

THIRD DISTRICT REPUBLICAN PARTY RESOLUTIONS, 2008

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THIRD DISTRICT STANDING RESOLUTIONS*

**Approved at 3/29/2008 Caucus in La Crosse*

Note: *The following are standing resolutions of the Third District Republican Party. Standing resolutions are long-range in nature and were written to show our commitment to these issues over time. In order for a resolution to be recommended as a standing resolution by the resolutions committee it must be passed by delegates at two caucuses.*

SR-01 CRIME AND PUNISHMENT

WHEREAS, justice, the protection of law-abiding citizens, and the maintenance of civil order is a primary duty of government; and

WHEREAS, certainty, swiftness, and severity of punishment are very important in deterring crime; and

WHEREAS, the value society places on the sanctity of human life is reflected in the severity of punishment imposed for wrongfully taking human life; and

WHEREAS, a true "change of heart" in criminals is needed to lower the recidivism rate; and

WHEREAS, there should be more concern for the victims of crime and for the rights of law-abiding citizens to be safe in their communities than for the rights of the law breakers to be free on bail; and

WHEREAS, there is an ongoing effort to deter crime with enhanced investigation and changes in punishment (truth in sentencing) that have caused a need for more prisons; now

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Third District Republican Party, in Caucus assembled:

- A. Urges that we stay the course in this effort and use DNA testing where appropriate in criminal investigations.
- B. Urges that the penalties imposed for pleas of not guilty by reason of mental illness or defect be revised.
- C. Urges that the legal system be revised to limit the number of appeals, the time frame in which appeals can be filed, restrict judge substitutions, and restrict the filing of frivolous lawsuits by prisoners.
- D. Recommends that alternative forms of punishment be explored for nonviolent criminals.
- E. Believes that all crime should be punished for the crime that it is and not as a special hate crime.
- F. Supports faith-based prison programs that reduce the recidivism rate.
- G. Urges that more strict and harsh penalties including life sentences and capitol punishment except in cases of predominantly circumstantial evidence be considered as means to protect the public from these individuals.

SR-02 DAIRY

WHEREAS federal agriculture policy significantly affects farm income; and

WHEREAS current federal dairy policy has caused Wisconsin dairy farmers to be placed at a competitive disadvantage to dairy producers in other regions of the United States; now

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Third District Republican Party, in Caucus assembled:

- A. Urges all Republicans and our congressional delegation to monitor proposed changes by the U. S. Agriculture Dept. for the purpose of reducing or eliminating Milk Marketing Order inequities.
- B. Supports the elimination of rules and regulations that interfere with the free flow of dairy products including raw milk and its products.
- C. Opposes the setting of a basic floor price for milk.
- D. Supports the bringing of California into the Federal Milk Marketing Order System.

SR-03 EDUCATION K-12

WHEREAS, the opportunity for a solid, basic education is the responsibility of the parents with support from the community and the state; and

WHEREAS, violence, drugs, vandalism and lack of or difficulty of discipline contribute in varying degrees to school problems; and

WHEREAS, there exist efforts to rewrite, revise and distort our nation's history and founding principles to support anti-American political and economic ideologies rather than presenting our history truthfully and in full, inhibiting an informed electorate and threatening the vitality and preservation of our nation and this union of a free people; now

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Third District Republican Party, in Caucus assembled:

- A. Urges the State Department of Education and local school boards to reinstate the teaching of strong traditional moral values and discipline as defined by the local community.
- B. Recommends that stronger and firmer discipline in schools by teachers be allowed and promoted to make the schools safe for those who want to learn and help reduce the influence of gangs and drug users.
- C. Opposes school-based health clinics using tax dollars for dispensing contraceptives, giving abortion counseling and giving referrals for abortion and opposes sex education courses that do not promote abstinence outside of marriage as the only means of safe sex.
- D. Supports greater emphasis on the sciences, technology, mathematics, reading, writing, and American history, government and citizenship.
- E. Supports legislation to grant tuition tax credits or vouchers to parents allowing them freedom to choose a public or private school within their district (or outside their district if a parent or guardian takes responsibility for transportation) for their children.
- F. Urges elimination of the Federal Department of Education.
- G. Urges that local school boards be given maximum authority to direct the educational process in their districts, perhaps following the example of charter schools.
- H. Supports the usage of the Internet in our public schools with the guarantee of blockage of pornographic materials, illicit explosive manufacturing, controlled substance manufacturing and illegal firearms manufacturing.
- I. Opposes affirmative action and racial quotas in our Wisconsin educational system.
- J. Urges that the religious heritage of our nation be taught.
- K. Believes that school boards should have discretion as to the teaching of intelligent design within their district.
- L. Support educational leaders in their efforts to reinstate the teaching of America's true history and our nation's principles that are detailed in America's founding documents in all our educational institutions, including those of higher learning.

SR-04 HIGHER EDUCATION

WHEREAS Public Higher Education needs to be affordable and provide access for as many students as possible; and

WHEREAS University of Wisconsin campuses invite almost exclusively liberal speakers to campus, but few if any who present a conservative viewpoint; now

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Third District Republican Party, in Caucus assembled:

- A. Recommends reduction of University administrator's salary increases voted by the Board of Regents which are out-of-line for a tight state budget.
- B. Feels that tuition increases should be capped at a reasonable rate.
- C. Urges the legislature to deny funding for any university homosexual/lesbian advocacy programs.
- D. Strongly feels that higher education institutions need to provide a broader and more complete education by increasing opportunities for students to experience more conservative ideas and to listen to and interact with more conservative speakers.
- E. Urges the legislature to prohibit illegal aliens from receiving resident tuition at any state funded school.

SR-05 ELECTION REFORM

WHEREAS, although Wisconsin has a long tradition of fair and reliable elections, it has become increasingly clear that recent state elections have been seriously affected by inappropriate conduct and inadequate procedures; and

WHEREAS, irregularities ranging from the improper handling of marked ballots, voter deception, multiple ballots cast by the same voter, and improper voter registration procedures have allowed some voters to vote multiple times in different locations while other voters have been disenfranchised by deceptive poll workers; and

WHEREAS, such cases may represent only a portion of the problems encountered statewide; and

WHEREAS, Wisconsin is one of only three states that permit same-day voter registration at the polls; and

WHEREAS; in the 2004 election cycle the primary election was held seven weeks prior to the general election; now

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Third District Republican Party, in Caucus assembled:

- A. Believes that our lawmakers must act to preserve our state's history of clean and fair elections and to see that every eligible voter has the opportunity to cast a ballot that counts equally with any other vote cast, and
- B. Urges our state legislators to act quickly and fairly to reform Wisconsin's election laws in order to avoid the above noted irregularities in future elections, and
- C. Urges the Wisconsin Legislature to make changes in Wisconsin's election laws to make voting simpler and more secure by enacting laws that would require:
 1. A picture ID (current Wisconsin Driver's License or official Wisconsin Identification Card) which provides the current residential address of the prospective voter at the time of voting on Election Day, and
 2. That prospective voters be registered at least seven (7) days before any election day on which they would cast a vote, and
 3. That electors vote only in the municipality of their legal residence.
- D. Recommends that the early absentee voting law be amended to limit such voting to electors having the justifications previously provided in state law.
- E. Urges that legislation be enacted to prohibit electioneering on Election Day within 200 feet of any outside entrance to a polling place, except if electioneering takes place on private property.
- F. Demands that current election laws be strictly enforced.
- G. Recommends that the Republican Primary be held in May of the election year to allow the candidates adequate time to focus on the general election.

SR-06 ENGLISH AS THE OFFICIAL LANGUAGE

WHEREAS, English is, and has been the most commonly used language in the United State of America throughout our history; and

WHEREAS, the English language is universally accepted as the international standard for commerce, governmental, and professional communications; and

WHEREAS, the designation of English as the official language of our Country or our State is not intended to demean the speaking or any other language, nor to discourage speakers of English from learning other languages, for multilingual Americans are a valuable asset to our Nation; and

WHEREAS, history and current world situations are instructive of the deleterious effects for nations without a common official and functional language; and

WHEREAS, the lack of knowledge of the dominant language in any society impairs one's ability to become a productive and contributing member of that society; and

WHEREAS, Presidential Executive Order 13166, which required that Federal, State and Local Governments and organizations who receive governmental aid, provide written and verbal translation services into any language for every person who requests such services adds an unnecessary financial burden to our cost of governing and of providing some other services; now

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Third District Republican Party, in Caucus assembled:

- A. Recommends that English be designated as the Official Language of the United States and the State of Wisconsin;
- B. Recommends that the State of Wisconsin print ballots in English only;
- C. Urges the President to revoke the provisions of President Clinton's Executive Order 13166;
- D. Recommends elimination of English as a Second Language (ESL) programs in the public schools because early teaching of English has been shown to increase educational achievement.

SR-07 ENVIRONMENT

WHEREAS; the state of Wisconsin has a strong reputation for being a destination spot for many due to its pristine environment; and

WHEREAS; the state of Wisconsin has a long and proud history of logging and paper production; and

WHEREAS; recent attempts by environmental groups have attempted to upset the balance between business and environment; and

WHEREAS; the Republican Party has a long tradition of supporting eco-friendly business' and the balance of environmental concerns with the need to create and maintain jobs; and

WHEREAS; there exists in Wisconsin today a real need to encourage eco-friendly businesses to encourage growth in the job market, and keep our lands clean for generations to come; now

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Third District Republican Party, in Caucus assembled:

- A. Supports the creation of legislation designed to provide incentives in the form of tax breaks, and other economic incentives for companies that voluntarily move towards more environmentally sound practices.
- B. Feels that government agencies dealing with the environment, including but not limited to the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, must submit all regulatory changes to a legislative committee for approval prior to enacting said changes.

- C. Calls for the termination of the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) and that all funds allocated be returned to the General Fund upon settlement of all terminated CREP contracts.

SR-08 FAMILY VALUES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

WHEREAS traditional marriage is an essential element in the foundation of a healthy society; and

WHEREAS personal responsibility and traditional family values should be encouraged; and

WHEREAS a marriage based on a two-parent, heterosexual family is the best opportunity for parents to instill personal responsibility, morals, and family values in children; now

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Third District Republican Party, in Caucus assembled:

- A. Urges that legislation be enacted to recognize "family" as people related by blood, marriage, or adoption and to not recognize heterosexual cohabitants or homosexual partners as "family" entitled to family privileges.
- B. Urges that legislation be enacted in Wisconsin and at the federal level recognizing marriage as being only between a man and a woman.
- C. Opposes any existing or proposed law or any official government practice that provides special privilege, financial support, or forfeiture of religious beliefs to meet the demands of homosexuals.
- D. Feels that there should be no extension of government paid family plan health insurance benefits to persons not meeting the definition of "family" (above) and that the private sector be urged to pursue the same policy.
- E. Urges recognition of the right and the obligation of parents to discipline their children, including the reasonable and responsible use of corporal punishment.
- F. Supports the Boy Scouts and similar organizations and their right to determine the standards of conduct for their members and leaders.

SR-09 GAMBLING LAW REFORMS

WHEREAS, gambling is a billion dollar industry in the State of Wisconsin; and

WHEREAS, gambling exacts a terrible toll on Wisconsin families in the form of broken marriages, loss of income and properties, bankruptcies, neglect of children, and increased crime; and WHEREAS, the promised direct property tax relief from the State Lottery Credit has not materialized in any significant amount; and

WHEREAS, Governor Doyle acted unilaterally and in secret in entering into and extending and expanding the terms of the most recent gaming compacts with Native American Indian Tribes; and

WHEREAS, Native American Indian Tribes in Wisconsin and the Wisconsin Tavern League both want further expansion of gambling; now

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Third District Republican Party, in Caucus assembled:

- A. Urges the Wisconsin Legislature to declare a moratorium on gambling expansion in Wisconsin.
- B. Urges the Wisconsin Legislature to request a complete re-evaluation of the implementation of the entire gambling program in Wisconsin to see if it is providing the intended benefits, including a cost-benefit analysis of the amount of direct tax relief being provided.
- C. Calls on the Wisconsin Legislature to consider calling a State referendum on the reduction or abolition of gambling in the State.

SR-10 HEALTH CARE COST CONTAINMENT

WHEREAS, health care costs in Wisconsin and the nation continue to rise at double digit rates while the Consumer Price Index increases two to three percent per year; and

WHEREAS, fifty to sixty percent of all health care costs in the nation are now paid by taxpayers and voters through such programs as Medicare and Medicaid; and

WHEREAS, the high cost of health insurance is becoming unaffordable for both employees and employers; and

WHEREAS, Wisconsin's Certificate of Need (CON) law expired in 1987, and the health care Cost Containment Commission only existed from 1993-96, despite qualified support from the Wisconsin Hospital Association and other organizations; and

WHEREAS, since the proliferation of private-for-profit "boutique" hospitals, and diagnostic imaging, radiology, and surgery centers (that skim off more profitable procedures and cases at the expense of community hospitals) continues without adequate controls; and

WHEREAS, "managed care" concepts continue to be found wanting, and free market competition in health care delivery systems failed to control rapidly increasing costs; now

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Third District Republican Party, in Caucus assembled:

- A. Urges the Wisconsin Legislature to direct the Legislative Council to create a "Blue Ribbon" committee to address the foregoing concerns, and to specifically evaluate and recommend legislative solutions to the following:
 1. Alternative health care delivery systems.
 2. The impact of pharmaceutical advertising on the cost of drugs to the public.
 3. The effectiveness of Certificate of Need (CON) legislation, and hospital and physician rate setting in controlling the costs of health care.
- B. Supports making health savings accounts tax deductible on Wisconsin state taxes, as they are for federal taxes.

SR-11 IMMIGRATION TO THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

WHEREAS, current annual permanent illegal immigration is approximately 600,000 people; and

WHEREAS, immigration and maintaining control of our borders is a critical national security issue; and

WHEREAS, in addition to the homeland security threat, massive legal and illegal immigration poses a serious challenge to our way of life and is a drain on scarce public resources; now

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Third District Republican Party, in Caucus assembled:

- A. Calls on all state and local government entities in the State of Wisconsin to cooperate fully with federal authorities charged with the enforcement of our nation's immigration laws, except in limited instances in which such action might interfere with public safety, or health.
- B. Demands that the State of Wisconsin not issue vital identity documents, including a Wisconsin driver's license, to anyone who cannot show proof of legal residence in the United States.
- C. Urges the State of Wisconsin and all local governments within its jurisdiction not to honor documents, including the Mexican matricula consular, issued by foreign governments to people who are residing illegally in the United States and feels that the expiration date of documents excepted should match the visa expiration date.
- D. Believes that the State of Wisconsin should not provide nonessential publicly funded benefits and programs to people whose presence in our state violates federal immigration laws, and that those individuals should be detained and turned over to the appropriate authorities.

- E. Urge that all U.S. immigration laws be formulated and enforced in a manner that is consistent with our traditions of fairness, respect for law, and the preservation of the well being of the people of the United States.

SR-12 JUDICIAL ACTIVISM

WHEREAS, our Founders expected judges to honor our Constitution; to be constitutional constructionists bound by the letter of that venerable document; to be above the whims of democratic elections that would, inevitably, politicize the courts; and WHEREAS, an activist judge interprets the Constitution to mean what it would have said if he, instead of the Founding Fathers, had written it and when this happens our Constitution is, in effect, rendered null and void; and

WHEREAS, elected officials are chosen based in part upon who they would appoint to the courts, knowing that those appointments would reflect a particular political agenda; and

WHEREAS, Thomas Jefferson, in his great wisdom knew that with human nature being what it is, judges would eventually abandon the plain language of the Constitution; now

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Third District Republican Party, in Caucus assembled, supports a Constitutional Amendment that addresses judicial activism by correcting the original error of establishing a judiciary independent of the nation.

SR-13 NATIONAL DEFENSE

WHEREAS, the defense of our nation, its citizens and our national interests is a primary duty of our United States Government; and

WHEREAS, the present unstable condition around the world has made a strong defense necessary; and

WHEREAS, nuclear, chemical and biological warfare technology, missile technology, and computer technology have proliferated in countries throughout the world; now

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Third District Republican Party, in Caucus assembled:

- A. Expects the United States Government to make national defense its number one priority.
- B. Oppose placing our troops under foreign command at any time.
- C. Commends President George W. Bush for the increased pay, retirement benefits and encourage that this trend continue for military personnel, and improved health and increased death benefits for their dependents.
- D. Supports "Peace through Strength" that was so effective during prior Republican administrations.
- E. Urges the immediate development and deployment of an effective "National Missile Defense Program" to protect our citizens from nuclear blackmail or surprise attacks from terrorists.
- F. Feels that there must be increased emphasis on defending our homeland from nuclear, radiological, chemical and biological terrorist attacks.

SR-14 RIGHT TO LIFE

WHEREAS our founding fathers stated in the US Declaration of Independence that we are "endowed by our Creator with certain inalienable rights and that among these are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness"; and

WHEREAS life begins at fertilization and all stages of human life are precious; and

WHEREAS abortion, assisted suicide, and euthanasia violate these rights; now

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Third District Republican Party, in Caucus assembled:

- A. Feels that sexual abstinence education be taught in the public schools.
- B. Urges our federal and state legislators to reaffirm the sanctity of all human life, oppose abortion, and support legislation that would establish legal protection for all human beings from conception to natural death.
- C. Urges mandating parental consent or court action for abortions performed on minors.
- D. Urges legislation be enacted to deny federal and state funding of elective abortions and the funding of school-based clinics which make referrals for abortion, and to deny state and federal tax dollars to pay for elective abortions in health care plans or abortion advocacy programs.
- E. Recommends that there be increased emphasis on adoption by the many married couples that desire to adopt children and that the adoption process be simplified and reduced in cost.
- F. Opposes attempts to legalize assisted suicide and euthanasia.
- G. Demands that the selling of baby body parts and/or fetal tissue be prohibited with the exception of blood and blood products.
- H. Recognizes the potential of adult stem cell research while supporting the position of President George W. Bush on cloning and embryonic stem cell research.
- I. Opposes state funding for RU-486 and other emergency contraceptives, and feels that no business should be forced to sell such products.
- J. Urges the State of Wisconsin to apply for federal funding of the Wisconsin Cord Blood Bank, thus promoting ethical research.

SR-15 SECOND AMENDMENT RIGHTS

WHEREAS the Second Amendment to the US constitution guarantees the right of all law-abiding citizens to keep and bear arms; and

WHEREAS Frivolous lawsuits against gun manufacturers because criminals obtain guns be prohibited; now

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Third District Republican Party, in Caucus assembled:

- A. Supports the right of citizens to keep and bear arms which continues to be legally upheld by the State of Wisconsin.
- B. Supports the amendment to the Wisconsin Constitution which guarantees all competent adult citizens the right to keep and bear arms for all lawful purposes, including self-defense of home and property, hunting and recreation.
- C. Feels that lawsuits by individuals or organizations against manufacturers of guns or ammunition for damage caused by illegal acts committed by individuals or groups should be prohibited.
- D. Believes that law abiding citizens have the right to carry a concealed weapon for the purpose of self defense and other lawful purposes
- E. Agrees that the State of Wisconsin shall not deny the right of law-abiding adult U.S. citizens to carry concealed weapons.

SR-16 SOCIAL SECURITY REFORM

WHEREAS, the Social Security system, as it exists, will begin to lose money due to the changing proportion of retirees to workers, and

WHEREAS, if nothing is done, benefits will be cut and taxes will be raised in order to maintain the current system, and

WHEREAS, the current system forces workers to pay into Social Security without guaranteeing benefits upon their retirement: now

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Third District Republican Party, in Caucus assembled, supports reforms to the Social Security system that will give workers the option to invest in personal retirement accounts while maintaining benefits to retirees who faithfully paid into the system.

SR-17 TAX RELIEF

WHEREAS, high and punitive tax rates cripple economic growth, discourage entrepreneurship, and diminish the individual's ability to attain the American dream; and

WHEREAS, historically the Republican Party has clearly been identified by the American electorate as the tax-cutting party; now

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Third District Republican Party, in Caucus assembled:

- A. Urges that tax laws imposed on estate, gifts, capital gains, interest and dividends be repealed.
- B. Urges there be a spending reduction at all levels of government except for federal defense spending.
- C. Urges there be a balanced Federal Budget, which excludes the Social Security Trust Fund from the general federal budget.
- D. Urges the Federal and the State governments not pass any unfunded mandates.
- E. Calls for new state legislation to place mandatory caps on state spending.
- F. Calls upon the State Legislature to maintain spending caps on local school districts and adopt spending caps for all local units of government.
- G. Supports the Taxpayer Protection Amendment (TPA) and supports a property tax levy freeze.
- H. Feels that the funding for the Wisconsin Technical College System is not a responsibility of the real tax payer and should be removed from property tax statements.

SR-18 TORT REFORM

WHEREAS lawsuits significantly add to the overall cost of goods and services produced in this; and

WHEREAS the high cost of insurance against medical malpractice has caused some doctors to withdraw from practices; and

WHEREAS the cost of insurance and of providing medical care is driven up by the current legal climate; and

WHEREAS frivolous lawsuits overburden the court system and cause expense to many; now

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Third District Republican Party, in Caucus assembled:

- A. Feels that proven economic loss should be the primary factor in compensation.
- B. Urges limiting compensation for "pain and suffering", "emotional distress", etc. with restrictions and caps.
- C. Urges prohibition of product liability in cases of negligent or willful product misuse.
- D. Feels that "Joint and several liability" by which minor parties to an action can be assessed with huge judgments because they have deep pockets should be changed to limit the award to their actual percentage of liability.
- E. Urges Congress to pass tort reform legislation including the caps proposed by President Bush.
- F. Recommends enacting a "loser pay" provision for certain lawsuits.
- G. Urges restricting class action lawsuits to those who actually suffered harm or economic loss with filing of lawsuit permitted only in federal court and with lawyer fees strictly limited with the time put into the case.

SR-19 UNION LABOR ISSUES

WHEREAS, union members are friends, neighbors and relatives; and

WHEREAS, union members are part of our community, school, churches and work places; and

WHEREAS, union members are reported to vote for Republican candidates at least 40% of the time; and

WHEREAS, union dues are used for political purposes against the wishes of some union members; now

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Third District Republican Party, in Caucus assembled:

- A. Encourages each county to organize a committee of Republican union members.
- B. Encourages District union committees to promote and encourage union members to be active in the Republican Party.
- C. Supports legislation similar to the state of Washington which requires an employer or other entity to obtain prior written permission to disburse funds for political purposes from employees' salaries, wages, or dues.
- D. Supports legislation to require open meetings for all government labor negotiated contracts.

SR-20 IMPLEMENTATION OF RESOLUTIONS

WHEREAS, much time, effort, and research is done yearly to develop resolutions; and

WHEREAS, each year our county and district Republican organizations are required to submit resolutions to their respective caucuses; and

WHEREAS, these resolutions are carefully thought out, written and debated; now

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Third District Republican Party, in Caucus assembled:

- A. Holds these resolutions adopted at a party caucus to represent the will, sense, and principles of the party, and
- B. That, therefore, the Chairman of the Republican Party be, and hereby is, directed to send to each Republican member of the Legislature representing a copy of the resolutions adopted at this caucus, requesting them to reply within 30 days of receipt thereof, indicating their positions on each of those resolution proposals and whether they will consider sponsoring or cosponsoring them as legislation, and
- C. That, a letter should be sent by each county executive committee to those legislators each quarter requesting a status report on implementation of caucus resolutions, including any pending bills and their status in the Assembly and/or Senate, and
- D. Be it further resolved that the Third District Republican Party Caucus be urged to present a similar resolution to the State Republican Convention for adoption, so that ALL Republican legislators respond to the grassroots will of the people expressing what they deem most vital for the citizens of Wisconsin.

SR-21 THANKS TO OUR TROOPS

WHEREAS, a debt of gratitude for the freedoms we enjoy is owed to all who have served in our military; and

WHEREAS, many in uniform are currently in harms way bringing freedom and justice to beleaguered peoples while defending those at home; and

WHEREAS, they do this often at great personal sacrifice to themselves and their families; now

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Third District Republican Party, in Caucus assembled, acknowledges the great debt we owe to our troops, gives them our sincerest thanks, and promises to keep them in our hearts and prayers.

SR-22 CONSTITUTIONAL LITERACY

WHEREAS, there are no documents more precious to the citizens of the United States than the

Declaration of Independence, Constitution of the United States, and the Amendments to said document;
and

WHEREAS, it is increasingly more important to have a nation of citizens who are acutely aware of their rights and liberties; and

WHEREAS, the educational institutions of the United States youngest citizens are investing few resources to the literacy of these documents; and

WHEREAS, it is critical to the crafting of well rounded citizens, and voters to be aware of the documents upon which all others are based; now

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Third District Republican Party, in Caucus assembled:

- A. Supports all legislation that requires all graduating students from K-12 education programs in the State of Wisconsin to have a strong grasp of the Declaration of Independence, Constitution of the United States, and the Amendments to said document.
- B. Believes that students should also be well versed in the workings of the state constitution.

SR-23 FREEDOM TO RECOGNIZE RELIGIOUS PRINCIPLES

WHEREAS, the constitution of United States and our form of government was inspired by Judeo-Christian values; and

WHEREAS, the legal system of the United States is based upon Judeo-Christian values found in the Ten Commandments; and

WHEREAS, our founding fathers, in an effort to encourage and guarantee freedom of religion, incorporated this right into our Constitution; and

WHEREAS, the phrase "freedom of religion" was never intended to mean "freedom from religion"; and

WHEREAS, as an example for future generations, the founding fathers freely expressed their religious views in their writings, government laws, government functions, and government property; yet did not force religious preferences upon others with differing views; and

WHEREAS, a few judges are legislating from the bench by finding meaning that does not exist in the Constitution; and

WHEREAS, a few judges have based their argument for a "separation of church and state," a phrase which does not appear anywhere in the U.S. Constitution but instead appears in a personal letter written by Thomas Jefferson, instead of basing their argument on the rule of law; now

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Third District Republican Party, in Caucus assembled:

- A. Believes that citizens, including elected and appointed government officials, employers, and school district personnel be allowed and encouraged to freely express and discuss their religious convictions, providing only that they do not force beliefs on others or misuse their office to discriminate against other persons with differing religious beliefs.
- B. Encourages the courts to apply the principle of religious freedom within the state as originally intended, and not to encourage state-sponsored exclusion of religion from public discourse.
- C. Feels that the continued inclusion of the words "Under God" in our Pledge of Allegiance should be legally upheld.
- D. Supports the presence and display of symbols such as the Ten Commandments on public property.
- E. Recognizes that removal of religious displays (Ten commandments for example) and forbidding of Christmas programs in schools has offend many more of our citizenry than the few who object to

those programs (ACLU Americans United for Separation of Church and State, for example) and strongly believes that the majority has rights and should prevail.

SR-24 FREEDOM OF RELIGION

WHEREAS, our founding fathers believed in an omnipotent God, the creator and giver of life; and

WHEREAS, they believed that certain inalienable rights were derived from Divine Providence; and

WHEREAS, they then incorporated these rights into the United States Constitution; and

WHEREAS, freedom of worship was among these rights; and

WHEREAS, freedom to worship and expression of religious faith was openly practiced in the private writings, the public laws and documents, and engraved on public property by the authors of the constitution; and

WHEREAS, the courts have corruptly misinterpreted both the letter and the intent of the constitution, and

WHEREAS, the term separation of church and state does not appear, nor is it implied in the U.S. Constitution; and

WHEREAS, banning freedom of worship from the public forum, as the corrupt courts have done, is unconstitutional and leads to religious persecution; now

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Third District Republican Party, in Caucus assembled:

- A. Affirms our freedom to worship both privately and publicly, in the home, the school, the public forum and the workplace, providing that others are not coerced into participation or discriminated against because of differing beliefs.
- B. Urges lawmakers to advise the courts that they should properly interpret and apply the constitutional right to worship and expression of religious faith.

SR-25 PRIVATE PROPERTY RIGHTS

WHEREAS, the United States Constitution and the Wisconsin State Constitution both limit the right of the government to infringe on citizens rights to retain and use private property, to wit:

United States Constitution - Fifth Article of Amendment

...nor be deprived of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law; nor shall private property be taken for public use, without just compensation.

Wisconsin Constitution - Article I, Section 13-

The property of no person shall be taken for public use without just compensation.

WHEREAS, the original intent of the authors of the above mentioned limitations also include any recognized legal use of said property, and

WHEREAS, the framers of the Constitution recognized that the core right to own and enjoy private property is fundamental in sustaining all other freedoms enjoyed by the peoples of the United States of America, and

WHEREAS, certain elements in our society who wish to limit these rights for select groups of citizens have been attempting to negate these rights through the unconstitutional use of the legislative process, and

when that has failed through the court of public opinion as promulgated by the mainstream media and other cultural outlets, and

WHEREAS, we have recently seen legislation proposed and other legislation passed which would further erode this foundational right for select groups of individuals as illustrated by attempts to limit smokers to smoke within either their home or business; now

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Third District Republican Party, in Caucus assembled:

- A. Urge our elected representatives to adhere to the plain language of both the Wisconsin State and United States Constitutions regarding personal property and fail to pass into law any laws which would infringe, restrict or otherwise inhibit a citizen's right the free exercise of the rights therein enumerated.
- B. Asks that our elected representatives to publicly acknowledge that the limitation on the government to take citizen property as outlined in our governing documents includes limiting governmental ability to dictate how said property is enjoyed within the constraints of the law.

SR-26 SMART GROWTH COMPREHENSIVE PLANNING REPEAL

WHEREAS, Smart Growth legislation (Comprehensive Planning), Chapter 66.1001 Wis. Stats., was signed into law as part of the 1999-2000 budget bill; and

WHEREAS, this land use act was never properly addressed separately by the Wisconsin State Legislature; and

WHEREAS, the consequences of this act will result in loss of property rights, increased government regulation and economic hardship; and

WHEREAS, legislation has been introduced to repeal Smart Growth law; now

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Third District Republican Party, in Caucus assembled, opposes Smart Growth and calls for the law to be promptly repealed by the State legislature.

SR-27 AGRICULTURE

WHEREAS, Wisconsin farmers must have equal opportunity to compete in the agricultural production markets (dairy, livestock, field crops) with counterparts in other states, but are currently hampered and disadvantaged by artificial, government created barriers; and

WHEREAS, competition for markets comes not only from producers in other states but is world wide in scope; and

WHEREAS, agricultural production is important, not only for domestic use, but also for exports that improve our nation's balance of payments and must therefore be competitive in world trade; and

WHEREAS, terrorists and eco-terrorists may attempt to disrupt our production; now

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Third District Republican Party, in Caucus assembled:

- A. Believes that Federal government promotion of agricultural exports be increased.
- B. Believes that imported agricultural products be inspected in sufficient quantities to determine that they meet the health and sanitary standards that domestic production must meet and that country of origin is identified.
- C. Believes that Free Trade agreements be entered into with care to determine that they do in fact benefit our producers.

- D. Urges that enactment and enforcement of stricter laws against eco-terrorism activities; such as the release of animals used in agricultural production or research and the interference with other research, be supported.
- E. Urges that increased emphasis be put upon protecting our borders from terrorists or other activities that result in the introduction of disease (plant, animal, human) or other pests.
- F. Supports the "Use Value" assessment of farmland be continued with some application to forests and non-productive farm land.
- G. Supports unsubsidized ethanol and bio-diesel production for its benefits in cleaning the environment, reducing dependence upon imported oil, and increasing farm income.
- H. Believes that Federal support of irrigation in some western states that increases their competitiveness with Wisconsin agriculture producers should be reduced in order that those areas would pay more of the cost.
- I. Supports Republican forestry policy changes.
- J. Supports the Wisconsin Right to Farm law.
- K. Believes that the National Animal Identification System should be eliminated or greatly reduced to a purely voluntary program.

SR-28 DESECRATION OF THE AMERICAN FLAG

WHEREAS, the American flag is the banner to which loyal Americans regularly pledge allegiance to our great country; and

WHEREAS, the American flag is the banner which represents our "one nation, under, God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all"; now

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Third District Republican Party, in Caucus assembled, urges enactment of a United States constitutional amendment to ban desecration of the American Flag.

SR-29 HPV VACCINATION

WHEREAS, HPV vaccination protects against a disease that cannot be spread through casual contact in public settings; and

WHEREAS, the vaccine is indicated for a population segment likely to or intending to be sexually active; now

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Third District Republican Party, in Caucus assembled, opposes mandatory administration of the HPV vaccine to minor girls in the state of Wisconsin.

SR-30 PROTECTION OF INTELLIGENCE GATHERING SYSTEMS AND TECHNIQUES

WHEREAS, the United States Constitution charges the Executive Branch with the responsibility of protecting this nation and her citizens; and

WHEREAS, to assist in this charge, the United States of America and her allies use many systems and techniques to monitor the intentions and plans of those who would do us harm; and

WHEREAS, many of these systems and/or techniques are effective only as long as their existence is unknown; and

WHEREAS, disclosure of these systems and/or techniques can present a risk to individuals and/or nations who gather intelligence for the defense of the United States of America; and

WHEREAS, the disclosure of these systems and/or techniques presents a very real danger to American citizens through lost intelligence and an inability to take protective actions; now

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Third District Republican Party, in Caucus assembled:

- A. Urges that the President and Congress of the United States of America should protect the existence of intelligence gathering systems and techniques as national secrets.
- B. Urges that the act of disclosing intelligence systems and/or techniques should be considered an act of treason and/or sedition against the United States of America and her citizens.
- C. Urges that the Justice Department should prosecute individuals, regardless of position or title, who disclose the existence of intelligence systems and/or techniques for the crime of treason and/or sedition against the United States of America and her citizens.
- D. Urges that the constitutional rights of United States citizens should not be violated in the process of gathering information.

2008 RESOLUTIONS*

**Adopted at 3/29/2008 Caucus in La Crosse*

2008-01 SUPPORTING PRESIDENT BUSH

WHEREAS, as a result of the President's strong, consistent leadership, America is safer in a dangerous world; and

WHEREAS, we realize that under the administration of President Bush our nation has appreciated great economic growth, increasing numbers of small business starts, has been protected from further terrorist attacks, has had decreasing rates of violent crime, decreasing teen pregnancy rates and abortion rates; and

WHEREAS, we recognize the problems in Iraq, we also recognize the successes of the arrest and conviction of Saddam Hussein and numerous terrorist leaders, the election of a democratic government in Iraq and the continuing necessary support of the Iraq military; and

WHEREAS, the President believes in the timeless values that have made America great, such as respecting our neighbors and taking ownership of our actions and words; and

WHEREAS, the President believes in the sanctity of marriage and his compassionate conservative vision is effectively addressing such issues as educating our children and fighting poverty at home; and

WHEREAS, the President's tax relief program has America's economy on track for recovery with interest rates remaining low and home ownership levels at an all-time high; and

WHEREAS, President Bush is committed to health care for millions of Americans and is working to quell the rising health care costs so Americans can afford the health care coverage that best meets their needs; and

WHEREAS, the president acted with courage and decisiveness to wage the war on terror; now

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Third District Republican Party, in Caucus assembled, supports our President, George W. Bush.

2008-02 COMMENDING REPUBLICAN ELECTED OFFICIALS

WHEREAS, President George W. Bush's strength of character, his strong, consistent leadership, and his determination as our commander-in-chief in the war against terrorism and in other national affairs have resulted in the fact that America is safer in a dangerous world; and

WHEREAS, Vice President Cheney continues to show that he is one of the best Vice President the United States has ever had; and

WHEREAS, state Attorney General J.B. Van Hollen will restore integrity and common-sense leadership that has been lacking in that office for many years; and

WHEREAS, The Republican State Senators and Republican State Representatives who represent districts within the Third Congressional District are attempting to control taxes and spending while at the same time fighting for the needs of Western Wisconsin; and

WHEREAS, non-partisan and partisan local elected officials with Republican values continue to try and inject common sense and hold the line on spending of the county boards, local school boards, and city and town councils; now

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Third District Republican Party, in Caucus assembled, thanks and publicly commends all the Republican office holders who represent us.

2008-03 BREAKING UP THE DNR

WHEREAS, the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) has been charged with protecting our natural resources, an important and vital function of state government; and

WHEREAS, over the years, the DNR has developed a bureaucracy to implement these protections; and

WHEREAS, the bureaucracy is often arrogant and unwilling to work for common sense policies to allow economic growth and balanced use of our resources; now

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Third District Republican Party, in Caucus assembled, supports actions to control the DNR, including breaking it into two agencies: one for conservation programs and the other for environmental protection.

2008-05 CLIMATE CHANGE AND THE ENVIRONMENT

WHEREAS, the Republican Party is governed by conservative principles which inform our positions regarding the environment; and

WHEREAS, as a party we believe in stewardship of our natural resources, replenishment of said resources when possible, and responsible management of our natural environment; and

WHEREAS, because of the alarmist tone of some in the environmentalist community "solutions" have been quickly seized upon which have proven not to adequately address any real (or perceived) problem; and

WHEREAS, we do not want to cede our national sovereignty to international law; and

WHEREAS, there is far from a preponderance of evidence within the scientific community on the extent and cause of global climate change; now

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Third District Republican Party, in Caucus assembled, urges federal, state and local governments:

- A. To wait for a preponderance of evidence among the scientific community before taking any legislative action.
- B. Not to enact any legislation that will hinder the free market's ability to address issues pertaining to climate change and the environment.
- C. Seek other, non-intrusive Constitutionally legitimate means of encouraging citizens and industry to take positive steps toward energy conservation, positive natural resource management, and development of new technologies.

2008-06 CONTROL OF PORNOGRAPHY

WHEREAS, pornography is an affront to all humans and the availability of pornography, including that found on the Internet, is offensive to society and contributes to declining moral values; and

WHEREAS, many public institutions, such as libraries and schools, make pornography available to all, including children, by not blocking such sites on the Internet; and

WHEREAS, the motion picture industry is marketing adult rated movies and sitcoms to teenagers during family hours on television; and

WHEREAS, the Supreme Court has held that the Constitution does not protect obscenity; now

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Third District Republican Party, in Caucus assembled:

- A. Urges that the Congress and the Wisconsin Legislature support restrictions on pornography to the greatest extent constitutionally permissible, in order to prevent the broadcast or transmittal of programs that violate community standards by including content that is without any socially redeeming value or that appeals to prurient interests.
- B. Urges that Congress and the public compel the Federal Communications Commission to utilize all existing laws wherever needed to accomplish the foregoing, and to forthwith reinstate the broadcast speech content rules that prohibit the use of the "f" word on the air.
- C. Urges the television/radio/entertainment industry to provide responsible, family oriented programming.
- D. Urges the cell phone/PDA/personal digital technology industry build adequate controls into existing and emerging software and hardware so as to avoid making pornographic content easily available via wireless devices and Internet.
- E. Urges parents and school districts to educate children on the dangers of posting personal information onto the Internet.

2008-07 END BUDGET BILL RIDERS

WHEREAS, the state budget bill has been exploited to pass special interest legislation; and

WHEREAS, this practice has caused great economic and social harm; and

WHEREAS, Article (4), Sections 17 and 18 of the Wisconsin Constitution, places limitations on the enactment and title of bills; now

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Third District Republican Party, in Caucus assembled, supports ending the practice of attaching policy-making bills to the budget and calls for each policy bill to be introduced separately by title, and be debated fully and passed by recorded votes by both houses of the legislature.

2008-08 END STEWARDSHIP FUND LAND PURCHASES

Whereas, the Wisconsin State Legislature has authorized an undetermined amount of debt to be used for environmental purposes; and

Whereas, the purported purpose of those obligatory funds was to be used for toxic waste cleanup and recycling; and

Whereas, instead vast tracts of private property have been purchased by the state, and taken off the tax rolls; now

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Third District Republican Party, in Caucus assembled:

- A. Stands opposed to Stewardship Fund land purchases and calls for the ending of the Stewardship Fund
- B. Urges the State to sell land instead of purchasing more land.

2008-09 ENERGY POLICY

WHEREAS, the availability of dependable and economical energy is necessary for business, factories and homes; and

WHEREAS, comprehensive energy legislation, on both the national and state level, would help alleviate the energy-related economic hardship being suffered by Wisconsin farmers by creating a more diverse energy supply, including renewable energy sources such as ethanol; and

WHEREAS, the importation of over half of domestically used oil increases US vulnerability to unfriendly foreign governments; and

WHEREAS, President George W. Bush in his 2007 State of the Union Address outlined his bold "Twenty in Ten" initiative which will help break America's dependence on foreign sources of energy; now

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Third District Republican Party, in Caucus assembled:

- A. Urges the Public Service Commission consider the concerns of the REA Cooperatives and farm organizations about the potential detrimental effects of deregulation, restructuring and "retail wheeling" on cost of electricity and reliability of service for smaller users as compared to the economical and reliable service with our existing system.
- B. Commends President Bush for his bold vision with regard to his "Twenty in Ten" energy plan whose goal is to reduce U.S. gasoline usage by 20 percent in the next ten years.
- C. Urges that drilling for oil in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge and in other domestic locations be permitted.
- D. Supports fast-tracking of permitting in order to increase development of new oil refinery capacity.
- E. Encourages the use of alternative energy sources such as ethanol, bio-fuels, wind and others.
- F. Supports an end to the moratorium on building nuclear reactors in the State of Wisconsin.

2008-10 ESTABLISHING GENERALLY ACCEPTED ACCOUNTING PRINCIPLES (GAAP)

WHEREAS, Wisconsin Governor Doyle (D) has used accounting tricks to (eliminate) the deficit; and

WHEREAS, Doyle fooled the electorate into believing that he had "balanced" the budget; and

WHEREAS, Doyle likely was re-elected by "smoke and mirrors-style accounting"; and

WHEREAS, if General Accepted Accounting Practices (GAAP) would have been applied, it would have shown that Wisconsin had a \$2.15 billion general fund deficit; and

WHEREAS, GAAP is required of all publicly traded companies; the federal government requires it for its internal auditing; most state and local governments are moving towards GAAP and all certified accountants must use GAAP; and

WHEREAS, Representative Frank Lasee has made this a legislative priority; now

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Third District Republican Party, in Caucus assembled:

- A. Supports legislation to establish Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP).
- B. Encourages all state legislators to prioritize enacting GAAP legislation.

2008-11 FRANKENSTEIN VETO ELIMINATION

WHEREAS, Governor Doyle has been abusing his partial veto powers by literally stitching together one

sentence from words on multiple pages in the budget to authorize new spending; and

WHEREAS, in one case Governor Doyle vetoed 752 words out of 4 subsections of the state budget to obtain a 20 word sentence in order to transfer \$427 million from the transportation budget to the general fund to increase spending in order to benefit one special interest group; and

WHEREAS, we agree with Senator Sheila Harsdorf that "Stitching together words to create new sentences with new spending and altogether new meaning is an abuse of executive power"; and

WHEREAS, it is crucial to protect the integrity of the balance of the power; now

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Third District Republican Party, in Caucus assembled, calls for passage of the Frankenstein Veto Ban and applauds Senator Harsdorf the author of the resolution.

2008-12 HOME SCHOOLING

WHEREAS, Home based schooling allows parents to instill their values in their children; and

WHEREAS, parents can develop a curriculum they deem appropriate; now

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Third District Republican Party, in Caucus assembled supports that instruction in a home-based private educational program that meets all the criteria under S.118.165(1) may be substituted for attendance at a public or private school.

2008-13 LOCAL ZONING CONTROL

WHEREAS, Basic conservative values promote local property rights and local control of issues; and

WHEREAS, The Public Service Commission (PSC) is promoting a revision of SS 66.0401 that would restrict the zoning and permitting authority of counties, towns and municipalities; and

WHEREAS, One size does not fit all in locating industrial facilities; now

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Third District Republican Party, in Caucus assembled:

- A. Supports that siting and permitting rights of renewable energy facilities (REF's) remain with the county, township or municipality.
- B. Opposes SB544 (or its like) which creates a revision of SS 66.0401.

2008-14 NUMISMATIC TRADE RIGHTS

WHEREAS, coin and stamp collecting and the numismatic trade are recognized as honorable archaeological, recreational and business activities; and

WHEREAS, the science of numismatics encourages knowledge in history, geography and world trade; and

WHEREAS, knowledge of numismatics creates an appreciation for the artistic, cultural and historical artifacts; and

WHEREAS, scholarly research and publications are a vital element in the education of our children; and

WHEREAS, numismatic trade and investments have both cultural and financial benefits for those who invest time and money in this trade; and

WHEREAS the numismatic trade society is primarily comprised of self-regulating bodies that will censure and/or expel individuals who knowingly buy or sell stolen or smuggled items; and

WHEREAS, this honorable profession is under scurrilous attack by the UN, Hollywood and the Liberal media; who are succeeding in placing unjust burdens on numismatic trade; and

WHEREAS, the US Constitution, not United Nations policies, should be the standard for regulation of business and trade; now

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Third District Republican Party, in Caucus assembled:

- A. Urges that all attempts to confiscate legally owned numismatic trade items, impose import restrictions or other constraints upon the collectors and/or dealers of coins and stamps by the UN shall be opposed, and existing legislation that places an undo burden on collectors and dealers shall be modified or repealed
- B. Opposes by any lawful means the demands and agenda of liberal activists who attack the numismatic trade.

2008-15 PERSONAL LIBERTY

WHEREAS, America was founded on the premise of Freedom; and

WHEREAS, The constitution guarantees personal liberty; and

WHEREAS, each individual has the right over his or her own person; now

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Third District Republican Party, in Caucus assembled:

- A. Supports Individual personal rights and responsibilities
- B. Does not support any reduction in personal freedoms and liberties through the legislation of Smoking Bans, condemnations, or law abiding citizen surveillance.

2008-16 PROTECTION OF CHRISTMAS

WHEREAS, the symbols and traditions of Christmas should be protected; and

WHEREAS, Christmas is a national holiday celebrated on December 25; and

WHEREAS, the Framers intended that the First Amendment to the Constitution of the United States would prohibit the establishment of religion, not prohibit any mention of religion or reference to God in civic dialog; now

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Third District Republican Party, in Caucus assembled:

- A. Recognizes the importance and symbols of Christmas.
- B. Strongly disapproves of attempts to ban references to Christmas in public and private places.
- C. Expresses support for the use of Christmas symbols and traditions.

2008-17 REPRESENTATION ON DNR BOARD

WHEREAS, there is no current provision for representation on the DNR board by end users of the DNR Services; now

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Third District Republican Party, in Caucus assembled, recommends that legislation be passed that would require representation on the DNR Board by at least 2 persons from agriculture and at least 2 who are known sportsmen.

2008-18 SMOKER'S RIGHTS

WHEREAS, the Republican Party has always supported individual liberty and individual freedom; and

WHEREAS, the Republican Party has stood in opposition of needless government intrusion in our lives;

and

WHEREAS; the Republican Party has consistently held that individuals should be allowed to make decisions concerning their own health and welfare; now

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Third District Republican Party, in Caucus assembled, does not support any unreasonable limitation of individual right to smoke by any government agency.

2008-19 SPECIAL ELECTIONS FOR REFERENDUMS

WHEREAS, the State of Wisconsin presently allows special elections for voting on referendums; and

WHEREAS, such elections historically have a low voter turnout; now

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Third District Republican Party, in Caucus assembled:

- A. Supports legislation that requires all referendum issues be placed on the ballot at regularly scheduled elections only.
- B. Opposes local special elections for bonding purposes.

2008-20 TERM LIMITATIONS

WHEREAS, the original Founders did not intend our Congressmen to be career politicians, but rather representatives that would return to their status as ordinary citizens; and

WHEREAS, the longer elected officials are in Washington DC the further they are removed from their constituency and the less responsive they are to their needs; and

WHEREAS, state and local public officials also are more responsive when they are not career politicians; now

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Third District Republican Party, in Caucus assembled urges that all county, state and federal public officials be limited to two terms or 12 years whichever is longer in office.

2008-21 WAR ON TERROR

WHEREAS, On September 11, 2001 the United States of America was attacked by a group of organized terrorists supported by at least one nation-state; and

WHEREAS, this attack began a global "hot" war known as "the war on terror" between the United States and her allies, and those nations who support terrorism through their nation-state powers; and

WHEREAS, the stated ultimate goal of the recognized terrorist organizations and those nations which support them is to either kill or control through force all the citizens of the world whom do not share their belief structure(s); and

WHEREAS, the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq are not isolated conflicts but rather two battles within the larger framework of this war on terror; and

WHEREAS, the challenge playing out across the broader Middle East is more than a military conflict – it is the decisive ideological struggle of our time; and

WHEREAS, for the safety of our people, America must succeed in Iraq and in the greater War on Terror; and

WHEREAS, United States armed forces should remain in Iraq in sufficient numbers until Iraqi forces can provide security for their own nation; and

WHEREAS, a strategy to announce a withdrawal date or rigid timetable will be exploited by the insurgency, giving them a timetable to execute patience and intensify their efforts after U.S. military forces leave; and

WHEREAS, if U.S. military forces withdraw from Iraq before victory is achieved, that nation state will become a haven for terrorist activity, which likely includes planning and carrying out attacks against America, its allies and citizens at home and abroad; and

WHEREAS, the United States as the world's lone non-dictatorial super power must not be allowed to retreat from pushing the offensive in the war on terror; and

WHEREAS, it is in the national interest of the United States to have a functioning Democracy in place in both Afghanistan and Iraq; now

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Third District Republican Party, in Caucus assembled:

- A. Encourages the current administration to continue its policy of aggressively pursuing victory in the war on terror through all legitimate means including further invasions of sovereign nations should sufficient evidence prove a significant and imminent threat to the national security of the United States.
- B. Urges the administration to re-write the rules of engagement in order to give our armed forces in the theater more individual discretion as they work to accomplish their mission.
- C. Encourages the administration to continue the mission in both Iraq and Afghanistan until such time as the commanders on the ground along with appropriate experts within the administration feel that both nations will be able to sustain their new democracies without a significant Western troop presence.