.
- 193 **63. Flag Desecration:** We call for a constitutional amendment banning desecration of the flag.
- 194 **64. National Sovereignty:** We will not enter any agreements with foreign countries or entities that violate  
195 our Constitution.
- 196 **65. No Taxes for UN:** We condemn any mechanism that allows US citizens to be taxed in order to fund  
197 the UN.
- 198 **66. Defending Sovereignty:** The United States is and must remain a sovereign nation independent of all  
199 foreign entities, with power held solely by the people. Therefore, we insist that the President and Congress  
200 defend our national sovereignty in accordance with their oaths of office. The United States government  
201 must remain free of all external control and influence.
- 202 **67. Preservation of Republican Form of Government:** We support our republican form of government as  
203 set forth in the Texas Bill of Rights. We oppose initiative and referendum. We oppose socialism in any  
204 form. We support the Texas Legislature and the United States Congress in enacting legislation that  
205 prohibits any judicial jurisdiction from allowing any substitute or parallel system of law, specifically foreign  
206 law (including Sharia Law), which is not in accordance with the United States or Texas Constitutions. We  
207 further resolve that all amendments to the Texas Constitution require a majority of the voters in at least  
208 191 counties (three-fourths), instead of a simple majority of the votes.
- 209 **68. American Law for American Courts:** No foreign law or international edict shall preempt the United  
210 States Constitution or the Texas Constitution, or be used as the basis for any decision, except required by  
211 contract between the individual parties.
- 212 **69. Right to Self-Defense:** We affirm that lawful gun ownership and carry by the people protects us from  
213 those who wish to do harm and guards against tyranny by our own government. We call upon our elected  
214 officials to resist the narrative that the solution to every problem is less freedom and more regulation, and  
215 instead pursue policies that respect freedom while also increasing safety.
- 216 **70. Constitutional Carry:** We support constitutional carry legislation through any legislative means so law-  
217 abiding citizens may carry any legally owned guns openly or concealed, while maintaining the option of a  
218 permit for reciprocity purposes only.
- 219 **71. Intrastate Protection Act:** We support an Intrastate Protection Act to clarify that guns made and sold  
220 in Texas are not subject to the Interstate Commerce Clause of the US Constitution, and legislation  
221 denying state funding to any state or local agencies that enforce federal weapons laws not also affirmed  
222 by the laws of the State of Texas

- 223 **72. Gun-Free Zones:** We oppose governmental prohibitions on citizens who have a constitutional right to  
224 own and carry firearms and knives from doing so. We oppose state-mandated location restrictions, the  
225 federal Gun-Free School Zones Act of 1990, and the National Firearms Act.
- 226 **73. Red Flag:** We oppose monitoring programs, including the Red Flag (that would deprive someone of  
227 their right to keep and bear arms without being convicted of a crime or found mentally incompetent by a  
228 medical psychiatric professional) or iWatch proposals, and any program that causes gun owners to be  
229 investigated by law enforcement or appear before a judge when there is no reasonable cause of a crime  
230 committed. We oppose increased background checks, as they are highly prone to “false positives” and  
231 hinder law-abiding citizens’ ability to defend themselves, rather than reduce crime.
- 232 **74. Firearms Storage:** We oppose mandates on personal firearms storage, maintaining that it is the  
233 responsibility of an individual to safely store his or her firearms and choose responsibly when and how to  
234 make them available to minors.
- 235 **75. Weapons Restrictions:** We support all legislation and policies that reduce restrictions on legal gun  
236 owners to purchase, own, or carry any type of gun, ammunition, accessory, knife, or other weapons, and  
237 oppose all that hinder the same.
- 238 **76. Amend Texas Constitution:** We call for the Texas Legislature to propose to the people of Texas a  
239 constitutional amendment to strike the following words from Article I Section 23 of the Texas Constitution:  
240 “but the Legislature shall have power, by law, to regulate the wearing of arms, with a view to prevent  
241 crime.”
- 242 **77. Responsible Gun Owners:** We call upon gun owners of Texas to regulate themselves through  
243 exercising safe handling procedures, voluntarily receiving training and helping others to train others, and  
244 safely carrying firearms as a deterrent to crime.
- 245 **78. Gun Owner Age:** We believe law-abiding citizens 18 years and older have the right to purchase,  
246 possess, and carry firearms, including hand guns.
- 247 **79. National Reciprocity:** We support national reciprocity and call upon Congress to pass it.
- 248 **80. TSA:** We urge Congress to abolish the TSA.
- 249 **81. Term Limits:** We support term limits of twelve years for federal and state offices.
- 250 **82. Unfunded Mandates:** Unfunded mandates are unacceptable. Therefore, the State of Texas must fully  
251 fund the cost of indigent criminal defense, as it has cost local taxpayers \$2.4 billion since its passage in  
252 2001.
- 253 **83. Texas Speaker Issues:** Republicans in the Texas House should select their Speaker nominee by  
254 secret ballot in a binding caucus without Democrat influence.
- 255 **84. The Rights of a Sovereign People:** The Republican Party of Texas supports the historic concept,  
256 established by our nation’s founders, of limited civil government jurisdiction under the natural laws of God,  
257 and we oppose the concept that the state is sovereign over the affairs of men, the family, and the church.  
258 We believe that government properly exists by the consent of the governed and must be restrained from  
259 intruding into the freedoms of its citizens. The function of government is not to grant rights, but to protect  
260 the unalienable, God-given rights of life, liberty, property, and the pursuit of happiness of all, including the  
261 unborn. Texans should be free to express their religious beliefs, including prayer, in public places.
- 262 **85. Habeas Corpus:** We oppose any bill or provision that would suspend habeas corpus for American  
263 citizens, except as addressed by the US Constitution.

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

## 266 **Criminal and Civil Justice**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

301 98. Government Surveillance: We oppose all forms of warrantless government surveillance of United  
302 States citizens and businesses.

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

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

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

314 **102. Hate Crimes:** We urge the complete repeal of the hate crimes laws, since ample laws are currently in  
315 effect to punish criminal behavior towards other persons.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

340 **111. Raise the Age:** We call upon the Legislature to raise the age of criminal responsibility from 17 to 18  
341 years.

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

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

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

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

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

## 354 **Education**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

441 **133. School Options:** Texas families should be empowered to choose from public, private, charter, or  
442 homeschool options for their children's education, using tax credits or exemptions without government  
443 restraints or intrusion. **[State, Local]**

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

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

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

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

467 **138. American Identity:** We favor strengthening our common American identity, which includes the  
468 contribution and assimilation of diverse racial and ethnic groups. Students shall pledge allegiance to the  
469 United States and Texas flags daily to instill patriotism. Students have the right to display patriotic items on  
470 school property. **[State, Local]**

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

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

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

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

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

## 492 **Finance**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

548 **164. School Finance:** We support a simple, fair, and efficient method for financing our public school  
549 system. We oppose the "Robin Hood" system of public school finance and believe the Texas Legislature,  
550 not the courts, should determine the amount of money spent on public education and the distribution  
551 thereof. We oppose the Edgewood I and II decisions that legislate school finance from the bench.

- 552 **165. Additional School Funding:** Before receiving additional dollars through the school finance formulas,  
553 school districts must spend at least 65 percent of their current funding in the classroom.
- 554 **166. School Maintenance and Operation Property Tax:** We call upon the Texas Legislature to use surplus  
555 revenue to buy down the school maintenance and operation property tax rate as a prelude to replacing it  
556 with a broader based consumption tax.
- 557 **167. Social Security:** We support reform to Social Security that allows people to opt out. We oppose  
558 taxation of Social Security.
- 559 **168. [Deleted plank<sup>iii</sup>]**
- 560 **169. Spending Limitations:** Amend the Texas Constitution and state statute with a stricter spending  
561 limitation based on US Census population growth plus inflation as measured by the Consumer Price Index  
562 and apply the new limit to Texas's total government budget.
- 563 **170. Tax Burden:** We in the Republican Party of Texas believe in the principles of constitutionally limited  
564 government based on federalist principles. To this end we encourage our elected officials at all levels of  
565 government to work to reverse the current trend of expanding government and the growing tax and debt  
566 burdens this places on "We the People." We believe the most equitable system of taxation is one based  
567 on consumption and wish to see reforms toward that end at all levels of government.
- 568 **171. State Income Tax Ban:** We support maintaining the current ban on state income taxes in Texas.
- 569 **172. Truth in Taxation:** We urge that taxes established for a particular purpose shall not be used for any  
570 other purpose.
- 571 **173. Public Posting:** We support statewide, local taxing entities, and [federal] government entities  
572 compiling and publicly posting their current debt, future obligations, financial statements, check registers,  
573 and local government contracts on their official websites. **[State, Local]**
- 574 **174. Transportation and Fuel Taxes:** We resolve that tax revenue derived from gasoline taxes and all  
575 other taxes/fees on our vehicles (including vehicle sales tax) should only be used for road construction  
576 and maintenance, and not be diverted to any other use, including mass transit, rail, restrictive lanes, and  
577 bicycle paths. **[State, Local]**
- 578 **175. Special Taxing Districts:** We support restricting the authority of special taxing districts, such as  
579 Municipal Utility Districts and Municipal Management Districts, so that they are accountable to the people  
580 they serve and may not incur bonded debt without a vote of their residents. We support a change to the  
581 property tax and exemptions section to allow special taxing districts to freeze their property tax  
582 assessment for taxpayers 65 or older or disabled. **[State, Local]**

## 583 **Government and Foreign Affairs**

- 584 **176. Bond Elections:** State and local bond election ballots should be required to include the amount of  
585 debt currently outstanding, current debt service payments, current per capita debt obligations, the amount  
586 of new debt being proposed, estimated debt service for the new debt, and estimated per capita burden  
587 being proposed. Any bond election (state or local) must pass with at least a two-thirds majority of voters to  
588 affirm the bond. The bond issue must obtain a yes vote of a minimum of 20 percent of registered voters.  
589 All elections of personnel responsible for adopting a budget and a property tax rate and all elections  
590 involving bond indebtedness shall be held on the November uniform election date and administered by the  
591 County Clerk or the County Elections Administrator. No public funds are to be spent influencing a bond

592 election. We oppose bundling of items on bond election ballots.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

631 **190. Offense Enforcement for In-Person Voting:** We support raising to felony status infractions of the

632 Texas Election Code during in-person voting, including allowing persons not in the poll book to vote a  
633 regular ballot, willfully misclassifying the reason for a provisional ballot, giving one voter multiple ballot  
634 access codes or multiple ballots, and all forms of voter assistance not compliant with TEC, especially  
635 “assistants” who force themselves on voters to influence their votes.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

671 **202. English-Only Ballots:** English, and only English, shall appear on any ballot for any election in the  
672 United States of America and in the State of Texas.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

- 708 1. Our withdrawal from the current United Nations.
- 709 2. The removal of the United Nations from United States soil.
- 710 3. The rejection of all Agenda 21 and Agenda 2030 policies and programs.
- 711 4. The rejection of all related NGOs, councils, and environmental programs.
- 712 5. A zero-budget allotment of American tax dollars to any United Nations programs.<sup>iv</sup>
- 713 6. The opposition of any designation of World Heritage Sites in the United States and especially in  
714 Texas.

715 **214. Federal Land in Texas:** All federal land in Texas should be returned to and administered by Texas,  
716 except for land specifically authorized in the Constitution (military bases, federal buildings, post offices).

717 **215. Federal Offices Location:** Offices attached to the seat of the federal government should not be  
718 required to exercise their offices in the District of Columbia. It is no longer necessary for all federal  
719 agencies to be located in the District of Columbia, and we call on both the Senate and Congress to  
720 expunge Chapter 3 of 4 U.S.C. § 72 and the President to sign such change.

721 **216. Lobbying Limitation:** We support legislation to prohibit former officials and government employees  
722 from lobbying for a foreign government and/or any business for five years after leaving public service. We  
723 support legislation to prevent lobbying by any organization receiving federal grants except that relating to  
724 its tax status.

725 **217. Tax-Funded Lobbying:** We urge that the Texas Legislature enact legislation that prohibits tax-funded  
726 contract lobbying.

727 **218. Texas Speaker of the House:** We oppose the use of pledge cards and call for the Republican  
728 members to caucus after each November general election to determine, by secure secret ballot, their  
729 candidate for Speaker. We also call for the Republican members to vote as a unified body for their  
730 selected speaker candidate when the Legislature convenes in regular session.

731 **219. Ghost Voting:** We expect the Texas House of Representatives to enforce house rules and prevent  
732 ghost voting.

733 **220. Updating Texas House Rules:** We request the House Republican Caucus work with the Republican  
734 Party of Texas on House rule changes prior to the next legislative session that would facilitate the passage  
735 of legislation based on the Republican platform and Legislative Priorities. Such changes should not have  
736 the result of disenfranchising the minority party, but should ensure that the majority party can get its own  
737 business done. These changes should include, but not be limited to, changing House Rule 6 Section 21  
738 (2017 House Rules) to allow for a motion to place a bill on the calendar after 7 days instead of 30 days.

739 **221. Calling for Open Calendar Committee Meetings:** The Calendars Committee of the Texas House of  
740 Representatives should be open to the public.

741 **222. Government Shutdown:** In the case of United States government shutdown, the only salaries to be  
742 suspended are for the United States Senate and House of Representatives.

743 **223. Closed Primary:** We support protecting the integrity of the Republican Primary Election by requiring a  
744 closed primary system in Texas.

745 **224. Remove Gender Requirements:** We suggest that the Chair, Vice Chair, and members of the SREC  
746 be elected on merit and not based on gender (Sec. 171.002 of the Texas Election Code).

747 **225. Enforcing the Platform:** Every Republican is responsible for implementing this platform. Party  
748 candidates should indicate their positions on platform planks before their acceptance on the ticket, and  
749 such information should be available on the Party website.

750 **[332.] Candidate Support:** The Republican Party of Texas should provide financial support only to those  
751 candidates who support the right-to-life planks.

752 **226. Texas Protecting Texans:** We support federal legislation remanding all authority over abortion back to  
753 the individual states and removing all standing on this issue from the federal judiciary as given by Article III  
754 in the US Constitution. We also support family control of end-of-life decisions.

755 **227. Protecting Active Military Right to Vote:** We urge the Texas Secretary of State and the United States

756 Attorney General to ensure that voting rights of our armed forces will neither be denied nor obstructed,  
757 and all valid absentee votes shall be counted.

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

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

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

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

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

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

## 780 **Health and Human Services**

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

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

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

- 790 1. Denying benefits to individuals who cannot prove citizenship.
- 791 2. Reforming welfare programs to require recipients to work, learn, and train.
- 792 3. Reforming welfare programs to require recipients to remain substance-abuse free in exchange for  
793 temporary benefits not exceeding two years.
- 794 4. Requiring all welfare recipients to submit to random drug testing in order to receive benefits.
- 795 5. Requiring that money provided through the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) be  
796 used only for nutritious foods consistent with those included under the WIC program, and be

797 released only with a photo ID of the approved user.

798 6. Implementing a non-monetary-based assistance program for providing supplemental food benefits.

799 7. Removing prisoners from welfare rolls.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

836 **251. Medical Records and Informed Consent:** We oppose any state or federal medical record computer

837 database or registry (with exception to diseases that are a public health threat, i.e., HIV and/or  
838 tuberculosis) that stores personal identifiable records on citizens without their written consent.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

- 878 **263. Human Embryos:** We support the adoption of human embryos and the banning of human embryo  
879 trafficking.
- 880 **264. End-of-Life Patient Protection:** We support patients' rights, especially near the end of life, and call for  
881 reform of existing legislation so that:
- 882 1. Texas law should provide that medical personnel may not deny care, change advanced directives,  
883 or originate directives for any patient without the permission of the patient or the patient's  
884 designate.
  - 885 2. We also support the passage of legislation to amend the Advance Directives Act by requiring  
886 hospitals intending or threatening to withdraw life-sustaining treatment against the patient's wishes  
887 or their advance directive to continue all treatment and care for such patients pending transfer to  
888 another facility.
  - 889 3. We also support legislation repealing the unethical "Ten-Day Rule" in Section 166.046, Health and  
890 Safety Code, which allows physicians to withdraw basic life-sustaining treatment (like a ventilator)  
891 after an impending countdown.
- 892 **265. Home and Community-Based Services:** We call on the Texas Legislature to support Home and  
893 Community-Based Services (HCBS) as a pro-life alternative, and to enact language to apply additional  
894 protections and to address any loopholes that fail to protect or provide appropriate home and community-  
895 based alternatives for children and ~~people~~ [adults] with disabilities, in addition to providing families with  
896 information about life-affirming social and medical services available to them in Texas as alternatives to  
897 abortion and costly institutional care.
- 898 **266. Modernized Social Security Card:** We support the improvement of our 1936 Social Security card to  
899 use contemporary anti-counterfeit technology. The Social Security card will not be considered a national  
900 ID card for United States citizens.
- 901 **267. Social Security Disability:** We support appropriate limits on the length of time to receive Social  
902 Security disability benefits for all but those truly not able to do ANY kind of paid employment.
- 903 **268. Toxic Exposure:** We support the passage of the Toxic Exposure Research Act of 2015, which will  
904 ensure that the federal government will establish a database on all exposed veterans and their families.
- 905 **269. VA Medical Benefits Not Limited:** [We support allowing] ~~allow~~-veterans to use VA medical benefits at  
906 private medical providers and not be limited to VA Hospitals.
- 907 **270. Replace the VA:** [We support replacing] ~~replace~~ the Veterans Administration with a commercial  
908 insurance plan that allows eligible veterans to obtain health services from any licensed provider.

## 909 **National Defense and Border Security**

- 910 **271. Support of Our Armed Forces:** The men and women who wear our country's uniform, whether on  
911 active duty or in the Reserves or National Guard, are the most important assets in our military arsenal.  
912 They and their families must have the pay, healthcare, housing, education, and overall support they need.  
913 Injured military personnel deserve the best medical, mental health, and rehabilitative care our country has  
914 to offer. We must always remember those who have given the ultimate sacrifice; their families must be  
915 assured meaningful financial assistance. It is the solemn duty we owe, and honor we give, to those who  
916 bravely don the uniform of freedom. We support our government in continuing to seek and act upon all  
917 information concerning our military personnel and other citizens listed as missing in action or prisoners of  
918 war. Veterans Administration monetary benefits shall match present national price index value in all

919 programs.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

960 program.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

982 **292. Magnet:** We support eliminating the employment magnet by requiring all employers to screen new  
983 hires through the free E-Verify system to prevent the hiring of illegal aliens and of anyone not legally  
984 authorized to work in the US.

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

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

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

## 995 **State Affairs**

996 **296. Alamo:** We believe the Alamo should be remembered and not "reimagined." We believe Texas's  
997 authority regarding the Alamo shall not be infringed upon by any organization or authority, including but  
998 not limited to local governments, the federal government, the United Nations, or UNESCO. We demand

999 that the decision-making authority for the Alamo never be removed from Texas, and the custodians of the  
1000 Alamo be required to: 1) affirm and emphasize the intrinsic significance of the 1836 battle in telling the  
1001 story of the Alamo, and 2) maintain transparency in finances and operations of the Alamo. Specific  
1002 protection shall be afforded the site, including all land and existing monuments, including the Cenotaph,  
1003 which SHALL NOT be moved from its present site.

1004 **297. Campaign Finance Transparency:** We support laws requiring full disclosure by political candidates of  
1005 the amounts and sources of any campaign contributions, whether contributed by individuals, political  
1006 action committees, or other entities. We oppose reporting requirements that infringe on the free-speech  
1007 rights of citizens. We urge immediate repeal of all limits on campaign contributions by American citizens to  
1008 the candidates or causes of their choice.

1009 **298. No Restrictions on Charities:** We oppose any restrictions by any government agency on individual  
1010 taxpayer contributions to churches, faith-based charities, and other non-profit organizations.

1011 **299. [Deleted plank<sup>vii</sup>]**

1012 **300. Honor Our Flags:** We appreciate and honor our flags and what they represent, and we strongly  
1013 advocate for all public schools to display the US and Texas flags in every classroom and to begin each  
1014 school day with the pledges to both.

1015 **301. Freedom of Assembly:** Because we believe in the freedom of assembly, we urge repeal of the  
1016 Freedom of Access to Clinic Entrances Act. Those who assault peaceful protesters acting under the  
1017 Constitution should be vigorously prosecuted. Picketing and literature distribution do not fall under the  
1018 Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations (RICO) Act.

1019 **302. Freedom of Speech on University Campuses:** We support the protection of free-speech rights at  
1020 public universities, including the elimination of politically correct speech codes and “bias-response teams.”

1021 **303. Religious Freedom for Business Owners:** We support the removal of laws and regulations that are  
1022 used to force business owners and employees to violate their sincerely held beliefs.

1023 **304. Public Accommodations:** We support legislation at the state and federal levels that concretely defines  
1024 public accommodations as originally defined and understood in the Civil Rights Act of 1964, that it prohibit  
1025 any expansion of that legal definition by any federal, state, or local law to expand government control to  
1026 restrict any First Amendment rights; and to proscribe any law that requires any private business or  
1027 individual to create or provide a custom product or service, or any kind of expressive work, or enter into a  
1028 contract, or be coerced into any speech that is not their own.

1029 **305. Religious Freedom of Speech and Practice:** We call on the Texas Legislature to repeal the Johnson  
1030 Amendment, which assaults the free speech of pastors and religious organizations. We further resolve to  
1031 protect the First Amendment rights of any citizen to practice their religion and exercise their right to free  
1032 speech in the public square, as well as in religious organization affiliations.

1033 **306. Religious Freedom:** As America is “one nation under God,” founded on Judeo-Christian principles,  
1034 we affirm the constitutional right of all individuals to worship as they choose.

1035 **307. Daylight Saving Time:** We urge the Texas Legislature to enact legislation to end Daylight Saving  
1036 Time in Texas.

1037 **308. Electoral College:** We support the Electoral College.

1038 **309. Fairness Doctrine:** We oppose any attempt by Congress or any federal agency to implement any  
1039 policy comparable to the Fairness Doctrine as terminated in 1987.

1040 **310. Gender Identity Facilities in Businesses:** We support enacting legislation in the State of Texas  
1041 ensuring that no government entity in the state be allowed to take it upon itself to define for any private  
1042 business or private entity how it must segregate its restrooms, changing facilities, or showers; nor may any  
1043 government agency be allowed to require businesses to profess, espouse, or adopt specific views on sex,  
1044 sexuality, gender, or gender identity, other than to guarantee that views and positions on these matters  
1045 are not used as a basis to deny access to public accommodations, as defined by the Civil Rights Act of  
1046 1964, nor to deny employment, or discriminate in employment decisions, solely on the basis of a person's  
1047 views on these matters.

1048 **311. Child Rights:** We call on the Texas Legislature to pass legislation to protect privacy in public schools  
1049 and government buildings as allowed by Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, by ensuring that  
1050 multi-use facilities, including showers, changing rooms, and bathrooms, are designated for and used only  
1051 by persons based on the person's biological sex.

1052 **312. No Sexuality Indoctrination:** We call on the State Legislature to pass legislation so that no public  
1053 school or other educational institution may force, require, or pressure any child or student to profess,  
1054 espouse, or adopt, or otherwise be indoctrinated without explicit parental consent, specific views on sex,  
1055 sexuality, gender, or gender identity.

1056 **313. Gender Identity Pronouns:** We oppose any attempt to criminalize and/or penalize anyone for the  
1057 wrong use of pronouns.

1058 **314. Heritage:** We call upon governmental entities to protect all symbols of our American and Texan  
1059 heritage. We oppose governmental action to remove the public display of the Ten Commandments or  
1060 other religious symbols. We support the Pledge Protection Act. We urge that the national motto "In God  
1061 We Trust" and National Anthem be protected from legislative and judicial attack. Penalties should be  
1062 established for any form of desecration of the American or Texas fFlag. We support adoption of American  
1063 English as the official language of Texas and of the United States. Holidays such as Thanksgiving,  
1064 Christmas, Easter, Columbus Day, St. Valentine's Day, St. Patrick's Day, Good Friday, Veterans Day,  
1065 Memorial Day, Labor Day, and the 4th of July as historical holidays should remain on our governmental  
1066 and public school calendars. We support preservation of Texas history and historical sites. Visitors to the  
1067 Alamo should conduct themselves with decorum and reverence inside the shrine, out of respect for the  
1068 sacrifice of the heroes who are honored there. We call for restoration of plaques honoring the Confederate  
1069 widow's pension fund contribution that were illegally removed from the Texas Supreme Court building.

1070 **315. Historical Monuments:** We believe all historical war memorials, including Confederate monuments, in  
1071 Texas should be protected from future removal or defacement and that those monuments that have been  
1072 removed should be restored to their historical locations.

1073 **316. Homosexual Behavior:** We affirm God's biblical design for marriage and sexual behavior between  
1074 one biological man and one biological woman, which has proven to be the foundation for all great nations  
1075 in Western civilization. We oppose homosexual marriage, regardless of state of origin. We urge the Texas  
1076 Legislature to pass religious liberty protections for individuals, businesses, and government officials who  
1077 believe marriage is between one man and one woman. We oppose the granting of special legal  
1078 entitlements or creation of special status for homosexual behavior, regardless of state of origin. We  
1079 oppose any criminal or civil penalties against those who oppose homosexuality out of faith, conviction, or  
1080 belief in traditional values.

1081 **317. Definition of Marriage:** We support the definition of marriage as a God-ordained, legal, and moral  
1082 commitment only between one natural man and one natural woman.

1083 **318. State Authority over Marriage:** We support withholding jurisdiction from the federal courts in cases  
1084 involving family law, especially any changes in the definition of marriage.

1085 **[333<sup>viii</sup>]** Spousal Benefits: We shall not recognize or grant to any unmarried person the legal rights or  
1086 status of a spouse, including granting benefits by political subdivisions.

1087 **[334<sup>ix</sup>]** No-Fault Divorce: We urge the Legislature to rescind no-fault divorce laws and support covenant  
1088 marriage.

1089 **319. Overturn Unconstitutional Ruling:** We believe this decision, overturning the Texas law prohibiting  
1090 same-sex marriage in Texas, has no basis in the Constitution and should be reversed, returning  
1091 jurisdiction over the definition of marriage to the states. The Governor and other elected officials of the  
1092 State of Texas should assert our Tenth Amendment right and reject the Supreme Court ruling.

1093 **320. Pro-life:** Until the abolition of abortion is achieved, we support laws that restrict and regulate abortion  
1094 including, but not limited to:

- 1095 1. Parental and informed consent.
- 1096 2. Prohibition of abortion for gender selection.
- 1097 3. Prohibition of abortion due to the results of genetic diagnosis.
- 1098 4. Prohibition of licensing, liability, and malpractice insurance for abortionists and abortion facilities.
- 1099 5. Prohibition of financial kickbacks for abortion referrals.
- 1100 6. Prohibition of partial-birth, late-term abortions.
- 1101 7. Prohibition of abortions after the time an unborn child's heartbeat is detected.
- 1102 8. Prohibition of the manufacturing and sale of abortifacients (e.g., morning after pill).
- 1103 9. Elimination of causes of action for "wrongful birth."
- 1104 10. Enactment of any other laws that will advance the right to life for unborn children.
- 1105 11. Health insurance coverage for abortion services and abortifacients, which under Texas law should  
1106 be considered supplemental coverage and billed to the beneficiary.

1107 **321. Abolish Abortion:** We call upon the Texas Legislature to enact legislation stopping the murder of  
1108 unborn children and to ignore and refuse to enforce any and all federal statutes, regulations, executive  
1109 orders, and court rulings that would deprive an unborn child of the right to life.

1110 **322. Dismemberment Abortion:** We strongly support the prohibition of elective dismemberment abortions,  
1111 a type of dilation and evacuation abortion, which take the life of preborn children by removing their limbs.

1112 **323. State Authority over Abortion:** We urge the federal congressional delegation from Texas to take  
1113 immediate action, under the authority extended to them in Article III of the Constitution of the United  
1114 States, to put forth legislation remanding all authority over abortion to the individual states and removing  
1115 all standing on the issue of abortion from the federal judiciary.

1116 **324. Fundamental Right to Life:** All innocent human life must be respected and safeguarded from  
1117 fertilization to natural death; therefore, the unborn, the aged, and the physically or mentally challenged  
1118 have a fundamental individual right to life, which cannot be infringed.

1119 **325. Reverse Roe v. Wade:** We are resolute in our support of the reversal of Roe v. Wade.

1120 **326. Property Annexation:** Homeowners and landowners in an area proposed for annexation should have  
1121 the right to vote to approve or reject the annexation, regardless of the population of the county. No  
1122 annexation can occur within 45 days of any election.

1123 **327. HOA Open Meetings:** We support legislation to require ALL homeowners' associations to comply  
1124 with the Texas Open Meetings Act. We further support legislation prohibiting HOAs from using "policies" to

1125 bypass the process of residents' voting on changes in deed restrictions. **[Local]**

1126 **328. Property Rights:** Property ownership and free enterprise, the foundation of our collective wealth, must  
1127 not be abridged nor denied by government. We support legislation to protect these bedrock rights. Areas  
1128 of concern are: annexation, eminent domain (including foreign entities), property forfeiture, extraterritorial  
1129 jurisdiction, seizure for public or private development, natural resources and conservation easements,  
1130 groundwater and/or mineral rights, nationalization of lands, and the preservation of our Fourth Amendment  
1131 right to privacy. Property owners should be notified of their rights with regard to condemnation,  
1132 annexation, or easement; and the condemner should be required to petition a court of jurisdiction to show  
1133 public necessity. Taking of property should result in immediate compensation of fair market value to the  
1134 owner. These issues should be administered by elected officials accountable to voters. **[State, Local]**

1135 **329. Eminent Domain:** The use of eminent domain must exclude the seizure of private property for private  
1136 economic development or increased tax revenue. **[State/Local]**

1137 **330. Save the USS Texas:** Since the USS Texas was given to the State of Texas in 1948, the Republican  
1138 Party of Texas supports the previous and future allocation of funds that are necessary to preserve the  
1139 USS Texas as a permanent monument to the ship, her crew of two world wars, and the history of the State  
1140 of Texas. **[State]**

1141 **331. Unfunded Mandates:** We urge the Legislature to consider the impact on taxpayers for any mandate  
1142 they pass.

1143

1144 **[332]** See Bracketed Plank after **225**, voted on here as **332**.

1145 **[333]** See Bracketed Plank after **318**, voted on here as **333**.

1146 **[334]** See Bracketed Plank after **318**, voted on here as **334**.

1147

1148 NOTE: Editors have in some places, suggested language for improve clarity as indicated by ~~strikeout~~ or  
1149 original language and [insertions in brackets].

## 1150 Resolutions

1151 1. The Texas Republican Party concurs in the censure of Texas State Representative Byron R. Cook,  
1152 pursuant to Texas Republican Party General Rules for Conventions and Meetings, for committing three (3)  
1153 or more acts in contravention of the Republican Party of Texas Core Principles. Further, we the delegates  
1154 of the Texas Republican Party impose any and all sanctions, penalties, or punishments available upon  
1155 Texas State Representative Byron R. Cook, pursuant to Texas Republican Party General Rules for  
1156 Conventions and Meetings, Rule #44.

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<sup>i</sup> Last edit June 21, 2018, 15:51 CDT by Mark S. Ramsey.

<sup>ii</sup> Original subcommittee language included UIL before participation. However, the committee of the whole voted to leave this out.

<sup>iii</sup> In two cases of deleted planks, the placeholder remains to preserve consistency between plank numbers as-voted and those in this document.

<sup>iv</sup> As passed on convention floor left out a numbered item, though language was in place. Hence sub-numbered list was renumbered as intended.

<sup>v</sup> In three cases of planks that were inadvertently included in other planks in the Permanent Committee Report, but voted separately by giving them plank numbers at the end, their POSITION in the committee report is preserved with a bracketed plank number corresponding to how they were voted on by the delegates, and a cross reference on the respective added plank number to show where the voted on language was located.

<sup>vi</sup> Editors preferred Pre-Natal, but since Preborn is in common usage to refer to the bill, it was retained.

<sup>vii</sup> In two cases of deleted planks, the placeholder remains to preserve consistency between plank numbers as-voted and those in this document.

<sup>viii</sup> In three cases of planks that were inadvertently included in other planks in the Permanent Committee Report, but voted separately by giving them plank numbers at the end, their POSITION in the committee report is preserved with a bracketed plank number corresponding to how they were voted on by the delegates, and a cross reference on the respective added plank number to show where the voted on language was located.

<sup>ix</sup> In three cases of planks that were inadvertently included in other planks in the Permanent Committee Report, but voted separately by giving them plank numbers at the end, their POSITION in the committee report is preserved with a bracketed plank number corresponding to how they were voted on by the delegates, and a cross reference on the respective added plank number to show where the voted on language was located.