



Platform and Principles  
of  
The Republican Party  
of Oregon

**AS ADOPTED BY REPUBLICANS IN CONVENTION  
JULY 23, 1966, COOS BAY, OREGON**

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Republicans believe in the principles of the American system of government and in the operations of the two party system as an essential safeguard of our Republic. The trend toward Federal centralization of authority is not only distasteful to Republicans but is contrary to the spirit of the Constitution. It threatens to undermine the American tradition of individual initiative and integrity.

In this complex modern world many decisions, both foreign and domestic, must be augmented by law. The need for informed and organized citizen participation in the political process, in order to insure responsible government, is greatly increased. Republicans believe that the American people will gladly accept the challenge and the responsibility. We affirm the rights and obligations of all qualified individuals to participate in the great American experiment of self-government.

Individually it is the obligation of each generation to make wise use of our natural resources with particular regard to the needs of future generations. Oregon's natural resources comprise its greatest wealth, both economic and recreational—including fishing and forests. Republicans endorse their management to benefit our citizens and best conserve and enhance these resources for the future.

We believe that our foreign policy must be based on a realistic appraisal of America's national interests. That paramount among these interests is the preservation and extension of human freedom and the search for an honorable peace and a stable world order. We look forward to the day when there will be freedom and self-determination for all the world's citizens.

We realize that the imperfections of the United Nations do not allow it to be a universal "cure-all." Nevertheless, we recognize the U.N. as a valuable means for increasing international understanding.

We believe that our foreign aid programs should be examined and re-evaluated to eliminate graft and waste in order to make their operation more efficient and more consistent with United States aims to encourage democratic ideals and improve the security of the free world.

In light of increasing pressure for expanding world trade and commerce, we feel that restraint should be exercised. If non-military trade with Communist dominated countries is to be conducted, we urged that neither credit nor long-term payment be extended.

The Republican Party of Oregon supports the continuation of the House Committee on Un-American Activities and the Senate Internal Security Subcommittee for investigations of subversion within our country.

The scope of concerns presented in this platform range over local, state, national and international problems. They are all of importance to the people of Oregon. Underlying this platform is a philosophy that thoughtful individual expression is the surest way of achieving well-defined and publicly acceptable programs of action. Republican government means government for people, individual people; and people, not bureaucrats, are the backbone of responsible government.

## **VIETNAM**

The Republican Party expresses profound and deep gratitude to the members of our armed forces now serving in Vietnam.

We recognize that such indebtedness cannot be measured in view of the valiant sacrifices being made by those doing their duty on behalf of this nation's principles.

The Administration must abide by the results of free elections in South Vietnam when such free elections are held.

We urge a long-range goal of education, raised living standards, and ultimate self-determination so that the people of Southeast Asia may have the security which will be necessary for a stable government.

We support the appeal for a United Nations settlement of the Vietnam War. We urge the administration to be candid with the American people, avoiding the false statements of optimism which have characterized progress reports during the past five years.

We urge such use of military strength in South Vietnam as will insure an honorable peace and the resultant free elections.

We urge the reconvening of the Geneva Accords nations to deal with the Vietnam problem. We are in favor of continued public discussion and debate of the Vietnam problem within the limits of national security as a method of insuring public enlightenment and national understanding.

We say to Hanoi, Peking, and Moscow, that the American people will not stand still for a barbaric miscarriage of justice in the trial and execution of Americans.

We do not endorse global commitments in blank-check fashion, but insist that congressional consultation and action be a part of this nation's principles.

## **FEDERAL JUDGESHIP**

As no action has been taken to fill an Oregon federal judgeship, vacant since January 1, 1966, we urge the President of the United States to make an immediate nomination for this post.

## **CORRUPT PRACTICES ACT**

The Republican Party calls for a thorough revision of the Oregon Corrupt Practices Act, particularly to permit full and free participation by teachers, public board members, and public employees allowing them to enjoy full citizenship in this Democracy.

## **CONSTITUTIONAL REVISION**

Since Oregon voters have indicated support for comprehensive over-haul of the State Constitution, unattended since its adoption in 1859, we urge that such revisions be undertaken.

## **PRESIDENTIAL CONTINUITY**

Because of the importance of executive continuity and authority in the Federal Government, we urge the Oregon Legislature to ratify the Constitutional Amendment which clearly provides for Presidential Continuity and Vice Presidential Vacancy.

## **MORALITY GAP**

The people of America have watched with growing disgust the scandals of the National Administration including those of the Department of Agriculture, and those of close political and personal associates of the President. The Republican Party decries this "morality gap" and political favoritism and corruption.

## **AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH**

As the American farmer is being called upon to feed more of the population of the world, increased emphasis must be made in all areas of agricultural research. All levels of government and our agricultural colleges must step up research in new

and improved plant and animal development, farm mechanization, and new and more efficient uses for farm products and by-products.

## **GOVERNMENTAL REORGANIZATION**

With the increase of federal programs, the Republican Party calls for the establishment of an inter-governmental department within the Executive branch of government, under the direction of the Governor. This department shall be responsible for coordinating all non-military federal programs in Oregon and for assisting local governments in receiving any benefits such programs may provide.

## **PORT DEVELOPMENT**

The future of Oregon's economy is directly tied to the development, planned utilization, and conservation of its ports and harbors, watershed areas, and river basins. We feel that an inter-governmental action group, supplemented by community groups, should be formed to co-ordinate interior and coastal development programs and the recreational and tourism economic factors should be given greater weight in the development of coastal ports, harbors, and river basin projects.

## **OUTDOOR RECREATION**

Oregon Republicans urge that a policy be adopted for the full and orderly development of Oregon's outdoor recreational resources, facilities and opportunities to the end that our State may offer its citizens, tourists and guests opportunity for superior outdoor recreation.

## **FOREST MANAGEMENT**

Oregon's primary industry is forest products and two-thirds of the State's timber supply is owned by the Federal government to assure full employment for Oregon workers the Federal government must continue to sell a realistic allowable cut of our timber each year, and thereby manage our forests to perpetuate the renewable timber resource. We believe it should do this under the multiple use policies already adopted by Congress, which recognize that the bonuses of good forest management are healthy watersheds, favorable habitat for wild life, and abundant opportunities for outdoor recreation.

## **WATER RESOURCES**

We believe that all present and future needs of each of the Western States be fully identified before any federal study for inter-regional water transfers be authorized. Oregon must continue vigorously its current study of its present and projected water resource and needs. Every effort must be made to explore feasible alternatives for supplying water to needy areas.

## **MINING AND FISHING**

**General Government:** We feel that our historic resources and the jobs and livelihoods of our people should be the first priority of a concerned government. We encourage the reactivation of the mining resources of the State of Oregon and urge Congress to take whatever action necessary to assist this industry.

We commend Congressman Wendell Wyatt for his efforts to "halt the invasion of our fishing grounds by the Russian fishing fleet," and further, we call upon our State Department and our President to take effective action on this matter.

## **DUNES PARK**

Since the present federal proposal for a National Seashore Park in Oregon makes no provision for the investment of this State in the four existing State Parks, we urge that the Federal government provide restitution to the State, thus establishing a necessary precedent for future programs.

## **FREEDOM OF INFORMATION**

We commend and applaud the efforts of the recently removed Oregon Director of the Bureau of Land Management in his opposition to the erosion of sustained yield forestry management.

We urge our Congressional delegation to secure a General Accounting Office report concerning the association of the State Director's office with the Department of Interior.

We urge compliance with the Freedom of Information Bill recently passed unanimously by the Congress and believe it should be implemented by revealing the facts on forestry management in Oregon.

### **ELECTORAL SYSTEM REFORM**

In an effort to make our Presidential elections more flexible and more directly reflective of popular voting, but still retaining the traditional virtues of deliberateness and the balance of power that has saved our country from so many disasters, we urge our Congressmen to initiate a constitutional amendment adopting a proportional plan in which electoral votes are cast proportionally to the popular vote in each state rather than as a unit.

### **TAXATION**

The Republican Party has traditionally favored the concept that government closest to the people is the best form of government.

The legislators have displayed leadership in expanding local budget laws designed to give local people wide authority in governing local services and expenditure.

We are proud of the accomplishments of the 1965 Oregon Legislature in providing more than \$60 million in property tax relief.

We feel that more property tax relief, especially for the home owner, is needed.

We believe the question of local services should be left to the people without strings, thereby preserving the great heritage of home rule.

Realizing the undue share of the total tax burden that real property bears, we are most sympathetic with the purpose of the 1½% tax limitations; however, believing that the present measure would create more problems than it would solve, we are opposed to its adoption because:

1. Passage of the proposed limitation would mean a loss of over 120 million dollars to local government (about 40% of the taxes now being collected), leaving some units of government, including school districts, with no operating funds and others with drastically reduced revenue.
2. Passage of this limitation would cause loss of local control and give the three member State Tax Commission dictatorial powers of budget revision and allocation even to the elimination of vital and needed services, a power which the State Tax Commission does not want and which it cannot handle.
3. The proposal does not provide for substitute sources of revenue to make up this loss, or give any time for this to be done before the law becomes effective.
4. The drastic loss of revenues and the ambiguities and uncertainties in the measure will retard the growth of Oregon's economy and result in extreme chaos.
5. The proposal repeals the traditional and historic constitutional 6% limitation.

### **SALES TAX REFERRAL**

We feel that our tax structure needs more diversity and a broader base.

Our personal income tax is among the highest in the nation.

Substantial property tax relief can only come from a general sales tax or a substantial increase in income tax. At least 42 out of the 50 states have a general retail sales tax.

We ask that the legislature refer to the people a general retail sales tax, with appropriate income tax credits and sales tax exemptions.

### **PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTION**

Aproximately 50% of all property located in Oregon is presently exempt from property taxation. A substantial portion of this exempt property is owned by federal, state, and local governments.

We call upon our legislature to maintain a continuing review of all other property tax exemptions for the purpose of determining whether such exemptions are justified.

### **INFLATION**

Inflation is spiraling and savings are being eroded at a rate to representing a national peril. Retail food prices, interest rates and the overall cost of living have risen materially and dangerously in the last year. This seriously affects all Americans particularly those living on fixed incomes and pensions. It threatens a serious recession in Oregon's basic lumber and plywood industry.

These results in large part, have been caused by the present national administration's irresponsible economic policies.

We call for an immediate material cut in federal non-defense spending in an amount sufficient to halt the present inflationary spiral, effecting a reduction in the cost of living and permitting a lowering of interest rates and preservation of America's fiscal soundness.

### **FEDERAL OVER TAXATION**

We recognize the necessity of supporting the United States Government in its many functions of international relations, the national defense and regulation of interstate affairs.

We object, however, to a level of federal over-taxation which makes it difficult or impossible for the individual states and counties to levy sufficient taxes to meet their normal needs.

We also object to a level of national over-taxation that enables the federal government to return to the states with offers of grants, contracts, and financial aid for projects that should properly be the function of the states themselves. We submit that such projects as conservation, pollution, and the so-called "War on Poverty," with its wasteful Job Corps program, could be handled much more efficiently on a state level.

We object, most strenuously, to any system of grants, contracts, or allocations predicated upon the compliance of the various Senators and Representatives with administration wishes. We submit that this system constitutes undue pressure and results in an invitation to the Congress to compromise its principles and convictions.

### **HIGHWAY SAFETY**

We endorse the Oregon Traffic Safety Commission's 10-point safety program including a maximum speed law in addition to the basic rule, improved traffic court administration, certification of driver education teachers, periodic motor vehicle inspection, periodic personal appearance for driver license renewal and adequate police manpower at the state, county and city levels. In addition, we support legislation which would require all passenger carriers to be equipped with seat belts. We also support that currently pending federal legislation dealing with traffic safety which has been advocated by the Governor of the State of Oregon for the past eight years.

### **FIREARMS**

We believe that the present laws on registration and use of firearms in the State of Oregon are adequate and we are opposed to further federal regulation, registration or control on the use of firearms by law abiding citizens.

### **WATER RESOURCES**

We support the State of Oregon's continued full participation in studies of the

regional aspects of the water problem, with the clear understanding that schemes for diversion of Oregon water to arid areas shall not be undertaken except on terms that are totally acceptable to Oregon in light of its ultimate water needs.

#### **RESPECT FOR LAW AND ORDER**

In the past few years in the United States, there has been a growth of irresponsible defiance of authority, allegedly based on obtaining individual freedom; but, actually resulting in the violation of law and order and the right of all citizens to live in peace. By substituting the techniques of unlawful demonstrations and riot and mob rule the safeguard procedures set out in the Constitution under which we live are being violated.

We realize that discipline and self-discipline of the individual are necessary in times of peace as well as war in order to secure real freedom to a nation of individuals.

We believe the rights of freedom of speech and lawful assembly shall be inviolate. We also believe that the honor and right of every individual not to be forced to listen or to be forced from his home, place of work, school or business and the orderly conduct thereof by unlawful assemblies is inviolate.

The attempt to gain objectives by riot, violent demonstrations and mob rule is still unlawful and can only result in the breakdown of our democratic society and give aid and comfort to those who would destroy it.

Those chosen to govern us in national, state, and local communities, our tax-supported schools and administrative agencies shall be accountable under the law and subject to authority derived from the people; and conversely those who seek to overthrow such authority shall be held accountable to the same law and limited to the same orderly procedure for its change.

We believe that freedom can be maintained only under law and that irresponsible defiance of authority leads to anarchy and the eventual loss of all freedom.

We believe the essence of justice is equality before the law including the rights of the people to protect themselves from the criminal. The purpose of a trial is to assure the conviction of the guilty as well as the acquittal of the innocent.

#### **WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION**

We endorse the Workmen's Compensation program established by the 1965 Legislature which extended coverage to 700,000 workers, increased benefits substantially, and provided a freedom of choice to employers as to insurance coverage within the framework of our free enterprise system.

#### **LAW ENFORCEMENT**

We recommend standardized police science course be provided by the state to present an opportunity for municipalities and counties to train their personnel more effectively, efficiently and economically.

We urge utilization and development of state, local and private programs to deal with the causes of juvenile delinquency, including use of school social workers for early detection of potential delinquents. We support further efforts for increased vocational training.

We recommend the Board of Control be commended for their lead in establishing a Divisions of Corrections with emphasis on rehabilitation and work release programs.

#### **DOMESTIC RELATIONS**

We believe that there should be continuing study of our court system to eliminate overlapping and conflicting jurisdiction of our several courts in the fields of domestic relations and juvenile delinquency.

#### **AIR AND WATER POLLUTION**

We believe in the strong stand against air and water pollution taken by Governor Mark O. Hatfield in his original inaugural message in 1959, in which he recommended the unification of the State Sanitary Authority, Air Pollution Authority and the Radiation Advisory Committee.

We believe that the State Sanitary Authority should be given greater and more definitive powers to effect both air and water pollution controls throughout the state.

We further believe that the State Sanitary Authority should be given adequate personnel and funds to accomplish their mission.

#### **PARTY ORGANIZATION PREAMBLE**

We have consistently promoted responsible local government close to the people; because it strives to preserve the best in tradition and to foster the best of innovation.

We recognize that it is essential that public confidence in the integrity and efficiency of the electoral processes be maintained at the highest level.

We will continue to seek responsive and responsible government giving fair and equal representation to all citizens.

#### **SINGLE MEMBER DISTRICTS**

We call upon the 1967 Oregon Legislature to enact laws creating single member legislative districts throughout the state wherein no legislative district shall elect more than one Representative or more than one Senator.

#### **DELEGATES TO THE NATIONAL CONVENTION**

We call upon the 1967 Oregon Legislature to amend present laws so that the National Committeeman and woman, and delegates to the national party conventions shall be elected by the state party convention.

#### **CLOSING OF THE POLLS**

We call for effective legislation to prohibit the dissemination of political election results until all polls have closed in all states of the United States.

#### **TAX CREDIT FOR CONTRIBUTIONS**

We call upon the 1967 Oregon Legislature to enact laws to permit a tax credit of up to \$25.00 for donations to political parties.

#### **VOTER LISTS**

We urge that county clerks provide one set of voter lists free to each county central committee just prior to each primary and each general election.

#### **EDUCATION PREAMBLE**

Because we believe in individual initiative and responsibility, we maintain that every person should have as much education as he is capable of acquiring and willing to work for, not only for his own benefit but also because it benefits the community, state, and nation in raising the level of responsible citizenship, to the advantage of both society and the individual.

#### **BASIC SCHOOL SUPPORT**

We commend the 1965 legislature for the increase in basic school support to effect property tax relief. We believe that the Basic School Support Fund should be increased to cover at least 50% of the operating cost of public school education.

#### **HIGHER EDUCATION**

We support higher education, at the community college and the traditional college and university levels, and at as low a cost as possible to the student. We also support expanded scholarship aid so that maximum educational opportunity will be based on ability and willingness to study rather than on the economic status of the student's family.

#### **VOCATIONAL AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION**

Because of Republican commitment to equal educational opportunity, we support the program (Technological Education For the Future) introduced by the National

Republican Coordinating Committee, providing for vocational and technological education for students not wishing to continue high school nor to enter college, and for other students lacking educational incentive, such as are now enrolled in the Job Corps. We believe that this locally controlled program will be more effective than the administratively cumbersome and expensive federal Job Corps and other programs.

#### **PROGRAM FOR THE HANDICAPPED AND ELDERLY**

Because of the benefits to the community and society at large, and because facilities and administration exist already within the State System of Higher Education, we encourage the establishment of an educational-community program. This program would aid mentally and physically handicapped and socially disadvantaged persons, and retrain welfare recipients and older people to become productive and happy citizens.

#### **DISTRIBUTION OF FEDERAL FUNDS**

Any available federal funds, including those for stimulative grants, should be channelled through the state, to assure distribution on an equalized basis. We want to maintain local controls based on relative needs within the state.

#### **PROBLEM CHILDREN**

We recommend the expansion of existing school programs and making available such programs in areas not now covered, which relate to social and psychological problems of children, so that these can be detected and treated before they result in expensive correctional, welfare, or mental cases.

#### **SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAM**

We support the existing school lunch program and oppose the efforts of the Johnson administration to curtail it.

#### **EDUCATIONAL FUNDS**

We believe that the state portion of funds made available to community colleges should be distributed to the community colleges on the same pro-rata basis as funds distributed to the state system of higher education.

#### **ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS**

We favor the further merging of elementary and secondary schools into administrative districts wherever feasible.

#### **KINDERGARTENS**

When the basic school support fund formula reaches approximately 50% of the operating costs, existing kindergarten programs should be included under it and school districts not now conducting kindergartens should be encouraged to institute such programs as quickly as possible.

#### **I.E.D. DISTRICTS**

We believe that legislation should be clarified to allow the merger of Intermediate Education Districts to provide for the formation of adequate educational service districts within the state. We also believe that the I.E.D. administration budget should contain a legal 6% limitation.

#### **HUMAN CONCERNS**

We believe that the success of an individual taking his place in the American society depends as much on his acceptance of responsibilities as the physical guarantees offered him; therefore, rehabilitation should concentrate on building pride in self and a sense of responsibility. Private organizations, churches and social groups can better achieve this than bureaucratic attempts to thrust individuals into categories of problems. Accordingly, our efforts will be applied toward these objectives.

#### **RIGHTS OF THE INDIVIDUAL**

We shall continue and expand our cooperation with employers, labor and individual citizens to further the spirit of existing legislation, thereby eliminating race, creed or national origin as factors in the selection of individuals for employment, membership and social relationships.

We fully support the rights of all persons to engage in the lawful expression of divergent views without fear of arrest or other harassment, so long as such expression does not infringe upon the rights of others.

We believe local units of labor organizations should be free to reach democratic solutions for local problems, and we will support legislation, if necessary, to guarantee this.

We believe that neither business nor labor should be privileged to seriously threaten or disrupt the nation for the selfish advantage of a single economic group. Therefore, we favor limiting the size and extent of both management and labor units formed for collective bargaining, recognizing the necessity of permitting them to bargain effectively, but not in a manner injurious to the public welfare.

#### **BALLOT MEASURE NO. 1**

Since Ballot Measure No. 1 is to assure that fair and equitable arrangements are made to protect the interests of employees and retired employees in the event a private transit system is taken over by a public body, we recommend a "Yes" vote.

#### **DRUGS**

In view of the rapid scientific development of drugs and the consequences of their improper use, the laws governing the use and distribution of drugs and poisons should be examined and re-evaluated by our law makers.

#### **EMPLOYMENT OF YOUNG PEOPLE**

We believe the opportunity of youth to obtain employment should be preserved and expanded in such avenues as seasonal harvest of farm products. We also believe that the proposed Minimum Wage Law now in Congress should not include youths engaged in harvesting seasonal farm products.

#### **DISADVANTAGED PERSONS**

We believe that any investment in economic opportunity should be structured to prepare the disadvantaged for a dignified role as self-sufficient individuals. This objective can best be achieved through cooperation between business, labor and government to prepare such individuals for the growing number of jobs which are available.

We aggressively seek to involve in the Republican Party organization and activities, those economically disadvantaged individuals who are not now participating in the political process. For that reason, it is essential that the Republican Party continue its cooperation with those organizations now providing leadership for these individuals.

We believe the State should aid its Indian people by insistence on their treaty rights and helping and encouraging them to become skilled and useful citizens.

#### **APPRENTICESHIP TRAINING**

We urge the Oregon Legislature to enact an administratively sound, comprehensive apprenticeship bill to enlarge apprenticeship training opportunities and ensure that all who are interested have an equal opportunity to qualify for this training.

#### **ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY PROGRAM**

We believe that any economic opportunity program should be structured to fit the local needs of a particular area. Therefore, individual recipients must be directly represented by the involvement of some of their number in the planning and implementation of the program.