

PARTY PLATFORM COMPARISONS 2020

Republican Party

“ . . . **we assert the sanctity of human life** and affirm that the unborn child has a fundamental right to life which cannot be infringed. We support a human life amendment to the Constitution and legislation to make clear that the Fourteenth Amendment’s protections apply to children before birth. We oppose the use of public funds to perform or promote abortion or to fund organizations, like Planned Parenthood” (page 13)

“**America’s healthcare professionals** should not be forced to choose between following their faith and practicing their profession. . . . We respect the rights of conscience of healthcare professionals, doctors, nurses, pharmacists and organizations, especially the faith-based groups which provide a major portion of care for the nation and the needy.” (page 37)

“ . . . **we call for the codification of the Hyde Amendment** and its application across the government, including Obamacare. (page 37)

“**Merit and hard work** should determine advancement in our society, so we reject unfair preferences, quotas, and set-asides as forms of discrimination.” (Page 9) “. . . the cornerstone off the family is natural marriage, the union of one man and one woman.” (page 31) “We emphatically support the original, authentic meaning of Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972. They (Democrats) are determined to reshape our schools -- and our entire society - to fit the mold of an ideology alien to America’s history and traditions.” (page 35)

“**We support firearm** reciprocity legislation to recognize the rights of law-abiding Americans to carry firearms to protect themselves and their families in all 50 states. We oppose ill-conceived laws that would restrict magazine capacity or ban the sale of the most popular and common modern rifle.” (page 12) “We condemn frivolous lawsuits against gun manufacturers. We oppose federal licensing or registration of law-abiding gun owners, registration of ammunition. . . .” (page 13)

Democrat Party

Securing Reproductive Health “Democrats are committed to protecting and advancing reproductive health, rights and justice. We believe . . . that every woman should be able to access high -quality reproductive health care services, including safe and legal abortions. We will . . . restore federal funding for Planned Parenthood.” P. 32

Protecting LGBTQ+ Health P. 33 -- “. . . requiring that federal health plans provide coverage for HIV/AIDS testing and treatment and HIV prevention medications like PReP and PEP, gender confirmation surgery and hormone therapy.”

Protecting Women’s Rights P 42 “Democrats will fight . . . by ratifying the Equal Rights Amendment. We oppose and will fight to overturn federal and state laws that create barriers to women’s reproductive health and rights, including by repealing the Hyde Amendment and protection and codifying the right to reproductive freedom.”

Protecting LGBTQ+ Rights P. 42 “We will fight to enact the Equality Act. . . . guarantee transgender students’ access to facilities based on their gender identity.” “We will restore the United States’ position of leadership on LGBTQ+ issues by passing the GLOBE Act. . . .” (page 83)

Ending the Epidemic of Gun Violence p. 47 “Democrats will enact universal background checks, end online sales of guns and ammunition Democrats will ban the manufacture and sale of assault weapons and high capacity magazines. We will incentivize states to enact licensing requirements for owning firearms And Democrats believe that gun companies should be held responsible for their products”

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“We pledge to defend the religious beliefs and rights of conscience of all Americans and to safeguard religious institutions against government control.” (p 11)

“ . . . **we support legislation** to require proof of citizenship when registering to vote and secure photo ID when voting. We strongly oppose litigation against states exercising their sovereign authority to enact such laws. We urge every state to join the Interstate Voter Registration Cross Check Program to keep voter rolls accurate and to prevent people from voting in more than one state in the same election.” (page 16)

“Statehood for the District can be advanced only by a constitutional amendment. A statehood amendment was soundly rejected by the states when last proposed in 1976 and should not be revived.” (page 30)

“The federal government should not be in the business of originating student loans. In order to bring down college costs and give students access to a multitude of financing options, private sector participation in student financing should be restored.” (page 35)

“We affirm the cultural values that encourage selfless service and superiority in battle, and we oppose anything which might divide or weaken team cohesion, including intra-military special interest demonstrations. . . . we warn against modification or lessening of standards in order to satisfy a non-military agenda. . . .” (Pages 43 and 44)

“Over-regulation is the quiet tyranny of the ‘Nanny State.’ The ability of the American people to govern themselves has been undermined by a vast array of agencies with sweeping power to regulate every aspect of American life.” (page 27-28.) “We reject the agendas of both the Kyoto Protocol and the Paris Agreement, which represent only the personal commitments of their signatories; no such agreement can be binding upon the United States until it is submitted to and ratified by the Senate.” (page 22)

Democrat Party

Protecting Faith and Service P. 48 “We will reject the Trump Administration’s use of broad religious exemptions to allow businesses, medical providers, social service agencies and others to discriminate.

Protecting and Enforcing Voting Rights p. 55 “We are against . . . voter ID laws . . . purges of voter rolls. . . .” p. 56 “We will make voting easier and more accessible for all Americans by supporting automatic voter registration, same-day voter registration, early voting, and universal vote-from-home and vote -by-mail options.”

Making Washington DC the 51st state P 58 “Democrats unequivocally support statehood for Washington, DC.”

Making Higher Education Affordable and Accessible P. 69 “. . . we will make public colleges and universities tuition-free” “Democrats will work to authorize up to \$10,000 in student debt relief per borrower. . . .” (p 70)

Keeping Faith with Our Veterans and Military Families p. 77 “We will reverse the Trump Administration’s hateful transgender ban.”

Climate Change p. 79 “Democrats will immediately rejoin the Paris Climate Agreement. We will incorporate climate issues as key priorities at the Department of State, the Department of Defense, and in the Intelligence Community.”

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“The Republican Party stands united with all victims of terrorism and will fight at home and abroad to destroy terrorist organizations and protect the lives and fundamental liberties of all people.” (page 52) “To ensure our national security, refugees who cannot be carefully vetted cannot be admitted to the country, especially those whose homelands have been the breeding ground for terrorism.” (page 26)

We call for a permanent ban on federal funding and subsidies for abortion and healthcare plans that include abortion coverage.’ (p 37)

Democrat Party

Terrorism p. 82 “We will close the detention center at Guantanamo Bay We will reject the targeting of Muslim, Arab, and other racial and ethnic communities based on their faith and backgrounds at home and abroad.”

Democracy and Human Rights P. 82 “Democrats will protect sexual and reproductive health and rights.. . . including access to reproductive care and abortion services. . . . We will support the repeal of the global gag rule (also known as the Mexico City Policy) and measures like the Helms Amendment, which limit safe access to abortion. . . . We will amplify the voices of LGBTQ+ persons around the world . . .”