

1 **IOWA DEMOCRATIC PARTY STATE PLATFORM**
2 **ADOPTED BY THE DELEGATES ASSEMBLED**
3 **AT THE JUNE 12, 2010, STATE CONVENTION**

4
5 **STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES**
6

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

17
18 We support Iowans serving in the military, especially our troops in the field, and look
19 forward to their return home to this beautiful land. Every day they serve is a testament to
20 their love of country and we honor their service.

21
22 As temporary stewards of our natural resources, we demand that our governing bodies
23 develop policies and laws promoting sound energy practices and permanently protecting
24 our environment from wasteful and indiscriminate use. Clean air, clean water, and
25 diverse ecosystems, including our national parks, oceans, and ancient forests, are part of
26 our children's future and must be protected. As stewards of Iowa's heritage, we cherish
27 our land and family farms.

28
29 All Americans have a stake in local, national and global economic systems that provide
30 first and foremost for the basic human needs: nourishment, shelter, health, employment
31 and education. The answer to governmental fiscal problems lies in a strong economy
32 founded upon broadly based prosperity. An equitable and wide distribution of wealth
33 and a free and fairly compensated labor force expands our economy and creates a
34 healthier society. Market forces alone often do not serve the common good.

35
36 We must provide accessible, affordable, and quality education to all Iowans at all
37 educational levels. Adequate funding, accountability, innovation, and cost-effective
38 programming are essential to ensure Iowans are competitive in the national and global
39 economy. Education is an investment in Iowa's future.

40
41 Whenever the rights of any of our citizens are threatened, the rights of all are endangered.
42 We take seriously the obligation to preserve, protect and secure basic constitutional and
43 civil rights for ALL. We believe in a government which consistently and fairly serves and
44 protects ALL people. We believe in equal opportunities and justice for all.

46 The legitimate function of government is to accomplish those social goals which we
47 cannot achieve as individuals. We will continue to work for a truly representative
48 government: working for the good of the people; compassionate, progressive,
49 responsible and fair; striving to achieve peace, prosperity, and instilling confidence and
50 hope.

51
52 We strive for meaningful checks and balances among legislative, judicial, and executive
53 branches of government.

54
55 We stand with people everywhere who demand freedom, justice, and opportunity and the
56 free exchange of ideas.

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58

SPECIAL RESOLUTION FOR VETERANS

59

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

63

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

68

69 We call on the Iowa State Legislature to vigorously guard and preserve the financial
70 integrity of the following agencies and programs: The Iowa Veterans Home; The Iowa
71 Department of Veteran Affairs; The Iowa Veterans Trust Fund; County Allocation
72 Programs; The Injured Veteran Grant Program; Military Home Ownership Program; and
73 Veterans License Plate Fund. Any reductions in funding will not only have a negative
74 impact on Iowa Veterans and their families but could impact the federal funding of these
75 programs.

76

77 It is the unwavering position of the Iowa Democratic Veterans' Caucus that the Veteran's
78 Administration (VA) health care program provisions are contractual agreements earned
79 by veterans.

80

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

84

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

89

90 We support:

- 91 1. Mandatory full financing for all US veterans' health needs arising from US
92 involvement in this and all other wars/conflicts, with automatic increases based
93 on the number of troops put into harm's way.
- 94 2. Efforts by the United States, NATO Allies, Afghanis, Iraqis, Non-Governmental
95 Organizations (NGO's), and regional and international powers to achieve peace
96 and stability in Afghanistan and Iraq.
- 97 3. Issuance by the Federal Government of a Cold War medal to all veterans who
98 have earned the citation by serving after World War II (September 1945) and
99 before the fall of the Soviet Union (December 1991).
- 100 4. Manufacture of all U.S. military supplies in the United States.
- 101 5. Active recruitment of veterans and priority preference for training programs and
102 employment.
- 103 6. Providing financing for an immediate increase of the amount of the veterans'
104 property exemption, indexing it to the rate of inflation, and a comparable credit
105 for those who rent.
- 106 7. An income tax credit of 10% of state and federal income tax for disabled
107 veterans with a service connected disability.
- 108 8. Iowa combat veterans receiving free tuition at any state institution of higher
109 learning.
- 110 9. Immediately abolishing the "don't ask, don't tell" policy and establishing fair
111 discipline policies, under the Uniform Code of Military Justice, so all citizens can
112 serve in the Armed Forces.
- 113 10. The VA paying competitive salaries for mental health professionals and, when
114 necessary, outsourcing the services when caseloads exceed the nationally
115 established mental health standards.
- 116 11. Forming a special committee to find and recover lost military documents, files
117 and records that are essential to establishing service connected disabilities.
- 118 12. Preservation of the battleship U.S.S. Iowa as a permanent naval museum.
- 119 13. Jail diversion programs for veterans with PTSD so they can receive needed
120 treatment.
- 121 14. The expansion of the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment
122 Rights Act (USERRA) job protections for veterans with problems or disabilities
123 that were incurred while on active duty.
- 124 15. Mandatory review of discharges for veterans that were discharged because of
125 pre-existing mental health or psychological conditions.
- 126 16. The use of mercenaries and private contractors should be rare and always under
127 the direct command of the U.S. military.
- 128 17. Legislation to require funeral homes that have possessed the unclaimed
129 remains of a veteran for a year to seek out a veterans' organization to
130 respectfully bury the veteran's remains.
- 131 18. Full accounting of POW / MIA's and a quick declassification of documents.
- 132 19. Acknowledgement of the third Friday in September as "POW/MIA Recognition
133 Day".
- 134
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137 **STATEMENT OF ISSUES**

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139 **PRIORITY PLANKS (TOP SEVEN RANKED IN ORDER OF VOTES RECEIVED)**

- 140 1. We oppose corporate personhood.
141 2. We support a single-payer health care plan for all citizens.
142 3. We oppose the Defense of Marriage Act.
143 4. We support separation of church and state.
144 5. We support energy independence with locally-owned renewable, eco-sustainable
145 sources.
146 6. We support removing the cap on Social Security contributions.
147 7. We support repealing "right to work" laws (§14b Taft Hartley).

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149 **GOVERNMENT AND LAW**

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151 **VETERANS AND MILITARY AFFAIRS**

152
153 We support:

- 154 1. Our Special Resolution for Veterans and Legislative action to enact its
155 provisions.
156 2. Pay and benefits adequate to support service members and their families.
157 3. Full rights and privileges of adulthood for all military personnel.
158 4. Mandatory mental and physical health assessments before discharge.
159 5. Universal enrollment in the Veterans Administration Health Care System before
160 discharge.
161 6. Full implementation of Dole-Shalala Commission recommendations.
162 7. Fully staffed and financed Veterans Administration.
163 8. Raising Iowa's Veterans' benefits to top 10% of nation.
164 9. Fully financing and inclusion of renters to Veterans' property tax credits.
165 10. Veterans Court Diversion Programs.

166
167 We oppose:

- 168 11. Offsets of disability compensation.
169 12. Means-testing for Veterans benefits.

170
171 **CIVIL RIGHTS**

172
173 We support:

- 174 13. Marriage equality.
175 14. Habeas corpus.
176 15. Miranda rights.
177 16. Adding "sexual orientation," "gender identity," "transgender" and "disability" to
178 anti-discrimination laws, hate crime laws, human rights policies, anti-bullying
179 and civil rights statutes.
180 17. Right to privacy.
181 18. Separation of church and state.
182 19. Passing "Equal Rights Amendment".

- 183 20. Affirmative Action.
- 184 21. Title IX.
- 185 22. Adopting "Employment Non-Discrimination Act".
- 186 23. Protecting same-sex couples' rights in adoption and custody.
- 187 24. Gender-neutral custody decisions.
- 188 25. Privacy and protections for genetic testing results.
- 189 26. 1953 version of Pledge of Allegiance.
- 190 27. The portability and definition of marriage as a legal contract with all legal rights
- 191 and responsibilities thereto, without religious connotations.

192

193 We oppose:

- 194 28. Defense of Marriage Act.
- 195 29. Immunity for those who violate 4th Amendment.
- 196 30. Subversion of Constitutional rights in the name of national security.
- 197 31. Don't Ask Don't Tell.
- 198 32. USA PATRIOT Act.

199

200 **TAXATION**

201

202 We support:

- 203 33. Fiscally responsible, socially progressive budgeting.
- 204 34. Simplified, progressive income tax for all incomes.
- 205 35. Expiration of cuts for top two federal income tax brackets.
- 206 36. Progressive estate taxes.
- 207 37. Revoking tax breaks for and imposing heavy tax penalties on corporations
- 208 sending jobs out of the country.
- 209 38. Legalizing, taxing, regulating marijuana.
- 210 39. Expanding "Earned Income Tax Credits" eligibility.
- 211 40. Requiring businesses to repay loans, grants, tax incentives if they fail to meet
- 212 required conditions.

213

214 We oppose:

- 215 41. Taxing unemployment, worker's compensation, Social Security disability
- 216 benefits.
- 217 42. Iowa Drug Tax Stamp.

218

219 **CONSUMER PROTECTION**

220

221 We support:

- 222 43. Requiring permission from account holders before sharing non-public
- 223 information; compensation for violation or sale of information.
- 224 44. Reinstating usury laws.
- 225 45. Rescinding recent changes in bankruptcy law.
- 226 46. Creating private cause of action for consumer fraud in Iowa.

227

228 We oppose:

- 229 47. Corporate personhood.
230 48. Immunizing corporations from lawsuits.
231 49. Using credit ratings for purposes other than obtaining credit.

232

233 **SOCIAL SECURITY**

234

235 We support:

- 236 50. Removing cap on Social Security contributions.
237 51. Honoring federal budget obligations to "Social Security Trust Fund".
238 52. Social Security benefits for married same-sex couples.

239

240 We oppose:

- 241 53. Using Social Security funds to balance general budget.
242 54. Privatizing Social Security.

243

244 **ELECTIONS**

245

246 We support:

- 247 55. Nationwide standards for consistent ballot type, voter-verified paper audit trails,
248 statistically significant random audits of precincts, public disclosure of voting
249 software used, open-source code.
250 56. "Voter Owned Iowa Clean Elections" and "Fair Elections Now Act".
251 57. "Instant Runoff Voting" in all elections.
252 58. Enforcing "Voters Rights Act" and right of every citizen of legal age to vote.
253 59. Redrawing legislative districts only in the year following national census.
254 60. Timely reporting of "Political Action Committee" and lobbyist contributions before
255 elections and legislative votes.
256 61. Rescinding congressional benefits if a former Congressperson accepts
257 employment as a lobbyist within five years of leaving Congress.

258

259 **MEDIA**

260

261 We support:

- 262 62. First Amendment protection for all media.
263 63. Adequate financing for the Corporation for Public Broadcasting and continued
264 independence in its operation.
265 64. Reinstatement of Fairness Doctrine.
266 65. "Net neutrality".
267 66. Publicly owned and accessible broadband networks.
268 67. Local government cable franchise fees to finance "Public, Educational,
269 Government Access" channels.
270 68. Opening "unlicensed spectrum" for community networks.

271

272 We oppose:

- 273 69. Use of media for government sanctioned propaganda, e.g. unattributed "Video
274 News Releases".

- 275 70. Media consolidation.
- 276 71. Internet censorship

277

278 **GOVERNMENT SERVICES**

279

280 We support:

- 281 72. Transparent, accessible, accountable government.
- 282 73. Rescinding expanded powers of the Executive Branch and restoring checks and
- 283 balances.
- 284 74. Fully financing legislative mandates and entitlement programs without
- 285 discrimination.
- 286 75. School and county consolidation.
- 287 76. Voter representation for District of Columbia.

288

289 We oppose:

- 290 77. "Office of Faith Based Community Initiatives".
- 291 78. Immunity for private military/mercenary/policing groups that have committed
- 292 crimes.
- 293 79. Utility deregulation and privatization.
- 294 80. Military recruiting in Kindergarten-12 schools and supplying student names to
- 295 recruiters.
- 296 81. "English Only" laws as applied to government documents.

297

298 **IMMIGRATION**

299

300 We support:

- 301 82. Legislation upholding human rights, eliminating geographical/racial bias,
- 302 preserving families, establishing expedient pathway to citizenship.
- 303 83. Uniting American Families Act.

304

305 We oppose:

- 306 84. Mexico-U.S. border wall.

307

308 **GUN REGULATION**

309

310 We support:

- 311 85. Fair, responsible, reasonable gun ownership.
- 312 86. Banning private ownership of assault-style weapons.

313

314 **CORRECTIONS/CRIMINAL JUSTICE**

315

316 We support:

- 317 87. Increased financing for juvenile treatment prevention programs.
- 318 88. Refocusing drug enforcement efforts toward harm reduction, treatment, and
- 319 prevention efforts.
- 320 89. Increased financing for public defenders and Legal Aid.
- 321 90. Alternative sentencing for non-violent offenders.

- 322 91. Diverting mentally ill offenders not charged with forcible felonies to special courts
323 and treatment centers.
324 92. Reviewing placement of individuals based on gender identity or transgender
325 status.
326 93. Establishing human rights commission to evaluate complaints by inmates and
327 parolees.
328 94. Judicial discretion in sentencing, particularly for juveniles waived to adult court.
329 95. Binding plea bargains.
330 96. Prosecuting white-collar crime.
331 97. Improving educational/vocational/technical training for prisoners.
332 98. Pardoning Leonard Peltier.
333 99. Rights of all victims to have no-contact orders.
334 100. Substance abuse assessment and treatment for inmates.
335 101. Automatic restoration of felon voting rights upon completion of sentence and
336 payment of court ordered restitution.
337 102. Elimination of drug conviction question on "Free Application for Student Aid".
338 103. Private property rights guaranteed by Constitution, with criminal conviction as
339 pre-requisite for property forfeiture; forfeiture as rare exception; individual right
340 to jury trial in forfeiture cases.
341 104. Non-violent rehabilitated drug offenders returning to full participation in society.
342 105. Equitable sentencing of drug users.
343 106. Full financing of "Victims of Crime Act", "Family Violence Prevention Services
344 Act", "Violence Against Women Act".
345

346 We oppose:

- 347 107. Mandatory minimum sentencing.
348 108. Capital punishment.
349 109. "Three strikes" laws.
350

351 **LABOR, ECONOMY AND COMMERCE**

352 **JOBS, SAFETY, AND LABOR**

353 We support:

- 354
355 110. Repealing "right to work" laws (§14b Taft Hartley).
356 111. Employee Free Choice Act.
357 112. Project Labor Agreements.
358 113. Strengthening "National Labor Relations Act".
359 114. Fully financing "National Labor Relations Board".
360 115. Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938.
361 116. Fair-share clauses.
362 117. Equal wages/proportionate benefits for part time workers.
363 118. All issues being mandatory subjects of bargaining.
364 119. Unemployment benefits for locked out employees.
365 120. Penalties/sanctions on employers for hiring/contracting undocumented workers.
366 121. Equal pay for equal work.
367 122. Employers/government entities abiding by labor contracts and arbitrators'
368 decisions.
369

- 370 123. Considering bidders' safety records for government contracts.
371 124. Laws prohibiting "temps" replacing permanent employees.
372 125. Eliminating employee/independent contractor misclassification.
373 126. Requiring prevailing wages for publicly contracted work.
374 127. Davis-Bacon Act (prevailing wage).
375 128. Strengthening, increasing financing staffing of "Occupational Safety and Health
376 Administration", "Mine Safety and Health Administration", "National Institute of
377 Occupational Safety and Health".
378 129. Workers' rights to refuse unsafe work.
379 130. Workers injured on job choosing their health care provider.
380 131. Covering agricultural workers by health and safety statutes.
381 132. Adequate staffing levels for workplace safety.
382 133. Allowing employees and unions greater participation with "Occupational Safety
383 and Health Administration" activities.
384 134. Improving whistleblower protection.
385 135. Passing "Decent Working Conditions and Fair Competition Act".
386 136. Laws ensuring job security for preventing discrimination against single parents.
387 137. Encouraging hiring, promoting, eliminating discriminatory practices, and creating
388 employment opportunities for "Persons with Disabilities".
389

390 We oppose:

- 391 138. Privatizing public jobs and services.
392 139. Employment-related polygraph tests.
393 140. Prison labor displacing non-incarcerated workers.
394 141. Mandatory overtime.
395 142. Limiting or ending overtime pay.
396 143. Out-sourcing jobs.
397 144. Replacing striking workers.
398 145. Temporary immigration status that exploits workers.
399

400 **WAGES, PENSIONS, AND BENEFITS**

401

402 We support:

- 403 146. "Living wage" as minimum wage.
404 147. Secure portable retirement and healthcare plans.
405 148. Enforcing "Family and Medical Leave Act".
406 149. Requiring employers' contribution to health care coverage or Iowa's Medicaid
407 fund.
408 150. Railroad retirement system "Federal Employers Liability Act".
409 151. Fully financing "Iowa Public Employees Retirement System" to maintain its
410 long-term financial health.
411

412 **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

413

414 We support:

- 415 152. Strengthening laws to protect employees during company mergers, takeovers,
416 plant closings, or bankruptcy.
417 153. Listing employees as first-in-line creditors.

- 418 154. Rebuilding our infrastructure as job and workforce creator.
419 155. Federal jobs programs, vocational training.
420 156. Encouraging purchase of US made products.
421 157. Low interest "Small Business Administration" loans for local entrepreneurs.
422 158. Increasing state support to encourage formation of owner-operated
423 businesses/farms.

424

425 We oppose:

- 426 159. Subsidies for oil companies and large chain businesses.

427

428 **CURBING BUSINESS ABUSES**

429

430 We support:

- 431 160. Enforcing anti-trust, regulatory legislation.
432 161. Corporate tax surcharges on publicly traded corporations operating in U.S. when
433 corporate officer compensation exceeds 20 times lowest paid worker; prohibiting
434 deduction from corporate earnings.
435 162. Amending bankruptcy law to hold corporate officers responsible for corporate
436 irresponsibility.
437 163. Establishing fair limits on bank fees, penalties.
438 164. Adding to State Corporate Business Charter: profits cannot be made at expense
439 of the environment, workers' rights, or public interest.
440 165. Requiring combined reporting for businesses that operate in Iowa.
441 166. Reinstating Glass-Steagall Act.
442 167. Making it easier to prove employment discrimination.

443

444 We oppose:

- 445 168. Price gouging.
446 169. Corporate welfare.
447 170. Allowing non-banking entities to establish banks.

448

449 **COMMERCE & TRANSPORTATION**

450

451 We support:

- 452 171. Minimizing US trade deficit.
453 172. Requiring "Made in USA" labeled products to contain minimum of 90% U.S.
454 manufactured content.
455 173. Enforcing "Country of Origin Labeling" to accurately reflect where products are
456 manufactured.
457 174. Fair Trade, not "free trade".
458 175. Developing internationally accepted, enforceable standards protecting
459 human/labor rights, environments.
460 176. Transparency in trade negotiations.
461 177. Open Congressional forums to review agreements and consider amendments
462 prior to approval.
463 178. Increased financing for Amtrak "Federal Railroad Administration".
464 179. Midwest Interstate Passenger Rail Commission.
465 180. Passenger Rail Working Group.

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We oppose:

- 181. Countries manipulating their currency adversely affecting U.S. commerce.
- 182. "World Trade Organization", "North American Free Trade Agreement", "Central American Free Trade Agreement", North American Union.
- 183. No-bid government contracts.
- 184. Large business/conglomerates destroying small businesses.
- 185. Remote control locomotive operations.
- 186. "North American Free Trade Agreement" "super highway".

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AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT

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ENVIRONMENTALLY RESPONSIBLE ENERGY (COMBATING CLIMATE CHANGE)

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We support:

- 187. Energy independence with locally-owned renewable, eco-sustainable sources.
- 188. Carbon/mercury sequestration; safe storage/disposal of coal ash and hazardous nuclear waste.
- 189. Cap and trade on carbon dioxide emissions; fines on excess.
- 190. National smart-grid with standardized interconnect agreement.
- 191. Net-metering, front-end loaded and declining for consumer investment of renewable energy production.
- 192. Improved "Corporate Average Fuel Efficiency" standards for all vehicles.
- 193. Green public transportation.
- 194. Passage of "Land and Water Legacy Constitutional Amendment".
- 195. Industrial hemp production.

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We oppose:

- 196. Construction/study of coal-fired and nuclear power plants.
- 197. Importing strip-mined coal.
- 198. Off-shore oil drilling.
- 199. Denying "Liquid Propane" gas service to rural areas.
- 200. Fossil fuel subsidies.

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PLANNING AND ZONING

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We support:

- 201. "Leadership in Energy and Efficient Design" requirements for publicly financed building construction.
- 202. Reducing urban sprawl with two-rate property tax on commercial properties.
- 203. Counties issuing zoning permits.
- 204. Enforcing laws protecting ambient air quality.
- 205. Sustainable, low-impact development.
- 206. "Complete Streets" legislation that promotes safe community transportation networks accessible to all users.

512
513

We oppose:

- 207. Selling public assets for private enterprise.

514 208. Enforcing Eminent Domain favoring private enterprise.

515

516 **ENVIRONMENT ENHANCEMENT AND REGULATION**

517

518 We support:

519 209. Financing, enforcing, updating, strengthening “Resource Enhancement and
520 Protection Program”, “Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship”,
521 “Endangered Species Act”, “Clean Air Act”, “Clean Water Act”, “Natural
522 Resources and Outdoor Trust Fund”, and upholding citizens’ right to file
523 complaints with “Iowa Department of Natural Resources”/“Environmental
524 Protection Agency”.

525 210. Reforestation, bio-diversity.

526 211. Protecting bees by banning neonicotinyl pesticides.

527 212. Banning lead in sports equipment.

528 213. Banning lead wheel weights.

529

530 We oppose:

531 214. Clear-cutting, mining, grazing, oil drilling in eco-sensitive areas.

532 215. Polluters’ “Grandfather” clauses.

533

534 **WATERSHED MANAGEMENT**

535

536 We support:

537 216. Access to affordable clean water, safe disposal of agricultural/municipal waste.

538 217. Enforcement of “Clean Water Act” by expanding definition of navigable streams
539 to include intermittent and rising streams, aquifers, National Wetlands.

540 218. Disclosure of “Toxic Release Inventory” reports, citizens’ rights to sue.

541 219. Mandating riverbank and sinkhole “Conservation Reserve Program” buffer
542 zones.

543 220. Financing and enforcing laws that prevent nitrate and other pollution of aquifers,
544 streams; severely penalizing violators who build channels or outlet tiles to
545 sinkholes or alter rate/flow to sinkhole-prone wetlands and watersheds.

546 221. Financing watershed authority to retain storm water where it falls.

547 222. Adding minimum soil depth criteria to the requirements for the “Natural
548 Resources Conservation Service” evaluations done for “Department of Natural
549 Resources Manure Management Plans” and for anhydrous ammonia
550 application.

551 223. Adding buffer distance around sinkholes and watershed drainageways to the
552 requirements for the “NRCS” evaluations done for “Department of Natural
553 Resources Manure Management Plans” and for anhydrous ammonia
554 application.

555

556 We oppose:

557 224. Farming practices creating hypoxia in waterways.

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559 **LIVESTOCK MANAGEMENT**

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561 We support:

- 562 225. Changes in “Confined Animal Feeding Operations”: County Board of
563 Supervisors authority to veto/approve with state regulation; required “National
564 Pollutant Discharge Elimination Systems” permits; compliance with
565 indoor/outdoor air quality standards; halving number animal units; increased
566 distances from residences.
567 226. Regulating antibiotic/hormone use in livestock.
568 227. Humane treatment of animals.
569 228. Ending odor nuisance lawsuit protection.
570 229. Fair market access, prices, and equal treatment of livestock producers
571 regardless of volume.
572 230. Commercial taxation of non-homestead livestock production.

573
574 We oppose:

- 575 231. Packer ownership of livestock.
576 232. New “Confined Animal Feeding Operations “; lagoons and buildings sold
577 separately; federal subsidies; waste-system tax abatement.

578

579 **RECYCLING**

580

581 We support:

- 582 233. Recycling incentives.
583 234. Expanding “bottle bill” including non-biodegradable beverage containers.
584 235. Biodegradable retail bags.

585

586 **CONSUMER CHOICE AND FOOD SAFETY**

587

588 We support:

- 589 236. Labeling of food for: origin; “Genetically Modified Organism”; irradiation;
590 hormone/antibiotic use; animal products.
591 237. Testing for diseases, including “Bovine Spongiform Encephalitis (Mad Cow)”.
592 238. Legal/enforceable definition of “Genetically Modified Organisms”.
593 239. “Genetically Modified Organism” safe-use labeling of seed.
594 240. Protecting non-“Genetically Modified Organism” farmers from lawsuits by
595 “Genetically Modified Organism” patent-holders.
596 241. Right to save seeds.

597

598 We oppose:

- 599 242. Growing pharmaceutical “Genetically Modified Organisms” in open
600 environments.

601

602 **SUSTAINABLE RURAL DEVELOPMENT**

603

604 We support:

- 605 243. Organic farming.
606 244. Market expansion for local farm products.
607 245. Crop/livestock diversification.
608 246. Financing soil conservation districts.

609

610 **STRUCTURE OF AGRICULTURE**

611

612 We support:

613 247. Family farms.

614 248. Farmer owned reserve.

615 249. "Grown Locally/Purchased Locally."

616 250. Farm to school bill using locally produced food.

617 251. Regional food systems, not factory farms.

618

619 We oppose:

620 252. Farm consolidation, vertical integration, foreign ownership.

621

622 **UNITED STATES AGRICULTURAL POLICY**

623

624 We support:

625 253. "Conservation Stewardship Program", "Conservation Reserve Program" as sole
626 support programs with \$250,000 maximum annual cap.

627 254. Inflation indexing "U.S. Department of Agriculture" loan rates.

628 255. Cap agriculture subsidy payments to large corporate farms.

629 256. Crop insurance program helping farmers, not insurance companies.

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INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

632

633 **PEACE AND SECURITY**

634

635 We support:

636 257. Military action only if there is clear imminent threat to U.S. security and informed
637 consent of Congress.

638 258. U.S. taking lead with enhancing gender equality and political empowerment of
639 women.

640 259. Normalization of diplomatic relations with Cuba.

641 260. Diplomatic efforts with Iran and North Korea regarding nuclear programs.

642 261. Combating terrorism as international criminal problem.

643 262. Humane treatment for all.

644 263. Protecting victims, prosecuting those who traffic in humans for sexual
645 exploitation or forced labor.

646 264. Furthering worldwide human rights.

647 265. Ending violence against women, including genital mutilation, honor killings, rape.

648 266. International cooperation for peaceful space exploration.

649

650 We oppose:

651 267. Installation of ballistic missiles in Eastern Europe.

652 268. Torture, degrading treatment, secret prisons or rendition by domestic or foreign
653 governments, private contractors, or sub-contractors.

654 269. Genocide, slavery, all human rights violations.

655 270. Using child soldiers, human shields, collective punishments, suicide bombings,
656 interference with aid workers, and blockading or affecting basic human needs to
657 civilians.

- 658 271. Privatizing war: using mercenaries and private police in lieu of regular military
659 forces.
660 272. "Star Wars" missile defense and militarization of space.
661 273. Militarizing American foreign policy.
662 274. Establishing permanent military bases overseas without informed consent of
663 Congress.

664

665 **DEVELOPMENTAL ASSISTANCE**

666

667 We support:

- 668 275. Meeting United Nations Millennium Development Goals through diplomatic,
669 economic and cultural means.
670 276. International initiatives to reduce pollution, manage water supplies, reduce
671 dependence on non-renewable energy, and promote voluntary family planning.
672 277. Culturally sensitive, non-exploitative agreements protecting human rights,
673 workers' rights, public health/environmental needs.

674

675 **REGIONAL CONFLICTS – IRAQ AND AFGHANISTAN**

676

677 We support:

- 678 278. Withdrawal of U.S. troops from Iraq by summer 2010, from Afghanistan in
679 reasonable time frame.
680 279. Reconstruction of Iraq and Afghanistan, with refugee resettlement, through
681 International cooperation.

682

683 **REGIONAL CONFLICTS – ISRAEL/PALESTINE**

684

685 We support:

- 686 280. Peaceful efforts to achieve separate, secure Israeli and Palestinian States, with
687 contiguous Palestine.

688

689 **REGIONAL CONFLICTS – CENTRAL AND SOUTH AMERICA**

690

691 We support:

- 692 281. Closing of Western Hemisphere Institute for Security Cooperation (School of the
693 Americas).

694

695 We oppose:

- 696 282. Indiscriminate use of herbicides for coca eradication.

697

698 **REGIONAL CONFLICTS – AFRICA**

699

700 We support:

- 701 283. Robust world efforts to prevent, end genocide.
702 284. Rapid international peacekeeping intervention in armed conflicts.

703

704 We oppose:

- 705 285. Illegally transferring weapons to armed groups.

- 706 286. Amnesty for war criminals.
707 287. Rape as a weapon of war.

708

709 **UNITED NATIONS**

710

711 We support:

- 712 288. Full United Nations dues payment.
713 289. Linking foreign aid to promoting human rights.
714 290. U.S. membership in International Criminal Court (Rome Statute on International
715 Court of Criminal Justice).
716 291. Participation in Human Rights Council, adherence to “Universal Declaration of
717 Human Rights” and “International Covenant on Economic, Social, Cultural
718 Rights”.
719 292. Addition of sexual orientation, gender identity, and transgender to all United
720 Nations human rights agreements.

721

722 **TREATIES AND CONVENTIONS**

723

724 We support ratification and/or full participation in:

- 725 293. Biological Weapons Convention Protocol.
726 294. Convention on Destruction of Chemical Weapons.
727 295. Convention on Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women.
728 296. Cluster Munitions Treaty.
729 297. Convention on Rights of Children.
730 298. Convention on Rights of Persons with Disabilities.
731 299. Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty.
732 300. Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and
733 Use of Chemical Weapons and on their Destruction (Chemical Weapons
734 Convention).
735 301. Global Fund for AIDS, Tuberculosis, Malaria.
736 302. New Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty.
737 303. Ottawa Landmine Treaty.
738 304. Agreements responding to climate change.
739 305. Geneva and Vienna Conventions.
740 306. Kyoto protocol.

741

742

EDUCATION

743

744 We support:

- 745 307. Free public education.
746 308. Educating students to be critical, creative thinkers, constructive citizens.
747 309. Valuing diverse needs, strengths, interests, experiences, potential of each
748 student.
749 310. Individualizing education, developing "whole student."
750 311. Low student/teacher ratios.
751 312. Safe schools, free from physical danger, predators, bullying.
752 313. Top quality, meaningful professional development for teachers.
753 314. Foreign language education in elementary curriculum.

- 754 315. Standards, curriculum with parents, community, public education professionals
755 involved in decision-making.
- 756 316. Multiple measures to assess student, teacher, school performance.
- 757 317. Minimal use of standardized multiple choice tests.
- 758 318. Quality programs with measurable standards based upon best validated
759 research for all subject areas.
- 760 319. Adopting in public schools math curricula like those of leading “Trends in
761 International Mathematics and Science Study” countries’ math curricula, science
762 curricula based on scientific knowledge.
- 763 320. Overhauling “No Child Left Behind”.
- 764 321. Current media, technological skills for students.
- 765 322. Technology programs providing students opportunities for distance learning.
- 766 323. Full availability of broadband/high speed Internet telecommunications in all
767 schools throughout Iowa.
- 768 324. Increasing tax deduction for Kindergarten-12 instructors for out-of-pocket
769 classroom materials.
- 770 325. State financing of Kindergarten-12 education at allowable growth rate of at least
771 4%.
- 772 326. Full financing for public vocational, at-risk, “English Language Learner”,
773 “Talented and Gifted” programs, professionally staffed public school libraries;
774 Iowa Tuition Grant program, with increases for dual-enrollment.
- 775 327. Equitable assured, non-punitive financing for public education, community
776 colleges.
- 777 328. Financing Iowa Community College formula, Regent’s Institutions at levels that
778 avoid tuition increases.
- 779 329. Expanding fixed interest-rate federally subsidized student loan programs,
780 increased loan limits in these programs, and restoring loan forgiveness
781 programs for community service.
- 782 330. Forgiveness formula for student financial aid denied due to drug-related crimes.
- 783 331. Market-competitive salaries for all public school and community college
784 employees.
- 785 332. Closing opportunity gaps caused by poverty or race.
- 786 333. Alternative education for at-risk students.
- 787 334. Iowa Area Education Agencies, expanding diagnostic, therapeutic services for
788 children.
- 789 335. Full federal financing for special education and early identification and treatment
790 of special needs and mental and behavioral health deficits.
- 791 336. Students at state-run institutions receiving same weighted special education
792 dollars as they would at any other public school.
- 793 337. Non-discrimination, as defined in Iowa Code §216.9, in provision of all student
794 services, programs, activities.
- 795 338. Increased financing for public early childhood (birth to 5), preschool, after-school
796 and summer programs.
- 797 339. Transportation for day care, financing of “English Language Learner” classes,
798 “General Education Degree” courses, including humanitarian refugees.
- 799 340. Adopting “Development, Relief and Education for Alien Minors Act”.
- 800 341. Increased financing for lifelong learning in the arts.
- 801 342. Mandating fine arts classes in public schools and increasing their financing.

802 343. Returning librarians, nurses, media specialists, guidance counselors to
803 mandatory status.

804

805 We oppose:

806 344. Cuts in counseling, school nursing.

807 345. Merit pay.

808

809

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

810

UNIVERSAL HEALTH CARE

812

813 We support:

814 337. Single-payer health care plan for all citizens.

815

PRESCRIPTION DRUGS

817

818 We support:

819 338. Access to affordable prescription drugs for all consumer needs.

820 339. Banning prescription drug advertising to consumers.

821

HEALTH, WELLNESS AND MEDICAL CARE

823

824 We support:

825 340. Encouraging healthy lifestyles, preventative procedures.

826 341. Providing only healthful selections in school vending machines.

827 342. 150 minutes of "Physical Education" per week for Kindergarten-12 students.

828 343. Cost-of-living indexing for food stamp program.

829 344. Increased financing for research, diagnosis, and education to prevent and
830 lessen chronic disease and neurological disorders.

831 345. Strengthening review standards for all medical research.

832 346. Spending tobacco settlement funds on tobacco-related health issues.

833 347. Using tobacco taxes to fully finance smoking cessation, prevention.

834 348. Better compensation, working conditions for health care workers.

835 349. Training more health care, home health care professionals with incentives to
836 keep them in Iowa.

837 350. Legislation to protect retirees' health care benefits.

838 351. Tax-deductible long-term care policies that comply with Partnership Program.

839 352. Long-term care rates calculated per individual with no spousal discounts.

840 353. Increasing Medicare reimbursement rates for Iowa.

841 354. "Confined Animal Feeding Operation" moratorium until human health impact is
842 addressed.

843 355. Repealing anti-trust exemption for insurance companies.

844 356. Research into water pollution-related health disorders and timely public
845 notification of all mandated test results and land management practices causing
846 water table pollution or affecting public health.

847

PALLIATIVE AND ALTERNATIVE MEDICINE

849

- 850 We support:
851 357. Medical marijuana.
852 358. Alternative, holistic treatments that demonstrate efficacy and safety in
853 peer-reviewed studies.
854

855 **REPRODUCTIVE RIGHTS**

- 856
857 We support:
858 359. Women’s rights to personal reproductive decisions.
859 360. Legalization, licensing of “Certified Professional Midwives”.
860 361. Requiring pharmacists to fill pregnancy-related prescriptions as condition of
861 licensure.
862 362. Reasonable workplace accommodations for breast milk expression.
863 363. Age appropriate, medically accurate sex education regarding contraception,
864 “Sexually TransmittedDiseases”, non-directive family planning.
865

866 **HUMAN SERVICES**

- 867
868 We support:
869 364. Increased financing for “Department of Human Services” social, case
870 management workers.
871 365. Continued public assistance without penalty for eligible workers until benefits,
872 salaries exceed living wage.
873 366. Fully financing: child health, safety, development, and prenatal care.
874 367. Fully financing: shelters, group care facilities, and outreach programs targeting:
875 domestic violence, child abuse, neglect, substance abuse, mental health,
876 physical disabilities.
877 368. Improving transitional programs for those aging out of foster care.
878 369. Increasing regulation and inspection of affordable daycare.
879 370. Reimbursement insurance parity for mental health and substance abuse
880 treatment.
881 371. Better medical assessment and treatment for prisoners with medical, mental
882 health, substance abuse or physical disabilities.
883 372. Including clergy in mandatory-reporter law.
884 373. Expanding affordable housing for low-income, homeless persons.
885 374. Gender parity, increased financing for homeless shelters.
886 375. Providing financial assistance to low income home buyers; aid to homeowners in
887 danger of foreclosure.
888

889 **ELDERLY SERVICES**

- 890
891 We support:
892 376. Financing of programs that allow older lowans to live independently.
893

894 **PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES**

- 895
896 We support:

- 897 377. Guaranteed financing through “Home and Community Based Services” waivers
898 so disabled can live at home, receive consumer-driven community-based
899 services.
900 378. Community Choice Act.
901 379. Requiring insurance companies to pay for autism-spectrum treatment.
902 380. Blind Persons Return to Work Act.
903 381. Repealing the Medicare “In Home” rule for obtaining mobility devices.
904

905 **DEATH WITH DIGNITY**

- 906
907 We support:
908 382. Adopting Oregon’s Death with Dignity Act.