

2023 County Platform

Yakima County Republican Central Committee


PREAMBLE

The Yakima County Republican Party recognizes the dignity and value of every individual and believes that a just government is based on the people's right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. Government must be strictly limited in its powers and preserve the original understanding of principles found in the Declaration of Independence and the constitutions of Washington State and the United States of America. Unconstitutional powers wielded by the federal and state governments must be rightfully returned to 'We the People'.

SECTION 1: CONSTITUTIONALLY PROTECTED RIGHTS

Our rights enumerated by the Washington and US Constitutions are gifts of God to man. No man has authority to diminish or nullify those divinely inspired liberties. These rights are granted to all human beings, in equal measure, regardless of gender or ethnicity and include but are not limited to:

- Freedom of religion – government may not interfere with the practice of religion or impose its own. – 1st Amendment to the U.S. Constitution.
- Freedom of speech and expression – personal beliefs and opinions of the people and freedom of the press shall not be infringed. – 1st Amendment to the U.S. Constitution.
- Peaceable assembly – all people have the right to peacefully assemble and protest. – 1st Amendment to the U.S. Constitution.
- Right to bear arms – citizens have the right to own, possess and bear arms sufficient to repel, and defend against tyrants, invaders, domestic enemies and criminals. US Constitution, 2nd Amendment, WA Constitution, Article I, Sec. 24.
- Personal property – no citizen can be forced to house soldiers in their homes and are secure against unreasonable and unlawful searches and seizures of their property. – 3rd & 4th Amendments to the U.S. Constitution.
- Due process – citizens may not be deprived of life, liberty or property, put into double jeopardy, or held for any crime without due process of law and just compensation. – 5th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution.
- Speedy trial and right to confront witnesses – all citizens shall be aware of any charges and accusations against themselves, and have the right to confront witnesses testifying against them. 6th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution.
- Trial by jury – citizens shall be tried by a jury of their peers and are also protected against cruel, unusual and excessive punishments. 7th & 8th Amendments to the U.S. Constitution.
- The powers not delegated to the U.S. government are reserved for the State and the people, respectively.




"We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty, and the pursuit of Happiness. That to secure these rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed..."

Declaration of Independence, July 4, 1776

SECTION 2: PERSONAL LIBERTY

All people should rightfully govern their own affairs without infringing upon the rights of others. We have the obligation to defend and preserve all fundamental rights and freedoms granted to us by our Creator.

- Parents and legal guardians have the ultimate decision-making authority over, and responsibility for, their children.
- We support the protection of innocent human life, pre-born or born, through all stages of life up to natural death.
- All health care decisions are personal rights and must rest with each individual.
- Government has a duty to protect our constitutionally guaranteed rights.




“Laws that forbid the carrying of arms... only disarm those who are neither inclined nor determined to commit crimes... Such laws make things worse for the assaulted and better for the assailants; they serve rather to encourage than to prevent homicides, for an unarmed man may be attacked with greater confidence than an armed man.”

Thomas Jefferson

SECTION 3: PROPERTY RIGHTS AND THE ENVIRONMENT

The right to own property and freedom from unreasonable government regulation and intrusion must be protected. We believe in reasonable, common-sense environmental policy.

- We reject electric vehicle mandates and government prohibition of gas/diesel vehicles sales.
- Large-scale solar and wind turbine farms destroy natural habitats and represent significant fire risks, destroy flora and fauna, and leave hazardous eyesores when no longer in use.
- We believe in granting local governments, with citizen oversight, control over critical area ordinances, environmental regulations and resource management.
- We support sustainable forest management practices, balanced salmon recovery programs and protecting private and corporate water rights.
- We recognize hydropower from the Snake and Columbia Rivers as unlimited, naturally renewable energy. These, along with nuclear power, make the Pacific Northwest the clean energy leader in the country.
- We reject the doctrine of man-caused climate change. Weather changes are mainly caused by numerous and various natural factors.
- Failure to pay taxes should not justify the seizure of private property.




“Climate change is not about environmentalism or politics. It is not a religion. It is not something you “believe in.” It is science; the science of meteorology. This is my field of life-long expertise. And I am telling you global warming is a non-event, a manufactured crisis and a total scam.”

John Coleman, founder of the Weather Channel

SECTION 4: ECONOMY

Free enterprise provides people with the most freedom and opportunity for success. Government must protect those principles as the economic foundation of a free society and citizens must be free of unnecessary and burdensome government regulation and control.

- We support conservative money policy, job creation, and low taxes.
- Taxes are for legitimate government expenses only and should not be used as tools for social engineering.
- Government should not dictate market forces or consumer choices.
- State government must perform their necessary functions without relying upon federal funding.
- Imported food must meet all federal and state standards. Nation of origin labeling should be obvious.
- Local food production is critical and must not be hampered by unnecessary regulation.
- Government should not be allowed to raise taxes above that needed for the budget. All budgets should be balanced and fiscally responsible.
- Harvesting and selling our own natural resources including gas and oil on the global market would help reduce our national debt and make us energy independent again.




"Government's view of the economy could be summed up in a few short phrases: If it moves, tax it. If it keeps moving, regulate it. And if it stops moving, subsidize it."

Ronald Reagan

SECTION 5: CRIME AND JUSTICE

Constitutional protections that safeguard our citizens' individual liberty, due process, equal protection of the law and the right of self-defense are essential.

- Judges and justices must apply law and fact in accordance with the original intent of our state and federal constitutions. The decisions and opinions (not rulings) of our judiciary shall be free of personal and political bias.
- A justice system that appropriately punishes criminals to deter future crimes, provides speedy justice and responds to the needs of crime victims and is grounded in traditional moral standards of behavior.
- A justice system that does not condone, tolerate or encourage immoral and destructive lifestyles, homelessness, drug abuse or human trafficking.
- Local and state law enforcement must perform their duties in accordance with constitutional law.
- Each individual is responsible for their own actions and the consequences of those actions.
- Groups such as BLM, Antifa and the cartels are domestic terrorists and should be treated as such.
- Capital punishment is appropriate for heinous crimes such as murder, rape, pedophilia, and treason.



"I am now engaged in the most disagreeable part of my duty, trying criminals... Punishment must of course become certain, and mercy dormant – a harsh system, repugnant to my feelings, but nevertheless necessary."

John Jay, 1st Chief Justice, 1776

SECTION 6: GOVERNMENT FISCAL POLICY

Government fiscal policy has the potential to make or break our republic. American prosperity is directly affected by the fiscal behavior of our local, state and federal governments. When government, at any level, lacks fiscal accountability and treats the People as subjects to be squeezed of their resources, the prosperity and freedoms of the People suffer and the republic declines.

- Government should collect and spend funds only for legitimate functions. Bureaucracies and regulations create the need for excessive taxes.
- End the Federal Reserve system.
- Government shall not implement any central bank digital currency (CBDC).
- Return to a Constitutional economic system backed by gold, silver or reliable tangible assets of enduring value.
- End deficit spending except in times of war or extreme national emergency.
- It is critical that the debt ceiling not be raised again. We call on all elected Republicans in Congress to oppose any debt ceiling increase.
- Government functions must always be conducted at the lowest governmental and political level possible so that the People retain the greatest amount of control and influence.
- Unceasing printing of paper currency by the government causes inflation and diminishes the value of the dollar.
- Our national debt now exceeds \$32 trillion and unfunded federal obligations bring the total US fiscal debt to above \$100 trillion. This is a devastating threat to the future financial well-being of our families and nation.

"a wise and frugal Government, which shall restrain men from injuring one another, and shall otherwise leave them free to regulate their own pursuits of industry and improvement, and shall not take from the mouth of labor the bread it has earned.

This is the sum of good government..."

Thomas Jefferson, 1st Inaugural Address

SECTION 7: SOCIAL ISSUES

A healthy civil society supports a good and happy life and protects the mental and physical well-being of its population. We believe all citizens should be able to expect a peaceful and safe society in which to live.

- Gender is a biological fact that is determined by genetics, not feelings or desires.
- We believe in traditional family values.
- Children are healthiest and safest when in a home with a married mother and father.
- Discrimination based upon race, gender or religion is wrong and un-American.
- Affirmative action racial and gender quotas are inherently unfair and prejudicial.
- No people-group or religion should be held responsible or disparaged for any acts of their ancestors.
- We oppose providing minors with any gender transitioning drugs, procedures, or surgeries.
- No state or federal monies should be used to indoctrinate our military with radical agendas such as CRT, the 1619 Project, or other programs that teach hatred and racism under the guise of equity.
- We acknowledge that Artificial Intelligence has the potential for tremendous good or evil.

"I have a dream that my four little children will one day live in a nation where they will not be judged by the color of their skin but by the content of their character."

Martin Luther King Jr., 1956 registered Republican

SECTION 8: SOVEREIGNTY

Government exists primarily to protect our rights and liberties. Every free and prosperous country either secures its borders to protect its citizens from invasion and illegal trafficking or ceases to exist. Our laws must deter and penalize those who enter our country and break our laws.

- Securing our borders is a fundamental duty of the federal government.
- Government has a duty to protect our republic from foreign invasion.
- Cartels murder thousands of people annually with fentanyl and human trafficking, are foreign and domestic terrorists and should be treated as such.
- Our military must always be commanded by U.S. officials.
- Our military must not be used offensively in foreign wars without a Congressional declaration of war.
- All government agencies must be reviewed annually, and their purpose and powers must be justified, clarified and specified.
- The US military must never be used domestically against civilians unless martial law is lawfully enacted.
- Local and U.S. food production and energy independence are vital to our national security.




“Commerce with all nations, alliance with none, should be our motto.”

Thomas Jefferson.

SECTION 9: ELECTION INTEGRITY

Our system of government relies on a fair and trustworthy election system. Every adult American citizen legally entitled to vote must have reasonable access to the opportunity to vote. All legal votes must be accurately counted. Fraudulent votes and voters must be identified and excluded. Our voting system should be secure from fraudulent voting.

- Secure and fair elections are vital to our national security.
- Our voting system must ensure fraudulent or duplicate votes are removed and persons who fraudulently vote be prosecuted.
- To legally vote one must be 18 years of age, produce a legal ID, a US citizen and be lawfully registered to vote within the state of residence.
- Non-citizens who attempt to vote shall be prosecuted.
- Mail-in voting is subject to fraud. Same day, in-person, paper-ballot voting is the most secure and reliable voting system. Absentee mail-in voting is only appropriate for the disabled, sick and military.
- Legally cast votes are best counted by hand and with full access for observer oversight.
- Machine counting of ballots may be used, provided they can be proven to have no internet connectivity. The code also must be available for inspection so that it can be checked for fractionalized votes.
- If ballot drop boxes are used, they must be tamper-proof and monitored.




“I consider it completely unimportant who in the party will vote, or how; but what is extraordinarily important is this—who will count the votes, and how.”

Joseph Stalin, 1923.

SECTION 10: EDUCATION

Public Schools are government institutions funded by U.S. and Washington State taxpayers, and therefore should be free from *ALL* political beliefs, biases, and propaganda by those in authority over children. Parents must have full decision-making authority on all educational choices.

- Parents are the primary stakeholders in their child's upbringing and education.
- Free market policies and competition will guarantee high standards for educational outcomes.
- No state or federal monies shall be used for non-government schools. Parents shall receive full tax credits if they choose private or homeschool options.
- Public education should be focused upon the basics: reading, writing and arithmetic.
- No political positions will be imposed upon children under the guise of education, i.e. CRT, Diversity-Equality-Inclusion (DEI), BLM, gender identity and "sex education" based upon role play and use of graphic sexual material.
- Local school boards should be allowed to chart their own course without influence or manipulation from state associations such as the WSSDA.
- Private areas in public schools must be gender specific (specific to students' natural, born sex).
- Schools shall teach the scientific fact that there are only two genders: male and female.
- School sports must be gender specific under original Title 9 mandates, protecting genetic females from competing against genetic males, thus making sports fair and equitable for all athletes.
- Skin color or ethnicity must not be a factor for educational opportunities.
- Students must be given opportunities to think critically and rationally, and presented with all sides to a position within their curriculum and textbooks.
- The U.S. Department of Education is unnecessary and should be abolished.



"The philosophy of the schoolroom in one generation will be the philosophy of the government of the next."

Abraham Lincoln.