

Resolutions of the Converse County Republican Party

approved at Convention March 2016

THE FAMILY; ADOPTION; REAGAN'S BASKET

(Liberty, Natural Rights, Religious Freedom)

WHEREAS Abraham Lincoln said, "The strength of the Nation lies in the homes of its families", and
WHEREAS the family is the basic building block of society, and

WHEREAS the family is the best place to raise a child, and

WHEREAS adoption is a preferred alternative to abortion,

BE IT RESOLVED that state and federal laws should foster and protect the integrity of the family as traditionally known, and

BE IT RESOLVED that the Converse County Republican Party supports reforming adoption laws to make adoptions through state agencies easier and quicker for adoption of children in state custody, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Converse County Republican Party supports "Reagan's basket" legislation where the parents would be immune from prosecution.

PARENTAL RIGHTS AMENDMENT

(Liberty, Natural Rights, Religious Freedom, Self-government)

WHEREAS the basis of society is the family unit, and

WHEREAS parents have the ultimate responsibility for their children,

BE IT RESOLVED that the Converse County Republican Party supports an amendment to U.S. Constitution to prohibit infringement of parental rights.

REPEAL OF THE AFFORDABLE CARE ACT; MEDICAL REFORMS; (NO TITLE)

(Liberty, Equality, Consent of the Governed, Private Property, Rule of Law, Self-government, Constitutionalism)

WHEREAS the Affordable Care Act is destructive to free markets, redistributes wealth and destroys jobs and work incentives, and

WHEREAS the Democrat Party controlled Congress passed the Affordable Care Act commonly known as Obamacare, and

WHEREAS affordable healthcare and affordable healthcare insurance is important to every citizen, and

WHEREAS on January 20, 2012 the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) reaffirmed a rule that virtually all private health care plans must cover sterilization, abortifacients and contraception, and

WHEREAS the Obama Administration later sought to deflect public outrage by the artful ploy of declaring that insurance companies, instead of religious institutions and other objecting employers must provide, at no cost to the insured, sterilization, abortifacients, and contraception, and

WHEREAS private insurance companies are not obligated under law to provide any goods or services free of charge and will, therefore, increase premiums accordingly, and

WHEREAS religious institutions and other employers would still be implicated in the provision of such services that violate their conscience and religious liberty,

BE IT RESOLVED that the Converse County Republican Party calls for the immediate repeal or nullification of the Affordable Care Act and the defunding of all departments and agencies that were created, and

BE IT RESOLVED that to reduce the cost of health care and health care insurance the Converse County Republican Party calls for tort reform, health insurance portability and allowing for the purchase of health insurance across state lines via the passage of Congress, and

BE IT RESOLVED that the Converse County Republican Party calls upon the Administration to reverse this HHS mandate. Further, the Converse County Republican Party calls upon the members of the United States Congress to act accordingly in defense of First Amendment rights, states' rights, rights of conscience, and freedom of religion, and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Affordable Care Act should be repealed.

OPPOSE UNITED NATIONS AGENDAS

(Private Property, Rule of Law, Constitutionalism)

WHEREAS education is needed to shine the light on the negative impact United Nations Agendas have on a constitutional capitalist republic, and

WHEREAS the United Nations, in conjunction with other powers, known and unknown, are working to impose a one-world order, and

WHEREAS a one-world order deprives us of our Constitutional rights, individual liberties and personal dignity,

BE IT RESOLVED that the Converse County Republican Party oppose and resist all forms of United Nations agendas, now and in the future, such as Agenda 2030, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Converse County Republican Party supports educating the elected officials of the cities and towns of Converse County, as well as all elected State officials regarding the encroachment activities initiated by the United Nations agendas and to defund them at all levels.

RESOLUTION ON ASSISTED SUICIDE

(Liberty, Religious Freedom)

WHEREAS Converse County Republicans believe in the value and dignity of human life from conception until natural death, and

WHEREAS including assisted suicide as a "treatment" for potentially terminal illnesses is extremely dangerous given the cost savings and potential for abuse of such options, and

WHEREAS proper end of life health care, to include palliative sedation in extreme cases, provides for relief from pain at the end of life, and

WHEREAS arguments for assisted suicide made on the assumption Wyoming's "live and let live" culture don't take into account the fact that those attitudes are based on the independence and toughness of the individual,

BE IT RESOLVED that the Converse County Republican Party opposes any legislation legalizing assisted suicide or so called "death with dignity" treatment.

General principle (plank) - Every citizen, public and private, is equally protected by, and subject to, the law. All citizens are equal before the law. Laws must apply to all, equally.

IN SUPPORT OF RETAINING THE ILLEGAL STATUS OF MARIJUANA

(Liberty, Religious Freedom, Natural Rights)

WHEREAS Republicans are committed to protecting the people of Wyoming from willful harm, and

WHEREAS marijuana use is associated with health risks including respiratory illness, heightened potential for heart attack, and immune system suppression, and

WHEREAS a Harvard Mental Health Letter released in 2010 substantiates psychiatric risks associated with marijuana use, including addiction, anxiety, mood disorders, and other forms of psychosis, as well as persistent cognitive problems, and

WHEREAS marijuana use is harmful to the adolescent brain, and affects parts of the brain that influence pleasure, memory, thinking, concentration, sensory and time perception, and coordinated movement, and

WHEREAS the legalization of any use of marijuana has always lead to increased use by all age groups, including the youth, and

WHEREAS the active ingredient in marijuana is already the second most commonly found substance in the blood of impaired drivers, and

WHEREAS Wyoming law and policy has increasingly moved to intolerance of use of alcohol and tobacco citing some of the very risks found associated with marijuana use, making the legalization of any use of marijuana counter to this effort, and

WHEREAS marijuana has more carcinogenic alkaloids than tobacco, and

WHEREAS marijuana is not a medicine, as it is impossible to achieve consistent dosages of the few chemicals found in marijuana known to have beneficial effects by either ingestion or smoke inhalation, and

WHEREAS pure isomers of THC, one of the chemicals in marijuana known to have beneficial pain or appetite stimulation effects, are available by prescription, offering exact and consistent dosages in either pill form or injectable liquid, and

WHEREAS the goal of activists and lobbyists nationally is the ‘normalization’ (legalization) of any use of marijuana, whether ‘medicinal’, ‘recreational’ or uninhibited,

BE IT RESOLVED we support the retention of an illegal status for marijuana in any form or volume regardless of intent for use, and we further support public education on the real and known harms of marijuana.

IN SUPPORT OF LEGAL IMMIGRATION AND VOLUNTARY SETTLEMENT; IMMIGRATION AND NATURALIZATION SIMPLIFICATION

(Natural Rights, Consent of the Governed, Rule of Law, Constitutionalism, Self-government)

WHEREAS we support the legal immigration of those who want to come to enjoy the American way of life as we enjoy it in Wyoming, and

WHEREAS Republicans are committed to protecting and maintaining the American economic and cultural bases valued in Wyoming, which can be grown and supported by immigrants, and

WHEREAS immigration is increasingly politically driven to achieve ‘diversity’ or social goals, to allow mass immigration of related groups of people with the purpose of obtaining government vouchers, or of driving significant and often disruptive cultural and governmental changes, and

WHEREAS the recruitment and settlement of immigrants, often here illegally, are determined by entities other than the immigrants themselves, entities with no connection to Wyoming or even the United States, operating without consideration of our valued bases or our ability to assimilate and incorporate immigrants, and

WHEREAS many aliens attempt legally to become American citizens, and

WHEREAS the current process is cumbersome and difficult,

BE IT RESOLVED we support legal immigration in accordance with laws and policies which recognize the limits to our ability to assimilate, welcome and incorporate these new immigrants, and

BE IT RESOLVED that the Converse County Republican Party supports the simplification and streamlining of the process for persons to legally enter, remain, and / or become citizens of the United States, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the immigration issues requiring immediate attention are those relating to legal immigrants, who suffer now at the expense of those who entered the country against the law and are being given preferential treatment.

REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT

(Natural Rights, Consent of the Governed, Rule of Law, Constitutionalism, Self-government)

WHEREAS the U.S. is a beacon to the world, and

WHEREAS refugee resettlement has overwhelmed some communities,

BE IT RESOLVED that the State of Wyoming will not participate in refugee resettlement.

INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATION ON CHILD PORNOGRAPHY

(Liberty, Constitutionalism, Religious Freedom, Self-government)

WHEREAS our laws should always be most protective for those among us who are most vulnerable, and
WHEREAS using children for child pornography and sex are among the most barbaric and heinous crimes of all,

BE IT RESOLVED that the Converse County Republican Party supports cooperation of the federal government with international agencies to prosecute all child pornography and child sexual abuse to the fullest extent of the U. S. law.

SEX TRAFFICKING

(Liberty, Constitutionalism, Religious Freedom, Self-government)

WHEREAS dignity of human person is paramount to society,

BE IT RESOLVED that the Converse County Republican Party believes that state, local, and federal government should work together to detect and prevent humans from being used in sex trafficking, and prosecute sexual traffickers to the fullest extent of the U. S. law.

FEDERAL AGENCY TARGETING, PERSECUTION, AND IRS ABUSES

(Liberty, Equality, Rule of Law, Consent of the Governed, Private Property, Constitutionalism, Self-government)

WHEREAS it is apparent that agencies and employees of the federal government have been and may be now involved in manipulation of our government in order to further their personal political beliefs and attempting to circumvent our constitutional rights, and

WHEREAS the IRS has used inappropriate criteria to review applications from conservative groups seeking to qualify as tax exempt organizations as early as 2010, and the IRS has performed surveillance on certain organizations of which 83% of these groups were right leaning, and that 100% of these groups that the IRS selected to audit were right leaning, and new IRS rules specifically target conservative 501 (c)(4) organizations to restrict any political activity but do not muzzle any 501 (c)(5) organizations which are typically labor union groups from carrying out the same activities,

BE IT RESOLVED that the Converse County Republican Party demands a full and independent investigation by Congress in the use of the IRS and the Treasury Department to prevent free speech and punish individuals of different beliefs.

LIMITING THE POWER OF COUNTIES TO TAKE PRIVATE PROPERTY WITHOUT COMPENSATION

(Liberty, Equality, Rule of Law, Consent of the Governed, Private Property, Constitutionalism, Self-government)

WHEREAS Supreme Court Justice Story wrote in 1829 "government can scarcely be deemed to be free, where the rights of property are left solely dependent upon the will of a legislative body", and

WHEREAS Supreme Court Justice Black wrote in 1960 the Fifth Amendment "was designed to bar Government from forcing some people alone to bear public burdens which, in all fairness and justice should be borne by the public as a whole", and

WHEREAS the Article 1, Section 7 of the Wyoming Constitution asserts "Absolute, arbitrary power over the lives, liberty and property of freemen exists nowhere in a republic, not even in the largest majority", and

WHEREAS Article 1, Section 32 of the Wyoming Constitution states: "Private property shall not be taken or damaged for public or private use without just compensation.", and

WHEREAS today we are plagued by arbitrary and capricious land use regulations and rulings that at all levels of government are unjustly taking rights in property from land owners, and

WHEREAS our regulators are no longer effectively, (to use a phrase from Thomas Jefferson) "tied down from mischief by the chains of the Constitutions", and

WHEREAS history shows that regulators are frequently not guided by our constitutions or by any concept of fairness and that, in fact, in many instances they believe it is moral to take property from the few to benefit the many, and

WHEREAS it is not usually feasible for average citizens to challenge an unconstitutional or unjust law or ruling in court, and

WHEREAS it is established that when a regulation provides a public benefit (rather than preventing some harm), fairness and justice require the public as a whole to bear that cost, and

WHEREAS regulations purporting to be a valid exercise of police power are not often being examined to determine whether they unlawfully take private property for public use, and

WHEREAS Wyoming current land use laws allow counties to write regulations that can be used to take private property without compensation,

BE IT RESOLVED that the Converse County Republican Party supports legislation to limit the power of counties to take private property without compensation and to insure fair compensation can be obtained by our average citizens.

VOTER REGISTRATION ENHANCEMENTS

(Consent, Rule of Law, Constitutionalism, Private Property)

WHEREAS the law does not currently require sufficient proof of identity when voting in municipal, county, state and federal elections,

BE IT RESOLVED that the Converse County Republican Party supports legislation to require all voters in any Election to provide state-approved photo identification at the polling place.

NO TITLE

(Equality)

WHEREAS criminals should not profit from their criminal acts,

BE IT RESOLVED that the Converse County Republican Party supports legislation that directs the proceeds from any movies, books, stories, etc. written by the criminal, pertaining to the crime to be distributed to the jurisdiction(s) where the crime occurred and to be used first to compensate victims.

NO TITLE

(Equality)

WHEREAS our present prisons are bulging at the seams, and

WHEREAS our present prison systems are in need of reorganization, and

WHEREAS our present prison systems are a burden to taxpayers,

BE IT RESOLVED that the Converse County Republican Party supports penal policies which can reduce prison populations without endangering society, such as minimum security and monitored work release programs for all nonviolent offenders and an emphasis on treatment and rehabilitation of drug and alcohol offenders to be financed by the offender to the extent possible and by confiscated drug money, except for large-scale drug distributors who should remain imprisoned.

NO TITLE

(Consent, Rule of Law, Constitutionalism, Private Property)

WHEREAS the National Security Administration has been found to spy on American citizens via telephone, the internet and drones, and Statewide Longitudinal Data Systems, (SLDS) calls for retaining information and data on students, which is not academic, and

WHEREAS students have a separate public file, SLDS should not have the right to gain or retain non-academic information, and

WHEREAS the 4th Amendment to the US Constitution guarantees the right of the people to be secure against unreasonable searches except for probable cause, and

WHEREAS there is no probable cause to "search" the e-mails and phone records of American citizens not under suspicion of any crime,

BE IT RESOLVED that the National Security Administration or any other governmental agency Immediately cease and desist from all such unconstitutional surveillance activities of American citizens.

NO TITLE

(Consent of the Governed, Liberty, Constitutionalism, Rule of Law)

WHEREAS the increasing Muslim population may begin demanding Sharia law as they have in many European countries, and

WHEREAS the 1st Amendment to the US. Constitution guarantees freedom of religion, and that Congress shall not pass laws respecting establishment of religion, and

WHEREAS Sharia law is a religious law with the purpose of establishing the religion of Islam,

BE IT RESOLVED that all efforts to impose Sharia law in the country, in any way, are unconstitutional and must be opposed.

NO TITLE

(Consent of the Governed, Constitutionalism, Rule of Law)

WHEREAS elected officials, including the office of President and Vice President run for several terms and become lifetime career politicians, and

WHEREAS the politicians have numerous special benefits granted for their lifetimes, and

WHEREAS these offices were never intended to be career positions,

BE IT RESOLVED that the Converse County Republican Party demands term limits for all elected government officials along with limits on the benefit packages.

NO TITLE

(Equality, Consent of the Governed, Constitutionalism, Rule of Law)

WHEREAS granting special rights to anyone based on their choice of lifestyle elevates those persons into a privileged status and therefore to a form of elitist segregation,

BE IT RESOLVED that the Converse County Republican Party insists that those who engage in alternative lifestyles have the basic rights and protections of American citizens but that no special rights or privileges be granted to them.

General principle (plank) Individuals must always be allowed to defend the lives and liberty of themselves and their family if threatened unlawfully.

SECOND AMENDMENT AND CONSTITUTIONAL CARRY

(Liberty, natural Rights, Consent of the Governed, Private Property, Rule of Law, Constitutionalism, Self-government)

WHEREAS Our Second Amendment Rights are continually under attack from many different directions, and

WHEREAS Both the United States Constitution and the Wyoming State Constitution guarantee the right to keep and bear arms, and

WHEREAS Interstate travel of all citizens in these United States is commonplace, and

WHEREAS The Second Amendment states that “A well-regulated Militia, being necessary to the security of a free State, the right of the people to keep and bear Arms, shall not be infringed”,

BE IT RESOLVED that the Converse County Republican Party supports the Second Amendment, and opposes any and all governmental restrictions on ownership of firearms, ammunition and related accessories by law abiding citizens, and

BE IT RESOLVED that the Converse County Republican Party opposes the keeping of **any** government records of private ownership of guns and ammunition, to include hypothetical registration lists kept by school districts, and

BE IT RESOLVED that the Converse County Republican Party supports strict enforcement of existing laws regarding persons who use firearms in commission criminal acts, and

BE IT RESOLVED that the Converse County Republican Party promotes the reciprocity of Concealed Carry of firearms between and among all States, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Converse County Republican Party demands the Wyoming State Legislature, Governor, and state agencies strictly adhere to the Second Amendment rights of the citizens and actively support Constitutional Carry within the State of Wyoming.

AMMUNITION APPROPRIATIONS

(Liberty, natural Rights, Consent of the Governed, Private Property, Rule of Law, Constitutionalism, Self-government)

BE IT RESOLVED that the Converse County Republican Party does hereby call upon Congress to use their appropriation powers to defund what appears to be excessive purchasing and stockpiling of military and law enforcement grade ammunition by Departments within the federal government such as the ATF, DEA, Justice Department, and Department of Homeland Security.

General principle (plank) The right of an individual to keep and enjoy his own property is foundational. Every individual has the right to develop his own potential, to use and enjoy his own property, tangible or intellectual, and pursue his own interests, free from the restrictions of arbitrary force. Individuals are always presumed to be the best stewards of their property.

LIVESTOCK, FEDERAL ANIMAL IDENTIFICATION PROGRAM

(Liberty, Private Property, Natural Rights, consent of the Governed, Constitutionalism)

WHEREAS regarding livestock in the state of Wyoming, our Wyoming Livestock Board has an adequate and functional system in place for identification in case of an Animal Disease Traceback event, and

WHEREAS said Livestock Board is further improving identification and traceback capabilities by implementing a digital system that will be compliant with the federal rule, and

WHEREAS the Independent Cattlemen of Wyoming, a statewide agriculture organization formed to promote and protect Wyoming ranches and families has passed a similar resolution, and
WHEREAS regarding livestock in the state of Wyoming, our Wyoming Livestock Board has an adequate and functional system in place for identification in case of an Animal Disease Trace-back event, and
WHEREAS said Livestock Board is further improving identification and trace-back capabilities by implementing a digital system that will be compliant with the federal rule, WHEREAS the Independent Cattlemen of Wyoming, a statewide agriculture organization formed to promote and protect Wyoming ranches and families has passed a similar resolution,
BE IT RESOLVED that the Converse County Republican Party demands that state legislation be passed banning any acceptance of a federal animal identification program.

PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY *(Equality, Private Property)*

WHEREAS property boundaries designated by fences of some type are expected to possess containment of livestock species to a reasonable degree, and
WHEREAS case law in Wyoming has adequately defined livestock owner's responsibilities in most every conceivable case regarding the various species and the varying specified fences,
BE IT RESOLVED that the Converse County Republican Party supports statutes be passed ONLY in direct alignment with existing case law.

EPA OVERREACH

(Liberty, Rule of Law, consent of the Governed, Private Property, Constitutionalism, Self-government)
WHEREAS the Converse County Republican Party is steadfast and clear regarding its view on Private Property, and
WHEREAS the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), is an unconstitutionally created Federal Agency, and
WHEREAS the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) legislates through regulation without representation of the people, and
WHEREAS the EPA has no legal authority in the State of Wyoming, or on the land of Private Landowners, and
WHEREAS the EPA's proposed Changes to the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. §1251 et seq. (1972)) to establish jurisdiction over the country's "intermittent and ephemeral streams and wetlands", which are created during wet seasons, or simply after it rains, but are temporary, will further impose on our State and Private Property Rights, and
WHEREAS the EPA has also proposed additional regulations to the Clean Air Act 42 U.S.C. §7401 et seq. (1970)), regarding wood burning furnaces, stoves, fireplaces and heaters,
BE IT RESOLVED that the proposed changes to either act will have the effect of further limiting the quiet enjoyment and rights of property owners of Wyoming, and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the EPA has no legal jurisdiction in the State of Wyoming, and the Converse County Republican Party demands the State Legislature and Governor refuse to allow the EPA any further access or regulation within the borders of the State of Wyoming.

SAGE GROUSE AND PRIVATE PROPERTY

(Liberty, Rule of Law, consent of the Governed, Private Property, Constitutionalism, Self-government)
WHEREAS the Wyoming sage grouse core areas infringe on private property rights,
BE IT RESOLVED that Wyoming abandon the sage grouse core areas on private lands, and

BE IT RESOLVED that the Converse County Republican Party will resist any attempt by the BLM and U.S. Forest Service (USFS), U.S. Fish & Wildlife or any other federal agency or federal department to add additional restrictions or force unacceptable changes, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Converse County Republican Party calls upon Governor Mead and future governors of Wyoming to summarily reject any attempt by the BLM to add additional restrictions or force unacceptable changes, and to send a letter of non-concurrence forthwith.

FEDERAL LOCAL CO-ORDINATION

(Liberty, Rule of Law, consent of the Governed, Private Property, Constitutionalism, Self-government)
WHEREAS it is written in the Federal Land Management and Policy Act that land agencies must coordinate with local governments,

BE IT RESOLVED that the federal land agencies coordinate with any local government regarding natural resource plans addressing activities that occur on federal lands.

THE EQUAL ACCESS TO JUSTICE ACT

(Liberty, Rule of Law, consent of the Governed, Private Property, Constitutionalism, Self-government)
WHEREAS the Equal Access to Justice Act provides monetary support to environmental groups and is often used to sue federal agencies,

BE IT RESOLVED that the Converse County Republican Party supports immediate repeal of the Equal Access to Justice Act.

WATER ISSUES

(Liberty, Rule of Law, consent of the Governed, Private Property, Constitutionalism, Self-government)
WHEREAS such agencies as the Environmental Protection Agency and their officials have imposed undue hardship on American citizens, particularly in production agriculture, and

WHEREAS Wyoming's water laws are recognized by surrounding states to be the best around, and

WHEREAS Wyoming's water should not come under the control of the federal government,

BE IT RESOLVED that "Navigable Waters" should continue to mean streams and rivers that are navigable year around. Further, the Clean Water Act should remain applicable only to Navigable Waters, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED to oppose any attempt to export water from Wyoming for tax revenue purposes.

NO TITLE

(Consent of the Governed, Rule of Law, Constitutionalism)

WHEREAS The United States is a sovereign nation,

BE IT RESOLVED that we vehemently oppose any United Nations action designating use of land, water or air within the borders of the U.S. since cannot be done without appropriate congressional, state and local government approval.

IN SUPPORT OF MEANING OF MARRIAGE AS ONE MAN, ONE WOMAN

(Natural Rights, Religious Freedom, Rule of Law)

WHEREAS the Converse County Republican Party believes marriage is the institution whereby men and women are joined in a special kind of social and legal dependence, primarily for the purpose of founding and maintaining a family, and

WHEREAS we believe strong traditional marriages and nuclear families have been the foundation of strong societies throughout the world, and the state has a compelling interest in traditional marriage as the best institution to provide good citizens, and

WHEREAS we believe that due to innate biological differences between men and women and the unique procreative capacity of an opposite-sex union, marriage has been understood in civilized society as only between a man and a woman, and

WHEREAS the creation, nurture, and socialization of the next generation is mainly accomplished through the family unit, and

WHEREAS where same-sex marriage has been legalized, legislative and court actions have shown that it is difficult for same-sex marriage and religious freedom and free speech to co-exist, and

WHEREAS where same-sex marriage has been legalized, schools have maintained that they can teach homosexuality to children K-12 without parental notification or consent, and

WHEREAS where same-sex marriage has been legalized, public taxpayer money has been spent by state agencies to publish pro-homosexual literature to be distributed in schools to students and teachers, and **WHEREAS** where same-sex marriage has been legalized, rates of out-of-wedlock childbirth cohabitation and divorce were all exacerbated, and

WHEREAS giving legal status to something does not make it right, but raises it to the level of right in the eyes of the law and so gives it preferential treatment by the force of government,

BE IT RESOLVED that the Converse County Republican Party recognizes the importance of marriage being a union between a man and a woman in spite of recent court decisions to the contrary, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Converse County Republican Party calls on government at all levels to protect religious liberty of those who refuse to participate in activities, in commerce or otherwise, which contradict their faith.

RELIGIOUS FREEDOM FROM COMPULSORY PURCHASE

(Natural Rights, Religious Freedom, Rule of Law, Self-government)

WHEREAS religious freedom is-guaranteed by the Constitution of the United States,

BE IT RESOLVED no law shall force any business to purchase goods, products or services that are against the religious beliefs of the owners or stockholders, or force a business to participate in an event, celebration or other function that is in violation of their religious beliefs.

General principle (plank) The family is the best institution to provide children with the training to develop their potential and prepare them to participate in our government which is of, by and for the People.

RESOLUTION CONCERNING COMMON CORE EDUCATION STANDARDS

(Liberty, Natural Rights, Consent of the Governed, Constitutionalism, Self-government)

WHEREAS the Common Core State Standards (“CCSS”) are a set of academic standards, promoted and supported by two private membership organizations, the National Governor’s Association (“NGA”) and the Council of Chief State School Officers (“CCSSO”) as a method for conforming American students to uniform (“one size fits all”) achievement goals to make them more competitive in a global marketplace, and

WHEREAS the NGA and the CCSSO, received tens of millions of dollars from private third parties to advocate for and develop the CCSS strategy, subsequently created the CCSS through a process that was not subject to any freedom of information acts or other sunshine laws, and never piloted the CCSS, and **WHEREAS** despite Federal Law prohibiting the federalizing of curriculum², the Obama Administration accepted the CCSS plan and used 2009 Stimulus Bill money to reward the states that were most committed to the president’s CCSS agenda; but, they failed to give states, their legislatures and their citizens time to evaluate the CCSS before having to commit to them, and

WHEREAS the NGA and CCSSO in concert with the same corporations developing the CCSS ‘assessments’ have created new textbooks, digital media and other teaching materials aligned to the standards which

must be purchased and adopted by local school districts in order that students may effectively compete on CCSS ‘assessments’, and

WHEREAS the CCSS program includes federally funded testing and the collection and sharing of massive amounts of personal student and teacher data, and

WHEREAS the CCSS effectively removes educational choice and competition since all schools and all districts must use Common Core ‘assessments’ based on the Common Core standards to allow all students to advance in the school system and to advance to higher education pursuits, and

WHEREAS the Converse County Republican Party has adopted the following Education Resolutions and Platform plank, and

WHEREAS it is the duty and responsibility of the parent to oversee their children’s sexual education and life’s subsequent consequences, and

WHEREAS the Federal Department of Education is an unconstitutional agency, and

WHEREAS the Converse County Republican Party believes in local control of education,

BE IT RESOLVED that the Converse County Republican Party opposes distribution of contraceptives in school, and

BE IT RESOLVED that the Converse County Republican Party supports the elimination of the Federal Department of Education and encourages the state’s rights to reject funding of education, and

BE IT RESOLVED that the Converse County Republican Party recognizes the CCSS for what it is— an inappropriate overreach to standardize and control the education of our children so they will conform to a preconceived “normal,” and

BE IT RESOLVED that the Converse County Republican Party rejects the collection of personal student data for any non-educational purpose without the prior written consent of an adult student or a child student’s parent and that it rejects the sharing of such personal data, without the prior written consent of an adult student or a child student’s parent, with any person or entity other than schools or education agencies within the state, and

BE IT RESOLVED that the Converse County Republican Party rejects this CCSS plan which creates and fits the country with a nationwide strait jacket on academic freedom and achievement, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that upon the approval of this Resolution the CONVERSE COUNTY REPUBLICAN PARTY will deliver a copy of this resolution to current Republican Members of the Wyoming Legislature that represent Wyoming, and recommend for adoption into the CONVERSE COUNTY REPUBLICAN PARTY Platform at the 2016 Convention.

IN SUPPORT OF AN ELECTED STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

(Liberty, Natural Rights, Consent of the Governed, Constitutionalism, Self-government)

WHEREAS Republicans recognize and respect the wisdom of separation of powers, and

WHEREAS Republicans recognize and respect the authority of parents over their children and all aspects of their own children’s upbringing, including education, and

WHEREAS the State Board of Education should and must be answerable to the electorate, and

WHEREAS the State Board of Education should act as a bulwark protecting the interests of the people of the State of Wyoming and their educational goals and programs,

BE IT RESOLVED that the State Board of Education should be filled by election from districts to be drawn from House Districts, with none appointed by the Governor.

VOUCHERS

(Liberty, Natural Rights, Consent of the Governed, Constitutionalism, Self-government)

WHEREAS the public school system is a classic example of the inefficiency of a monopoly, and

WHEREAS we support ensuring equality of funding for all students, so that each student's share of education funds goes to the school the child attends, be that public school, charter school, private school or home school,

BE IT RESOLVED we call upon the state legislature to establish school vouchers to break the monopoly and give us the efficiency of competition, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a voucher system be established to increase competition among private and public school districts, thereby leading to better education.

EDUCATION DEVOLUTION

(Liberty, Natural Rights, Consent of the Governed, Constitutionalism, Self-government)

WHEREAS the education of our young people is basic to the survival of our nation and future and because educational quality declines in proportion to federal involvement,

BE IT RESOLVED Congress eliminate the Department of Education and let the respective states manage public education within their borders.

TEACHING THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

(Self-government)

WHEREAS God is to be honored in the Pledge of Allegiance for our nation to be truly blessed,

BE IT RESOLVED that the Converse County Republican Party upholds the reciting of the Pledge of Allegiance in its present form, including "Under God" in our public schools.

PARENTAL CHOICE IN EDUCATION

(Liberty, Natural Rights, Consent of the Governed, Constitutionalism, Self-government)

WHEREAS children belong to their parents and not to the government,

BE IT RESOLVED that the Converse County Republican Party resolves that parents have full choice in education including the right to home school for their children.

SCHOOL TENURE

(Liberty, Natural Rights, Consent of the Governed, Constitutionalism, Self-government)

WHEREAS the quality of our children's education is directly related to the abilities and effectiveness of the teachers and school administrators and numerous laws and agencies exist for the fair treatment of employed teachers and school administrators,

BE IT RESOLVED that the Converse County Republican Party supports removal of the tenure system in our schools.

NO TITLE

(Liberty, Natural Rights, Consent of the Governed, Constitutionalism, Self-government)

WHEREAS an understanding of accurate and factual history is essential if the mistakes of the past are not to be repeated,

BE IT RESOLVED that the Converse County Republican Party condemns the teaching of political bias and popular culture adulteration and calls upon state legislators to effect the removal of such inaccurate material.

NO TITLE

(Liberty, Consent of the Governed, Constitutionalism)

WHEREAS a strong military is essential for national security,

BE IT RESOLVED that the Converse County Republican Party insists that any institution of higher learning that accepts federal funds must accept ROTC programs and US military recruiters on campus.

General principle (plank) Liberty is indivisible from economic freedom. The market economy, allocating resources by the free play of supply and demand, is the economic system best compatible with the requirements of personal freedom and constitutional government. Government's undue interference in the market, or the fiscal irresponsibility of government, or the favoring of one economic actor over another, always results in economic inequity. There exists no fundamental right to the fruits of another person's labor.

IN OPPOSITION OF STATE INCOME TAX ON CORPORATION OR PERSONAL INCOME, AND IN SUPPORT OF SIGNIFICANT REDUCTIONS IN STATE SPENDING

(Liberty, Private Property, Consent of the Governed, Constitutionalism, Self-government)

WHEREAS half of Wyoming's revenue comes from minerals, and **WHEREAS** mineral revenues have been decreasing, as a result of decreased mineral production, declining and volatile oil and gas prices, and **WHEREAS** federal administrations are increasingly willing to arbitrarily retain revenues that Wyoming is lawfully entitled to, and

WHEREAS our current State administrators are dramatically increasing their operating and capital budgets, and

WHEREAS at the same time existing budgets are growing, new initiatives and mandates are being encouraged and/or adopted, like Governor Mead's push to approve an expansion of Medicaid and embrace the Affordable Care Act (ObamaCare) at a minimum cost of \$12 million, not counting the costs of such programs with the planned influx of 'immigrants' and social settlements,

BE IT RESOLVED we support a significant reduction (much more than 10%) the overall State budget to be in line with the revenues generated from the state's wealth of energy resources, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that under no circumstances should a state income tax be considered to meet any perceived revenue 'shortfalls'.

UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS

(Liberty, Private Property, Consent of the Governed, Constitutionalism, Self-government)

WHEREAS too many people receive unemployment benefits for excessive periods of time, and

WHEREAS excessive unemployment benefits reduce the incentive to improve job skills,

BE IT RESOLVED that the Converse County Republican Party supports limiting unemployment benefits to six months.

PRIVATE SECTOR INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT

(Liberty, Equality, Private Property, Rule of Law, Constitutionalism)

WHEREAS the development of affordable infrastructure, including telecommunications, is of critical importance to the economy of businesses and citizens in rural areas,

BE IT RESOLVED that the Converse County Republican Party supports the private sector promotion and development of "state of the art" infrastructure, including telecommunications, for businesses and citizens in rural areas.

CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS

(Consent of the Governed, Equality, Private Property, Rule of Law, Constitutionalism)

WHEREAS the Davis-Bacon Act of 1931 dictates wages for federally funded projects,

BE IT RESOLVED that the Converse County Republican Party calls for the repeal of the Davis-Bacon Act.

WAGE AND PRICE CONTROLS

(Consent of the Governed, Equality, Private Property, Rule of Law, Constitutionalism)

WHEREAS the American people have the right to earn and maintain their level of income and earnings,

BE IT RESOLVED that the Converse County Republican Party opposes any and all federal government actions which may dictate salaries, wages, income levels, or price controls to any citizen.

SECRET BALLOTS IN UNION ELECTIONS

(Consent of the Governed, Liberty, Private Property, Rule of Law, Constitutionalism)

WHEREAS the Obama administration intends to eliminate secret ballots in union elections,

BE IT RESOLVED that the Converse County Republican Party opposes the efforts of the administration to eliminate secret ballots in union elections.

INTERNET SALES TAX

(Consent of the Governed, Liberty, Private Property, Rule of Law, Constitutionalism)

WHEREAS The Marketplace Fairness Act or any similar law is NOT fair and is simply another attempt to tax the public and further burden small businesses and violates the principle of limited government,

BE IT RESOLVED that we oppose any Internet sales tax and call for our legislators to oppose the same.

NO TITLE

(Constitutionalism, Self-government)

WHEREAS federal policies and international treaties threaten a viable and sustainable economy in Wyoming,

BE IT RESOLVED that Congress work to prevent federal policies and international treaties that inhibit and delay the development of Wyoming's jobs and economy.

NO TITLE

(Constitutionalism, Self-government)

WHEREAS the sovereignty of the United States would end if a NAFTA superhighway were constructed,

BE IT RESOLVED that the Converse County Republican Party strongly opposes both the treaty itself and enactment of any bill that would allow the construction of the NAFTA superhighway which would open the United States borders with Canada and Mexico.

NO TITLE

(Private Property, Rule of Law, Constitutionalism, Self-government)

WHEREAS it would be beneficial for business,

BE IT RESOLVED that the Converse County Republican Party supports an "opt in" rather than an "opt out" system for businesses sharing information about customers.

NO TITLE

(Private Property, Rule of Law, Constitutionalism, Self-government)

WHEREAS federal ownership of large corporations is socialism, and

WHEREAS history has time and time again shown socialism as oppressive and devastating to mankind,

BE IT RESOLVED that the Converse County Republican Party demands the elimination of federal ownership or partnership of any private entity or business, e.g., General Motors Corp. (GM), Citi Group, American International Group (AIG), banks, savings institutions and demands the prevention of competition with private business.

NO TITLE

(Private Property, Rule of Law, Constitutionalism, Self-government)

WHEREAS Social Security is a nationalized pension and disability fund paid through wage deductions of American Workers, and

WHEREAS the Federal Government funds numerous entitlement and assistance programs,
BE IT RESOLVED that the Converse County Republican Party believes that Social Security funds should be provided only to families who have contributed and become vested in the Social Security System. All monies paid into Social Security should go into the Social Security fund and not the General Fund, nor can the federal government borrow from the Social Security fund.

POWERS OF THE SHERIFF

(Consent of the Governed, Constitutionalism)

WHEREAS The US Constitution only authorizes the federal government to punish three crimes: Treason (Art. III, Sec. 3, Cl.3); Counterfeiting (Art. I, Sec. 8, Cl.6), and Piracies (Art. I, Sec. 8, Cl 10), and

WHEREAS Amendment X to the US Constitution declares, ‘the powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution are reserved to the states respectively, or to the people, and

WHEREAS the county sheriff does not work for the federal government but rather is elected by the People of his county to serve them as their chief law enforcement officer within the Jurisdictional limits of the county,

BE IT RESOLVED that the Wyoming Party recognizes as a matter of law that the duly elected Sheriff in every Wyoming county is the most powerful law enforcement Officer in that county.

ELECTION OF PRECINCT COMMITTEEMEN AND PRECINCT COMMITTEEWOMEN

(Constitutionalism, Consent of the Governed, Self-government)

WHEREAS Precinct Committeemen and Committeewomen (PCs) form the backbone of the grassroots political structure in the State of Wyoming, and

WHEREAS the grassroots structure is vital to open and transparent political parties and an opportunity for citizens to be involved in the political process, and

WHEREAS the Converse County Republican Party recognizes the important part county clerks play in our system of government,

BE IT RESOLVED that the Converse County Republican Party opposes any substantive changes to the manner in which PCs are elected.

VETTING OF LOCAL AND STATE CANDIDATES; ELECTED ACCOUNTABILITY

(Liberty, Consent of the Governed, Rule of Law, Constitutionalism, Self-government)

WHEREAS any candidate that takes the initiative to file papers in order to run for office does so under a party affiliation, and

WHEREAS it is reasonable to believe said candidate, when choosing among the party choices available, chooses the Republican Party intentionally (and not out of ignorance), and

WHEREAS the republican electorate believes a contract of some type is evidenced by this choice between them and the candidate, and

WHEREAS the Converse County Republican Party is committed to the principles of strong defense, limited government, free enterprise, individual liberty and personal responsibility upon which this nation was built and under which it prospered,

BE IT RESOLVED that the Converse County Republican Party authorizes a written acknowledgement be requested by the party, signed by the candidate, that demonstrates his or her commitment to the established principles passed at county convention otherwise known as the Platform and Resolutions documents, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Converse County Republican Party embraces these principles and expect our elected and appointed officials to faithfully execute the duties of their offices in accordance

with these principles and with the laws and constitutions of the State of Wyoming and the United States of America.

LOCAL AND STATE ELECTED OFFICIALS

(Liberty, Consent of the Governed, Rule of Law, Constitutionalism, Self-government)

WHEREAS any official that is elected in the county of Converse, State of Wyoming with the party affiliation of Republican, and

WHEREAS it is reasonable to believe said official, when choosing among the party choices available, chooses the Republican Party intentionally (and not out of ignorance), and

WHEREAS the republican electorate believes a contract of some type is evidenced by the election of said official,

BE IT RESOLVED the Converse County Republican Party expects and demands that said officials adhere to and follow the established planks and platforms as adopted and approved by the Converse County Republican Party central committee, unless such platform or plank is contrary to existing state statute or law, and

BE IT RESOLVED that Converse County Republican officials will be held accountable to the Converse County Republican Party Central Committee for legislation, votes, or actions contrary to the adopted and approved platforms and planks, and

BE IT RESOLVED that elected republican officials in the County of Converse, State of Wyoming, will be subject to censure and any other form of admonishment available to the Wyoming Central Committee if said officials legislate in a manner contrary to the approved and adopted planks and platforms of the Wyoming Republican Central Committee, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED That any Wyoming Elected Republican Official that acts, votes, legislates, or behaves in a manner contrary to the approved and adopted planks and platforms of the Wyoming Central Committee will thereby forfeit any and all endorsements, funding, and support of the Converse County Republican Party Central Committee.

SUBSIDIES FOR ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS

(Liberty, Equality, Natural Rights, Rule of Law, Constitutionalism, Self-government)

WHEREAS unrestricted immigration is an economic and national security threat to the United States,

BE IT RESOLVED that Congress not support any legislation which would allow access to work by authorizing Social Security numbers and potential benefits to illegal immigrants.

ENERGY INDEPENDENCE

(Constitutionalism, Self-government)

WHEREAS the United States is dependent on unstable regions and nations,

BE IT RESOLVED that the country develops our own resources to be energy independent.

ENERGY DEVELOPMENT; ENERGY REGULATIONS, PERMITTING & SIMPLIFICATION

(Private Property, Rule of Law, Consent of the Governed, Constitutionalism, Self-government)

WHEREAS the Converse County Republican Party supports reasonable and safe development of all natural resources, and

WHEREAS there are multiple State and Federal agencies that have to be dealt with in obtaining permits, and

WHEREAS the permitting process is unduly burdensome,

BE IT RESOLVED that the Converse County Republican Party supports the use of plentiful and affordable coal, the use of pipelines including the Keystone XL pipeline, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Converse County Republican Party calls for the regulations to be simplified, streamlined, or eliminated, and the cost of permits be reduced.

NO TITLE

(Private Property, Rule of Law, Consent of the Governed, Constitutionalism, Self-government)

WHEREAS dependence on foreign energy sources is a grave threat to our economy and national security, and

WHEREAS market driven alternative energy sources using renewable resources such as hydrogen, wind energy, geothermal, nuclear, ethanol and solar energy may be preferable to importing large quantities of oil, and

WHEREAS the U.S. has ample resources of domestic oil and gas on the continental shelf, and in oil shale that can easily be extracted and processed in a responsible manner, and

WHEREAS the U.S. already has many clean energy processing and distribution facilities and could and should build more, and

WHEREAS State and local governments can control oil and gas leases on federal lands, and

WHEREAS there are viable safe nuclear waste storage facilities in the U.S., e.g. the Yucca Mountains,

BE IT RESOLVED that we emphatically denounce the traditionally large percentage of imported oil and direct our legislators to demand U.S. production and usage of domestic oil and gas and other natural U.S. resources in a safe way that does not endanger the environment, and build more processing and distribution facilities.

General principle (plank) Our constitutional representative republic remains the best political system, derived from history and knowledge of human nature, to prohibit tyranny, assure equality, and protect our individual rights.

The Constitution of the United States enables us to form a more perfect union of sovereign states, not by rejection of the Constitution as outdated or irrelevant. The judiciary may not effectively change the document via its decisions. It may only be altered by the processes of correction provided within it.

REDISTRICTING

(Consent of the Governed)

WHEREAS the re-districting of the house and senate districts every 10 years after the national census has become a nightmare to the voters of the state, and the current process is very costly to the state and lends itself to manipulations that are self-serving to those in office at the time,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Republican Party of Wyoming that a new system be devised that will confine the districts within county lines, with the possible exception of a senate district representing two (2) house districts in adjacent counties, and preserving, if not improving, the ratio of one person per one vote across the state.

GRAND JURIES

(Rule of Law, Consent of the Governed, Constitutionalism, Self-government)

WHEREAS "In a stunning 6 to 3 decision, Justice Antonin Scalia, writing for the majority, confirmed that the American grand jury is neither part of the judicial, executive nor legislative branches of government,

but instead belongs to the people. It is in effect a fourth branch of government, "governed" and administered to directly by and on behalf of the American people, and its authority emanates from the Bill of Rights. (See United States -v- Williams) (Common Law Handbook page 36.), and

WHEREAS There is a nationwide, grass roots movement to establish functioning American Grand Juries in all 3,141 United States Counties,

BE IT RESOLVED that the Converse County Republican Party encourages and supports a grassroots movement to establish American Grand Juries in all 23 Wyoming Counties.

General principle (plank) The Constitution is the supreme law of the land. Powers not enumerated in it are reserved to the States and the People. The most effective, responsible, and responsive government is government that is closest to the People. Government that governs least, governs best.

IN SUPPORT OF AN ELECTED STATE ATTORNEY GENERAL WITH DUTY TO DEFEND THE INTERESTS OF THE STATE OF WYOMING

(Rule of Law, Consent of the Governed, Constitutionalism, Self-government)

WHEREAS the State Attorney General is appointed by the Governor, may be removed by the Governor and answers to the Governor, and primarily acts as the Governor's legal counsel, and

WHEREAS the State Attorney General's duties are judicial in nature and the office therefore functions in a branch of government should be separate and distinct from the executive, and

WHEREAS the State Attorney General is the legal adviser of all elective and appointive state officers, and

WHEREAS the State Attorney General is to act as the legal adviser of all elective and appointive state

officers and of the duly elected county attorneys and district attorneys of the state, and

WHEREAS this creates a conflict of interest for the Attorney General if the Governor acts in opposition to these elected officers or entities,

BE IT RESOLVED that the office of Attorney General be changed by Constitutional amendment to an elective office with primary duties to act as the State's legal counsel, defending the interests of the people of Wyoming and its government, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that if suit is brought by one state elective officer against another state elective officer, the Attorney General shall provide independent counsel for both parties.

OPPOSING STATE APPLICATIONS FOR AN ARTICLE V CONVENTION

(Constitutionalism)

WHEREAS the U.S. Constitution was created to provide a form of government that would secure our rights and liberties as prescribed by the Declaration of Independence, and

WHEREAS Americans have enjoyed the benefits of liberty and prosperity for over 225 years under the limited federal government mandated by the Constitution, and

WHEREAS it is widely recognized that for many decades our liberty and prosperity have been in decline due to the three branches of the federal government routinely usurping powers not granted to them by the Constitution, and

WHEREAS two methods for amending the Constitution are provided in Article V — (1) by proposal by two-thirds vote of each House of Congress and ratification by three-fourths of the states, or (2) by proposal by a convention for proposing amendments that would be called by Congress in response to two-thirds of the states applying for such a convention and ratification by three-fourths of the states, and

WHEREAS all twenty-seven amendments to the Constitution have come about through the congressional method and none through the state convention (also known as an Article V convention or Convention of the States) method, and

WHEREAS many of the most popular amendment proposals that are being used to motivate the calling of an Article V convention, such as a balanced budget amendment or the various amendments to "limit" the federal government, would actually have the effect of legalizing the ongoing usurpations of powers by the federal government, and

WHEREAS since an Article V convention would consolidate and mobilize the power inherent in a free people in a way that would make such a convention superior to government and capable of completely rewriting the Constitution, there is a very real risk that harmful changes could be made to the Constitution by such a convention,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the best solution for restoring our liberty and prosperity is to bring the federal government back into compliance with the Constitution through a large-scale grassroots campaign to educate citizens about the Constitution and their responsibility to hold all public officials accountable to the Constitution, and

BE IT RESOLVED, the Converse County Republican Party opposes the calling of an Article V convention for any purpose, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Converse County Republican Party urges all the legislators in the Wyoming State Legislature to vote no on any resolution applying to Congress to call an Article V convention.

IN SUPPORT OF RETAINING INDEPENDENT OFFICE OF STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC EDUCATION

(Rule of Law, Consent of the Governed, Constitutionalism, Self-government)

WHEREAS the State Superintendent of Public Education was established by the State Constitution as an independent elected office headed by an independent state officer answerable to the electorate, and

WHEREAS Republicans recognize and respect the authority of parents over their children and all aspects of their own children's upbringing, including education, and

WHEREAS local Superintendents of Public Education are no longer elected, and consequently the State Superintendent is the only remaining education director in Wyoming who is directly accountable to the people of Wyoming, and

WHEREAS the Superintendent statutorily prescribed duties include service as an independent vote on State Boards and Commissions, and

WHEREAS the transfer of any the Superintendent's duties and powers to a Governor-appointed director would result in 'stacking' the vote of the Governor in these Boards and Commissions,

BE IT RESOLVED that the duties and powers of the office of Superintendent of Public Education shall be restored as intended for an independent state officer, and shall not be dispersed in any manner to Governor-appointed directors, advisors or boards.

IN SUPPORT OF RETAINING INDEPENDENT OFFICE OF SECRETARY OF STATE

(Rule of Law, Consent of the Governed, Constitutionalism, Self-government)

WHEREAS the Secretary of State was established by the State Constitution as an independent elected office headed by an independent state officer answerable to the electorate, and

WHEREAS Republicans recognize and respect the wisdom of separation of powers, and

WHEREAS the Secretary of State is also first in line to act as Governor if that elected official is removed or the seat is otherwise vacant, and therefore fills the role of Lieutenant Governor, and

WHEREAS the Secretary's statutorily prescribed duties include service as an independent vote on State Boards and Commissions, and

WHEREAS the transfer of any the Secretaries duties and powers to a Governor-appointed director, or a change in the law resulting in the office becoming one appointed by the Governor, and would result in 'stacking' the vote of the Governor in these Boards and Commissions,

BE IT RESOLVED that the Secretary of State shall remain an independent, elected state officer, and the duties and powers shall not be dispersed in any manner to Governor-appointed directors, advisors or boards, neither shall the position be statutorily altered to a Governor-appointed position.

FEDERAL LANDS; TRANSFER OF PUBLIC LANDS TO THE STATES

(Equality, Constitutionalism)

WHEREAS At statehood, the federal government promised all newly created States that it would transfer title to our public lands, and

WHEREAS Many states were up to 90% federally controlled until they compelled Congress to honor their statehood promise, and

WHEREAS to fund **Education**, take better care of the **Environment**, grow the **Economy**, and attain **Energy Independence**, we can't afford not to, and

WHEREAS federal control of public lands is destroying Wyoming forests and watersheds, and

WHEREAS federal control of public lands in Wyoming is denying access for hunting, fishing, recreation, ranching, grazing, mining, fire breaks, access to school lands, etc., and

WHEREAS federal control of public lands in Wyoming is constricting economic opportunity by driving businesses and jobs out of state because of burdensome regulations, and

WHEREAS federal control of public lands in Wyoming is breaking state and local government budgets by the federal government reneging on mineral lease royalties, demanding counties pay back Secure Rural School funds, dishonoring Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILT) promises, etc., and

WHEREAS the federal government has control of over 50% of public lands in western states, with over 80% in Nevada and about 50% in Wyoming, and

WHEREAS for decades the federal government controlled as much as 90% of the lands in Illinois, Indiana, Missouri, Arkansas, Louisiana, Alabama, Mississippi, and Florida, but these states were able to compel Congress to transfer title to their lands so now the federal government controls less than 5% of all land in states east of Colorado,

BE IT RESOLVED that the state of Wyoming shall join with other western states to push for the transfer of federal control of public lands to state control, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Converse County Republican Party supports the returning of federally controlled lands in the western states to the respective states.

EARMARKS AND GERMANNESS

(Equality, Constitutionalism)

WHEREAS the Converse County Republican Party believes that earmarks cause budgetary inflation and allow special interests to hide behind larger issues,

BE IT RESOLVED that the Converse County Republican Party calls for the Congress of the United States to pass Senator Enzi's single issue legislation immediately.

REDUCTION OF STATE EMPLOYEES

(Consent of the Governed, Rule of Law, Constitutionalism)

WHEREAS the Converse County Republican Party recognizes that the state of Wyoming employs more workers per capita than any other state,

BE IT RESOLVED that the Converse County Republican Party calls for the number of state employees to be reduced, through attrition, to the level of the year 2000.

ENVIRONMENTAL PERMIT STREAMLINING

(Consent of the Governed, Rule of Law, Constitutionalism)

WHEREAS the Converse County Republican Party recognizes the cost, time and regulatory difficulty of obtaining permits for mineral extraction on federal, state or private lands,

BE IT RESOLVED that the Converse County Republican Party calls for the regulatory approval process to be dramatically streamlined to reduce said factors. This process shall include a reasonable cap on the permitting timeframe.

DECLINING STATE OF WYOMING REVENUE

(Consent of the Governed, Rule of Law, Constitutionalism)

WHEREAS the 'war on coal' being waged by the Environmental Protection Agency will have substantial negative impact on Wyoming individual and corporate incomes as well as State of Wyoming revenues, and

WHEREAS reduced revenue will challenge state officials to be able to fund existing and future programs, **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Converse County Republican Party call upon the Wyoming State Legislature and the leadership in the State of Wyoming, when confronted with declining revenue, to see that additional programs and current expenditures be reduced to balance the budget rather than increasing taxes.

FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY; FISCAL RESTRAINT

(Consent of the Governed, Rule of Law, Constitutionalism)

WHEREAS the finances of the United States, the wealthiest country in the world, are in shambles at the hands of this current administration and the current elected representation of the populace, and

WHEREAS We the People furnish our government with adequate funds to govern our country, and

WHEREAS fiscal restraint is essential to responsible governance,

BE IT RESOLVED that We The People demand fiscal responsibility of those elected to represent us, including all branches of our Federal Government, that "pork" be eliminated from all Legislation, and that "vote buying" with our tax dollars be encumbered with severe penalties, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that government spending at all levels be reduced, consistent with our national security, while balancing the federal budget and eliminate the national debt.

BALANCED BUDGET AMENDMENT

(Consent of the Governed, Rule of Law, Constitutionalism)

WHEREAS the continued growth of the federal deficit threatens the security and sovereignty of our nation,

BE IT RESOLVED that the Converse County Republican Party believes the U.S. Government should achieve a balanced budget through spending cuts, cutting entitlements and furthermore not increasing the current debt limit, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the United States Congress pass and the States ratify a Balanced Budget Amendment to the United States Constitution.

EXCESSIVE REGULATION

(Private Property, Consent of the Governed, Rule of Law, Constitutionalism)

WHEREAS the economic health of small businesses is significantly impaired by excessive and unjust taxes and regulations,

BE IT RESOLVED that the Converse County Republican Party calls for the removal of unnecessary and excessive regulations and taxation which afflict small business owners' pursuit of happiness.

REVIEW OF EXISTING REGULATION

(Consent of the Governed, Rule of Law, Constitutionalism)

WHEREAS government rules and regulations increase in number each year, and

WHEREAS there are existing laws and regulations that may no longer be applicable, and

WHEREAS government should be limited in scope,

BE IT RESOLVED that government at all levels should provide for a review of existing rules and regulations and repeal or nullify those which are no longer applicable, relevant or are in conflict with other laws and eliminate duplication for federal benefits for individuals.

FEDERAL REGULATORY OVERREACH

(Private Property, Consent of the Governed, Rule of Law, Constitutionalism)

WHEREAS the overreach and excessive cost of federal regulations is destructive to a prosperous economy,

BE IT RESOLVED that governmental regulatory agencies have their budgets and workforce be cut by at least half.

THE FEDERAL RESERVE'S FOREIGN POLICY

(Constitutionalism, Consent of the Governed, Self-Government, Private Property)

WHEREAS the Converse County Republican Party opposes the uncontrolled printing or electronic creation of Federal Reserve notes by the Federal Reserve, and

WHEREAS by its printing of money and creation of loans to other central banks around the world, the Federal Reserve has greatly devalued our money, and

WHEREAS the Fed has, in effect, created its own foreign policy, not subject to review or approval by our elected officials,

BE IT RESOLVED removal of any appointee as Fed chairman and Secretary of the Treasury who continue these practices.

CONGRESSIONAL/STATE EXEMPTIONS

(Equality, Constitutionalism)

WHEREAS the President and the United States Congress and its members and staff, and other federal government officials, are exempted from many of the laws that Congress passes, which apply to the rest of the American people, and,

WHEREAS those said officials are also American citizens and live in this great nation and represent her People, and

WHEREAS the same applies to the State of Wyoming officials,

BE IT RESOLVED that all employees, contractors, elected or appointed officials of the United States and/or Wyoming including without limitation the President and the executive branch, the judicial branch and Congress and its members and staff, along with the Governor of Wyoming, the Wyoming State Legislature, and staff members, be required to adhere to all laws and regulations that Congress and the Wyoming Legislature enacts, and not be exempted from compliance.

EPA CARBON REGULATION

(Private Property, Consent of the Governed, Rule of Law, Constitutionalism)

WHEREAS the Environmental Protection Agency is pushing for cap and trade to regulate carbon emissions, and

WHEREAS the Environmental Protection Agency has overstepped its bounds, and

WHEREAS the Environmental Protection Agency has erroneously defined carbon dioxide as a pollutant,

BE IT RESOLVED that the Converse County Republican Party calls for opposing cap and trade and the regulation of carbon emissions, and

BE IT RESOLVED that the Converse County Republican Party opposes U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's determination of carbon dioxide as a pollutant under the Clean Air or any other Act, and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Converse County Republican Party calls for legislation to prevent the EPA from regulating carbon emissions.

PUBLIC EDUCATION AND ACCESS

(Liberty, Consent of the Governed, Self-government, Rule of Law, Constitutionalism)

WHEREAS all government business is designed to be for the good of the people it serves, and existing federal and state law encourages transparency and public interaction,

BE IT RESOLVED that each local, state and federal government agency supported by public funds will educate the public regarding its mission, rules and regulations, as well as the legal basis for public meetings, public comments, public access to records and any legal foundation and basis for denial of such access or opportunity.

STATE DEBT

(Liberty, Consent of the Governed, Self-government, Rule of Law, Constitutionalism)

WHEREAS Wyoming has over \$2,400 state debt per capita made up in part of retiree health care and other post-employment benefit programs that are currently unfunded,

BE IT RESOLVED that Wyoming develop a plan to fund these unfunded liabilities before they come due, reducing Wyoming's debt per capita to zero.

PRESIDENTIAL EXECUTIVE ORDERS

(Liberty, Consent of the Governed, Self-government, Rule of Law, Constitutionalism)

WHEREAS continuing Presidential Executive Orders have been well beyond the parameters set by the United States Constitution for the Executive Branch of our Government, and

WHEREAS such Presidential Executive Orders are not in the best interest of the people and not subject to review by any governing body,

BE IT RESOLVED that such Executive Orders be deemed out of the scope allowed by the United States Constitution, and they shall become null and void.

LIMITS ON LAND VALUATION

(Liberty, Private Property, Equality, Consent of the Governed, Constitutionalism)

WHEREAS agricultural land taxes have doubled since 2008, and

WHEREAS agricultural income is highly variable while land taxes are more static, and

WHEREAS agricultural cannot sustain itself under this excess growth rate,

BE IT RESOLVED that the Converse County Republican Party supports limiting the annual percentage increase of taxes on agricultural lands to no more than two percent (2%) per year.

OATH OF OFFICE

(Consent of the Governed, Constitutionalism)

WHEREAS all elected officials are administered an oath of office, and

WHEREAS the Constitution of the State of Wyoming states in Article 6, Section 21 " ... any person who shall be convicted of having sworn or affirmed falsely, or of having violated said oath or affirmation, shall be guilty of perjury, and be forever disqualified from holding any office of trust or profit within this state", and

WHEREAS the good people of this state have been negligent in holding their elected officials responsible and accountable to the oath of office ... ",

BE IT RESOLVED by the Converse County Republican Party that the elected officials at all levels be warned by this platform that they must "... support, obey and defend the constitution of the United States, and the constitution of the State of Wyoming ...".

NO TITLE

(Consent of the Governed, Constitutionalism)

WHEREAS an extreme conflict of interest exist between legislative authority of a program or agency, and public employees who are program/agency directors, supervisors, superintendents, executive manager and other top management positions of the same program or agency; at all levels of government,

BE IT RESOLVED that the Converse County Republican Party believes that no agency/program director, supervisor, executive manager or other top managers who are public employees shall consult, advise or in any way influence the elected or appointed committees or boards which preside or partially preside over the same agency or program, except to provide specific testimony or documentation upon written request from a board or committee.

General principle (plank) The United States has a responsibility to set an example by treating other countries with respect and justice. Above all the United States must maintain its national sovereignty free from foreign influence that would infringe on the rights of the American People guaranteed by the Constitution. Relationships with International entities, and our general foreign policy, must serve the just interests of the United States.

DEFENSE BUDGET

(Liberty, Constitutionalism)

WHEREAS the Converse County Republican Party believes that the present administration, the Obama presidency, has reduced the defense budget, and

WHEREAS the United States of America must remain a super power with increased personnel, armaments, technology and support persons,

BE IT RESOLVED that the Converse County Republican Party requires that, in military affairs, we must provide adequate funding to maintain a strong military for our national defense, with an armed force of high morale, integrity and a national commitment of support, full funding of promised benefits, to serve as a deterrent from foreign aggression.