

Iowa Democratic Party State Platform Committee Report Considering the Off-Year Caucus Resolutions September 9, 2017

INTRODUCTORY STATEMENT

As required by Article II, Section 4, Paragraph “a” of the IDP Constitution (approved by the State Convention Delegates in 2016), the State Platform Committee met to consider the Off-Year Caucus Resolutions from 2017.

The IDP was contacted to obtain the off-year county platform resolutions, but the IDP could not locate off-year caucus resolutions from any county other than Polk County.

In light of the above, the State Platform Committee recommends the State Central Committee propose amendments to the IDP Constitution at the 2018 State Convention to:

- A. Formalize the procedure for transferring the Off-Year Caucus Resolutions to the county and state platform committees.
- B. Announce the procedures and make them available publicly well before the off-year caucuses so that everyone can find them and understand them ahead of time.
- C. The Report of the State Platform Committee Considering the Off-Year Caucus Resolutions should be accepted by the State Central Committee and posted on the IDP website.

IOWA DEMOCRATIC PARTY

- 1. We support the 2016 Iowa Democratic Party Platform (approved by the State Convention Delegates in 2016).
- 2. We support actively recruiting, training and supporting Democratic candidates for every local, state, and national office.

3. We encourage all Democrats to join boards and commissions of the cities, counties, and state of Iowa.

AGRICULTURE, ENERGY, ENVIRONMENT

4. We support strict enforcement of the clean water act, the sixteen Iowa drainage laws, and the clean air act.
5. We oppose efforts to change the governance of the Des Moines Water Works.

ECONOMY, COMMERCE, LABOR

6. We support the pre-2017 public sector collective bargaining statute, Iowa Code Chapter 20, to restore all of the rights of unions that represent public employees.
7. We support collective bargaining, having dues paid through pay checks, negotiating over benefits and seniority, having job security, and continuing recognition (not requiring recertification every year).
8. We oppose the efforts by the Republican legislature and the Republican governor to enact anti-worker laws.
9. We support maintaining the Davis-Bacon Act, which requires paying local prevailing wages for public work projects, and expanding the act to include all publicly funded projects.
10. We support government policies to help grow the middle class.
11. We support increasing the federal and state minimum wage.
12. We oppose changes to workers' compensation law that result in the reduction of eligibility and/or benefits.

13. We support strengthening collective bargaining rights for all workers.
14. We support restoring the teacher fair dismissal law.
15. We support the Iowa Democratic Party moving accounts to locally based community banks and credit unions.
16. We support government funded training programs and job creation for workers displaced by automation.

EDUCATION

17. We support increased public education funding per student in Iowa annually by at least 3% or the annual CPI, whichever is higher.
18. We support increased funding for public education.
19. We support improvement in the teaching of basic skills in elementary school, including critical thinking skills, cursive writing, coding, civics, foreign languages, mathematics, and spelling.
20. We support adequately funding Iowa's public universities and community colleges.
21. We support maintaining tenure, and prohibiting a political test for hiring.
22. We support access to high quality early education, with early learning and literacy programs.

GOVERNMENT

23. We oppose efforts to preempt local laws that govern local and county minimum wages, environmental measures, and local civil rights laws.
24. We support instant runoff voting for all local, state, and federal elections.
25. We support enforcement and enhancement of criminal laws against animal abusers.
26. We support amending the U.S. and Iowa constitutions to guarantee an individual right to privacy.
27. We support annual inspection of “puppy mills” by the Iowa Department of Agriculture and making the results public.
28. We support the nonpartisan, independent redistricting process in Iowa.
29. We support public financing of elections and overturning “Citizens United.”
30. We support a law requiring elected government officials to disclose conferences and trips not paid for by themselves personally.
31. We oppose private prisons.
32. We support reasonable gun and weapon safety measures that restrict the ability of persons who should not have guns and/or weapons to possess them and limit the types of guns and weapons it is lawful to possess.
33. We oppose “Stand Your Ground” and “Guns For Tots” laws.

34. We oppose voter suppression measures, such as voter ID, signature requirements, and the shortening of time to obtain an absentee ballot.
35. We oppose Iowa law enforcement officials using their workforce for federal immigration enforcement.
36. We support enacting laws to prohibit child placement agencies which receive state funding from discriminating based on sexual orientation or gender identity when placing children.
37. We support enacting laws to ensure that state family leave laws are applied equally to LGBTQ+ individuals.
38. We oppose the practice of so-called “conversion therapy.”
39. We support enacting a law prohibiting private health insurance from denying or limiting coverage based on sexual orientation or gender identity of LGBTQ+ plan enrollees.
40. We support prohibiting businesses that provide public accommodations from discriminating based on sexual orientation or gender identity.
41. We support separation of religion and government.
42. We support equal protection of the rights of Iowans of all faiths and of no faith.
43. We oppose special privileges for any religious group or belief system.
44. We support legislation that is based on science and is evidence-based.
45. We support protecting people from the tragedy of human trafficking.

46. We support enacting legislation to prevent prostitution and drug use charges against individuals who come forward seeking protection.
47. We support efforts to increase consumer choice in content programming offered by cable, radio, television, video, satellite, streaming, and other electronic service providers.
48. We support fully funding the state judicial branch to reflect case load levels in accordance with the recommendations of the National Center for State Courts (NCSC), increasing the pay of judges and magistrates, and guaranteeing a strong, politically independent judiciary.

HEALTH CARE AND HUMAN SERVICES

49. We support federal legislation that exempts state medical cannabis programs from the federal controlled substances act and reclassifies cannabis to facilitate research.
50. We support legislation that empowers Iowans suffering from a terminal illness and who are mentally competent and under qualified medical care, to make a personal choice as to the time and manner of their own death.
51. We oppose religious exemptions from laws that protect children in the areas of education, public health, vaccinations, child care, neglect, and abuse.
52. We oppose all exemptions, other than health, from immunization requirements for children attending Pre-K and K-12 schools and child care centers.
53. We support ensuring all child care centers operating in Iowa are required to comply with health and safety standards by requiring

church-related child care centers to have the same licensing standards as other child care centers in Iowa.

54. We support regulation of Crisis Pregnancy Centers, including the requirement that such centers be transparent regarding the services they do and do not provide and whether or not medically licensed personnel are available on site.
55. We support state and federal funding to clinics providing essential family planning services, including Planned Parenthood, regardless of whether they perform legal abortions.
56. We support ensuring Iowans who are uninsured or underinsured have access to the full spectrum of reproductive health care.
57. We support measures to ensure medical providers with religious or moral objections to providing certain standard medical procedures or services, in the case of an emergency, will either refer the patient to another provider in the same premises willing to do so in a timely manner, or perform the procedure or service themselves, and in non-emergency situations be required to state during intake procedures what services will not be provided.
58. We support access to legal abortions without prerequisite requirements, such as forcing women to undergo an ultrasound, so-called informed consent, waiting periods, parental notification or consent, reporting requirements, and other tactics used to prevent or discourage abortion.
59. We oppose legislation that encourages law suits against abortion providers that do not claim malpractice.
60. We support expansion of Medicaid funding for abortion procedures to include all legal abortions.
61. We oppose repeal of the Affordable Care Act.

62. We support single payer health care.
63. We support providing sufficient services for persons with disabilities including mental health plus Home and Community Based Services enabling independent community living.

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

64. We oppose any and all Muslim bans, barring refugees, and limiting visas and immigration based on nation of origin and/or religion.
65. We oppose the wall at the Mexican border, mass deportations, arresting undocumented immigrants indiscriminately, deporting DREAMERS, expedited removal without hearings, private prisons to hold immigrants, and penalizing sanctuary cities.
66. We support reforming the immigration laws of the United States to allow persons wishing to move to the United States to migrate to this country legally and facilitating the process of application for admission without long delays.
67. We support a pathway to legal status and citizenship for immigrants who have been residing in this country without legal documentation.
68. We support presuming a valid asylum claim unless proven otherwise, including people appearing at our borders seeking entry who have fled from any country where the U.S. War on Drugs activity occurs.
69. We oppose efforts to increase the military budget.

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