

1 IOWA DEMOCRATS  
2 STATE CONVENTION PLATFORM COMMITTEE REPORT  
3 JUNE 14, 2008  
4

5 STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES  
6

7 We Iowa Democrats are proud of our Party's heritage. ~~We salute the~~  
8 ~~heroes of September 11th and we stand united in support of our troops in~~  
9 ~~the field, and remember that legitimate diversity of political opinions is not~~  
10 ~~seen as weakness but rather as strength. We are proud to call ourselves~~  
11 ~~Americans especially in these trying days and tough economic times.~~

12  
13 The spirit that animates America's oldest political party is alive throughout  
14 the world. Americans' faith in democracy is a beacon to persons of the  
15 developing world as they strive to win the rights Americans take for  
16 granted. We are justly proud of our Democratic Party, its heritage, its  
17 accomplishments and its diversities. No part of that heritage is more  
18 valuable than our belief in the rights and worth of each individual. Iowans  
19 and other Americans have given their lives to maintain those rights and we  
20 unequivocally oppose policies that require forfeiting those rights in the  
21 name of fighting terrorism. Giving up our most precious rights means  
22 losing that which makes us Americans. Liberty and diversity are our  
23 strengths, and we understand that it is only in maintaining those strengths  
24 that we will continue to stand as a beacon of freedom to the world.  
25

26 We support Iowans serving in the military, especially our troops in the field,  
27 and look forward to their return home to this beautiful land. Every day they  
28 serve is a testament to their love of country and we honor their service. We  
29 love our country, but will never support government policies we think are  
30 bad for America.  
31

32 As temporary stewards of our natural resources, we demand that our  
33 governing bodies develop policies and laws promoting sound energy  
34 practices and permanently protecting our environment from wasteful and  
35 indiscriminate use. Clean air, clean water, and diverse ecosystems,  
36 including our national parks, oceans, and ancient forests, are part of our  
37 children's future and must be protected. As stewards of Iowa's heritage,  
38 we cherish our land and family farms.  
39

40 All Americans have a stake in local, national and global economic systems  
41 that provide first and foremost for the basic human needs: nourishment,  
42 shelter, health, employment and education. The answer to governmental  
43 fiscal problems lies in a strong economy founded upon broadly based  
44 prosperity. An equitable and wide distribution of wealth and a free and  
45 fairly compensated labor force expands our economy and creates a  
46 healthier society. Market forces alone often do not serve the common  
47 good.

48

49 We must provide accessible, affordable, and quality education to all Iowans  
50 at all educational levels. Adequate funding, accountability, innovation, and  
51 cost-effective programming are essential to ensure Iowans are competitive  
52 in the national and global economy. Education is an investment in Iowa's  
53 future.

54

55 Whenever the rights of any of our citizens are threatened, the rights of all  
56 are endangered. We take seriously the obligation to preserve, protect and  
57 secure basic constitutional and civil rights for ALL. We believe in a  
58 government which consistently and fairly serves and protects ALL people.  
59 We believe in a government that protects ALL individuals and assures  
60 equal opportunities for all. We believe none are truly free unless all are  
61 free; that justice is the right of all, not just those who have the means or  
62 power to seize it.

63

64 The legitimate function of government is to accomplish those social goals  
65 which we cannot achieve as individuals. We believe in and will continue to  
66 work for a truly representative government: working for the good of the  
67 people; compassionate, progressive, responsible and fair; striving to  
68 achieve peace, prosperity, and instilling confidence and hope.

69

70 We ~~support~~ strive for a return to meaningful checks and balances between  
71 legislative, judicial, and executive branches of government.

72

73 We continue to stand with people everywhere who demand freedom,  
74 justice, and opportunity; and applaud their peaceful progress while  
75 extending a helping hand to support new, fragile democracies. We look  
76 forward to the day when all countries are open to the free exchange of  
77 ideas and the fair and equitable exchange of goods.

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## **SPECIAL RESOLUTIONS**

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**KEEPING THE PROMISE  
TO AMERICA'S SERVICE MEMBERS AND VETERANS**

We recognize the service and sacrifices of our service members and veterans, including Senator Tom Harkin and Representative Leonard Boswell, who are the only veterans serving Iowa in the United States Congress.

All Service Members and Veterans have taken risk by taking the oath, regardless of war or time of peace. A Service Member is always on duty to perform dangerous missions. Service Members face separation from family and loved ones, as well as physical hardships, regardless of when and where their service was rendered.

It is the unwavering position of the Iowa Democratic Veteran's Caucus that the Veterans Administration (VA) health care provisions are a contractual agreement earned by veterans.

As such, we insist that financial means-testing, co-pays and any other devices utilized to exclude or limit veterans' health care benefits be rescinded. A veteran is a veteran regardless of when, how or where he or she served in our Armed Forces.

America must come to recognize that the veterans' health care budget crisis is as significant and important as both the Medicare and Medicaid health care crises. The cost for veterans' health care is projected to increase multifold because of the unique injuries associated with our current conflict. Therefore, veterans' health care budgets must be dramatically expanded. Not only are our veterans affected, but it impacts their parents, children, spouses, employers, and the acquaintances of our veterans.

Also, we recognize that no party, religious body or individual can speak for all veterans. We also recognize that expressing differing opinions on government policy can never be unpatriotic, as it is that basic right that protects our liberties and is the underlying strength of our democracy.

We support:

- 119 1. A Veteran Affairs Office with a qualified Director of Veteran Affairs  
120 for each of Iowa's counties.
- 121 2. Active recruitment of veterans and priority preference for training  
122 programs and employment.
- 123 3. Full financing, salary adjustments and staffing for the Iowa  
124 Veterans' Home Capital Projects Master Plan.
- 125 4. Promised benefits, retirement, and severance pay to veterans  
126 without offsets of disability compensation and/or social security  
127 benefits.
- 128 5. Providing financing for an immediate increase of the amount of the  
129 veterans' property exemption, indexing it to the rate of inflation,  
130 and comparable credit for those who rent.
- 131 6. An income tax credit equal to the lesser of \$300 or 10% of state  
132 and federal income for disabled veterans with a service connected  
133 disability.
- 134 7. Exempting all income received by National Guard, Reserves  
135 Forces or U.S. Armed Forces from state income taxes while on  
136 federal active duty while serving outside the continental U.S.
- 137 8. Iowa veterans receiving free tuition at any state institution of  
138 higher learning.
- 139 9. Using the fees derived from all veteran-related vanity automobile  
140 license plates to support veterans' needs.
- 141 10. Issuance by the Federal Government of a Cold War medal to all  
142 veterans who have earned the citation by serving after World War  
143 II (September 1945) and before the fall of the Soviet Union  
144 (December 1991).
- 145 11. Full medical and other forms of compensation for veterans who  
146 have been afflicted by exposure to nuclear bomb tests, Agent  
147 Orange, depleted uranium and other environmental related  
148 illnesses.
- 149 12. Creation of a MEDICAL CARD for all veterans, which would permit  
150 them to obtain health care at any medical facility of their choosing.
- 151 13. All National Guard and Reserve Forces educational benefits must  
152 be brought into parity with those offered to regular armed forces  
153 veterans.
- 154 14. All of Iowa's drilling Reservists should receive the same benefits  
155 extended to their Iowa National Guard counterparts from the state  
156 of Iowa.

- 157 15. Special attention and emphasis must be given to the problems of  
158 women veterans, Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) and to orthopedic  
159 injuries for amputees.
- 160 16. Recognizing that the Global War on Terrorism has dramatically  
161 increased PTSD and sexual trauma; which adds to the pre-existing  
162 conditions of drug-abuse, alcoholism, domestic abuse and  
163 homelessness, we strongly recommend that the VA facilities in  
164 Knoxville be used to establish a domiciliary for women, a center to  
165 treat PTSD and as a rehabilitation and mental health center for the  
166 VA Midwestern Region.
- 167 17. The VA should pay competitive salaries for mental health  
168 professionals and, when necessary, they should outsource the  
169 services when caseloads exceed national established mental  
170 health standards.
- 171 18. The State and National Democratic Party should support  
172 increased funding to veterans' assistance programs and extension  
173 of veterans' benefits to their immediate families.
- 174 19. Expanding the number of Veterans' Centers to serve rural areas.
- 175 20. That the federal per capita veterans' benefit for Iowa Veterans be  
176 raised from 44th in the nation to 10th in the nation by 2010.
- 177 21. Forming a special committee to find and recover lost military  
178 documents, files and records that are essential to establishing  
179 service connected disabilities.
- 180 22. Full accounting of POW/MIA including declassification of  
181 documents.
- 182 23. Enhanced specialized treatment and research for service-related  
183 conditions, such as mental illness, disabilities caused by injury,  
184 and Agent Orange, including treatment of descendants of veterans  
185 for Agent Orange-related conditions (skin conditions, eczema,  
186 etc.).
- 187 24. Establishment of a County Democratic Veterans' Caucus by each  
188 County Central Committee.

189  
190 We oppose:

- 191 25. Any attempt to replace and/or offset veterans' compensations  
192 and/or benefits with social security payments.

193  
194 **PRIORITIZATION OF STATE PLATFORM ISSUES**

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196 Prioritization of the issues in the State platform shall not take place until  
197 final debate on the platform has concluded and the preliminary report of the  
198 platform committee has been adopted as amended by the delegates to the  
199 State Convention in the final platform report of the State Convention.

200

201 **EQUAL ACCESS TO PARTY MATERIALS**  
202 **FOR ALL DEMOCRATIC CANDIDATES**

203

204 All materials that are available to the Iowa Democratic Party shall be made  
205 available to all Democratic candidates running in primary and general  
206 elections on an equal access basis.

207

208 **PERFECTING FORM OF THE PLATFORM**

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210 We support an amendment to the state party constitution that requires the  
211 reconvening of the platform committee after every state convention to  
212 discuss and recommend changes to the form of the platform.

213

214

**STATEMENT OF ISSUES**

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**AGRICULTURE AND THE ENVIRONMENT**

217

218 We support actions to combat climate change, protect and restore the  
219 environment, protect consumers, and achieve energy independence and  
220 sustainable agricultural systems via:

221

222 **BALLOT 1. ENVIRONMENTALLY RESPONSIBLE ENERGY**

223

224 We support:

225

1. Renewable energy.

226

2. Fair net-metering rules.

227

3. A 20% renewable electricity portfolio by 2020; 80% by 2050.

228

4. Financing research through a carbon tax.

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5. Training a clean technologies workforce.

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6. Reducing consumption and increasing efficiency.

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7. Improved **CAFE** standards (including **SUVs** and pickups) to  
232 50mpg by 2025.

233

8. Cap on carbon emissions and the trade on carbon credits.

234

9. Implementing sequestration technologies at coal power plants as  
235 technologies develop.

- 236 10. Hard caps on mercury emissions.
- 237 11. A Moratorium on new coal power plants.
- 238 12. No subsidy for production of corn ethanol. [But supporting
- 239 subsidies for all sources of bio-ethanol, including switchgrass, corn
- 240 and others.]
- 241 13. No renewable designation for nuclear power.

242

## 243 **BALLOT 2. PLANNING AND ZONING**

244

245 We support:

- 246 14. Incentives for green building.
- 247 15. Using **LEED** requirements for publicly financed projects.
- 248 16. Reversing the giveaway of our natural resources to private
- 249 enterprise and foreign countries.
- 250 17. Development within existing cities and towns rather than prime
- 251 agricultural or natural areas.
- 252 18. Limiting **TIFs** to intended use.
- 253 19. Eliminating developer property tax credits and subsidies.

254

## 255 **BALLOT 3. ENVIRONMENTAL ENHANCEMENT AND REGULATION**

256

257 We support:

- 258 20. Favoring environmental protection and public health over
- 259 corporate profits.
- 260 21. Preserving our shared natural resources and conserving
- 261 biodiversity.
- 262 22. Full financing for **REAP** and the Leopold Center for Sustainable
- 263 Agriculture.
- 264 23. **IDNR** and **IDALS** enforcement authority.
- 265 24. Enforcing and strengthening the **ESA** and **CAA**.
- 266 25. Scientific standards for federal and state conservation programs.
- 267 26. Long-term approaches to **CRP** and easements for ecologically
- 268 fragile lands.
- 269 27. Preservation/restoration of carbon-sequestering native
- 270 ecosystems: prairies, wetlands, savannas, forests.
- 271 28. Protected status for Iowa's remaining virgin prairie remnants.
- 272 29. Notification of airborne chemical applications to adjacent
- 273 landowners.
- 274 30. Banning trapping along public roadsides.
- 275 31. Biodegradable and reusable retail bags.

- 276 32. Reinstating the Roadless Rule in national forests.  
277 33. Full financing for ecosystem management and infrastructure in our  
278 national parks.  
279 34. Inspecting septic tanks before property sale.  
280 35. Improving and maintaining municipal water facilities.  
281 36. Enforcement and Increasing penalties for polluters.  
282 37. Eliminating grandfather clauses for polluters.  
283 38. Greater financing of the enforcement of laws preventing nitrate  
284 pollution of our aquifers and streams and penalizing those who  
285 build channels or outlet tiles to sinkholes, or alter the rate and  
286 manner of flow to sinkhole-prone Wet Lands and watersheds.  
287 39. Enforcement of environmental regulations along our borders.  
288

289 We oppose:

- 290 40. Weakening environmental standards affecting our national parks.  
291

#### 292 **BALLOT 4. WATERSHED MANAGEMENT**

293

294 We support:

- 295 41. Access to affordable clean water.  
296 42. Reforming the credible data law to permit volunteer water  
297 sampling.  
298 43. Halting declassification of rivers and streams.  
299 44. Restoring perennial waterways to swimmable and fishable status.  
300 45. "Reasonable use" defined as withdrawal at rates below aquifer  
301 recharge.  
302 46. Financing, strict enforcement, and strengthening of the **CWA**.  
303 47. Permitting lawsuits for **CWA** violations.  
304 48. Safe agricultural and municipal waste disposal.  
305 49. A public right-to-know about permit applications, compliance, and  
306 toxic release.  
307

#### 308 **BALLOT 5. LIVESTOCK MANAGEMENT**

309

310 We support:

- 311 50. Environmental quality standards.  
312 51. Local control for **CAFO** siting, maintenance, and operations.  
313 52. Humane treatment of animals.  
314 53. Repealing odor nuisance lawsuit protection.  
315 54. Ending Tax abatements for **CAFO** waste systems.

- 316 55. Requiring **CAFOs** to obtain **NPDES** permits and file nutrient  
317 management plans.  
318 56. Moratorium on new and expanded **CAFOs** pending science-based  
319 air and water regulations, inspection, and enforcement.  
320

## 321 **BALLOT 6. RECYCLING/BOTTLE BILL**

322

323 We support:

- 324 57. A bottle bill including all purchased drink containers.  
325 58. 2¢ handling fee.  
326 59. Incentives for recycling.  
327

## 328 **BALLOT 7. CONSUMER CHOICE AND FOOD SAFETY**

329

330 We support:

- 331 60. Stable and safe regional food supplies.  
332 61. Banning growing of **GMOs** for pharmaceuticals in open  
333 environments.  
334 62. Product labeling including: Origin, **GMOs**, irradiation,  
335 hormone/antibiotic use, and animal products.  
336 63. Manufacturer burden to prove **GMO** safety for ecosystems and  
337 human health and bear responsibility for in-field chemical and  
338 genetic crop contamination.  
339 64. Independent research on agricultural antibiotic and hormone use.  
340 65. Strengthening food and beverage inspection.  
341 66. Price reporting for all commodity purchases.  
342 67. Support for small producers to comply with food safety standards.  
343 68. Allowing the direct market of raw milk and its use for cheese-  
344 making.  
345 69. Hemp grown for industrial uses.  
346 70. Indexing food stamps to cost of living.  
347

## 348 **BALLOT 8. SUSTAINABLE RURAL DEVELOPMENT**

349

350 We support:

- 351 71. Organic farming.  
352 72. Crop and livestock diversification.  
353 73. Funding soil conservation districts.  
354 74. Sustainable non-food source bio-fuels.  
355 75. Beginning farmer programs.

356

357 **BALLOT 9. STRUCTURE OF AGRICULTURE**

358

359 We support:

- 360 76. Senator Harkin's farm bill:
- 361 77. Farmer owned reserve;
- 362 78. \$250,000 subsidy limit.
- 363 79. Promoting small, sustainable, and diverse family-owned farms.
- 364 80. Banning meat-packer ownership of livestock.
- 365 81. Increased subsidies for small farms and for organic farms.
- 366 82. Functional local food systems.
- 367 83. The Farm to School Bill that uses locally produced foods.

368

369 We oppose:

- 370 84. Federal, state, or private **CAFOs** on Native American Land or
- 371 Reservations without consent of tribal council.

372

373 **ADDENDUM – ACRONYMS USED IN THIS SECTION**

374

- 375 CRP – Conservation Reserve Program (Issue 26)
- 376 CAA – Clean Air Act (Issue 24)
- 377 CAFE – Corporate Average Fuel Efficiency (Issue 7)
- 378 CAFO – Confined Animal Feeding Operation (Issues 51, 54, 55, 56, 84)
- 379 CWA – Clean Water Act (Issues 46, 47)
- 380 ESA – Endangered Species Act (Issue 24)
- 381 GMO – Genetically Modified Organism (Issues 61, 62, 63)
- 382 IDNR – Iowa Department of Natural Resources (Issue 23)
- 383 IDALS – Iowa Department of Agricultural and Land Stewardship
- 384 (Issue 23)
- 385 LEED – Leadership in Energy and Efficient Design (Issue 15)
- 386 NPDES – National Pollutant Discharge Elimination Systems (Issue 55)
- 387 REAP – Resource Enhancement and Protection Program (Issue 22)
- 388 SUV – Sport/Utility Vehicle (Issue 7)
- 389 TIF – Tax Increment Financing (Issue 18)

390

391 **EDUCATION**

392

393 **BALLOT 10. PRE-K-12 CURRICULA, PROGRAMS AND SERVICES**

394

395 We support:

- 396 1. A curricula that is multi-cultural, non-sexist, broadly focused, not  
397 driven by federal mandates, and that addresses opportunity gaps  
398 and contributing factors (especially poverty) which impede learning  
399 and development with full-funding/provisions for fine arts, foreign  
400 language, physical/nutritional education and comprehensive,  
401 accurate, developmentally-appropriate sex education at all levels  
402 with local flexibility.
- 403 2. Repeal of **NCLB**.
- 404 3. Mandatory kindergarten.
- 405 4. Counseling services and diagnostic/therapeutic services for all  
406 students PreK-12.
- 407 5. **Minority report to remove: DREAM Act.**
- 408 6. Decision making/problem solving involving educational  
409 professionals, parents and students.
- 410 7. Restoring and sustaining all financing for K-12 educational field  
411 trips.
- 412 8. Enforcement of state-wide “anti-bully law”.
- 413 9. Public-private partnerships for **PreK-14**.
- 414

415 We support full and adequate financing for:

- 416 10. Early childhood education programs, Head Start, Empowerment,  
417 Voluntary Preschool, Shared Visions meeting **NAEYC** or **IQPPS**.
- 418 11. Licensing/registration of all Iowa early care and education settings.
- 419 12. Before/after school programming, summer programs, **AEAs**.
- 420 13. **ICN**, technology and computer access in schools.
- 421 14. Public and school libraries/media technology centers and staff.
- 422 15. Comprehensive, accurate, and developmentally appropriate sex  
423 education.
- 424 16. Class size reduction initiatives.
- 425 17. Improved energy efficiency in public school facilities.
- 426 18. Citizen diplomacy programs.
- 427 19. K-12 allowable growth rate to 6%.
- 428 20. **ADA** compliance in schools.
- 429

430 We oppose:

- 431 21. Public PreK-12 academic fees.
- 432 22. Diverting public monies from public PreK-12 schools to vouchers,  
433 tuition tax credits or private education.
- 434 23. **NCLB**-proscribed personal information databases.
- 435

436 **BALLOT 11. EDUCATORS**

437

438 We support:

- 439 24. Quality professional teacher development.
- 440 25. Maintaining PreK-12 teacher training/licensing/certification
- 441 requirements.
- 442 26. State-funded reimbursement of certification fees for special
- 443 education teachers.
- 444 27. Out-of-pocket **K-14** classroom materials tax credit.
- 445 28. \$10,000 annual tuition tax deduction for licensed educators
- 446 pursuing advanced degrees.
- 447 29. Educational instead of Title XIX funding of public school nurses.

448

449 We support full and adequate financing for:

- 450 30. Meaningful professional development.

451

452 We oppose:

- 453 31. Merit pay or school financing/salaries linked to student test results.
- 454 32. Fast-track teacher certification.
- 455 33. Cutting librarians, counselors or nurses to balance school budgets.

456

457 **BALLOT 12. SPECIAL EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES**

458

459 We support:

- 460 34. Literacy programs targeting high school drop outs, the
- 461 un/underemployed and immigrants.
- 462 35. Providing transportation, day care and payment to adult refugee
- 463 **ESL** students.
- 464 36. Reviewing **NPNPL** in regard to special needs students.
- 465 37. Assessment of need for special education students when
- 466 determining classroom size and funding in all educational settings.
- 467 38. Restoring full funding of all **VR** programs.
- 468 39. Equal special education dollars given for students at state-run
- 469 institutions as public schools.
- 470 40. A state-wide career academy system.

471

472 We support full and adequate financing for:

- 473 41. Adult education in prisons.
- 474 42. Federal school-to-work opportunities.
- 475 43. **IDEA** from the federal government at the 40% level.

476

477 **BALLOT 13. HIGHER EDUCATION**

478

479 We support:

480 44. Full student loan interest tax deductibility.

481 45. Repeal of Solomon Amendment.

482 46. Safe, modern campuses.

483 47. Enforcement of Title IX.

484 48. Access to financial aid regardless of criminal arrest/conviction.

485

486 We support full and adequate financing for:

487 49. Community colleges.

488 50. Regents universities.

489 51. Equitable wages for support professionals, substitutes, adjuncts,  
490 and para-professionals.

491 52. **NEA, NEH, NSF, CPB, and IAC.**

492 53. Loan forgiveness in shortage areas, for those who remain in Iowa  
493 to work or to provide public/community service.

494 54. Timely disbursements for student aid through grants, scholarships,  
495 low-interest loans, tax credits, work study, federal incentives and  
496 **ITGP** to help keep costs affordable and tuitions steady.

497

498 We oppose:

499 55. Mid-year funding pullbacks to **IBR** institutions.

500 56. Hiring adjuncts in community colleges when there is sufficient  
501 course load for full-time faculty positions.

502

503 **ADDENDUM – ACRONYMS USED IN THIS SECTION**

504

505 ADA – Americans with Disabilities Act (Issue 20)

506 AEA – Area Education Agencies (Issue 12)

507 CPB – Corporation for Public Broadcasting (Issue 54)

508 DREAM – Development Relief and Education for Alien Minors (Issue 5)

509 ESL – English Second Language (Issue 35)

510 IAC – Iowa Arts Council (Issue 54)

511 IBR – Iowa Board of Regents (Issue 49)

512 ICN – Iowa Communications Network (Issue 13)

513 IDEA – Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (Issue 43)

514 IQPPS – Iowa Quality Preschool Program Standards (Issue 10)

515 ITGP – Iowa Tuition Grant Program (Issue 56)

516 K-14 – Kindergarten through junior/community college (Issues 9, 27)  
517 NAEYC – National Association for the Education of Young Children  
518 (Issue 10)  
519 NCLB – No Child Left Behind (Issues 2, 23)  
520 NEA – National Endowment for the Arts (Issue 54)  
521 NEH – National Endowment for the Humanities (Issue 54)  
522 NPNPL – No Pass No Play Law (Issue 36)  
523 NSF – National Science Foundation (Issue 54)  
524 VR – Vocational Rehabilitation (Issue 38)  
525

## 526 GOVERNMENT AND LAW

### 527 528 **BALLOT 14. CIVIL RIGHTS**

529  
530 We support:

- 531 1. Repealing **DOMA**.
- 532 2. Full Restoration of Habeas Corpus.
- 533 3. Enforcement of Miranda Rights.
- 534 4. Addition of “Sexual Orientation”, “Gender Identity”, “Transgender”,  
535 and “Disability” to all State and Federal Anti-Discrimination laws,  
536 Hate Crime laws, Human Rights policies, Anti-bullying and Civil  
537 Rights Statutes.
- 538 5. Constitutional protection from intrusion in all sensitive personal  
539 matters and an individual’s right to privacy in thoughts and beliefs.
- 540 6. Separation of church and state.
- 541 7. Roe v. Wade as settled law.
- 542 8. Passage of **ERA**.
- 543 9. Affirmative Action and Title IX.
- 544 10. Adoption of **ENDA**.
- 545 11. The First Amendment: Religion is a matter of personal choice  
546 government must neither hinder, nor assist.
- 547 12. Legislation protecting same-sex couples’ rights in adopting  
548 children and custody matters.
- 549 13. Gender-neutral custodial rights.
- 550 14. The unsealing of past adoption records and that present and  
551 future adoption records remain unsealed for the benefit of the  
552 adoptee and the real/natural parents.
- 553 15. Marriage equality for all Americans.
- 554 16. Broader state/federal anti-hate crime/discrimination/bullying and all  
555 civil/human rights laws for ALL gender and the disabled.

556 17. Requiring all public/private entities to have written permission from  
557 individual account holders before sharing any non-public  
558 information about them with any third party.  
559

560 We oppose:

- 561 18. The violation of the 4th Amendment by any public/private entities  
562 in the conduct of surveillance; and immunity for those who violate  
563 the 4th Amendment.  
564 19. Religious reference in the Pledge of Allegiance.  
565 20. The use of government rules or actions to intimidate dissenters.  
566 21. Subversion of democratic principles and processes in the name of  
567 national security.  
568

## 569 **BALLOT 15. TAXATION**

570

571 We support:

- 572 22. A fiscally responsible and socially progressive budget.  
573 23. Taxing all income fairly and relying on a simplified, progressive  
574 income tax.  
575 24. Letting tax cuts for the top two federal income tax brackets expire.  
576 25. The estate tax with an exemption for the first \$2 million for small  
577 businesses and farmers.  
578 26. Revoking tax breaks and imposing heavy tax penalties on  
579 corporations sending jobs out of the country.  
580 27. **Minority report to remove:** Taxing and regulating marijuana like  
581 tobacco and alcohol.  
582 28. Iowa's multi-state firms move from "separate entity" reporting to  
583 "combined" reporting.  
584 29. Raising the age and income limits for Earned Income Tax Credits.  
585 30. Requiring businesses to repay loans, grants, and tax incentives if  
586 they fail to meet required conditions.  
587

588 We oppose:

- 589 31. Taxation of unemployment, worker's compensation, and Social  
590 Security benefits.  
591 32. The Iowa Drug Tax Stamp.  
592

## 593 **BALLOT 16. CONSUMER PROTECTION**

594

595 We support:

- 596 33. Obtaining permission from account holders before sharing non-  
597 public information; compensation for violation and/or sale of  
598 information.  
599 34. Capping credit card rates at 8 points above the prime rate.  
600 35. Reforming patent laws.  
601 36. Rescinding recent changes in Bankruptcy Law.  
602 37. Creating a private cause of action for consumer fraud in Iowa.  
603 38. Low income utility rates.

604

605 We oppose:

- 606 39. Corporations having constitutional status as individuals.  
607 40. Immunizing corporations from lawsuits.  
608 41. Pet mills and profiting from animal cruelty.

609

## 610 **BALLOT 17. SOCIAL SECURITY**

611

612 We support:

- 613 42. Removing the income cap on Social Security contributions.  
614 43. Strengthening Social Security and increasing Social Security  
615 benefits annually to reflect the cost of living.  
616 44. Calculating all budget figures used in government report with and  
617 without the total sum in the Social Security Trust Fund.  
618 45. Honoring federal budget obligations to Social Security Trust Fund.

619

620 We oppose:

- 621 46. Using Social Security funds to balance the general budget.  
622 47. Privatizing Social Security.

623

## 624 **BALLOT 18. ELECTIONS**

625

626 We support:

- 627 48. A voter-verified paper audit trail, statistically significant random  
628 audits of precincts, public disclosure of voting software used and  
629 open-source code.  
630 49. The **VOICE** Act and publicly financed elections at all government  
631 levels.  
632 50. A national election holiday.  
633 51. Instant run-off voting for candidates in all elections.  
634 52. The enforcement of **VRA** and the right of every citizen of legal age  
635 to vote.

- 636 53. Redrawing legislative districts only in the year following the  
637 national census.  
638 54. Standards to improve election quality such as ballot type, poll  
639 supervision, ballot tabulation.  
640 55. Eliminating monetary influence of lobbyists employed by industry  
641 **PACs**.  
642 56. Private citizen suits against industry lobbies for violation of  
643 campaign and lobbying laws.  
644 57. Enforced legislation requiring relinquishment of congressional pay  
645 and benefits with a five year waiting period before accepting  
646 employment as lobbyist.  
647 58. A state wide vote by mail program.  
648 59. Consistent standards in a nationwide voting system that guards  
649 the integrity of all elections.  
650

651 We oppose:

- 652 60. Any form of voter disenfranchisement.  
653

## 654 **BALLOT 19. MEDIA**

655

656 We support:

- 657 61. First Amendment protection for all electronic media.  
658 62. Adequate funding for Corporation for Public Broadcasting and  
659 continued independence in its operation.  
660 63. Reinstatement of Fairness Doctrine.  
661 64. "Net neutrality".  
662 65. Publicly owned broadband networks.  
663 66. Local government cable franchise fees to fund **PEG** channels.  
664 67. Opening "unlicensed spectrum" for community networks.  
665

666 We oppose:

- 667 68. The use of media for government sanctioned propaganda, i.e.  
668 unattributed **VNRs**.  
669 69. Media consolidation.  
670 70. Internet censorship.  
671

## 672 **BALLOT 20. TRANSPORTATION**

673

674 We support:

- 675 71. Improved public transit including short/long-haul rail passenger  
676 service.  
677 72. Full financing of transportation infrastructure and maintenance  
678 programs.  
679 73. Inspection points at the U.S.-Mexican border for the purpose of  
680 enforcing DOT trucking regulations.

681

682 We oppose:

- 683 74. Infrastructure privatization.

684

## 685 **BALLOT 21. GOVERNMENT SERVICES**

686

687 We support:

- 688 75. Eliminating the “English Only” law as applied to government  
689 documents.  
690 76. Fair, transparent, accessible and accountable government.  
691 77. Full representation in Congress and self determination for  
692 indigenous peoples and all commonwealths, territories, and the  
693 District of Columbia.  
694 78. **Minority report to include:** Statehood for the District of Columbia.  
695 79. Ending **OFBCI**.  
696 80. The expanded powers of executive branch to be rescinded and  
697 checks and balances to be restored.  
698 81. Re-establishment of the Office of Science and Technology  
699 Assessment.  
700 82. Fully financing legislative mandates and entitlement programs  
701 without discrimination.  
702 83. Revoking immunity for private military/mercenary/policing groups  
703 who have committed crimes.  
704 84. Eliminating financing that supports private  
705 military/mercenary/policing groups.  
706 85. **Minority report to remove:** A minimum 15% reduction in  
707 Pentagon spending.  
708 86. School and county reorganization, provided existing buildings  
709 remain open to provide services.  
710 87. Regulation of deliverable fuel vendors.

711

712 We oppose:

- 713 88. Utility deregulation and privatization.

714 89. Military recruiting in K-12 schools and supply of student names to  
715 recruiters.  
716

717 **BALLOT 22. IMMIGRATION**  
718

719 We support:

720 90. Reform legislation that upholds human rights, eliminates  
721 geographical/racial bias, preserves families and establishes an  
722 expedient pathway to citizenship.  
723

724 We oppose:

725 91. A Mexico-U.S. border wall.  
726

727 **BALLOT 23. GUN REGULATION**  
728

729 We support:

730 92. Fair, responsible and reasonable gun control.  
731

732 We oppose:

733 93. Possession of firearms by persons while under no-contact orders.  
734 **Minority report to include:** ..., charged with, or convicted of  
735 domestic violence/child endangerment crimes.  
736

737 **BALLOT 24. CORRECTIONS/CRIMINAL JUSTICE**  
738

739 We support:

740 94. Increased funding for juvenile treatment and prevention programs.

741 95. Repeal of "three strikes you're out" laws.

742 96. Ending the costly "War on Drugs": refocusing efforts onto "harm  
743 reduction" and realistic prevention efforts.

744 97. Increased funding for public defenders and Legal Aid.

745 98. Legalizing Marijuana.

746 99. Alternative sentencing for non-violent offenders.

747 100. Shifting funds from proposed prison expansion to quality mental  
748 health/substance abuse rehabilitation.

749 101. Treating substance abuse as a public health issue, not a criminal  
750 issue.

751 102. A moratorium on prison construction, except for structural  
752 improvements to existing facilities.

- 753 103. Diverting mentally ill offenders not charged with forcible felonies to  
754 special courts and treatment centers.  
755 104. Judicial discretion in sentencing particularly for juveniles waived to  
756 adult court.  
757 105. Criminalizing denial of treatment by insurance companies that  
758 results in death of the insured.  
759 106. Binding plea bargains.  
760 107. White collar crime enforcement.  
761 108. Improved educational, vocational, and technical training for  
762 prisoners.  
763 109. ***Minority report to include:*** Pardoning Leonard Peltier.  
764 110. Rights of victims to have no contact orders.  
765 111. Substance abuse assessment and treatment for inmates.  
766 112. Automatic restoration of ex-felon voting rights.  
767 113. Elimination of drug conviction question on **FAFSA**.  
768 114. Criminal conviction as pre-requisite for property forfeiture.  
769 115. Forfeiture being a rare exception.  
770 116. Individual right to jury trial in forfeiture cases.  
771 117. Repealing Federal legislation preventing non-violent rehabilitated  
772 drug offenders from returning to full participation in society.  
773 118. Equitable sentencing of drug users.  
774 119. Establishing human rights commission to evaluate complaints by  
775 inmates and parolees against the Federal and State Probation &  
776 Sexual Crimes Division of the Dept. of Corrections.  
777 120. Full funding of **VOCA, FVPSA, and VAWA**.  
778 121. Creating a Native American & Cultural Center in Iowa providing  
779 outreach, counseling, education, place of worship for all cultures,  
780 and referral and training programs.  
781 122. Recognition of Native American Rights and Culture.

782

783 We oppose:

- 784 123. Mandatory minimum sentencing.  
785 124. Capital punishment, including for military.

786

## 787 **BALLOT 25. MILITARY AND VETERANS**

788

789 We support:

- 790 125. Recognition of All Veterans, regardless of branch, location, or  
791 duration of Service.

- 792 126. Raising Iowa Veterans benefits from 44th to 10th nationally by  
793 2010.  
794 127. Increasing emphasis on medical needs for all Veterans, including  
795 mental disorders, medical and mental health services, women  
796 Veterans, **TBI**, orthopedic injuries/amputations.  
797 128. Expansion of Knoxville **VA** for women, **TBI**, **PTSD**, and other  
798 service-related issues.  
799 129. Mandatory federal funding for Veterans' health care for all  
800 Veterans.  
801 130. Increasing the state education assistance to Veterans.  
802 131. Long-range state Veterans' Service Plan defining goals by county  
803 and region.  
804 132. Full rights and privileges of adulthood for all military personnel and  
805 those registered for any required selective service.  
806 133. Veteran preference for employment and training.  
807 134. Reserve, National Guard, and Active Duty benefits parity.  
808

809 We oppose:

- 810 135. Means-testing for Veterans benefits.  
811 136. Offsets of disability compensation.  
812 137. Discriminatory treatment of Veterans.  
813 138. Stop-loss.  
814 139. Mercenaries.  
815 140. Torture.  
816

## 817 **ADDENDUM – ACRONYMS USED IN THIS SECTION**

- 818  
819 DOMA – Defense of Marriage Act (Issue 1)  
820 ENDA – Employment Non-discrimination Act (Issue 10)  
821 ERA – Equal Rights Amendment (Issue 8)  
822 FAFSA – Free Application for Student Aid (Issue 115)  
823 FVPSA – Family Violence and Prevention Services Act (Issue 122)  
824 OFBCI – Office of Faith Based and Community Initiatives (Issue 79)  
825 PAC – Political Action Committee (Issue 55)  
826 PEG – Public, Educational, and Governmental Access (Issue 66)  
827 PTSD – Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (Issue 130)  
828 TBI – Traumatic Brain Injury (Issues 129, 130)  
829 VA – Veterans Administration (Issue 130)  
830 VAWA – Violence Against Women Act (Issue 122)  
831 VOCA – Victims of Crime Act (Issue 122)

832 VOICE – Voter Owned Iowa Clean Elections (Issue 49)  
833 VNR – Video News Release (Issue 68)  
834 VRA – Voters Rights Act (Issue 52)

835

836

## HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

837

### BALLOT 26. UNIVERSAL HEALTH CARE/MEDICARE-MEDICAID

839

840 We support:

- 841 1. Making health care a fundamental constitutional right.
- 842 2. A national health care system providing without discrimination:
  - 843 • consumer-driven provider choice;
  - 844 • comprehensive, portable, high quality, affordable, and
  - 845 sustainable health care;
  - 846 • prevention;
  - 847 • early diagnosis;
  - 848 • pre-existing, genetic, and chronic disease/pain management;
  - 849 • improved methods and telemedicine, and increased cost
  - 850 efficiency.
- 851 3. A national, universal single payer health insurance program.
- 852 4. Full public financing for Medicaid, Medicare, and **SCHIP**.
- 853 5. A national long-term care system designed to meet the needs of
- 854 an aging population.
- 855 6. Financial protection for immediate family of Medicaid recipients.
- 856 7. Medicare negotiating lower drug prices, expanding the formulary,
- 857 and eliminating the “donut hole” and “in-home” rule for mobility
- 858 devices.

859

### BALLOT 27. PUBLIC HEALTH/CONSUMER PROTECTION & SAFETY

861

862 We support:

- 863 8. Consumer and worker representation on health/research/human
- 864 service review boards.
- 865 9. Statewide public smoking ban and financing for prevention and
- 866 cessation programs.
- 867 **Minority report to replace with:** Financing for smoking
- 868 prevention and cessation programs.
- 869 10. Improved health information technology with appropriate privacy
- 870 safeguards.
- 871 11. Increased financing for First-responders.

- 872 12. Disaster/pandemic readiness.  
873 13. Increased wages for direct care health workers.

874

875 **BALLOT 28. CHRONIC DISEASE/CHRONIC PAIN**

876

877 We support:

- 878 14. Chronic disease prevention through community-based programs to  
879 promote self-management, wellness, physical activity, healthy  
880 lifestyles, and comprehensive screening programs.  
881 15. Ensuring that community based primary care is protected in rural  
882 communities and that every person has a medical and dental  
883 home.  
884 16. Pain management should only be between the patient and the  
885 physician.

886

887 **BALLOT 29. PRESCRIPTION DRUGS/INSURANCE**

888

889 We support:

- 890 17. All efforts to lower drug prices.  
891 18. Negotiations and importation.  
892 19. Limiting advertising and new patents on formulation changes.  
893 20. Drug assistance programs for low income individuals who do not  
894 meet Medicaid requirements.

895

896 We oppose:

- 897 21. The use of thimerosal in vaccines.

898

899 **BALLOT 30. RESEARCH/ALTERNATIVE MEDICINE**

900

901 We support:

- 902 22. Financing research to prevent, diagnose, and treat; chronic  
903 disease, genetic conditions, and debilitating injuries.  
904 23. Financing unrestricted stem cell research.  
905 24. Payment parity for alternative medical techniques that  
906 demonstrate safety and efficacy in controlled peer review studies.  
907 25. Evidence-based medicine to control unwarranted technology.  
908 26. Research into the efficacy of medical marijuana.  
909 27. Research of illnesses due to workplace toxic exposures.  
910 28. Increasing financing for research, diagnosis, education, and  
911 treatment of autism spectrum disorders and Alzheimer's disease.

912

913 **BALLOT 31. SUBSTANCE ABUSE/MENTAL HEALTH**

914

915 We support:

916 29. Parity in mental health, brain disorder, and substance abuse  
917 treatment coverage by insurance companies.

918 30. Fully financed substance abuse, mental health, and  
919 developmental disabilities services and support.

920

921 **BALLOT 32. REPRODUCTIVE RIGHTS**

922

923 We support:

924 31. The legal right of women to make their own health care decisions  
925 and the preservation of Roe v. Wade, and extending this right to  
926 women in the military and/or on government assistance.

927 32. Comprehensive developmentally-appropriate, medically accurate  
928 sex education including sexually responsible behavior, **STDs** and  
929 non-directive family planning.

930 33. State financing to provide comprehensive family planning services  
931 including genetic counseling.

932 34. Rights to access contraceptives and have legal prescriptions filled.

933

934 **BALLOT 33. HUMAN SERVICES PROGRAMS**

935

936 We support:

937 35. Adequate financing of all services to assist people in transitioning  
938 to economic independence.

939 36. Cost-of-living indexing for Federal Poverty Guidelines.

940 37. Fully-financed Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program.

941 38. Allowing public assistance recipients to work without penalty until  
942 benefits and salary exceed the living wage.

943

944 **BALLOT 34. CHILD PROTECTION AND WELFARE/ABUSE**

945

946 We support:

947 39. Preventing child abuse and neglect.

948 40. Children's right to a safe, stable environment

949 41. Adequate family preservation programs.

950 42. Appropriate interventions and out-of-home placement of children  
951 in danger

- 952 43. Family reunification whenever indicated.  
953 44. Timely permanency planning, emphasizing what is in the child's  
954 best interest.  
955 45. Fully-financed **DHS** financing social workers and case  
956 management workers to reduce case loads.  
957 46. Domestic violence shelters and outreach programs.  
958 47. Sexual abuse and assault victim programs and mandating that  
959 hospitals offer emergency contraceptives.  
960 48. Full-financed transitional programs for those aging out of foster  
961 care.  
962 49. Financial assistance to providers of kinship care.

963

### 964 **BALLOT 35. HOMELESSNESS/HOUSING**

965

966 We support:

- 967 50. Fully-financed emergency shelters for homeless persons.  
968 51. Funding for affordable, accessible, transitional and permanent  
969 housing for low-income and homeless persons.  
970 52. Public/private partnerships providing financial assistance programs  
971 to increase the number of low to moderate income first-time  
972 homebuyers.  
973 53. Helping those caught in the mortgage crisis including, but not  
974 limited to, mandating that lending institutions refinance failing  
975 loans at affordable fixed rates.  
976 54. Property tax assistance to low income seniors and individuals with  
977 disabilities to help them retain home ownership.

978

### 979 **BALLOT 36. ELDERLY SERVICES**

980

981 We support:

- 982 55. Fully-financed consumer-driven services to elderly and persons  
983 with disabilities to enable them to live independently.  
984 56. Transparent oversight of long-term care facilities.  
985 57. Preventing elder abuse.

986

### 987 **BALLOT 37. PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES**

988

989 We support:

- 990 58. Effective enforcement of the **ADA**.  
991 59. Restoration of the **ADA** to its original scope.

- 992 60. Home and community based services with flexible, portable  
993 funding.  
994 61. Preventing abuse against people with disabilities.  
995

996 **BALLOT 38. PATIENTS' BILL OF RIGHTS**  
997

998 We support:

- 999 62. Patients' Bill of Rights:  
1000 • Right to make their own medical decisions;  
1001 • Protection of the right to litigate;  
1002 • Patient rights take precedence over researcher interests.  
1003

1004 **BALLOT 39. DEATH WITH DIGNITY**  
1005

1006 We support:

- 1007 63. Adopting Oregon's Death with Dignity Act.  
1008 64. Self-determination/autonomy to choose or refuse treatments to  
1009 sustain life.  
1010

1011 **ADDENDUM – ACRONYMS USED IN THIS SECTION**  
1012

- 1013 ADA – Americans with Disabilities Act (Issues 58, 59)  
1014 DHS – Department of Health and Human Services (Iowa) (Issue 45)  
1015 SCHIP – State Children's Health Insurance Program (HAWK-I) (Issue 4)  
1016 STD – Sexually Transmitted Diseases (Issue 32)  
1017

1018 **INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS**  
1019

1020 **BALLOT 40. PEACE AND SECURITY**  
1021

1022 We support:

- 1023 1. Combating terrorism as an international criminal problem.  
1024 2. Reassessing all foreign military aid.  
1025 3. Banning cluster bombs.  
1026 4. Increased financing for improved border and port security.  
1027 5. Diplomacy and negotiations, including bilateral talks, regarding  
1028 Iran's nuclear program.  
1029 6. Normalization of diplomatic relations with Cuba, Iran, and North  
1030 Korea.

- 1031 7. Protecting victims and prosecuting those who traffic in humans for  
1032 sexual exploitation and forced labor.  
1033 8. Humane treatment and habeas corpus protection for all.  
1034 9. Moratorium on the export of nuclear technologies or their wastes  
1035 to other nations, and strict regulation, tracking, monitoring, and  
1036 recapturing of radioactive materials and wastes.  
1037 10. Peaceful, sustainable space exploration.  
1038 11. Enhancing worldwide gender equality and political empowerment  
1039 of women.  
1040

1041 We oppose:

- 1042 12. Preemptive warfare.  
1043 13. Our government facilitating or sanctioning torture in any form,  
1044 anywhere.  
1045 14. Secret prisons and detention facilities, and rendition to countries  
1046 known to use torture.  
1047 15. US ballistic missiles in Eastern Europe.  
1048 16. Use of private security forces.  
1049 17. Providing financial support of and military assistance, aid, or  
1050 training to repressive regimes.  
1051 18. A “Star Wars” missile defense shield.  
1052 19. Development of new nuclear weapons.  
1053 20. Militarization of American foreign policy.  
1054

1055 **BALLOT 41. REGIONAL CONFLICTS – IRAQ**  
1056

1057 We support:

- 1058 21. The complete withdrawal of US troops from Iraq, giving US military  
1059 bases to the Iraqi government after an orderly transfer of authority.  
1060 22. Reconstruction of Iraq and resettlement of Iraqi refugees through  
1061 financial and diplomatic cooperation with the UN and the Iraqi  
1062 government.  
1063 23. Holding all contractors legally liable for their acts and/or omissions,  
1064 including war profiteering.  
1065

1066 **BALLOT 42. REGIONAL CONFLICTS – ISRAEL/PALESTINE**  
1067

1068 We support:

- 1069 24. Peaceful efforts to achieve separate and secure Israeli and  
1070 Palestinian States, working with all parties to end the conflict.

1071 25. Keeping the US Embassy in Tel-Aviv until reaching resolution.

1072

1073 We oppose:

1074 26. Israeli settlement activity on territory captured in the Six-Day War.

1075 27. The Separation Wall.

1076

1077 **BALLOT 43. REGIONAL CONFLICTS – AFGHANISTAN**

1078

1079 We support:

1080 28. International aid to improve security, education, and infrastructure.

1081

1082 **BALLOT 44. REGIONAL CONFLICTS – CENTRAL AND SOUTH**

1083 **AMERICA**

1084

1085 We support:

1086 29. Closure of the **WHISC** ‘School of the Americas’.

1087

1088 We oppose:

1089 30. Indiscriminate aerial use of herbicides for coca eradication.

1090

1091 **BALLOT 45. REGIONAL CONFLICTS – AFRICA**

1092

1093 We support:

1094 31. Robust world efforts to prevent and end genocide.

1095 32. Effective international peacekeeping intervention in armed  
1096 conflicts.

1097 33. Replacing Bush’s “**ABC**” policy to combat HIV/AIDS with a new  
1098 policy emphasizing education and contraceptive access.

1099

1100 We oppose:

1101 34. Illegal transfer of weapons to armed groups.

1102 35. Amnesty for war criminals.

1103 36. Female genital mutilation and using rape as a weapon of war.

1104

1105 **BALLOT 46. DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE**

1106

1107 We support:

1108 37. Meeting UN Millennium Development Goals.

1109 38. Linking foreign aid to the promotion of human rights.

1110 39. Funding our share of the **GFATM**.

- 1111 40. Comprehensive reproductive health care and family planning  
1112 programs.  
1113 41. Administering reconstruction and disaster relief contracts under  
1114 open bid processes.  
1115 42. Increasing the amount of U.S. **GDP** devoted to international  
1116 development assistance.  
1117

1118 **BALLOT 47. UNITED NATIONS**  
1119

1120 We support:

- 1121 43. Full US payment of UN dues.  
1122 44. US membership in the International Criminal Court.  
1123 45. Participation in multilateral peacekeeping missions.  
1124 46. Full participation in the UN Human Rights Council.  
1125

1126 **BALLOT 48. TREATIES AND CONVENTIONS**  
1127

1128 We support:

- 1129 47. Adherence to the Geneva and Vienna Conventions;  
1130 48. Ratification and/or full participation in:  
1131 • **BWC**;  
1132 • **CDCW**;  
1133 • **CEDAW**;  
1134 • **CRC**;  
1135 • **CRPD**;  
1136 • **CTBT**;  
1137 • **ICESCR**;  
1138 • Ottawa Landmine Treaty;  
1139 • Kyoto Protocol;  
1140 • **RSICCJ**;  
1141 • **UDHR**  
1142

1143 **ADDENDUM - ACRONYMS USED IN THIS SECTION**  
1144

- 1145 ABC – Abstain, Be faithful, or use a Condom (Issue 33)  
1146 BWC – Biological Weapons Convention Protocol (Issue 48)  
1147 CDCW – Convention on the Destruction of Chemical Weapons and the  
1148 Prohibition of Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of  
1149 Chemical Weapons (Issue 48)

1150 CEDAW – Convention on Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination  
1151 Against Women (Issue 48)  
1152 CRC – Convention on the Rights of Children (Issue 48)  
1153 CRPD – Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (Issue 48)  
1154 CTBT – Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (Issue 48)  
1155 GDP – Gross Domestic Product (Issue 42)  
1156 GFATM – Global Fund for AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria (Issue 39)  
1157 ICESCR – International Covenant on Economic, Social, and Cultural  
1158 Rights (Issue 48)  
1159 RSICCJ – Rome Statute on the International Court of Criminal Justice  
1160 (Issue 48)  
1161 UDHR – Universal Declaration of Human Rights (Issue 48)  
1162 WHISC – Western Hemisphere Institute for Security Cooperation  
1163 (Issue 29)  
1164

## LABOR, ECONOMY AND COMMERCE

### BALLOT 49. JOBS, SAFETY, AND LABOR

1168

1169 We support:

- 1170 1. Repealing “right to work” laws.
- 1171 2. **EFCA.**
- 1172 3. **PLAs.**
- 1173 4. Strengthening **NLRA.**
- 1174 5. Fully financing **NLRB.**
- 1175 6. Fair-share clauses.
- 1176 7. Equal wages/proportionate benefits for part time workers.
- 1177 8. All issues being mandatory subjects of bargaining.
- 1178 9. Unemployment benefits for locked out employees.
- 1179 10. Penalties/sanctions on employers for hiring/contracting  
1180 undocumented workers.
- 1181 11. Equal pay for equal work.
- 1182 12. Employers/government entities abiding by labor contracts and  
1183 arbitrators’ decisions.
- 1184 13. Considering bidders’ safety records for government contracts.
- 1185 14. Laws prohibiting “temps” replacing permanent employees.
- 1186 15. Eliminating employee/independent contractor misclassification.
- 1187 16. Requiring prevailing wages for publicly contracted work.
- 1188 17. Davis Bacon Act.

- 1189 18. Strengthening, increasing financing and staffing of **OSHA, MSHA**  
1190 and **NIOSH**.
- 1191 19. Workers' rights to refuse unsafe work.
- 1192 20. Workers injured on the job choosing their health care provider.
- 1193 21. Covering agricultural workers by health and safety statutes.
- 1194 22. Adequate staffing levels for workplace safety.
- 1195 23. Allowing employees and unions greater participation with **OSHA**  
1196 activities.
- 1197 24. Improving whistleblower protection.
- 1198 25. Passing "The Decent Working Conditions and Fair Competition  
1199 Act".
- 1200 26. Laws ensuring job security for and preventing discrimination  
1201 against single parents.
- 1202 27. Encouraging employers to hire and promote more persons with  
1203 disabilities (**PWD**), eliminate discriminatory practices, and create  
1204 employment opportunities for **PWD**.
- 1205

1206 We oppose:

- 1207 28. Privatization of public jobs/services.
- 1208 29. Employment-related polygraph tests.
- 1209 30. Prison labor displacing non-incarcerated workers.
- 1210 31. Mandatory overtime.
- 1211 32. Limiting or ending overtime pay.
- 1212 33. Out-sourcing of jobs.
- 1213 34. Replacing striking workers.
- 1214 35. Temporary immigration status that exploits workers.
- 1215

## 1216 **BALLOT 50. WAGES, PENSIONS, AND BENEFITS**

1217

1218 We support:

- 1219 36. "Living wage" as minimum wage.
- 1220 37. Appropriately financed, fully honored, secure, portable retirement  
1221 and health care plans.
- 1222 38. Enforcing **FMLA**.
- 1223 39. Requiring employers' contribution to health care coverage or  
1224 Iowa's Medicaid fund.
- 1225 40. The Railroad retirement system and **FELA**.
- 1226 41. Fully financing **IPERS** to maintain its long-term financial health.
- 1227

1227

## 1228 **BALLOT 51. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

1229

1230 We support:

- 1231 42. Strengthening laws to protect employees during company
- 1232 mergers, takeovers, plant closings, or bankruptcy.
- 1233 43. Listing employees as first-in-line creditors.
- 1234 44. Rebuilding the US with a **WPA/CCC**-type program.
- 1235 45. Federal jobs programs and vocational training.
- 1236 46. Encouraging the purchase of US made products.
- 1237 47. Low interest small business loans for local entrepreneurs.
- 1238 48. Increasing state support to encourage the formation of owner
- 1239 operated businesses/farms.
- 1240 49. Eliminating subsidies for oil companies and large chain
- 1241 businesses.

1242

## 1243 **BALLOT 52. CURBING BUSINESS ABUSES**

1244

1245 We support:

- 1246 50. Enforcement of anti-trust and regulatory legislation.
- 1247 51. Corporate tax surcharges on publicly traded corporations
- 1248 operating in the US when corporate officer compensation exceeds
- 1249 20 times the lowest paid worker and prohibiting deduction from
- 1250 corporate earnings.
- 1251 52. Amending bankruptcy law to prevent corporate officers from
- 1252 insulating themselves from costs incurred by the organization's
- 1253 irresponsibility.
- 1254 53. Establishing fair limits on bank fees and penalties.
- 1255 54. Adding the following clause to the State Corporate Business
- 1256 Charter: profits cannot be made at the expense of the
- 1257 environment, workers' rights and the public interest.

1258

1259 We oppose:

- 1260 55. Price gouging.
- 1261 56. Corporate welfare, including indiscriminate tax breaks and
- 1262 bailouts.
- 1263 57. Allowing non-banking entities to establish banks.
- 1264 58. Insurance credit scoring.

1265

## 1266 **BALLOT 53. COMMERCE & TRANSPORTATION**

1267

1268 We support:

- 1269 59. Minimizing the US trade deficit.  
1270 60. Requiring "Made in USA" labeled products to contain a minimum  
1271 of 90% US manufactured content.  
1272 61. Enforcement of **COOL** to accurately reflect where products are  
1273 manufactured.  
1274 62. Fair Trade not "free trade".  
1275 63. Development of internationally accepted, enforceable standards  
1276 protecting human/labor rights and environments from exploitation.  
1277 64. Transparency in trade negotiations.  
1278 65. Open Congressional forums to review agreements and consider  
1279 amendments prior to approval.  
1280 66. Creating and maintaining affordable and accessible  
1281 broadband/modern telecommunications services for all.  
1282 67. Increased funding for Amtrak and **FRA**.  
1283 68. **MIPRC**.  
1284 69. **PRWG**.  
1285 70. **Minority Report to include**: Rejecting Law of the Sea treaty.  
1286

1287 We oppose:

- 1288 71. **Minority Report to remove**: Countries manipulating their  
1289 currency thereby adversely affecting U.S. commerce.  
1290 72. **WTO, NAFTA, CAFTA** and North American Union.  
1291 73. No-bid government contracts.  
1292 74. Large business/conglomerates destroying small businesses.  
1293 75. All remote control locomotive operations.  
1294 76. **NAFTA** "super highway"  
1295

## 1296 **ADDENDUM – ACRONYMS USED IN THIS SECTION**

1297

- 1298 CAFTA – Central American Free Trade Agreement (Issue 72)  
1299 CCC – Civilian Conservation Corp (Issue 44)  
1300 COOL – Country of Origin Labeling (Issue 61)  
1301 EFCA – Employee Free Choice Act (Issue 2)  
1302 FELA – Federal Employers Liability Act (Issue 40)  
1303 FMLA – Family and Medical Leave Act (Issue 38)  
1304 FRA – Federal Railroad Administration (Issue 67)  
1305 IPERS – Iowa Public Employees Retirement System (Issue 41)  
1306 MIPRC – Midwest Interstate Passenger Rail Commission (Issue 68)  
1307 MSHA – Mine Safety and Health Administration (Issue 18)  
1308 NAFTA – North American Free Trade Agreement (Issues 72, 76)

- 1309 NIOSH – National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health (Issue 18)
- 1310 NLRA – National Labor Relations Act (Issue 4)
- 1311 NLRB – National Labor Relations Board (Issue 5)
- 1312 OSHA – Occupational Safety and Health Administration (Issues 18, 23)
- 1313 PLA – Project Labor Agreement (Issue 3)
- 1314 PRWG – Passenger Rail Working Group (Issue 69)
- 1315 PWD – Persons with Disabilities (issue 44)
- 1316 WPA – Works Progress Administration (Issue 44)
- 1317 WTO – World Trade Organization (Issue 72)