

Democratic Platform: District 2
As amended and approved by
Democratic Convention
Ft. Madison Iowa, April 28 2012

Platform Committee:

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(*) denotes Subcommittee Chair

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Statement of Principles

Iowa Democrats are proud of our Party's heritage, its diversity, and accomplishments. Nothing declares this pride more than our State motto, "Our Liberties We Prize, and Our Rights We Will Maintain".

We believe in a representative government that is compassionate, progressive, responsible and fair. We support a return to meaningful checks and balances between the three branches of government so that the United States once again stands as a model for those who strive to obtain the liberties and freedoms we currently enjoy.

We are committed to upholding the unalienable rights and freedoms under which our Nation was founded --the most valuable being our belief in the rights and worth of each individual. We unequivocally oppose policies that require forfeiting those rights under any circumstances. We affirm the support of equality for all people, including the GLBT and the disabled, and strongly oppose any effort to silence women. We support continued empowerment of people without reversing their rights achieved to date.

Americans throughout history have fought and died to protect our freedoms and extend those freedoms to the oppressed. We must stand against terrorism, but cannot allow that fight to cost us the freedoms that so many have sacrificed to preserve.

Religion and government are important parts of American life; however, we support separation of church and state.

Furthermore, we believe the primary function of government is to collectively accomplish those social goals that cannot be achieved individually. Beyond safe and sustainable food and shelter, we consider health care, employment and education to be basic human needs.

We consider it a travesty that many Americans cannot afford the health insurance that higher health care costs have necessitated. We demand that our elected officials take action to assure all Americans have equal access to affordable, high-quality health care.

Market forces alone often do not serve the common good. Enforcement of fair taxation, labor compensation and trade policies will:

- a. build strong, competitive and efficient marketplace that protects workers' rights to organize and collectively bargain; and,
- b. stimulate small businesses to flourish through ingenuity, integrity and efficiency.

Education is essential to Iowa's personal and social growth and prosperity; and is an investment in our future. To maintain the high standards expected of Iowa's education systems and safeguard the future of our nation, we must provide relevant, affordable, innovative, accessible and adequately funded, high-quality education at all levels.

We must protect our environment from wasteful and indiscriminate use, and promote sound energy practices. Our national parks, oceans and ancient forests, as well as our local land and family farms, must be preserved for our children's futures.

We honor our military veterans, and support those in our armed services today who, with their families, sacrifice so much. Because we view our military service members with the utmost regard, we demand that US foreign policy stress cooperation and respect, with military action only as a last resort.

By upholding the unalienable rights and freedoms under which our Nation was founded valuing the individual's rights and worth; securing the health, economy, and education of our citizens; caring for our environment and promoting a peaceful and humane world view we can be proud to call ourselves Iowans, Americans and Democrats.

Statement of Principles Acronym:

GLBT lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender

Statement of Issues

Education

WE SUPPORT:

1. Our Democratic President's education mission;
2. Iowa Public Employee's Collective bargaining law;
3. NCLB repeal;
4. Fully funding special education, TAG, ELL programs;
5. Continued funding of preschool/Head Start, early-learning programs;
6. Funding K-12 vocational training;
7. Increasing state funding for state universities, regent institutions, community colleges;
8. Local school districts determining length of school/calendar days within state-approved number of hours;
9. Academic technology integration in Iowa Public Schools;
10. Top quality, professional development for teachers and educational support staff;
11. Funding job training and child/adult literacy programs;
12. Additional funding for school-to-work programs;
13. Fully funded development and protection of a strong, well-rounded education programs for foreign language, music, art, physical education and core curriculum K-12;
14. Equalizing tax burden among school districts;
15. Professional salaries for educators and living wages for support staff/Para-educators and substitute teachers;
16. Simple majority vote on bond issues;
17. Pre-implementation research and vetting of Governor's education reform proposals;
18. Reducing the focus on standardized testing by using multiple measures of assessment;
19. The Healthy Kids Act for providing organic, nutritious, locally produced foods in schools;
20. Multicultural, gender fair education;
21. State standards with local control of curriculum;
22. Anti-Bullying legislation;
23. Early elementary learning of foreign languages;
24. A system that accurately identifies struggling public schools, directing resources where needed to improve performance;
25. Flexible individual-learning-plans to help teachers, parents and counselors promote student's success;
26. Continued Pell Grants at 100% of need;
27. Increasing community college faculty salaries to equal or surpass the national average;
28. Programs to forgive student loans for college graduates who remain in Iowa and work to include retroactive coverage;
29. Loan forgiveness for people who are disabled or receive social security;
30. Extending the deferral of student loans to one year post-graduation;
31. Setting allowable growth at a rate that reflects actual cost increases experienced by school districts and AEAs;
32. Universal preschool and kindergarten;
33. Exempting school budgets that have been approved from across-the-board cuts;
34. Increasing higher education access with low college loan interest rates, a fully refundable College Opportunity Tax Credit, aid to states that keep tuition low, reduction of college tuition rates;
35. Including the Labor Movement in core curriculum.

WE OPPOSE:

36. Diverting public monies from public schools to fund vouchers, tuition tax credits, and private-for-profit education businesses.

Acronyms Used

AEA Area Education agency

ELL English Language Learners

NCLB No Child Left Behind

TAG Talented and gifted

Government and Law

American Institutions, Campaigns and Elections

WE SUPPORT:

37. Regulated public disclosure of all contributions to any candidate or ballot measure;
38. PBOS;
39. Mandatory statistically significant random hand audits of public elections;
40. Iowa's current voter registration laws and policies;
41. Immediate full disclosure of SuperPAC donors;
42. Barring former campaigners from working for SuperPACs;
43. Publicly-financed elections;
44. Iowa's system of selecting judges based on merit;
45. Independent electoral ethics commission for congress;
46. Internet posted lobbying contacts;
47. Free and equal media time for all candidates;
48. Recall mechanisms for elected officials;
49. Universal voter registration;
50. EPA Cabinet Status;
51. Elections by direct popular vote;
52. Federal elections national holiday;
53. Tying congressional pay to CPI.

WE OPPOSE:

54. Voting requirements like photo ID's;
55. Citizen's United decision.

Civil Rights and Civil Liberties

WE SUPPORT:

56. Same-sex couples' rights regarding adoption;
57. Addition of sexual orientation, gender identity, disability, and political affiliation to all anti-discrimination laws, hate-crime laws, anti-bullying laws, human rights policies, and civil statutes;
58. Reciprocal separation of church and state;
59. Federal, Iowa ERAs;
60. Restoring full funding/staffing for ICRC;
61. Estate Tax;
62. Women's freedom of speech especially regarding reproductive choices;

- 63. Insurance coverage for same-sex couples;
- 64. Grandparent and same-sex partner visitation rights.

WE OPPOSE:

- 65. National ID cards;
- 66. Public votes on civil rights;
- 67. Corporate personhood;
- 68. Killing of American citizens without due process;
- 69. Removal of Supreme Court Justices based on their rulings;
- 70. Warrantless wiretapping and searches.

Taxes and Social Security

WE SUPPORT:

- 71. Progressive income taxation with equitable taxation on all income;
- 72. Expanded college tuition and student loan interest tax credits;
- 73. Increased EITC;
- 74. SS payroll tax on all forms of income without caps;
- 75. Closing all corporate tax loopholes;
- 76. TIF limitation, reform, regulation;
- 77. Microtax on securities transactions;
- 78. Laws regarding tax-exempt status for religious institutions.

WE OPPOSE:

- 79. Attempts to weaken or privatize SS;
- 80. SS benefit reductions;
- 81. Taxation of unemployment, worker compensation and SS benefits;
- 82. Bush Tax Cuts.

Government Services

WE SUPPORT:

- 83. Additionally funded rural county and city services, especially emergency;
- 84. "Main Street Iowa";
- 85. Funding and increasing threshold for Iowa Legal Aid;
- 86. Formal standardized civil, federal, state statutes to include anti-bias laws for GLBT, disability, political affiliation, race, gender, and gender identity.

WE OPPOSE:

- 87. Privatizing government functions/services.

Criminal Justice

WE SUPPORT:

- 88. Equal sentencing for all cocaine;
- 89. Cannabis legalization, regulation, taxation;
- 90. Automatic restoration of felon voting rights;
- 91. Human rights and open hearings for immigrants;
- 92. HCPA including transgender;
- 93. Community alternatives to incarceration of non-violent offenders;

- 94. Prisoners' human rights;
- 95. Non-partisan commission to investigate, disclose, prosecute criminal activities in the Bush or any other administration;
- 96. SOX;
- 97. Funding for Drug and Mental Health courts.

WE OPPOSE:

- 98. Mandatory sentencing;
- 99. Unenforceable sex offender residential restrictions;
- 100. Racial profiling;
- 101. Prison privatization;
- 102. Sexual abuse SOL;
- 103. Life sentencing for juveniles;
- 104. Capital punishment.

Internet and Telecommunications

WE SUPPORT:

- 105. Greater online privacy rights;
- 106. First Amendment protection for electronic media;
- 107. Fairness Doctrine;
- 108. Affordable, publicly-owned broadband networks;
- 109. Unlicensed broadcast spectrum for community networks;
- 110. Net neutrality;
- 111. Statewide networking of all public documents.

WE OPPOSE:

- 112. SOPA, PIPA and attempts to censor the internet;
- 113. Warrantless electronic surveillance.

Consumer Protection

WE SUPPORT:

- 114. Regulated, taxed derivatives market;
- 115. Criminal prosecution of management for corporate crimes;
- 116. Foreclosure moratorium, mortgage renegotiation;
- 117. Required individual written permission/compensation before companies share personal information;
- 118. Federal anti-trust laws applied to insurance companies;
- 119. Regulation of financial advisors.

WE OPPOSE:

- 120. Corporate oversight exemption;
- 121. Social networking ID disclosure to employer and/or employer access as a condition of employment.

Reasonable Gun Legislation

WE SUPPORT:

- 122. Second amendment rights with responsible restrictions: licensing, safety training, background checks, waiting periods, registration.

WE OPPOSE:

- 123. Possession, purchase, use of firearms by abusers under a protection order.

Marriage

WE SUPPORT:

- 124. Repealing DOMA and supporting marriage equality for all, marriage as a civil right;
- 125. UAFA;
- 126. RFMA.

WE OPPOSE:

- 127. Maternal bias in custody decisions;
- 128. GLBT discrimination on parenting rights;
- 129. All constitutional "Marriage Amendments".

Veterans

WE SUPPORT:

- 130. Comprehensive, prompt mental health and disability payments/pensions;
- 131. Full funding of comprehensive care for veterans;
- 132. Full staffing of medical doctors, psychiatrists, psychologists, social workers at VA Medical and Outreach Centers;
- 133. More VA Outreach Centers;
- 134. More funding for National Guard Units;
- 135. More funding for GI Bill;
- 136. Thorough investigation of all harassment complaints in the military;
- 137. Accounting for all POW/MIA and recoverable remains;
- 138. Portability of veteran healthcare benefits to local hospitals and clinics;
- 139. Equal life insurance benefits for service-related 50%-disabled veterans and active duty soldiers.

Participation in Government

WE SUPPORT:

- 140. Government transparency;
- 141. Greater youth involvement;
- 142. Iowa's Open Meetings Law, including electronic recording.

WE OPPOSE:

- 143. Unrelated riders and amendments on bills.

Immigration

WE SUPPORT:

- 144. Equal access to K-1 visas regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity;
- 145. Amnesty for foreign nationals who are legally married to a US citizen under their state's law regardless of sexual orientation or gender;
- 146. Asylum for foreign nationals on medical grounds;
- 147. Easier, non-punitive pathways to legal immigration;
- 148. DREAM Act;

- 149. Path to legal status for undocumented immigrants;
- 150. Judicial review of visa denials and removal orders;
- 151. Increased priority for family reunification;
- 152. Effective, just, humane border policy;
- 153. Alignment of immigration laws with humanitarian values.

WE OPPOSE:

- 154. Admissions limits for humanitarian refugees;
- 155. TWP;
- 156. Mass raids and related enforcement policies and practices;
- 157. Quotas in Diversity Lottery.

Transportation

WE SUPPORT:

- 158. Safe, reliable and maintained roadways;
- 159. "Complete Streets";
- 160. Improved funding and availability of public transit;
- 161. High-speed rail;
- 162. Strengthening the FAA;
- 163. NATCA, ATC staff, facilities and equipment;
- 164. Helmet laws;
- 165. Subsidized passenger and freight train services.

WE OPPOSE:

- 166. Infrastructure privatization.

Acronyms Used

- ATC** Air Traffic Control
- CPI** Consumer Price Index
- DOMA** Defense of Marriage Act
- DREAM** Development, Relief and Education for Alien Minors
- EITC** Earned Income Tax Credit
- EPA** Environmental Protection Agency
- ERA** Equal Rights Amendment
- FAA** Federal Aviation Administration
- GI** General Infantry
- GLBT** Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender
- GSA** Glass-Steagall Act
- HCPA** Hate Crimes Prevention Act
- ICRC** Iowa Civil Rights Commission
- ID** Identification
- NATCA** National Air Traffic Controllers Association
- PBOS** Precinct Based Optical-Scanner Voting
- PIPA** Protect IP Act
- POW/MIA** Prisoners of War/Missing in Action
- RFMA** Respect for Marriage Act
- SOPA** Stop Online Piracy Act
- SOL** Statute of Limitations
- SOX** Sarbanes-Oxley Act
- SS** Social Security

SuperPAC Super Political Action Committee
TIF Tax Increment Funding
TWP Temporary Worker Programs
UAFA Uniting American Families Act
VA Veteran's Affairs

LABOR, ECONOMY & COMMERCE

Labor

WE SUPPORT:

- 167. Uniform Plumbing Code;
- 168. "Fair Share";
- 169. Full NLRB, DOL funding;
- 170. Public works construction PLAs;
- 171. Strengthening OSHA;
- 172. US manufacturing military components;
- 173. Funding worker retraining.

WE OPPOSE:

- 174. Unsafe, unhealthy imported goods;
- 175. Hiring replacement workers during labor disputes;
- 176. Piecework rate without a guaranteed living wage.

Job Security, Workers Rights

WE SUPPORT:

- 177. Increasing minimum wage, indexing inflation;
- 178. Unionization;
- 179. Collective bargaining;
- 180. Workers' compensation right to choose;
- 181. Family compensation for killed or injured firefighters and police.
- 182. Family medical leave by all employers;
- 183. Court access for discharged or injured workers;
- 184. Passing EFCA;
- 185. Prevailing wage for construction workers on government projects;
- 186. Right to strike with benefit protections;
- 187. Whistleblower protection;
- 188. Equal GLBT workers' rights and employment opportunities;
- 189. Expanding unemployment benefit eligibility;
- 190. Employee protection after a plant closure or bankruptcy;
- 191. Staffing state prisons, funding negotiated contracts;
- 192. Financial deterrents preventing companies from taking businesses outside US;
- 193. Fair trade agreements that provide living wages, sound environmental/humane conditions;
- 194. Increasing work-related death benefits;
- 195. Renewed WPA emphasizing infrastructure and alternative energy;
- 196. Subsidizing mass transit, bicycling, high speed rail;
- 197. Penalizing employers violating work-force development plans;
- 198. Alternative energy R&D plans employing US workers;

- 199. Raising FLSA exempt workers minimum salary;
- 200. Improved workplace ergonomic requirements;
- 201. Honoring binding arbitration commitments;
- 202. Reopening IWD offices;
- 203. Unemployment benefits for public school ESPs.

WE OPPOSE:

- 204. Mandates and limiting overtime pay;
- 205. Replacing prison labor for bargaining unit workers;
- 206. Privatizing public jobs;
- 207. Expanding FLSA exemptions;
- 208. "Right-to-work";
- 209. Employer and insurance screening based on personal credit, polygraph, genetic information.

Pension/Insurance

WE SUPPORT:

- 210. Turning over closed corporate assets to Pension Benefit Guaranty;
- 211. Funding IPERS, using current employee/employer contribution ratio with actuarial analysis for full funding including COLA for pre-1990 retirees, FED for post-1990 retirees;
- 212. New funding FED, replacement FED, independent board governing trust fund;
- 213. Long-term retirement savings incentives;
- 214. Fair method transitioning IPERS benefits;
- 215. IPERS-member-elected positions on IPERS investment board;
- 216. Non-discriminatory parental leave benefits;
- 217. Proportional wages/benefits for part-time/contingent employees;
- 218. Strengthening pension protection with criminal penalties for violators.

Economic Development

WE SUPPORT:

- 219. Creation of a billion dollar AERLP managed locally;
- 220. Making TIFs project-based within a single school district;
- 221. Fair Use Doctrine;
- 222. Restore public domain;
- 223. Creating domestic manufacturing incentives;
- 224. Establishing funding for MIRPC membership;
- 225. Effective commodities trading regulation;
- 226. Accountability and transparency for corporate funds received/disbursed;
- 227. National high-speed internet policies, open internet, consumer protections;
- 228. Revising 1870 Mining Act;
- 229. Developing national quality of life measurement;
- 230. Employers' responsibility for ensuring legal status of their employees;
- 231. Humane, rational Immigration reform without bias;
- 232. Benefit corporations and economic development of small businesses;
- 233. Job creation through repairing/renewing America's infrastructure;
- 234. Reinstatement of the CCC;
- 235. Laws rejecting nuclear power plants to protect from environmental hazards;
- 236. 100% US poverty reduction by 2020;

237. Only corporate economic assistance that pays living wage, affordable healthcare.

WE OPPOSE:

- 238. Repealing Davis-Bacon Act;
- 239. Privatizing public services.

Budget and Taxation

WE SUPPORT:

- 240. Evenly applied tax laws;
- 241. State Health Department funding, Plumbing Mechanical Systems Board;
- 242. Re-establishing Glass-Steagall Act;
- 243. Increasing dependency exemption;
- 244. Reforming earmarks;
- 245. Reducing defense spending;
- 246. Increasing Iowa public private partnerships with the Rock Island Arsenal;
- 247. IBCA;
- 248. Audits of Federal Reserve and DOD;
- 249. Renewing funding of Homestead Veterans Exemption.

WE OPPOSE:

- 250. Incentives and tax breaks for moving jobs overseas;
- 251. Off-shore oil drilling federal subsidies;
- 252. Perpetual TIFs;
- 253. Big business subsidies;
- 254. Improper General Fund diversions;
- 255. Congress pre-funding mandate for USPS.

Trade Regulation

WE SUPPORT:

- 256. Fair trade;
- 257. Greater congressional oversight, trade negotiations.

WE OPPOSE:

- 258. Foreign countries managing US ports.

Acronyms Used

AERLP Alternative Energy Revolving Loan Program

CCC Civilian Conservation Corps

COLA Cost of Living Adjustment

DOD Department of Defense

DOL Depart of Labor

EFCA Employee Free Choice Act

FLSA Fair Labor Standard Act

ESP Education Support Professional

FED Favorable Experience Dividend

GLBT Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgender/Transsexual people

IBCA Iowa Business Corporation Act

IPERS Iowa Public Employees Retirement System

IWD Iowa Workforce Development

MIRPC Midwest Interstate Rail Passenger Compact
NLRB National Labor Relations Board
OSHA Occupational Safety and Health Administration
PLA Project Labor Agreement
R&D research and development
TIF Tax Increment Financing
USPS United States Postal Service
WPA Work Projects Administration

Agriculture & Environment

Climate Change and Sustainable Energy Policy

WE SUPPORT:

259. Climate change as accepted science, caused by man-made CO₂ emissions;
260. Development and implementation of comprehensive sustainable, efficient energy/economic strategies via:
 - a. Energy independence through locally owned eco-sustainable sources: bio-fuels, wind, solar, geothermal, low-head hydroelectric power; investment in distributed energy, smart grid improvements, net metering, and advanced energy storage technologies,
 - b. Dramatically decreasing fossil fuel use by incentivizing increased use of hybrids, EV's and electric charging stations, improved CAFE standards on all vehicles, and mass transit,
 - c. Constructing/refitting commercial and residential buildings for on-site renewable power production and storage;
261. Tax incentives to reduce energy consumption;
262. Full-life cost analysis for power-plants including nuclear waste and coal ash, with taxation to cover these costs;
263. A moratorium on nuclear or coal plant construction;
264. Enforcement of liability for oil spills, clean-up, damages.

WE OPPOSE:

265. Government subsidy of nuclear power and petroleum companies;
266. Tribal-land storage of nuclear waste;
267. Environmentally damaging strip and MTR mining;
268. Pipelines through Ogallala Aquifer, use of tar sands oil;
269. Fracking.

Environment Enhancement and Regulation

WE SUPPORT:

270. Enhancement and rigorous enforcement of ESA, CAA and CWA: no exemptions for power plants or fracking operations, greater financing of the enforcement of laws preventing nitrate pollution of our aquifers and streams and penalizing those who built channels or outlet tiles to sinkholes or increase the rate and manner of flow to sinkhole-prone wetlands and watersheds.
271. Restoration of bio-diverse eco-systems;
272. Conservation, recycling;
273. Increased penalties for polluters;

- 274. Favoring environmental protection/public health over corporate profits;
- 275. Protecting pollinators by banning neo-nicotinoids;
- 276. Preservation of the Commons*.

WE OPPOSE:

- 277. Clear-cutting, mining, grazing, oil drilling in public lands and sensitive areas;
- 278. Use of lead shot.

Watershed Management

WE SUPPORT:

- 279. Increased federal support of municipal treatment plants to conserve our waters and aquifers;
- 280. Environmentally safe disposal of agricultural and municipal wastes, including new technologies like bio-dehydrators;
- 281. Integrated watershed management including buffer zones, water retention basins, aquifers and maintenance of wetlands.

WE OPPOSE:

- 282. Pollution of waterways from farm chemical run-off.

Planning and Zoning

WE SUPPORT:

- 283. LEED standards for publicly financed building construction;
- 284. County authority issuing zoning permits.

WE OPPOSE:

- 285. Selling public assets for private enterprise;
- 286. Enforcing Eminent Domain for private enterprise.

Rural Development

WE SUPPORT:

- 287. Funding of local soil and water conservation districts.

Agriculture & Farming

WE SUPPORT:

- 288. Environmentally responsible agriculture;
- 289. Subsidies for small family farms;
- 290. Organic farming & transitional small farming incentives;
- 291. Crop and livestock diversification;
- 292. Industrial hemp production.

WE OPPOSE:

- 293. Subsidies for non-family corporate farms;
- 294. Meat-packer ownership of livestock.

US Agricultural Policy

WE SUPPORT:

- 295. Anti-trust regulation prohibiting concentrated control of seed supply and of food production, processing, and retailing;
- 296. GMO seed safe-use labeling;
- 297. Holding GMO owners liable for contamination to non-GMO crops;
- 298. Protection against GMO patent lawsuits from accidental GMOs planting;
- 299. Right to use saved seeds.

Livestock Management

WE SUPPORT:

- 300. Humane treatment of animals;
- 301. CBS authority to approve siting, regulations for CAFOs;
- 302. Strengthening the Master Matrix;
- 303. Repeal of tax abatement for waste systems;
- 304. Humane slaughter of horses in USDA inspected, regulated Iowa facilities;
- 305. Horse sanctuaries;
- 306. No-kill animal shelters.

WE OPPOSE:

- 307. New or expanded CAFOs;
- 308. Hormones and non-therapeutic antibiotics in farm animals;
- 309. Unnecessary euthanasia of racing greyhounds and horses.

Food Safety

WE SUPPORT:

- 310. Fundamental right to safe/healthy food;
- 311. Clear labeling of all food products with information including:
 - a. Origin,
 - b. GMOs,
 - c. Irradiation,
 - d. Hormone/antibiotic use,
 - e. Animal products,
 - f. Pesticide use;
- 312. Testing food for disease, including BSE;
- 313. GMO regulation.

Acronyms Used

BSE Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy

CAA Clean Air Act

CAFE Corporate Average Fuel Economy

CAFO Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations

CBS County Board of Supervisors

ESA Endangered Species Act

CWA Clean Water Act

EV Electric Vehicles

GMOs Genetically Modified Organisms

LEED Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design

MTR Mountaintop Removal (mining)

***Commons:** The land, air, and water, with the resources they hold, which are owned in common by the American public

International Affairs

Peace and Security

WE SUPPORT:

- 314. Combating terrorism as an international criminal problem;
- 315. Reducing military aid to foreign countries;
- 316. Increased funding for improved border and port security;
- 317. Normalization of diplomatic relations with Iran, Syria, Cuba, North Korea;
- 318. Efforts to stabilize Pakistan;
- 319. Protecting victims and prosecuting those who traffic in humans for sexual exploitation and/or forced labor;
- 320. Guantanamo Bay closure;
- 321. Humane treatment and habeas corpus protection for all.

WE OPPOSE:

- 322. Persecution on basis of sexual orientation;
- 323. Preemptive warfare including nuclear weapons for first strike;
- 324. Indiscriminate use of land mines;
- 325. US-sponsored coups, military juntas, unelected governments;
- 326. Torture, secret prisons, detention facilities or rendition to countries known to use torture;
- 327. US installation of ballistic missiles in Eastern Europe;
- 328. Use of cluster bombs, human shields, attack drones, collective punishments, suicide bombings, interference with aid workers, and blockade affecting basic human needs to civilians perpetrated by state or non-state actors;
- 329. USA PATRIOT Act and indefinite detention provisions of NDAA.

Building Peace

WE SUPPORT:

- 330. Fair, free, and open elections in post-war societies;
- 331. Increasing humanitarian involvement and international support for democratic governments;
- 332. Promoting citizen diplomacy with people of other countries;
- 333. Transitioning from a permanent war economy to a peacetime economy;
- 334. Reducing US military forces abroad.

WE OPPOSE:

- 335. Illegal transfer of weapons to armed groups;
- 336. Amnesty for war criminals;
- 337. Rape as a weapon of war.

Regional Conflicts – Afghanistan

WE SUPPORT:

- 338. Expedited withdrawal of US troops.

Regional Conflicts – Iran

WE SUPPORT:

- 339. Engagement and negotiations as a way forward to resolve concerns with nuclear program.

Regional Conflicts – Syria

WE SUPPORT:

- 340. International diplomacy to stop violence in Syria.

Regional Conflicts -- Israel/Palestine

WE SUPPORT:

- 341. The establishment and recognition of a contiguous, viable Palestinian State along 1967 borders;
- 342. Israel's right to live within secure borders with democracy to all of its citizens regardless of religion;
- 343. The UN as the authority to facilitate a final resolution.

WE OPPOSE:

- 344. Israeli settlement activity on territory captured in 1967;
- 345. The wall on occupied territories.

Regional Conflicts – Central and South America

WE OPPOSE:

- 346. Training, military, financial support of repressive regimes;
- 347. Indiscriminate aerial use of herbicides/insecticides;
- 348. Clear-cutting of Amazon rainforest.

Regional Conflicts – Africa

WE SUPPORT:

- 349. Robust world efforts to prevent/end genocide;
- 350. Rapid international peacekeeping intervention in armed conflicts.

Development Assistance

WE SUPPORT:

- 351. Full funding of US commitments to UN Millennium Development Goals;
- 352. Linking foreign aid to promotion of human rights;
- 353. Funding and prevention of pandemic/endemic diseases;
- 354. Comprehensive reproductive health care, family planning programs;
- 355. Administering reconstruction and disaster relief contracts under open-bid processes favoring local contractors/laborers;

- 356. Countervailing tariffs on all imported goods;
- 357. Fair Trade programs tied to workers' rights and environmental protection.

United Nations

WE SUPPORT:

- 358. UN sanctioned world summit for nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament;
- 359. Full US payment of UN dues;
- 360. Reinstating payments to UNESCO;
- 361. International Criminal Court;
- 362. Participation in multilateral peacekeeping and humanitarian missions;
- 363. Full participation in Human Rights Council;
- 364. Authorization of UN peacekeeping, peacemaking, peace-building forces.

Treaties and Conventions

WE SUPPORT:

- 365. Adherence to all international law;
- 366. Ratification and/or full participation in: CEDAW, CRC, CTBT, BWC, Ottawa Land-mine Treaty, Kyoto Protocol, CWC, Geneva Conventions, UNCRDP.

Acronyms Used

BWC Biological Weapons Convention Protocol

CEDAW Convention of Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women

CRC Convention on the Rights of Children

CTBT Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty

CWC Chemical Weapons Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on their Destruction

NDA National Defense Authorization Act

UN United Nations

UNCRPD UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities

UNESCO United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization

Health and Human Services

Universal Healthcare

WE SUPPORT:

- 367. A national, comprehensive, evidence-based, affordable, single-payer plan for everyone, including:
 - a. Reproductive health services, including: family planning, contraceptive services, RU486 and other emergency contraceptives, abortion, fertility services,
 - b. Affordable prescription drugs,
 - c. Mental health services,
 - d. Dental, hearing, vision care,
 - e. Access to long-term care, community-based services,
 - f. Wellness and prevention efforts,
 - g. Non-traditional services;
- 368. Creation of a single-payer state healthcare plan;
- 369. Mental health, brain disorders, and substance abuse parity.

Healthcare Costs

WE SUPPORT:

- 370. Importation of FDA approved prescription drugs;
- 371. Outcomes-based treatment plans;
- 372. Loan forgiveness for health professionals in high-need areas;
- 373. Investing in training more health professionals.

Child Services

WE SUPPORT:

- 374. National child abuser database;
- 375. Affordable, regulated daycare;
- 376. Increasing reimbursement for subsidized childcare;
- 377. Increasing funding for before/after school programs;
- 378. Impartial and fair enforcement of payment/collection of child support for both parents;
- 379. Supporting former foster children until 21;
- 380. Kinship care subsidy for parity with foster parents.

Abused Persons

WE SUPPORT:

- 381. Funding victims' services;
- 382. Preventing abuse/neglect;
- 383. Investigation of all reports of abuse;
- 384. VAWA, restoring funding that current bill would cut.

Reproductive Rights

WE SUPPORT:

- 385. Preserving original Roe-v-Wade;
- 386. Emergency contraceptives access without parental consent;
- 387. Iowa licensure of CPMs;
- 388. Developmentally appropriate, medically accurate sex education;
- 389. Safeguarding doctors, clinics, clients from domestic terrorism.

WE OPPOSE:

- 390. Legislated restrictions on pregnancy termination beyond those specified in Roe-v-Wade;
- 391. Any form of forced sterilization;
- 392. Female genital mutilation.

Mental Health

WE SUPPORT:

- 393. Nondiscriminatory treatment of individuals with mental health disorders, developmental disabilities, and brain disorders;
- 394. Implementation of Iowa Health Redesign as DHS recommended;
- 395. Creating wellness/recovery centers;

- 396. Increasing funding for care of individuals with neurodevelopmental, neurodegenerative, and brain disorders;
- 397. More free-standing mental health hospitals, clinics in Iowa;
- 398. More beds in state institutions for emergency committals;
- 399. Jail diversion programs for substance abuse and mental illness.
- 400. Fully funding CMHS across Iowa;
- 401. Funding for transitional family navigators;
- 402. Increased suicide awareness, prevention programs.

Tobacco Use

WE SUPPORT:

- 403. Increasing funding for prevention, treatment, and cessation programs.

Disability and Elderly Services

WE SUPPORT:

- 404. Improving accessibility and community support services;
- 405. Fair Housing Act;
- 406. Increasing program flexibility/funding to permit independent living choices and accommodation maintenance;
- 407. Mandatory substantive training for direct caregivers;
- 408. Strengthening ADA, including yearly accessibility audits for commercial and public properties;
- 409. Funding training/expenses of service/therapy animals;
- 410. Increasing funding for Vocational Rehabilitation;
- 411. Iowa AAA.

Medicare, Medicaid, and Food Stamps

WE SUPPORT:

- 412. Raising income thresholds;
- 413. Removing geographic inequities and increasing provider reimbursement;
- 414. Negotiated drug prices and competitive bid system for suppliers, while maintaining quality standards;
- 415. Hospice care availability.

Affordable Housing and Homeless Services

WE SUPPORT:

- 416. Safe, decent, affordable housing for all;
- 417. Housing Trust Fund;
- 418. Expanding Section 8 & 42 programs;
- 419. Mixed-income zoning incentives;
- 420. Funding Domestic Violence Shelters;
- 421. Transition programs from shelters into care, treatment, and permanent housing programs;
- 422. Increasing Homeless Shelter Grants;
- 423. Job and life skills training;
- 424. "Wet" and "dry" shelters;
- 425. Family-friendly shelters.

Medical Research

WE SUPPORT:

- 426. Increasing funding for NIH/NSF;
- 427. Stem cell research, including embryonic;
- 428. More study of toxin exposure illnesses.

Consumer Protection

WE SUPPORT:

- 429. Effective FDA drug approval;
- 430. Labeling of vitamins/supplements for side effects and drug interactions;
- 431. Increasing inspections of nursing homes and independent living facilities.

Patient Rights

WE SUPPORT:

- 432. Safe staffing standards in healthcare businesses;
- 433. Requiring criminal background checks/bonding of all staff in healthcare businesses;
- 434. State-wide portability of Iowa Cares;
- 435. Medical marijuana;
- 436. Limiting work hours for interns, residents, and fellows.

WE OPPOSE:

- 437. Allowing insurance companies to overrule doctors as to medically necessary patient care and prescriptions;
- 438. Billing discrimination against uninsured persons;
- 439. Privatization of public social services.

Acronyms Used

AAA Area Agencies on Aging

ADA Americans with Disabilities Act

DHS Department of Human Services

CPM Certified Public Midwife

FDA Food & Drug Administration

NIH/NSF National Institute for Health/National Science Foundation

VAWA Violence Against Women Act