

Explanation: Over the years, the Idaho GOP Platform has grown substantially, while increasingly being used as a litmus test for Republican candidates, party officers, precinct committeemen, and volunteers. I believe the purpose of a platform is to provide a high-level statement of the principles upon which we agree, along with a more limited set of priorities for the immediate future.

This revision takes the principles inherent in the existing platform and codifies them in the preamble, creating a document intended to unite Republicans around shared beliefs while allowing room for reasonable differences on specific policy questions.

The purpose of this revision is not to change what Idaho Republicans believe, but to express those beliefs through a concise statement of enduring principles rather than an extensive list of specific policy prescriptions.

Strike the entirety of the Idaho GOP Platform replace with the following:

WE ARE REPUBLICANS BECAUSE:

We believe the strength of our nation and of our state rests on faith in God our Creator, the dignity, freedom, and responsibility of the individual, and the family as the first institution of ordered liberty.

We believe human life is sacred from fertilization to natural death, that the traditional family founded upon the union of one man and one woman is the basic unit of society, and that religious liberty and freedom of conscience are among the first rights of a free people.

We believe we are inheritors of a distinct Western Civilization, and that our traditional culture safeguards our identity as a free people.

We believe that the United States Constitution and its republican form of government are the greatest guarantors of liberty in human history.

We believe in equal rights, equal justice, and equal opportunity for all.

We believe government is the servant of the people, not their master; that its powers should be limited to constitutionally authorized functions; that it must be fiscally responsible and tax only as necessary; that government powers should be carefully organized, separated both vertically and horizontally to ensure both accountability and effective administration, and that Idaho's sovereignty under the Tenth Amendment must be protected against federal overreach.

We believe in free enterprise, private property, individual initiative, sound money, and the right of citizens to acquire, use, and exchange the fruits of their labor free from unnecessary government interference.

We believe any inflation of a fiat money system beyond population growth is a form of theft. We call for the abolishment of the private Federal Reserve money cartel, which is not federal and has no reserves.

We believe that it is important for individuals, organizations, charities, and churches, to concern themselves with the plight of the poor and needy. Therefore, government should not be in the charity business, either by running charitable programs or donating to charities.

We believe elections must be secure, transparent, and trustworthy; that every lawful vote should be counted without dilution or fraud; that the constitutional electoral process, including the Electoral College, must be preserved; and that Republican nominees should be chosen by Republicans loyal to the party and its principles.

We believe parents hold the authority over the upbringing and education of their children, that while government should not be in the education business, to the degree that the state constitution requires it, educational opportunities and financial support should follow the child, and that schools should teach America's founding principles rather than ideological indoctrination.

We believe individuals and families have the freedom and responsibility to direct their own medical decisions, and that healthcare is best delivered through private enterprise rather than government bureaucracy and control.

We believe Idaho's land, water, energy, and natural resources should be responsibly developed and stewarded by Idahoans for the benefit of Idahoans, with respect for private property, local control, and established water rights.

We believe that government has a duty to secure our borders, defend our citizens, and maintain a military second to none; that America should seek peace and commerce with all nations; and that war should be undertaken only as a last resort in defense of our nation and consistent with constitutional authority.

We believe in all the rights guaranteed by the Constitution with equal fervor – e.g., freedom of speech and assembly, the right to be secure in one's houses, papers, and effects, and the right of the individual to keep and bear arms. These rights come from God and must be guaranteed and not be infringed.

We believe judges should faithfully interpret the law according to its original public meaning rather than legislate from the bench.

We believe in the presumption of innocence, in swift and just punishment for the guilty, in full restitution to victims, and in the genuine rehabilitation of those who will return to society.

We believe self-government depends on an informed, engaged, and civil citizenry, and we call every Idahoan to take an honest and active part in it.

We believe the Republican Party is the best vehicle for translating these ideals into positive and successful principles of government at the federal, state, and local levels.

We therefore adopt the following Platform for the 2026-2028 term.

Priorities for the 69th Idaho Legislature

Income Tax

We support eliminating Idaho's income tax so that individuals, families, and businesses may keep the fruits of their labor and exercise freedom over their own resources.

Property Tax

We direct the legislation to eliminate property taxes for owner occupied residence before the 70th legislation session.

Right to Life

We demand the passage of a bill of equal protection to abolish abortion, treating every preborn child as a human being from the moment of fertilization, with equal protection under our laws. We hold that this protection should extend to all preborn children without exception, including those conceived in tragic circumstances, with serious anomalies, and those conceived through in-vitro fertilization. And we firmly oppose any provision that would grant impunity to any class of people who participate in the act of abortion.

School Choice

We support the Parental Choice Tax Credit and other policies that allow education funding to follow the student. We encourage the continued growth and expansion of K-12 educational choice opportunities as demand and available resources allow, ensuring that parents remain the decision-makers in their children's education.

Medicaid Reform

We support the repeal of Medicaid Expansion and reforms that restore personal responsibility, protect taxpayers, and reduce dependence on government-run healthcare programs. We further encourage the Legislature to examine a responsible long-term transition away from Idaho's participation in Medicaid, with the goal of strengthening families, communities, churches, and private charities as the primary means of caring for those in need.

Immigration Enforcement

We support the enforcement of immigration laws and cooperation among all levels of government to protect public safety, uphold the rule of law, and discourage unlawful entry and residence. We support mandatory use of the federal E-Verify system to help prevent unlawful employment and ensure that jobs are filled by those legally authorized to work in the United States and legislation holding employers or any organization who knowingly hires or transports illegal aliens accountable.

Youth Employment:

We support the elimination of laws that discourage youth employment as well as laws and regulations that get in the way of entrepreneurial pursuits.

Occupational Licensing Laws:

We support reform of occupational licensing laws to allow peaceful commerce between private businesses and customers free from the heavy hand of government.

Water

We support essential geologic research in the ESPA, development and maintenance of long-term water storage infrastructure that secures Idaho's water future, and policy that protects existing water rights and due process, and that supports agriculture, communities, economic growth, and prevents wasteful non-beneficial consumption of water.

Energy Independence:

We call upon the Legislature to establish a dedicated state task force to coordinate with the INL, the Federal Government, and private industry to accelerate development, we strongly support the accelerated development and deployment of next-generation nuclear power technologies, including small modular reactors and advanced designs, to deliver clean, abundant energy to Idaho communities and beyond. As home to the Idaho National Laboratory (INL), Idaho must lead the nation in nuclear innovation, securing true energy independence for our state and setting an example of responsible, forward-thinking stewardship of American resources.

Defend the Guard

We support preserving the Idaho National Guard's primary mission of defending our state and nation and oppose its use in ways that undermine constitutional limits or state sovereignty. We support legislation ensuring that the men and women of the Idaho National Guard are only deployed abroad in combat operations following a congressional approval.

Reduce Spending

We support reducing the size, scope, and cost of government by prioritizing constitutionally authorized functions and returning responsibility whenever possible to individuals, families, communities, and local government.

Sound Money

We support Idaho's facilitation of gold and silver as media of exchange in commerce throughout our state. We encourage the Legislature to examine and remove regulatory barriers that prevent the use of sound money in Idaho transactions.

We reject any mandatory adoption of digital currencies or programmable money systems. We call upon the Legislature to protect the use of physical cash and ensure that cash remains a legal tender option for all transactions, as this provides the financial privacy essential to Fourth and Fifth Amendment protections.

We call upon Idaho's federal delegation to advocate for the federal government to issue debt obligations backed by gold and sound money principles, ensuring that borrowed funds are secured by assets with inherent value.

We encourage the state of Idaho to be a sound money friendly state by investing Idaho assets in gold and silver where appropriate and to support the mining sector of our economy.

Housing

We support policies that preserve and expand home ownership opportunities for Idahoans. We call upon the Legislature to reduce regulatory barriers to residential development.

Article V

We oppose authorizing Congress to call a convention to propose amendments pursuant to Article V of the constitution.

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We recognize that Article V empowers Congress, and not the states, to determine delegate selection and apportionment, the conditions under which the convention will meet, and control the ratification process.

Education Accreditation

We support amending Idaho Code to sever the State of Idaho's affiliation with any accrediting body — at the K–12 or post-secondary level — that promotes ideological agendas antithetical to the values and principles of the Idaho Republican Party Platform, including but not limited to social justice indoctrination, diversity, equity and inclusion frameworks, or progressive gender ideology. We further support Idaho's recognition of alternative accrediting bodies that affirm traditional academic standards, parental rights, and the values of Idaho families, ensuring that Idaho institutions are not coerced into adopting ideological requirements as a condition of accreditation.

Medical School

We support the expansion of medical education capacity in Idaho through the acquisition of an existing medical education institution or the creation of a new Idaho-based medical school, in order to reduce the state's dependence on out-of-state programs and increase the pipeline of physicians and medical professionals serving Idaho communities. We further support terminating any existing partnership, affiliation, or contract with medical education entities that promote abortion as an acceptable medical practice, and require that any future medical education partnerships entered into by the State of Idaho be with institutions whose curriculum and clinical training are consistent with the sanctity of human life from fertilization. We additionally support expanding access to midwifery education in Idaho to ensure that pregnant women and families have access to safe, skilled birth care across the state.