

GOVERNMENT AND LAW

Campaigns, Elections, and American Institutions

We support:

1. automatic/same-day voter registration
2. OCE/RVRA/IRV
3. Iowa's redistricting system used nationwide
4. absentee/early voting
5. mandatory election audits
6. equitable/fair treatment of Democratic primary candidates
7. truth in political advertising
8. banning federal/state elected/appointed officials from becoming lobbyists within five years of leaving government
9. paid federal/state election holidays
10. voting by mail
11. free/equal media time for all candidates
12. comprehensive congressional ethics/CEC reform
13. state and national candidates releasing their tax returns
14. protecting elections from foreign interference
15. the Johnson Amendment
16. Iowa's judicial merit selection system
17. amending Iowa constitution requiring full funding for co-equal judicial branch
18. government transparency
19. right of US territories becoming states
20. posse comitatus
21. RCV/IRV
22. publicly funded campaigns/elections
23. fair and timely confirmation proceedings of judicial appointees
24. standardizing elections regarding poll supervision, ballot type and tabulation
25. re-examining [501(c)(4)] political activity
26. requiring transparency of all political activities including funding
27. improving the caucus system
28. voting systems requiring a paper trail and open-source software
29. voice and fair elections now act
30. limiting campaigning time
31. campaign and debate processes that include third-party candidates

We oppose:

32. Citizens United
33. super-delegates

34. business entities having the rights of natural persons
35. super PACs
36. an official language
37. any form of voter suppression
38. gerrymandering
39. national constitutional convention
40. 2017 election law changes, especially voter IDs

Civil Rights and Civil Liberties

We support:

41. affirmative action
42. right of communities to enact laws protecting health/safety of natural persons/environment
43. repealing 2001 USAPA and 2008 FISAAA
44. releasing audio/video police footage for shootings/instances of excessive force
45. providing tax credits/employment bonding programs
46. barring law enforcement officials from sexual activities with suspects/detainees
47. limiting "cavity searches"
48. habeas corpus
49. privacy rights
50. Miranda rights
51. separation of church and state
52. funding and staffing the ICRC
53. adequate funding for Iowa Legal Aid services
54. rights of individuals or legal entities to bds any country or corporation
55. freedom of speech and the press
56. restoring the VRA of 1965 in its entirety
57. ban the box
58. renaming Columbus Day
59. statehood for DC and Puerto Rico

We oppose:

60. RFRA
61. fetal/zygotic/embryonic personhood
62. national ID
63. warrantless searches, electronic and drone surveillance
64. "enemy detainee" status
65. non-church religious exemptions from anti-discrimination laws

66. presidential self-pardons
67. subversion of civil rights

Consumer Protection

We support:

68. strengthening/expanding/vigorously enforcing corporate anti-trust laws
69. corporate penalties that exceed benefits from malfeasance
70. personal financial liability when elected officials break the law
71. insider trading laws covering government officials
72. enforcement and strengthening of Dodd-Frank
73. foreclosure safety net
74. CFPB as a fully-funded independent agency
75. ending predatory lending and corrupt banking practices
76. reinstating Glass/Steagall
77. GDPR-level PII data protection for US citizens

We oppose:

78. automated calls without permission
79. using credit ratings in hiring decisions
80. utility deregulation and privatization
81. limiting access to the courts
82. "pork-belly amendments"

Criminal Justice

We support:

83. legalizing cannabis
84. ending war-on-drugs by treating drug addictions as public health issues
85. diverting mentally ill/addicted offenders into treatment programs
86. legalizing, taxing and regulating all recreational drugs
87. video/audio-recording of all police during arrests/questioning
88. specialty courts
89. de-escalation and bias programs/training to improve police-community relations
90. independent investigations of deaths involving police/corrections
91. fully-funding, timely, rape-kit processing
92. equitable funding for public defense/prosecution
93. juvenile sentencing/incarceration reform
94. citizens' review boards
95. HCPA

96. vacating past sentences for non-violent drug offenses
97. contemporary Nordic inmate rehabilitation model:
 - a. rehabilitation not punishment
 - b. increasing rehabilitation programs for recently released individuals
 - c. minimum wage for inmates
 - d. restorative justice
 - e. alternatives to incarceration
98. equal justice initiative
99. community policing
100. reforming civil/criminal forfeiture laws
101. whistleblower's act
102. victims' services
103. preventing/identifying/treating human trafficking victims
104. prosecuting "white-collar" crime
105. classifying attacks on abortion clinics/providers as domestic terrorism

We oppose:

106. charging defendants for court-appointed attorneys, probation, community service, jail-rent
107. shackles/restraints during childbirth
108. for-profit jails/prisons
109. capital punishment
110. mandatory minimum sentencing
111. abuse of bail-system
112. militarizing law enforcement
113. "stop and frisk" policies
114. felony/inmate disenfranchisement
115. indefinite detention provisions in NDAA
116. requiring a super-majority of justices on constitutional questions
117. civil and criminal statutes of limitations on child/sexual abuse cases
118. housing discrimination against ex-offenders

Government Services

We support:

119. aggressively prosecuting government officials for quid pro quo activity
120. full access to all public records
121. substantive funding for:
 - a. secure ports, water supplies, and infrastructure
 - b. well-maintained bridges/roadways
 - c. rural county/city (emergency) services

- d. FVPSA and VAWA
 - e. division of tobacco use and control
 - f. art in public buildings
 - g. state historical society's projects/goals
 - h. prisons
- 122. USPS banking
 - 123. removing FICA income cap
 - 124. public financing of all public broadcasting
 - 125. VOCA compensation going to victims
 - 126. fully-funding/enforcing federal/state mandates
 - 127. COLAs including medical costs, food, and energy
 - 128. SCOTUS following the federal judicial code of conduct
 - 129. local and international food aid programs
 - 130. reopening Equifax probe
 - 131. establishing a state bank of Iowa

We oppose:

- 132. eminent domain for private profit
- 133. nepotism
- 134. fast-track congressional voting without public debate
- 135. tax cuts to defund public programs
- 136. privatizing/outsourcing government services/assets

gun safety

We support:

- 137. negligent guardians' accountability for minors' gun access
- 138. responsible firearm ownership
- 139. public/private property gun-free zones
- 140. updated version of the Assault Weapons Ban of 1994, restricting:
 - a. silencers/suppressors
 - b. bump-stocks
 - c. high-capacity-magazines
 - d. fragmentary-round
- 141. updating/amending the 2nd amendment
- 142. a minimum age requirement of 21 years for the purchase of guns
 - a. mandatory safety training/proficiency requirements
 - b. expanding nics
 - c. universal background checks on firearms transfers
 - d. registration
 - e. waiting periods

- f. county sheriff discretion with just cause when issuing concealed-carry
- 143. mandatory liability insurance for gun/ammunition owners, sellers, manufacturers
- 144. Gun Violence Restraining Order Act of 2017
- 145. mandatory reporting of lost/stolen firearms
- 146. reasonable gun regulation and responsible gun ownership
- 147. gun buybacks

We oppose:

- 148. Stand-Your-Ground
- 149. open carry
- 150. the Dickey Amendment
- 151. NCCR
- 152. private transfers of post-1968 firearms without serial numbers

Immigration

We support:

- 153. undocumented immigrants paying taxes/receiving benefits without fearing deportation
- 154. state/federal Dream Act and DAPA/DACA/TVDL/UAFA
- 155. resolving backlogs for visas/permanent-residency, prioritizing family unity
- 156. expanding adult and minor refugee and asylum-seeker resettlement programs, and honoring international commitments
- 157. immigration reform eliminating biases, reflecting skills needs emphasizing family reunification, respecting national security needs, and providing quicker/clearly-defined pathways to citizenship
- 158. driver licenses/vehicle registration for undocumented immigrants
- 159. expedited vetting of Syrian/Yemeni refugees
- 160. reinstating governor Robert D Ray's refugee programs
- 161. requiring and funding legal representation for immigrants, minors and guest workers
- 162. applying fair labor laws and due process to all persons

We oppose:

- 163. detaining undocumented minors
- 164. immigrant detention/deportation quotas
- 165. locally enforcing federal immigration laws
- 166. mass raids and related enforcement practices
- 167. religious criteria for exclusion
- 168. border walls

- 169. “papers please” laws
- 170. unnecessary travel bans
- 171. abrogating birthright citizenship
- 172. paying Mexico to deter Central American immigrants

Internet and Telecommunications

We support:

- 173. restoring/enforcing pre-2017 net neutrality
- 174. HSIA for rural America
- 175. classifying internet as a utility, and right
- 176. universal HSIA
- 177. publicly-owned HSIA
- 178. modernized “fairness doctrine”

We oppose:

- 179. censoring the internet
- 180. NSA bulk data collection
- 181. social networking identification/passwords to employers as condition of employment or entering the US
- 182. cyberbullying
- 183. “UHF discount” allowing media consolidation by the FCC

Taxes and Social Security

We support:

- 184. COLA for SS and EITC
- 185. reform of GIVFAP to prioritize small business
- 186. capping personal residential property taxes for low-income citizens
- 187. charitable giving tax deductions
- 188. tax penalties on corporations that offshore
- 189. protecting, strengthening, and expanding Social Security, Medicare, IPERS, and railroad retirements
- 190. veterans exemption
- 191. annual review of all corporate tax credits and abatements
- 192. eliminating corporate tax loopholes
- 193. progressive taxation
- 194. restoring TIF’s original purpose
- 195. taxing high-frequency trading
- 196. penalizing large employers whose employees are eligible for public assistance

197. increasing/expanding EITC and CCA
198. a fair and just tax code that includes progressive taxation of capital, increasing the top marginal tax rate

We oppose:

199. chained CPI
200. raising retirement age, cutting ss benefits
201. taxation of unemployment, workers' compensation, disability/SS benefits
202. tax cuts for the wealthy
203. refundable corporate tax credits
204. diversion of SS funds to general funds
205. corporate welfare

Transportation

We support:

206. complete streets
207. crash prevention engineering
208. funding for safe, reliable, and well-maintained bridges and roadways
209. Main Street Iowa
210. helmet laws
211. ET3/hyperloop/high-speed rail/light-rail feeder systems
212. back seat passenger seat belt law
213. alternative energies for transportation
214. expanding rural transportation options

ACRONYMS USED IN THIS SECTION

CCA - Child Care Assistance
CEC - Citizens Election Council
CFPB - Consumer Financial Protection Bureau
COLA – Cost of Living Adjustment
DACA – Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals
DAPA – Deferred Action for Parents of Americans
DREAM – Development, Relief, and Education for Alien Minors
EITC - Earned Income Tax Credit
ET3 - Evacuated Tube Transport Technologies
FCC - Federal Communications Commission
FICA – Federal Insurance Contributions Act
FISAAA - Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act (of 1978) Amendments Act (of 2008)
FVPSA – Family Violence Prevention and Services Act
GDPR - General Data Protection Regulation

GIVFAP - Grow Iowa Values Financial Assistance Program
HCPA - Hate Crimes Prevention Act
HSIA - High-Speed Internet Access
ICRC - Iowa Civil Rights Commission
Iowa - Best State in the United States of America
IRV – Instant Runoff Voting
NCCR - National Concealed Carry Reciprocity
NDAA - National Defense Authorization Act
NICS – National Instant Criminal Background Check System
OCE – Office of Congressional Ethics
PAC - Political Action Committee
PII – Personally Identifiable Information
RCV - Ranked Choice Voting
RFRA - Religious Freedom Restoration Act
Robert D Ray - Mythical creature, a Republican that embraced immigration
RVRA – Restoring Voting Rights Act
SS – Social Security
TIF – Tax Incremented Financing
TVDL – Temporary Visitor’s Driver’s License
UAFA – Uniting American Families Act
UHF - Ultra High Frequency, In this context the name of a rule allowing single-company ownership of TV stations reaching up to 72% of households vs. 39%
USAPA- USA Patriot Act
USPS – United States Postal Service
VAWA – Violence Against Women Act
VOCA – Victims of Crime Act
VOICE – Voter Owned Iowa Clean Election
VRA - Voter Rights Act