

REPORTS FROM BREAKOUT SESSIONS OF DRAFT PLATFORM AMENDMENTS

[Following are the amendments drafted by the breakout sessions at our three Platform Caucuses. The references regarding deletions, etc., are to the 2004 King County Platform, which follows this report of the proposed amendments. The 43rd District Caucus on April 22 will consider the draft amendments and the existing platform and adopt a 2006 District Platform.]

IRAQ AND THE MIDDLE EAST- Dick Kelley, moderator

Deleted 12 and 13 and replaced with:

We must complete an orderly withdrawal of US forces from Iraq before Election Day 2006. The US shall call for internationally facilitated peace talks in Iraq. Upon completion of a peace agreement, the US shall pay a peace dividend to enable an Iraqi-led reconstruction. Reconstruction efforts should be overseen and administered by the United Nations. First priority for all reconstruction contracts and the associated economic and employment benefits should be given to the Iraqi people and companies. The US should pay reparations to innocent Iraqi victims of the war.

Deleted 14 and replaced with:

Israel and Palestine:

The United States should commit to vigorous, serious, constructive and persistent engagement in a peaceful resolution of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. The United States should promote negotiations and other actions that lead to a viable two-state solution that ensures security and quality of life for the Israeli people of a sovereign state of Israel, and the Palestinian people of a sovereign state of Palestine.

TERRORISM, HOMELAND SECURITY- Bill Sherman, moderator

Deleted 13 from Foreign Policy and replaced with:

We recognize that government can not ensure security, but we demand actions, within constitutional limits, that minimize security risks.

debated replacing 7 from Civil and Human Rights (4 for, 4 against) with:

We believe in enforcing current laws to keep our borders safe. Immigration policy must recognize and protect the basic human rights of immigrants and humane treatment of undocumented persons.

[above proposal forwarded to the rules committee without recommendation, along with the longer version, also without recommendation, following]

We believe in enforcing current laws to keep our borders safe. Immigration policy must recognize and protect the basic human rights of immigrants and humane treatment of undocumented persons. Border security must include fair and humane treatment for all, including undocumented persons. We

support equal access to available human services, including health care and public education, without discrimination based on immigration status. We support allowing undocumented minors raised and educated in the United States the opportunity to gain access to post-secondary education assistance and to move toward legal status (the DREAM Act). We oppose using local law enforcement as agents of immigration enforcement. We oppose any effort to deputize, commission, finance, or otherwise encourage the presence of self-appointed vigilante border militia groups in the United States who might take into their own hands the legal authority vested in our law enforcement officials, and those of the federal and state governments.

OTHER FOREIGN POLICY AND MILITARY POLICY- Misty Shock, moderator

Deleted 5 and replaced with:

As a responsible member of the international community, the United States should fully support international sanctions passed by the U.N.

Deleted 7 and replaced with:

We believe,

In opposing any efforts, including those of the Executive branch, to de-certify or ignore treaties, particularly ABM, International Criminal Courts, Kyoto Accords, Biological and Chemical Warfare Conventions, and the Geneva Convention.

Amend 9 by replacing:

GATT, NAFTA, WTO, and FTAA

with

GATT, CAFTA, NAFTA, WTO, and FTAA

Deleted 11 and replaced with:

We must renounce the development of new nuclear weapons, support full funding of the IAEA, and urge the strengthening of international disarmament treaties.

Add new section:

We believe the US government should establish a cabinet level Department of Peace to research, educate, and facilitate non-violent conflict resolution methods.

HUMAN RIGHTS, including CHOICE and SEXUAL MINORITIES, and LAW AND JUSTICE- David Kunselman, moderator

under Civil Rights, deleted 7 and replace with:

We believe in full human rights of all immigrants and their children regardless of immigration status.

Amend 18 to read:

We must replace the Electoral College with a nationwide plurality system.

add new planks to Civil Rights as follow:

24. We believe,

The Human Rights, privileges, and protections for US citizens guaranteed by the US constitution should not be interpreted to apply towards businesses, corporations, or other entities that are not individual persons.

25. We believe,

In Medically accurate sexual education without value judgments regarding sexual orientation.

26. We believe,

that native Hawaiians should be afforded the same rights and privileges that are afforded to Native Americans.

Under Law and Justice, amend 3 to read:

In the abolishment of the death penalty.

Add the following plank to Law and Justice as follows:

13. We believe,

Law Enforcement should not interfere with the doctor-patient relationship regarding treatment.

EDUCATION – Lisa Steubing, moderator

Added:

1. That people of all classes should send their children to public schools and participate in the school system.

2. The primary purpose of a free, universal, public school system in America is to produce informed, curious, reasonable citizens prepared to engage and participate in our democracy.

3. The state's education standards in Mathematics should reflect international standards of achievement in numeracy and critical thinking.

Not passed, but worked on:

4. We believe that local governments should be given the authority should be given the authority to supply additional financial resources to our schools to supplement state funding.

LABOR, EMPLOYMENT, IMMIGRATION and ECONOMIC JUSTICE – Jennifer Moon, moderator

Economic Justice:

Amend 1 to read:

1. No public services should be privatized, outsourced or off-shored.

Amend 2 to read:

2. Taxes are an obligation of citizenship paid in order to provide a high quality of life for all.

Amend 3 to read:

3. Government should ensure universal access to basic needs and services such as affordable housing, affordable health care, transportation, utilities, and education.

Amend 4 to read:

4. In reversing the growing gap between the rich and the poor.

Amend 5 to read:

5. In a progressive tax system and one that does not reward businesses which move their operations offshore.

Remove the comma in 7.

Amend 9 to read:

9. In preserving Social Security as the basic disability and retirement insurance program for all Americans, the core of Americans' retirement planning. We oppose privatization of Social Security. We believe in strengthening the system to ensure that disabled and dependent survivor benefits are fairly and universally maintained, and in continuing to make progress in full coverage of all Americans when they retire or are disabled.

Amend 11 to read:

11. In the promotion of research and development in emerging industries.

Delete 13 (covered in amended 5 above).

Amend 14 to read:

14. In strong consumer protections, including protection from the predatory practices of the payday lending industry.

15. In fully funding Veterans' Benefits

Labor:

Amend 4 to read:

4. That all employees must receive equal pay for comparable work.

Amend 17 to read:

17. In the repeal of the anti-labor Taft-Hartley and state right-to-work laws, which have tilted labor law in favor of employers.

Added:

19. in enforcing current laws to keep our borders safe. We believe in recognizing and protecting the basic human rights of immigrants and humane treatment of undocumented persons. We believe in border security which includes fair and humane treatment for all, including undocumented persons. We support equal access to available services, including health care and public education, without discrimination based on immigration status. We support allowing undocumented minors raised and educated in the United States the opportunity to gain access to post-secondary education assistance and to move toward legal status. We oppose using local law enforcement as agents of immigration enforcement. We oppose any effort to deputize, commission, finance, or otherwise encourage the presence of self-appointed vigilante border militia groups in the United States.

ELECTION REFORM – Charlie Bendock, moderator

All platform planks were passed unanimously, as follows:

Politics and Election Finance

Added:

5. that to reduce the corrupting influence of monetary donations to candidates, public campaign finance should be implemented for all public offices.

6. Campaigns should be at public expense.

7. That we should reinstate the Fairness Doctrine for political campaigns, requiring equal time to respond for any broadcast media.

Government section

Delete 1 and replace with:

1. To insure the integrity and validity of the vote count, all elections must be conducted with voter-verified paper ballots to retain a legible, certifiable record of the actual votes of the people.

Add:

2. That any software used to record or count the vote must be annotated open source code, available to the public on request.
3. That all aspects of the vote counting and recording process be completely open to public observance.
4. No part of the voting process should be out-sourced, privatized or handled by a non-public entity.

HEALTH CARE AND SOCIAL POLICY – Neal Traven, moderator

Amend 1 to read:

1. Health Care, including reproductive services, is a basic human right, and that is necessary and proper that government should step in to ensure parity of access to both physical and mental health care for all people because the market has failed to provide it.

Amend 2 to read:

2. In the establishment of universal health care coverage with unified funding nationwide. If we cannot accomplish this in the near future, we support establishing universal health care coverage with unified funding for all residents of the state of Washington.

Amend 5 to read:

5. Families and loved ones who provide care for individuals with debilitating ailments should be eligible for compensation.

Amend 6 to read:

6. Drug and alcohol dependence is an illness and treatment should be available on demand to those who need it, when they need it and for as long as they need it.

Amend 7 to read:

7. That regulations and/or laws encouraging stem cell research be enacted in order to facilitate and support medical research.

Add:

8. That Medicare Part D should be empowered to bargain for fair pricing of medicines and related products.
9. That licensed pharmacists be required to fill prescriptions as directed by qualified health care providers.

GROWTH MANAGEMENT AND TRANSPORTATION – Tara Gallagher, moderator

Growth Management – all passed unanimously

Add as follow:

1. We support the Growth Management Act as currently written.

2. In informing and educating the public on Growth Management issues.
3. In compensating property owners for permanent voluntary conservation easements.
4. In limiting the use of eminent domain by government solely for substantial public purposes and not for private profit.
5. That preserving the character of the neighborhood can be consistent with allowing for increased population and preservation of low income housing.

Transportation – all passed unanimously

Add as follows:

1. The state should help local government to purchase existing railroad right of way that is neglected, abandoned, or underutilized, particularly the BNSF Short Line Corridor (Dinner Train from Renton to Woodinville).
2. Any additional SR-520 floating bridge lanes or SR-99 Alaskan Way Viaduct lanes should be dedicated to high occupancy vehicles and public transit.
3. In changing the 18th Amendment to the State Constitution to dedicate fuel tax revenue to all transportation purposes instead of only highway purposes as now exists.
4. In encouraging the use of alternative-fuel vehicles and electric vehicles through targeted tax incentives, increased access to alternative fuel and recharging stations.
5. In coordinated regional public transportation planning.
6. That our state needs to repair and maintain all existing major bridges, viaducts, and state highways in populated areas.
7. That our passenger ferry system is an essential part of our state transportation and should be fully funded by state gas taxes.

ENVIRONMENT AND ENERGY – Mike Ruby, moderator

Amend 1 to read:

1. In the sovereign right of the people to make laws to protect their health, safety, and welfare. The federal government shall not enter into any treaty or agreement limiting the application or effect of national, state, and local laws and regulations protecting clean air, clean water, food safety, and worker safety.

Delete 2.

Delete 3.

Retain 4 (or move to Growth Management)

Delete 5.

Retain 6 (or move to Growth Management)

Delete 7.

Add the following:

1. In mandatory targets for energy efficiency and renewable energy by public and private utilities.

2. Washington State and local government should facilitate and promote development of renewable energy technology.

3. That government and industry must develop and implement aggressive strategies to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and mitigate the rapidly increasing effects of global climate change.

Passed on, but not yet approved:

4. That Empirical Science should be the basis for relevant policy decisions.

AGRICULTURE AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT – Linda Clifton, moderator

Add as follows (all passed unanimously):

1. In maintaining ample funding for training and research in organic farming methods within the state college and university system, including county extension programs.

2. In continued support for King County extension's programs to teach parents and children in the public schools about the nutritional benefits of organic foods.

3. That support for preservation, and rejuvenation of Independent American Family Farms is key to our economic and environmental sustainability.

4. In strict standards for organic farming and organic products supported by accurate and accessible labeling which identify Genetically Modified Organisms (GMO's), country of origin, and content of fertilizers and mulches.

5. In strong support for biofuel research and development which offers great promise for agricultural economic development and domestic energy sustainability.

6. In strict standards for Fair Trade certification.
7. In the urgency of supporting and developing sustainable local sources for long term food security by local initiatives, such as farmers markets, community gardens, community supported agriculture and land use, and taxation policies to protect farmers and their agricultural land.

CORPORATE AND MEDIA POWER – Cindy Simmons, moderator

Add as follows (all passed unanimously):

1. Radio and television broadcast frequencies belong to public.
2. Competition and freedom of expression demand that no entity may control broadcast and print media in the same market.
3. Regulating broadcast media to strongly encourage local station ownership and operation.
4. We reject “supply-side” Economics as inhumane, ineffective at providing for the common good, and an obstacle to a functional democracy.
5. In a humane economy that promotes the general welfare, and support proposals to build our democracy on this basis.
6. We support public access to the Internet.
7. As citizens in a democracy, we require public access to a diverse range of media voices and messages in order to participate fully in our community's shared social, cultural, and political life.
8. There is an important place in our society for news sources which are not beholden to private interests, and we support increased public funding for public broadcasting.
9. Corporations are not people; We reject the concept of corporate personhood.

2004 Platform

We are the Democrats - the party of the people. Preamble
This platform is a declaration of human rights, justice and equality for all.

We affirm the rights guaranteed by the Constitution and the Bill of Rights, and expect government at all levels to champion these rights.

We cherish freedom of speech and expression as fundamental blessings of liberty.

We recognize that our strength rests upon respect for diversity in all forms.

Government must be open and accountable to the people.

We adopt this platform so the public and candidates for office understand our Democratic ideals.

Civil and Human Rights

We believe ..

1. Clean air and water, food, housing, medical care, education and jobs are basic human rights.

2. Discrimination of any kind is wrong and that those who face discrimination must be afforded the legal means and economic opportunities to overcome such injustices.

3. In affirmative action and laws designed to ensure that prejudice does not prevent qualified persons from obtaining education, employment, promotion, housing, insurance or any other social good.

4. In a woman's reproductive rights, including the right to choose an abortion, regardless of age or ability to pay, in the United States or abroad.

5. In the inalienable rights of all adults to enter into loving relationships with the person of their choice, regardless of their gender or gender identity and that local, state and federal governments must recognize the relationships of same-gender couples, granting all couples equal rights under the law, including the right to marry and all the rights associated with marriage.

6. In the separation of religion and state and oppose organized prayer in public schools and granting of public money to religious charities or schools which require a profession of faith or act of worship as a condition of participation.

7. Any immigration policy that denies civil and/or human rights or educational opportunities to immigrants and their children be opposed, regardless of their immigration status.

8. Any efforts to legislate English as the official language disregard cultural pluralism, deprive those in need of education, social services and employment, and must be challenged.

9. That each individual has a right to privacy, and government or business must recognize and respect that right.

10. In an individual's right to choose medically assisted death with dignity, with suitable safeguards.

11. In opposing the exploitation of people, especially children, under any circumstances as set forth in the United Nations' Universal Declaration of Human Rights and its Conventions.

12. Until adequate housing is available for all, government shall ensure the right of all to safe, clean shelter by assisting homeless persons in Interim Survival Mechanisms, including but not limited to indoor emergency shelters and outdoor tent cities.

13. That federal recognition of the Duwamish Tribe is long overdue.

14. In the enforcement and expansion of the Freedom of Information Act.

15. In the end to the following trespasses against our founding documents: "Free Speech Zones"

" No fly lists"

FBI infiltration of church, libraries, book stores and political organizations;

Indefinite detentions without charges;

Military Tribunals;

Denial of access to counsel and writ of habeas corpus;

Infringements on attorney client privilege.

16. Repealing the Patriot Act

17. In supporting the full rights of people with disabilities to equal access to public accommodations, employment, transportation, telecommunications, voting, and government services in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act.

18. We must replace the Electoral College with a nationwide majority system in time for the 2008 Presidential Election.

19. In everyone's right to refuse to support injustices, to refuse to kill, to destroy homes, to occupy another people in violation of international law.

20. In the automatic return of the vote to all felons who have served their time.

21. In opposing the resumption of the military draft.

22. In rejecting the concept of corporate personhood and support legislation and litigation to challenge this obstacle to a functional democracy.

23. In the right of all people, including those at Guantanamo, to be presumed innocent until proven guilty, to be released from detention within 7 days of apprehension unless charged with a crime or classified as a POW in a declared war, to legal representation and communication with loved ones if detained, to humane conditions under detention, regardless of citizenship or location of apprehension.

Economic Justice

We believe ..

1. No public services such as education, public safety, utilities, parks and human services should be privatized, outsourced or off-shored.

2. Taxes are a privilege of citizenship and are required to support the infrastructure and provide a high quality of life for all.

3. Government should ensure universal access to basic services such as adequate housing, adequate medical care, means of transportation, health and auto insurance, utilities, education and safe working conditions.

4. In reversing the growing gap between the rich and the poor, which has been fueled by the downward trend in wages, soaring executive pay, and increasingly regressive taxes.

5. Washington needs a more progressive tax system, where those who have more share a higher percent of the tax burden, including personal and corporate income tax, and reduced sales and business and occupation taxes.

6. Government has a public trust to use tax dollars wisely.

7. Economic policies and business practices should promote creation of living-wage jobs and sustainable economic growth, which does not damage the environment.

8. Government should protect both public and private pension plans and ensure that persons enrolled in such plans will be included in processes affecting their pensions.

9. Social Security:

Cannot have long-term solvency if it is privatized in any degree,

Should ensure that disabled and dependent survivor benefits are fairly and universally maintained, and

Should continue to make progress in full coverage of all Americans when they retire or are disabled.

10. In fiscal responsibility and deficit reduction.

11. In the promotion of research and development in new high tech industries.

12. In immediately starting a public works program to build, repair and maintain the nation's infrastructure.

13. All American corporations must pay their fair share of taxes, eliminating tax breaks for doing business offshore.

14. In strong consumer protection.

15. Congress must fully fund Veterans' benefits.

Education

We believe ..

1. In an excellent public education system through:

Decreasing class sizes

Increasing teachers' salaries

Expanding pre-school and after school programs including Head Start

Hiring counselors and nurses in every school

Job training, vocational education, and apprenticeship programs for non-college bound students

Renovation of decaying facilities

2. Schools must be safe from bullying, harassment and violence for students, staff and community members.
3. That all high school graduates, in Washington State, must have access to a higher education regardless of means.
4. A simple majority vote should be sufficient to pass school levies and bonds.
5. In public schools and oppose vouchers to private schools. We oppose Charter schools, as they are an unproven experiment and drain resources from public schools.
6. In all public education employees' right to organize, engage in collective bargaining and strike without fear of reprisal or replacement.
7. In full inclusion in the school environment of all students regardless of gender, race, ethnic origin, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity, economic status or disability.
8. In supporting our state constitution, which does mandate full educational funding for schools.
9. In age-appropriate, research-based health education on sex and alcohol and other drugs at all levels of K-12 education.
10. There is no place for commercialism (e.g. junk food and advertising) in public schools in the State of Washington.
11. In exploring other methods of funding educational capital projects other than logging public lands.
12. In repealing provisions of the Higher Education Act that deny federal financial aid to students convicted of drug offenses.
13. In supporting restraints on aggressive military recruiting in public schools and equal opportunity for dissenting opinions.

Environment and Energy

We believe ..

1. In the sovereign right of the people to make laws to protect their health, safety and welfare. The government shall make no law, treaty or agreement limiting the application or effect of duly constituted national, state, and local laws and regulations protecting clean air, clean water, food safety and worker safety.
2. In widespread research and use of energy efficient and renewable natural sources of power.
3. In opposing development and oil exploration in any national wildlife refuge.
4. Our cities must fully support neighborhood planning and open space, playfields and open libraries.
5. In economic incentives for energy conservation and clean energy systems.
6. In intelligent population and growth management, limiting urban sprawl, preserving farmland, wildlife habitat and our remaining national resources.
7. Tax breaks to oil companies are not an effective means to encourage research and development of alternative power and they should be discontinued.
8. In ending the trading of energy and pollution credits that maintain the status quo in their abuse of our children's future resources.
9. In changing our policy on public lands so that they are managed as a public trust.
10. We must be sensitive to our environment and preserve it for our children's children.
11. We must encourage recycling and reuse of waste in ways that do not further contaminate the environment. We must encourage the development of alternative technologies, which do not further contribute to toxic environmental overloads.
12. Environmental protections reversed or weakened by the Bush Administration must be reinstated and all environmental laws and regulations must be vigorously enforced.
13. In protecting all environmentally sensitive lands from oil and gas, development; and protect all old growth forests from exploitation.

Foreign Policy

We believe ..

1. In the United States' fully paid participation in the United Nations and other organizations which promote human rights, adherence to international law, democratic elections, health and safety, peace, commerce, cultural understanding, and preservation of

our planet's fragile ecosystems.

2. Our government and all states possessing nuclear weapons should take steps toward the reduction of nuclear weapons. We also urge our government to honor and ratify openly negotiated treaties to reduce nuclear proliferation.
3. Our government should restore programs supporting family planning worldwide.
4. Our government must sign and ratify the UN agreement forming an International Criminal Court, and the United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights.
5. No U.S. tax dollars should be given to any nation while said nation is in violation of international law as determined by the United Nations.
6. Our state's relationship with sovereign Native American nations and tribal governments must be built on a government-to-government relationship.
7. In opposing efforts of the Executive Branch to de-certify or overturn treaties such as ABM, International Criminal Courts, Kyoto Accords or Biological and Chemical Warfare Conventions.
8. In opposing covert efforts to de-stabilize other national governments.
9. The GATT, NAFTA, WTO and FTAA agreements are seriously flawed and should be renegotiated to incorporate human rights, labor rights, uphold existing environmental law, transparency at all levels, and basic democratic procedures accountable to the public.
10. The U.S. government should work multilaterally to eliminate terrorist networks and resolve international conflicts through diplomacy and international institutions such as the United Nations, rejecting unilateral preemptive war as a means.
11. We must renounce the development of new nuclear weapons and urge the strengthening of international disarmament treaties.
12. We must complete a timely withdrawal of U.S. forces from Iraq and prompt creation of a democratic, independent, and fully representative Iraqi government.
13. Our nation is vulnerable to terrorism and we demand an effective comprehensive plan to ensure our security.
14. The United States should commit to vigorous, serious and persistent, engagement in a peaceful resolution of the Israeli/Palestinian conflict, promoting negotiations that lead to a viable two state solution and ensure security for the Israeli and Palestinian peoples.

Health Care

We believe ..

1. Health care is a basic human right, and that it is necessary and proper that government should step in to ensure parity of access to both physical and mental health care for all people when the free market has failed to provide it.
2. In establishing a national single-payer universal health care plan.
3. Federal budget monies should be used to repay funds owed to keep Social Security solvent and to ensure access to Medicare and Medicaid, rather than to reduce taxes for the rich.
4. We are entitled to freedom of choice in our own health care including the right to refuse any medical procedure or product.
5. Families and loved ones who provide care for individuals with debilitating ailments should be commended.
6. Drug and alcohol dependence is an illness and treatment should be available on demand to those who need it.
7. That existing prohibitions and or laws limiting stem cell research be revoked in order to hasten medical research and curing debilitating diseases.

Labor

We believe ..

1. In the dignity of labor.
2. In the right of all workers to organize, engage in collective bargaining, with the rights of association, assembly, free speech and due process in the workplace, and to strike without fear of reprisal or replacement.
3. In a workplace free from discrimination based upon gender, disability, religion, sexual orientation, race, age, national origin, ethnicity, gender identity, union activity or political

preference.

4. That all employees must receive equal pay for equal work.
5. In a livable minimum wage that increases with inflation.
6. In the enactment of rules providing a reasonable proportion between the pay for the highest paid person and the lowest paid in any organization.
7. That workers who are locked out should be entitled to extended unemployment benefits and retraining opportunities.
8. That all workers have a right to work in a safe, hazard-free workplace.
9. That Washington State must ensure the protection of workers who report safety hazards or other violations of law or regulations in the workplace.
10. In contractor responsibility to the community through responsible bidder language in all public contracts, such as issues of fair wages, health insurance, retirement & training.
11. In the union shop.
12. Migrant workers deserve safe and adequate housing, medical care, education and sanitary facilities.
13. There should be no mandatory overtime.
14. All government contracts should be at the prevailing wage, and with 15% of workers at apprentice level.
15. That for accuracy in employment statistics, unemployed persons whose benefits have expired should be counted as unemployed.
16. Independent contractors should not be used to replace regular state employees.
17. In the repeal of the anti-labor Taft-Hartley Act, which has tilted labor law in favor of employers.
18. In the automatic recognition of a union based on signatures of a majority of those represented (card-check).

Law and Justice

We believe ..

1. We as a nation must invest in children and work actively to eliminate poverty in order to help prevent future crime.
2. Criminal justice emphasis should include preventative and rehabilitative measures.
3. In the abolishment of the death penalty in favor of life without parole.
4. In safety locks on handguns, prohibition of importation and ownership of full-automatic weapons and strengthening of laws holding adults responsible for safeguarding guns in the home.
5. In universal gun registration and licensing, mandatory safety training for gun owners, and background checks on all gun sales (including at gun shows), with a minimum waiting period.
6. In jail time for white-collar crime.
7. We need a new approach to drug addiction based on treatment and education, as opposed to incarceration.
8. Drug treatment and community-based aftercare, including clean and sober housing, should be available to every offender who needs it.
9. In the matter of drug enforcement, asset seizures should be based on one's conviction and not on arrest or assumption of guilt.
10. That we must work against racial profiling by law enforcement.
11. In security measures consistent with preservation of civil liberties at airports, border crossings, train and bus stations to protect the public and the United States from terrorist activities.
12. In ending mandatory and determinate sentencing with the immediate removal of nonviolent crimes from "3 strikes" lists.

Politics and Campaign Financing

We believe ..

1. In contribution and spending limits as an integral part of campaign finance reforms.
2. We must commit to keep our electoral processes open to all who seek the challenge of serving our country regardless of income level.

- 3. We must open the public airwaves to all candidates free of charge. Money should not equal speech.**
- 4. In the declaration of Election Day as a national holiday.**

Transportation

We believe ..

- 1. In making investments in public infrastructure that broaden transportation choices and reduce dependence on the automobile.**
- 2. In additional fuel taxes as a responsible choice to fund essential transportation projects.**
- 3. In the development of mass transit, the dedication of HOV lanes to high occupancy vehicles, promoting telecommuting, improving facilities for pedestrians, bicyclists and people in wheelchairs.**

Human Services

We Believe...

- 1. Ensuring adequate human services is among the highest priorities of government, especially for those on the margins of society, including children, the elderly, and people who are impoverished, homeless, mentally ill, disabled or living with addictions.**
- 2. In supporting welfare reform that will reduce poverty, not just the welfare rolls. Quality affordable childcare, education, training and substance abuse treatment must be provided to help working parents get off welfare.**
- 3. In galvanizing the political will to end homelessness in our communities. It is the government's responsibility to take the actions necessary to ensure that all people have safe and affordable housing. Affordable housing subsidies should be targeted at those who make 50% or less of the Area Median Income.**
- 4. Public assistance (General Assistance-Unemployable/GA-U) and Medicaid to safeguard the vulnerable poor and people with disabilities who cannot reasonably provide for themselves.**
- 5. Family planning and science-based sex education re effective tools that must be made available to give individuals and families control over their reproductive positions.**

Government

We Believe...

That in the State of Washington all elections must use some form of a "paper ballot" in order to retain a record of the actual vote of the people.