

2024 Pierce County Republican Party Platform

1. Constitutional Government and Property Rights

- a) We believe America was designed to lead the world in the concepts of freedom, individualism, and liberty for all, underscored by a belief in limited constitutional government, free markets, personal responsibility and fiscal conservatism.
- b) We support the Washington State Constitution, Article I, Section 11, which says, "Absolute freedom of conscience in all matters of religious sentiment, belief and worship, shall be guaranteed to every individual..."
- c) We support our right to the initiative and referendum processes enshrined in the Washington State Constitution, and object to attempts to intimidate or obstruct those rights and processes.
- d) We believe there should be due process of law prior to any government agency receiving proceeds from asset forfeiture.
- e) We support the exercise of eminent domain according to the original intent of the Founding Fathers and oppose uses intended to benefit commercial interests or to increase tax revenues.
- f) We support private property rights and the right of property owners to determine the best use of their land with limited government intervention. Any regulatory taking of property value must be justly compensated.
- g) We oppose the practice of identifying property rights (water, development, conservation easement) as a bundle of sticks that can be sold separately, thereby diminishing the economic value of the property and prohibiting future access to its resources. Programs such as: Transfer Development Rights, Purchase Development Rights, water banking, and land banking compromise the economic viability of land and undermine future generations' use and enjoyment of that land. Categorizing parcels of land into additional myriad jurisdictions, such as watershed regions, further erodes property rights and transfers authority to largely unaccountable bureaucrats.
- h) We believe private ownership of land is consistent with economic freedom, and private property owners are better stewards of their land; therefore, using taxpayer funds to purchase private lands and give it to conservation organizations or, to increase public land ownership, should be used sparingly.
- i) We support requiring Federal and State agencies to protect contractual and historical land rights for water, grazing, forestry, agricultural, and land management.
- j) We support proof of United States citizenship to participate in all elections, and poll voting on Election Day. We support ending vote-by-mail and other indirect methods such as electronic voting. We reject Ranked Choice Voting.
- k) We support a statewide voter registration by party under the principle of freedom of association. We believe a caucus system is superior to a primary system.
- l) We support the Bill of Rights as defined by the Founding Fathers.
- m) We agree that property rights include both physical and intellectual properties.
- n) We support distinct borders for political boundaries and authority regarding services, land designation, transportation projects, etc., and reject forming unelected municipalities that are given authority to legislate

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leaving citizens without representation, i.e., regional health departments, regional councils, regional transportation systems, etc.

- o) We support discontinuing the implementation of the divisive, racist and financially draining Diversity, Equity and Inclusion training classes. It is a modernized form of sensitivity training, designed to psychologically manipulate a person's values and attitudes to conform to "group think" and change the roots of our common, ethical American culture.
- p) We support upholding Article 1 section 24 of the Washington State Constitution and the Second Amendment of the Constitution of the United States of America. "The right of the individual citizen to bear arms in defense of himself (or herself), or the state, shall not be impaired." We oppose legislative and judicial rulings to eliminate, diminish, or inhibit the individual's right to own firearms.

2. Economy

- a) We believe the private sector creates jobs and generates revenues; whereas, government creates liabilities. The role of government should be to provide reliable infrastructure, property protection, and consistent regulations that strengthen existing businesses and attract new ones.
- b) Business enterprises have the right to buy, try, sell and fail or should succeed or fail based on their ability to compete in the free market, not by government intervention or bailouts.
- c) We support being a "Right to Work" state where employees are not required to pay union dues, fees, or donations simply to obtain or keep a job. We object to "card check" union elections and "prevailing wage" laws.
- d) We believe that government employees have the freedom of association and should not be mandated to join a union. The government should not automatically withhold union dues from paychecks. Private citizens conducting business or providing services, i.e., caring for adults and/or children, should not be required to be part of a union. When government employees are unionized, citizens should sit in on labor negotiations to oversee how their dollars are spent.
- e) We believe wages should be determined by the free market as embodied by negotiations between employers and employees. Minimum wage laws are counterproductive and should be eliminated at all levels of government.
- f) We oppose a state income tax and the Washington State "death tax," and agree that Washington state's definition of income should match that used in the IRS code.
- g) We believe levy initiatives should clearly identify the immediate and long-term costs to the voters and be limited to 2 (two) years.
- h) We support replacing the federal tax system with a simplified tax structure. We support amending the Washington State Constitution to require a two-thirds majority vote to increase taxes.

3. Transportation

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- a) We believe investing in our transportation infrastructure is critical to the Washington economy and public safety; therefore, congestion relief should be the #1 priority for the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT).
- b) We support the construction and maintenance of general-purpose roads over taxpayer subsidized trains and light rail.
- c) We support individual motorized vehicles as essential to freedom of movement (and association).
- d) We believe an important goal of the WSDOT should be securing safe and cost-effective methods of moving people and commerce, not on “social engineering” such as three-person minimum occupancy lanes and dual toll lanes.
- e) We support becoming independent of Federal government subsidies for mass transit.
- f) We support applying the sales tax charged on government construction projects toward increasing motor vehicle capacity on the road system.
- g) We oppose a mileage tax, GPS tracking, and other invasive tax mechanisms.
- h) We support the voters’ decision on \$30 car tabs.
- i) We support requiring yearly financial and performance audits, including ROI analysis, of transportation agencies and projects with clear public disclosure.
- j) We believe motor vehicle taxes should be used solely for improving and maintaining roads and highways for motorized vehicles.
- k) We encourage free-market, private sector development of energy efficient vehicles without government grants, subsidies, or mandates.
- l) We support competitive bidding to include out-of-state companies.

4. Energy and Environment

- a) We support dissolving the US Department of Energy because the free market offers the best solution to the continued improvement of our energy resources and environment.
- b) We believe dependence on foreign oil endangers our national security, sovereignty, and economy. Therefore, we support the environmentally safe development of oil, coal, hydroelectric, natural gas, and nuclear energy.
- c) We support the repeal of RCW 90.03; 90.44 and WAC 173.173 authorizing the government to meter privately owned water wells.
- d) We know that consensus is not science. “Anthropogenic” (human-caused) climate change is based on computer models and consensus; therefore, we reject public policies written to fund, subsidize, or implement “solutions” to this theoretical problem.
- e) We support efforts to maintain fish runs while continuing the current operation of our dams, thus rejecting the

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destruction of any existing dams which would hinder power production, constrict economic commerce and completely pollute the ecosystem for generations.

- f) We believe the global race to achieve “Net Zero” and “zero emissions” is unattainable and destructive to the freedoms of our nation (limiting/eliminating light bulbs, natural gas, gasoline cars, farming, driving, single family homes, etc.) and must be opposed. Especially since the European Union is abandoning it.
- g) We oppose governments and not for profit corporations acquiring real assets, i.e., land, water, timber, food sources, etc., through incentive schemes that are subject to being plundered through high taxation and inflation, resulting in the loss of the assets that once generated revenue for the private sector, and would then become a product the low income could not afford.
- h) We oppose the federal government’s excessive grants for acquiring land and natural resources through programs such as 30 X 30 Conservation Program.

5. Education

- a) We believe parents have an inherent right to be the primary authority responsible for raising and educating their children.
- b) The state may suggest minimum fundamental graduation requirements, but education priorities and curriculum should be determined at the local level.
- c) We support basic education that emphasizes the classical fundamentals of reading, writing, and arithmetic (grammar, logic, rhetoric), as opposed to an “outcome-based”, “performance-based” or “environmental-based” education.
- d) We object to the government interfering with the operations of private daycare providers and support the elimination of the Department of Children, Youth, and Families.
- e) We do not approve of intrusive policies in schools. We support parents’ rights to opt-in their children for: classes, psychological surveys, and sex education that offends their family morals or beliefs. Parents should be notified in advance before such activities occur. Parents should have access to all data collected on their child and have the ability to correct any errors, which can be validated with supportive evidence.
- f) We support the immersion of non-English speaking students into English language classes.
- g) The federal government has no authority to be involved in education; therefore, we support the elimination of the Federal Department of Education.
- h) We believe gender identity, sexual expression, and sexual orientation is not culturally appropriate and contradicts American standards. It should not be taught or promoted in government funded “public” schools, libraries or early learning centers. Schools (and their surrogates) should not introduce the belief that anyone could be born into the wrong body to children.
- i) We believe that “gender” is a social construct which means the term “gender” is pure fiction. We believe in speaking

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and teaching about the biological sex of people rather than the fiction of “gender”.

- j) Research has proven that exposure to sexually explicit materials is harmful to the developing mind of a child and schools must not allow for the distribution of such materials (as in “book fairs”).
- k) We support all-girl athletic events that maintain the competitions will be only between biological females (XX).
- l) We object to biological males of any mindset invading the safe spaces, such as bathrooms and locker rooms, of biological females.
- m) We support educational standards that can be measured. We oppose trends in education policies to adopt unproven curriculum and assessments such as Common Core. We disapprove of Social Emotional Learning (SEL) system in that it supplants family values with government values and imposes surveillance methods that track the attitudes and behaviors of our children.
- n) We support the enforcement of strong penalties against public employees who go on strike.
- o) We support an exemption for property taxes to compensate those educating their children through means of non-government funded schools.

6. Marriage, Family, and Life

- a) Government exists to protect its citizens from conception to natural death.
- b) We affirm that marriage between a man and a woman is the cornerstone of a functional, civil society and is the fundamental basis for the family structure.
- c) We believe the optimal environment for the adoption of a child is placement with a legally married man and woman.
- d) Parents, not the state, have an unalienable authority to protect, nurture, and prepare their children for a virtuous citizenry.
- e) Families and places of worship are the foundation for a strong, civil society, and should be the principal providers of charity, as opposed to government programs.
- f) A person’s race, age, and sex are biologically pre-determined at conception and these laws of nature are immutable.

7. Health Care

- a) We believe the Affordable Care Act, “Obamacare,” has weaponized our medical care system, leading to escalating costs, decreasing the pool of qualified medical personnel, rationing of care, and loss of jobs. It should be repealed.
- b) We believe in the free market and individual choice. Permitting health insurance companies to compete across state lines, supporting sensible tort reform will lower the cost of health care. We support medical savings

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programs.

- c) We reaffirm the “Right of Conscience” for health care providers, pharmacists, medical professionals, and insurance companies.
- d) We believe that health insurance premiums and medical expenses should be fully tax deductible and not subject to income limitations.
- e) Parents make all decisions for their minor children’s health care. Prior notification of all communications with their children and access to all well-being and health care information is required. We reject policies that undermine parental access to insurance information and health records. We oppose school-based health clinics.
- f) We do not support mandatory vaccines or other medical procedures and do support the requirement for informed consent.
- g) We believe individuals have a personal responsibility to care for their own health; therefore, it is not the role of government to create regulatory schemes, such as “Health In All Policies,” in an effort to eliminate all health disparities under the guise of fairness throughout the built environment.
- h) We oppose taxpayer subsidized surgeries for which there is no credible, scientifically proven evidence of better life outcomes.
- i) We believe that sterilizing children is not “healthcare.” We believe that only adults should be able to have sex reassignment surgery, and that extensive mental and physical requirements must be completed first.
- j) We believe that puberty blockers and wrong-sex hormones should never be given to anyone under 18 years of age.

8. National Defense and Homeland Security

- a) The United States of America is a sovereign nation and should never relinquish its sovereignty to a foreign nation, international body, or adopt the visions and goals of foreign nations.
- b) We believe in maintaining a superior national defense, including a strong nuclear deterrent, to discourage attacks on our homeland.
- c) We oppose environmental and land use policies that interfere with maintaining our national borders and national defense.
- d) We support legal immigration.
- e) We believe our state and nation should honor all promises and obligations to our men and women in uniform who have or are currently defending us.
- f) Laws which violate or diminish our rights through overreach, such as The Patriot Act and claiming of unchecked “emergency powers,” should be revoked.

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- g) We should be encouraging all levels of production to be done on shore in the United States to enable self-sufficiency and return to being a nation of producers, not mostly consumers.

9. International Issues

- a) We reject all efforts to undermine the rule of law in America with alternate legal frameworks such as Sharia Law or any other foreign legal systems. Only American laws, anchored by the Constitution, should be enforced and upheld through the entire legal process.
- b) We acknowledge that America's mission is to serve the world community by being a model of freedom. We, therefore, reject global agendas that seek to undermine our sovereignty, especially through financial pressures.
- c) We support strengthening our alliance with historically friendly nations and ensure that Israel maintains a qualitative military edge over any and all adversaries.
- d) We encourage healthy trade interchange with countries that practice fiscal and monetary policies supporting balanced trade.
- e) We support the repeal of taxes on imports and exports that undermine our region's competitiveness, such as the Harbor Maintenance Tax.
- f) We support the construction of a wall system (with roads, surveillance technology, etc.) along our southern border with Mexico.
- g) Funding from the United States should not be used to support groups such as: WHO; UNESCO; UNRWA; WEF et.al.
- h) We believe the adoption and implementation of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals represent a clear and present danger to the sovereignty and financial stability of our nation and the policies and financial incentives should be rejected immediately. We support withdrawing our financing of any of these projects at the United Nations.
- i) We reject the implementation ESG (environmental, social, governance) and DEI (diversity, equity, inclusion) and any mutation of such policies, from any level of governance.
- j) We support maintaining the dollar as the reserve currency and reject any methods of government controlling financial transactions.
- k) We encourage the reform of asylum/refugee laws to make sure that their claims are genuine.
- l) Our international definition of a woman is an individual who has XX chromosomes, and the international definition of a man is an individual who has the XY chromosomes.

10. Crime and Public Safety

- a) We believe public policy must prioritize the needs and well-being of crime victims and the community above those of the criminal.

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- b) In order to perform their duties to the best of their ability, law enforcement officers must have qualified immunity from criminal prosecution and civil lawsuits.
- c) We oppose laws limiting or curtailing law enforcement's ability to pursue and apprehend fleeing individual suspected of committing crimes of all types.
- d) We believe that enabling drug use is hurting our cities and families and “hard” drugs should once again be illegal for non-prescription use.