

Kossuth County GOP 2018 Platform March 10, 2018

Preamble: The Kossuth County Republicans hereby adopt and approve this platform. It articulates our beliefs and provides a guide for our elected representatives and nominees in putting our beliefs into effect.

Life

We believe human life is a sacred gift. No human life should ever be diminished or arbitrarily taken. We support return to the states of authority to regulate abortion and oppose funding of abortion through taxes.

Liberty

Liberty and education are interdependent. We support the state and local entities being the primary determiners and financial supporters of public education. Accordingly, the role of the US Department of Education must be examined and limited to activities of demonstrable value. The judicial branches of Federal and State governments are less subject to the direct influence of the will of the people than the other branches. The judiciary has by many measures assumed unintended powers and failed to uphold the people's constitutional rights, particularly first amendment rights, without opposition from the other branches. We encourage our legislators and executives to stand up to the judiciary. Tyranny can thrive when the people are defenseless. We support the second amendment. We oppose mandatory union membership, believing that unions should provide sufficient value to members to earn their voluntary membership.

Commerce

We support a balanced budget amendment and believe that the State of Iowa and the Federal Government should maintain a balanced budgets. Spending that promotes crony capitalism, abuses "earmarks", or distorts free markets should not occur. The Federal Reserve system should be audited. We support President Trumps actions thus far to reduce economically damaging regulations, realizing that much remains to be done through legislation. The Federal Government has an appropriate role in research on energy sources, including renewables, but otherwise should not interfere in subsidizing energy sources. We approve the recent Federal Income Tax reform signed by president Trump and support further simplification.

State & Local Government

The Federal Government now exercises power far beyond the original intent of Federalism with the resulting loss of influence for local and state governments. We

support reversal of this trend by adherence to the 10th amendment. Within Iowa, local governments should take on more responsibility wherever feasible. Actions of governments at all levels should be open to closer inspection by citizens.

Property

We support private property rights as a fundamental liberty. Regulation of land, water, and air resources through the EPA, Corps of Engineers, and other Federal and state agencies has been excessive at times. We also recognize that actions that reduce property values through, air, water, or land pollution are detrimental to property rights. Lawful standards must promote the wise development and use resources and not serve the agenda of environmental extremists. Use of eminent domain must be strictly limited, and not allowed for projects such as shopping centers, which represent the worst abuse.

National Sovereignty & Defense

The first duty and top priority of the Federal Government must be defense of both our territorial integrity and political sovereignty, following the US Constitution and adhering to its principles. Good citizenship is an essential foundation for accomplishing these ends. However, that foundation has eroded in large measure due to more than a half-century of neglect by political and business forces that have led to the current ugly immigration situation. We support a wall on the southern border. We support English as the official language of the United States and all states while recognizing that awareness and fluency in other languages is essential in today's world for economic and diplomatic reasons.