

1 **IOWA DEMOCRATIC PARTY PLATFORM**
2 **ADOPTED AT JUNE 28, 2008 CONVENTION**

3
4 **STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES**

5
6 We Iowa Democrats are proud of our Party's heritage. The spirit that
7 animates America's oldest political party is alive throughout the world.
8 Americans' faith in democracy is a beacon to persons of the developing
9 world as they strive to win the rights Americans take for granted. We are
10 justly proud of our Democratic Party, its heritage, its accomplishments and
11 its diversities. No part of that heritage is more valuable than our belief in
12 the rights and worth of each individual. Iowans and other Americans have
13 given their lives to maintain those rights and we unequivocally oppose
14 policies that require forfeiting those rights in the name of fighting terrorism.
15 Giving up our most precious rights means losing that which makes us
16 Americans. Liberty and diversity are our strengths, and we understand that
17 it is only in maintaining those strengths that we will continue to stand as a
18 beacon of freedom to the world.

19
20 We support Iowans serving in the military, especially our troops in the field,
21 and look forward to their return home to this beautiful land. Every day they
22 serve is a testament to their love of country and we honor their service. We
23 love our country, but will never support government policies we think are
24 bad for America.

25
26 As temporary stewards of our natural resources, we demand that our
27 governing bodies develop policies and laws promoting sound energy
28 practices and permanently protecting our environment from wasteful and
29 indiscriminate use. Clean air, clean water, and diverse ecosystems,
30 including our national parks, oceans, and ancient forests, are part of our
31 children's future and must be protected. As stewards of Iowa's heritage,
32 we cherish our land and family farms.

33
34 All Americans have a stake in local, national and global economic systems
35 that provide first and foremost for the basic human needs: nourishment,
36 shelter, health, employment and education. The answer to governmental
37 fiscal problems lies in a strong economy founded upon broadly based
38 prosperity. An equitable and wide distribution of wealth and a free and
39 fairly compensated labor force expands our economy and creates a

40 healthier society. Market forces alone often do not serve the common
41 good.

42

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

48

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

57

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

63

64 We strive for a return to meaningful checks and balances between
65 legislative, judicial, and executive branches of government.

66

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

72

73

SPECIAL RESOLUTIONS

74

KEEPING THE PROMISE

TO AMERICA'S SERVICE MEMBERS AND VETERANS

77

78 We recognize the service and sacrifices of our service members and
79 veterans, including Senator Tom Harkin and Representative Leonard

80 Boswell, who are the only veterans serving Iowa in the United States
81 Congress.

82

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

88

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

92

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

97

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

106

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

111

112 We support:

- 113 1. A Veteran Affairs Office with a qualified Director of Veteran Affairs
114 for each of Iowa's counties.
- 115 2. Active recruitment of veterans and priority preference for training
116 programs and employment.
- 117 3. Full financing, salary adjustments and staffing for the Iowa
118 Veterans' Home Capital Projects Master Plan.

- 119 4. Promised benefits, retirement, and severance pay to veterans
120 without offsets of disability compensation and/or social security
121 benefits.
- 122 5. Providing financing for an immediate increase of the amount of the
123 veterans' property exemption, indexing it to the rate of inflation,
124 and comparable credit for those who rent.
- 125 6. An income tax credit equal to the lesser of \$300 or 10% of state
126 and federal income for disabled veterans with a service connected
127 disability.
- 128 7. Exempting all income received by National Guard, Reserves
129 Forces or U.S. Armed Forces from state income taxes while on
130 federal active duty while serving outside the continental U.S.
- 131 8. Iowa veterans receiving free tuition at any state institution of
132 higher learning.
- 133 9. Using the fees derived from all veteran-related vanity automobile
134 license plates to support veterans' needs.
- 135 10. Issuance by the Federal Government of a Cold War medal to all
136 veterans who have earned the citation by serving after World War
137 II (September 1945) and before the fall of the Soviet Union
138 (December 1991).
- 139 11. Full medical and other forms of compensation for veterans who
140 have been afflicted by exposure to nuclear bomb tests, Agent
141 Orange, depleted uranium and other environmental related
142 illnesses.
- 143 12. Creation of a MEDICAL CARD for all veterans, which would permit
144 them to obtain health care at any medical facility of their choosing.
- 145 13. All National Guard and Reserve Forces educational benefits must
146 be brought into parity with those offered to regular armed forces
147 veterans.
- 148 14. All of Iowa's drilling Reservists should receive the same benefits
149 extended to their Iowa National Guard counterparts from the state
150 of Iowa.
- 151 15. Special attention and emphasis must be given to the problems of
152 women veterans, Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) and to orthopedic
153 injuries for amputees.
- 154 16. Recognizing that the Global War on Terrorism has dramatically
155 increased PTSD and sexual trauma; which adds to the pre-existing
156 conditions of drug-abuse, alcoholism, domestic abuse and
157 homelessness, we strongly recommend that the VA facilities in
158 Knoxville be used to establish a domiciliary for women, a center to

- 159 treat PTSD and as a rehabilitation and mental health center for the
160 VA Midwestern Region.
- 161 17. The VA should pay competitive salaries for mental health
162 professionals and, when necessary, they should outsource the
163 services when caseloads exceed national established mental
164 health standards.
- 165 18. The State and National Democratic Party should support
166 increased funding to veterans' assistance programs and extension
167 of veterans' benefits to their immediate families.
- 168 19. Expanding the number of Veterans' Centers to serve rural areas.
- 169 20. That the federal per capita veterans' benefit for Iowa Veterans be
170 raised from 44th in the nation to 10th in the nation by 2010.
- 171 21. Forming a special committee to find and recover lost military
172 documents, files and records that are essential to establishing
173 service connected disabilities.
- 174 22. Full accounting of POW/MIA including declassification of
175 documents.
- 176 23. Enhanced specialized treatment and research for service-related
177 conditions, such as mental illness, disabilities caused by injury,
178 and Agent Orange, including treatment of descendants of veterans
179 for Agent Orange-related conditions (skin conditions, eczema,
180 etc.).
- 181 24. Establishment of a County Democratic Veterans' Caucus by each
182 County Central Committee.

183

184 We oppose:

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

187

188 **PRIORITIZATION OF STATE PLATFORM ISSUES**

189

190 Prioritization of the issues in the State platform shall not take place until
191 final debate on the platform has concluded and the preliminary report of the
192 platform committee has been adopted as amended by the delegates to the
193 State Convention in the final platform report of the State Convention.

194

195 **EQUAL ACCESS TO PARTY MATERIALS** 196 **FOR ALL DEMOCRATIC CANDIDATES**

197

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

201

202 **PERFECTING FORM OF THE PLATFORM**

203

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

207

208 **COLLECTIVE BARGAINING**

209

210 The Iowa Democratic Party reaffirms its 34-year commitment to labor by
211 supporting "broad scope" in collective bargaining in the strongest possible
212 terms.

213

214

STATEMENT OF ISSUES

215

216

AGRICULTURE AND THE ENVIRONMENT

217

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

221

222 **ENVIRONMENTALLY RESPONSIBLE ENERGY (Priority 2)**

223

224 We support:

225

1. Renewable energy.

226

2. Fair net-metering rules.

227

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

228

4. Financing research through a carbon tax.

229

5. Training a clean technologies workforce.

230

6. Reducing consumption and increasing efficiency.

231

7. Improved **CAFE** standards (including **SUVs** and pickups) to

232

50mpg by 2025.

233

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

234

9. Implementing sequestration technologies at coal power plants as

235

technologies develop.

236

10. Hard caps on mercury emissions.

237

11. A Moratorium on new coal power plants.

- 238 12. No subsidy for production of corn ethanol. [But supporting
239 subsidies for all sources of bio-ethanol, including switchgrass, corn
240 and others.]
241 13. No renewable designation for nuclear power.
242

243 **PLANNING AND ZONING**

244

245 We support:

- 246 14. Incentives for green building.
247 15. Using **LEED** requirements for publicly financed projects.
248 16. Reversing the giveaway of our natural resources to private
249 enterprise and foreign countries.
250 17. Development within existing cities and towns rather than prime
251 agricultural or natural areas.
252 18. Limiting **TIFs** to intended use.
253 19. Eliminating developer property tax credits and subsidies.
254

255 **ENVIRONMENTAL ENHANCEMENT AND REGULATION**

256

257 We support:

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

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

289 We oppose:

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

292 **WATERSHED MANAGEMENT**

293

294 We support:

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

308 **LIVESTOCK MANAGEMENT**

309

310 We support:

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

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

321 **RECYCLING/BOTTLE BILL**

322

323 We support:

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

328 **CONSUMER CHOICE AND FOOD SAFETY**

329

330 We support:

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

348 **SUSTAINABLE RURAL DEVELOPMENT**

349

350 We support:

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

356

357 **STRUCTURE OF AGRICULTURE**

358

359 We support:

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

368

369 We oppose:

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

372

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

374

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

390

391

EDUCATION

392

393 **PRE-K-12 CURRICULA, PROGRAMS AND SERVICES**

394

395 We support:

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

415 We support full and adequate financing for:

- 416 10. Early childhood education programs, Head Start, Empowerment,
417 Voluntary Preschool, Shared Visions meeting **NAEYC** or **IQPPS**.
- 418 11. Licensing/registration of all Iowa early care and education settings.
- 419 12. Before/after school programming, summer programs, **AEAs**.
- 420 13. **ICN**, technology and computer access in schools.
- 421 14. Public and school libraries/media technology centers and staff.
- 422 15. Comprehensive, accurate, and developmentally appropriate sex
423 education.
- 424 16. Class size reduction initiatives.
- 425 17. Improved energy efficiency in public school facilities.
- 426 18. Citizen diplomacy programs.
- 427 19. K-12 allowable growth rate to 6%.
- 428 20. **ADA** compliance in schools.
- 429 21. Returning to a 0.6/pupil weighting for Iowa public school system’s
430 nonsectarian Home School Assistance Programs.
- 431

432 We oppose:

- 433 22. Public PreK-12 academic fees.
- 434 23. Diverting public monies from public PreK-12 schools to vouchers,
435 tuition tax credits or private education.

436 24. **NCLB**-proscribed personal information databases.

437

438 **EDUCATORS**

439

440 We support:

441 25. Quality professional teacher development.

442 26. Maintaining PreK-12 teacher training/licensing/certification
443 requirements.

444 27. State-funded reimbursement of certification fees for special
445 education teachers.

446 28. Out-of-pocket **K-14** classroom materials tax credit.

447 29. \$10,000 annual tuition tax deduction for licensed educators
448 pursuing advanced degrees.

449 30. Educational instead of Title XIX funding of public school nurses.

450

451 We support full and adequate financing for:

452 31. Meaningful professional development.

453

454 We oppose:

455 32. Merit pay or school financing/salaries linked to student test results.

456 33. Fast-track teacher certification.

457 34. Cutting librarians, counselors or nurses to balance school budgets.

458

459 **SPECIAL EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES**

460

461 We support:

462 35. Literacy programs targeting high school drop outs, the
463 un/underemployed and immigrants.

464 36. Providing transportation, day care and payment to adult refugee
465 **ESL** students.

466 37. Reviewing **NPNPL** in regard to special needs students.

467 38. Assessment of need for special education students when
468 determining classroom size and funding in all educational settings.

469 39. Restoring full funding of all **VR** programs.

470 40. Equal special education dollars given for students at state-run
471 institutions as public schools.

472 41. A state-wide career academy system.

473

474 We support full and adequate financing for:

475 42. Adult education in prisons.

- 476 43. Federal school-to-work opportunities.
477 44. **IDEA** from the federal government at the 40% level.
478

479 **HIGHER EDUCATION**

480

481 We support:

- 482 45. Full student loan interest tax deductibility.
483 46. Repeal of Solomon Amendment.
484 47. Safe, modern campuses.
485 48. Enforcement of Title IX.
486 49. Access to financial aid regardless of criminal arrest/conviction.
487

488 We support full and adequate financing for:

- 489 50. Community colleges.
490 51. Regents universities.
491 52. Equitable wages for support professionals, substitutes, adjuncts,
492 and para-professionals.
493 53. **NEA, NEH, NSF, CPB, and IAC.**
494 54. Loan forgiveness in shortage areas, for those who remain in Iowa
495 to work or to provide public/community service.
496 55. Timely disbursements for student aid through grants, scholarships,
497 low-interest loans, tax credits, work study, federal incentives and
498 **ITGP** to help keep costs affordable and tuitions steady.
499

500 We oppose:

- 501 56. Mid-year funding pullbacks to **IBR** institutions.
502 57. Hiring adjuncts in community colleges when there is sufficient
503 course load for full-time faculty positions.
504

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

506

- 507 ADA – Americans with Disabilities Act (Issue 20)
508 AEA – Area Education Agencies (Issue 12)
509 CPB – Corporation for Public Broadcasting (Issue 54)
510 DREAM – Development Relief and Education for Alien Minors (Issue 5)
511 ESL – English Second Language (Issue 35)
512 IAC – Iowa Arts Council (Issue 54)
513 IBR – Iowa Board of Regents (Issue 49)
514 ICN – Iowa Communications Network (Issue 13)
515 IDEA – Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (Issue 43)

516 IQPPS – Iowa Quality Preschool Program Standards (Issue 10)
517 ITGP – Iowa Tuition Grant Program (Issue 56)
518 K-14 – Kindergarten through junior/community college (Issues 9, 27)
519 NAEYC – National Association for the Education of Young Children
520 (Issue 10)
521 NCLB – No Child Left Behind (Issues 2, 23)
522 NEA – National Endowment for the Arts (Issue 54)
523 NEH – National Endowment for the Humanities (Issue 54)
524 NPNPL – No Pass No Play Law (Issue 36)
525 NSF – National Science Foundation (Issue 54)
526 VR – Vocational Rehabilitation (Issue 38)
527

GOVERNMENT AND LAW

CIVIL RIGHTS (Priority 3)

531

532 We support:

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

- 556 16. Broader state/federal anti-hate crime/discrimination/bullying and all
557 civil/human rights laws for ALL gender and the disabled.
558 17. Requiring all public/private entities to have written permission from
559 individual account holders before sharing any non-public
560 information about them with any third party.
561 18. Privacy and protections of genetic testing results.

562

563 We oppose:

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

571

572 **TAXATION**

573

574 We support:

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

589

590 We oppose:

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

594

595 **CONSUMER PROTECTION**

596

597 We support:

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

606

607 We oppose:

- 608 40. Corporations having constitutional status as individuals.
609 41. Immunizing corporations from lawsuits.
610 42. Pet mills and profiting from animal cruelty.

611

612 **SOCIAL SECURITY**

613

614 We support:

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

621

622 We oppose:

- 623 47. Using Social Security funds to balance the general budget.
624 48. Privatizing Social Security.

625

626 **ELECTIONS**

627

628 We support:

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

- 636 53. The enforcement of **VRA** and the right of every citizen of legal age
637 to vote.
638 54. Redrawing legislative districts only in the year following the
639 national census.
640 55. Standards to improve election quality such as ballot type, poll
641 supervision, ballot tabulation.
642 56. Eliminating monetary influence of lobbyists employed by industry
643 **PACs**.
644 57. Private citizen suits against industry lobbies for violation of
645 campaign and lobbying laws.
646 58. Enforced legislation requiring relinquishment of congressional pay
647 and benefits with a five year waiting period before accepting
648 employment as lobbyist.
649 59. A state wide vote by mail program.
650 60. Consistent standards in a nationwide voting system that guards
651 the integrity of all elections.
652

653 We oppose:

- 654 61. Any form of voter disenfranchisement.
655

656 **MEDIA**

657
658 We support:

- 659 62. First Amendment protection for all electronic media.
660 63. Adequate funding for Corporation for Public Broadcasting and
661 continued independence in its operation.
662 64. Reinstatement of Fairness Doctrine.
663 65. "Net neutrality".
664 66. Publicly owned broadband networks.
665 67. Local government cable franchise fees to fund **PEG** channels.
666 68. Opening "unlicensed spectrum" for community networks.
667

668 We oppose:

- 669 69. The use of media for government sanctioned propaganda, i.e.
670 unattributed **VNRs**.
671 70. Media consolidation.
672 71. Internet censorship.
673

674 **TRANSPORTATION**

675

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

- 683
- 684 We oppose:
- 685 75. Infrastructure privatization.

686

687 **GOVERNMENT SERVICES**

688

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

- 711
- 712 We oppose:
- 713 88. Utility deregulation and privatization.
 - 714 89. Military recruiting in K-12 schools and supply of student names to
 - 715 recruiters.

716

717 **IMMIGRATION**

718

719 We support:

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

723

724 We oppose:

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

726

727 **GUN REGULATION**

728

729 We support:

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

731

732 We oppose:

- 733 93. Possession of firearms by persons while under no-contact orders,
734 charged with, or convicted of domestic violence/child
735 endangerment crimes.

736

737 **CORRECTIONS/CRIMINAL JUSTICE**

738

739 We support:

- 740 94. Increased funding for juvenile treatment and prevention programs.
741 95. Repeal of "three strikes you're out" laws.
742 96. Ending the costly "War on Drugs": refocusing efforts onto "harm
743 reduction" and realistic prevention efforts.
744 97. Increased funding for public defenders and Legal Aid.
745 98. Legalizing Marijuana.
746 99. Alternative sentencing for non-violent offenders.
747 100. Shifting funds from proposed prison expansion to quality mental
748 health/substance abuse rehabilitation.
749 101. Treating substance abuse as a public health issue, not a criminal
750 issue.
751 102. A moratorium on prison construction, except for structural
752 improvements to existing facilities.
753 103. Diverting mentally ill offenders not charged with forcible felonies to
754 special courts and treatment centers.

- 755 104. Judicial discretion in sentencing particularly for juveniles waived to
756 adult court.
757 105. Criminalizing denial of treatment by insurance companies that
758 results in death of the insured.
759 106. Binding plea bargains.
760 107. White collar crime enforcement.
761 108. Improved educational, vocational, and technical training for
762 prisoners.
763 109. Pardoning Leonard Peltier.
764 110. Rights of victims to have no contact orders.
765 111. Substance abuse assessment and treatment for inmates.
766 112. Automatic restoration of ex-felon voting rights.
767 113. Elimination of drug conviction question on **FAFSA**.
768 114. Criminal conviction as pre-requisite for property forfeiture.
769 115. Forfeiture being a rare exception.
770 116. Individual right to jury trial in forfeiture cases.
771 117. Repealing Federal legislation preventing non-violent rehabilitated
772 drug offenders from returning to full participation in society.
773 118. Equitable sentencing of drug users.
774 119. Establishing human rights commission to evaluate complaints by
775 inmates and parolees against the Federal and State Probation &
776 Sexual Crimes Division of the Dept. of Corrections.
777 120. Full funding of **VOCA**, **FVPSA**, and **VAWA**.
778 121. Creating a Native American & Cultural Center in Iowa providing
779 outreach, counseling, education, place of worship for all cultures,
780 and referral and training programs.
781 122. Recognition of Native American Rights and Culture.
782

783 We oppose:

- 784 123. Mandatory minimum sentencing.
785 124. Capital punishment, including for military.
786

787 **MILITARY AND VETERANS**

788

789 We support:

- 790 125. Recognition of All Veterans, regardless of branch, location, or
791 duration of Service.
792 126. Raising Iowa Veterans benefits from 44th to 10th nationally by
793 2010.

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

809 We oppose:

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

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

- 818
819 DOMA – Defense of Marriage Act (Issue 1)
820 ENDA – Employment Non-discrimination Act (Issue 10)
821 ERA – Equal Rights Amendment (Issue 8)
822 FAFSA – Free Application for Student Aid (Issue 115)
823 FVPSA – Family Violence and Prevention Services Act (Issue 122)
824 OFBCI – Office of Faith Based and Community Initiatives (Issue 79)
825 PAC – Political Action Committee (Issue 55)
826 PEG – Public, Educational, and Governmental Access (Issue 66)
827 PTSD – Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (Issue 130)
828 TBI – Traumatic Brain Injury (Issues 129, 130)
829 VA – Veterans Administration (Issue 130)
830 VAWA – Violence Against Women Act (Issue 122)
831 VOCA – Victims of Crime Act (Issue 122)
832 VOICE – Voter Owned Iowa Clean Elections (Issue 49)
833 VNR – Video News Release (Issue 68)

834 VRA – Voters Rights Act (Issue 52)

835

836

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

837

UNIVERSAL HEALTH CARE/MEDICARE-MEDICAID (Priority 1)

839

840 We support:

841 1. Making health care a fundamental constitutional right.

842 2. A national health care system providing without discrimination:

843 • consumer-driven provider choice;

844 • comprehensive, portable, high quality, affordable, and
845 sustainable health care;

846 • prevention;

847 • early diagnosis;

848 • pre-existing, genetic, and chronic disease/pain management;

849 • improved methods and telemedicine, and increased cost
850 efficiency.

851 3. A national, universal single payer health insurance program.

852 4. Full public financing for Medicaid, Medicare, and **SCHIP**.

853 5. A national long-term care system designed to meet the needs of
854 an aging population.

855 6. Financial protection for immediate family of Medicaid recipients.

856 7. Medicare negotiating lower drug prices, expanding the formulary,
857 and eliminating the “donut hole” and “in-home” rule for mobility
858 devices.

859

PUBLIC HEALTH/CONSUMER PROTECTION & SAFETY

860

861 We support:

862 8. Consumer and worker representation on health/research/human
863 service review boards.

864 9. Statewide public smoking ban and financing for prevention and
865 cessation programs.

866 10. Improved health information technology with appropriate privacy
867 safeguards.

868 11. Increased financing for First-responders.

869 12. Disaster/pandemic readiness.

870 13. Increased wages for direct care health workers.

871

CHRONIC DISEASE/CHRONIC PAIN

872

874

875 We support:

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

884

885 **PRESCRIPTION DRUGS/INSURANCE**

886

887 We support:

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

893

894 We oppose:

- 895 21. The use of thimerosal in vaccines.

896

897 **RESEARCH/ALTERNATIVE MEDICINE**

898

899 We support:

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

910

911 **SUBSTANCE ABUSE/MENTAL HEALTH**

912

913 We support:

- 914 29. Parity in mental health, brain disorder, and substance abuse
915 treatment coverage by insurance companies.
916 30. Fully financed substance abuse, mental health, and
917 developmental disabilities services and support.
918

919 **REPRODUCTIVE RIGHTS**

920

921 We support:

- 922 31. The legal right of women to make their own health care decisions
923 and the preservation of Roe v. Wade, and extending this right to
924 women in the military and/or on government assistance.
925 32. Comprehensive developmentally-appropriate, medically accurate
926 sex education including sexually responsible behavior, **STDs** and
927 non-directive family planning.
928 33. State financing to provide comprehensive family planning services
929 including genetic counseling.
930 34. Rights to access contraceptives and have legal prescriptions filled.
931

932

932 **HUMAN SERVICES PROGRAMS**

933

934 We support:

- 935 35. Adequate financing of all services to assist people in transitioning
936 to economic independence.
937 36. Cost-of-living indexing for Federal Poverty Guidelines.
938 37. Fully-financed Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program.
939 38. Allowing public assistance recipients to work without penalty until
940 benefits and salary exceed the living wage.
941

942

942 **CHILD PROTECTION AND WELFARE/ABUSE**

943

944 We support:

- 945 39. Preventing child abuse and neglect.
946 40. Children's right to a safe, stable environment
947 41. Adequate family preservation programs.
948 42. Appropriate interventions and out-of-home placement of children
949 in danger
950 43. Family reunification whenever indicated.
951 44. Timely permanency planning, emphasizing what is in the child's
952 best interest.

- 953 45. Fully-financed **DHS** financing social workers and case
954 management workers to reduce case loads.
955 46. Domestic violence shelters and outreach programs.
956 47. Sexual abuse and assault victim programs and mandating that
957 hospitals offer emergency contraceptives.
958 48. Full-financed transitional programs for those aging out of foster
959 care.
960 49. Financial assistance to providers of kinship care.

961

962 **HOMELESSNESS/HOUSING**

963

964 We support:

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

976

977 **ELDERLY SERVICES**

978

979 We support:

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

984

985 **PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES**

986

987 We support:

- 988 58. Effective enforcement of the **ADA**.
989 59. Restoration of the **ADA** to its original scope.
990 60. Home and community based services with flexible, portable
991 funding.
992 61. Preventing abuse against people with disabilities.

993

994 **PATIENTS' BILL OF RIGHTS**

995

996 We support:

997 62. Patients' Bill of Rights:

- 998 • Right to make their own medical decisions;
- 999 • Protection of the right to litigate;
- 1000 • Patient rights take precedence over researcher interests.

1001

1002 **DEATH WITH DIGNITY**

1003

1004 We support:

1005 63. Adopting Oregon's Death with Dignity Act.

1006 64. Self-determination/autonomy to choose or refuse treatments to
1007 sustain life.

1008

1009 **ADDENDUM – ACRONYMS USED IN THIS SECTION**

1010

1011 ADA – Americans with Disabilities Act (Issues 58, 59)

1012 DHS – Department of Health and Human Services (Iowa) (Issue 45)

1013 SCHIP – State Children's Health Insurance Program (HAWK-I) (Issue 4)

1014 STD – Sexually Transmitted Diseases (Issue 32)

1015

1016 **INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS**

1017

1018 **PEACE AND SECURITY**

1019

1020 We support:

- 1021 1. Diplomatic, economic, medical and cultural measures to resolve
1022 global poverty, hunger and disease, and further worldwide human
1023 rights.
- 1024 2. Combating terrorism as an international criminal problem.
- 1025 3. Reassessing all foreign military aid.
- 1026 4. Banning cluster bombs.
- 1027 5. Increased financing for improved border and port security.
- 1028 6. Diplomacy and negotiations, including bilateral talks, regarding
1029 Iran's nuclear program.
- 1030 7. Normalization of diplomatic relations with Cuba, Iran, and North
1031 Korea.

- 1032 8. Protecting victims and prosecuting those who traffic in humans for
1033 sexual exploitation and forced labor.
1034 9. Humane treatment and habeas corpus protection for all.
1035 10. Moratorium on the export of nuclear technologies or their wastes
1036 to other nations, and strict regulation, tracking, monitoring, and
1037 recapturing of radioactive materials and wastes.
1038 11. Peaceful, sustainable space exploration.
1039 12. Enhancing worldwide gender equality and political empowerment
1040 of women.

1041

1042 We oppose:

- 1043 13. Preemptive warfare.
1044 14. Our government facilitating or sanctioning torture in any form,
1045 anywhere.
1046 15. Secret prisons and detention facilities, and rendition to countries
1047 known to use torture.
1048 16. US ballistic missiles in Eastern Europe.
1049 17. Use of private security forces.
1050 18. Providing financial support of and military assistance, aid, or
1051 training to repressive regimes.
1052 19. A “Star Wars” missile defense shield.
1053 20. Development of new nuclear weapons.
1054 21. Militarization of American foreign policy.
1055 22. Mercenaries.

1056

1057 **REGIONAL CONFLICTS – IRAQ**

1058

1059 We support:

- 1060 23. The complete withdrawal of US troops from Iraq, giving US military
1061 bases to the Iraqi government after an orderly transfer of authority.
1062 24. Reconstruction of Iraq and resettlement of Iraqi refugees through
1063 financial and diplomatic cooperation with the UN and the Iraqi
1064 government.
1065 25. Holding all contractors legally liable for their acts and/or omissions,
1066 including war profiteering.

1067

1068 **REGIONAL CONFLICTS – ISRAEL/PALESTINE**

1069

1070 We support:

- 1071 26. Peaceful efforts to achieve separate and secure Israeli and
1072 Palestinian States, working with all parties to end the conflict.
1073

1074 **REGIONAL CONFLICTS – AFGHANISTAN**
1075

1076 We support:

- 1077 27. International aid to improve security, education, and infrastructure.
1078

1079 **REGIONAL CONFLICTS – CENTRAL AND SOUTH AMERICA**
1080

1081 We support:

- 1082 28. Closure of the **WHISC** ‘School of the Americas’.
1083

1084 We oppose:

- 1085 29. Indiscriminate aerial use of herbicides for coca eradication.
1086

1087 **REGIONAL CONFLICTS – AFRICA**
1088

1089 We support:

- 1090 30. Robust world efforts to prevent and end genocide.
1091 31. Effective international peacekeeping intervention in armed
1092 conflicts.
1093 32. Replacing Bush’s “**ABC**” policy to combat HIV/AIDS with a new
1094 policy emphasizing education and contraceptive access.
1095

1096 We oppose:

- 1097 33. Illegal transfer of weapons to armed groups.
1098 34. Amnesty for war criminals.
1099 35. Female genital mutilation and using rape as a weapon of war.
1100

1101 **DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE**
1102

1103 We support:

- 1104 36. Meeting UN Millennium Development Goals.
1105 37. Linking foreign aid to the promotion of human rights.
1106 38. Funding our share of the **GFATM**.
1107 39. Comprehensive reproductive health care and family planning
1108 programs.
1109 40. Administering reconstruction and disaster relief contracts under
1110 open bid processes.

- 1111 41. Increasing the amount of U.S. **GDP** devoted to international
1112 development assistance.

1113

1114 **UNITED NATIONS**

1115

1116 We support:

- 1117 42. Full US payment of UN dues.
1118 43. US membership in the International Criminal Court.
1119 44. Participation in multilateral peacekeeping missions.
1120 45. Full participation in the UN Human Rights Council.

1121

1122 **TREATIES AND CONVENTIONS**

1123

1124 We support:

- 1125 46. Adherence to the Geneva and Vienna Conventions;
1126 47. Ratification and/or full participation in:
- 1127 • **BWC**;
 - 1128 • **CDCW**;
 - 1129 • **CEDAW**;
 - 1130 • **CRC**;
 - 1131 • **CRPD**;
 - 1132 • **CTBT**;
 - 1133 • **ICESCR**;
 - 1134 • Ottawa Landmine Treaty;
 - 1135 • Kyoto Protocol;
 - 1136 • **RSICJ**;
 - 1137 • **UDHR**

1138

1139 **ADDENDUM - ACRONYMS USED IN THIS SECTION**

1140

- 1141 ABC – Abstain, Be faithful, or use a Condom (Issue 33)
1142 BWC – Biological Weapons Convention Protocol (Issue 48)
1143 CDCW – Convention on the Destruction of Chemical Weapons and the
1144 Prohibition of Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of
1145 Chemical Weapons (Issue 48)
1146 CEDAW – Convention on Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination
1147 Against Women (Issue 48)
1148 CRC – Convention on the Rights of Children (Issue 48)
1149 CRPD – Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (Issue 48)
1150 CTBT – Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (Issue 48)

1151 GDP – Gross Domestic Product (Issue 42)
1152 GFATM – Global Fund for AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria (Issue 39)
1153 ICESCR – International Covenant on Economic, Social, and Cultural
1154 Rights (Issue 48)
1155 RSICCJ – Rome Statute on the International Court of Criminal Justice
1156 (Issue 48)
1157 UDHR – Universal Declaration of Human Rights (Issue 48)
1158 WHISC – Western Hemisphere Institute for Security Cooperation
1159 (Issue 29)

1160

1161

LABOR, ECONOMY AND COMMERCE

1162

JOB, SAFETY, AND LABOR

1163

1164 We support:

- 1165 1. Repealing “right to work” laws.
- 1166 2. **EFCA.**
- 1167 3. **PLAs.**
- 1168 4. Strengthening **NLRA.**
- 1169 5. Fully financing **NLRB.**
- 1170 6. Fair-share clauses.
- 1171 7. Equal wages/proportionate benefits for part time workers.
- 1172 8. All issues being mandatory subjects of bargaining.
- 1173 9. Unemployment benefits for locked out employees.
- 1174 10. Penalties/sanctions on employers for hiring/contracting
1175 undocumented workers.
- 1176 11. Equal pay for equal work.
- 1177 12. Employers/government entities abiding by labor contracts and
1178 arbitrators’ decisions.
- 1179 13. Considering bidders’ safety records for government contracts.
- 1180 14. Laws prohibiting “temps” replacing permanent employees.
- 1181 15. Eliminating employee/independent contractor misclassification.
- 1182 16. Requiring prevailing wages for publicly contracted work.
- 1183 17. Davis Bacon Act.
- 1184 18. Strengthening, increasing financing and staffing of **OSHA, MSHA**
1185 and **NIOSH.**
- 1186 19. Workers’ rights to refuse unsafe work.
- 1187 20. Workers injured on the job choosing their health care provider.
- 1188 21. Covering agricultural workers by health and safety statutes.
- 1189 22. Adequate staffing levels for workplace safety.
- 1190

- 1191 23. Allowing employees and unions greater participation with **OSHA**
1192 activities.
1193 24. Improving whistleblower protection.
1194 25. Passing “The Decent Working Conditions and Fair Competition
1195 Act”.
1196 26. Laws ensuring job security for and preventing discrimination
1197 against single parents.
1198 27. Encouraging employers to hire and promote more persons with
1199 disabilities (**PWD**), eliminate discriminatory practices, and create
1200 employment opportunities for **PWD**.

1201

1202 We oppose:

- 1203 28. Privatization of public jobs/services.
1204 29. Employment-related polygraph tests.
1205 30. Prison labor displacing non-incarcerated workers.
1206 31. Mandatory overtime.
1207 32. Limiting or ending overtime pay.
1208 33. Out-sourcing of jobs.
1209 34. Replacing striking workers.
1210 35. Temporary immigration status that exploits workers.

1211

1212 **WAGES, PENSIONS, AND BENEFITS**

1213

1214 We support:

- 1215 36. “Living wage” as minimum wage.
1216 37. Appropriately financed, fully honored, secure, portable retirement
1217 and health care plans.
1218 38. Enforcing **FMLA**.
1219 39. Requiring employers’ contribution to health care coverage or
1220 Iowa's Medicaid fund.
1221 40. The Railroad retirement system and **FELA**.
1222 41. Fully financing **IPERS** to maintain its long-term financial health.

1223

1224 **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

1225

1226 We support:

- 1227 42. Strengthening laws to protect employees during company
1228 mergers, takeovers, plant closings, or bankruptcy.
1229 43. Listing employees as first-in-line creditors.
1230 44. Rebuilding the US with a **WPA/CCC**-type program.

- 1231 45. Federal jobs programs and vocational training.
- 1232 46. Encouraging the purchase of US made products.
- 1233 47. Low interest small business loans for local entrepreneurs.
- 1234 48. Increasing state support to encourage the formation of owner operated businesses/farms.
- 1235
- 1236 49. Eliminating subsidies for oil companies and large chain
- 1237 businesses.
- 1238

1238

1239 **CURBING BUSINESS ABUSES**

1240

1241 We support:

- 1242 50. Enforcement of anti-trust and regulatory legislation.
- 1243 51. Corporate tax surcharges on publicly traded corporations
- 1244 operating in the US when corporate officer compensation exceeds
- 1245 20 times the lowest paid worker and prohibiting deduction from
- 1246 corporate earnings.
- 1247 52. Amending bankruptcy law to prevent corporate officers from
- 1248 insulating themselves from costs incurred by the organization's
- 1249 irresponsibility.
- 1250 53. Establishing fair limits on bank fees and penalties.
- 1251 54. Adding the following clause to the State Corporate Business
- 1252 Charter: profits cannot be made at the expense of the
- 1253 environment, workers' rights and the public interest.
- 1254

1254

1255 We oppose:

- 1256 55. Price gouging.
- 1257 56. Corporate welfare, including indiscriminate tax breaks and
- 1258 bailouts.
- 1259 57. Allowing non-banking entities to establish banks.
- 1260 58. Insurance credit scoring.
- 1261

1261

1262 **COMMERCE & TRANSPORTATION**

1263

1264 We support:

- 1265 59. Minimizing the US trade deficit.
- 1266 60. Requiring "Made in USA" labeled products to contain a minimum
- 1267 of 90% US manufactured content.
- 1268 61. Enforcement of **COOL** to accurately reflect where products are
- 1269 manufactured.
- 1270 62. Fair Trade not "free trade".

- 1271 63. Development of internationally accepted, enforceable standards
1272 protecting human/labor rights and environments from exploitation.
1273 64. Transparency in trade negotiations.
1274 65. Open Congressional forums to review agreements and consider
1275 amendments prior to approval.
1276 66. Creating and maintaining affordable and accessible
1277 broadband/modern telecommunications services for all.
1278 67. Increased funding for Amtrak and **FRA**.
1279 68. **MIPRC**.
1280 69. **PRWG**.

1281

1282 We oppose:

- 1283 70. Countries manipulating their currency thereby adversely affecting
1284 U.S. commerce.
1285 71. **WTO, NAFTA, CAFTA** and North American Union.
1286 72. No-bid government contracts.
1287 73. Large business/conglomerates destroying small businesses.
1288 74. All remote control locomotive operations.
1289 75. **NAFTA** "super highway"

1290

1291 **ADDENDUM – ACRONYMS USED IN THIS SECTION**

1292

- 1293 CAFTA – Central American Free Trade Agreement (Issue 72)
1294 CCC – Civilian Conservation Corp (Issue 44)
1295 COOL – Country of Origin Labeling (Issue 61)
1296 EFCA – Employee Free Choice Act (Issue 2)
1297 FELA – Federal Employers Liability Act (Issue 40)
1298 FMLA – Family and Medical Leave Act (Issue 38)
1299 FRA – Federal Railroad Administration (Issue 67)
1300 IPERS – Iowa Public Employees Retirement System (Issue 41)
1301 MIPRC – Midwest Interstate Passenger Rail Commission (Issue 68)
1302 MSHA – Mine Safety and Health Administration (Issue 18)
1303 NAFTA – North American Free Trade Agreement (Issues 72, 76)
1304 NIOSH – National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health (Issue 18)
1305 NLRA – National Labor Relations Act (Issue 4)
1306 NLRB – National Labor Relations Board (Issue 5)
1307 OSHA – Occupational Safety and Health Administration (Issues 18, 23)
1308 PLA – Project Labor Agreement (Issue 3)
1309 PRWG – Passenger Rail Working Group (Issue 69)
1310 PWD – Persons with Disabilities (issue 44)

1311 WPA – Works Progress Administration (Issue 44)
1312 WTO – World Trade Organization (Issue 72)