As requested, comments are provided concerning the Idaho Republican Party Platform adopted 15 June 2024.

General comments:

• As the Sagle precinct PC, solicitations concerning were made by email to over 300 Sagle Republicans. The text of the email is as follows:

My name is Andy Kee, and I was recently elected as the Republican Precinct Committeeman for Sagle. As the republican committeeman my goal is to represent the Republican voices of those in the precinct, and provide transparent communications for what is happening in the Bonner County Republican Central Committee (BCRCC).

The Bonner County Republican Central Committee (BRCC) has requested that the republican precinct committeemen review the Idaho Republican Party Platform (attached here in pdf format) and provide affirmation of support or provide "areas of disagreement".

I am seeking your input to produce a comprehensive review that represents the Sagle Precinct. Unless requested by the commenter, all comments will be summarized and presented anonymously in the review. I am hoping you can make the time to review the attached document and email me with your comments. Please reference the Article and the subparagraph within the Article for each comment.

Thanks in advance for your input whether it be "no comment" or with comments. Your voice matters.

Only one response that read "sounds good to me" was received. In-person requests for comment were made to a much smaller number of precinct constituents. Without exception, the responses were; no knowledge of the platform, no knowledge as to where it could be found, and no interest in reviewing it.

Perhaps the apathy stems from lack of precinct constituent representation. The BCRCC sent 18 delegates to the convention in Coeur d'Alene. Of those 18 delegates only 6 were elected PCs. Three of the delegates sent were candidates did not prevail in their precinct election campaigns. The remaining nine sent were not PCs and, as such, were unknown to precinct constituency and did not have any precinct constituency endorsement.

• The question might be asked as to whether the BCRCC is representative of other Idaho Republican Central Committees or is the BCRCC an outlier regarding the Party Platform. In this CC it is clear that Bonner County Republicans were underrepresented in the drafting and issuance of the Party Platform. And there appears to be a profound disinterest in what is represented in the Platform. The Republican Party would be well served by sorting out how to remedy this situation.

Delegates – Republican Party Convention

	Delegates		Alternates		
Steve Rezac (24)	Won Competitive PC		Mat MacDonald(24)	PC Uncontested	
Lisa Liband(21)	Loser		Angelo Lonzisero(21)	Non-PC	
Nancy Rezac(20)	Non-PC		Lana Santelli(20)	Won Competitive PC	
Kim Peckham(19)	PC Uncontested		Stephen Truss (19)	Non-PC	
Dennis Engelhardt (23)	Non-PC		Diane McNair-Madoski	Diane McNair-Madoski(PC Spouse	
Dodie Glass(21)	Loser		Darren Purdy(14)	PC Spouse	
Sean Morgan(20)	Won Competitive PC		Chris Peckham(24)	PC Uncontested	
Jane Sauter(18)	Loser		Jane Purdy(22)	PC Uncontested	
Dana Engelhardt (23)	Non-PC		Kristen Dodd(22)	PC Uncontested	
Merlin Glass(21)	Non-PC		Carmen Wilcox(19)	Non-PC	
Anita Aurit(20)	PC Uncontested		Michael Bondor(18)	Non-PC	
Jennifer Morgan(18)	Non-PC		Donald Paden(16)	Non-PC	
Roger Rudd(23)	PC Uncontested		George Stokesberry(19	George Stokesberry(19 Non-PC	
Julie Lynn(20)	Non-PC		Michael Wilcox(18)	Non-PC	
Tom Cleveland(19)	PC Uncontested		Sarah Neff(15)	Non-PC	
Kristen Stycket (17)	Non-PC		John D. Dupree(19)	Non-PC	
Erik Liband(20)	Non-PC		Trevor J. Anderson(17)	Non-PC	
Sandra Rutherford(19)	Non-PC		Stephen F. Smith(15)	Non-PC	
	Delegates			Alternates	
	Won Competitive PC	2		Won Competitive PC	1
	Loser	3		Loser	0
	PC Uncontested	4		PC Uncontested	4
	Non-PC	9		Non-PC	11

Justice / Fairness

iscal Responsibility

Preamble

Paragraph 1

We believe the strength of our nation lies with our faith and reliance on God our Creator, the individual, and the family; and that each person's dignity, freedom, ability and responsibility must be honored.



Violates preamble 6

Paragraph 2

We believe we are inheritors of a distinct Western Civilization and that our traditional culture safeguards our identity as a free people.



Seems to reject Idaho's Native American roots and key contributions of non-western origins. This is also language popular with white nationalists and white supremacists

Paragraph 3

We believe in American Exceptionalism.

Paragraph 4

We believe the United States of America is unlike any other country on earth.

Paragraph 5

We believe the United States Constitution is the greatest and most inspired document to govern a nation, and the republican form of government it gives us, (U.S. Const. Art. IV §4), is the best guarantor of freedom in history.

Paragraph 6

We believe in equal rights, equal justice and equal opportunity for all, regardless of race, creed, sex, age or disability.

Paragraph 7

We believe human life begins at conception and is protected by the unalienable rights endowed by our Creator along with the fundamental right to life and shall not be infringed upon.







1. The state should not come between a patient and his or her doctor - This is inconsistent with Paragraph 14

2. Application of this plank is a direct cause of higher infant mortality and high-cost emergency healthcare

3. The application of this plank is inconsistent with itself. Right to life should also extend to the mothers

Paragraph

We believe free enterprise and encouraging individual initiative have brought this Nation opportunity, economic growth and prosperity.

Freedom



We believe government must practice fiscal responsibility, and that taxpayers shall allow the government only the money necessary to provide Constitutionally specified functions.







- 1. Defunding state police, child protective services and other key functions not specified in the Constitution puts all Idahoans at risk
- 2. It is irresponsible to not provide for higher education and basic services currently provided by the
- 3. This is a poorly thought out plank and if open to interpretation by legislators will result in harmful

Many of the planks in the rest of the platform would violate this Paragraph

Paragraph 10

We believe that our Founding Fathers gave us a government that is a servant of the people, not our master. The proper role of government is to provide for the people only those critical functions, which individuals or private organizations cannot perform better.



1. Private industry can perform some tasks that the government currently performs, but with higher costs and lower levels of service. Only services that can be delivered better should be considered

Paragraph 11

We believe the most effective, responsible, responsive government is government closest to the people, and the sovereignty of the state must be protected. That government is best that governs least.



Paragraph 12

We believe Idahoans must protect the principles and values that have made us strong.



Vague as to what principles

Paragraph 13

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

Paragraph 14

We believe the protection of individual rights is upheld when personal responsibility for behavior is exercised.

Paragraph 15

We believe the Republican Party is the best vehicle for translating these ideals into positive and successful principles of government.

True only when following the core principles



Security / Safety

Article 1

Section 1

A The Idaho Republican Party recognizes that all government is financed by taxing its citizens. We believe the size and cost of government, as well as the national debt, must be reduced.

Sadly, most of the policies supported by Idaho Republicans at the national level such as tax cuts for high-income individuals, inheritance tax cuts and corporate tax cuts grow the debt

B We believe Social Security must be stabilized, diversified, and privatized to allow expansion of individual retirement options.

There is no evidence that privatizing social security will improve results. It is far more likely that it will increase risk to individuals and turn current benefits into private company profits.

- C We believe in a balanced budget and support congressional action to pass a balanced budget amendment.
- D We believe the growth of government is unnecessary and has a negative impact on both the conduct of business and our individual lives. We endorse the review of all government programs and encourage their assumption by private enterprise where appropriate and workable. Programs which are outside of government's constitutional obligations, not cost effective, or have outlived their usefulness should be terminated.

 Some programs are more efficiently implemented for the people

Some programs are more efficiently implemented for the people by the government. Historically inconsistent application has resulted in poor results for taxpayers. The Constitutions, both Idaho and Federal, provides for the legislative branch to fund programs specifically not included in the Constitution. Application of this plank will be a disaster.

- E We expect the government entity which mandates a program to provide the funding for its implementation.
- F We believe the state legislature should appropriate funds only for purposes and to the extent required to meet government's constitutional obligations. Any current programs, functions, or activities of government that are not required by the constitution should be repealed, defunded, and left to the private sector.

 This is the kind of plank that sounds good on the surface, but was introduced by special interests. The Constitution both Idaho and Federal provide for the legislative branch to fund programs specifically not included in the Constitution. Application of this plank will be a disaster.









Section 2

- A We support lower federal, state, and local taxes. High taxes are a burden on businesses, families, and individuals.
- We believe that tax reductions can be achieved by cutting spending on every level: federal, state, and local. We believe that lower taxes will result in increased revenue to the government as the private sector will thrive.
- We believe Idaho's tax structure should be predictable, fair, and balanced; and that the combination of our income, sales, and property taxes will continue to provide a stable, dependable source of income for governmental needs.
- We believe that Idaho Citizens should not and or shall not be taxed for federally mandated health care.
 - Idaho citizens voted overwhelmingly for the Affordable Care Act to be implemented in Idaho. It is well recognized that sick and dead people are unable to be productive. And the Affordable Care Act is, to a very large portion of the American population, the only means of access to health care.
- F We believe voter's approval should be required prior to approval of debt financed city projects. Municipal laws that allow public dollars to be converted to private use and government entities to compete against the private sector or divert public money to special projects without support of the taxpayer, must be repealed.
- G We support the total abolition of inheritance taxes.

This is obvious pandering to the wealthy special interests. Inheritance taxes are the most fair taxes. The person that earned that money is dead and there is no reason that this wealth should be passed tax-free to heirs that did nothing to earn that money. Inheritance tax revenue would only be replaced with taxes from other sources. Increasing taxes on working citizens is the direct result of repealing the inheritance tax, which only falls on less than the wealthiest 1% of families.

We support a comprehensive overhaul of the federal tax system requiring universal participation.

Without detail, this is a meaningless plank











I We support the repeal of the 16th Amendment of the Constitution of the United States of America.





This is just another plank that might sound good in practice, but has no chance of being a reality. Without income taxes, the government would need to levy taxes only using tariffs which increases inflation and stifles free trade.

Section

3

The Idaho Republican Party support an overhaul of the legislative process in congress to allow (1) more time for members to study legislation; (2) more opportunity for citizens to testify at hearings; (3) debate on legislation before the members, rather than speeches in empty chambers for the C-span audience; (4) objections to the inclusion of unrelated subject matter in a single bill, (5) more oversight and transparency in the earmark process, and an end to abuse and use of earmarks for financial gain to a member; (6) and a more orderly process for consideration of legislation, similar to that of the Idaho Legislature.

While all of these goals are good, the current Idaho Republican party does not abide by these guidelines. This can be seen in the fact that often times, testimony from the public and experts is squashed in favor of lobbyists and special interests only aligned





B Idaho Republicans will continue to lead the fight to reduce the growth of government bureaucracy and promote private enterprise and individual initiative in the marketplace as the solution to our domestic policy challenges.

with the party in power. If the party is unwilling to abide by the

platform, why put it in?





The current Republican party has only expanded the role of government in regulating libraries, regulating healthcare, implementing laws that benefit special interests.

C We support restoration of the constitution's checks and balances that protects the rights and sovereignty of the states by repealing the 17th amendment.





Removing the direct election of Senators is just a power grab by the party elites trying to undermine the votes of the public. This is an embarrassing violation of Republican Core Principles

Section

4

We recognize the failure of the Federal Reserve System to maintain a sound U.S. dollar and the danger of mercantile banks controlling the issuance of our currency. We believe the Federal Reserve Bank should be abolished and the issuing power restored to the people with the stipulation that the U.S. dollar be backed by gold, silver, or other stores of value. We believe Idahoans need to protect their savings from the ravages of inflation, which is hidden taxation, and encourage citizens to participate in a systematic acquisition of precious metals or other assets which represent real value as opposed to fiat currencies.





This plank is insane. The US Dollar is the reserve currency of the world. The US has the largest economy in the world and we are leaders in innovation, growth and progress. The gold or silver standard is a silly pipe dream for people that don't understand anything about economics. Encouraging citizens to store precious metals is inefficient and only benefits those that control and sell precious metals. This is another pandering to special interests.

We oppose the creation of a Central Bank Digital Currency, the regulation and/or excessive taxation of decentralized digital currency such as Bitcoin, and we affirm the right of individuals to engage in commerce and exchange with cash, barter, precious metals, and decentralized digital currencies. 100% of all recent cyber ransoms are paid by Bitcoin or other digital currencies. While digital currencies potentially have legitimate value, steps need to be taken to prevent money

laundering, ransoming, and human trafficking which is currently the principal use for digital currencies.

Section 5

We encourage continued strong support for our state legislature, directed by Republicans for more than three decades, as well as our elected constitutional officers, and for the manner in which they work together to balance the budget and improve Idaho's economy.

We support the current move to zero-based budgeting or other appropriate budgeting techniques. We believe growth can be attained in a sound, responsible manner by holding taxes down, granting business incentives, and refusing to grant excessive demands for increased spending.

We support reduction of Idaho's income tax rates, and encourage a reduction in property taxes whenever possible

We believe the State of Idaho should strongly assert its sovereignty under the 10th amendment to the U.S. Constitution. It has now come about that the accumulated usurpations by the Federal Government of Idaho's state sovereignty has reached a point of complete intolerance. The Idaho Republican Party hereby recommends that the Idaho Legislature and Governor nullify any and all existing and future unconstitutional federal mandates, federal court opinions, and laws, funded or unfunded, that infringe on Idaho's 10th Amendment sovereignty. We also recommend that the State of Idaho continue to request funding and assistance from the Federal Government, which complies with the Constitutional provision of the 10th Amendment, and recommend that the State of Idaho resist the withholding of federal funds as a











means of forced compliance with the unconstitutional federal mandates and laws.

We are Americans first.

So, we want to enforce our sovereignty by demanding the US government give funding and assistance?

Further, this is contrary to

We support the right of every qualified citizen to seek elective office, affirm the right of voters to vote for the candidate of their choice, recognize the need for experience and institutional memory in elective office, and oppose the imposition of term limits in Idaho

The people voted for term limits as entrenched career politicians lose touch with the people and tend to prioritize special interests and lobbyists. The Republicans in the Idaho state legislature overturned the will of the public that voted for term limits with over 60% support. This is a direct affront to Democracy and the core values of the Republican party.









We support amending the Idaho Constitution, Article III, § 2 as follows: Strike paragraph (2) and amend as follows: Whenever there is reason to reapportion the legislature or to provide for new congressional district boundaries in the state, or both, because of a new federal census or because of a decision of a court of competent jurisdiction, a commission for reapportionment shall be formed on order of the secretary of state. The commission shall be composed of six members to be appointed as follows: a. The leaders of the two largest political parties of each house of the legislature shall each designate one member; b. The state chairmen of the two largest political parties, determined by the vote cast for governor in the last gubernatorial election, shall each designate one member; However, for a political party to be eligible to appoint members to the commission as provided in subparagraphs (a) and (b) the political party must satisfy at least one of the following requirements: I. Average of at least twenty two percent of all the ballots cast in four of the previous primary elections. Elected at least two constitutional officers in the preceding ten years. In the event only one political party satisfies a requirement to be eligible to appoint members to the commission the remaining three members shall be appointed by the eligible political party's state central committee. In the event any appointing authority does not select the members within fifteen calendar days following the secretary of state's order to form the commission, such members shall be appointed by the Supreme Court. No member of the commission may be an elected or appointed official in the state of Idaho at the time of designation or selection; G. We believe the Legislature should present amendments to the people with the ballot language identical to the language of the amendment.

This plank is to ensure that political party bosses control which voters go into which districts. Politicians shouldn't be able to select their voters, the voters should select the politicians. Voting maps should be written by non-partisan citizen groups.

Section 6 We oppose the National Popular Vote Interstate Compact and any other scheme to abolish or distort the procedures of the Electoral College. An unconstitutional effort to impose National Popular Vote would be a grave threat to our federal system and a guarantee of corruption, as every ballot box in every state would offer a chance to steal the United States presidency. We urge the Idaho State Legislature to oppose any attempts to modify the Electoral College or adopt the National Popular Vote Interstate Compact.





So the logic here is that since the electoral college means only 7 states are required to win an election, we risk less fraud since only those ballots can be fraudulent? This is the dumbest argument for the electoral college. From a freedom and democracy perspective, having everyone's vote count should be the goal. It is only because the Idaho GOP likes the current chances with the electoral college that they support it. If the electoral college worked against the party, they would switch their minds in one second.

believes that government works best when its citizens become actively ges all citizens to engage in healthy debate on all issues that will overnment.

If the party believes this, then perhaps it should be against the rules for any elected official to block or ban a citizen on social media

We encourage all citizens to educate themselves in constitutional government and to be full participants in the political process.

Recent posts from the KCRCC claim the voters are not educated enough to vote on multiple candidates

We seek to heighten the level of discourse by encouraging all office holders, candidates and citizens to be civil, dignified, honest and forthright in their discussions, actions, statements and political processes. This includes the actions of special interest groups who provide support for or against any Idaho candidate.

Hopefully, we can all agree that accusing citizens of drinking too much, calling them stupid or "an ignorant slut," or bearing false witness as responses to social media posts are not acceptable.

We believe Primary elections in the Idaho Republican Party should be open to all people who have affiliated as Republicans at least one year prior to the primary election and who support a vast majority of the Idaho Republican Platform. To allow those who have no loyalty or allegiance to the Idaho Republican Party or its platform and Resolutions to select our candidates is simply not proper. Loyalty and allegiance are for monarchs not politicians in America.

The Idaho Republican Party opposes ranked-choice voting and any other iterations of ranked-choice voting such as STAR voting, ballot exhaustion, and instant run-off.

Suppressing voter participation should not be the goal of the party

Politicians threatened by having to appeal to the majority of voters are

The 19th Amendment of the United States Constitution states that the right of the citizens to vote shall not be denied. We believe that this includes the right to have your vote counted and not diluted or manipulated by non-citizens vote or voting machines that can corrupt the vote. We believe there should be in person same day voting, early voting, and excuse only absentee ballots with paper ballots. We believe it is important not to legitimize or support any practice that would diminish and/or disenfranchise the voting citizens of Idaho.







Section 1

Restricting voting is a tool used by those in power to stay in power and is not only a violation of Republican core values, but also a violation of American ideals.

4 Members of the BCRCC voted absentee in the last election.

Keeping people from exercising the vote by absentee and other limitation specifically violates this plank's goal of "We believe it is important not to legitimize or support any practice that would diminish and/or disenfranchise the voting citizens of Idaho."

Concerning "... legitimize or support any practice that would diminish and/or disenfranchise the voting citizens of Idaho", this is precisely the purpose of Prop 1. And, as such, is why the Party should embrace support of that proposed legislation.

ustice / Fairness

iscal Responsibility

Article 3

The Idaho Republican Party recognizes that the future of this great state lies with our faith and reliance on God our Creator, in our strong efforts to uphold family values, and in the quality of education provided for its citizens. We believe that successful education is a joint responsibility of the individual, the family, and the community. As with government in general, we believe the most effective, responsible and responsive educational system is that system closest to the people.



Section 1

We recognize the importance of early childhood education. We also believe individuals, families and private sector best meet the needs of early childhood education. Only in the rarest of situations should government assume the responsibilities reserved to parents.

When the private sector is not capable of providing necessary services, sometimes the government needs to get involved to ensure all Americans are given the opportunities to thrive. This could include pre-K childcare.

Our Nation's Founding Documentation in Public Education - The United States of America was founded on legal, political and economic systems based on Judeo-Christian principles. We support curricula whose foundation, text and supplemental documentation are the original founding documents, including the Declaration of Independence, the United States Constitution, and Founders' writings

Fails the 1st Amendment Lemon test [reference Lemon v. Kurtzman, 403 U.S. 602, 612-613 (1971)]

Religious Freedom in Public Schools - We believe that school administrators and officials should not infringe on Idaho school students' and staff's 1st Amendment rights to pray and engage in religious speech, individually or in groups, on school property without government interference. We believe the legislature should end censorship of discussion of religion in our founding documents and encourage discussing those documents, including the Bible as their basis. Students and district personnel have the right to display religious items on school property.





If any religious displays are allowed, then all displays have to be allowed which opens the door to unintended consequences. Additionally, this violates the 1st Amendment in which is stated "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of







religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; ...". Introduction of prayer, regardless of the invoked religion, fails the Lemon test concerning taxpayer funding for religious purposes. The US Constitution is wisely a secular document. Additionally, fails the 1st Amendment Lemon test [reference Lemon v. Kurtzman, 403 U.S. 602, 612-613 (1971)]

Section 2 We believe parents have the right to educate their children at home, that court rulings that undermine these rights devalue the important role of parents and family in a child's education

We believe in improving the quality of education for every child by maximizing parental choice. This will be accomplished through money following students to their parent's school of choice. We support all educational environments desired by parents including public charter schools, public virtual charter schools, homeschools, schooling at home, microschools, learning pods, co-ops, private and parochial schools, and accountable public school systems

Schooling paid by taxpayers needs to meet standards for accountability, quality and safety. Only requiring the word accountable before public schools is not fiscally responsible.

The word "accountable" is vague and requires explanation.

We believe all students are entitled to our support, and to fair and equitable funding and therefore strongly support the adoption of a change to Idaho's public school funding formula that includes school choice through an education savings account and more evenly distributes state funds while holding our rural schools harmless. Nothing in this section compels a family to receive in any way government support.

Vague. And "fair and equitable funding" is provided for state sponsored home schooling, public schools, and accredited charter schools.

We support efforts to improve our public school system, including introducing market forces to our school system and providing our public school system and its leaders with ample discretion in hiring decisions and how to best spend the funds provided to it by taxpayers to meet local needs. We also recognize that more government spending does not necessarily generate improved schools.

We strongly support professional technical and continuing education programs that provide career readiness and college preparation, but do not support using taxpayer funding for programs beyond high school.

The State of Idaho should support programs beyond high school such as trade schools, the University of Idaho, BSU and other institutions and programs that ensure future workers have the skills the economy needs. Note that the Idaho National Laboratory engages a large percentage of advance degreed scientists, mathematicians, and physicists. Achieving degrees

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Section 5

Section 4

Section 3

Section 6

in those fields is quite expensive. Idaho should be doing everything possible to enable employment of Idaho residents in those fields.

Section 8

We are strongly opposed to any social justice indoctrination that may occur at any level of Idaho's education system and support policy and financial measures to prohibit universities, colleges or public schools from incorporating social justice indoctrination theories (i.e. critical race theory, transformative social emotional learning, diversity, equity and inclusion, replacement theory, queer theory, etc.) into their policies, curriculum and/or course materials.

These terms need to be defined. Sweeping generalizations based on catch words popular in media do nothing to address the value of specific programs and education goals.

We are proud of our many dedicated, professional teachers and educators who have committed their lives to educating Idaho's children. We value the contribution our teachers make to our society. We support the efforts to reward great teachers for their hard work. We support incentives for teachers, so that our best educators are willing to remain in the classroom and work with our children. We believe that teachers should be treated like professionals and compensated at a level commensurate with their abilities and in a manner that rewards quality instruction, not time in the profession or amount of education.

In section 7, the platform discusses the value of education. There is value in degrees and training programs which should be valued and properly compensated.

We believe that in order for public education to be successful, schools and families should work together with mutual respect and cooperation. We believe parental rights are paramount and that parents have the God given right to direct their child's education. This includes the right to decide what their children are learning, the right to inspect any educational materials used in the education of their child. The right to determine their child's health, safety, and medical treatment including masks and vaccinations, and the right to visit their child's classroom with limited restrictions. These rights should be enumerated in Idaho Code.

Should stipulate that these actions should not be harmful to others in the classroom.

We recognize the increasing role of technology in society. We encourage policymakers and educators to be leaders in promoting such new opportunities, while ensuring data privacy for students and parents.





We believe in accountability for those who are making decisions about the public education and higher education system in Idaho and therefore support the direct election of the members of the Idaho State Board of Education on a regional basis thereby providing each of Idaho a voice.

iscal Responsibility

Article 4 The Idaho Republican Party believes a strong and viable

agricultural industry is one of the most important cornerstones in the foundation of our state, national, and global economy and security.

Section 1 We believe agricultural education and awareness is vital to

creating and maintaining a strong and vital agricultural industry.

Section 2 We believe Idaho's farmers and ranchers should be able to

compete freely and trade fairly in foreign markets. We recognize that the primary function of government in agriculture should be service, research, and the promotion of markets. We oppose the use of an embargo of agricultural products as an instrument of foreign policy.

Section 3 We recognize that water is vital to Idaho agriculture and other

industries. We believe modification of Idaho's historic water laws must be considered with extreme caution. The federal government shall not infringe upon state jurisdiction over Idaho

Keeping in mind that the federal government has jurisdiction over federal lands within Idaho's borders. When the federal government carved out the Idaho State from federal lands it did not turn over all federal lands to Idaho.

Section 4 We endorse the preservation and strengthening of the family

farm unit as the foundation of agriculture and one of the basic

strengths of this nation.

water.

Article 5 The Idaho Republican Party recognizes the critical importance of

water to this state. We will aggressively defend Idaho's right to appropriate and manage water within its own borders without

interference from the federal government.

Section 1 We support continued federal and state legislation to prevent

inter-basin transfer of Idaho's water to other areas.

Section 2 We encourage policies that will more fully use and develop our

water while supporting the Idaho state law of prior appropriation, based on the principle of "first in time is first in right" for the

benefit of all Idahoans.

This might need to be addressed as first in time mostly benefits claims made 100s of years ago. As water becomes more scarce, the beneficial use doctrine might be a better approach to managing water consumption



Section 3 We believe that safeguards exist to protect Idaho's scenic and recreational rivers without creating more restrictions or regulations on Idaho's river system. As a key driver of the economy, understanding that some regulation should be addressed to safeguard water quality for citizens Section 5 We support increased retention of Idaho water through recharge and the acquisition of new reservoir sites. Section 6 We support the quality of private life and economic stability of Idaho families, communities, and industries, and oppose removal or breaching of existing dams. Section 7 We support all legal opposition to any and all efforts to usurp Idaho's sovereignty over water within Idaho borders. Further, we support the Attorney General in defending the state's position on these and all other water issues, and support the State

Legislature in continuing to adequately fund the Idaho

Constitutional Defense Fund.



Freedom Security / Safety

Article 6	The Idaho Republican The Idaho Republican Party recognizes that the beautiful and fruitful land that we have been given by God, our creator,	
	must be properly cared for to ensure that its rich blessings will	
	continue to be enjoyed for generations to come.	
Section 1	We believe that it is ultimately the individual's responsibility to act as	
	stewards of their environment. The quality of our natural environment	
	should be protected, and enhanced, while allowing reasonable, orderly	
	growth with emphasis on multiple uses, local control, and minimal	
	government regulation	
Section 2	We believe the administration of federal environmental policy must be	
	modified. These policies must give equal consideration to potential	
	human suffering caused by restriction or elimination of basic human	
	needs such as jobs, energy and overall quality of life. We support	
	federal and state measures to reestablish the primacy of state	
	government for implementation of environmental policy.	
Section 3	We discourage international regulations on industry which attempt to	
	halt the production of certain industrial byproducts. Instead, we	
	encourage citizens to adopt buying habits that promote a clean earth.	
Section 4	We recognize Idaho's need for the utilization of natural resources for	
	Idaho's economic growth and for the benefit of all Idahoans. The	
	dimensions and boundaries of our wilderness area should be	
	determined by Idahoans. The remaining road less areas should be	
	released for multiple uses.	
	Noting that the federal government retains jurisdiction over federal lands.	
Section 5	We advocate congressional action to limit presidential authority in	
	creating or expanding national parks and monuments pursuant to the	(X
	Antiquities Act.	
	This plank is only for mineral extraction companies who want to	

We support the concept of forest health because it promotes longterm land use including livestock grazing, timber, wildlife, improved air quality, recreation, mining and all other beneficial forest uses for the

We encourage the State of Idaho to seek authority to oversee the utilization of natural resources on federal lands within the state

This would create additional state government programs and spending

deplete resources on public lands

which violates the fiscal conservative planks.

people of Idaho.

Section 6

Section 7

Section 2 The Idaho Republican Party believes that the United States shall at all time strives to become energy independent.

We strongly support energy policies that encourage research and development of our energy resources, including natural gas, hydroelectric power, petroleum, nuclear energy, and new technologies.

We support efforts to reduce our dependence on foreign oil. We support efforts to increase American exploration and production of American crude oil and natural gas, and support voluntary efforts to improve efficiencies and promote conservation. Congress must end its ban on American energy exploration on U.S. soil and on the Outer Continental Shelf and provide for additional American refining capacity. We must make America's resources available to U.S. citizens.

This plank has nothing to do with Idaho and the US is not limited in our refining capacity. Proof of this is that the US is a net exporter of refined fuels like diesel.

Idaho has the lowest electrical rates of the fifty states. Nothing should be done in the deregulation process that might raise those rates.

For truth in advertising, Idaho is has currently the third lowest rates. Louisiana and Washington are 1^{st} and 2^{nd} .

The benefits of hydroelectric power should be retained for the citizens of Idaho.

Energy is a trade-able export just like potatoes and lumber. Why limit what Idaho can do with our clean and cheap hydropower?

We oppose any mandated deregulation that would negatively impact rate payers.

We support the Center for Advanced Energy Studies (CAES) and other coordinated efforts in energy research and development, and their applications to the utilities industry within Idaho.





The Idaho Republican Party believes in the great importance of the Idaho National Laboratory (INL) as one of the State's largest private employers, its importance to our nation's defense, and to energy and other technology research and development

Noting that the private contractors running the INL obtain all funding from the federal government. The INL is not a production facility for marketable products. It is noted also that the Advanced Test Reactor (ATR), used primarily for test/development of navy fuels, is used solely for research and has no marketable services.

We support research and development programs that provide safe, economical nuclear power. We further support new nuclear technology that has greater safety, produces less waste, and resists proliferation.

We encourage our congressional delegation, the state, DOE and INL management to assure continued research and development, transfer of technology, new missions, and development of alternative energy treatments and storage methods.

While I support what the INL is doing, I find it interesting that the leadership of the party and talks about shrinking government and not doing tasks that are not outlined in the Constitution or doing jobs that a private industry could. INL is a DoE lab managed by a private company. Advocating for this seems to be at odds with other parts of the platform

The Republican Party believes in the Fifth Amendment to the United States Constitution: "No person shall be ... deprived of life, liberty, or property without due process of law; nor shall private property be taken for public use, without just compensation." We oppose any federal, state or local regulation that would diminish a property owner's right to develop his property.

This seems to violate the platform position on local engagement being best to determine policy. Property owners should also be free and safe from negative development near their homes. Consider, for example, the outcry of land holders adjacent to a proposed installation of a nuclear based electrical power station. Or privately owned/operated waste disposal site.

The Idaho Republican Party believes that due to state and federal governments administering the majority of Idaho lands, we need to limit and reduce the amount of land owned or administered by the federal government. We believe Idaho should manage and administer all state and federal lands.











Article 9

Article 10

The goal of this is to sell off public land to developers, foresters and mining companies. Furthermore, Idaho has no ownership of nor jurisdiction over federal lands.

Article 11	The Idaho Republican Party recognizes the value of wildlife resources for the state.
Section 1	We encourage the Idaho Department of Fish and Game to manage fish and wildlife to enhance fishing, hunting and hunting opportunities for Idahoans
_	and the tourist industry, while respecting private property rights of landowners.
Section 2	We oppose federal designations which restrict or eliminate hunting, fishing, and recreational access to lands in Idaho.
Section 3	We oppose the reintroduction of wolves and grizzlies into Idaho. We support managed control of these predators through the Idaho Fish and Game Department.

Security / Safet

Article 12

The Idaho Republican Party believes that economic growth is the key to enhancing the quality of life our people so richly deserve. Fiscal responsibility in the form of balanced state and federal budgets is essential to achieve this goal. A competitive market, free of undue governmental competition, restriction, coercion, or interference, is critical to Idaho's economic well-being.

Section

1

- A We encourage the broadening and strengthening of Idaho's commerce and industry, including but not limited to agriculture, timber, mining, manufacturing, processing, technology, tourism and other industries.
- B We encourage the responsible use of our natural resources to broaden and enhance Idaho's economy. We Support innovative and responsible programs by industry to reduce pollution in every practical way. Government should intervene only where such efforts fail or must be supplemented by law.
- C We endorse economic development and expansion in Idaho and pledge to make every effort to provide a business climate that will attract such growth.

Section 2

- A We recognize the important role of small businesses in Idaho's economy and that we must maintain a regulatory environment where small business is allowed to thrive. Excessive regulatory requirements must be reduced and eliminated.
- B We support a tax code that is simple, fair and equitable.
- C We support a business environment that promotes development and expansion of businesses in Idaho and eliminates all onerous repressive government regulation.

Section

3

- A We believe that both the employer and employee share a joint responsibility for maintaining a safe work environment without excessive regulation.
- B We support education and professional technical education to develop a well-trained workforce, but do not support funding education with taxpayer money beyond high school.

State funded universities and trade schools are the pride of Idaho and should not be left to private enterprise, especially not for private financial exploitation.

Section

4

We believe transportation is an integral part of our commerce and industry, and it must meet the unique needs of Idaho. We believe transportation decisions and funds should be managed at the local and state level.



Article 13

The Idaho Republican Party recognizes the need for effective and accessible health care for all individuals. Regulations that forbid Idahoans from buying insurance across state lines should be eliminated.

Section

1

We support a private enterprise health care delivery system that provides cost-effective, quality health care with minimal government regulation

Section 2

A We oppose socialized medicine and government mandated health insurance.



This is opposing the VA for our veterans

B We support the repeal of the Patient Protection and Affordable Healthcare Act in its entirety.

X

ACA has reduced costs for Idaho and would not be fiscally responsible. And so far, the Republican party has no more than a secret concept of a plan to replace this widely popular plan. Dismantling the ACA with no plans for replacement is not popular with the American public.

Section 3 Conscience Clause- All persons and legal entities have the right of conscience and should be protected under Idaho 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, vaccination, human cloning, embryonic stem cell research, eugenic screenings, euthanasia, assisted suicide, harmful futile procedures, and the withdrawal of nutrition and hydration.

Doctors need to be doctors and put the interests of the patient first. Religious beliefs should be held privately by those following those beliefs and should not be imposed by legislation or any other means of coercion on others. Spread of deadly disease or legislation that invades the private lives of others based on one's religious beliefs is unconscionable.

- B We believe the primary responsibility for the health and welfare of our citizens resides with the individual and their families.
- C We support freedom of choice and personal responsibility of legal adults in all medical decisions, including providers and treatments. Medicine should have a "level playing field" for all treatment and branches of medicine.

Agree 100% which is why it is sad that recent laws violate this plank

D We support as supreme the authority of parents in all medical decisions for their children, including providers and treatments.





- E All legal adults receiving healthcare should have legal capacity to give informed consent and should be so situated as to be able to exercise free power of choice without the intervention of any element of force, fraud, deceit, duress, overreaching, or other ulterior form of constraint or coercion.
- B We support the rights of individuals to select their health care and insurance provider.
- C We believe health and welfare programs should be administered with a minimum of bureaucracy and the goal of helping all recipients return to a self-sustaining and productive life.

Section 5

We support enforcement of child support laws to assure the restoration of parental responsibility and the enhancement of financial security for children.

Article 14

The Idaho Republican Party believes that traditional family values are the foundation of our nation. Families, not government programs, are the best way to properly nurture and protect our children, care for our elderly, preserve and perpetuate our cultural and spiritual heritage, and assure that our traditional values are transmitted to the next generation. Many of the ills of society can be attributed to the breakdown of the family. We believe the traditional family to be the basic unit of society.

Vague

marriage.

Section

1

- A We believe that state and federal social and fiscal programs should reinforce parental responsibility and authority, and not promote or reward the disintegration of the family.
- B We support a tax system that strengthens a family's economic ability to care for and support its members.

Section 2

A We call upon Idaho government officials and legislators to protect the traditional family and use all means possible to prevent expansion of the definition of marriage beyond that of a bond between one man and one woman. We recognize that the definition of marriage and its administration is not subject to federal authority and that Idaho is authorized to nullify any federal congressional act, federal mandate or court opinion that is contrary to traditional

Idaho should trust citizens and not interfere with actions that have no impact to anyone else such as how someone wants to live their life

B We recognize traditional marriage without the issuance of a marriage license for those who for religious purposes object to the role of the state in licensing traditional marriage.

Contradicts the above plank. Not sure why this is even important

Section 3

A We affirm that human personhood begins at the moment of conception and ought to be protected and cherished from that moment on. We affirm that the intentional taking of human life through the act of abortion is murder. All children should be protected regardless of the circumstances of conception, including persons conceived in rape and incest. The federal judiciary played the tyrant in dozens of Supreme Court proabortion opinions since Roe v. Wade up to the Dobbs decision, and Idaho has the sovereign authority to defy the federal judiciary should they once again propose the fiction that abortion is a federal constitutional right. We support the criminalization of all murders by abortion within the state's jurisdiction. We also support strengthening the Idaho Constitution's declaration of the right to life for preborn children.







This issue needs to be placed in context of parenthood and the implications on the application of birth control methods, necessary healthcare, and fertility treatment.

If the party truly wants to reduce the occurance of abortion, it should actively try to educate students on birth control measures, provide for the healthcare requirements for expectant mothers and work to provide and fund programs that encourage the rearing of a child including child care, maternal and paternal leave and making the child tax credit permanent.

- B We reaffirm our support for the sanctity of life from conception to natural death, and for the rights of the unborn child. We oppose abortion based on sex selection, convenience, or as a method of birth control.
- C We oppose partial birth abortion and we support legislation to abolish this practice.



This practice is only employed in extreme and tragic mental/physical health conditions and should be available for health reasons

We oppose all actions which intentionally end an innocent human life, including abortion, the destruction of human embryos, euthanasia, and assisted suicide.



IVF is necessary for some families. There is not a realistic solution that fits this plank

We strongly encourage adoption as an alternative to abortion and support legislation that expands opportunities and provides assistance to the

adoptive process.

The Idaho Republican Party recognizes that children are a heritage of the Lord. We believe parents, not the state, have a sacred duty and a legal right to rear their children in love and righteousness, to provide for their temporal and spiritual needs, and to teach them to be law-abiding citizens. We believe biological gender to be an essential characteristic of a child's identity and purpose. We call upon parents, responsible citizens, and officers of government to promote measures that respect and protect the biological gender of children. We strongly oppose any person, entity, or policy that attempts to confuse minors regarding their biological gender. The Idaho Republican Party opposes the sexual exploitation of

Attacking transgender individuals is the worst form of punching down on one of the most marginalized members of our community. Treatment should always be the choice of the parents, child and medical professional and not the state.

If the party truly opposed sexual exploitation of minors, they would vote to end child marriages, regulate crypto currency that is used to pay for human trafficking, and require background checks for church members that have any unsupervised time with minors

Section 4

minors in ANY form.





Article 15

Section

1

The Idaho Republican Party has always supported and will continue to support older Americans. The party will work to preserve and promote opportunities in America so that older Americans can provide for themselves. Those unable to care for themselves should have access to all services available in Idaho, whether city, county, state or federal.

Section

We oppose policies that penalize older Americans who continue to work.

Article 16

The Idaho Republican Party believes that individuals must be presumed innocent until proven guilty. After a person is convicted of a crime, however, we believe in swift and just punishment for the lawbreaker and timely payment of restitution to victims. Courts and the prosecutors should continue to recognize the substantial rights and interests of crime victims in the judicial process.

Section 1

- A We support the right of the individual to keep and bear arms, as guaranteed by the Second Amendment of the U.S. Constitution and article one section eleven of the Idaho State Constitution
- B We commend efforts of organizations to preserve and foster that right, including Right-to-Carry laws.
- C We believe the federal government should not regulate intrastate ammunition and firearms sales.

In many places, gun runners are abusing the system in one state to provide guns to criminals in other states. It would be best for law enforcement and safety to ensure laws are followed to keep guns out of the hands of criminals.

- D We believe in protection of the American firearms industry against harassing lawsuits that blame them for the acts of criminals
- E We call for more enforcement of current laws against violent criminals, not more "gun control" aimed at law-abiding citizens.
- G We find that the Congress violated the 2nd amendment's protections in the 1986 Firearms' Owners Protection Act when the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms (BATF) interpreted the Hughes Amendment as a prohibition on the civilian possession of any fully-automatic firearm manufactured after May 19, 1986.

There is no reason or purpose for a private citizen to have a fullyautomatic firearm.





Section

We believe the death penalty is an appropriate consequence for the 2 most heinous crimes, and that further reform should be made to the appellate process so the penalty can be carried out in a timely process.

Need to clarify, or note how to categorize, "most heinous crimes".

Section 3

- A We recognize the dreadful consequences of drug and substance abuse in our society, and we call upon our national, state and local leaders to refocus efforts to discourage drug use and rehabilitate drug users. We encourage all Idaho citizens, and their religious, civic, and community organizations, to be actively engaged in this effort.
- B We support creative alternative sentencing, such as drug courts, and treatment for nonviolent drug offenders.

Section

4

5

- A We recognize the enormous financial burden placed upon society by criminals. Therefore, we support requiring inmates, to the extent they are capable, to perform labor or otherwise contribute to the cost of their incarceration.
- B We support programming and education in the corrections system to rehabilitate offenders

Section

- A We support accountability for and rehabilitation of juvenile offenders.
- B We support dealing with youthful offenders early to reduce future impact to the welfare and correction systems.

Section

6

We recognize Idaho is a sovereign state; therefore we have the right to defend against foreign invasions. We believe that Idaho has the right and obligation to remove from our State any and all people that are unlawfully present within our borders.

Security / Safety

Article 17

The Idaho Republican Party believes in peace through strength, and that having and keeping the strongest military in the world is essential to preserving our liberties. We believe we should never sacrifice liberty for security and oppose any limitations or incursions on the constitutional freedoms, rights, and liberties of American citizens. We strongly support the Idaho National Guard under the command of Idaho's governor.

Section 1

We believe that America owes her continued freedom to the service of military veterans. We reinforce our commitment to providing for their needs and honoring them with the highest degree of respect and appreciation.

Section 2

We support an effective National Missile Defense System to protect American citizens. We oppose efforts to re-enter the ABM Treaty or any other treaty restricting America's ability to protect itself from attack.

Section 3

We support the Mountain Home Air Force Base in its vital mission of protecting Idaho and the nation. We recognize and value the economic contribution that the base makes to our State.

Section

4

The Governor is the Commander-In-Chief of the Idaho National Guard and is responsible for protecting the safety of Idaho residents by maintaining the Guard's readiness and ability to deploy. The Governor is also responsible for the Guardsmen who volunteer to serve the State of Idaho. Beyond readiness and training, Federal use of the National Guard should be for the purposes identified in the Constitution: to enforce the laws of the union, to put down an insurrection, and to repel an invasion. The Idaho Army and Air National Guard should only be deployed for active combat operations outside the United States with authority from Title 10 USC after Congress has exercised its enumerated power "to declare war." We oppose any attempt to transfer Idaho National Guard elements to the Space Force, the Reserves, or any other state without regard to our Governor's authority. 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.

Section 5

X

The Constitution of the United States guarantees to every State in this Union "a Republican form of government and shall protect each of them against invasion." Securing the national border must be a top priority for our country. We support the construction of a border wall along the entire southern border of the United States. When the federal government fails to protect the natural rights of life, liberty, and property of Idaho citizens, the State must intervene. To this end, the US Constitution (Article 1 Section 10 Clause 3 "State Self Defense Clause", and Article IV Section 4 "Guarantee Clause") allows for the Governor, as the Commander-in-Chief of the Idaho National Guard, to use the active militia and the Idaho National Guard and its assets to repel an invasion. We now have an unsustainable crisis at our nation's border due to the federal government's dereliction of duty in allowing an overwhelming invasion of illegal aliens into the US. These illegal aliens commit a crime by entering our nation without authorization, documentation, or vetting, and with enmity violate the clear language and intent of the laws of our Republic. These illegal aliens should be deported. Crime is not the basis of good citizenship. We oppose supporting illegal aliens by way of free access to housing, healthcare, technology, voting rights, or an unearned path to amnesty and citizenship as a reward for entering the United States illegally. We support the detainment and prosecution of any person or organization aiding and abetting such individuals described above.

The Governor shall use the active militia and the Idaho National Guard and its assets to

repel this de facto invasion that threatens the safety and security of Idaho

This is more of a political stunt than effective policy and just wastes taxpayer dollars

Section

We support efforts to combat terrorism within the scope of the constitution, including the use of military force when authorized by Congress.

Section

7

We believe American troops should not be used as "world policemen." UN operations should be supported by a multi-national coalition, and if U. S. forces are committed to UN operations by Congress, the United States should retain command and control of its forces

Section 8 War is a last resort and is for the defense of America's borders, her territory, her citizens, and their liberty. We reject the desire to militarily police the world and dictate relations between foreign and faraway countries with histories and conflicts not our own. We desire for the American people complete and unconditional sovereign control over their government, contravening any supranational organization or foreign lobby. We maintain that war powers granted by the United States Constitution rest in the legislative branch, and this nation can only enter armed conflict through a declaration of war by Congress. In foreign relations, we must be guided by the wise and humble principle of "America First." We will not wittingly sacrifice our children and their future prosperity to dictate how other countries govern themselves. Meddling in the affairs of other countries with military aid and influence furthers neither our American way of life nor our future security interests.

Article 18

The Idaho Republican Party opposes any attempt to undermine the constitutional rights of the people to select judges and justices in an open and competitive election process. We support the election of judges in a partisan election process. We oppose any interpretation of the United States Constitution and the Constitution of the State of Idaho that is not rooted in principles of textualism and originalism. We emphatically affirm that judges have a "duty to interpret statutory terms to 'mean what they conveyed to reasonable people at the time they were written.'" (Bostock v. Clayton

County, 590 U.S. ___ (2020) (Alito, J., dissenting)

This is never consistently applied and is only used when it favors the outcome wanted by the party

Article 19

The Idaho Republican Party believes religious freedom is a fundamental human right and essential for any society or community to flourish, we oppose any efforts, state or federal, legislative, executive, or judicial, to limit the "free exercise of religion" by its citizens at home, their place of employment, or venues otherwise publicly available. We oppose any efforts by the Congress of the United States to limit the scope or applicability of the bipartisan Religious Freedom Restoration Act of 1993.

This is a direct contradiction of Matthew 6:5-6

⁵ And when thou prayest, thou shalt not be as the hypocrites are: for they love to pray standing in the synagogues and in the corners of the streets, that they may be seen of men. Verily I say unto you, They have their reward. ⁶ But thou, when thou prayest, enter into thy closet, and when thou hast shut thy door, pray to thy Father which is in secret; and thy Father which seeth in secret shall reward thee openly.