

2018 Iowa Second Congressional District Platform Committee

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2018 Iowa Second Congressional District Democratic Party Platform

Statement of Principles

1. We believe the purpose of government is to act on behalf of the public good, to create and execute policies and laws that promote and protect everyone's human rights equally, to protect our shared environment, to promote justice, safety and security and to oversee the equitable distribution of resources, affording all citizens the opportunity to attain their highest level of social, cultural, economic, mental and physical well-being.
2. We value diversity. We are committed to the inclusion and full participation of diverse populations in our society, in the Democratic Party and in the democratic processes of government regardless of status within any protected class such as age, race, gender, religious belief, sexual orientation, gender identity, physical characteristics, associational preference, ethnicity, disability, illness or language.
3. We affirm our commitment to social and economic justice. Whenever the rights of any of our citizens are threatened, the rights of all are endangered. We take seriously the obligation to uphold the Constitution and the Bill of Rights, to preserve, protect and secure basic human rights, civil rights and civil liberties.
4. We believe in a society in which fairness and community are guiding values, where every person has an equal opportunity.
5. We believe the family, whether traditional or non-traditional, should be sustained and enhanced. We share, through government, the responsibility to assist those families who cannot adequately provide for their members.
6. We believe a full and rewarding life includes access to, and the opportunity to participate in and support the arts and humanities.
7. We reaffirm the separation of church and state.
8. We support military/veterans care.
9. We support candidates running as Democrats in the Iowa Second Congressional District who adhere to this Democratic Platform.
10. We demand that our governing bodies develop policies promoting sound energy practices, permanently protecting our environment, and addressing the problems of global warming. We cherish our land and family farms and deplore the concentration of food production in the hands of a few corporations. We recognize the fundamental right of all peoples to safe and healthy food sustainably produced.
11. We believe a healthy American economy depends on the dignity with which the American worker is treated. We affirm the right of all workers to bargain collectively and support organized labor. A sustainable economy and job growth depend on a positive climate for small business development. We support a progressive system of taxation.

12. An informed citizenry is essential for a democratic society. We are strongly committed to free public education and providing accessible, affordable, and lifelong quality education to all at all educational levels.
13. We are committed to honest and open government. The complexities of crime and violence demonstrate the need for multifaceted solutions involving legislation, education, community action, and personal responsibility.
14. We believe all people have a right to accessible, affordable, quality health care and the benefits of continued medical research.
15. We affirm the ideal of a world in which all peoples live peacefully with tolerance and good will toward others. United States foreign and domestic policy decisions should promote that ideal.

Statement of Issues

Labor, Economy, Commerce

Workers' Rights

We support

16. Raising minimum wage to \$15 per hour, regularly indexed to COL.
17. Local municipal control of minimum wage raises.
18. The rights of all employees to benefits including minimum 3-weeks paid vacation, 9 months of paid parental leave, sick leave, and health insurance.
19. Making all forms of wage theft and pension theft illegal with penalties and support to enforce the law.
20. Equal pay for equal work.
21. Banning employers from inquiring about salary history.
22. Laws requiring temporary employees employed over 90 days become a regular employee with benefits.
23. State prevailing wage on construction projects.

We oppose

24. Employment-at-will.

Collective Bargaining

We support

25. Reinstating/expanding chapter 20 protections for public workers.

26. Maintaining IPERS as a defined benefit plan, increasing funding, and allowing public buy-in.
27. Majority sign-up.
28. Employee Free Choice Act.
29. Making the hiring of replacement workers during a labor dispute illegal.

We oppose

30. Exploitation of prison labor.
31. Right-to-work.

Social Benefits Programs

We support

32. Expanding SBP benefits.
33. Fully funding SBP.
34. Public control of SBP.

We Oppose

35. FICA tax cap.

Wealth/Corporations/Taxation

We support

36. A democracy free from the corruption and influence of concentrated wealth.
37. A fair and just tax code that includes progressive taxation of capital, increasing the top marginal tax rate, and closing tax loopholes.
38. Tax audits of high income earners above \$300,000 and large corporations.
39. Estate tax on estates of \$2.5 million or more.
40. Increasing the earned income and dependents' tax exemptions.
41. Property tax credits that benefit low-income, veterans, elderly and disabled people.
42. Tax credits for renewable energy and energy efficiency.
43. The use of PLA by local and state governments.
44. Requiring satisfactory contractor safety records for bid submission on government contracts.
45. Reforming tax laws that allow people to sell real estate and then reinvest in farmland to avoid paying taxes.

We oppose

46. Tax incentives/loopholes which subsidize the export of jobs/profit.
47. All forms of corporate welfare, including tax incentives and breaks to large corporations.

Banking/Finance

We support

48. Breaking up “too-big-to-fail” banks.
49. USPS Postal banking.
50. Matching student loan interest rates with LIBOR.
51. Banning predatory lending practices.
52. Community lending, chartered banks, and credit unions.
53. We support a 21st Century Glass-Steagall Act.

We oppose

54. Tax hikes on credit unions.

Health and Human Services

Health

We support

55. Comprehensive, universal, single-payer healthcare for all, including but not limited to:
 - a. Reproductive health services,
 - b. Acute/LTC, community-based services,
 - c. Wellness/prevention programs,
 - d. Chemical dependency services,
 - e. Evidenced-based holistic/functional medicine/services.
 - f. Reimbursement rates for providers/caregivers equal to UCR,
 - g. Fully funding care and non-discriminatory treatment of all brain disorders/injuries,
 - h. Affordable or no copay medications,
 - i. Evidence-based Compound/Natural medications, Telemedicine,
 - j. Narcan/Naloxone for 911 responders,
 - k. Eliminating waiting lists for HCBS waivers,
 - l. Fully funded, statewide EMS Services,
 - m. Transgender healthcare.
 - n. Medical and assistive devices, vision, and dental.
56. We support low barrier access to clean needles through a harm reduction-based program.

We oppose

57. Any compromise to single-payer.
58. Privatization of Medicare/Medicaid.

Mental Health

We support

- 59. Mental Health services for all.
- 60. Fully funding jail diversion programs.
- 61. Restoring/expanding MHI, regionally located.
- 62. Sufficient funding for CMHC.
- 63. Wellness programs/centers.
- 64. Suicide awareness/prevention programs.
- 65. Mental health training/awareness for 911/EMS responders and law enforcement.

Aging and Disabilities

We support

- 66. Reauthorization of the OAA.
- 67. Fully funded HCBS, VRS and service/therapy animals.
- 68. Mandatory substantive training for caregivers/family, with compensation.
- 69. Consumer representation on health/human services review boards.
- 70. Family/community support services, including transportation.
- 71. Expanding program flexibility/funding to permit home living choices and maintenance.
- 72. Strengthening/expanding the ADA.
- 73. AAA.

Children's Services

We support

- 74. NCAR and criminal background checks.
- 75. Before/after school programs.
- 76. Supporting former foster children when needed, until 26.
- 77. Kinship-care/foster-care parity.
- 78. WIC expansion.
- 79. Affordable, subsidized, regulated and inspected daycare.
- 80. Expanding DHS/Ombudsman oversight in foster care/adoptions.
- 81. Strengthening/expanding ASFA.

We oppose

- 82. Religious exemptions (medical).

Reproductive Rights

We support

83. Individual's right to reproductive health choices.
84. Emergency contraceptives/abortions access without parental consent.
85. Safeguarding clinicians, clinics and clients from harassment/violence.
86. Fully funding comprehensive family planning programs including Planned Parenthood.
87. STD screening.
88. Pharmacists to fill pregnancy-related prescriptions.
89. Accommodations for milk/nursing (not restrooms).
90. Roe v Wade.
91. Unrestricted access to abortion.

We oppose

92. Restricting access to medically necessary abortions.
93. Forced sterilization.
94. FGM.
95. Mandatory ultrasounds and coercive counseling.
96. Personhood for fetuses.
97. Provider/employer-based religious exemptions.
98. Conversion Therapy.

Medical Research

We support

99. Increase NIH and NSF funding.
100. Fully funding all research and treatment to include, but not limited to: Cancer, AIDS, Hepatitis, Alzheimer's/Dementia and Toxins exposure.
101. Funding Stem-cell research, including embryonic and gene therapy.
102. Economic valuation of prevention strategy.

Patient Rights and Consumer Protection

We support:

103. Death with Dignity Act.
104. Physician/Healthcare Provider choice.
105. Healthcare without religious discrimination/personal bias.
106. Legally accessible Medical Cannabis, and expanding qualifying medical conditions.
107. Evidence-based Medical Cannabis education for medical providers.
108. Effective (Fast Track) FDA drug-approval.

- 109. Vitamins/supplements labeling for side-effects/drug interactions.
- 110. Narcan, clean needle exchange, and methadone treatment accessibility.
- 111. Healthcare staffing based on acuity/care levels.
- 112. Increasing inspections of troubled SNF/ ALF/ MIMR.

We oppose

- 113. Prescription drug advertising.
- 114. Casino exemptions to ISAA.

Abused Persons

We support

- 115. National abuser database.
- 116. Preventing abuse/neglect.
- 117. 911/EMS responder abuse-recognition training.
- 118. Fully funding/training victims' services.
- 119. VAWA funding.

Assistance for Food, Housing and Homelessness

We support

- 120. Safe, decent, affordable housing for all.
- 121. Increase non-discretionary funding for food assistance programs.
- 122. Expanding Housing Trust Fund.
- 123. Mixed-income zoning.
- 124. Expanding HUD - Low-income housing.
- 125. Section 8 and 42 programs.
- 126. Funding Domestic Violence Shelters.
- 127. Increasing Homeless Shelter block grants.
- 128. Family/pet friendly "Wet" and "Dry" shelters.
- 129. Increasing funding for job/life skills training.
- 130. Funding transition programs.

International Affairs

United Nations

We support

- 131. Implementation of IBHR.
- 132. US participation in the UN and its agencies, full dues payment, without preconditions.

133. Full participation in UNHRC.

U.S. Policy

We support

134. U.S. adherence to international standards regarding humane treatment of prisoners of war and security detainees.
135. Immediate closing of the Guantanamo detention facility.
136. Reducing the number of U.S. military bases worldwide.
137. US adopt no first use policy with nuclear weapons.
138. US participation in free-trade only if trade is fair and provisions protect: labor's right to organize and negotiate a living wage; human rights, the environment, and economic interests of all countries.
139. The Paris Climate Agreement.

We oppose

140. Torture and extraordinary rendition.
141. Violence, suicide bombing, human shields, collective punishment perpetrated in support of US interests.
142. Military and financial support for repressive regimes.
143. US military over-reliance on private contractors.
144. Assassinations by drones without a state of war.
145. 2001 and 2003 Authorization for the Use of Military Force.
146. Initiation of major military involvement without congressional authorization.
147. Loaning, selling, trading of arms to nations with Human Rights violations.
148. US-sponsored coups and military juntas.

Israel/Palestine Conflict

We support

149. US effort to reach a 2-state solution to the Israeli/Palestinian conflict.
150. Israel's and Palestine's right to live within secure borders.
151. Health and welfare of the Israeli and the Palestinian people.
152. The Right of Return or just compensation for displaced Palestinians.
153. US pressure to end Israel's settlement activity on territory occupied in and after the Six-Day War, including BDS on products/investments from settlements.
154. An end to the Israeli/Egyptian blockade of the Gaza Strip.
155. Reducing or ceasing US military aid to Israel.

We oppose

156. Moving US Embassy from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem or US considering Jerusalem as the Capital of Israel before final resolution.

- 157. The Separation Barrier precluding Palestinian freedom of movement.
- 158. Israel's military detention of Palestinian children.
- 159. Anti-BDS legislation.

Middle East Policy

We support

- 160. Iran Nuclear Agreement.
- 161. Peaceful conflict resolution in Syria.
- 162. International multilateral humanitarian effort.
- 163. Accepting 100,000 refugees annually.
- 164. The withdrawal of all American military assets from.

We oppose

- 165. U.S. military involvement in Yemen, including the supply of military aid and arms to Saudi Arabia.
- 166. Military actions against Iran.

Asia

We oppose

- 167. China building artificial islands in South China Sea.
- 168. Chinese IP infractions.
- 169. Chinese occupation of Tibet.

Agriculture, Energy & Environment

Agriculture

We support

- 170. Economic assistance to beginning farmers.
- 171. Encouraging development/redevelopment within cities/towns to protect farmland.
- 172. Local control over environmental impacts of farming.
- 173. Legalize industrial hemp.
- 174. Ending hunger at home/abroad by 2030.
- 175. Require farmers pass approved water/air quality plans meeting state/federal standards to receive federal subsidies.
- 176. Cost-of-living indexing for SNAP.
- 177. Making permanent/expanding renewable energy tax credits..
- 178. Regulating GMOs.
- 179. Soil conservation.

- 180. CAFO moratorium.
- 181. Limiting CAFO impact.
- 182. Organic farming. Strengthening certification requirements.
- 183. Stringent regulations of agricultural/horticultural chemicals.
- 184. Protecting welfare of domestic animals; humane treatment of agricultural animals.
- 185. We support changing CAFO classification from farm to industry.

We oppose

- 186. Concentrated control of seed supplies, food production, processing and retailing.
- 187. Ag-Gag.

Environment and Energy

Water

We support

- 188. Strengthen/enforce clean water/water conservation regulations.
- 189. We support protecting water from industrial/agricultural waste; clean up costs of nitrate/phosphorus contaminated water to be shared by companies/farms that produce nitrogen/phosphorus runoff.
- 190. Prohibiting drawdown/contamination of aquifers/rivers/lakes/and groundwater for commercial purposes.
- 191. Prohibiting interstate/long distance diversion of water from aquifers/lakes/rivers to arid/drought areas.

Air

We support

- 192. 80% reliance on renewable energy by 2030.
- 193. Cap and dividend to reduce greenhouse gases.
- 194. Enforce and increase CAFÉ standards.
- 195. Provide incentives/grants for energy conservation/efficiency and carbon neutral buildings.
- 196. Subsidizing wind/solar/geothermal/biomass energy.
- 197. Holding companies responsible for direct/earthquake/indirect fracking damage.
- 198. Ban urban leaf burning.

We oppose

- 197. Fossil fuels/nuclear power subsidies.
- 198. Tar sands oil/Keystone XL Pipeline/Bakken Pipeline.

- 199. Re-licensing/construction of coal and nuclear power plants.
- 200. Fracking.
- 201. Deep water and arctic drilling for oil, natural gas, and minerals.
- 202. Sand mining for fracking.

Watershed and Natural Spaces

We support

- 203. Integrated watershed management and monitoring, including buffer zones, retention basins, aquifers, wetlands.
- 204. Restriction of clear cutting/ logging/mining/mineral and fossil fuel extraction on public lands.
- 205. Reducing nitrogen/phosphorus/pollutants.
- 206. Returning waterways to healthy conditions.

Stewardship

We support

- 207. Growth planning/sustainable development, creating livable, walkable neighborhoods.
- 208. Preserving farmland and sensitive/unique natural areas.
- 209. Regulating energy commodity speculation.
- 210. Sequestering methane/carbon/mercury.
- 211. Prohibiting mercury seals.
- 212. Banning non-biodegradable polystyrene/plastic bags, packaging, and straws.
- 213. Energy conservation education.
- 214. Programs for habitat and biodiversity preservation.

We oppose

- 215. Grandfathering the right to pollute.
- 216. Clear-cutting, mining, over-grazing, or fuel drilling on public lands/eco-sensitive areas.
- 217. Building/rebuilding on flood plains.
- 218. Removing scientific data and resources on climate change from government archives/websites.
- 219. Censoring scientists from publicizing climate change/scientific research.
- 220. Lead shot.

Government and Law

Campaigns, Elections, & American Institutions

We Support

- 221. Voter-marked paper ballots.
- 222. Banning Federal/State elected/appointed officials from becoming lobbyists within five years of leaving government.
- 223. Mandatory random election audits.
- 224. Automatic voter registration.
- 225. Paid holidays for Federal/State elections.
- 226. Publicly-financed elections.
- 227. Voting by mail.
- 228. Independent CEC.
- 229. Public disclosure of registered lobbyist contacts.
- 230. Free/equal media time for all candidates.
- 231. Public disclosure of political contributions.
- 232. Early voting.
- 233. Comprehensive congressional ethics reform.
- 234. All candidates releasing their tax returns.
- 235. Protecting elections from foreign interference.
- 236. Reinforcing VRA.
- 237. IRV.
- 238. The Johnson Amendment.
- 239. Iowa's judicial merit selection system.
- 240. Amending Iowa Constitution requiring full funding for co-equal judicial branch.
- 241. Government transparency.
- 242. Right of U.S. Territories becoming States.
- 243. Prohibiting Super PACs.
- 244. Posse-comitatus.

We Oppose

- 245. Voter photo IDs.
- 246. Citizens United.
- 247. Establishing an official language
- 248. Superdelegates.
- 249. Voter suppression.
- 250. Gerrymandering.
- 251. National constitutional convention.
- 252. Corporate personhood.

Civil Rights & Civil Liberties

We Support

- 253. Non-discrimination.
- 254. Separation of church and state.
- 255. CRA.
- 256. ADA.
- 257. Federal/Iowa ERA.
- 258. Universal habeas corpus.
- 259. Expanding government forms' gender options.
- 260. SSRA.
- 261. Equal LGBTQIA+ rights, including marriage, parenting, fostering, and adoption.
- 262. Public financing of all Public Broadcasting.
- 263. Sexual orientation, gender identity, and gender expression as protected classes.
- 264. Funding and staffing the ICRC.
- 265. Adequate funding for Iowa legal aid services.
- 266. The rights of individuals or legal entities to BDS any country or corporation.
- 267. Freedom of speech and the press.
- 268. Home Rule.

We Oppose

- 269. National ID cards.
- 270. Warrantless searches, electronic and drone surveillance.
- 271. "Enemy detainee" status.
- 272. Unreasonable search and seizures.
- 273. Imposition of religious liberty at the expense of other liberty.
- 274. Patriot Act and Freedom Act provisions violating Constitutionally protected civil liberties.
- 275. Favoring private enterprise with eminent domain or public asset sales

Criminal Justice

We Support

- 276. Legalizing, taxing and regulating all recreational drugs.
- 277. Criminal justice, sentencing, and incarceration reform.
- 278. Video/audio-recording of all police during arrest and interrogation.
- 279. Comprehensive sex-offender law reform.
- 280. Programs and laws to reduce human trafficking.
- 281. Specialty courts and community-based alternatives to incarceration.
- 282. Strengthening and enforcing anti-trust laws.
- 283. De-escalation and bias programs/training to improve police-community relations.
- 284. Independent investigators of police use of deadly force.
- 285. Fully-funding, timely rape-kit processing.
- 286. Elimination of the bail system.
- 287. Balanced funding for public defender and district attorney agencies.
- 288. Juvenile sentencing and incarceration reform.

- 289. Fair juror compensation.
- 290. Citizens' review boards.
- 291. HCPA.
- 292. Prisoners' human rights.
- 293. Civil asset forfeiture reform.
- 294. Laws preventing elder abuse.
- 295. Restorative justice programs.
- 296. Vacating past sentences for simple drug possession.
- 297. Contemporary Nordic inmate rehabilitation model.

We Oppose

- 298. Capital punishment.
- 299. Privatized prisons.
- 300. Militarization of law enforcement.
- 301. Religious/Ethnic profiling.
- 302. "Stop and Frisk" policies
- 303. Mandatory minimum sentencing.
- 304. Felony/inmate disenfranchisement.
- 305. Mass incarceration.

Consumer Protection

Support

- 306. Enforcement and strengthening of Dodd-Frank.
- 307. A foreclosure safety net.
- 308. Low income utility rates up to 150% of FPG.
- 309. Genetic patent reforms.
- 310. Fully-funding the FDA.
- 311. Banning using credit ratings in hiring decisions.
- 312. CFPB as a fully-funded independent agency.
- 313. Creating Public Iowa State Bank.

Oppose

- 314. Excessive collection/retention of personal data by government or private business.
- 315. Utility deregulation and privatization.
- 316. Predatory payday lending.

Government Services

Support

- 317. Secure ports, water supplies, and infrastructure.

- 318. Full Access to all public records including electronic records.
- 319. Adequate funding for rural county/city (emergency) services.
- 320. Increased funding for FVPSA and VAWA.
- 321. Ensure that federal fines/penalties collected under VOCA compensate the victims.
- 322. Fully-funding federal/state mandates.

Oppose

- 323. Privatizing/outsourcing government services/assets.
- 324. Privatizing the USPS and retirement pre-funding requirement.

Gun Safety

Support

- 325. Banning semi-automatic weapons that fire high-velocity rounds, high capacity magazines, bump stocks, and silencers.
- 326. "Gun-free zones."
- 327. Closing "gun show loopholes."
- 328. The right to prohibit firearms on one's property.
- 329. "Armed and Angry" law.
- 330. Updating/amending the 2nd Amendment.
- 331. A minimum age requirement of 21 years for the purchase of guns.
- 332. Firearm licensing, mandatory safety training, national background checks, registration, waiting periods, and county sheriff discretion with just cause when issuing weapon permits.
- 333. Mandatory liability insurance for gun/ammunition owners, sellers, manufacturers.

Oppose

- 334. The Dickey Amendment.
- 335. "Stand your ground" laws.
- 336. "Open carry."
- 337. Gun ownership for domestic violence offenders.
- 338. Civilian Firearms in public buildings.
- 339. NCCR.

Immigration

Support

- 340. Expanding the guest worker program to provide the same labor/consumer rights as a US citizen.
- 341. Iowa as a Sanctuary State.

- 342. Sanctuary cities.
- 343. Expanding adult and minor refugee and asylum-seeker resettlement programs, and honoring international commitments.
- 344. DACA.
- 345. DAPA.
- 346. DREAM.
- 347. Immigration reform eliminating biases, reflecting skills needs emphasizing family reunification, respecting national security needs, and providing quicker/clearly-defined pathways to citizenship.
- 348. Driver licenses/vehicle registration for undocumented immigrants.
- 349. Judicial review for visa denial/removal orders.
- 350. Expedited admission of Syrian/Yemeni refugees.
- 351. Reinstating Governor Robert D. Ray's refugee programs.

Oppose

- 352. Mass raids and related enforcement practices.
- 353. Religious criteria for exclusion.
- 354. Immigrant detention.
- 355. Deportation quotas.
- 356. Border walls.
- 357. "Papers please" laws.
- 358. Unnecessary travel bans.

Internet and Telecommunications

Support

- 359. Net neutrality
- 360. Online privacy rights
- 361. Universal HSIA
- 362. FTC authority to restrict harmful/deceptive advertising to children.
- 363. Timely notification by data owner of PII compromise.
- 364. Publicly-owned HSIA.
- 365. Modernized "Fairness Doctrine."

Oppose

- 366. Censoring the Internet.
- 367. NSA bulk data collection.
- 368. Social networking identification to employers as condition of employment.
- 369. Cyberbullying.
- 370. "UHF Discount" by the FCC
- 371. Media consolidation.

Marriage & Domestic Partnerships

Support

- 372. Universal marriage equality.
- 373. UAFA.
- 374. RFMA.
- 375. Domestic Partnership recognition.

Oppose

- 376. Sex-based bias in custody decisions.
- 377. Employment/housing discrimination against people in same gender marriages/partnerships.

Racial Justice

Support

- 378. Slavery reparations
- 379. Fair and equitable housing opportunities.
- 380. Revising criminal justice training for greater equity.

Oppose

- 381. Racial profiling.
- 382. Excessive policing of CoC.
- 383. Redlining.

Taxes and Social Security

Support

- 384. TEA.
- 385. COLA for SS & EITC.
- 386. Financial Transaction Tax on Wall Street and taxing offshore profits
- 387. Limiting TIF.
- 388. Restricting tax credits to large corporations that don't provide significant numbers of jobs, and mandating corporations provide a living wage to receive tax credits.
- 389. Banning the use of allocated funds to fund other social programs.
- 390. Reform of GIVFAP to prioritize small business.
- 391. Capping personal residential property taxes for low-income citizens
- 392. Separating the SS Trust Fund from the federal budget
- 393. Homestead Exemption
- 394. Charitable giving tax deductions

- 395. Tax penalties on corporations that offshore
- 396. Protecting, strengthening, and expanding Social Security, Medicare and Railroad Retirements.
- 397. Veterans Exemption

Oppose

- 398. Taxation of unemployment, worker compensation and S.S. Benefits.
- 399. Tax cuts for the wealthy.
- 400. Multi-National Corporate welfare.
- 401. Refundable corporate tax credits.

Transportation

We Support

- 402. Increased funding and availability of public transit, including light rail feeder systems.
- 403. Funding for safe, reliable, and well-maintained bridges and roadways.
- 404. Main Street Iowa.
- 405. Complete Streets.
- 406. Helmet laws.
- 407. ET3/Hyperloop/High-speed Rail
- 408. Back seat passenger seat belt law.

Veterans Issues

We support:

- 409. investigation/prosecution of sexual assault and/or harassment by civilian law enforcement officers and courts.
- 410. rigorous oversight of VA hospitals.
- 411. increased funding and access to mental health services for veterans.
- 412. requiring the VA to pay for a veteran's use of civilian health care facilities when VA provider is greater than 30 driving miles away.
- 413. requiring VA physicians to offer all potential treatments, including the use of cannabis.
- 414. Offering 24h holds to all suicidal veterans in crisis, at point of care and at the VA
- 415. Removing time limits on access to GI Bill and educational benefits for Veterans
- 416. Increasing Veteran housing in Iowa for Veterans of post 9/11 wars

We oppose:

- 417. Privatization of VA hospitals or VA medical services
- 418. Distribution of military combat equipment to LEOs or other public entity.

- 419. USA Freedom Act.
- 420. Testing of urine and blood for THC
- 421. Stopping VA benefits for positive THC results
- 422. Stopping VA disability benefits (rated %60 to %100) upon reaching the age of social security.

Education

We Support

- 423. Funding:
 - a. ICN.
 - b. Public K-12 and post-secondary institutions, ensuring fully-staffed schools, classroom materials, grants, financial aid, and ADA compliance, including directing resources to struggling public schools.
 - c. TLC system, Iowa Mentoring and Induction program and professional development to supplement SSA, and compelling Iowa to complete SSA process within 30 days of governor's budget completion.
 - d. reading initiative programs, including mandated summer-reading programs.
 - e. STEM-to-STEAM transition.
 - f. Before and after-school programs and early childhood development, including universal preschool.
 - g. ELL programs, Head Start, special education and similar programs, and TAG.
 - h. Current number of AEsAs.
 - i. Nutritional meals, accommodating special diets, and food backpack programs.
 - j. Pre-K through 3rd-grade foreign-language fluency.
 - k. Apprenticeship/internship/career/technical education and awareness programs.
 - l. Federal school-to-work opportunities.
 - m. Public libraries.
 - n. Community approved K-12 diversity programs.
- 424. Education boards having diverse representation (gender/ethnicity/income/etc).
- 425. Vetting education reform proposals before implementation.
- 426. Expanded physical-fitness, fine-arts, social-studies, informational literacy, civics, and languages standards.
- 427. Preserving statewide penny sales tax for repair/maintenance of school infrastructure, and textbooks/materials/technology.
- 428. Adequate, up-to-date instructional equipment/technology, not to replace face-to-face instruction.
- 429. Significantly lowering ratios of administrative/administrative support budgets to faculty/staff.
- 430. Living wages, benefit parity, unemployment benefit eligibility, and ongoing training for ESPs.
- 431. Appropriate student/professional ratios, including one social worker/250 students.
- 432. Equity in transportation.

433. Appropriate mental-health staffing/programming.
434. School safety programs, without arming educators.
435. Anti-bullying resources.
436. Trauma-informed intervention, age-appropriate conflict resolution, and restorative discipline programs.
437. Mitigating school building toxins.
438. Community-college funding allocation, allowing local-tax funding.
439. Tuition/debt-free public higher education regardless of citizenship/immigration status.
440. Student-loan forgiveness
441. Increasing student-loan grace period to 12 months.
442. Requiring community colleges to have librarian/media specialists/counselors/health programs, including adult literacy services and ELL support.
443. Teacher unions/bargaining rights restoration.
444. Increased veterans educational benefits.
445. Programs/grants assisting advanced-degree holders obtaining secondary teaching credentials, and practicing teachers gaining endorsements, in shortage areas.
446. Increased local control over public school calendars, state standards application, and funding allocations.
447. Simple majority bond-issue approval.
448. Effective public input prior to school district real-estate sale.
449. All public k-12/higher-education, non-administrative, salaries above national average.
450. Shared governance.
451. Dual-credit community-college programs.
452. Sex positive/comprehensive/research-based sexual/health programs (including LGBTQ+ and non-binary).
453. K-12 controlled public/private STEAM program partnerships.
454. Ensuring sufficient equal access to community college locations.
455. Require credentialed supervision for home-schooled students.
456. Enforcing budgetary reporting law compliance.
457. Open access to public-funded STEM research.
458. Gardens/greenhouses for schools.
459. Teacher evaluation systems, designed and implemented at state and local level with educator input.
460. State/school-district student performance accountability.
461. Common Core as a non-mandated descriptive tool.
462. Holding school administrators to public officials' conflict-of-interest disclosure laws.
463. Ensuring one Board of Regents member is a non-political appointment.
464. Wider opportunity for advanced classes.
465. Federal legislation allowing multiple measures assessing student/teacher/school performance.

- 466. Mandatory K-12 school attendance.
- 467. Enforcing regulations/inspections for licensed day-cares.
- 468. Eliminating state-mandated grade retention.

We Oppose

- 469. Public money funding non-public k-12.
- 470. State/local-tax policies adversely affecting public-education funding.
- 471. Unfunded school-district mandates.
- 472. Withholding retirement benefits due to unpaid student loans.
- 473. Across-the-board cuts after school budgets are state approved.
- 474. Standardized tests as the primary measure of performance/curriculum/instruction/funding allocation/teacher evaluation.
- 475. Regents institution funding based on enrollment criteria.
- 476. Faith-based content in public schools.
- 477. Zero-tolerance/discriminatory impact in discipline.
- 478. Community-college District Offices.

List of Acronyms

AAA – Area Agencies on Aging
ADA - Americans with Disabilities Act
AEA - Area Education Agency
ALF - Assisted Living Facilities
ASFA - Adoption and Safe Families Act
BDS - Boycott, Divestiture, and Sanctions
CEC - Congressional Ethics Commission
CFPA - Consumer Finance Protection Bureau
CMHC – Community Mental Health Centers
COL - Cost of Living
COLA - Cost of Living Adjustment
CRA - Civil Rights Act of 1964
DACA - Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals
DAPA - Deferred Action for Parents of Americans
DHS - Department of Human Services
DREAM - Development, Relief, and Education for Alien Minors Act
EITC - Earned Income Tax Credit
ELL - English Language Learner
EMS - Emergency Medical Services
ERA - Equal Rights Act
FCC - Federal Communications Commission
FDA – Food & Drug Administration
FGM - Female Genital Mutilation
FPG - Federal Poverty Guidelines
FTC - Federal Trade Commission
FVPSA - Family Violence and Prevention and Service Act
GIVFAP - Grow Iowa Values Financial Assistance Program
HCBS – Home- and Community-Based Services
HCPA - Hate Crimes Prevention Act
HIV/AIDS – Human Immunodeficiency Virus / Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome
HSIA - High-Speed Internet Access
HUD – Housing and Urban Development
HUD Section 8 – Low-income housing, government subsidized
HUD Section 42 – Low-income housing, not government subsidize
IBHR - International Bill of Human Rights
ICRC - Iowa Civil Rights Commission
IPERS - Iowa Public Employee Retirement System
IRV - Instant Run-off Voting
ISAA - Iowa Smokefree Air Act
LGBTQIA+ - Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Questioning/Queer, Intersex, Asexual
LIBOR - London Interbank Offered Rate
LTC - Long Term Care
MHI - Mental Health Institutions
MIMR - Mental Illness Mental Retardation Facilities

NCAR – National Child Abuse Registries
NIH – National Institute for Health
NSA - National Security Agency
NSF – National Science Foundation
OAA – Older Americans Act
PAC - Political Action Committee
PII - Personally Identifiable Information
PLA - Project Labor Agreements
RFMA - Respect for Marriage Act
SBP - Social Benefits Programs
SNF - Skilled Nursing Facilities
SSRA - Surveillance State Repeal Act
STD - Sexually Transmitted Disease
STEAM - Science, Technology, Engineering, the Arts, Mathematics
STEM - Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics
TEA - Taxpayer Empowerment Agenda
THC - Tetrahydrocannabinol
TIF – Tax Increment Financing
UAFA - Uniting American Families Act
UCR – Usual and Customary Rates
UNHRC - United Nations Human Rights Council
USPS - United States Postal Service
VAWA - Violence Against Women Act
VOCA - Victims of Crime Act
VRA - Voting Rights Act of 1965
VRS – Vocational Rehabilitation Services
WIC – Women, Infants and Children