

Klickitat County Republicans 2020 Platform

PREAMBLE

We, the Republicans of Klickitat County, support preservation of a constitutional republic maintaining the values that uphold the rights and freedoms enumerated in the Declaration of Independence, the United States Constitution, and the Washington State Constitution. These rights are fundamental to the preservation of our American way of life. Key to maintaining our rights and freedoms is the acceptance of that responsibility by each individual.

We believe the proper role of government is to provide for the people only those critical functions which cannot be performed by individuals or private organizations, as being the most effective, responsible, least intrusive and responsive government.

We believe in state's sovereignty as stated in the Tenth Amendment of the US Constitution.

We believe government officials should behave with honor and integrity and must be held accountable for their decisions and actions.

We believe that government programs should be limited to citizens and legal residents and not foster an entitlement society.

We believe in equal opportunity in our diverse society, in which each individual is empowered to reach his or her full potential independent of race, religion, age or gender.

We believe in liberty with responsibility, respect for law and justice, providing for a strong national defense, and governmental fiscal restraint.

Therefore, we offer the following platform:

DEFEND AND SUPPORT THE CONSTITUTION AND BILL OF RIGHTS

The Constitution of the United States is the ultimate law for both organizing and restraining all government.

We believe the Constitution should be interpreted according to the original intent of the Framers.

We exert the right and claim responsibility to resist any law which clearly violates our Constitutional Rights.

- 1) Emphasizing the importance of the 1st and 2nd Amendments
 - a. The right to bear arms - Shall not be infringed or impaired. Repeal I1639
 - b. The right to freedom of speech
- 2) Preserving and protecting Freedom of religion.
- 3) Eliminate Federal usurping of state's rights.
- 4) Ensure sovereignty of state law enforcement.
- 5) Ensuring private property rights/values shall not be diminished by any government action without compensation.
- 6) Support the Electoral College.

CITIZENSHIP REQUIREMENTS

We support legislation to clearly define that birthright citizenship is only accorded to those children whose parent(s) is/are citizens of the United States or that the parents are permanent legal residents present in the United States at the time of the child's birth.

LIMITED GOVERNMENT

We support

- 1) The Constitutional intent to provide the most personal freedoms and responsibilities possible.
- 2) Reducing the size of government.
- 3) Requiring agencies to operate within the original intent of the scope of their legal responsibilities, therefore eliminating oppressive regulations
- 4) Requiring a budget process that reduces debt and balances the budgets.
- 5) Stopping special interest groups from infringing on personal rights, such as transgender groups being allowed to invade in privacy of opposite sex bathrooms
- 6) Restricting the over reach of the Columbia River Gorge Commission.
- 7) Office of Governor limited to maximum of 10 years.

TAXATION AND ECONOMY

America's national debt is now bigger than America's economy, with interest on that debt the fastest growing part of the federal budget. We must act now to increase our GDP and to cut government spending to insure a balanced budget. Therefore, we support:

- 1) Continuing rejection of state income tax
- 2) Abolishing the state estate and inheritance taxes
- 3) Simplifying the federal tax system and limiting IRS powers.
- 4) Requiring a balanced budget.
- 5) Ending unfunded mandates.

PROPERTY RIGHTS

Private property is at the heart of American freedom and independence.

All persons have the right to acquire, own, use, possess, enjoy, and dispose of private property. Private property rights extend beyond issues of land use and ownership; they apply to the freedom to keep, spend, and/or trade that which we earn, and the freedom to run our homes and operate our businesses according to our personal values and without government interference.

We support:

1. Opposition to removing private lands from the local tax base.
2. Proper management and stewardship of current publicly held lands with a focus on the best use and management of the land for the most public good.

BUSINESS CLIMATE

We support:

- 1) Capitalism and entrepreneurship and the right to work.
- 2) Reducing and restricting regulations that limit business growth
- 3) Wages created by the market without government intervention.
- 4) Efforts to increase available housing in Klickitat County for the expanding work force.

AGRICULTURE

Agriculture is a major contributor to the Klickitat County economy and regulations that inhibit or restrict agricultural enterprises should be minimized. We support:

- 1) Regulation of pesticides, fertilizers and field burning shall be based on scientific evidence.
- 2) Open and fair access to export markets for our agricultural products.
- 3) Environmental restrictions shall be weighted against the economic impact on farming, forestry, property rights, and other commercial activities.
- 4) Establishment of an effective guest worker program.
- 5) Acknowledging the net carbon sequestration of agriculture.

HEALTH CARE

We support:

- 1) Availability of insurance across state lines
- 2) Tort reform to reduce health care costs.
- 3) Improved medical services for all using competition as a means to lower costs.
- 4) Restoring and fully funding the State mental health system for extensive care needs.

NATIONAL SECURITY

In accordance with the Constitution of the United States, the most important responsibility of the federal government is "to provide for the common defense". The world is safer and more peaceful when America is strong.

We support:

1. Preparedness of our military,
2. The securement and enforcement of our borders,
3. The War on Terrorism.
4. Taking care of our veterans.

LAW AND JUSTICE

We support:

- 1) The Constitutional authority of the states to enforce laws within their borders
- 2) Repealing the Patriot Act.
- 3) President Trump exposure of the illegal activities by government agencies.

EDUCATION

We support:

- 1) Local school board and PTA control of education.
- 2) Freedom of choice for schooling, including vouchers.
- 3) Require the state legislature fully fund basic public education.
- 4) Restricting diversion of public education funds.
- 5) Abolishing the Federal Department of Education.
- 6) Focus education on creating independent adults via vocational, technical and academic programs.
- 7) Freedom of all speech on campus.
- 8) Opposition to the sexuality indoctrination in our public schools.
- 9) Enhanced school security, including qualified armed citizens.

IMMIGRATION

We support:

- 1) Congress fulfilling their responsibility in securing our borders.
- 2) Requiring the executive branch to enforce existing immigration law, and border protection.
- 3) Requiring all government entities to cooperate with immigration law enforcement.
- 4) Limiting refugees into the United States
- 5) Elimination of all "sanctuary" laws which shield criminal aliens.
- 6) Making English our national language to unite us.

PUBLIC BENEFITS/WELFARE

We support:

- 1) Requiring that benefits be provided only to US Citizens and permanent legal residents.
- 2) Requiring welfare programs for able bodied be used only for temporary assistance in conjunction with job training.
- 3) Limiting welfare programs to US Citizens.
- 4) Requiring drug testing for welfare recipients

VOTING:

We support

- 1) Requiring all voters demonstrate U.S. citizenship and state residency, prior to registering to vote in Washington State.
- 2) Abolishing the top 2 primary process.
- 3) Assuring the integrity of the voter rolls.
- 4) Party affiliation not appearing on the outside ballot envelope.

NATURAL RESOURCES/ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS

We support:

- 1) Releasing Federal natural resource lands to state ownership/control.
- 2) Requiring the Washington legislature to designate hydro-power a renewable resource.
- 3) Nuclear energy production.
- 4) Productive management of our natural resources for the economic benefit of our communities.
- 5) Oppose any version of "Cap and Trade", carbon output taxation laws upon our citizens.
- 6) No dam removals on the Columbia and Snake Rivers.
- 7) Science based policies derived from verifiable studies with repeatable test results.

FAMILY VALUES

We believe a strong family is the core for building a strong nation.

We support:

- 1) Parental rights to participate in educational, medical and legal decisions for their minor children.
- 2) The traditional definition of marriage as between one man and one woman while recognizing the need for legal partnerships and other civil unions.
- 3) All babies born alive receiving life-saving medical care.
- 4) The sanctity of human life at all stages of development.
- 5) The defunding of Planned Parenthood and support organizations such as Pregnancy Resource Center which provide counseling and alternatives to abortion.
- 6) Opposing all instances of public funding of elective abortions and any mandates on private institutions to provide abortions.
- 7) Enforcement of rape prosecution.
- 8) Science based gender identity solely determined by conventional XY chromosome combination.

TORT REFORM

We support

- 1) Reform the Freedom of Information Act to stop frivolous requests.
- 2) Requiring costs incurred from lawsuits without merit shall be borne by the plaintiffs.

BEHAVIOR

We support

- 1) Integrity courtesy and transparency at all levels of government, and in all political campaigns; Working together, being organized, planning ahead in a timely manner; Reaching out to our **citizens**, encouraging each other to make a difference.
- 2) Requesting elected officials at all levels from PCOs through local, state and federal levels be willing to listen to the citizens and be open to suggestions for potential change which will be of benefit to their **constituency**.
- 3) Congressional cooperation
- 4) Stopping our over involvement in foreign affairs
- 5) Requiring public office holders and public employees have no exemption to laws and regulations.
- 6) Civil discourse between candidates, constituents and the public