

# Kitsap County Republican Party 2020 Platform

# **OUR PHILOSOPHY**

We, the Kitsap County Republican Party, believe that the following principles distinguish us as Republicans and as citizens of the United States. These principles unite us in a society characterized by individual liberty, personal responsibility, equal opportunity, compassion, and the rule of law. Freedom unites us as one nation.

# **ROLE OF GOVERNMENT**

The purpose of the Constitution is to limit the government's power. Government must be restrained from unnecessarily intruding into the lives of its citizens. The function of government is to protect unalienable, God-given individual rights, including those in the Bill of Rights. An overlarge government inevitably treads on these rights.

# **REAFFIRMATION OF FEDERALISM**

The United States is a constitutional republic. We affirm a constructionist view of the Constitution of the United States. Powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the States, are reserved to the States respectively, or to the people. We firmly support a separation of powers in all levels of government as checks and balances.

# **IMMIGRATION**

Naturalization and immigration are an enumerated responsibility of the federal government and shall be merit-based.

#### NATIONAL SECURITY

The integrity of our borders (physical or otherwise) and the electoral process, including the Electoral College, is critical to our sovereignty and security. The individual has the unrestricted right to keep and bear arms as affirmed in the Second Amendment. Peace and freedom are best secured through a well-armed and trained citizenry, supplemented through the maintenance of a strong, sufficiently-staffed, well-equipped, and volunteer military.

#### PRIVATE PROPERTY

Individual ownership of property is an essential element of individual liberty. Government must only take property or restrict its use under extreme and exigent circumstances, with prompt compensation at fair market value, and fair and impartial judicial review.

#### LOCAL CONTROL

We trust the people to recognize those things which they can do for themselves. Those things that cannot be done effectively by individuals and non-government entities can then be considered for government support when asked by the people.

#### TAXATION

Taxes should be as low, simple, and as fair as possible, while accepting the necessity for limited taxation in order for government to perform its essential duties. All taxes shall have a stated purpose and expiration date and be approved by the voters.

#### **HUMAN SERVICES**

The primary responsibility for meeting basic human needs rests with the individual, the family, and non-governmental organizations.

# **INDIVIDUAL MANDATES**

Government shall not require individuals to buy any particular good or service, including health care.

# **EDUCATION**

Parents have the responsibility and authority to educate their children, and we support their right to choose public, private, or home education. Public education shall be controlled at the local level, subject to parent or guardian informed consent and not dictated by social or curricular agendas.

# FAIR TRADE & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

The government has a role to protect its citizens against economic piracy by citizens, businesses, and governments of other countries. Undue government regulation and high taxation impedes productivity and competition. We believe in the right to work, which allows our state to be more competitive.

# **EQUAL RIGHTS**

All individuals have equal rights under the law. Rights cannot be created by government or assigned on the basis of personal identification. Equal rights can only be protected where due process in all arenas, political or legal, is afforded.

#### FAITH

We oppose the oppression of anyone for their religious beliefs. However, no religious practice shall infringe on the individual liberties of others.

# FAMILY INTEGRITY

Gender is determined by biological sex. Although the government has no just role in legislating marriage, we affirm marriage is exclusively between one man and one woman. The family unit is the foundation of society. Parents have the right to equal and shared parental responsibility including, but not limited to, providing care, discipline, and moral training of their children.

#### SANCTITY OF LIFE

We support the protection of innocent human life in all stages, beginning at conception.

# NATURAL RESOURCE CONSERVATION

We respect and treasure our environment and believe in reasonable policies based on verifiable science to protect, renew, and enjoy our natural resources.

#### **GOVERNMENT DEBT**

Government debt is a burden to all and shall be eliminated. Fiscal responsibility shall be practiced at all levels of government.