

California Republican Party Platform

(Draft as approved by CRP Platform Drafting Committee -- 7/29/2023)

Preamble

The California Republican Party envisions a vibrant, prosperous, and safe California defined by a robust world-class economy, strong and healthy families, responsive state and local governments that serve all people, while protecting individual liberties as enshrined in the US Constitution and keeping our sovereignty as a Nation under God, our Creator. As the party of Abraham Lincoln, we believe in dignity and equality for all.

When Republican principles are applied, we are boldly confident about restoring and improving California's future and hold dearly all that is good about California's citizens.

Fixing California's Economy

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

We believe in the power of a free and open market as the engine of prosperity. Recognizing California's entrepreneurial spirit, we champion policies that reduce burdensome regulation and taxes, creating a more favorable business climate. We uphold the principle that individuals are the ultimate creators of economic opportunity and wealth. We envision opportunities for Californians to succeed and prosper in a thriving economy.

ENVIRONMENT

We cherish our unique and diverse ecosystems, believing in responsible stewardship of the Earth's resources. We prioritize policies that respect both the environment and economic prosperity, recognizing that through innovation, we can achieve both conservation and growth. We seek a balanced, practical approach to environmental protection that values private-property rights, encourages responsible natural resource use, and fosters public-private partnerships to drive sustainable solutions that are consumer friendly.

FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY

We stand for prudent fiscal management and financial responsibility, understanding that the prosperity of our state depends on sound budgeting and spending practices. We advocate for low taxes and believe that Californians' hard-earned money should be respected. We support a balanced state budget as required by law.

WATER

We are committed to supporting the construction of new, above ground water storage facilities and desalinization plants as critical components in the plan to meet California's long-term water needs.

HOUSING

We recognize the importance of affordable and accessible housing for all Californians. We support policies that encourage private sector investment and market-driven solutions, reducing government red tape that often inhibits housing development. We believe in empowering local communities to shape their housing landscapes while encouraging responsible growth and development. We support Proposition 13 (1978).

IMMIGRATION

We believe that control over the Nation's borders is an essential attribute of sovereignty. We believe that federal law should meet domestic demands for labor without providing incentives to replace existing workers. We support legal immigration with a pathway to citizenship.

INFRASTRUCTURE

We understand that robust and efficient infrastructure is a cornerstone of a prosperous economy. We advocate for prudent public and private investments in our infrastructure, leveraging the strengths of each. Our approach seeks to foster innovation, improve efficiency, and prioritize necessary projects, all while maintaining fiscal responsibility.

Improving Quality of Life for Californians

EDUCATION

We hold firm in our belief that all children, regardless of their background, deserve a quality education. We believe that competition and innovation, involving public, charter, private, and home schools, can drive educational excellence, preparing California's youth for a competitive 21st-century workforce. The parent-child relationship must be respected with parents/caregivers being in control of every decision made regarding their child. We support a state constitutional amendment for school choice.

HEALTHCARE

We believe in a patient-centric healthcare system that champions choice, affordability, and quality. Our approach favors market-based solutions, competition, and innovation to drive down costs and improve the quality and efficient delivery of care. While recognizing the role of government in providing a safety net, we caution against overreliance on state intervention in healthcare.

HOMELESSNESS

Addressing homelessness compassionately and effectively is a priority. We believe in a multifaceted approach that combines personal responsibility, community support, mental health resources, and addiction services. We stress the importance of transitional programs, including job training and placement, to help individuals move from the streets to stable living situations.

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY

We are the historic party of equal opportunity. The Republican Party abolished slavery and has always stood for the right of all persons to succeed. During Reconstruction and throughout the shame of the Democratic Party's Jim Crow laws, the Republican Party championed racial equality against strong opposition. We also stood for women's rights, including the right to vote, and continue to support gender equality. We support laws prohibiting discrimination on the basis of race, ethnicity, nationality, sex, sexual orientation, disability, or religion. We believe that all individuals should be judged by the content of their character, not the color of their skin. We understand that no one can guarantee equality of results, only equality of opportunity.

RIGHT TO LIFE

We value protecting innocent life and want to see the number of abortions reduced. We support adoption as an alternative to abortion and call on lawmakers to reduce the bureaucratic burden placed on adoptive couples.

RELIGIOUS FREEDOM

We support freedom of religious expression as a right protected by the state and U.S. Constitutions. The First Amendment prohibits an official state religion and preferential treatment of different religions, which derives from the Framers' belief the individual has the right to worship according to their conscience. Freedom of religion is an individual right, threatened by attempts to impose separate systems of law on Americans.

FAMILY

We affirm the family as the indispensable and foundational institution for human development and support traditional family values. A strong and healthy family unit is the heart of the home; a safe surrounding where decisions are made, children are raised, and the principles of right and wrong are taught. The family is the foundation on which American society has grown and prospered for over 200 years. We support the family unit as the best environment for raising children, but most importantly affirm that a loving, safe home for all children should be our society's top priority. Religious institutions play a pivotal role in strengthening both traditional marriages and families. Families should be protected and empowered to make decisions that are consistent with their values, beliefs, and faith.

Making California Safe and Secure

PUBLIC SAFETY AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE

Our commitment to a safe, peaceful, and law-abiding California is unwavering. We believe in ensuring public safety under the rule of law. We understand that effective law enforcement requires collaboration, transparency, and accountability. We support surety bail and releasing suspects charged with serious crimes only after posting reasonable bail. We also value those rehabilitation and reentry programs that lower recidivism rates. We support funding law enforcement.

SECOND AMENDMENT

The United States Constitution guarantees the right of its citizenry to keep and bear arms. One of the first acts of a totalitarian regime is to disarm its people. California's gun control laws only serve to disarm law-abiding citizens, not criminals. We oppose any further gun control legislation and support the right of all California citizens to own and bear guns and ammunition for any lawful purpose. We call for statewide legislation setting reasonable criteria allowing law-abiding citizens to carry concealed weapons. We support an individual's right to use deadly force to protect lives and property. We also propose amending California's constitution to reflect all of these rights. Finally, we call for the elimination of waiting periods to purchase firearms and instead support complete implementation of instant background checks.

NATIONAL DEFENSE

We stand for a strong national defense. The first duty of government is to provide for the common defense. It is imperative that we retain our military superiority in order to deter any potential adversary. We affirm that our military exists to deter our enemies and not to initiate war. We should never allow our troops to be put under foreign command nor committed to a foreign conflict unless U.S. national interests are directly at stake, there is a clear military goal, and a firm exit strategy. We recognize the rise in international terrorism against western democracies and understand that no country can successfully combat it alone. We believe in supporting our allies and in defeating international terrorists and those who support them, wherever they hide. We object to a "surrender first" policy or unilateral withdrawal. We believe that compensation for our troops should be fair, and we support a state income tax exemption while our troops are on active duty.

VETERANS

We are free because of those who have answered the call to serve. We support programs and policies to enhance Veteran healthcare, disability compensation, mental health treatment, transition assistance, jobs programs, housing assistance, retirement benefits, and the reduction of Veteran homelessness. We want continued effort to improve the operations of the Veteran's Administration in efficiency and quality of care delivered to Veterans.