

The 2024 SD 8 Resolutions Committee Amendments to the 2022 TX GOP Platform

Key

Red with a line through it means it will be taken out

Green and underlined means it will be added.

Preamble

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

Principles

2. We, the 2022 Republican Party of Texas, believe in this platform and expect our elected leaders to uphold these truths through acknowledgment and action. We believe in:

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

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

5. (3) Preserving individual, Texan, and American sovereignty and freedom.

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

7. (5) Personal accountability and responsibility.

8. (6) Self-sufficient families, founded on the traditional marriage of a natural man and a natural woman.

9. (7) Having an educated population, with parents having the freedom of choice for the education of their children.

10. (8) The inalienable right of all ~~people~~ men and women, Created by God, to defend themselves and their property.

11. (9) A free enterprise society unencumbered by government interference or subsidies.

12. (10) Honoring all of those that serve and protect our freedom.

Constitutional Issues

Preservation of Constitution

13. Keep Oath to the Constitution: We call for all who swear the oath to support and maintain the limitations and clear meaning of the United States Constitution. In furtherance of this, it shall be required that All Representatives of the Texas House and Senate must do a minimum of 6 hours per session of continuing education on the Texas Constitution and 6 hours per session of the US Constitution led by a Licensed Constitution Coach, Organization, or Kris Anne Hall.
14. Preservation of our Constitutional Republic: We support our constitutional republican form of government as set forth in the Texas Bill of Rights. We further resolve that all amendments to the Texas Constitution require a majority of the voters in at least 191 counties (three-fourths), instead of a simple majority of the votes.
15. Enforce the Constitution Article 4 Section 4: The sovereignty of this state requires the protections afforded under Article 4, Section 4, of the Constitution, and any failing thereof authorizes the Governor of this State or the Legislature to declare an invasion, which shall be met with the full force of this State.
16. No Foreign Law: No foreign law, contract, or judgment arising from any foreign state whose laws violate fundamental constitutional rights shall be honored or enforced by any Texas court.
17. Judicial Overreach: All attempts by the judiciary to rule in areas not constitutionally granted to the judiciary, including abuses of the “commerce clause,” the “general welfare clause,” and the “supremacy clause,” should be nullified. Any federal enforcement activities that do occur in Texas shall be conducted under the authority of the county sheriff (SCOTUS ruling in 1997 Mack and Printz v. US).
18. Limiting the Power of the Supreme Court: Judges don’t define the roles of judges; Article 3, Section 2, defines the roles of judges. We support Congress’s limiting the power of the Supreme Court by invoking Article 3, Section 2, Clause 2, by “legislating exceptions and creating regulations” to limit the cases for which the Supreme Court has jurisdiction.
19. Amendments to the US Constitution: We:
 - a. Support term limits of twelve years for federal and state offices.
 - b. Oppose “packing” (or enlarging) the United States Supreme Court and support the pending “Keep Nine Amendment” as filed in the United States Senate and the House of Representatives with bipartisan support.
 - c. Support repeal of the 16th Amendment (Federal Income Tax).
 - d. Support restoring state sovereignty with the repeal of the 17th Amendment of the United States Constitution and the appointment of United States Senators by the state legislatures.
 - e. Support a change to the 14th Amendment to eliminate “birth tourism” or anchor babies by granting citizenship only to those with at least one biological parent who is a US citizen.
 - f. Support a constitutional amendment making English the official language of the United States, and one of no more than two official languages of all US territories and other possessions.
20. Executive Orders: We oppose all executive orders, whether by a president, a governor, or a local official, that go beyond administration of executive authority and have the effect of legislation. We call upon the Texas Legislature or local lawmakers to nullify such executive orders.
21. Limiting Overreaching State Government: We recognize that the sovereignty of this state and its citizenry has been imperiled and threatened by the ongoing overreach of state elected officials and agencies. We

therefore call for the enforcement of Article 2 of the Texas Constitution and restoration of our liberty by the following:

- a. We must repeal and replace Texas Code 418.
- b. No form of government shall ever again implement mass lockdowns on the people, our businesses, or our churches.
- c. We oppose funding or implementation of any form of contact tracing.
- d. The State Constitution must be changed to require the Legislature come to session after a declared emergency lasting 30 days or more in five or more counties.
- e. The Texas Governor shall no longer use executive orders to create public policy or law and shall no longer have the power to close businesses or declare some as “essential” or “non-essential.”
- f. The Governor’s authority during an emergency shall not be delegated.

22. Dereliction of Duty: The failure by a public official to discharge any duty shall be a violation of the terms of his or her oath of office, which shall constitute a crime, and upon conviction, this crime shall be punishable by a fine or imprisonment, depending on the nature of the offense. Any entity or person who acts under the color of federal or state law to deprive a Texan of the rights or privileges insured by the federal and state constitutions shall be liable to the injured parties for redress, including monetary damages and injunctive relief, notwithstanding any preexisting immunity. Additionally, Congress and the Texas Legislature shall abolish ‘Qualified Immunity’ in favor of the ‘Good Faith Standard’.

New Plank The Constitution of the State of Texas shall be amended such that Texas State Senate seats be apportioned by an equal or nearly equal number of contiguous counties, so that large cities and population centers do not disenfranchise the voters of suburban, small city or town, and rural communities.

Citizen Rights

23. The Rights of a Sovereign People: We support the historic concept, established by our nation’s founders, of limited civil government jurisdiction under the natural laws of God, and we oppose the concept that the state is sovereign over the affairs of men, the family, or the church. We believe that government properly exists by the consent of the governed and must be restrained from intruding into the freedoms of its citizens. The function of government is not to grant rights, but to protect the inalienable, God-given rights of life, liberty, property, and the pursuit of happiness of all, including the unborn.

24. Protecting Constitutional Rights Regarding Age: There should be a single age of majority upon which, when reached, all citizens will be guaranteed their rights, duties, and privileges.

25. National Popular Vote: The National Popular Vote Interstate Compact is a direct violation of Article 1, Section 10, and Article 2, Section 1, of the Constitution and shall be rejected by Texas and all its officials. We support the Electoral College.

26. Recall Elections: We support the right to recall our elected officials.

27. Habeas Corpus: Any federal suspension of the writ of habeas corpus against a Texas citizen shall be violative of the 10th Amendment, Texas sovereignty, sovereignty of the individual, and actionable by the state or the citizen.

28. Census: In accordance with the United States Constitution, we support an actual count of United States citizens, and we oppose Census Bureau estimates and the collection of all other data.

29. Equal Rights Amendment: We call upon the 88th Texas Legislature to adopt a resolution clarifying that the 1972 ratification by the 62nd Texas Legislature of the proposed Equal Rights Amendment to the United States Constitution was valid only through March 22, 1979.

30. Parental Rights: The rights of parents are foundational to Western society and shall be respected, affirmed, and protected by the Texas Constitution and Texas Law. Furthermore, it is imperative that the Texas Legislature pass a Parental Rights amendment to be added to the Texas Constitution in order to secure these rights for future generations. We call upon the Legislature to properly recognize and affirm the fundamental right of parents to make all decisions regarding the upbringing and control of their children in all aspects, especially with regard to the grievous violations of the Texas education system. Any failure to recognize, protect, or honor these fundamental rights shall be actionable. No parent exercising any of these fundamental rights shall be prosecuted as domestic terrorists.

31. Prayer, Bible, and Ten Commandments in Schools: We support prayer, the Bible, and the Ten Commandments being returned to our schools, courthouses, and other government buildings.

32. The Right to Keep and Bear Arms: State and Federal Legislatures shall:

- a. Repeal and/or nullify the National Firearms Act of 1934 and the Gun Control Act of 1968.
- b. Pass unrestricted Constitutional Carry by amending Article 1, Section 23, of the Texas Constitution by removing, "but the Legislature shall have power, by law, to regulate the wearing of arms, with a view to prevent crime."
- c. Nullify any gun laws that violate the 2nd Amendment or rights of due process.
- d. Support national reciprocity for gun ownership rights.
- e. Recognize the right of License to Carry holders to carry anywhere off-duty or retired law enforcement can carry.
- f. Ensure that any of the above legislation shall not be construed as impinging on private property rights.
- g. Businesses or commercial property owners that prohibit licensed concealed carry members from carrying a firearm into their establishment will assume liable for their safety since they are denying that person's right to protect himself or herself.

State Sovereignty

33. State Sovereignty: Pursuant to Article 1, Section 1, of the Texas Constitution, the federal government has impaired our right of local self-government. Therefore, federally mandated legislation that infringes upon the 10th Amendment rights of Texas shall be ignored, opposed, refused, and nullified. Texas retains the right to secede from the United States, and the Texas Legislature should be called upon to pass a referendum consistent thereto.

34. State Electoral College: The State Legislature shall cause to be enacted a State Constitutional Amendment creating an electoral college consisting of electors selected by the popular votes cast within each individual state senatorial district, who shall then elect all statewide office holders.

35. Unfunded and Under-Funded Mandates: Unfunded mandates and under-funded mandates are unacceptable. The State of Texas must fully fund, at a minimum, the following additional costs to local governments:

- a. Indigent criminal defense.
- b. Inmate healthcare in jails.
- c. Indigent burials and autopsies.

d. Veteran services offices.

36. Equal Protection for the Preborn: We urge lawmakers to enact legislation to abolish abortion by immediately securing the right to life and equal protection of the laws to all preborn children from the moment of fertilization, because abortion violates the US Constitution by denying such persons the equal protection of the law.

37. Article 5 Convention of States: The Texas Legislature shall extend the call for a Convention of States to limit the power and jurisdiction of the federal government.

Business, Commerce & Transportation

Markets and Regulation

38. Municipal Preemption: We encourage the Legislature to preempt local government efforts to interfere with the State's sovereignty over business, employees, and property rights. ~~This includes but is not limited to burdensome regulations on short-term rentals, bags, sick leave, trees, and employee criminal screening. We support preemption of city ordinances that dictate sick leave policies to private businesses. This excludes the handling of emergency orders.~~ Also, we oppose state legislation to preempt changing land use restrictions in preexisting neighborhoods.

39. Licensing: We call upon the Texas Legislature to review all Texas Department of Licenses and Regulations (TDLR), business/professional licensing programs, and associated licensing for the purpose of abolishing or removing as many as reasonably possible and repealing those laws, rules, and regulations.

40. Practice of Law: We support allowing any person to sit for the Texas State Bar Exam regardless of educational background, as long as criminal and ethical background requirements are met. We oppose mandatory State Bar membership for Texas lawyers. We favor restricting those who may file grievances in the legal disciplinary process of Texas to those who have standing. Further, we support sanctions for those who weaponize and politicize the legal disciplinary process of Texas.

41. Reduce Business Regulations: We believe that the following businesses shall be minimally regulated at all levels.

Federal Laws:

- a. Repeal Minimum Wage Law and Prevailing Wage laws.
- b. Repeal Dodd-Frank.
- c. Repeal Sarbanes-Oxley.
- d. Repeal The Lacey Act.

State Laws:

- a. Eliminate Blue laws.
- b. Eliminate the three-tier alcohol system (production, distribution, and retail).
- c. Allow auto manufacturers to sell directly to consumers.
- d. Business licensing.
- e. Professional licensing.
- f. Purchase of edible products from small farms.
- g. Use of hemp as an agricultural commodity.

Local Municipal Laws:

- a. Minimum wage laws.
- b. Blue laws.
- c. Mandatory sick/family leave.

42. Trade Agreements: We support free trade as a necessary component of American capitalism and of the United States' influence in the world. But all trade agreements between the Federal Government and other nations shall strictly adhere to the US Constitution and require approval by 2/3 of the Senate.

43. Origin Labeling: We urge that all food products entering the United States show not only the country of origin, but also the country that processed it and the country that packaged it.

44. Predatory Towing: We urge the Texas Legislature to enact legislation increasing the criminal penalties resulting from predatory towing and decreasing the state-allowed amount that a towler can charge, to disincentivize the practice of predatory towing.

45. Municipal Permitting: We call on the Texas Legislature to continue to streamline the building permitting process to ease burdens and costs on developers and consumers. We encourage the Legislature to monitor implementation of existing legislation that protects property development rights and to close loopholes that cities are using to circumvent these laws. We oppose retroactive rule-making and changing the rules on developments that have already been issued permits.

46. Texas Resistance to the Great Reset: Texas should continue to pass legislation needed to protect the citizens of Texas from corporate violation of their rights in the Great Reset/Environmental, Social, Governance (ESG) scheme as follows:

- a. Ban companies and corporations that attempt to suppress funding for Texas industries from doing business with the State of Texas and its subdivisions.
- b. Make it illegal for banks and financial institutions operating in Texas to make lending decisions based on anything other than financial concerns. The model for such legislation shall be the Fair Access to Financial Services rule promulgated by President Trump's Office of the Comptroller of the Currency, which was immediately suspended by the current occupant of the White House.
- c. Add penalties in Texas law for corporations operating in Texas that lead or participate in boycotts against Texas due to legislative action to protect the rights of Texans to decline vaccination, protect the unborn, stop the teaching of Critical Race Theory in schools, compete in sports with only those of their own biological gender, or to protect children and juveniles against sexual organ mutilation and hormones and puberty blockers designed to fake transition from one gender to another.
- d. Add explicit protections for the natural right of Texans to keep and exchange and store their wealth in the mediums of exchange (including digital currency, gold and silver coin, bullion, cash, and script) of choice to the Texas Bill of Rights. This will help stop global institutions and the Federal Government from forcing Texans to use the financial services and currency dictated by them. [We oppose the creation of a Central Bank Digital Currency.](#)
- e. Consider the expansion or use of existing Texas anti-trust law to prohibit collusion between woke corporations to cancel/drive others out of business.

47. Patent Protection: We support reversing State and Federal legislation and court decisions that have damaged patent rights for Texas independent inventors and startups. This includes abolishing administrative tribunals and restoring injunctive relief, thus restoring the US patent system, and driving American back to leading the world technologically, economically, and militarily.

Retirement, Savings, Unions

48. Government Accountability: We call upon the Texas Legislature to eliminate all special collective bargaining statutes for public employees and to hold all public servants accountable to taxpayers through existing civil statutes. We oppose any distribution of taxpayer dollars to unions.

49. Social Security Privatization: We support privatization of the Social Security system.

50. Rural and Volunteer Fire Departments: We urge Congress to overturn the rules of the United States Department of Labor restricting volunteerism by paid firefighters and emergency medical technician personnel and to support protections similar to those provided to National Guardsmen for service during declared emergencies.

51. Employee Stock Ownership Plans (ESOPs): We support maximum economic opportunity for all citizens and believe that legal limits on employee ownership of Texas firms by Employee Stock Ownership Plan (ESOP) trusts must be eliminated. We also believe that changes in ownership from private individuals to a majority ownership by an ESOP must not create a disadvantage when doing business with the State of Texas or political subdivisions of the State. We believe the State of Texas should encourage the creation of more ESOPs by making information easily available to businesses located in Texas.

52. Unions: We support legislation requiring labor unions to obtain consent of the union member before that member's dues can be used for political purposes. We oppose card check. Texas should prohibit governmental entities from collecting dues for labor unions through deductions from public employee paychecks. We also encourage the adoption of a National Right to Work Act.

Energy and Environment

53. Utilities: We support free-market solutions for providing resilient and reliable utilities.

54. Power Grid: We urge the Texas Legislature to pass legislation to harden the Texas Electric Grid increasing capacity and preparedness for all hazards, including:

a. Cyberattacks on the grid's computerized command and control system.

b. Physical attacks on substations and major high-voltage transformers.

c. Geomagnetic storms created by solar flares from the sun.

d. Electromagnetic Pulse (EMP).

e. Extreme weather events, both cold and hot.

f. Due to excessive reliance on solar and wind energy, which are unreliable, we support "firming requirements" to require all electric generators to guarantee 24/7 dispatch-ability of power to the grid and for wind and solar generators to have contracts or arrangements in place to provide backup power from thermal sources during peak periods.

55. Carbon Tax: We oppose all efforts to classify carbon dioxide as a pollutant.

56. Midland Not Moscow: We fully support and encourage greater energy production in the Permian Basin and throughout Texas, as well as the necessary policies and infrastructure investment in roads, pipelines, and ports. This will support Texas workers and help America's energy security, instead of increasing our reliance on foreign governments that do not benefit America or our allies.

57. Environment: We oppose environmentalism that obstructs legitimate business interests and private property use, including the regulatory taking of property by governmental agencies. We oppose the abuse of the Endangered Species Act to confiscate and limit the use of personal property and to infringe on a property owner's livelihood. We support the defunding of "climate justice" initiatives, the abolition of the Environmental Protection Agency, and repeal of the Endangered Species Act, and we oppose the "America the Beautiful" Initiative, also known as the 30 x 30 program.

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

- a. Address river, bayou, reservoir, and other flood threats to public and private property.
- b. Seek the input of those most likely to be affected by a casualty to public and private property, to include infrastructure and facilities that affect national security.
- c. Address the risk of storm or tidal surge that affects critical industries along the Gulf Coast.
- d. Create an early warning system that will immediately alert residents to an impending flood, wind, or casualty weather event.
- e. Establish regional flood control districts where necessary for counties to resolve joint flooding issues.
- f. Provide funds to complete these projects from federal, state, and local funds.
- g. Government boards responsible for flood mitigation shall be elected and not appointed.

Governments at all levels must work together to avoid the historical bent to push projects, safety, and implementation into the future. Projects must be of most urgent priority now in order to avoid further trauma; loss of life; loss of personal, government, and business wealth; and diminution of the tax base.

59. Tidelands and Resources: We assert that the State of Texas and all coastal states shall enjoy and maintain jurisdiction and control of their offshore waters up to the international water boundaries, as well as state inland waterways, regarding all natural resources therein, and that the federal government shall not set limits on harvesting or taking natural resources therein, nor allow foreign entities to harvest or take such natural resources therein, including minerals, game, fisheries, and hydrocarbons. Also, we demand that no entity shall usurp Texas's original tideland boundaries.

60. Water Resources: While we support the decision by the Texas Supreme Court in preserving individuals' rights to the groundwater under their property and their right to capture it, we support tying surface rights of ownership to groundwater rights of ownership. We support regulations that may put limits on a person's capture and use of groundwater, if such use will negatively impact adjoining owners' use of their groundwater for private wells, their water supply, or agricultural use.

61. Energy Production: We support free-market solutions and the immediate removal of government barriers and direct subsidies to the production, transportation, reformulation, refining, and distribution of energy. We oppose federally directed plans and proposals that favor renewable energy sources that may constitute a nuisance, or otherwise have a substantially negative impact on neighboring landowners, including harming property values of our neighborhoods, farms, and ranch areas.

62. Energy Innovation: Texas should take advantage of its independent grid and mines by encouraging providers to build and operate traditional and next-generation nuclear power plants (such as molten salt reactors), free of the red tape they would otherwise incur. To keep the federal government from interfering, Texas should also ensure that the supply chain of components and fuel remains in-state and off federally claimed land. [We shall not connect to the national grid.](#)

Transportation

63. Freedom to Travel: We oppose the Biden Infrastructure and Green Energy Plan that threatens our freedom to travel, imposes a federal mileage tax, as well as Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) or other social justice policies on Texas taxpayers and drivers. We oppose anti-car measures that punish those who choose to travel alone in their own personal vehicle and oppose any measure to impose "road diet" mandates designed to shrink auto capacity and/or intentionally clog vehicle lanes to force deference to pedestrian, bike, and mass transit options (whose users do not pay gas tax). We urge the Texas Legislature to protect drivers from these California-style, anti-driver policies in Texas.

64. Vehicle Taxes: Vehicle registration shall only be a one-time occurrence at the point of sale and shall only be based on the price actually paid on the vehicle or trailer. Only commercial vehicles should be required to obtain a state safety inspection.

65. Toll Roads: We believe that tolls should come off the road when the debt is retired, and if the debt is ever restructured or refinanced, the pay-off date needs to remain the same.

Public-private partnerships, toll authorities, and construction:

a. We oppose public-private partnerships, specifically regarding toll projects.

b. We oppose conversion of existing roads or lanes to toll roads.

c. We oppose the use of taxpayer money to subsidize any toll projects, and we call upon lawmakers to adequately fund our highways without hidden taxes, tolls, or raiding of emergency funds.

Toll administration and collections:

a. We urge the Legislature to pass a uniform toll collection and billing procedure that prohibits excessive fines and fees, along with other pro-taxpayer reforms such as requiring agencies to:

i. send out accurate bills prior to adding fines and fees.

ii. immediately notify drivers if a payment card is not working.

iii. allow payment plans to be set up prior to being put into collections.

b. We call upon the Legislature to pass legislation to decriminalize the failure to pay tolls.

66. High Speed Rail: Taxpayer money shall not fund or subsidize high speed rail, nor shall eminent domain be used in the construction of high-speed rail.

COVID Response

67. COVID-19 Liability: Businesses shall not be held liable for any customer who frequents their business and later is confirmed to test positive for COVID-19.

68. Jobs Are Essential: We urge the Texas State Legislature to adopt legislation that recognizes and establishes all businesses and jobs as essential and a fundamental right. Governments do not have the authority to determine what entities are essential during an emergency.

69. Government Mandates: No government entity may require a business, via financial or legal coercion, to act as an enforcement arm of the state, such as the egregious action when local governments required businesses to enforce mask mandates or be fined or closed.

Privacy, Information Freedom, Internet

70. Doxing and Swatting: We recommend the State Legislature consider modifying existing State law to take into account the implications of doxing, which result in harm to one's person or business, and Swatting, a criminal harassment tactic of deceiving an emergency service into sending a police or emergency response team to another person's address.

71. Regulating the Internet: We oppose efforts to implement net neutrality on internet service providers.

72. Personal Data Privacy: We demand that all rights to privacy that individuals have in their homes shall be extended to all digital data via the use of strong public key encryption technologies. We call upon Texas to prohibit vendors, [including educational technology companies](#), of the State of Texas and its subdivisions from

selling or sharing data captured in providing services to Texans. We support laws limiting the ways in which internet providers, electronic applications, websites, schools, government entities, and others may access the electronic communications or documents of all Texans.

73. Social Media Freedom: We call on our Congressional Delegation to push for reform of Section 230 of the Communications Decency Act to limit the ability of online social media platforms to censor the speech of citizens in the new digital town square, which they currently control. We support Texas legislative efforts, such as HB 20 of the 87th Second Called Session, that afford Texas residents the power to sue Big Tech Companies for targeting and censorship.

74. Cyber Security Self-Defense: We support “hack-backs,” defined as counterattacks aimed at disabling or collecting evidence against a perpetrator, as a legitimate form of self-defense of persons and organizations in order to ensure their cyber security. The right to defend oneself in our current era must be expanded in order to preserve the safety, property, and livelihood of Texans.

Finance

Spending Restraint

75. Government Spending and Taxation: We believe in the principles of constitutionally limited government based on federalist principles. To this end, we encourage our elected officials at all levels of government to work to reverse the current trend of expanding government and the growing tax and debt burdens placed on “We the People.” Government spending is out of control at the federal, state, and local levels, and action is needed to reduce spending, and therefore taxation, at all levels.

76. State Fiscal Restraint: We urge the Legislature to amend the Texas Constitution and State statute with a stricter spending limitation based on US Census population growth plus inflation, as measured by the Consumer Price Index, and apply the new limit to Texas’s total government budget. We call on the Texas State Legislature to freeze State spending until wasteful programs have been eliminated, a sustainable size of government has been restored, and substantive property tax relief has been provided to Texas citizens. Any budget surplus shall be applied to property tax relief.

77. Economic Stabilization Fund: We oppose the use of the Economic Stabilization Fund (Rainy Day Fund) to expand government. Use of the Economic Stabilization Fund shall be limited to its intended purposes of preventing tax increases during economic downturns and responding to unforeseen disasters.

78. Government Pensions: The Texas Legislature shall enact new rules to begin to transition government pensions for public sector employees from a defined benefit pension to a defined contribution retirement plan similar to a 403(b).

79. Gambling: We oppose any expansion of gambling, including legalized casino gambling, and [require the repeal of any exemptions currently found in the penal code](#). We oppose and call for a veto of any budget that relies on expansion of legalized gambling as a method of finance. [We oppose any legislator who accepts any contributions from any entity promoting the expansion of gambling.](#)

80. Truth in Taxation: We urge that taxes established for a particular purpose shall not be used for any other purpose. Tax revenue derived from gasoline taxes and all other taxes/fees on our vehicles (including vehicle sales tax) shall only be used for road construction and maintenance, and shall not be diverted to any other use, including mass transit, rail, restrictive lanes, and bicycle paths.

81. Public Posting: We support all government entities compiling and publicly posting their current debt, future obligations, financial statements, check registers, and all government contracts on their official websites.

82. Repeal Taxes: We support abolishing the following:

a. Estate tax (commonly known as the Death Tax).

b. Inventory taxes.

- c. Business franchise taxes.
- d. Taxes on phone and internet services.
- e. Affordable Care Act Home Sales Tax.

83. Federal Taxes: We support a flat tax or the replacement of the income tax with a consumption tax that reduces the overall tax burden.

84. Let Texans Run Texas: The Texas Legislature shall pass legislation that prohibits political subdivisions of Texas and State agencies from accepting federal funds that violate Texas law.

85. Impact Fees: We support the use of impact fees by counties, municipalities, and school districts to ensure that new growth pays for the impact on governmental services without forcing the current residents to subsidize newcomers moving in.

86. Higher Education Spending Control: We support freezing public spending on State higher education until waste and administrative costs are reduced.

School Finance and Property Taxation

87. Defund Big Government, Not the Police: Any large city or county that cuts its police budget by more than 10% should be required to cut its property tax revenue by the same or greater percentage.

88. Management Districts: We oppose the creation of management or special purpose districts with the authority to impose taxes and bonded debt, and we oppose the use of eminent domain by these districts.

89. Permanent School Fund: We support saving the Permanent School Fund for future generations and oppose raiding it or using it as a source of additional funding for the State budget. We oppose any effort to remove State Board of Education authority over the Fund, whose constitutionally intended purpose is to fund SBOE-approved instructional materials.

90. Axe the Property Tax: We support replacing the property tax system for businesses and individuals with an alternative other than the income tax and requiring voter approval to increase the overall tax burden. We urge the Legislature to immediately develop and implement a transition plan that is a net tax cut.

91. Property Tax Relief: We support these incremental steps toward the ultimate abolition of property tax:

- a. Dedicate surpluses to buy down school district maintenance and operation property tax.
- b. Replace the appraisal system with a system that values property at the purchase price.
- c. Require appraisal districts to publish the amount of property taxes and appraisals attributable to each rental unit.
- d. Close the loophole called the "Unused Increment Rate," which allows taxing entities to bypass recently added limits to increases in property taxes.

[e. Reduce the wait time from the current 5 year wait, to ONE YEAR, in order to receive approval of the Texas Agriculture Property Tax Exemption for small farms & ranches.](#)

92. Bonds Create Bondage: We urge the Texas Legislature to amend the Texas Election Code to require bond issues be approved by a 2/3 majority of those voting and only if 20% of all registered voters in the district cast ballots. Taxpayer standing must be established to allow taxpayers to hold government entities accountable.

93. Administrative Bloat Is Not Transformative: We call on Texas school administrators to deliver more education for our dollars, instead of nonstop lobbying for more dollars for education. At a minimum, 65% of revenue should be spent in the classroom. We oppose the underhanded strategy of making cuts to visible frontline teaching positions instead of administrators and overhead.

Opposition to Market-Distorting Tax and Fiscal Subsidies

94. Property Tax Abatements: We support repealing Tax Code Chapter 312 county and municipal property tax abatements, and we oppose reintroducing school property tax abatements, formerly known as Chapter 313.

95. Bailouts and Subsidies: We encourage government to divest its ownership of all businesses that should be run in the private sector. We oppose all bailouts of and subsidies to domestic and foreign government entities, states, and for all businesses, public and private.

96. Eliminate Federal Activity: We call upon the Federal Government to stop the following:

a. Community Reinvestment Act.

b. Funding for the Corporation for Public Broadcasting.

c. Ownership of or insurance related to Federal National Mortgage Association (Fannie Mae), Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation (Freddie Mac), and SLM Corporation (Sallie Mae).

97. Special Funds: We urge the Texas Legislature to abolish the Special Events Trust Fund program, the Texas Enterprise Fund, and the Moving Image Industry Incentive Program.

98. Pro Stadiums: Tax dollars shall not be used to fund the building of stadiums for professional or semi-professional sports teams.

Transparency and Oversight

99. End the Fed: We support abolishing the Federal Reserve. Until that is accomplished, we support additional accountability and transparency for the Federal Reserve System, including regular performance audits.

100. Right to Use Cash and Cash Substitutes: We support adding the following protection to the Texas Bill of Rights: The right of the people to own, hold, and use a mutually agreed upon medium of exchange, including cash, coin, bullion, digital currency, or scrip, when trading and contracting for goods and services shall not be infringed. No government shall prohibit or encumber the ownership or holding of any form or amount of money or other currency. This amendment shall not be construed to restrain the State of Texas from choosing the mediums of exchange it will accept or reject in payments to it.

Education

Parents' Rights

101. School Choice: Texas families shall be empowered to choose from public, private, charter, or homeschool options for their children's education, and the funding shall follow the student without strings attached. We also support tax credits and exemptions for education and choice within the public school system.

102. No Regulation of Homeschooling or Private School Curriculum: We oppose any attempt to regulate homeschooling or the curriculum of private or religious schools.

103. Parents' Rights in Education: Parents are the primary educators and disciplinarians of their children, to which all other entities are inferior. The fundamental rights of parents to make decisions regarding the upbringing and control of their children in all aspects, but especially in all aspects of the Texas education system, shall be recognized, affirmed, and protected by changes to the Texas Constitution and Texas Law, including codifying the protections currently existing in the Texas Family and Education Codes. No public service entity nor its agents, district personnel, community partners, or District Board of Trustees shall infringe upon these rights.

104. Enforcement of Parental Rights: Parents need more effective mechanisms to enforce their rights in education. We support creation of impartial ombudsmen in both general education and special education. We call on the Legislature to establish laws to allow for appeals beyond the school district when parents file grievances to protect their rights as well as a process to administer penalties to districts and their personnel

who violate those rights. Enforcements must include criminal, civil, and other enforcement measures while giving the state and private citizens a right to sue outside of the local grievance process with expedited enforcement. We call for development of a Parent's Right to Know and Consent booklet that contains pertinent state and federal law. The federal Pupil Protection Rights Amendment and the Children's Internet Protection Act shall be codified in Texas law, so that additional state protections for students with disabilities are included. We call for reforms to the Disciplinary Alternative Education Program (DAEP) placement to protect parents' rights and ensure that placement is reserved only for serious offenses.

105. Sexual Education: We demand the State Legislature pass a law prohibiting the teaching of sex education, sexual health, or sexual choice or identity in any public school in any grade whatsoever, or disseminating or display, or permitting the dissemination by any party of any material or symbols regarding the same. All school districts, individual schools, or charter schools are prohibited from contracting with or making any payment to any third party for material concerning any of the above topics. Until this prohibition goes into effect, sexual education shall only utilize sexual risk avoidance programs and promote abstinence outside of marriage. Before a student may be provided with human sexuality or family planning instruction, the district must obtain the written consent of the student's parent or guardian [Opt-In status].

106. Inappropriate and/or Harmful Content: We request that the Texas Legislature pass legislation that requires Texas schools and libraries to filter inappropriate and/or harmful content, such as pornography, for minors. Operators of adult sex entertainment businesses and venues, adult entertainment of any kind, including Drag Queen Story Hour, shall not be part of educational programming in public schools, libraries, or any other taxpayer-funded program for children. We support passage of a law more comprehensive than the Florida law that prohibits instruction in sexual orientation and gender identity in public schools. We advocate for those who violate any of the above to have their educator's certification revoked and be prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law where appropriate.

107. Healthcare in Public Schools: Legislators shall prohibit reproductive healthcare services, including counseling, referrals, and distribution of condoms and contraception through public schools. We support parents' right to choose, without penalty, which medications are administered to their minor children. We support informed consent of parents before any school-based mental health assessments or interventions are performed.

108. Religious Freedom and Public Schools: We urge school administrators and officials not to infringe on Texas school students' and staffs' rights to pray and engage in religious speech, individually or in groups, on school property without government interference. We urge the Legislature to end censorship of discussion of religion in our founding documents and encourage discussing those documents, including the Bible as their basis. Students have the right to exhibit religious items on school property.

109. Education Transparency: We support requiring Texas public schools to be fully transparent with parents regarding everything to which their child is or will be exposed, without exception. We require that copyright and competitive advantage are not acceptable reasons to withhold information from a parent or taxpayer.

Curriculum

110. Instructional Excellence: The educational system should focus on imparting essential academic knowledge, understanding why Texas and America are exceptional and have positively contributed to our world, and while doing so, also offer enrichment subjects that bless students' lives. Curriculum of Instructional Excellence shall include the following:

- a. Language arts, with phonics-based reading instruction, spelling, literature, and writing.
- b. Civics, which includes passing the US Citizenship and Immigration Services test.
- c. Mathematics, which has correct answers and focuses on how to arrive at them.
- d. Science.

e. Social Studies, including geography, economics, US and World History. Such instruction shall focus on American exceptionalism and the benefits of the free-enterprise system and includes instruction on the consistent failures of socialism and communism.

f. We support education in the arts and music and building critical thinking skills, including logic, rhetoric, and analytical sciences. We support quality vocational educational training that imparts skills needed by local employers and leads to meaningful post-graduation employment.

111. Founding Documents in High School: We support a high school level curriculum (rather than 8th grade level) for the study of American history (pre-1877) that is heavily weighted toward the study of original founding documents, including the Declaration of Independence, the United States Constitution, the Constitutional Convention, the Federalist Papers, and Founders' writings.

112. American Identity: We favor strengthening our common American identity, which includes the contribution and assimilation of diverse racial and ethnic groups. We reject Critical Race Theory as a post-Marxist ideology that seeks to undermine the system of law and order itself and to reduce individuals to their group identity alone. We support legislation to remove this ideology from government programs, including education involving race, discrimination, and racial awareness. To facilitate the appreciation of our American identity, the contrast between freedom and the tyrannical history of socialism/communism throughout history must be taught. Students shall pledge allegiance to the United States and Texas flags daily to instill patriotism. Students have the right to display patriotic items on school property. Schools shall have the options to display the National Motto "In God We Trust."

113. Scientific Theories: We support objective teaching of scientific theories, such as life origins and climate change. These shall be taught as challengeable scientific theories subject to change as new data is produced. Teachers and students shall discuss the strengths and weaknesses of these theories openly, without fear of retribution or discrimination of any kind.

114. National Core Curriculum: We oppose the use of national or international standards in the State of Texas (i.e., International Baccalaureate, Common Core, [Social Emotional Learning](#), TEKS Resource System (formerly CSCOPE), United Nations Inclusion, National Sexuality Education Standards, and SIECUS, etc.) We also oppose the modification of college entrance exams to reflect any national core philosophies. Any school district that violates state law banning the use of a national core curriculum or standards shall lose all state funding until said curricula or standards are removed and no longer utilized in classrooms.

115. Bilingual Education: We encourage non-English-speaking students to transition, via best practices, to English within two years, allowing them to quickly assimilate and succeed in American society.

116. Oversight of Instructional Materials: All instructional materials paid for with state funds shall be vetted by the elected State Board of Education, and we oppose appropriation of state funds for instructional content that has not been approved by the SBOE. This approval process must continue to include public review, hearings, and the right to have factual errors corrected. We call on local districts to hold public hearings before deciding which instructional materials they will use including supplemental materials and programs. We call for the repeal of the big tech corporate welfare bill (Senate Bill 6, 82nd Legislature, 1st Called Session), which created a loophole around SBOE approval allowing progressive propaganda and Common Core-based materials into the classroom.

117. Education on Humanity of the Pre-born Child: Texas students shall learn about the Humanity of the Pre-born Child, including life-affirming definitions of life and the study of life, life begins at fertilization, milestones of fetal development at two-week gestational intervals, use of fetal baby models, witnessing of a live ultrasound, viewing the Miracle of Life type video, and (for high school students) the contents of the Woman's Right to Know booklet.

Governance

118. Abolish Department of Education: Since education is not an enumerated power of the federal government, we believe the Department of Education should be abolished, and the transfer of any of its functions to any other federal agency should be prohibited.

119. Elected SBOE: We believe that the SBOE should continue to be an elected body consisting of fifteen members. The SBOE shall be staffed out of general revenue. Their responsibilities must include:

- a. Appointing the Commissioner of Education.
- b. Maintaining constitutional authority over the Permanent School Fund.
- c. Maintaining sole authority over all curricula content.
- d. The state adoption of all educational materials. This process must include public hearings.
- e. Granting, revoking, or amending open enrollment school charters.
- f. Teacher and administrator certification. We call for the abolition of the State Board for Educator Certification.

120. School Security: We support passage of a statute, which permits local law enforcement to provide handgun safety and proficiency training for all educators, and allows LTC (License to Carry) holders to carry a concealed firearm on the premises of Pre-K-12 schools for security and protection purposes.

121. School Safety: We call for the repeal or revision of Senate Bill 393 (2013). We call for mandatory reporting to law enforcement of school children who have committed violent acts on school property.

122. School Boards: We believe locally elected school boards have a duty to ensure that the education provided reflects traditional Texas values and have purview over policy, curriculum, and budget. We oppose micromanagement guidelines, trainings, and governance policies that empower appointed superintendents at the expense of elected school boards. We believe university regents should also play an active role in the governance of their institutions and should not rubber stamp what university chancellors and presidents propose.

123. Withdraw from Taxpayer-Funded Lobby Groups Like TASB: Local independent school districts should sever all ties with taxpayer funded lobby groups including the Texas Association of School Boards (TASB), the Texas Association of School Administrators (TASA), and the Texas Association of Community Schools (TACS). Required training now provided by groups like the above-named organizations would instead be under the auspices of the State Board of Education, with funds appropriated for that purpose.

124. Enforcement of Open Meetings: We support requiring audio or video recording of closed sessions and allowing taxpayers to seek limited civil penalties for school trustees who violate the Texas Open Meetings Act. We believe an open meetings violation should be an affirmative defense to a charge or disrupting a public meeting.

125. Gender Identity in Schools: The official position of the Texas schools shall be that there are only two genders: biological male and biological female. We oppose transgender normalizing curriculum and pronoun use. We hold that biological men shall compete only against other biological men and biological women shall compete only against other biological women in athletics in the public school system of Texas and at the collegiate level.

126. School Health Advisory Councils: Until the legislature removes sex education from the curriculum of public schools, the State of Texas should adopt changes to Texas Education Code 28.004 to:

- a. Require every member of the School Health Advisory Council (SHAC) to be appointed by the Board of Trustees.

- b. Require at least 50% of the SHAC to be parents of students within the district, who are not related to district employees.
- c. Require at least 50% of the parent attendees to be present for business to be conducted and be open to the public.
- d. Require every school district to post:
 - i. SHAC meeting minutes.
 - ii. Full and fair disclosure of the contents of the human sexuality instruction.
 - iii. Proposed changes to health education.
- e. Close loopholes in order to prohibit contraception distribution and demonstration.
- f. Expand the grievance process to cover the entire section of Texas Education Code 28.004.

127. Foreign Charter Schools: Charter schools should have accountability and transparency to local parents, taxpayers, and the State of Texas, as do current public schools. We oppose public funding of charter schools that receive money from foreign entities. We urge the Texas Legislature to enact legislation that requires charter school operators and board members to be eligible Texas voters.

Higher Education

128. College Tuition and Student Loan Reform: College costs are out-of-control, and reform is urgently required, including the following:

- a. We call for reasonable limits on public university tuition and student loan borrowing commensurate with fiscal responsibility and current earnings in the student's field of education.
- b. We oppose mass cancellation of student loan obligations but support tax credits and interest rate reductions to ease the burden on students deeply in debt.
- c. We support requiring universities to share the risk of guaranteeing student loans, and universities with multi-billion-dollar endowments should guarantee their own student loans.
- d. We oppose in-state tuition and financial aid for illegal aliens.
- e. We oppose Robin Hood schemes that raise tuition for some students to give to others.

129. Fund and Support Western Civilization Instruction, Defund Political Correctness: We support the following perspectives and actions at Texas colleges, universities, and secondary schools:

- a. Like Hillsdale College, we agree that state universities "should value the merit of each unique individual, rather than succumbing to the discriminatory trend of so-called social justice and multicultural diversity, which judges individuals not as individuals, but as members of a group which pits one group against other competing groups in divisive power struggles."
- b. We oppose any state formula funding or graduation requirements for divisive curricula inconsistent with the above, including Marxist, anti-American, Critical Race Theory, multiculturalism, or diversity-equity-inclusion courses.
- c. We oppose using public funds for homosexuality, transgender, or diversity-equity-inclusion centers.
- d. Public universities should be required to create a comprehensive program of instruction in Western Civilization, American Institutions, and free-market liberty principles, with centers and funding dedicated to that task.
- e. Public universities should be required to comply with the above before tuition or state appropriations are increased.

130. Campus Speech: We urge the Texas Legislature to recognize the rights of those on college campuses to practice their faith and their right to free speech. We support withdrawal of public funding from any college or university within this state that actively or passively discriminates or permits discrimination against the free speech of either students or guest speakers. Student groups shall have the unfettered right to elect their leaders, choose their members, and set their organization's mission, purpose, and standard of conduct.

131. Tenure: We support abolishing the system of tenure in academia and advocate replacing it with a merit-based system for teacher retention.

132. Equal Access: All Texas students shall have equal access to all state-supported university admissions, grants, scholarships, and loans, based upon measurable academic criteria. We support the suspension of federal funding from universities that prohibit military recruitment on campus. We support allowing home-school and private school students to compete as individuals in UIL academic competitions and be eligible for associated scholarships.

133. Medical Students' Religious Liberty: All persons have the right of conscience and shall be protected under Texas law if they conscientiously object to participate in practices that conflict with their moral or religious beliefs. This includes, but is not limited to, abortion, including any requirement for a medical resident or physician to perform an elective abortion on an opt-out basis instead of an opt-in basis, the prescription for and dispensing of drugs with abortifacient potential, human cloning, embryonic stem cell research, eugenic screenings, genetic engineering, euthanasia, assisted suicide, harmful futile procedures, vaccines, and the withdrawal of nutrition and hydration.

Health and Human Services

Parents' Rights

134. Parental Rights and Responsibilities: We support the fundamental constitutional rights of parents to raise and educate their children, including their rights to direct the care, custody, control, upbringing, moral and religious training, and medical care of their children. Local, state, or federal laws, regulations, or policies that limit parental rights in the rearing of both biological and adopted children shall not be enacted. Parents have the God-given right and responsibility to direct and guide their children's care and moral upbringing.

135. Parental Rights of Dependent Adult Children: As long as parents are responsible for an adult child, through college or the age of 26 when children are on the parents' insurance, the parents must have access to medical information, grades, and other information normally afforded to parents of minor children.

136. Parental Consent: We insist on informed parental consent for all medical care, counseling, etc., for all minors.

Healthcare Independence

137. Medical Freedom: We call for an addition to the Texas Bill of Rights that explicitly states that Texans have the natural, inalienable right to refuse vaccination or other medical treatment. Therefore, the following are expressly forbidden even in an emergency or in a pandemic:

a. Since informed consent is a basic human right, any attempt to mandate, force, or coerce any medical test, procedure, blood and/or product(s), including vaccines or masks.

b. Our personal healthcare decisions are private; any attempt to use a citizen's perceived health, infection recovery, or vaccination status as a condition to maintain or obtain housing or employment or employee benefits, receive a promotion, attend any school, participate in internships, residency or other program requirements, or childcare, or access state services.

- c. Any school, public or private, or any health care provider withholding from a parent or legal guardian information that is relevant to the physical or mental health of the minor, to include information related to a minor's perception that his or her gender or sex is inconsistent with his or her biological sex.
- d. Any mandates by public, private, government, or medical entities for treatment, vaccination, vaccine passports, mask requirements, health insurance surcharges, or use of controlled substances of any kind.
- e. Any involuntary isolation or quarantine of anyone not experiencing an active contagious infection.
- f. Any withholding of the risks and benefits of a proposed intervention, including quantifiable adverse effects, that must be equally communicated and accessible to the patient or to a minor patient's parents or guardian.
- g. Any prevention of visitation to the ill when risks are acknowledged and mitigated according to patient and visitor choice.
- h. Any Nuremberg Code violations—including but not limited to the requirement that use of experimental use medications must provide full knowledgeable consent and be free from any form of coercion or inducement.
- i. Any tracing of individuals by cell phones or another means for any reason without an individual court issued warrant. We ask that the Contact Tracing Program, Workforce and Center Programs agreement be rescinded.
- j. Any requirement that a nurse practitioner can only provide healthcare to Texans under a delegation agreement with a physician in the State of Texas.
- k. Any holding of an individual against their will (or that of their parent or guardian) in a hospital or residential care facility or preventing an individual from changing their healthcare provider.

[l. Any denial of emergency or life-saving medical care based on vaccination status.](#)

[m. Prevention of the collection and use of directed blood donations.](#)

138. Texas Medical Practice Act: To protect the rights of both patients and physicians, the Texas Medical Board (TMB) should adopt the following provisions in the Texas Medical Practice Act:

- a. Protect the right of patients to choose natural solutions, including chiropractic care, to their health problems, as well as the physician's right to provide natural solutions for health problems.
- b. Protect physicians from interference from the TMB or the Texas State Board of Pharmacy in the physician's treatment plans or prescriptions.
- c. Eliminate confidential complaints against physicians.
- d. Eliminate anonymous medical witnesses against physicians.
- e. Mandate legal due process in all TMB proceedings.
- f. Allow physicians the right to have a complaint against them tried in a state district court, rather than in an administrative law court.
- g. Prohibit TMB members from working for insurance, pharmaceutical companies, or hospitals while serving on the board, to prevent conflict of interest.
- h. Prohibit intimidation tactics by TMB lawyers against physicians.

139. Medication Manufacturing: Medications and prescription drugs consumed in the US should be manufactured in the US for security, consistency, and reliability of the drug. We strongly encourage our state to promote private entities to initiate and sustain the buildup of the supply chain and manufacturing of the medical

and health products in this state to help reduce the costs and increase the availability of medical products to its constituents.

140. Labels on Medications: The labels on all prescription and over-the-counter drugs, supplements, and medical supplies must be required to show the country where manufactured or produced.

141. Medical Records and Informed Consent: We oppose any state or federal medical record computer database that stores personal identifiable records on citizens without their written consent.

142. Right to Try: We urge the Texas State Legislature and Governor to enact laws that protect patients' and their doctors' rights to have access to experimental or off-label medications and procedures that can potentially be lifesaving or improve quality of life without the Medical Board, Pharmacy Board, or Hospital Boards Interfering.

143. Healthcare Savings Accounts: All individuals shall be allowed to establish health savings accounts. Individuals shall be allowed higher annual contributions to health savings accounts.

144. Texas HSA: We recommend the creation of the State of Texas Health Savings Account, with funds in excess of those needed in the Rainy-Day Fund, for the purpose of enabling the state to develop reserves sufficient to exit the federal Medicaid program, which will not expire nor be utilized for any other purpose.

Government-funded Health Programs

145. Parental Safeguard: We support abolishing the Texas Child Mental Health Care Consortium, the trauma-informed care policy, school-based mental health providers, school-based or school-connected mental health interventions, and other public-school programs that serve to expand access to minors. Legislators shall prohibit all reproductive healthcare services in public schools.

146. Welfare Reform: We support the abolition of all federal welfare programs, as they are not an appropriate role of the federal government. Until such time, welfare reform should encourage partnerships with faith-based institutions, community, and business organizations to assist individuals in need. We encourage welfare reform in the following areas:

- a. Denying benefits to individuals who cannot prove citizenship.
- b. Reforming welfare programs to require recipients to work, learn, and train to move toward self-sufficiency.
- c. Reforming welfare programs to require recipients to remain substance-abuse free in exchange for temporary benefits not exceeding two years.
- d. Requiring all welfare recipients to submit to random drug testing in order to receive benefits.
- e. Requiring that money provided through the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) be used only for nutritious foods consistent with those included under the WIC program and be released only with a photo ID of the approved user.
- f. Implementing a non-monetary-based assistance program for providing supplemental food benefits.
- g. Removing prisoners from welfare rolls.

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

148. Oversight of Disability Claims: We call for stronger and more stringent reviews of disability claims to ensure that assistance is provided only to those truly in need.

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

150. Medicare Reform: Medicare should have a non-penalized opt-out for those who have health insurance through their employer and continue to work.

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

152. Home and Community-Based Services: In order to avoid costly institutional care and preserve families, we call on the Texas Legislature to invest in and fully fund home and community-based services (HCBS) as a pro-life policy, and to enact associated policy solutions to protect, preserve, and defend the sanctity and dignity of human life. We urge the Legislature to address any loopholes that fail to protect or provide appropriate home and community-based supports and access to care for children and people with disabilities. In addition, we ask that families be provided with information about life-affirming social and medical services available to them in Texas as alternatives to abortion and costly institutional care.

Mental Health

153. Caring for Citizens who Are Mentally Disabled: We urge the Legislature to continue funding and operating all state-supported living centers for mentally disabled legal Texas residents, and to continually seek common sense improvements to increase efficiency.

154. Mental Health: We support parents’ right to choose or reject, with prior written informed consent and without penalty, each medication and mental health assessment or survey administered to their children.

Homosexuality and Gender Issues

155. Homosexuality: Homosexuality is an abnormal lifestyle choice. We believe there should be no granting of special legal entitlements or creation of special status for homosexual behavior, regardless of state of origin, and we oppose any criminal or civil penalties against those who oppose homosexuality out of faith, conviction, or belief in traditional values. No one should be granted special legal status based on their LGBTQ+ identification.

156. Gender Identity: We oppose all efforts to validate transgender identity. For the purpose of attempting to affirm a person age 21 or under if their perception is inconsistent with their biological sex, no medical practitioner or provider may engage in the following practices:

- a. Intervene in any way to prevent the natural progression of puberty.
- b. Administer or provide opposite sex hormones.
- c. Perform any surgery on healthy body parts of that person.

157. No Taxpayer Funding for Sex Change: We oppose the use of taxpayer funds for any type of medical gender dysphoria treatments or sex change operations and/or treatments. This includes but is not limited to military personnel as well as inmates in federal, state, or local prisons or jails. Inmates must be housed according to their biological sex. No Federal, state, insurance, or probate monies may be allocated for the use of such treatment.

158. Counseling Methods: Therapists, psychologists, and counselors licensed with the State of Texas shall not be forbidden or penalized by any licensing board for practicing Reintegrative Therapy or other counseling methods when counseling clients of any age with gender dysphoria or unwanted same-sex attraction.

Substance Abuse & Addiction

159. Addiction: We oppose legalization and decriminalization of illicit natural and/or illegal synthetic drugs, and we support the exercise of a zero-tolerance policy with maximum penalty for illegal drug manufacturers and distributors. We also oppose any needle exchange programs. Faith-based rehabilitation programs shall be considered as a part of an overall rehabilitation program.

160. Cannabis Classification: Congress shall remove cannabis from the list of Schedule I and move to Schedule II.

161. Ban on Exposing Minors to Pornography Online: We call upon our elected leaders to compel any websites and social media sites displaying pornographic content in Texas to implement age verification for preventing minors from accessing the content, and to block or punish any such websites social media sites, and individuals that continue to make such material available to minors. Texas should require manufacturers to default to “clean” vs “explicit” toggles on devices activated in the state of Texas.

162. Pornography Crisis: The State of Texas shall recognize that pornography and pedophilia are public health hazards.

Life-Affirming Health Care Concepts

163. Conscience Clause: All persons and legal entities have the right of conscience and shall be protected under Texas law if they conscientiously object to participate in practices that conflict with their moral or religious beliefs. This includes, but is not limited to, abortion, the prescription for and dispensing of drugs with abortifacient potential, human cloning, embryonic stem cell research, eugenic screenings, genetic engineering, euthanasia, assisted suicide, harmful futile procedures, vaccines, and the withdrawal of nutrition and hydration. We call on the Texas Legislature to enact additional conscience protections for all healthcare professionals, including medical students, that are all-encompassing, enforceable at the state level, and protect against adverse action and retaliation taken against an individual.

164. Fetal Tissue Harvesting and Stem Cell Research: We support legislation prohibiting and criminalizing the harvesting, sale, and experimentation or commercial use of human fetal tissue, including for vaccines, which requires or is dependent upon the destruction of human life. We encourage adult stem cell research using cells from umbilical cords, from adults, and from any other means that does not kill human embryos. We also support elimination of public funding for embryonic stem cell research, research on fetal tissue, or human cloning. All products that use embryonic and fetal tissue in their production shall be labeled in the State of Texas to inform consumers, promote alternatives, and affirm the value of human life.

165. Alternatives to Abortion: We urge the Republican Party of Texas to support programs that provide assistance to pregnant women by:

- a. Protecting and increasing funding to Alternatives to Abortion Program.
- b. Ensuring women have medical insurance coverage up to one year postpartum, making it safer for pregnant women to give birth in Texas.
- c. Safeguarding pregnant and parenting college students from discrimination, ensuring access to educational opportunities, benefits, accommodations, and support services.
- d. Utilizing a reformed adoption process.

166. Discriminatory Abortion: We support legislation such as the Preborn Non-Discrimination Act (Pre-NDA) to close existing discriminatory loopholes that fail to protect preborn children suspected of having a "fetal anomaly" or disability, and we support legislation to enact anti-discriminatory language to apply additional protections to preborn children at risk of being aborted because of their sex, race, disability, or age of gestation, in addition to providing families with information about life-affirming social and medical services available to them in Texas, such as perinatal palliative care.

167. Planned Parenthood: We support completely eliminating public funding for, or contracts with, Planned Parenthood and any other abortion providers and all their affiliates. We oppose their digital or physical presence in our schools and other public institutions, as well as the expansion of their facilities in our

neighborhoods. We call for a State law prohibiting governmental contracts with abortion providers and their affiliates.

168. Human Embryos: We support the adoption of human embryos and the banning of human embryo trafficking.

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

a. Medical personnel may not deny care, change advanced directives, or originate directives for any patient without the informed consent of the patient or the patient's designate.

b. The Advance Directives Act is strengthened by requiring hospitals intending or threatening to withdraw life-sustaining treatment against the patient's wishes or their advance directive to continue all treatment and care for such patients pending transfer to another facility.

c. The discriminatory rationing of healthcare services premised on any aspect of the patient, including a patient's age, race, sex, disability, or perceived quality of life is prohibited.

[d. End of Life Financial Protection: We shall implement financial protections for patients under end-of-life care, to protect estates and eligible descendants.](#)

170. Repeal the Anti-Life 10-Day Rule: We support the pro-life priority as a legislative priority, and include therein a call for the Texas Legislature to repeal the unethical, unconstitutional, unprecedented, and anti-life 10-Day Law in Section 166.046, Health and Safety Code (Texas Advance Directives Act) and replace it with a truly life-affirming law that requires physicians to adhere to a patient's or surrogate's medical decision about life-sustaining treatment, and that provides for physicians who disagree with the patient's decision to transfer the patient to another physician or facility that will honor the decision to continue life-sustaining treatment. Such a law will guarantee due process and the right to life for vulnerable Texas patients.

Environmental Health

171. Toxic Exposure: We support the immediate implementation of the Toxic Exposure Research Act of 2015, which will ensure that the federal government will establish a database on all exposed veterans and their families.

Criminal and Civil Justice

Rights and Protections

172 Obscenity Exemption: We urge repeal of the Texas Penal Code "Obscenity Exemption" [43.24(c)], which allows children access to harmful, explicit, or pornographic materials under the guise of education materials, and 43.25(f)(2-3), which allows sexual performance by a child. The State of Texas shall repeal all Texas laws based on the fraudulent research by Dr. Alfred Kinsey [and return to common law.](#)

173. Civil Asset Forfeiture: We call upon the Texas Legislature to abolish civil asset forfeiture, independently or in partnership with federal authorities, and to ensure that private property only be forfeited upon a criminal conviction.

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

175. Location and Data Privacy: We call upon the Texas Legislature to protect citizens' current and historic technologically available location data by requiring a warrant based on probable cause or a legally obtained subpoena.

176. Hate Crimes: We urge the complete repeal of the hate crime laws, since ample laws are currently in effect to punish criminal behavior towards other persons.

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

178. Raise the Age: We call upon the Legislature to raise the age of criminal responsibility from 17 to 18 years.

179. Warrant Validity: The filers of search warrants shall be held responsible for the validity of the information used to obtain the warrants.

180. Pandemic Business Fines: We support prohibiting fines or imprisonment of business owners for operating their business during pandemics, and we call for the legislature to pass these protections into law.

181. Fraudulent Lien Filings: We support legislation designed to reduce fraud by requiring that the identity of the debtor on all liens be confirmed prior to filing by at least three methods, including but not necessarily limited to state ID, county records, and personal contact.

a. If property is sold for the purpose of tax lien settlement, the net proceeds above the debt, shall be returned to the previous owner.

182. Gain-of-Function Accountability: We call for the banning of gain-of-function research in Texas, which makes a naturally occurring pathogen more deadly or more infective. We support investigations and indictments of those who participate in funding, developing, introducing, or releasing gain-of-function pathogens.

Courts, Prosecutions, Restitution

183. Court Accountability: We support the right to inform the jurors of their common law power to judge law (jury nullification) as well as the evidence, and to vote on the verdict according to their conscience. Article 3, Section 2 of the Constitution defines the role of judges. We support Congress limiting the powers of the US Federal Court by invoking Article 3, Section 2, and Clause 2, by legislating exceptions and creating regulations to limit the cases for which the US Federal Court have jurisdiction. We believe district attorneys have a duty to seek justice for victims of all forms of crime and oppose policies that systematically decline to prosecute crimes.

a. All judges shall be required to state their rationale for their final decision on the record.

b. All courts shall be required to immediately validate and produce a mandatory Finding of Facts and Conclusions of Law for every substantive decision or final ruling in a case.

c. All courts shall be required to employ a certified shorthand reporter in all camera hearings, preserving the record in all transactions with the judge for any case.

d. The State Commission on Judicial Conduct shall be composed of 13 voting members either appointed by the Governor of the State of Texas and confirmed by the Senate and 1 member appointed by the Supreme Court, this latter member acting only in an advisory capacity.

e. The State Commission on Judicial Conduct shall increase its staff levels to reflect the size of the Texas Judiciary and maintain staffing levels within geographic regional boundaries to adequately address the number of complaints received on a yearly basis.

f. The State Commission on Judicial Conduct shall henceforth make public any and all complaints, findings, and conclusions, and additionally justifying all such findings and conclusions of the Commission, publishing these each month in an online format that is accessible to the public.

g. All courts shall be required to maintain and utilize audio and video in all cases, at all times on and off the record, preserving said cases in digital format made available without charge as a public service, and that parties with whom the suit occurs can access those video and audio recordings.

h. For the State Commission on Judicial Conduct Texas: Provide more commissioners from a Broader cross-section of qualified Texas citizenry. This means other than lawyers and other than appointed by governor. All rulings should be made public and the consequences.

184. Frivolous Lawsuits: We support further reform to discourage frivolous lawsuits. We oppose the abusive use of class action lawsuits and any law that allows government agencies to collect lawyer fees from the plaintiff when they win but not have to pay the plaintiff fees when they lose.

185. Bail Reform: We call upon the Texas Legislature to ensure bail in Texas is based only on a person's danger to society, risk of flight, and criminal history.

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

187. Human Trafficking Jurisdiction: The Texas Legislature shall pass legislation granting the Texas Attorney General full concurrent jurisdiction over multi-jurisdictional cases, to be limited specifically to those cases involving human trafficking.

188. Rule of Law Enforcement: We support rule of law and enforcement of laws, which maintain an ordered republic. We call for independent prosecutorial authority to prosecute crimes that maintain order (such as sedition, riot, official oppression, election integrity, etc.) to be delegated to a statewide officer such as the Attorney General. We oppose the December 2021 opinion of the Court of Criminal Appeals in State v. Stephens, which was judicial activism, and encourage the Court to reconsider this ill-advised opinion. We call on the Legislature to ensure that election crimes will be promptly prosecuted, even in counties with progressive district attorneys.

New Plank: Penalize Deep Fakes: Add additional civil penalties for creators of "deep fakes" for malicious, nefarious, or negligent purposes. We intend this to be an extension of existing laws.

Law Enforcement

189. Abortion Homicide Exemption: The physician homicide exemption of the Texas Penal Code Section 19.06 should be modified to apply only to nonelective abortions such as required to save the life of the mother.

190. Capital Punishment: Properly applied capital punishment is legitimate and should be reasonably swift, while respecting all due process.

191. Police, Firefighters, and Other First Responders Appreciation: We express our gratitude and appreciation for police officers, firefighters, and other first responders. We support them in the exercise of their duties. To that end, we support proper funding for robust training programs that provide them with intensive and comprehensive physical and academic training in the classroom and on the ground. We also support funding of proper mental health care and encouragement for officers.

192. Mental Health Support Backup: We support trained mental health personnel backup being provided to peace officers at all hours, day and night, in order to serve the public.

193. Protection from Arbitrary Stops: The Texas Legislature is to enact legislation to protect Texans from arbitrary stops, detentions, or arrests for only openly carrying a firearm.

194. No-Knock Raids: We call upon the Texas Legislature to improve no-knock warrant procedures to protect law enforcement and the community.

195. Oppose Riots: We oppose riots, vandalism, and looting and condemn such conduct. We advocate that each and every said criminal act be dealt with immediate arrest, imprisonment, and prosecution, to the fullest extent of the law and that those who have been found guilty of causing injury or the destruction of property be held financially responsible for restitution, including the withholding of any state provided benefits/entitlements if applicable.

196. Political Policing: We believe that laws should be enforced uniformly, that punishment should meet the crime, and that law enforcement should never be used to target individuals for political purposes. We oppose the targeting of police officers by progressive district attorneys. We support automatic and prompt expunction of law enforcement officials' records who are found not guilty in a court of law regarding job-related actions.

Family Law

197. Equal Parenting: We support legislation providing for equal and consistent parenting (possession and access) for every child, when both parents are fit, willing, and able, as it is in the best interest of the child.

198. Child Protective Services: We support reforming or replacing Child Protective Services, and we ask for any legislation that would support due process in family court proceedings, oversight of the system, and a jury determining the outcome of any case, if requested by either party.

State Affairs

Heritage Preservation

199. Alamo: The Alamo is a historical event to Texas and as such:

- a. Shall be remembered and not "reimagined."
- b. Texas's authority regarding the Alamo shall not be infringed upon by any organization or authority, including but not limited to local governments, the federal government, the United Nations, or UNESCO.
- c. Decision-making authority for the Alamo must never be removed from Texas.
- d. The custodians of the Alamo must be required to:
 - i. Affirm and emphasize the intrinsic significance of the 1836 battle in telling the story of the Alamo.
 - ii. Maintain transparency in finances and operations of the Alamo.
- e. Specific protection shall be afforded the site, including all land and existing monuments, particularly including the Cenotaph, which SHALL NOT be moved from its present site.
- f. We oppose any official action from a state-funded institution of higher education that disrespects the heroic actions that occurred during the Texas Revolution. We call for swift financial and personnel consequences for universities that cancel official Texas Independence Day celebrations or remove "Come and Take It" as an official slogan.

200. Heritage: We call upon governmental entities to protect all symbols of our American and Texan heritage, and therefore:

- a. We oppose governmental action to remove the public display of the Ten Commandments or other religious symbols.
- b. We support the Pledge Protection Act. We urge that the national motto, "In God We Trust," and the National Anthem be protected from legislative and judicial attack.
- c. We require that penalties be established for any form of desecration of the American or Texas Flag.

d. We support preservation of Texas history and historical sites.

e. We urge Alamo visitors to conduct themselves with decorum and reverence inside the shrine, out of respect for the sacrifice of the heroes who are honored there.

f. We call for restoration of plaques honoring the Confederate widows' pension fund contribution, which were illegally removed from the Texas Supreme Court building.

g. We support March 2nd Texas Independence Day being an official State holiday.

h. We support having all schools, state agencies, and public offices celebrate and honor Constitution Day on September 17th of each year or the preceding Friday or following Monday closest thereto.

201. Historical Monuments: We believe that all historical war memorials, including Confederate monuments, in Texas shall be protected from future removal or defacement, and we believe that those monuments that have been removed should be restored to their historical locations. We support the continuing allocation of funds that are necessary to preserve the USS Texas as a permanent monument to the ship, her crew of two world wars, and the history of the State of Texas.

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

Individual Rights and Freedoms

203. Data Privacy Collection and Sales: We demand that the Texas legislature protect data privacy by prohibiting the collection and selling of data and the enforcement of data privacy through private right of action. Schools shall not consent to data collection of minors on behalf of parents. Schools shall protect the confidentiality of students' identifiable information and codify federal privacy law.

204. Identity Theft and Data Privacy: The Texas Legislature shall be called upon to expand existing privacy laws and laws protecting identity theft by limiting the ways in which internet providers, schools, government entities both state and federal, and others may access, collect, store, and use the electronic communications, documents, metadata, and protected information of all Texans.

205. Religious Freedom for Business: We support the removal of laws and regulations that are used to force business owners and employees to violate their conscience, sincerely held beliefs, or core values. Properly defining public accommodation as understood in the Civil Rights Act of 1964 requires that we:

a. Prohibit any change to that legal definition by any federal, state, or local law to expand government control to restrict any 1st Amendment rights.

b. Proscribe any law that requires any private business or individual to create or provide a custom product or service, or any kind of expressive work, or to enter into a contract or be coerced into any speech that is not their own.

206. Religious Freedom of Speech and Practice: As America is "one nation under God," founded on Judeo-Christian principles, we affirm the constitutional right of all individuals to worship as they choose. We strongly believe in Religious Freedom and Freedom of Speech. Therefore, we demand:

a. The repeal of the Johnson Amendment, which assaults the free speech of pastors and religious organizations.

b. Protection of the 1st Amendment rights of any citizen to practice their religion and exercise their right to free speech in the public square, as well as in religious organization affiliations.

c. That Texas judges and legislators uphold and defend our God-given unalienable rights of religious liberty and freedom of speech, and we oppose any effort to intimidate and prevent Christians and other people of faith from exercising these rights which the civil government is required, by the 1st Amendment, to protect.

d. Acknowledgment that the Church is a God-ordained institution with a sphere of authority separate from that of civil government, and thus the Church is not to be regulated, controlled, or taxed by any level of civil government. Nor shall services or other church functions ever again be shut down or suspended by overreaching civil authorities under any pretext whatever.

207. Gender Identity—Government Policy: We support enacting legislation in the State of Texas ensuring that:

a. No government entity in the state shall be allowed to define for any private business or private entity how it must segregate its restrooms, changing facilities, or showers.

b. No government agency shall be allowed to require businesses to profess, espouse, or adopt specific views on sex, sexuality, gender, or gender identity. We oppose any attempt to criminalize or penalize anyone for the wrong use of pronouns.

c. Government agencies must guarantee that views and positions on these matters are not used as a basis to deny access to public accommodations, as defined by the Civil Rights Act of 1964, nor to deny employment, or discriminate in employment decisions, solely on the basis of a person's views on these matters.

d. We recognize that gender identity disorder is a genuine and extremely rare mental health condition and that denial of an immutable gender binary not only denies those with the condition proper mental healthcare but also leads to physically and psychologically abusive "social transitioning" as well as irreversible physical mutilation. We urge the State Legislature to pass legislation that requires adherence to sex identifications on all official documents that will be based upon biological gender, as well as legislation enacting civil penalties and fiscal compensation awarded with no ceiling on compensation to de-transitioners who have received "gender affirming surgery" as compensation for malpractice.

Family and Gender Issues

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

209. Protect Minors Until Age of Consent: A law shall be enacted to protect the rights of the individual until the age of consent is reached.

a. Prohibit sexual transition surgeries, hormonal blockers, social transitioning, or other treatments.

b. Protect against predatory sexual behaviors, including but not limited to "Drag Queen Story Hour."

c. Remove immunities or protections from school districts and personnel who participate in the sexualization of our children.

d. Require disclosure of the above offenses to parents or guardians.

210. Definition of Marriage: We support the definition of marriage as a God-ordained, legal, and moral covenant only between one biological man and one biological woman.

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

212. Nullify Unconstitutional Ruling: We believe the Obergefell v. Hodges decision, overturning the Texas law prohibiting same-sex marriage in Texas, has no basis in the Constitution and should be nullified.

213. Spousal Benefits: We shall not recognize or grant to any unmarried person the legal rights or status of a spouse, as defined in Principle #6 of the Platform, including granting benefits by political subdivisions.

214. No-Fault Divorce: We urge the Legislature to rescind unilateral no-fault divorce laws, to support covenant marriage, and to pass legislation extending the period of time in which a divorce may occur to six months after the date of filing for divorce.

215. Adoption: We encourage the Texas Legislature to remove as many barriers to adoption as possible and to make the process less intrusive while protecting children's safety and best interests. We urge the Texas Legislature to adopt the following steps to promote adoption:

a. Expand community-based care—Increase partnerships with local private and nonprofit charitable organizations to create a safer and more responsive system.

b. Require a guilty verdict before placing individuals in the Central Registry—Currently an unsubstantiated accusation of abuse or neglect can lead to Texans' being listed in a government database and cause them to lose jobs and suffer other penalties without ever being found guilty by a court. In some cases, even those found innocent remain listed on the database. No Texan shall be deprived of liberty or their right to earn a living without a fair hearing.

c. Expand service options—Improve care for families of children at risk of entering foster care by providing more choice and flexibility for family preservation services outside of the current state contracted services.

d. End hidden foster care—Many families are threatened and coerced into giving up custody of their child without ever going to court. Texas shall protect parents' rights and end coercive agreements by limiting CPS's ability to separate families without court oversight.

e. Repeal anonymous reporting—False reporting of families to CPS can lead to great harm and a large waste of resources. False reporting can be prevented while increasing the accuracy of reports to CPS by eliminating the option of anonymous reporting in favor of confidentiality. Professionals who must report suspicious activity shall be trained on alternatives to filing a CPS report and permitted to refer struggling families to community service providers.

We urge communities and people of faith to promote adoption and, for those not called to adopt, to offer assistance to families that can. We believe that, in the best interests of the family and child, the State of Texas should allow children to be adopted only by married or single heterosexuals.

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

Pro-Life Issues

~~217. Pro-Life: Until the abolition of abortion is achieved, we support laws that restrict and regulate abortion, including but not limited to:~~

~~a. Parental and informed consent, including the elimination of judicial bypass.~~

~~b. Prohibition of licensing, liability, and malpractice insurance for abortionists and abortion facilities.~~

c. Prohibition of financial kickbacks for abortion referrals.

d. Prohibition of late-term abortions.

e. Prohibition of abortions after the time an unborn child's heartbeat is detected.

f. Prohibition of the manufacturing and sale of abortifacients.

g. Elimination of causes of action for "wrongful birth."

h. Health insurance coverage for abortion services and abortifacients, which under Texas law shall be considered supplemental coverage and billed to the beneficiary.

i. Criminal penalties be attached to any entity convicted of selling body parts of aborted children or, excluding the mother, of conducting an illegal abortion.

j. Extend the private cause of action used in the Texas Heartbeat Act to all pro-life laws and policies in Texas.

217. Abolish In Vitro Fertilization (IVF): IVF involves the creation of and destruction of living human embryos. We urge the Texas legislature to pass legislation abolishing IVF. When IVF is ended, we urge that all living human embryos that are then currently in freezers be maintained by the state until every embryo can be thawed and implanted.

~~Minority Report: 217 Abolish In Vitro Fertilization (IVF): IVF involves the creation of and destruction of living human embryos. We urge the Texas legislature to pass legislation abolishing IVF. When IVF is ended, we urge that all living human embryos that are then currently in freezers be maintained by the state until every embryo can be thawed and implanted.~~

Or proposed compromise– See attached

217. ~~Abolish~~ In Vitro Fertilization (IVF): ~~IVF involves the creation of and destruction of living human embryos. We urge the Texas legislature to pass legislation abolishing IVF. When IVF is ended, we urge that all living human embryos that are then currently in freezers be maintained by the state until every embryo can be thawed and implanted.~~ We urge the Texas legislature to pass legislation abolishing that requires IVF centers and doctors to only create and freeze the amount of blastocysts the owners want to see developed into children and raise. When IVF is ended, we urge that all living human embryos that are then currently in freezers be maintained by the state until every embryo can be thawed and implanted.

218. Abolish Abortion: Since life begins at fertilization, we urge the Texas Legislature to abolish abortion (Elective Abortion is the premeditated killing of a pre-born human being by another human being) through enacting legislation that would immediately secure the rights to life and would nullify any and all federal statutes, regulations, orders, and court rulings that would deny these rights. Furthermore, abortion must be classified and prosecuted as a criminal act under Texas law.

Minority Report Wording Proposed – See attached

218. Abolish Abortion: Since life begins at fertilization, we urge the Texas Legislature to abolish abortion (~~Elective~~ Abortion is the premeditated killing of a pre-born human being by another human being) through enacting legislation that would immediately secure the rights to life and would nullify any and all federal statutes, regulations, orders, and court rulings that would deny these rights. Furthermore, abortion must be classified and prosecuted as a criminal act under Texas law.

219. Inviolability of Life and Fundamental Right to Life: All innocent human life must be respected and safeguarded from fertilization to natural death; therefore, the unborn, the aged, and the physically or mentally challenged have a fundamental individual right to life, which cannot be infringed. We respect the uniqueness of human life and oppose practices that corrupt human DNA, mix human and animal DNA, or other trans-humanist initiatives that do not respect the sanctity and uniqueness of human life. All humans are endowed by

their creator with sovereign rights of ownership of their person and DNA, regardless of any DNA modification, and claims to the contrary are invalid.

Land Use

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

221. HOA Governance: We support legislation prohibiting HOAs from using “policies” to bypass the process of residents’ voting on changes in deed restrictions. We urge the Texas Legislature to enact legislation allowing a simple majority of property owners within and subject to a homeowners’ association to dissolve the association. The Texas Legislature shall enact legislation to restrict developers from controlling the Homeowners Association more than 5 years and expanding the properties included beyond contiguous property. We also call upon the Texas Legislature to amend the language of that section of the Open Meetings Act that applies to HOAs to clearly require that every HOA that charges fees to residents be required to comply with every aspect of the Texas Open Meetings Act. We oppose HOAs’ limiting freedom of speech and assembly imposed on master-planned community homeowners.

222. Property Rights: Property ownership and free enterprise, the foundation of our collective wealth, must not be abridged nor denied by government. We support legislation to protect these bedrock rights. Areas of concern are: annexation, eminent domain (including foreign entities), property forfeiture, extraterritorial jurisdiction, seizure for public or private development, natural resources and conservation easements, groundwater and/or mineral rights, nationalization of lands, and the preservation of our 4th Amendment right to privacy. Property owners shall be notified of their rights regarding condemnation, annexation, or easement, and the condemner shall be required to petition a court of jurisdiction to show public necessity. Taking of property shall result in immediate compensation of fair market value to the owner. These issues shall be administered by elected officials accountable to voters.

223. Eminent Domain: The use of eminent domain must exclude the seizure of private property for private economic development or increased tax revenue.

State Governance

224. Campaign Contribution Limits: We urge immediate repeal of all limits on campaign contributions by American citizens to the candidates or causes of their choice.

225. Texas Independence: We urge the Texas Legislature to pass bill in its next session requiring a referendum in the 2023 General Election for the people of Texas to determine whether or not the State of Texas should reassert its status as an independent nation.

226. Prosecution of Election Fraud: We urge the passage of a constitutional amendment that gives the Texas Attorney General concurrent jurisdiction to prosecute election fraud along with the county District Attorneys.

227. Marijuana Remains Illegal: We oppose the legalization of recreational marijuana and offer opportunities for drug treatment before penalties for its illegal possession, use, or distribution.

228. Gun Free Zone in Texas: There shall be no gun free zones in Texas.

Government and Election Integrity

Government Operations

229. Sexual Harassment: We believe sexual harassment should not be tolerated. Elected and appointed officials must be held to a higher standard.

230. Government Authority: We believe any government authority that has the ability to levy a tax or fee or to appraise property on the people should be accountable to those who pay the taxes via the electoral process, from the local level to the federal level.

231. Federal Land Disposition: All Federal lands shall be turned over to their respective states, except for land specifically authorized in the Constitution (military bases, federal buildings, post offices).

232. Tax-Funded Lobbying: We oppose using tax dollars to hire lobbyists or paying tax dollars to associations that lobby the Legislature.

233. Texas Speaker of the House, House Committees, and Legislative Quorum: In the Texas Legislature:

a. We oppose the use of pledge cards and call for the Republican members to caucus after each November general election to determine, by secure secret ballot, their candidate for Speaker and Speaker Pro Tempore. We also call for the Republican members to vote as a unified body for their selected Speaker candidate when the Legislature convenes in regular session.

b. Texas House standing committees shall advance the conservative grassroots agenda, not that of special interests and lobbyists. The chairman and a majority of members of key committees shall support the conservative agenda. Standing Committees shall be chaired by the political party in majority.

c. Any legislator who purposely refuses to attend a legally scheduled session for the purpose of denying a quorum shall lose any chairmanship, vice-chairmanship, and committee membership to which he/she may have been appointed. The individual shall lose any salary for that absence period. Additionally, the individual shall pay back any earnings and cost of living allowances earned during that period.

234. Caucus Priorities: We urge the Texas Senate Republican Caucus and the Texas House Republican Caucus to adopt and publish a list of legislative priorities before convening each regular session of the legislature.

235. Sixty Day Rule: We recommend that the Legislature pass legislation to remove the constitutional provision that the House cannot take action until 60 days after convening.

236. House Calendars Committee: We call for changes to the House Rules that require the House Calendars Committee to vote on a bill within 14 days of receipt, or it is automatically put on the calendar. We also support automatic setting of a bill on the calendar within seven days if it is cosponsored by three-fifths of House members. We call for votes on each bill individually that is not set on the calendar, rather than killing a slate of bills at once.

237. Unelected Bureaucrats: We oppose the appointment of unelected bureaucrats, and we support defunding and abolishing the departments or agencies of the Internal Revenue Service (IRS); Education; Energy; Housing and Urban Development (HUD); Commerce; Health and Human Services (HHS); Labor; Interior (specifically, the Bureau of Land Management); Transportation Security Administration (TSA); Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF); National Labor Relations Board; Food and Drug Administration (FDA); Centers for Disease Control (CDC); Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC); Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA); and any other federal agency or department that is not authorized by the Constitution. In the interim, executive decisions by departments or agencies must be reviewed and approved by Congress before taking effect.

238. Sunset Commission: We support a majority citizen-led Sunset Commission.

Elections

239. Bond Elections: State and local bond election ballots shall be required to include the amount of debt currently outstanding, current debt service payments, current per capita debt obligations, the amount of new debt being proposed, estimated debt service for the new debt, and estimated per capita burden being proposed. The bond issue must obtain a 2/3 affirmative vote of at least 20% of registered voters in the voting jurisdiction. No public funds are to be spent influencing a bond election. We oppose bundling of items on bond election ballots and “rolling polling” for bond and tax rate increase elections.

240. Pay-to-Play Endorsement Slates: We oppose “pay-to-play” endorsement slates and urge Republican primary voters to exercise extreme caution regarding any endorsement or statement made in these slates. Slates shall include notice of the amount that was paid for advertising by the individual candidates so that voters can see that endorsements might be contingent on purchase of advertisement.

241. In-Person Election Voting: In-person voting shall be conducted as a single period of time of no more than three days with no time gap between the first day of Early Voting and Election Day.

242. Fair Elections Procedures: We support the right of eligible voters to cast a ballot in each election once, but we oppose illegal voting, illegal assistance, or ineligible persons. We support:

a. Allowing, by Open Records Request, a bit-by-bit forensic imaging of all electronic devices, including servers, at Central Counting immediately before and after each election. Logic and accuracy tests should be performed at random on selected machine that will be used in the election.

b. Vigorous enforcement of all our election laws as written and oppose any laws, lawsuits, and judicial decisions that make voter fraud very difficult to deter, detect, or prosecute.

c. Voter Photo ID.

d. Prohibition of internet voting for public office and any ballot measure.

e. That mail-in ballots must be requested and only granted to those that cannot physically appear in-person.

f. Increased scrutiny and security in balloting by mail, ~~including removal of Section 87.014 (d-1) of the Texas Election Code to require once again~~ requiring full signature verification with the need to rebut, regardless of whether paper identification numbers are on the application and ballot carrier envelope.

g. Felony status for all willful violations of the election code and increasing penalty for voter fraud from a misdemeanor back to a felony.

h. The constitutional authority of state legislatures to regulate voting, including disenfranchisement of convicted felons.

i. Changes to the appropriate sections of Texas law that would deny or cancel homestead exemptions, driver licenses, and License to Carry, if the addresses on those documents DO NOT match the address on the voter’s registration.

j. Consolidating elections to (including municipal elections that may be non-partisan) Primary, Runoff, Special called, and General Election days and locations. Prohibit all ranked-choice voting.

k. Sequentially numbered and signed ballots to deter counterfeiting.

l. Expanding the Attorney General’s staff for investigating election crimes and restoring the ability of the Attorney General to prosecute any election crimes.

m. The ability for civil lawsuits to be filed for election fraud or failure of officials to follow the Texas Election Code.

n. Allowing trained poll watchers from anywhere in Texas with local party or candidate approval.

o. Creating processes that will allow rapid adjudication of election law violation disputes as they occur and before violations can be successfully perpetrated.

p. Withdrawing from Electronic Registration Information Center (ERIC).

q. The flexibility to use and post video that documents the vote counting process, including video of each ballot

r. We shall use write-once data memory cards and shall use open-source software for auditing purposes.

s. Municipal judges should be elected.

243. Voter Registration: We support restoring integrity to the voter registration rolls and reducing voter fraud by:

a. Repealing all motor voter laws.

b. Requiring voters to re-register, if they have not voted in a five-year period.

c. Requiring photo ID of all registrants.

d. Requiring proof of residency and citizenship along with the voter registration application.

e. Retaining the 30-day registration deadline.

f. Requiring that a list of certified deaths be provided to the Secretary of State in order for the names of deceased voters be removed from the list of registered voters, with periodic checks on the voter rolls to ensure all currently registered voters are eligible. All list maintenance activities shall be publicly available.

g. Giving the Secretary of State enforcement authority to ensure county registrar compliance with Secretary of State directives.

h. Revising Title 19 funding to avoid incentivizing retention of ineligible voters.

i. Use any undedicated federal election funds received to improve the security of our online voter registration data.

j. Citizens of the state of Texas have a vast interest in monitoring of the voter rolls and voting records to verify the validity of data and our elections. Reduce this cost to a nominal fee not to exceed \$50.

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

245. Voting Rights: We support equal suffrage for all United States citizens of voting age. We oppose any identification of citizens by race, origin, creed, sexuality, or lifestyle choices, and oppose use of any such identification for purposes of creating voting districts. We urge that the Voting Rights Act of 1965, codified and updated in 1973, be repealed and not reauthorized.

246. Closed Primary: We support protecting the integrity of the Republican Primary Election by requiring a closed primary system in Texas. While we welcome people to join the Republican Party who support limited government and traditional values, we oppose campaigns to get liberal Democrats to cross over and move the Republican Party to the left in the Primary.

247. Redistricting: We support drawing districts based on eligible voters, not pure population. We believe districts should be geographically compact when possible. We oppose any redistricting map that is unfair to conservative candidates in the Primary or the General Election.

248. Republican Party Operations: ~~We support the election of Republican County Chairs by their respective County Executive Committees where they exist. We support removing the Republican Party of Texas from the Election Code.~~ We support the election of Republican County Chairs at the SD conventions. Each precinct shall receive one vote, to mirror the election of the State Republican Chair at the State Convention.

New Plank: All elections, including those for City and Schools, should be partisan. Municipal judges should be elected.

National Defense and Foreign Affairs

249. Support of Our Armed Forces: The men and women who wear our country's uniform, whether on active duty or in the Reserves or National Guard or Texas State Military, are the most important assets in our military arsenal. All current and prior military personnel and their families must have the benefits, healthcare, housing, education, and overall support they need. Injured military personnel deserve the best medical, mental health, and rehabilitative care our country has to offer. Veterans Administration monetary benefits shall match present national price index value in all programs.

250. Eliminate Illegal Immigration Magnets: Texas shall require proof of legal residency for obtaining a Texas driver license and enrolling in public school and shall require proof of citizenship for obtaining voter registration and public benefits. Texas shall require all employers to screen new hires through the free E-Verify system to prevent the hiring of illegal aliens and of anyone not legally authorized to work in the US, and to protect jobs for American workers. No tax dollars shall be provided for social or educational programs for illegal aliens. All existing laws providing for in-state tuition and nonemergency medical care shall be rescinded. All unverifiable foreign-issued identification cards shall be legally invalid in the United States.

251. Military Readiness: We support a military force of sufficient strength and readiness to deter any threat to our national sovereignty or to the safety and freedom of our citizens. We oppose gender norming in the military. Transgendered persons shall not serve in the military as a special class; no special considerations or medical treatment shall be required or offered. We are opposed to expanding Selective Service to include women.

252. Cybersecurity: As foreign and domestic threats to cybersecurity evolve, the State of Texas must upgrade systems and system security to meet these threats and share threat intelligence data among levels of government. The integrity of our state and local network infrastructure must be maintained.

253. Defeat Terrorism: We support an aggressive war on terrorism, including radical Islamic terrorists, which consists of cooperating with our allies and sanctioning nations that sponsor terrorists. We support the reasonable use of profiling, the prosecution of national security breaches, and the revision of laws or executive orders that erode our liberties. We call on the Federal Government to designate the Muslim Brotherhood a foreign terrorist organization, and we call on governmental agencies to avoid and suspend all activities with all radical Islamic organizations, such as the Council on American-Islamic Relations (CAIR).

254. Designate Drug Cartels as Terrorist Organizations: We strongly support HR1700—Drug Cartel Terrorist Designation Act—116th Congress (2019-2020), introduced by Rep. Chip Roy, which would designate Trans-criminal Crime Organizations (TCO), identified as Drug Cartels, as Foreign Terrorist Organizations (FTO), with the intention of enhancing the policing policy related to Drug Cartels. Furthermore, we request that the State of Texas establish a Counter Terrorism Division that could enforce anti-terrorist laws to deter the trafficking of drugs and people, and any other illegal activity across our southern border.

255. Immigration: We demand that state and federal law enforcement officers enforce our immigration laws, implement an entry/exit tracking system for visa holders, and expedite hearings on deporting both violent and non-violent illegal immigrants and visa overstays. Chain migration and the diversity visa lottery shall be eliminated. We call for the abolition of the refugee resettlement program. Any form of amnesty with regard to immigration policy shall not be granted, including the granting of legal status to persons in the country illegally. Our legal immigration system shall be strictly merit based, and the total number of new immigrants should be limited to a level that facilitates assimilation.

New Plank: The sale, transfer, or acquisition of any real property in the State of Texas to or by foreign enemies. "Foreign enemy" is defined as any nation specified as a state sponsor of terror or geopolitical enemy of the United States as determined by the Federal Government or State of Texas. is hereby strongly opposed and shall be subject to stringent restrictions and further Investigation.

Border Security and Immigration

256. Border Security Funding: We expect both the Texas Legislature and the United States Congress to make a priority of allocating funds to effectively secure the border through whatever means necessary, including but not limited to barriers, a border wall, and/or fence everywhere along the border where it is feasible and useful, as well as personnel and technology over land, sea, and air. Texas shall seek repayment from the Federal Government for expenses incurred in securing the border.

257. State Self-Defense: We urge the Texas Legislature to invoke Article 1, Section 10, Clause 3 of the US Constitution, also known as the "state self-defense clause," which asserts that under an active invasion (as defined or declared by the Governor of the State or Texas Legislature), the sovereign state of Texas has the authority and duty to defend Texas citizens against "imminent Danger," not admitting delay, by any and all appropriate measures the sovereign state defines as necessary to defend from such assaults. We must immediately equip the Texas Military with the necessary tools and authority to serve and protect Texas State territories and citizens.

258. Interstate Border Compact: We urge the Texas Legislature to establish effective interstate compact(s) with other states for the purpose of securing the US border and enforcing immigration laws. 259. Sanctuary Cities: State and Federal funds shall be denied to any public or private entity, including but not limited to sanctuary cities, that are not compliant with immigration laws. The State shall prosecute the responsible elected officials of sanctuary cities/counties/states for obstruction of immigration laws.

260. Border Security and Immigration: We urge the implementation of state and federal laws to require that:

- a. Biometric identity of suspected illegal aliens be compared with a database of biometric identities of current and past suspected illegal aliens before further processing.
- b. A suspected illegal alien whose biometric identity matches biometric identity captured for a prior attempt at illegal entry shall remain in custody and the case expedited as a probable attempt at second or subsequent illegal reentry.
- c. No suspected illegal aliens can be transported across state lines until final determination of immigration status.
- d. Additional court resources shall be made available to expedite final determination of immigration status.
- e. Suspected illegal aliens of any age must remain in custody until final determination of their immigration status.
- f. Suspected illegal aliens whose final immigration status does not make them known legal residents to the US shall immediately be deported and shall remain in custody until physically removed from the US.
- g. There shall be no suspected illegal aliens released into the general US public, either directly or indirectly.
- h. Only persons known to be legal entrants shall be released into the US population.

261. Implement 287(g) Program: The Texas Legislature should prioritize legislation to incentivize and encourage the expansion throughout the state of the US Immigration and Nationality Act, Section 287(g) program, which allows local law enforcement officials to cooperate with federal immigration agents.

262. H-1B Visas: We call for the permanent end of the H-1B Foreign Worker Visa program in the interest of protecting American jobs, classified technology, and national security.

263. Aiding and Abetting Illegal Immigrants: We support revoking the 501(c)(3) tax exempt status of any organization that breaks state or federal law by knowingly aiding and abetting illegal immigrants. We support disbarring attorneys who knowingly aid and abet illegal immigrants.

264. Texas National Guard Deployment and Benefits: Congress shall not abdicate the war powers to the executive branch except when under imminent threat, and these powers are not to be used as a preemptive strike unless approved by Congress. The Texas National Guard should only be deployed to overseas combat zones under authorization of Congress through a declaration of war. The Legislature shall provide parity of benefits to the Texas National Guard, regardless of whether they are activated under state or federal orders. Parity would include but not be limited to the same benefits provided by the Hazlewood Act and also the same benefits as, or equal benefits to, those from the VA that would be provided by federal deployment orders.

Foreign Affairs

265. No RFIs from Bad Actors: The Office of Economic Development and Tourism does not accept requests for information (RFIs) from companies from those countries that have a poor human rights record and proven corruption, from communist countries, or from those countries sanctioned by the US Government.

266. Trade with China: We support a re-examination of our trading relationship with China based on America's economic and foreign policy interests. America should not be dependent on a communist country for critical medical or technological resources, including prescription drugs such as penicillin. Critical infrastructure such as internet or cabling, electrical or power, or water facilities should not be owned by Chinese or communist companies.

267. People's Republic of China Aggression: China's aggression in the South China Sea endangers international trade routes and infringes on allied nations' sovereignty. The cybersecurity threat posed by China continues to grow. We support the people of Hong Kong in their quest for freedom and democracy and call for China to honor its agreements with the United Kingdom.

268. Foreign Policy: We support a foreign policy that relies on peace through strength, putting America first, providing for our national defense, and avoiding foreign deployments or entanglements. We support foreign aid only to America's allies who share our values. We support a free-market economy, private humanitarian aid to developing countries, continued favorable treatment of proven allies, censure of adversarial entities that seek destruction of other countries, and strong policy on confronting terrorists. We strongly oppose religious or ethnic cleansing. We oppose US aid to any foreign entity that consistently votes against our interests or is openly hostile to our nation.

269. Foreign Defense: We oppose any action, military or otherwise, or any other involvement in a war that has not been declared by the US Congress.

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

271. Israel: We respect Israel's rights of sovereignty, self-determination, and self-defense, and therefore we support:

a. The relocation of the US Embassy in Israel to Jerusalem, Israel's eternal and indivisible capital.

b. Israel's sovereignty over the Golan Heights.

c. Israel's right to exist, right to secure borders, and right to the land secured by practicing self-defense from aggressive enemies.

d. Prohibition of a Palestinian state within the historical borders of Israel, as it would jeopardize Israel's security and it would force Israel to give up land that God gave to the Jewish people, as referenced in Genesis.

e. Israel's maintaining a qualitative military edge over any and all adversaries through continued support militarily, financially, and technologically.

f. Prohibition of the anti-Semitic Boycott, Divestment, and Sanctions (BDS) movement as a form of warfare being waged upon Israel, on all levels, including and especially on college campuses, at the United Nations, and by anti-Western nongovernmental organizations. 272. Taiwan: We call upon the United States to move toward full diplomatic recognition of Taiwan as an independent and sovereign nation and to renew our commitment to defend our security and vital economic interests in the Western Pacific region in the face of China's military provocations, which threaten its neighbors and critical maritime trade routes.

273. One World: The United States is a sovereign nation founded on the principles of freedom. We reject any assertion of authority over our nation or its citizens from foreign individuals or entities, such as the World Economic Forum, World Health Organization, and the United Nations. We reject the concept of a One World Government or The Great Reset.

274. United Nations: The United Nations is a detriment to the sovereignty of the United States and other countries; because of this we support:

a. Our withdrawal from the current United Nations.

b. The removal of the United Nations from United States soil.

c. The opposition to placement of US troops under command of the United Nations.

d. The rejection of all Agenda 21 and Agenda 2030 policies and programs.

e. The rejection of all related NGOs, councils, and environmental programs.

f. A zero-budget allotment of American tax dollars to any United Nations programs.

g. The opposition to any designation of World Heritage Sites in the United States and especially in Texas.

h. Withdrawal from the UN Arms Trade Treaty.

i. Withdrawal from the corrupt World Health Organization (WHO).

j. Prohibition of any Global Pandemic Treaty, International Health Regulations (IHR), or amendments to IHR that would infringe on our national sovereignty.

k. A credible, impartial, and international investigation into the WHO's and China's actions regarding the COVID-19 pandemic.

l. Withdrawal from the UN International Baccalaureate Organization.

m. The rejection of the ratification of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child.

n. The rejection of any attempt to allow the United Nations or any other foreign entity to levy taxes on the United States or its citizens.

Resolutions:

Referred to SD 8 Convention without comment.

Endorsement Policy:

BE IT RESOLVED, the RPT should eliminate the ability of the State RPT or the SREC to endorse or recommend any candidates running in nonpartisan races especially where more than one Republican is running for the same office and strikes Standing Rule 3 in its entirety.

For The Committee's consideration to include without comment

Restore Republican Ethics:

WHEREAS The Republican Party actually cares about ethics.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Republican Party of Texas and the Denton County Republican Party will not support or conduct any business with any entities who owe fines to the Texas Ethics Commission until all their fines are paid in full.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, Any entity is prohibited from filing as candidate for office if they have any outstanding fines to the Texas Ethics Commission.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, Any entity is prohibited from being listed as a candidate's treasurer if they have any outstanding fines to the Texas Ethics Commission.

Minority Report for Plank 217 included below.

Minority Report on Plank 217

The following new plank passed the SD8 resolutions committee by a slim majority.

Plank 217. Abolish In Vitro Fertilization (IVF): IVF involves the creation of and destruction of living human embryos. We urge the Texas legislature to pass legislation abolishing IVF. When IVF is ended, we urge that all living human embryos that are then currently in freezers be maintained by the state until every embryo can be thawed and implanted.

The minority submits the following report for the SD 8 conventions consideration.

The organization that submitted this resolution is Christian in nature. When their spokesperson lobbied the committee, he laid out the following reasons IVF should be banned. First, it is their belief that fertilized eggs are children, and should not be in a freezer or destroyed even if they are not viable. They feel the destruction of them is taking a life; and IVF should not continue, in their words, “[because] it is not natural and destroys image bearers of G-d.” The authors also believe that if a couple has fertility problems, they need to pray that G-D “opens the womb” or adopt children.

First, let me deal with the religious aspect of their argument. We understand the authors deep Christian faith. They cited various bible passages to make their argument, and most of these passages are from the New Testament. Interestingly, the authors did not cite any verses that talk about where life is and begins. In Genesis 9:4-6 G-d tells Noah, “With its life, that is, its blood.” In Leviticus 17:11 The Lord says to Moses, “The life force of every living body is in its blood.” In Leviticus 17:14 G-d says to Moses, “For the life of all flesh its blood is its life.” Lastly in Deuteronomy 12:23 Moses tells the people of Israel, “The blood is the life” In those verses we see where G-d tells us multiple times where life is, it is in the blood. Blood doesn't start to form in a developing fertilized egg until 14 days of gestation. In IVF a fertilized egg is frozen six days after fertilization, when it is a blastocyst not an embryo. Scientifically speaking, an embryo develops within the amniotic sac, under the lining of the uterus. Whether you call them blastocysts or embryos Jews and Christians, who follow the verses I cited, do not believe they are life. Who are we, the Republican Party of Texas, to argue with them or the bible? Also how are we to know that IVF was not part of G-d's plan?

Second America is not a Theocracy. We have freedom of religion in the First Amendment. We also have many different faiths in our nation, each with their own doctrine on when life begins. So, people of one faith cannot dictate or force people of other faiths to believe what they believe. Therefore, to ban IVF because one faith believes it is not natural and wrong is unconstitutional. Third, the authors want the fertilized eggs currently frozen to be implanted in their owners, surrogates, or adopted. This is not as easy as the authors think it will be. Some of the owners may not be able to carry their own fertilized eggs because of complications from a previous pregnancy. The couple may not be able to use or get a surrogate, and others may not want their blastocysts to be adopted.

Lastly, 8-12 million babies have been born from IVF. If it were up to the authors, they would not exist. 6.7 million people have trouble conceiving naturally each year. Only 110,000 children are adopted in the US each year. 18,000 of those are babies. Currently there are 100,000 children waiting to be adopted. Clearly we have more people with fertility problems than children up for adoption. Without IVF, we will have a lot of married couples without children and less families. Also, if we ban IVF the US will have population decline. According to a Forbes 2023 article on the birth rates in the US,

“The U.S. fertility rate for 2022 sits well below the level needed for the current generation to replace itself. Birth rates have consistently fallen beneath that threshold, termed the replacement rate, since 2007, the CDC said.

A birth rate below the replacement rate signals some major demographic changes on the horizon, particularly slowing growth, an aging population and an economy that one day may struggle to find enough workers to fill key jobs and pay taxes.”

For all those reasons the minority on the SD 8 Resolutions committee ask the SD 8 Convention to remove the new Plank 217 that was passed out of the Resolutions Committee or amend it to the following.

Plank 217. ~~Abolish~~ In Vitro Fertilization (IVF): ~~IVF involves the creation of and destruction of living human embryos. We urge the Texas legislature to pass legislation abolishing that requires IVF centers and doctors to only create and freeze the amount of blastocysts the owners want to see developed into children and raise. When IVF is ended, we urge that all living human embryos that are then currently in freezers be maintained by the state until every embryo can be thawed and implanted.~~

Sources

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<https://www.hopkinsmedicine.org/health/treatment-tests-and-therapies/freezing-embryos>

<https://www.lovetoknow.com/parenting/parenthood/how-many-children-are-adopted-each-year>

<https://www.forbes.com/sites/roberthart/2023/06/01/us-population-flatlining-as-birth-rate-stagnates-in-2022/?sh=7eb52ffa131e>

Minority report for plank 218 included below.

Minority Report for the Amendment in Plank 218:

The members of the committee who voted against the amended language are opposed to the insertion of the word "Elective". Describing abortion as "elective" provides a loophole for healthcare and abortion providers to make claims that an abortion is medically necessary. We believe the word "Elective" should be removed from the new amended language.

218. Abolish Abortion: Since life begins at fertilization, we urge the Texas Legislature to abolish abortion ~~(Elective~~ Abortion is the premeditated killing of a pre-born human being by another human being) through enacting legislation that would immediately secure the rights to life and would nullify any and all federal statutes, regulations, orders, and court rulings that would deny these rights. Furthermore, abortion must be classified and prosecuted as a criminal act under Texas law.