

PREAMBLE

The Jefferson County Republicans affirm our belief in and promote the principles expressed in the Constitution of the United States of America, the Declaration of Independence, the Bill of Rights, and the Constitution of Washington State.

CONSTITUTIONALLY LIMITED GOVERNMENT

We believe our constitutionally limited government, designed to protect the blessings of liberty, must be fiscally responsible and as unobtrusive as possible.

We support states' rights for those powers not expressly stated in the Constitution.

In all other matters, we support the personal liberty of the individual within the rule of law.

ENCOURAGING JOBS, GROWTH, AND OPPORTUNITY FOR ALL

A free market enhances personal liberty and economic well-being for all.

We oppose government intervention into the operations of and excessive regulation of markets and private businesses.

We demand development of United States domestic natural resources including drilling and mining.

UPHOLDING PRIVATE PROPERTY RIGHTS

Republicans believe private property rights are fundamental to our personal freedom.

We believe government must equitably compensate property owners whenever their property is taken or devalued to accomplish a government action.

TAXES

We oppose any effort to enact a state income tax.

We support reforming the current Internal Revenue Service tax code.

We support predictable property taxes.

We support the requirement of submission of all proposed state and local tax increases to a vote of the people. Passage should require the vote of a super-majority (65%).

We expect all agencies of State government to exercise prudent use of our tax dollars.

SUPPORTING STRONG FAMILIES

We believe strong families are the building block of all successful societies.

We believe in the traditional family unit.

We believe a moral nation supports the sanctity of all human life. We support defining marriage as the union of one man and one woman

REFORMING SOCIAL SECURITY

We support comprehensive reform of the Social Security system.

We believe that those here illegally should not be eligible for Social Security benefits nor Supplemental Security Income.

PROVIDING QUALITY EDUCATION

Quality public education is imperative to our nation's future competitiveness in the world economy.

Quality public education is imperative for an informed electorate.

We believe education is a state and local function.

We believe parents have the ultimate responsibility for the education of their children.

We support the declaration of English as the official language of the United States.

We support the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance in all schools.

We support a state requirement that all students in grades K through 12 study the United States Constitution, the Declaration of Independence, the Federalist Papers, and the Washington State Constitution.

HEALTH CARE

Republicans believe in free market solutions to health care.

We support medical savings accounts, and oppose the placement of arbitrary or financial limits on available procedures by any government.

We support medical tort reform in Washington State and health insurance portability.

We support Medicare and Medicaid, but believe reforms are necessary.

We oppose any government mandate that citizens purchase health insurance.

RESTRUCTURING WELFARE

Republicans believe that public welfare should not become a permanent lifestyle.

We support Washington State's 'Work First' program.

We believe welfare should be given to legal citizens only.

PROTECTING THE ENVIRONMENT

Jefferson County Republicans believe that a clean and healthy environment is important to our families and to future generations.

We believe that the development of our domestic natural resources can be achieved in an environmentally friendly fashion.

PUNISHING CRIME

Protecting citizens is a primary function of government.

We support swift, appropriate sentences for those found guilty of a crime, and support sentencing guideline reform to reflect punishment commensurate with the crime.

We support the "Three Strikes You're Out" law. We support 'Megan's Law' and 'Jessica's Law'.

THE RIGHT TO BEAR ARMS AND THE RIGHT TO SELF-DEFENSE

We support the 2nd amendment in protecting the individual's right to bear arms.

We oppose attempts by the government to circumvent the 2nd amendment by excessive regulation, taxation of firearms and ammunition, or license fees.

We believe citizens have the right to protect themselves and their families by any means, including deadly force, without fear of criminal prosecution. Neither criminals nor their families have the right to sue a self-defender and/or victims for injury or wrongful death.

NATIONAL DEFENSE

We commend our military for their proven excellence and dedication to this Country.

We oppose placing our military under the command of the United Nations or any foreign nation.

We strongly support our military's role in ensuring a strong national defense

We believe the military should receive sufficient funding levels.

We support the Border Patrol.

IMMIGRATION POLICIES

Immigration is an American tradition. We welcome all legal and documented persons who have the skills and motivation to become productive American citizens.

We support a guest worker program and E-Verify.

We believe children born to people not here legally shall not automatically be given United States citizenship.

We believe there should be sanctions against employers who hire those here illegally.

UNITED NATIONS AGENDA 21

We oppose United Nations Agenda 21. This includes implementation of the Global Climate Treaty (The Kyoto Protocol), "Cap and Trade", and the local Climate Action Plans. We believe these actions infringe upon the sovereignty of our country, are based on disputed science, and fail to evaluate their economic impact.