

# **2010 Platform**

## **Johnson County Democrats**

(As approved by the Johnson County Convention March 13, 2010)

### **Platform Committee Members:**

Robin Roseman (Chair), Dennis Roseman (Secretary), Jim Arthur, Terry Dahms, Robin DeCook, Caroline Dieterle, Liz Etchells, Tonja Fortney, Peter Hansen, Hazel Hargrove, Jill Jack, Chris Marnach, Brian Meyer, Allie Panther, Justine Retz, Dan Tallon, Elsie Gauley Vega, and with special volunteer assistance from Tim Judd.

# 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 support candidates running as Democrats in Johnson County who adhere to this Johnson County Democratic Platform.
9. 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. We cherish our land and family farms and deplore the concentration of food production in the hands of a few corporations. We recognize the fundamental right of all peoples to safe and healthy food sustainably produced.
10. 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.
11. 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.
12. We are committed to honest and open government. The complexities of crime and violence demonstrate the need for multifaceted solutions involving legislation, education, community action, and personal responsibility.
13. We believe all people have a right to accessible, affordable, quality health care and the benefits of continued medical research.
14. 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 to safe and healthy food.
2. Environmentally responsible agriculture.
3. Organic farming, crop diversification and reduced subsidies 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 agricultural policies to reverse farm consolidation, to restore production diversity and to regain the functioning of local food systems.
7. Protecting bees and pollination by banning neonicotinyl pesticides.

#### *We Oppose:*

8. Use of artificial hormones and the prophylactic use of antibiotics in farm animals in order to reduce the spread of multi-drug resistant bacteria.

## Energy

#### *We support:*

9. Efficiency and conservation as primary strategies to reduce energy consumption.
10. Increased mass transit, improved CAFE standards, and low emission vehicles.
11. Realignment of energy tax incentives and disincentives.
12. Investment in renewable and distributed energy.
13. A carbon tax to reduce greenhouse gases.
14. Hybrid and electric vehicles.

15. Distributed generation of electric power.

***We oppose:***

16. Government subsidy of nuclear power.

17. The construction of new nuclear power stations until the waste storage problem is solved.

18. Offsite storage of nuclear waste including storage on tribal lands.

19. New coal burning power plants.

## **Environment**

***We support:***

20. Preservation of the commons and prohibition of any activity that would degrade them.

21. Caps on mercury emissions from coal burning power plants.

22. Integrated pest management to reduce pesticide pollution.

23. Preservation of the Endangered Species Act.

24. Expansion of the bottle redemption bill to include all plastic beverage bottles.

***We oppose:***

25. Exempting any power plants from the requirements of the Clean Air Act.

26. Importation into Iowa of mountain top and strip mined coal.

27. Grandfathering of the right to pollute.

28. Clear-cutting on public lands and publicly subsidizing logging, mining and grazing.

29. Oil drilling in sensitive areas.

30. Light pollution.

## **Zoning and Building**

***We support:***

31. Certification of the design and construction for all publicly financed projects to meet LEED standards.

32. Local control of CAFOs site location, maintenance and operations.

33. Land-use planning to restrict urban sprawl and to prevent conversion of agricultural land to other uses, with significant financial disincentives for conversion.

34. Radon testing.

## **Food Supply**

### ***We support:***

35. A federal ban on meat-packer ownership of livestock feeding operations.
36. Anti-trust regulation and prohibiting concentrated control of seed supply, and food production, processing, and retailing.
37. Increased funding for independent research on antibiotic and hormone use in agriculture, to reduce the spread of multidrug-resistant bacteria and the negative effects of hormone use.
38. Independent, credible testing of GMOs before they are approved for consumption.
39. The accurate labeling of all foods, including those containing any GMOs, cloned animal flesh or irradiated ingredients.
40. Guidelines and initiatives to promote safe locally produced food.

### ***We oppose:***

41. GMOs in the food chain.

## **Acronyms:**

CAFE - Corporate Average Fuel Economy

CAFO - Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations

GMOs - Genetically Modified Organisms

LEED - Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design

## **Economy, Commerce and Labor**

### **Economic Development**

#### ***We support:***

42. Employee protection during and following plant closure or bankruptcy.
43. A government-run job and job training program and a WPA-like program.
44. Encouraging local enterprise through loans and development.

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. Need based property tax credits for qualified lower-income veterans, 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. Whistleblower protection for all employees.
62. Equal workers' rights and employment opportunities for GLBT people.
63. Equal pay for equal work by women.
64. Broadening the scope of mandatory subjects of bargaining to include all issues relevant to public employment.
65. "Fair Share".
66. Employee Free Choice Act.

***We oppose:***

67. Efforts to limit overtime pay.
68. Mandatory overtime.
69. Right-To-Work laws.
70. Employment-at-will doctrine.
71. Prison labor that displaces non-incarcerated workers.
72. Privatization of public jobs.
73. Mandatory genetic screening, polygraph tests, and drug tests in employment.
74. Use of credit reports or bank records as criteria for employment.

## **Business Regulations**

***We support:***

75. Strong fair labor standards.
76. PLAs on public works construction.
77. Requiring satisfactory contractor safety records for bid submission for government contracts
78. Strengthening OSHA and NIOSH through funding, staffing, and increasing participation by employers and unions.
79. Strengthening the NLRA, including full funding for the NLRB.

## **Living Wage**

***We support:***

80. Raising the minimum wage to \$10/hr immediately, and indexing it to the federal cost-of-living.

81. Prevailing wage in all employment

## **Pension/Insurance**

### ***We support:***

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

## **Acronyms:**

DMCA - Digital Millennium Copyright Act

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

IPERS - Iowa Public Employee's Retirement System

NIOSH - National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health

NLRA - National Labor Relations Act

NLRB - National Labor Relations Board

OSHA - Occupational Safety and Health Administration

PLA - Project Labor Agreement

WPA - Work Projects Administration

## **Education**

### **Funding**

#### ***We support:***

88. Equal access to all educational services and resources for all students
89. Coordinated family service centers in local schools supported by joint efforts of state and local agencies and governments.
90. Increasing funding for regent universities and community colleges.

91. Adequate funding of Area Education Agencies.
92. Increased funding for early childhood education programs for birth to five-year-old children.
93. Increasing the salaries of K-12 educators.
94. Paying a living wage to support professionals in our public schools.
95. Increasing the allowable growth rate for the controlled budgets of Iowa public schools to six percent.
96. Increased technology funding for community colleges.
97. Full federal funding of special education.
98. An awareness campaign in public schools on ways to reduce individual and community environmental impacts.
99. Increasing access to college tuition assistance and loan forgiveness programs for students who stay in Iowa.
100. Greater access to higher education by a two-year tuition freeze and offering a) a fully refundable College Opportunity Tax Credit, and b) aid to states that keep tuition low.
101. Low college loan interest rates.

***We oppose:***

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

## **Education Curricula**

***We support:***

105. The teaching of comprehensive, medically accurate sex education in the public schools, by qualified personnel.
106. Multicultural Gender Fair education.
107. Voluntary community service being offered in the high school curriculum.
108. Teaching about the United Nations, international human rights conventions, and the Millennium Development Goals.

109. Department of Education sponsored evaluation of the effectiveness of Iowa Core Curriculum by mathematicians, scientists and engineers from the regents universities.

***We oppose:***

110. "Abstinence only" sex education programs.

111. The teaching of "intelligent design" as science in the public schools.

112. Corporate propaganda presented as education materials.

## **No Child Left Behind Act**

***We support:***

113. The Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 as reauthorized in 1994.

114. K-12 class size reduction programs.

115. Classrooms that permit teacher creativity and innovation.

***We oppose:***

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

117. Continuation of NCLB.

## **School Lunch Program**

***We support:***

118. Serving healthy, locally grown food in the school lunch program.

119. The removal of school vending machine products that contain high fructose corn syrup.

## **Bullying**

***We support:***

120. Prevention of and intervention in bullying in all its forms, including emotional, verbal, sexual and physical abuse, as well as cyber bullying.

***We oppose:***

121. GLBT exclusion from the 2007 Safe Schools Act.

## Acronyms:

NCLB - No Child Left Behind

GLBT - Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgendered people

## Government and Law

### Campaigns and Elections

#### *We support:*

- 122. Publicly financed elections.
- 123. Statistically significant, mandatory, random hand audits.
- 124. Optical-scanner voting.
- 125. More computer expertise on Iowa Board of Examiners.

#### *We oppose:*

- 126. Caucuses on federal holidays.
- 127. The nominating power of super delegates

### Civil Rights and Liberties

#### *We support:*

- 128. Uniform full enforcement of Civil Rights Act and ADA.
- 129. Universal habeas corpus.
- 130. Elimination of DADT within the Iowa National Guard.
- 131. Repealing the Patriot Act.

#### *We oppose:*

- 132. Warrantless wiretapping and searches.
- 133. "Enemy detainee" status.
- 134. The use of mandatory religious phraseology in swearing in of public officials.

### Taxes and Social Security

#### *We support:*

- 135. Progressive income taxation.

- 136. Expanded tax credits for college tuition and student loan interest payments.
- 137. Increased earned income tax credits.
- 138. Lifting the income cap on SS payroll taxes and extending the SS tax to all forms of income.
- 139. “Green” incentives.
- 140. 10% cut to corporate tax credits.
- 141. Capping corporate tax credits.
- 142. Repealing tax cuts for the top 10% income bracket.

***We oppose:***

- 143. Any privatization of SS.
- 144. SS benefit reductions.
- 145. “Off-shoring” incentives.
- 146. Taxation of unemployment, worker compensation and SS benefits.

## **Government Services**

***We support:***

- 147. Increased funding for social services, dependent care and food stamps.
- 148. Additional inspectors within the DOL.
- 149. Reduced DOD funding.

## **Reproductive Rights**

***We support:***

- 150. State legislation guaranteeing abortion rights.
- 151. Mandating that all Iowa pharmacists provide EC on demand.
- 152. Requiring insurance companies cover all prescribed FDA approved contraceptives.
- 153. Affordable, anonymous HIV/AIDS and STD tests.
- 154. Comprehensive universal access to all aspects of family planning with public funding for low income or uninsured people and active duty military and dependents.
- 155. Abortion services for active duty military and dependents.

## **Roe vs. Wade**

### ***We oppose:***

- 156. Eroding women's right to abortion.
- 157. Approval of Supreme Court Justices opposed to Roe v. Wade.
- 158. Parental notification and consent legislation.
- 159. Banning medically necessary abortions.
- 160. Personhood for fetuses.

## **Criminal Justice**

### ***We support:***

- 161. Legalization of marijuana.
- 162. Automatic restoration of voting rights to felons.
- 163. Human rights and open hearings for all immigrants.
- 164. Investigation and prosecution of all criminal misconduct by prior administrations.
- 165. Full funding for Violence Against Women Act, services to crime victims and programs to prevent sexual violence.
- 166. Enforcement of stalking laws and no-contact orders.
- 167. Hate Crime Prevention Act.
- 168. Treatment alternatives to incarceration for substance abusers.
- 169. Community-based alternatives to incarceration of non-violent offenders.
- 170. Prisoners' human rights.
- 171. Binding plea bargains.
- 172. More accurate definitions and categorizations of offenders under Iowa's sex offender laws.

### ***We oppose:***

- 173. Capital punishment.
- 174. Mandatory sentencing.
- 175. Unenforceable sex offender residential restrictions.
- 176. Racial profiling.
- 177. Forced labor for inmates.
- 178. Prosecuting humanitarian aid.

## **Internet and Telecommunications**

### ***We support:***

- 179. First Amendment protection for all electronic media.
- 180. Publicly owned broadband networks.
- 181. Affordable access to broadband and broadcast media.
- 182. Network Neutrality.
- 183. Local government cable franchise fees to fund PEG channels.
- 184. Depoliticizing and increasing transparency in public broadcasting and CPB.
- 185. Legislatively codifying the Fairness Doctrine.
- 186. Antitrust legislation to rollback consolidation of media ownership.
- 187. Local government oversight of media carriage.

### ***We oppose:***

- 188. Internet censorship.
- 189. Government propaganda and fake news.
- 190. Warrantless government electronic spying on US residents.

## **Consumer Protection**

### ***We support:***

- 191. Consumer Fraud Act.
- 192. Expanded regulation of corporate behavior.

### ***We oppose:***

- 193. Corporate personhood.
- 194. Exempting corporations from oversight.

## **Reasonable Gun Regulation**

### ***We support:***

- 195. Banning assault weapons.
- 196. Safety certification for hunters.
- 197. Criminalizing selling weapons to barred individuals.

198. Licensing, pre-ownership safety training, national background investigation, and registration for all firearms.

***We oppose:***

199. Possession, purchase or use of firearms by abusers who are subject to a protection order or are convicted of domestic abuse.

## **Marriage and Civil Unions**

***We support:***

200. Civil marriage for same-sex couples in Iowa and the US.

201. UAFA.

***We oppose:***

202. DOMA.

203. Maternal bias in custody decisions.

204. Discrimination against GLBT on parenting rights.

205. A Constitutional Convention for the purpose of limiting marriage equality.

## **Veterans**

***We support:***

206. Comprehensive mental health and disability payments/pensions for veterans.

207. Services for all vets.

208. Sufficient pay, training and benefits to sustain voluntary armed forces.

209. Iowa Democratic Veterans Caucus.

210. Full funding of veterans healthcare.

***We oppose:***

211. GLBT discrimination.

## **Participation in Government**

***We support:***

212. Fair juror compensation.

213. Government transparency.

214. Greater youth involvement.

***We oppose:***

215. Single Senator holds on Presidential nominations.

## **Immigration**

***We support:***

216. Repeal of Iowa's official language law.

## **Gambling**

***We oppose:***

217. Expansion of gambling in Iowa.

## **Transportation**

***We support:***

218. Improved funding and availability of public transit.

219. Expanding bike/hike trails.

220. High speed rail.

221. Fully funded port inspections.

222. An overhaul of the "No-Fly List" and inclusion of due process.

223. Strengthening the FAA, full funding of air traffic control equipment and facilities, renegotiating contracts with NATCA, and strengthening safety requirements for "feeder" airlines.

***We oppose:***

224. Infrastructure privatization.

225. Denying cyclists access to Iowa's roadways or judicial system.

## **Acronyms:**

ADA - American's with Disabilities Act

CPB – Corporation for Public Broadcasting  
DADT - Don't Ask, Don't Tell  
DOD – Department of Defense  
DOL – Department of Labor  
DOMA - Defense of Marriage Act  
EC - Emergency Contraception  
FAA – Federal Aviation Administration  
FDA - Food and Drug Administration  
GLBT - Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgendered people  
HIV/AIDS – Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome/Human Immunodeficiency Virus  
NATCA – National Air Traffic Controllers Association  
PEG –Public, Educational and Government  
SS - Social Security  
STD - Sexually Transmitted Disease  
UAFA - Uniting American Families Act  
GLBT - Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgendered people

## Health and Human Services

### Universal Healthcare

#### *We support:*

226. Comprehensive, evidence-based, affordable healthcare for all, provided by a national, universal, single-payer healthcare plan, including but not limited to these services:
227. Encouraging wellness and prevention efforts.
228. Accessibility at time of need.
229. Choices of long-term care including community-based services.
230. Mental health and brain disorders parity.
231. Chemical dependency services.
232. Universal hearing and vision screening.
233. Universal dental services.
234. Universal access to affordable prescription drugs.

235. Creation of such a healthcare plan (see 229-237) by the state of Iowa for Iowans in the absence of a national plan.

***We oppose:***

236. Mandatory health insurance without a public option.

237. Fines associated with failure to possess health insurance.

## **Mental Health**

***We support:***

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

## **Medical Research**

***We support:***

239. Increased funding for research and the NIH.

## **Health and Human Services**

***We support:***

240. Increased funding for HHS programs.

## **Patients Rights**

***We support:***

241. The right of the patient and healthcare professionals to have the primary responsibility for patient care decisions.

242. Enforcing and raising safe staffing standards.

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

244. Right-to-die legislation.

245. Extending the percentage discount afforded the insurance companies to the patient for all hospital and medical bills.

***We Oppose:***

- 246. Charging uninsured patients a higher price for medical care than insured patients.
- 247. Health care discrimination based on citizenship.

## **Medicare/Medicaid**

***We support:***

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

***We oppose:***

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

## **Social Security**

***We support:***

- 253. Repayment with interest by the US Treasury to the SS trust fund, of all SS monies used to fund other projects and programs.

***We oppose:***

- 254. Transfer of Social Security funds to pay for other projects.
- 255. Revision of SS laws or rules to increase retirement age or reduce benefits.
- 256. Including SS in the unified federal budget.

## **Housing and Homelessness**

***We support:***

- 257. 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.

- 258. The Housing Trust Fund.
- 259. Johnson County Local Homeless Coordinating Board.
- 260. Homeless Shelters Operation Grants.
- 261. The “Section 8” housing voucher program.
- 262. Job and life skills training.
- 263. Programs to transition persons from shelters into programs for care, treatment, and permanent housing.

***We oppose:***

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

## **Disability**

***We support:***

- 265. Equal rights for persons with disabilities.
- 266. Family and community support services.
- 267. Increased program flexibility and funding to permit home living.
- 268. Strengthening and expanding the ADA.

***We oppose:***

- 269. Forced sterilization and forced contraception.

## **Substance Abuse:**

***We support:***

- 270. Increased funding and emphasis on evidence-based prevention and treatment.
- 271. Legalization of marijuana for prescribed medical purposes.
- 272. Federal funding for research into the medical efficacy of marijuana.

## **Children**

***We support:***

- 273. Governmental involvement in childcare improvement.
- 274. Pursuit and prosecution of unpaid child support.

- 275. State of Iowa use of national child abuse registries and criminal background checks for all providers working with dependents.
- 276. HAWK-I.
- 277. Increasing family income guidelines for SCCA.

## **Tobacco Use Prevention and Education**

### ***We support:***

- 278. State and federal tobacco use prevention and cessation programs.

## **Acronyms:**

- ADA - Americans with Disabilities Act
- HAWK-I - Healthy and Well Kids in Iowa
- HHS - Health and Human Services
- HIV/AIDS - Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome/Human Immunodeficiency Virus
- NIH - National Institutes of Health
- SCCA - State Child Care Assistance

## **International Affairs**

### **United Nations**

#### ***We support:***

- 279. Adherence to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and ICESCR.
- 280. Payment of dues, and active participation in the U.N.
- 281. Participation in multilateral peacekeeping missions.
- 282. Full participation in the Human Rights Council.

### **International Law, Treaties, and Agreements**

#### ***We support:***

- 283. CEDAW, UNCRC, CTBT, BWC, RSICCJ, CWC, Ottawa Land Mine Treaty, and the Kyoto Treaty on Global Warming.
- 284. Development of and abidance by international law.

- 285. Adherence to the Geneva and Vienna Conventions.
- 286. International fair trade initiatives.

## **Development Assistance**

### ***We support:***

- 287. Assistance for comprehensive reproductive health care and family planning.
- 288. Funding for prevention and treatment of pandemic and endemic diseases.
- 289. US funding of UN Millennium Development Goals.

### ***We oppose:***

- 290. Using the military in the war on drugs.
- 291. Foreign aid to countries that do not respect Human Rights.

## **National Security**

### ***We support:***

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

### ***We oppose:***

- 295. Using overreaction to terrorism to justify extended wars and conflicts.
- 296. Development of new weapons of mass destruction.
- 297. Preemptive warfare.
- 298. All forms of torture.
- 299. Privatization of any military operations.

## **Iraq**

### ***We support:***

- 300. Orderly removal of all US combat troops and private security forces including Xe.
- 301. Transfer of power to the people of Iraq.

302. International efforts to rebuild Iraq.

303. Accountability of private security forces including prosecution for legal violations.

***We oppose:***

304. Permanent US military bases.

## **Israeli/Palestinian Conflict**

***We support:***

305. Two-state solution based on the Geneva Initiative of 2003.

306. A direct, active, and even-handed US role to facilitate a peaceful final resolution.

***We oppose:***

307. Israeli settlement activity on territory captured in the six-day war of 1967.

308. Moving the US embassy from Tel-Aviv to Jerusalem prior to final resolution.

309. The Separation Wall.

310. Use of human shields, collective punishment and violations of international laws.

## **Asian Subcontinent**

***We support:***

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

## **Afghanistan**

***We support:***

312. Staged drawdown of combat troops and private security forces.

313. US and international infrastructure development.

***We oppose:***

314. Further US military expansion and occupation.

## Central and South America

### ***We Support:***

- 315. Democratically elected governments
- 316. OAS, and Cuba's participation therein
- 317. Agrarian reform and the equitable redistribution of land to indigenous peoples.

### ***We oppose:***

- 318. Training, military, and financial support of repressive regimes.
- 319. Mass aerial application of herbicides and insecticides.
- 320. Recognition of coups, military juntas, and unelected governments.

## Africa

### ***We support:***

- 321. UN Security Council Resolution 1325.
- 322. Efforts to end armed conflicts.
- 323. Robust world effort to prevent and end genocide.
- 324. Collection of information about threats of genocide and working to end it.
- 325. Rapid international peacekeeping intervention in armed conflicts.
- 326. World effort to end poverty and hunger.
- 327. Continued AIDS research, treatment, and eradication efforts.

### ***We oppose:***

- 328. Illegal transfer of weapons to armed groups.
- 329. Amnesty for war criminals.
- 330. Rape as weapon of war.
- 331. Death sentence, or any punishment, for homosexuality.
- 332. Extensions of the "Green Revolution" to Africa which harm indigenous agriculture.

## Immigration and Refugees

### ***We support:***

- 333. Non-discriminatory immigration policy that includes undocumented immigrants.

- 334. Integration of immigrants without stressing assimilation/“Americanization.”
- 335. Judicial review of visa denials and removal orders.
- 336. ‘Point system’ that allocates most value to family reunification.
- 337. Refugee policy based on humanitarian goals.
- 338. Development of economies of countries with high emigration rates.
- 339. Relaxing the “exceptional and extremely unusual hardship” requirement.

***We oppose:***

- 340. Limits on number of refugees admitted.
- 341. “Temporary worker programs”.
- 342. Human trafficking.

**Acronyms:**

- BWC - 1925 Geneva Protocol, the Biological Weapons Convention
- CEDAW - UN Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women
- CTBT - Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty
- CWC - Chemical Weapons Convention
- ICESCR - International Covenant on Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights
- OAS - Organization of American States
- RSICCJ - Rome Statute of the International Court of Criminal Justice
- UNCRC - UN Convention on the Rights of the Child
- UN - United Nations
- Xe - Xe Services LLC (Blackwater)