

Iowa Republican Platform Committee & Iowa Republican Party:

On Saturday April 23, 2022, at the District 4 Republican Convention, an additional plank regarding national political figures and their visits to Iowa counties was presented for a vote considering it's addition to the Iowa Republican Platform. This plank was approved and moved on to the 2022 Iowa State Republican Convention for consideration. The undersigned counties have been considering such action previously and are in full support of the plank.

Over the past couple years, all national Iowa Republican officeholders have spent time in our counties, targeting a select few constituents without notifying (in advance) even the County Chairman/ Central Committee. Then, after appearing to secretly come to our county, we read in the next week's newspaper, or hear it on TV/radio/social media, or their own web pages how they have checked another of the "99 county tour" boxes.

The "99 county tour" is a great tool. We are thrilled to have our political representatives in our communities...come often! The flavor of the activity is to visit the grass roots voters, listen to our concerns, complaints, appreciation, and suggestions. But unless quality time is spent with these grass roots constituents, what is the purpose, other than the political figure's self-interests. Sadly, this happens too often.

We realize there may be times when a targeted visit is needed. But these visits should not, and do not, fit the flavor of the "99 county tour," as it now appears to represent. Even in these situations, the County Republican Committee/Central Committee members should know of the trip BEFORE the legislator arrives in our county. If for no other reason, it is important for the local Chairperson/Central Committee members to have the opportunity to attend. We represent the people as much as the legislators.

In those cases where the "99 County Tour" IS the objective, at the very least the Central Committee members and County Chairperson need the option to attend. Consideration should also be given for the visit to be an open forum to the public. We get it.....this may drag out some folks from the other side of the aisle and/or Independents. But the legislators represent these people too. If we were unfortunate enough to have a Progressive (aka dem) legislator representing us, this should not disqualify us from access to a legislators advertised "99 County Tour" information and update-forum.

Whether this plank is added to the Republican state platform or not, we intend to incorporate this commonsense rule within our counties.

These political leaders represent us. Visiting our towns and communities ensures integral information exchange. If constituents are excluded, how can these "tours" result in proper representation?

As the elected representatives of our County Republican party, we are requesting 48 hour prior notice be given to our County Chairperson & Central Committee, at a minimum, for an intended "99 County" accomplishment. Jointly we can agree which constituents shall/shall not attend the event.

If this is not satisfactory, first we ask "why." Second, if we are not allowed to attend, the political figure should not be allowed to check that "99 County Box." If they do, we reserve the right to announce our Central Committee does not believe the political representative met the "advertised "99 County" criteria. Nobody wins in this scenario.

Thank you!

Hancock County Central Committee

X County Central Committee (We have rec'd word at least 4 neighboring counties intend to sign)

CC: Senator Joni Ernst
Senator Chuck Grassley
Representative Randy Feenstra