

IDAHO REPUBLICAN PARTY PLATFORM ADOPTED June 15, 2024 in Coeur d'Alene
Platform Affirmation for Anita Aurit, Airport Precinct Committee Person

Thank you for taking the time to read my platform affirmation. If you are in my precinct and have any questions or would like to discuss this document with me, please contact me and I'd love to meet with you and have a chat.

*Warm Regards,
 Anita Aurit*

Preamble

I agree with all parts of the preamble with comments about two items:

We believe in American Exceptionalism. I agree with this statement and wish to clarify what "American Exceptionalism" is as the phrase is grossly misunderstood. When Alexis de Tocqueville, French statesman and historian traversed America in order to see what made the nation so special he concluded, "The positions of the Americans is quite exceptional and it may be believed that no democratic people will ever be placed in a similar one". The term American Exceptionalism came from this statement. The concept of American Exceptionalism has been vilified and distorted by the left. Tocqueville observed in his book, *Democracy in America*, that America was a highly religious nation. He was accustomed to religion and government being enemies. He found that the two were inseparable allies and that Christianity influenced every aspect of life, making America what he called "an exceptional nation". This is the American Exceptionalism I believe in.

We believe Idahoans value and should preserve our national strength and pride while working to promote peace, freedom and human rights throughout the world.

As a child in a military family and after living in Europe and the Orient I have experienced first-hand the results of the assistance of the United States in foreign countries. I fully support efforts such as Elias Boudinot in intervening with the British for relief for American prisoners during the Revolutionary War. I support promoting peace by encouraging negotiation and conflict resolution between countries, I support promoting peace, freedom and human rights but I do not support pouring American taxpayer's monies into foreign countries with no control or accountability. We have to look no further than 2024 to watch our government continue to pump money into Ukraine while offering little to no help to American citizens suffering from a disastrous hurricane.

ARTICLE I. RESPONSIBILITY IN GOVERNMENT

Section 1. Fiscal Responsibility

100% agree with A-F of this section

Section 2. Taxation

100% agree with A-I

Section 3. Reform of Congress

100% agree with A-C I would add that the founders knew first-hand The founders knew first-hand what it was like for a government thousands of miles away to create laws that they had no say in. State representation in the U.S. Congress was important to them. The 17th amendment in effect,
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kicked the state legislatures out of the federal law making process and restricted their input in several other important ways. It erodes state sovereignty. While it was promoted as a means to enhance democracy by bringing senators closer to the people; it had the unintended consequence of diminishing accountability. The Senate was never designed to function as a carbon copy of the House of Representatives. Instead of spending billions of dollars on campaign advertising (in the 2022 midterms the Senate collected close to 1 Billion dollars (OpenSecrets) in campaign finances. If Senators were elected by state legislatures, candidates would need to spend very little to get acquainted with their electors and once elected by the state legislature, they could concentrate on duties rather than fundraising. Finally the Founders intended that states would approve all federal legislation. The House of Representatives actually was designated to originate all legislation that requires the appropriation of taxpayer funds. The Senate's (appointed by state legislatures-had to approve all proposals before they became law. The great benefit to repealing the 17th amendment would be that state sovereignty would be strengthened.

Section 4. Sound Currency

Agree 100% A & B

Section 5. State Legislature|

100% A-G

Section 6. Honest Elections and the Electoral College

100% Agree

ARTICLE II. CITIZEN INVOLVEMENT IN GOVERNMENT

100% agree, sections 1-5

ARTICLE III. EDUCATION

Agree 100% with sections 1-4 and 6-12. Noted below are my comments on section 5.

I am not in complete agreement with section 5. While I do support efforts to improve public schools and allowing discretion in hiring but I believe the spending of taxpayer funds allows no oversight, transparency. After paying taxes in this community for 19 years I have experienced great opposition by schools against taxpayers asking about the spending of funds they are forced to contribute to. Section 9 speaks to the compensation for teachers and the opportunity for performance awards. I support this 100% but sadly, what I have seen is that after every levy that has been passed, administrators have received bonus payments. This is not how I want my tax dollars spent.

ARTICLE IV. AGRICULTURE

Agree 100% all sections, 1-4

ARTICLE V. WATER

Agree 100% all sections, 1-7

ARTICLE VI. NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENT

Agree 100% sections 1-7

ARTICLE VII. ENERGY

Agree 100%, sections 1-7

ARTICLE VIII. IDAHO NATIONAL LABORATORIES

I do not disagree but I do not have enough research yet to say whether I am 100% on board with the Idaho National Laboratories, nor have I resolved all my concerns about nuclear energy.

ARTICLE IX. PRIVATE PROPERTY RIGHTS

Agree 100%

ARTICLE X. STATE AND FEDERAL LANDS

Agree 100% I am 100% in favor of the state of Idaho to regain control of the lands the feds control. The federal government owns around 620 million acres of land (about 27 percent) of the 2.27 billion acres of land in the United States. Around 92 percent of federally owned acres are in 12 Western states (source Ballotpedia). Federal land acreage in Idaho is 32,789,648 (61.9%), the state controls 52,933,120. Idaho needs to take control of this land from the feds.

The Idaho Department of Lands and the Idaho Endowment Fund Investment Board provided Idaho public schools with more than \$55 million from the trust. The money comes from timber sales and leases on endowment lands and earnings from invested funds. Think how much money could be earned with responsible state management and how much of a tax burden could be removed from the Idaho taxpayers.

ARTICLE XI. WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT

Agree 100%, sections 1-3

ARTICLE XII. ECONOMY

"A competitive market, free of undue governmental competition, restriction, coercion, or interference, is critical to Idaho's economic well-being. "As a business owner and entrepreneur I agree 100%.

Section 1: Commerce and Industry

100% agree sections A-C but I would note that in section C, I support economic development but not Federal or state funded programs like Sandpoint Urban Renewal, etc. Economic development in a community should spring from local boards and not use federal taxpayer monies to implement their edicts without community participation.

Section 2: Support for Small Business

100% agree, sections A-C

Section 3: Labor

100% agree sections A-C

Section 4: Transportation

100% agree

ARTICLE XIII. HEALTH AND WELFARE

Agree 100%

Section 1: Private Enterprise Health Care Delivery System

Agree 100%

Section 2: Patient Protection and Affordable Healthcare Act

Agree 100% , sections A & B

Section 3: General Principles for Health Care

Agree 100%, sections A-E

Section 4: Health Savings Accounts and Insurance

Agree 100% sections A-C

Section 5: Child Support

Agree 100% Non-payment of child support is a contributor to the poverty of single mothers in this state. In 2020–2022 just 23% of U.S. female-headed families reported receiving any amount of child support during the previous year (down from 26% in 2018–2020). When child support agreements are not honored, the burden to support these families is on the tax payers.

ARTICLE XIV. AMERICAN FAMILY

Agree 100%

Section 1: Government's Role

100% agree sections A and B

Section 2: Traditional Marriage

Agree 100% sections A & B

Section 3: Right to Life

Agree 100% with sections A-F. Proponents of abortion who tout the phrase “My body my choice!” ignore science. The child is separate from the mother and not part of her body. Being inside something is not the same as being part of something. One’s body does not belong to another’s body merely because of proximity.

Adoption in this country is expensive and too government controlled. We need to help people who want to adopt do so without draining their bank accounts.

Section 4: Children

Agree 100%

ARTICLE XV. OLDER AMERICANS

100% agree sections 1 & 2

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ARTICLE XVI. LAW AND ORDER WITH JUSTICE

100% agree

Section 1: Gun Rights

Agree 100% sections A-G

Section 2: Death Penalty

100% agree Many try to tie those who are against abortion with the death penalty saying you can't be for the death penalty if you are pro-life. This is comparing apples with oranges. Being against the killing of innocent children in the womb who have never had a chance to experience life has nothing to do with believing that adults who have made the choice to murder another person, are the same as innocent children. The death penalty is one of the consequences of someone's decision to murder.

Section 3: Drug Use

Agree 100%, sections A & B

Section 4: Incarceration of Criminals

100% agree, sections A & B

Section 5: Juvenile Justice

Agree 100%, sections A & B

Section 6: State Sovereignty

Agree 100% with this statement

ARTICLE XVII. NATIONAL DEFENSE – SECURING THE BORDER

Agree with this statement 100%

Section 1: Veterans

Agree 100%

Section 2: National Missile Defense

Agree 100%

Section 3: Mountain Home Air Force Base

100% agree

Section 4: Idaho Army and Air National Guard

100% agree but I have an issue with enforcement of this clause. In the section, "We call on the Congressmen and Senators from the State of Idaho to defend our Idaho National Guard elements, equipment, personnel, units, and funding from the federal government's overreach or any punitive actions for honoring, obeying, and sustaining the law." Our own governor Little did not follow this edict when he allowed Idaho National Guardsmen to be dishonorably discharged if they did not get the Covid shot. I knew Idaho Guardsmen who lost so much because they chose not to be vaccinated and although many Idaho citizens, including myself notified the Governor of our anger at this not only did he not respond to us, he did nothing. There should be consequences for a commander of the Idaho National Guard who violates the rights of our state Guardsmen,

Section 5: Securing the Border

Agree 100%

Section 6: Combating Terrorism

100% agree

Section 7: Command of Forces

100% agree

Section 7: Command of Forces

100% agree

Section 8: Non-Interventionism

Agree 100%

Section 9: Declarations of War

Agree 100%

ARTICLE XVIII. ELECTION OF JUDGES AND IDAHO SUPREME COURT JUSTICES

Agree 100%

ARTICLE XIX. RELIGIOUS LIBERTY

Agree 100%