

Johnson County Democratic Convention

Saturday March 15, 2008

West High School

2901 Melrose Ave. Iowa City

Registration of Delegates and Alternates begins at

8:00 AM

Call to Order: 9:00 AM

Seating of Alternates: 10:00 AM

Platform Deadlines:

The deadline for submitting written and legible amendments to the platform (either the Statement of Principles or the Statement of Issues) is 11:30 AM



Johnson County Democratic Party



P.O. Box 1773
Iowa City, IA 52244
(319) 337-VOTE



Dear fellow Democrats:

We are engaged in one of the most exciting Democratic Party nominating processes in history. Thank you so much for your commitment to serve as a Delegate to the 2008 Johnson County Democratic Convention. Your service to the Party and the Democrats you represent will play an important role in bringing our Party together as an organization to prepare to win this November.

Delegate registration begins at 8:00 AM on Saturday, March 15 at West High School. The convention will be called to order at 9:00 AM. At the start of registration breakfast rolls and coffee will be offered for a small contribution. A lunch will be available for a \$5-6 suggested contribution.

Thank you for downloading this electronic convention booklet. By posting the booklet online for download rather than sending you a booklet through the mail our County Party saves funds that we can use for voter activation and turnout later this year.

If you are unable to attend the convention, you may designate an Alternate to attend in your stead according to the guidelines of the Delegate Assignment Form. Quiet children may accompany their parents in the convention hall and Youth Delegates will be seated. If you have any questions about the convention or need to arrange a ride to the convention, please feel free to call me at 400-2821.

Finally, I would like to thank the many volunteers of the Platform, Rules and Nominations, Credentials, and Arrangements Committees for the hours of work they put in to prepare for this convention.

Again, thank you for your service to the Johnson County Democratic Party.

Sincerely,
Brian Flaherty
Chair
Johnson County Democratic Party

2008 Johnson County Democratic Convention

Order of Business

March 15, 2008

1. The Convention Chairs/Co-Chairs (as Temporary Chair) shall convene the convention at 9:00AM or within 15 minutes of this time.
2. The Temporary Chair shall appoint temporary secretaries, temporary parliamentarians, and temporary sergeants-at-arms.
3. A Motion for the adoption of Temporary Rules as will be in order.
4. A Motion to make delegates as certified by the County Chair to the County Auditor the Temporary Delegates to the Convention will be in order.
5. The Temporary Chair will announce the Chairs of the Platform, Credentials, Rules & Nominations, and Arrangement Committees. Those Committee Chairs who wish to make Convention related announcements may do so at this time.
6. Those Committees that require time to meet will retire at this time to locations announced by the Temporary Chair.
7. Announcements, Introduction of Special Guests, Candidates, and Convention Speakers.
8. The chair of the Credentials Committee shall present the Credentials Committee Report, including the results of the First Alignment and move the adoption of the Credentials Committee Report by the Convention.
9. Nomination of Permanent Convention Chair(s) shall be brought to the floor by the Chair of the Rules and Nominations Committee. Additional nominations from the floor will be accepted. The Convention Chair(s) shall be elected and take over as presiding officers of the Convention. The Chairs shall appoint other Permanent Officers of the Convention.
10. The Report of the Rules and Nominations Committee shall announce the procedure for election by proportional representation of delegates and alternates to the district and state convention, as well as members of the District Convention Committees. Johnson County may elect a total of 137 delegates and 8 members to each of 4 Committees. The Chair of Rules and Nominations will move adoption of the Committee Report.
11. Presentation of the proposed changes to the Johnson County Democratic Party Constitution.

12. A motion to adopt proposed changes to the Johnson County Democratic Party Constitution will be in order.
13. A motion to begin the Second Alignment of the preference groups will be in order. A simple majority of the seated delegates present is required to begin the alignment process. The preference group alignment process (lasting one hour) will begin as soon as possible following adoption of the Rules and Nominations Report. If a preference group requests, the Convention may recess at this point for no more than 45 minutes. Following first alignment period the Credentials Committee will recess to tabulate the results and the Credentials Committee will report the results to the convention.
14. Youth Delegates will caucus separately for purpose of electing district and state convention youth delegates and alternates.
15. Report of the Platform Committee. Platform Committee Chair moves adoption of the Platform. Debate proceeds as determined by the Rules.
16. If nonviable groups remain after the second alignment period, the alignment process will continue with a Third Alignment (lasting 30 minutes) to allow only nonviable groups to realign with existing viable groups. If a preference groups requests, the Convention may recess at this point for no more than 20 minutes. Following the Third Alignment, the Credentials Committee Chair reports the results of the entire alignment process.
17. The Rules and Nominations Chair will announce the number of District Convention delegates and committee members assigned to each preference group. At this point Convention will recess for a maximum of one (1) hour while the preference groups caucus for the election of District and State Convention Delegates (plus alternates) and District Convention Committee members.
18. The convention as a whole will seek nominations and elect persons to fill any district convention committee slots left unfilled by the preference groups.
19. Debate on and adoption of the Platform will continue if needed.
20. A motion for the adoption of the Platform will be in order.
21. Nominations for the office of Affirmative Action Chair will be in order. The Affirmative Action Chair shall be elected by a majority vote of Convention Delegates present and voting.
22. A motion to ratify the duly elected delegate and alternate slate will be in order.
23. Any other business may be brought to the convention on recognition by the Chair.
24. A Motion to Adjourn will be in order.

Arrangements Committee Report
Johnson County Democratic Convention
March 15th, 2008

Set up for the Convention will be at Iowa City West High School on Saturday, March 15th at 7 a.m. All extra help is welcome. Tables in main hallway are available to campaigns, issue groups, and local elected officials for \$25 per table. These groups may set up at any time after 7 a.m.; but they must be responsible for clean up and tear down on Saturday afternoon. Presidential campaigns are limited to two placard-sized signs in the auditorium hall. Iowa legislators and elected officials are not limited to the number of signs they may place in the auditorium. No signs will be hung in the auditorium entryway. Campaigns may place signs outside the school buildings, as long as they are mindful of walkways and parking lots.

Coffee and doughnuts will be available in the morning for a small donation. Coffee is donated by Café Del Sol Coffee (located at 12th Ave. and Oakdale in Coralville). Soda pop and bottled water will be available for a reasonable price.

We plan to have sandwiches available for lunch. We ask for a \$5 suggested donation per meal. Vegetarian meals will be available. We are aware that some people have very specific dietary restrictions, and we apologize in advance if we inadvertently overlook something. Lunch is provided by the Cottage Bakery and Cafe. Johnson County Local Elected Officials have sponsored the lunch.

No smoking is allowed in West High or any Iowa City Community School District Building.

The Arrangements Committee wishes to thank all of you in advance for your cooperation and enthusiasm. We also wish to thank all the other committees for their promptness and hard work. We know this is going to be a fantastic convention.

Arrangements Committee:
Renner Walker, Co-Chair
Holly Savage, Co-Chair
Loren Brumm
Jodi Carrig
Angela Grunder
Lorraine Kent
John McClure
Carol Pilcher
Susan Rangus
Anne Spencer

CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE REPORT
2008 JOHNSON COUNTY DEMOCRATIC CONVENTION

1. The registration period for both delegates and alternates is from **one hour before** the start of the convention until **one hour after** the scheduled start of the convention. All delegates and alternates must register during this time period.

2. Delegates who are unable to attend the convention may arrange for a replacement by selecting a **duly elected and certified alternate**. Alternates **must** be from the same presidential preference group as the delegate they are replacing. First consideration should be given to alternates from the same precinct as the delegate they are replacing. The delegate assignment form, which is included with the Convention Call, must be completed and signed by both the delegate and the alternate. The alternate must present this signed delegate assignment form to the Credentials Committee, before being allowed to register at the convention as a delegate.

3. In the event a delegate is unable to attend the convention and fails to name an alternate in the manner described in Step 2 of this report, the appropriate presidential preference group, acting through their preference group chairperson, shall designate to the Credentials Committee Chairman the name of an alternate to be seated in this open seat.

4. The Credentials Committee will seat all alternates designated in this manner. The seating of alternates selected using the method described in Step 3 of this report will commence immediately following the registration period described in Step 1 of this report

5. All donations are voluntary. Donations to help defray convention expenses will be accepted.

DELEGATE REGISTRATION PROCEDURE

1. Registration will begin **one hour before** the scheduled start of the convention and continue until **one hour after** the scheduled start of the convention.
2. Credentials will be sorted in alphabetical order according to delegates last name. A Credentials Committee Member will direct delegates to the correct table to receive their credentials.
3. Delegates will receive their credentials packet, a presidential preference/District and State Convention delegate candidacy form. Delegates **must** complete and return their presidential preference/District and State Convention delegate candidacy form to the Credentials Committee before leaving the registration table.
4. Proceed to the Convention area.

ALTERNATE REGISTRATION PROCEDURE

1. Alternate registration will begin **one hour before** the scheduled start of the convention and continue until **one hour after** the scheduled start of the convention.
2. One registration table will be marked as alternate registration. Alternates should proceed to this table when directed by a Credentials Committee Member.
3. Alternates will be provided with a presidential preference/District and State Convention delegate candidacy form. This form **must** be completed and returned to the Credentials Committee before leaving the registration table.
4. Proceed to the alternate seating area.
5. Upon the completion of Delegate registration, the Credentials Committee Chairman will inform the convention that alternates are now being seated in open delegate seats. **To be considered for seating as delegate, alternates must return to the registration area at this time.**
6. A Credentials Committee Member will direct each alternate seated as a delegate to the correct registration table to receive their credentials.

YOUTH DELEGATES

1. Youth Delegates will register at the alternate registration tables.
2. Proceed to the youth delegate seating area.

2008 CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Ann Valenta
Barb Weets-Caudill
Bill Hanes
Carl Fongheiser
Erica Townsend-Bell
James Moody
Jan Olive Nash
Linda Yanney
Maheen Rajput
Mary Jeanne Perino Phillips
Michael O'Hanlan
Robyn Taylor
Sujit Dhar
Sarah Hoper
Trish Wasek

Greg Thompson - Recording Secretary
John Deeth - Co-Chair
Tom Larkin - Co-Chair

Johnson County Democrats

2008 Convention Rules and Nominations Committee Report

The Rules and Nominations Committee would like to put forward the following rules and nominations of officers for the 2008 Johnson County Democratic Convention.

Respectfully submitted,

Joe Galbraith and Melanie Gross, Co-Chairs

Paul Osterholt, Secretary

and the members of the rules committee:

Steven Newell, Lucinda Litton, Sam Garchik, Gary Olson, Sue Dvorsky, Kiran Patel, Jennifer Patel, Gina Shatteman, Zoe Gainey, M Gaff, Janelle Rettig.

The Rules and Nominations Committee would like to nominate the following people as officers for the 2008 Johnson County Democrats Convention:

Co-Chairs – TBA

Co-Parliamentarians – John McCormally, Shayla Kasel, and James Moody

Secretary – Carl Fongheiser assisted by Cynthia Renner

Timekeepers – Steve Newel

Sergeant-at-Arms – TBA

Johnson County Democratic Convention

Report of Rules and Nominations Committee

Article I. Opening Activities

- § 1. The Convention shall be called to order no later than fifteen (15) minutes after the time announced in the official call. If the Chair does not call the Convention to order within this time limit, any delegate may call the Convention to order.
- § 2. An official Timekeeper shall be appointed by the Chair, prior to the introduction of the first speaker, to assist the Chair in enforcing the time limits on speakers. Time limits shall be strictly enforced. The timekeeper will display a yellow card when the speaker has 30 seconds remaining and a red card when time has elapsed. Any delegate may call upon the Chair to enforce the time limit.
- § 3. Declared Democratic candidates for office within Johnson County, including state legislative candidates, shall be introduced and allowed to address the Convention for no more than three (3) minutes. State officers or candidates, and guest speakers invited by the Johnson County Central Committee, shall be introduced and allowed to address the Convention for no more than four (4) minutes. Congressional candidates shall be introduced and allowed to address the Convention for no more than seven (7) minutes. No substitute or representative speakers shall be permitted.

Article II. Committee Reports

- §1. Credentials Committee: In the event of a delegate challenge, the Committee on Credentials shall include in its report the name of the delegate or alternate who it believes is entitled to participate in the Convention. When several challenges are to be resolved, the Committee on Credentials shall report on each challenge in the alphanumeric order by the precinct in which the challenged delegates or alternates reside.
- § 2. Rules and Nominations Committee: The nomination and delegate-selection process shall be in accordance with the Delegate Selection Procedure approved by the State Central Committee and with the supplementary recommendations of the Rules and Nominations Committee as adopted by the Convention. Business or reports from the Rules and Nominations Committee shall have preference over other items of business.
- § 3. Platform Committee: The Platform Committee report shall consist of a Statement of Principles and a Statement of Issues. To save time, these reports shall be taken up at the discretion of the Chair at appropriate times after all the alternates are seated. Changes to the Statement of Principles and the Statement of Issues shall be considered by the Convention body only under the following circumstances:

- A. The Statement of Principles shall be voted on as a whole and the Statement of Issues shall be voted on by subcommittee section unless ten (10) delegates sign a petition to reserve a paragraph of the Statement of Principles or subcommittee section of the Statement of Issues for separate debate and vote. Petitions for separate debate and vote may be submitted to the chair(s) of the Platform Committee until the respective Platform section is brought to the floor.
- B. Amendments to either the Statement of Principles or Statement of Issues must be in writing, legible and accompanied by a petition in support thereof, signed by fifteen percent (15%) of the seated delegates to the convention, and submitted to the Platform Committee by 11:00 a.m. the day of the convention. All submitted amendments will be posted in the designated area of the convention hall by 11:15 am.
- C. Except for grammatical amendments, no amendments to a proposed amendment as submitted to the convention for consideration shall be permitted unless submitted in writing to the Platform Committee by 12:00 pm on the day of the Convention. Each amendment to an amendment must be accompanied by the signature of fifteen (15) seated delegates and must pertain and be germane to the issue which it purports to amend.
- D. Debate on the platform shall be conducted in the following order:
 - 1) The Chair of the Convention shall recognize the Chair of the Platform Committee to move adoption of the platform.
 - a) The Chair of the Platform Committee or his or her designee shall present The Statement of Principles or a subcommittee section of the platform and move its adoption.
 - b) The Statement of Principles and subcommittee sections shall be debated and voted on as a whole except for paragraphs affected by i), ii), and iii) (below). Paragraphs affected by i), ii), and iii) shall be considered in the order that they appear in the convention book, and according to the following precedence:
 - i) Minority reports from the Platform Committee. Minority reports are automatically debatable.
 - ii) Amendments submitted as in B and C (above). Amendments are automatically debatable.
 - iii) Paragraphs that have been reserved for separate debate and vote, as in point A (above).
 - c) The convention shall vote on adoption of the Statement of Principles and each subcommittee section as a whole as amended.

d) Each remaining subcommittee section of the platform shall be considered in the order presented according to the procedure in a) through c) (above).

2) Debate on the Platform shall be conducted under the rules outlined in Article IX.

3) The Convention will vote on adoption of the platform as a whole, as changed by consideration under the rules above.

§ 4. Minority reports of a committee shall not be considered by the Convention unless adopted by at least two (2) persons or ten percent (10%) of the members of that committee (whichever is greater) present and voting at a committee meeting. The minority shall provide the Convention Chair with a written copy of their report, signed by the members of the minority, before the report of the committee is introduced to the convention.

Article III. Special Orders of Business

§ 1. It shall be in order at any time for the Committee on Rules and Nominations to report to the Convention a resolution providing a special Order of Business for the debate of any resolution, motion, or committee report, or of a minority report or amendment to a committee report, or for the consideration of any matter for which provision is not made in these rules.

Article IV. Powers and Duties of the Chair

§ 1. It shall be the responsibility of the Chair to conduct and expedite the business of the Convention and to preserve order and decorum in its proceedings.

§ 2. The Chair is authorized to:

- A. appoint such additional officers as may be required to assist in conducting the business of the Convention, giving due consideration to affirmative action and constituency group representation;
- B. appoint any delegate temporarily to perform the duties of the Chair;
- C. take such lawful action as may be necessary and appropriate to preserve order throughout the convention hall.

Article V. Voting

§ 1. Except as otherwise required, voting shall be by voice vote, or, at the discretion of the chair, by standing division.

§ 2. All questions, except as otherwise specified in these rules, shall be determined by a majority vote of the seated delegates present and voting.

- § 3. When a question has been put to the vote, the vote thereon may not be interrupted for any purpose other than to move for a ballot vote, or to direct a point of order to the conduct of the vote. The Chair shall interpret a motion for a roll-call vote as a motion for a ballot vote. A non-secret ballot may be ordered upon a motion which must be seconded and supported in a standing vote by one-third (1/3) of the seated delegates present.
- § 4. During the counting of the votes on any issue, the Chair may place a new main motion on the floor (returning to the previous motion after the counting is completed).

Article VI. Appeals

- § 1. The Chair shall decide all questions of order, subject to an appeal by any delegate. Such appeals may be debated for no more than six (6) minutes, to be equally divided between the delegate appealing and a delegate in favor of sustaining the ruling of the Chair. Before the question is put on any appeal, the Chair shall be entitled to briefly state the reasons for its ruling. Upon completion of debate, the convention shall decide by majority vote of the delegates present and voting whether to sustain or overrule the decision of the Chair.
- §2. An appeal shall not be in order:
- A. while another appeal is pending;
 - B. to challenge decisions of recognition;
 - C. during a non-secret ballot;
 - D. on a question on which an appeal has been denied;

Article VII. Motion to Suspend the Rules

- § 1. The Chair may entertain a motion to suspend the rules for a stated purpose. If seconded, debate shall be allowed for no more than eight (8) minutes, to be equally divided between those for and against the motion, with no more than two (2) minute allowed per speaker.
- § 2. Passage of a motion to suspend the rules shall require an affirmative standing vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the seated delegates present and voting.

Article VIII. Motions (not including amendments to Platform - see Article II, Section 3)

- § 1. A non-procedural motion or resolution may be offered to the Convention by any delegate provided that it is legibly written, signed by at least five (5) delegates, and submitted to the Chair before it is introduced.

- § 2. Amendments to motions and resolutions may be offered from the floor by any delegate. Amendments may be offered orally but shall be subsequently submitted to the chair in writing prior to voting on said amendment.
- § 3. No motion, resolution, or amendment thereto shall be considered by the Convention until seconded from the floor.
- § 4. No motion, resolution, or amendment thereto shall be brought before the Convention that is inconsistent with or repugnant to a motion or resolution previously adopted, unless the prior motion or resolution has been either rescinded or reconsidered and rejected.
- § 5. A motion to recess shall be in order at any time (except when the question has been called or a vote is in progress) and shall be decided without debate. The Chair shall not entertain a motion to recess when it closely follows another such motion if, in the opinion of the Chair, the motion is dilatory.
- § 6. A motion to recess (other than lunch) shall be for a time period of no more than thirty (30) minutes, except as specified in the Delegate Selection Procedure.
- § 7. A motion to adjourn shall not be in order until the convention has completed all duties imposed by law or by the rules of the National, State or Johnson County Democratic Party.

Article IX. Debate

- § 1. Initial debate on any question, except as otherwise provided in these rules, shall be limited to twelve (12) minutes, with proponents and opponents alternating in speeches that shall not exceed two (2) minutes each.
- § 2. At the end of the initial debate time, the Convention may by majority vote extend the debate an additional eight (8) minutes. Debate may be extended further with the approval, in standing division, of two-thirds (2/3) of those present, and then only for a specified additional amount of time.
- § 3. Debate may be closed before the expiration of the allotted time with the approval, in standing division, of two-thirds (2/3) of those present, or by unanimous consent.
- § 4. A motion to suspend the rules or to appeal the decision of the chair for the purpose of extending debate shall not be in order.
- § 5. On motions relating to debate time, the ruling of the Chair upon standing votes shall be final, appeals to ballot vote being out of order.

Article X. Quorum

- § 1. One hundred thirty-seven (137) seated delegates shall constitute a quorum. (Forty percent of 342 delegates elected at precinct.)
- § 2. No motion or point of order questioning a quorum shall be in order after the completion of the final preference-group realignment.
- § 3. Youth delegates will be permitted to participate separately and will not be assessed any fees. Youth delegates may not vote on regular convention business matters and are not counted toward quorum.

Article XI. Rules of Order

- § 1. These rules shall be interpreted so as to be consistent with the Charter of the Democratic Party of the United States, the Constitution and Bylaws of the Iowa Democratic Party, the approved Delegate Selection Procedure, the report of the County Rules and Nominations Committee, and applicable state and federal laws.
- § 2. Any point of order not covered by these rules shall be determined by reference to the most recent edition of Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised.

Johnson County Democratic Convention

Delegate Selection Procedure

Introduction

At the precinct caucuses on January 3, 2008, delegates to the County Convention were elected in each precinct (342 in total). At the County Convention, delegates will be elected to the 2nd District Convention (137 delegates are allotted to the County in 2008). Delegates to the District Convention are automatically delegates to the State Convention. From the delegates selected to the District convention, committee members will be selected to serve on the District level committees (eight [8] positions for each of the four [4] committees are allotted to the County in 2008).

At the time of registration, Delegates to the County Convention will be requested to declare a presidential preference group (the first alignment). Delegates are not required to align with the preference group that selected them at the caucuses. A delegate who refuses to declare a preference group at the time of registration will be registered as uncommitted. The subsequent alignment process (second and third alignments) will allow uncommitted delegates the opportunity to align with a preference group as well as allow already aligned delegates the opportunity to change to another preference group, including uncommitted.

Only those preference groups which comprise fifteen percent (15%) or more of the seated delegates will be able to elect delegates to the District and State Conventions. If, at the end of the alignment process, a preference group fails to obtain fifteen percent (15%) of the total number of seated delegates, that group is considered "non-viable" and cannot elect any delegates.

Article I. Registration, and Seating

- § 1. Upon arrival at the County Convention, the delegate must register. Upon registering, the delegate (or a duly assigned alternate) will receive his or her delegate credentials and thereby be designated as "seated." (Complete credentialing rules are found in the Report of the Credentials Committee.) Along with the credentials, each seated delegate will receive:
- (a) an official sequentially numbered series of "railroad" (i.e. connected) ballots, each marked with the delegate number assigned to the delegate.
 - (b) three (3) solid-color preference group cards: GREEN for the First Alignment, RED for the Second Alignment, and BLUE for the Third Alignment. Each preference card shall be marked with the delegate number assigned to the delegate.

- §3. If the delegate knows someone who is not a delegate to the County Convention but who wishes to be a delegate to the District and State Conventions, the delegate must use a blank delegate nomination form (available from the registration table) and write that person's name, address, telephone number, and preference group (which may be uncommitted) on the form.

Article II. First Alignment

- § 1. The First Alignment occurs during the registration process and will last for as long as registration continues (see the Credentials Committee report).
- § 2 All Delegates will be requested to declare a preference group (which could be uncommitted) during registration using the GREEN preference selection card.
- § 3 Delegates may choose to align with any preference group (including uncommitted). Delegates are not required to align with the preference group that selected them at the caucuses.
- § 4 If the delegate wishes to be considered for election as a delegate to the district and state conventions (self-nomination), the delegate **must** so indicate on the GREEN card during the First Alignment at the time of registration.
- § 5 If the delegate knows someone who is not a delegate to the County Convention but who wishes to be a delegate to the District and State Conventions, the delegate must use a blank delegate nomination form (available from the registration table) and write that person's name, address, telephone number, and preference group (which may be uncommitted) on the form.
- § 6 Delegates must surrender the GREEN preference group selection card and any completed delegate nomination forms to the Credentials Committee at the time of registration.
- § 7. At the end of the First Alignment period, all seated delegates should now be aligned with a preference group (which could be uncommitted).
- § 8. At the end of registration and the First Alignment, the Credentials Committee will tabulate the GREEN alignment cards, and the Credentials Committee Chair will report to the Convention the strength and viability status of each preference group as part of the Credentials Committee report.

Article III. Second Alignment

- § 1. The Second Alignment period cannot take place until after all of the following events have taken place:

- (a) the adoption of the Credentials Committee report,
 - (b) the announcement by the Chair of the Credentials Committee of the results of the First Alignment;
 - (c) the adoption of the Rules and Nominations Committee report,
 - (d) the announcement by the Chair of the Rules and Nominations Committee of the approved delegate-selection procedures;
 - (e) the passage of a motion from the floor by a simple majority of the seated delegates present to begin the Second Alignment process.
- § 2. At an appropriate time, the Chair will announce the start of the Second Alignment period, which may last up to one (1) hour. During the Second Alignment period any delegate may realign with a different preference group (including uncommitted). New preference groups may be formed.
- § 3. If the appropriate designated representative of any preference group requests, the convention will recess for the first forty-five (45) minutes of the Second Alignment period so that the groups may caucus.
- § 4. In order to be considered realigned during the Second Alignment period, a delegate must complete the RED preference card, stating his or her new preference. If the delegate wishes to be considered for election as a delegate to the district and state conventions from the newly-selected preference group, the delegate **must** so indicate on the RED card. The updated preference card must be submitted to the Credentials Committee before the Convention Chair announces the end of the one-hour Second Alignment period. Delegates who remain in an already viable preference group should **NOT** submit RED alignment cards.
- § 5. At the end of the one-hour Second Alignment period, the Credentials Committee will tabulate the RED alignment cards, and the Credentials Committee Chair will report to the Convention the strength and viability status of each preference group.

Article IV. Third Alignment (if needed) Non-viable groups only

- § 1. The Third Alignment period cannot take place until after all of the following events have taken place:
- (a) the close of the Second Alignment period and
 - (b) the report of the Credentials Committee Chair on the results of the Second Alignment.
- § 2. If any non-viable preference groups remain at the end of the Second Alignment, at an appropriate time the Convention Chair will announce the start of a final half-hour Third

Alignment period during which only delegates in non-viable groups may realign with existing viable groups. Delegates already in viable groups may not realign during this period. No new preference groups may be formed during the Third Alignment.

- § 3. If the appropriate designated representative of any preference group requests, the convention will recess for the first twenty (20) minutes of the Third Alignment period so that the groups may caucus.
- § 4. In order to be considered realigned during the Third Alignment period, a delegate must complete the BLUE preference card, stating his or her new preference group.. If the delegate wishes to be considered for election as a delegate to the district and state conventions from the newly-selected preference group, the delegate **must** so indicate on the blue card. The BLUE preference card must be submitted to the Credentials Committee before the Convention Chair announces the end of the half-hour Third Alignment. Delegates in an already-viable group should **NOT** submit BLUE realignment cards.
- § 5. At the end of the half-hour Third Alignment period, the Credentials Committee will tabulate the BLUE alignment cards, and the Credentials Committee Chair will report to the Convention the final strength and viability status of each preference group. No further realignments will be allowed after the close of the Third Alignment period.

Article V. Election of Delegates and Committee Members

- § 1. Once the alignment process is completed, the Convention will divide into preference groups, with each seated delegate going to the group with which he or she is aligned.
- § 2. Prior to the division into final preference groups for delegate selection, the Chair of the Rules and Nominations Committee will announce the number of delegates to the District and State Conventions, and the number of representatives to the District Convention Committees which each preference group is to elect. The number of delegates allocated to each preference group will be determined by multiplying the number of county convention delegates in each viable group by the total number of delegates to the district and state convention, and then dividing by the total number of county convention delegates in all viable groups. Where fractions exist, the group(s) with the largest remainder after subtraction of greatest integer will receive the delegate(s) in question. Where fractions are equal, delegates to district and state convention will go to the preference group(s) winning a game of chance conducted by the Chair of the Rules and Nominations Committee. An identical process to the one described above will be used to allocate representatives to the District Convention Committees to the viable preference groups.
- § 3. Each preference group will begin by electing a chair. The first action of the group chair will be to read the following statement:

All public meetings at all levels of the Democratic Party in Iowa shall be open to all members of the Democratic Party regardless of race, sex, age, color, creed, national origin, religion, ethnic identity, sexual orientation, economic status, disability, or status. In order that the Democratic Party at all levels be an open Party, which includes rather than excludes people from participation, a program of effective affirmative action has been adopted by the Iowa Democratic Party. Discrimination on the basis of 'status' in the conduct of Iowa Democratic Party affairs is prohibited.

The Democratic National Committee has established goals for constituency representation among the delegates to the national convention. Goals for Iowa are:

African American: 4

Hispanic: 4

Native American: 1

Asian/Pacific American: 2

People with disabilities: 4

LGBT Americans: 4

Youth: 2

To the extent that the Johnson County Democratic Party Convention can elect delegates to the district and state conventions who identify with these constituency groups, that will assist the Iowa Democratic Party's efforts to meet these goals.

After the first round of voting for delegates, please consider gender parity and constituency group representation during subsequent rounds of voting.

- § 4. The Rules and Nominations Committee will have compiled a numbered list of those persons who have been nominated as District and State Convention delegates for each preference group (using the GREEN, RED and BLUE preference cards and nomination forms submitted to the Credentials Committee). Additional names may be offered by members of the preference groups prior to the first ballot; these names will be placed at the end of the existing list and given the next succeeding consecutive numbers.
- § 5. Each preference group will elect its allocated delegates in no fewer than three rounds of balloting. The Rules and Nominations Committee representative in each preference group will announce the maximum number of delegates that may be elected from the preference group during each round. During the first round no more that fifty percent (50%) plus one of the allocated delegates may be elected; during the second round no more that thirty percent (30%) of the delegates may be elected; during the third and subsequent rounds the

remaining delegates will be elected, subject to the restrictions enumerated in §6 below.

- § 6. The exact number of delegates elected during each round will be controlled by the following restrictions mandated by the rules of the Iowa Democratic Party:
- (a) No more than fifty percent (50%) plus one of the positions may be determined by the results of one round of balloting;
 - (b) no delegate may be elected with less than five (5) votes, or 10%, whichever is fewer, and always round to the next whole number;
 - (c) all candidates receiving the same number of votes must, without violating any other rule, be either defeated as a group or else elected as a group;
 - (d) "bullet voting" is prohibited--i.e., a delegate must vote for a valid candidate on each and every ballot during a round of voting, or the delegate's entire set of ballots will be invalidated for that round;
 - (e) "plunking" is prohibited--i.e., a delegate must vote for a different candidate on each and every ballot during a round of voting, or the delegate's entire set of ballots will be invalidated for that round.
 - (f) If, during a round, less than the allowed number of delegates are elected because of the operation of the above rules, during the following round the previously allowed delegates may be elected, in addition to the current percentage, so long as no other rules are violated.
- § 7. At the start of each round of balloting, the preference group chair will direct the delegates to write, on a designated set of railroad ballots, the numbers (not the names) of five (5) persons they wish to elect from the list of nominees for delegates to the District and State Conventions, one (1) number per ballot. (However, if the number of positions to be filled on a given round is less than five (5), each delegate will vote only for the number of positions.) The ballots to be used in a given round shall be clearly specified by the chair - e.g., "On this round, delegates will use railroad ballots numbered 14 through 18."
- § 8. Each delegate will submit his or her set of ballots directly to a representative of the Rules and Nominations Committee, who will collect and count the ballots. Ballots shall not be separated prior to their collection by the Committee. After each round, the Committee will report to each preference group the number and names of delegates elected on that round. If any positions remain to be filled, the preference group will then proceed with the next round of balloting.
- § 9. Balloting will continue until all positions are filled. If the last round of balloting would fill less than five (5) positions, the remaining delegates may be elected by division.
- § 10. When balloting for delegates is completed, each preference group will proceed to elect its alternates. Any number of alternates may be elected.
- § 11. After completion of the selection of alternates, each preference group will proceed to

elect District committee members allotted to the preference group.

Article VI. Ratification and Verification

- §1 The entire Convention must ratify the election of the entire slate of delegates, alternates, and committee representatives. Ratification means only that it is the sense of the Convention that the procedures used in the elections were in accordance with the rules of the Convention and the procedures required by the Constitution of the Iowa Democratic Party. The standard rules concerning challenges and minority reports are applicable, with such being carried first to the District Affirmative Action Committee and then to the District Convention Credentials Committee.
- § 2. The Chair of the Rules and Nominations Committee shall take possession of all ballots used during the Convention and preserve them for one (1) year.

JC Dem's 2008 County Convention Rules Committee FAQ's

Q. When may I nominate myself or others for District Convention delegate?

A. Delegates may nominate themselves at the time of registration (and 1st presidential preference group alignment) by checking the appropriate box on the GREEN preference card in their delegate packet. Green preference cards will be collected by the credentials committee during registration. All delegates will complete a green preference card during registration. Additional nominations from the floor will be accepted during the delegate selection process prior to the first ballot within a preference group. Seated delegates may also nominate any registered Democrat residing in Johnson County who is in good standing with the Party using the non-delegate nomination form available at the registration desk. Alternates may self-nominate using the non-delegate nomination form as well. Non delegate nomination forms must be turned into a credentials committee member by 11:00 am (but preferably at the time of registration).

Q. Must I choose a preference group when I register?

A. Yes. But you may choose 'uncommitted' at the time of registration.

Q. Must I register and align with the preference group that selected me at the caucus?

A. No, you may change to a different preference group during the 1st alignment at the time of registration.

Q: How does the 2nd alignment work?

A: The 2nd alignment lasts for one hour and can not begin until all delegates have been seated (see complete rules for details). You may choose a different (or form a new) preference group at this time. To change preference groups, you must complete the RED preference card. Only delegates wishing to change preference groups should complete a red preference card. If you change preference groups during the 2nd alignment, you must also indicate if you wish to be nominated for the district and state conventions from the new preference group by checking the appropriate box on the red card. During the 2nd alignment, groups should assess viability (15% of seated delegates) and select a spokesperson. The spokesperson of the preference group should collect the red realignment cards from delegates who have joined the group during the 2nd alignment and deliver them to the Credentials Committee. After this alignment, any preference group with at least 15% of the seated delegates at the convention is considered viable for delegate selection to the district and state conventions.

Q: How does the 3rd alignment work? What is its purpose?

A: The 3rd alignment last for one half hour. Only delegates from preference groups that remain non-viable after the first two alignments may realign during the 3rd alignment. Delegates realigning

during the 3rd alignment must complete the BLUE alignment card and return it to the spokesperson of the new preference group who will deliver the cards to the Credentials Committee. If you change preference groups during the 3rd alignment, you must also indicate if you wish to be nominated for the district and state conventions from the new preference group by checking the appropriate box on the blue card. At the completion of the 3rd alignment, any remaining preference groups that do not meet the 15% viability criteria will be excluded from the delegate selection process.

Q: How does the delegate selection process work?

A: The convention will recess for the viable preference groups to caucus to perform district/state delegate selection and district committee member selection. Each preference group must elect a chairperson (may be the spokesperson utilized during alignment periods but may also be a new person). There are detailed guidelines that control the delegate selection process included in the full rules. The process will be controlled by the Rules and Nominations Committee which will have members in attendance with each preference group.

Q: Are there any secret votes at the convention?

A: No. The Constitution of the Iowa Democratic Party, Article XII Section 3, prohibits secret ballots.

Q: Should you separate your railroad ballots ahead of time?

A: No. Do not separate your railroad ballots until specifically instructed to do so by the convention chair, the chair of your preference group, or a member of the rules and nominations committee.

Q: How does the math work?

A: The math is just like it was at your precinct caucus. Here it is:

$$\frac{\text{\# of delegates in county preference group}}{\text{total number of delegates}} = \frac{\text{\# of district delegates}}{\text{total number of delegates}}$$

$$\frac{\text{\# of delegates at the county convention}}{\text{total number of delegates}} = \frac{\text{\# of delegates to the district convention}}{\text{total number of delegates}} \text{ for the preference group}$$

No partial delegates or fraction of delegates are assigned. If there are more delegates to assign than there are assigned whole delegates as a result of the math, the preference group(s) with the greatest fraction(s) of a delegate as a result of the math will receive the additional delegate(s). If there are two or more groups with equal fractions vying for the additional delegate(s), a game of

chance will determine which group receives the delegate(s). The same math is followed for district committee membership.

Q: What are the important time deadlines for the convention?

A: Beginning of registration for delegates and alternates - 8:00

(Delegates and alternates who have been assigned to fill a seat by an absent delegate will be seated during regular registration. Unassigned alternates may register at any time but will not be seated until regular registration has closed.)

Call to order – 9:00

Close of regular registration for delegates and assigned alternates – 10:00

Beginning of unassigned alternate seating – 10:00

End of alternate seating – 11:00 (or when completed)

Deadline for submission of nomination forms for persons who are not county delegates – 11:00

Beginning of official business – 10:00 (sooner if Credentials preliminary report shows a quorum)

Deadline for submission of amendments to the platform – 11:00

Deadline for posting amendments to the platform – 11:15

Deadline for submission of amendments to the amendments to the platform – 12:00

2008 Platform

Johnson County Democrats

Platform Committee Members:

Dennis Roseman, Robin Roseman (Co-Chairs), Alejandro Alonso, Bob Arbuckle, Paul Barnard, Ben Beeson, Lisa Bonar, Jan Brunstein, Jenny Carhoff, Kathy Carlson, Juanita Causey, Clay Claussen, Steve Cook, Rebecca Donovan, Keith Eadon, Charlie Eastham, Jean Falk, Sean Flaherty, Tonja Fortney, Jill French, Jerry Full, Steven Fullick, Shirlee Funk, Gary Gaffney, Nathaniel Gavronsky, Peter Gebhard, Jerrold Gilmore, Greg Gingerich, Rachel Graber, Lisa Green-Douglass, Barb Henke, Maher Josephson, Perry Lenz, Monica Leo, Lou Licht, Mickey Motyko, Julie Murray, Reilly O'Gorman, Amanda Owen, Karen Pang, Karen Pease, Alicia Persaud, Matt Roberts, John Shaw, Damon Shutte, Ruth Spinks, Falanga Sula, Dawn Suter, Richard Tibitts, Annie Tucker, Laverne Tutson, Tom Ulrich, Melissa Williams

A note from the Platform Co-chairs: At the 2006 District Convention, a motion was passed that, in the future, no County Platform whose Statement of Issues was longer than 3000 words and Statement of Principles longer than 500 words would be accepted by the District Platform Committee. This motion was opposed by members of the 2006 Johnson County Platform Committee. In the past, Johnson County Platforms have considerably exceeded these limits. The 2008 County Platform Committee discussed this issue and voted to adhere to these limits.

As a result, our 2008 Platform Report is now similar in style and brevity to Platforms of the District and State levels. One consequence of this brevity is a less nuanced and less informative style. Some planks may require the reader to look up additional information on these issues, compared to past Johnson County Platforms. We urge delegates to so inform themselves as they review our platform report prior to the discussion at the Convention.

The Platform Committee has begun a separate supporting document, an annotated and expanded version (with exactly the same planks) based on discussion and debate at our meetings which we will make available in the near future, but after our Convention. This annotated expanded version will give additional background and will be useful to members of the general public who wish to understand certain planks of the Platform.

Statement of Principles

1. We believe the purpose of government is to act on behalf of the public good, to create and execute policies and laws that promote and protect everyone's human rights equally, to protect our shared environment, to promote justice, safety and security and to oversee the equitable distribution of resources, affording all citizens the opportunity to attain their highest level of social, cultural, economic, mental and physical well being.
2. We value diversity. We are committed to the inclusion and full participation of diverse populations in our society, in the Democratic Party and in the democratic processes of government regardless of status within any protected class such as age, race, gender, religious belief, sexual orientation, gender identity, physical characteristics, associational preference, ethnicity, disability, illness or language.
3. We affirm our commitment to social and economic justice. Whenever the rights of any of our citizens are threatened, the rights of all are endangered. We take seriously the obligation to uphold the Constitution and the Bill of Rights, to preserve, protect and secure basic human rights, civil rights and civil liberties.
4. We believe in a society in which fairness and community are guiding values, where every person has an equal opportunity.
5. We believe the family, whether traditional or non-traditional, should be sustained and enhanced. We share, through government, the responsibility to assist those families who cannot adequately provide for their members.
6. We believe a full and rewarding life includes access to, and the opportunity to participate in and support the arts and humanities.
7. We reaffirm the separation of church and state.

8. We continue to support candidates running as Democrats in Johnson County who adhere to this Johnson County Democratic Platform.
9. The sections of Statement of Issues address specifically:
10. As temporary stewards of our natural resources, we demand that our governing bodies develop policies and laws promoting sound energy practices permanently protecting our environment and addressing the problems of global warming. As stewards of Iowa's heritage, we cherish our land and family farms and deplore the concentration of food production in the hands of a few corporations.
11. We believe a healthy American economy depends on the dignity with which the American worker is treated. We affirm the right of all workers to bargain collectively and support organized labor. A sustainable economy and job growth depend on a positive climate for small business development. We support a progressive system of taxation.
12. An informed citizenry is essential for a democratic society. We are strongly committed to free public education and providing accessible, affordable, and lifelong quality education to all at all educational levels.
13. We are committed to honest and open government. The complexities of crime and violence issues demonstrate the need for multifaceted solutions involving legislation, education, community action, and personal responsibility.
14. We believe all people have a right to accessible, affordable, quality health care and the benefits of continued medical research.
15. We affirm the ideal of a world in which all peoples live peacefully with tolerance and good will toward others. United States foreign and domestic policy decisions should promote that ideal.

Statement of Issues

Agriculture and the Environment

Agriculture:

We support:

1. The fundamental right for all people to safe and healthy food.
2. Environmentally responsible agriculture.
3. Organic farming, crop diversification and reduced subsidy for industrial-scale cropping.
4. Funding of local soil conservation districts.
5. Renegotiated international trade rules to halt export dumping of commodities below their cost of production.
6. Reform of America's agricultural policies to reverse farm consolidation, to restore production diversity and to regain the functioning of local food systems.

Energy

We support:

7. Efficiency as a primary strategy to reduce energy required by U.S. lifestyle.
8. Improved CAFÉ standards, mass transit and low emission vehicles.
9. Realignment of energy tax incentives and disincentives.
10. Investment in renewable energy and distributed energy.
11. A carbon tax together with a cap and trade system to reduce greenhouse gasses.
12. Hybrids, EVs and charging stations.

We oppose:

13. Government subsidy of nuclear power.
14. The development of new nuclear power until the problem of waste storage is solved.
15. New coal burning power plants.
16. Storage of nuclear waste on tribal lands.
17. Offsite storage of nuclear waste.

Environment

We support:

18. The preservation of the commons and the prohibition of private or commercial activity degrading these resources.
19. State wide land-use planning to restrict urban sprawl and to prevent conversion of agricultural land to other uses.
20. Reinstating caps on mercury emissions from coal burning power plants.
21. Preservation of Endangered Species Act.
22. Dark night sky.

We oppose:

23. Exempting any power plants from the current requirements of the Clean Air Act.
24. Importation into Iowa of coal from mountain tops and strip mining.
25. The assumption agricultural operations have a grandfathered right to pollute.
26. Clear-cutting on public lands and publicly subsidizing logging, mining and grazing.
27. Oil drilling in sensitive areas.

Zoning and Building

We support:

28. Certification of the design and construction for projects financed with public money to meet accepted benchmarks for sustainable site and high performance green building.
29. The establishment of significant economic incentives for private development certification of design and construction to meet accepted benchmarks for sustainable site and high performance green building.
30. Local control of CAFOs site location, maintenance and operations.
31. Land-use planning to restrict urban sprawl and to prevent conversion of agricultural land to other uses with significant financial disincentives for conversion.
32. Radon testing.

Food Supply

We support:

33. A federal ban on meat-packer ownership of livestock.
34. Anti-trust regulation and the prohibition of the concentration of control in food production, processing, and retailing.
35. Increased funding for independent research on anti-biotic and hormone use in agriculture.
36. Actions to reduce emergence and spread of multi-drug-resistant bacteria, their presence in the environment, and their affect on humans and animals.
37. Independent, credible testing of GMOs before they are approved for consumption.
38. The full and accurate labeling of all foods including those containing or which are produced from GMOs, cloned animals and irradiated food.
39. Stable and safe regional food supplies.
40. Guidelines and initiatives to promote locally produced products.

Acronyms:

GMOs---Genetically Modified Organisms

CAFO---Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations

CAFÉ---Corporate Average Fuel Economy

Economy, Commerce and Labor

Economic Development

We support:

41. Employee protection during plant closure or bankruptcy.
42. A government-run job and job training program and a WPA-like program.
43. Encouraging local enterprise through loans and development.
44. Eliminating barriers to scientific research in order to keep the US competitive.
45. Requiring mortgage servicing companies and investors to mediate with borrowers to explore modifying loans prior to foreclosure.
46. Fair Use Doctrine.
47. Restoration of the public domain.

We oppose:

48. The DMCA.

Trade Regulation

We support:

49. A Fair Trade model that provides Congressional oversight during trade negotiation.
50. Environmental and labor standards in all trade agreements.

Taxation

We support:

51. Increasing the dependency exemption.
52. Reestablishing estate taxes.
53. Property tax credits for veterans, lower income, and elderly and disabled people.
54. Windfall profit taxes on fossil fuel companies to be used for research and development of alternative energy.
55. Rescinding the federal subsidy for research and development of off-shore oil drilling.

Job Security and Workers' Rights

We support:

56. Laws discouraging "temps" replacing permanent employees.
57. Eliminating employee/independent contractor misclassification.
58. Expanded job security, including more flexibility for single parents.
59. Increasing safety for every workplace.
60. Benefits and protections for those on strike.
61. Workers negotiating Fair Share Clauses into labor agreements.
62. Whistleblower protection for all employees.
63. Equal workers' rights and employment opportunities for GLBT people.
64. Equal pay for equal work by women.
65. Increased sanctions on employers who knowingly hire undocumented workers and on firms who knowingly contract with such employers.

We oppose:

66. Efforts to limit overtime pay.
67. Mandatory overtime.
68. Right-To-Work laws.
69. Employment-at-will doctrine.
70. Prison labor that displaces non-incarcerated workers.
71. Privatization of public jobs.
72. Mandatory genetic screening, polygraph tests, and drug tests in employment except in cases where public safety is at risk.

Business Regulations

We support:

73. Strong fair labor standards.
74. PLAs on public works construction.
75. Bidders' safety records for government contracts
76. Strengthening OSHA and NIOSH through funding, staffing, and increasing participation by employers and unions.
77. Strengthening the NLRA, including full funding for the NLRB.

Living Wage

We support:

78. Raising the minimum wage to \$10 immediately, and index it to the Federal Cost of Living.
79. Public entities paying prevailing wages in contracted projects.

Pension/Insurance

We support:

80. Incentives for long-term and retirement savings.
81. The right to choose one's caregiver for job injuries.
82. Keeping IPERS solvent by incorporating an independent board of trustees.
83. Non-discriminatory parental leave benefits.
84. Part-time and contingent employees receiving proportionate wages and benefits.
85. Unemployment benefits for those involved in labor disputes.

Acronyms:

WPA---Work Projects Administration

IPERS--- Iowa Public Employee's Retirement System

GLBT--- Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender/Transsexual people

PLA---Project Labor Agreement

OSHA--- Occupational Safety and Health Administration

NIOSH--- National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health

NLRA--- National Labor Relations Act

NLRB--- National Labor Relations Board

DMCA--- Digital Millennium Copyright Act

Education

Funding

We support:

86. Equal Access to all educational services and resources for all students.
87. Coordinated family service centers in local schools supported by joint efforts of state and local agencies and governments.
88. Increasing funding for regent universities and community colleges.
89. Adequate funding of Area Education Agencies.
90. Continued funding for publicly provided non-mandatory early childhood education programs for all three-five year old children.
91. Increasing salaries of K-12 educators.
92. Paying a living wage to support professionals in our public schools.
93. Increasing the allowable growth rate for Iowa public schools' controlled budgets to six percent.
94. Increased technology funding for community colleges.
95. Full federal funding of special education.
96. An awareness campaign in public schools on ways to reduce individual and community environmental impacts.
97. Increasing access to college tuition assistance and loan forgiveness programs for students who stay in Iowa.
98. Greater access to higher education by offering a) a fully refundable College Opportunity Tax Credit, and b) aid to states that keep tuitions low.
99. We support low college loan interest rates.

We oppose:

100. Any mid-year pullback of allotted funds to the State Board of Regents institutions.
101. Diverting public money from public schools to fund vouchers, charter schools, tuition tax credits, or for-profit education businesses.
102. The School Choice Doctrine.

Education Curricula

We support:

- 103. The teaching of comprehensive medically accurate sex education in the public schools, by qualified personnel.
- 104. MCGF education.
- 105. Community-based service as a requirement for high school graduation.

We oppose:

- 106. “Abstinence only” sex education programs.
- 107. The teaching of “intelligent design” as science in the public schools.
- 108. Corporate propaganda presented as education materials.

The No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB)

We support:

- 109. The Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 as reauthorized in 1994 and the repeal of the portion referred to as No Child Left Behind.
- 110. K-12 class size reduction programs.
- 111. Classrooms that permit teacher creativity and innovation.

We oppose:

- 112. Using standardized assessments as the primary measure of learning or the focus of instruction.

Acronyms:

NCLB (No Child Left Behind)

MCGF (Multicultural Gender Fair)

Government and Law

Campaigns and Elections

We support:

- 113. Election Day voter registration.
- 114. Publicly financed elections.
- 115. Repealing use of Democratic nominating superdelegates.
- 116. More computer expertise on IA Board of Examiners.
- 117. Hand recount audits.
- 118. Statistically significant, mandatory, random hand audits.
- 119. Limited use of caucus absentee/proxy ballots.
- 120. Optical-scanner voting.

We oppose:

- 121. Caucuses on federal holidays.

Civil Rights and Liberties

We support:

- 122. Repealing Patriot Act.
- 123. Uniform full enforcement of Civil Rights Act and ADA.
- 124. Universal habeas corpus.

We oppose:

- 125. Warrantless wiretapping and searches.
- 126. "Enemy detainee" status.

Taxes and Social Security

We support:

- 127. Repealing Bush's tax cuts for top 10% income bracket.
- 128. Progressive income taxation.
- 129. Expanded tax credits for college tuition and student loan interest payments.
- 130. Increased earned income tax credits.
- 131. Lifting the income cap on SS payroll taxes.
- 132. "Green" incentives.

We oppose:

- 133. Privatization of SS.
- 134. SS benefit reductions.
- 135. "Off-shoring" incentives.
- 136. Taxation of unemployment, worker compensation and SS benefits.

Government Services

We support:

- 137. Increased funding for social services, dependent care and food stamps.
- 138. Reduced defense funding.

Reproductive Rights

We support:

- 139. State legislation guaranteeing abortion rights.
- 140. Mandating all Iowa pharmacists provide EC on demand.
- 141. Requiring insurance companies cover all prescribed FDA approved contraceptives.
- 142. Affordable, anonymous HIV/AIDS and STD tests.
- 143. Comprehensive universal access to all aspects of family planning with public funding. for low income or uninsured women and active duty military and dependents.
- 144. Abortion services for active duty military and dependents.

We oppose:

- 145. Eroding women's right to abortion.
- 146. Approval of Supreme Court Justices opposed to Roe v. Wade.
- 147. Parental notification and consent legislation.
- 148. Banning medically necessary abortions.

Criminal Justice

We support:

- 149. Impeaching George W. Bush and Dick Cheney.
- 150. Legalization of marijuana.
- 151. Automatic restoration of voting rights to felons.

152. Human rights and open hearings for all immigrants.
153. Full funding for Violence Against Women Act, services to crime victims and programs to prevent sexual violence.
154. Enforcement of stalking laws and no-contact orders.
155. Hate Crime Prevention Act.
156. Treatment alternatives to incarceration for substance abusers.
157. Community-based alternatives to incarceration of non-violent offenders.
158. Prisoners' human rights.
159. Binding plea bargains.

We oppose:

160. Capital punishment.
161. Mandatory sentencing.
162. Unenforceable sex offender residential restrictions.
163. Racial profiling.
164. Forced labor for inmates.
165. Prosecuting humanitarian aid.

Internet and Telecommunications

We support:

166. First Amendment protection for all electronic media.
167. Publicly owned broadband networks.
168. Affordable access to broadband and broadcast media.
169. Network Neutrality.
170. Local government cable franchise fees to fund Public Access, Education, and Government (PEG) channels.
171. Depoliticizing and increasing transparency in public broadcasting and CPB.
172. Legislatively codifying the Fairness Doctrine.
173. Antitrust legislation to rollback consolidation of media ownership.

We oppose:

- 174. Internet censorship.
- 175. Preventing local government oversight of media carriage.
- 176. Government propaganda and fake news.
- 177. Warrantless government electronic spying on US residents.

Consumer Protection

We support:

- 178. Consumer Fraud Act.

We oppose:

- 179. Corporate personhood.
- 180. Exempting corporations from oversight.

Reasonable Gun Regulation

We support:

- 181. Banning handguns.
- 182. Banning assault weapons.
- 183. Safety certification for hunters.
- 184. Criminalizing selling weapons to barred individuals.
- 185. Licensing, pre-ownership safety training, background investigation, registration for all firearms.

Marriage and Civil Unions

We support:

- 186. Equal marriage Rights, including all spousal benefits, to same-sex couples.
- 187. UAFA.

We oppose:

- 188. DOMA.
- 189. Maternal bias in custody decisions.
- 190. Discrimination against GLBT on parenting rights.

Veterans

We support:

- 191. Comprehensive mental health and disability payments/pensions for active duty veterans and retirees.
- 192. Dole/Shalala Committee recommendations.
- 193. Services for homeless vets.
- 194. Limiting National Guard to domestic duties and Reserves for emergencies only,
- 195. Sufficient pay, training and benefits to sustain a voluntary armed forces.
- 196. Iowa Democratic Veterans Caucus.

We oppose:

- 197. GLBT discrimination.
- 198. Stop-loss.

Participation in Government

We support:

- 199. Fair juror compensation.
- 200. Government transparency.
- 201. Greater youth involvement.

We oppose:

- 202. Recess appointments.

Transportation

We support:

- 203. Improved funding and availability of public transit.
- 204. Expanding bike/hike trails.
- 205. High speed rail.
- 206. Fully funded port inspections.

We oppose:

- 207. "No-fly" list.
- 208. Infrastructure privatization.

Acronyms:

ADA = American's with Disabilities Act

SS = Social Security

EC = Emergency Contraception

FDA = Food and Drug Administration

STD = Sexually Transmitted Disease

UAFA = Uniting American Families Act

DOMA = Defense of Marriage Act

GLBT = Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgendered people

Health and Human Services

Universal Healthcare

We support:

209. Comprehensive, evidence-based, and affordable healthcare for all, to be provided by a national, universal, single-payer, tax-based healthcare plan, with accountability to agreed upon standards of quality. Including but not limited to these services:

1. Encouraging wellness and prevention efforts.
2. Accessibility at time of need.
3. Choices of long-term care including community-based services.
4. Mental health and brain disorders parity.
5. Chemical dependency services.
6. Universal hearing and vision screening.
7. Universal dental services.
8. Universal access to affordable prescription drugs.

Mental Health

We support:

210. Nondiscriminatory treatment for mental health, mental retardation, developmental disabilities, brain disorders, and autism patients and programs.

Medical Research

We support:

211. Increased funding for research and the National Institutes of Health.

Health and Human Services

We support:

212. Increased funding for Health and Human Services programs.

Patients Rights

We support:

213. The right of the healthcare team and patient to have the primary responsibility for decisions about patient care with singular authority.

214. Enforcing and raising safe staffing standards.

215. Federal funding for HIV/AIDS-related education and care.

216. Right-to-die legislation.

Medicare/Medicaid

We support:

- 217. Increased funding for minimum national standards for assistance when welfare is delegated to states through block grants.
- 218. Legislation for negotiated prescription drug prices and a competitive bid system for suppliers, while maintaining standards of quality.
- 219. Division of spousal resources before making spend down determinations.

We oppose:

- 220. Charging Medicaid/Medicare and non-governmental agencies different rates for the same services and supplies.
- 221. Privatization of Medicare/Medicaid.

Housing and Homelessness

We support:

- 222. Safe, decent, affordable housing for all, including short and long-term support for persons with mental or physical disability, teenage mothers, children, and other broad community services.
- 223. The Housing Trust Fund.
- 224. Johnson County Local Homeless Coordinating Board.
- 225. Homeless Shelters Operation Grants.
- 226. The "Section 8" housing voucher program.
- 227. Job and life skills training.
- 228. Programs to transition persons from shelters into programs for care, treatment, and permanent housing.

We oppose:

- 229. Substitution of private organizations for public social services.

Disability

We support:

- 230. Equal rights for persons with disabilities.
- 231. Family and community support services.
- 232. Increased program flexibility and funding to permit home living.
- 233. Strengthening and expanding the ADA.
- 234. Overturning *Buck v. Bell* and eugenic sterilization of mentally disabled persons.

We oppose:

- 235. Forced sterilization and forced contraception.

Substance Abuse:

We support:

- 236. Increased funding and emphasis on evidence-based prevention and treatment
- 237. Legalization of marijuana for prescribed medical purposes.
- 238. Mandatory federal funding into the efficacy of marijuana treatment for medical uses

Children

We support:

- 239. Governmental involvement in childcare improvement.
- 240. Pursuit and prosecution of unpaid child support.
- 241. State of Iowa use of national child abuse registries and criminal background checks for third-party providers working with dependants.

Tobacco Use Prevention and Education

We support:

242. State and federal tobacco use prevention and cessation programs.

Acronym:

ADA--- Americans with Disabilities Act

International Affairs

United Nations

We support:

243. Adherence to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and ICESCR.
244. Payment of dues, and active participation in the U.N.
245. Participation in multilateral peacekeeping missions.
246. Full participation in the Human Rights Council.

International Law, Treaties, and Agreements

We support:

247. CEDAW, UNCRC, CTBT, BWC, RSICCJ, CWC, Ottawa Land Mine Treaty, and the Kyoto Treaty on Global Warming.
248. Development of and abidance by international law.
249. Adherence to the Geneva and Vienna Conventions.
250. International fair trade initiatives

Development Assistance

We support:

- 251. Tying foreign aid to promotion of human rights.
- 252. Assistance for comprehensive reproductive health care and family planning.
- 253. Funding for prevention and treatment of pandemic and endemic diseases.
- 254. US funding of UN Millennium Development Goals.

We oppose:

- 255. Using the military in the war on drugs.

National Security

We support:

- 256. Peaceful resolution of conflicts, US engagement in cooperative diplomacy, development assistance, and multilateral solutions to international problems.
- 257. Combating the root causes of conflict and terrorism: poverty, illiteracy, injustice, economic exploitation, and denial of human rights.
- 258. Reduction of military aid to foreign countries.

We oppose:

- 259. Using terror as rallying cry for extended wars and conflict.
- 260. Development of new weapons of mass destruction.
- 261. Preemptive warfare.
- 262. All forms of torture.

Iraq

We support:

- 263. Orderly removal of all US combat troops and private security forces including Blackwater.
- 264. Transfer of power to the people of Iraq.
- 265. International efforts to rebuild Iraq.
- 266. Accountability of private security forces including prosecution for legal violations.

We oppose:

- 267. Permanent US military bases.

Israeli/Palestinian Conflict.

We support:

- 268. Two-state solution based on the Geneva Initiative of 2003.
- 269. A direct, active, and even-handed US role to facilitate a peaceful final resolution.
- 270. DOJ investigation of Israel lobby for non-compliance with FARA.

We oppose:

- 271. Israeli settlement activity on territory captured in the six-day war of 1967.
- 272. Moving the US embassy from Tel-Aviv to Jerusalem prior to final resolution.
- 273. The Separation Wall.
- 274. Use of human shields, collective punishment and violations of international laws.

Asian Subcontinent

We support:

275. US and international efforts to promote peace, stability and fair governance.

Afghanistan

We support:

276. US and international infrastructure development.

277. Funding of social services.

Central and South America

We oppose:

278. Training, military, and financial support of repressive regime.

279. Mass aerial application of herbicides.

Africa

We support:

280. UN Security Council Resolution 1325.

281. Efforts to end armed conflicts.

282. Robust world effort to prevent and end genocide.

283. Collection of information about situations or threats of genocide.

284. Rapid international peacekeeping intervention in armed conflicts.

We oppose:

- 285. Illegal transfer of weapons to armed groups.
- 286. Amnesty for war criminals.
- 287. Rape as weapon of war.

Immigration and Refugees

We support:

- 288. Non-discriminatory immigration policy that considers undocumented immigrants.
- 289. Integration of immigrants without stressing assimilation/”Americanization”.
- 290. Judicial review of visa denials and removal orders.
- 291. ‘Point system’ that allocates most value to family reunification.
- 292. Refugee policy based on humanitarian goals.
- 293. Development of economies of countries with high emigration rates.
- 294. Relaxing the “exceptional and extremely unusual hardship” requirement.

We oppose:

- 295. Limits on number of refugees admitted.
- 296. “Temporary worker programs”.

Acronyms:

ICESCR – International Covenant on Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights

CEDAW – UN Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women

UNCRC – UN Convention on the Rights of the Child

CTBT – Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty

BWC – 1925 Geneva Protocol, the Biological Weapons Convention

RSICCJ - Rome Statute of the International Court of Criminal Justice

CWC - Chemical Weapons Convention

FARA - Foreign Agent Registration Act