

2026 Polk County Democrats Platform

Statement of Issues

A. Agriculture, Energy, and the Environment

Agriculture: For Productive Living and a Healthy Food Supply to Promote Clean Air, Water, Diverse Ecosystems, National Parks, Oceans, and Forests

We support:

1. Researched actions reducing climate change
2. Clean drinking/bathing/recreational waters
3. Researched initiatives for clean air/water/soil
4. Sustainable/regenerative agricultural practices
5. Crop/livestock diversification
6. Legal protection/conservation of healthy soil
7. Beneficial new Farm Bill
8. Wetland, woodland, prairie restoration
9. Strong/enforced state environmental regulations

Agriculture Policy: Stewardship of Natural Resources for Enhanced Living Conditions

We support:

10. Marketing Iowa farm production throughout the USA and world
11. COLA indexing for increased SNAP benefit
12. Re-funding the Leopold Center
13. Capping crop insurance subsidies
14. Market-indexing USDA loan rates
15. Conservation compliance for federal/state/local subsidies
16. Antitrust regulation of seed supply/food production/processing
17. Right-to-save seeds
18. GMO seed labeling
19. CAFO construction/expansion moratorium
20. Strengthening and strictly enforcing CAFO regulations
21. Farmer-owned grain reserve
22. Domestic ownership of farmland
23. Commercial taxation of non-homestead livestock production
24. Legal protection from pesticide/herbicide/GMO seed drift/contamination
25. Funding farmers transitioning to regenerative, sustainable agriculture
26. Public right-to-know permit compliance/TRI
27. Master Matrix with environmental assessment
28. Farmer-owned marketing/processing facilities
29. Mandatory/enforced nutrient reduction strategy
30. Banning manure applications Nov-March

31. Allowing nuisance suits against factory farms
32. Digitized land records for manure management plans
33. Constitutionally-dedicated conservation funding
34. Restrict pesticide/herbicide application amounts

We oppose:

35. Vertical integration of large-scale livestock production/corporate agriculture
36. “Ag-Gag” laws

Livestock Management: Protecting Our Environment from Wasteful and Indiscriminate Use

We support:

37. Eliminating CAFOs’ pollution-control property tax exemptions
38. Reducing antibiotic/hormone use
39. Humane animal treatments
40. Fair livestock market access
41. Increased CAFO inspections

Food Supply and Safety: Ensuring a Safe, Contaminant-free Food Supply and Safety for Food Processing Workers

We support:

42. Strong labeling requirements, including origin/processing locations
43. Locally-grown, fresh/healthful foods access
44. Enhanced data-based safe speeds for packing houses
45. Banning forever chemicals

Energy: Combating Climate Change with Responsible Production and Use

We support:

46. State-level US Alliance Climate Goals
47. Reversing environmental protection rollbacks
48. Paris Climate Accords adherence
49. The Green New Deal
50. Fossil fuel conversion to clean/renewable energy
51. 75% de-carbonized energy by 2035
52. Higher CAFE standards
53. Smart-grid/microgrid improvement and BES
54. Net-metering without discriminatory fees/taxes
55. Clean Power Plan
56. Safe transport/storage/tracking of nuclear/fracking waste
57. Extending geothermal/biomass/wind/solar energy subsidies
58. Standardized alternative energy permitting reform

We oppose:

- 59. Tar-sands oil/pet-coke/crude oil/carbon pipelines
- 60. Energy commodity speculation

Environmental Stewardship and Livability: Placing Our Children's Future Above Corporate Profits

We support:

- 61. Consulting affected BIPOC/frontline communities regarding land/water/air energy policies
- 62. Programs monitoring/reducing emerging contaminants
- 63. Designating the Loess Hills a National Reserve
- 64. Source reduction and increasing reuse/recycling
- 65. Municipally-supported composting/recycling
- 66. Enforcing Iowa's environmental regulations
- 67. Funding REAP, IWILL
- 68. Enacting IEQA
- 69. Banning neonicotinoid pesticides
- 70. Bottle Bill expansion
- 71. Reclaiming mercury and lead
- 72. Control sand-mining siting
- 73. Permanent protection of ANWR
- 74. With the rise in cancer rates in Iowa, we support an updated study regarding the use of retail plastic bags and their impact on our environment and health
- 75. Ending all direct subsidies to the fossil fuel industry

We oppose:

- 76. Industrial and recreational lead use
- 77. Corporate polluters "grandfather" clauses

Clean Water Availability: Promoting Clean, Affordable, Accessible Water to Ensure Healthy Populations

We support:

- 78. Publicly-owned/affordable clean water supply
- 79. Incentivizing sustainable farming technologies/integrated watershed management
- 80. Amending CWA for "Point Source," including intermittent streams/drains/aquifers/wetlands
- 81. Completely accessible IDNR well data/testing

Planning and Zoning: To promote livable and walkable neighborhoods, preserve farmland, and our unique and sensitive natural resources

We support:

- 82. "Smart growth" planning
- 83. Sustainable development
- 84. Comprehensive access to public transit

85. LEED
86. Preserving/replacing topsoil to an 8” depth for new development
87. Notifying all landowners/residents within 15 miles before permitting CAFOs
88. Local citizens’ balloted approval for fossil fuel pipelines
89. Prairie-yards with no-mow requirements

We oppose:

90. Subsidizing urban growth on farm/park lands
91. Eminent Domain for corporate/private use
92. Annexation without binding votes of targeted residents/property owners

Acronyms Used in This Section

- ANWR – Arctic National Wildlife Refuge
- BIPOC – Black, Indigenous, and People of Color
- BES – Battery Energy Storage
- CAFE – Corporate Automotive Fuel Economy
- CAFO – Confined/Concentrated Animal Feeding Operation
- Clean Line – electrical transmission lines to transport wind-generated electrical energy from NW Iowa to Illinois
- COLA – Cost of Living Adjustment
- CWA – Clean Water Act
- GMO – Genetically Modified Organism
- IDNR – Iowa Department of Natural Resources
- IEQA – Iowa Environmental Quality Act
- IWILL – Iowa Water and Land Legacy
- LEED – Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design
- REAP – Resource Enhancement and Protection
- SNAP – Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program
- TRI – Toxic Release Inventory Program/chemical use reports

B. Economy, Commerce, and Labor

Collective Bargaining/Unions/Labor

We support:

93. Fair-Share
94. Prosecuting unfair labor practices
95. Strengthening child-labor laws
96. Chapter 20 protections
97. PRO Act
98. PLAs/LPAs
99. Use of unions for infrastructure jobs/WPAs
100. EFCA
101. Government buying union-made products
102. Federal jobs program (WPA/CCC)
103. NLRB/NPERB

We oppose:

104. Recertification requirements for unions
105. Privatizing public-sector jobs
106. "Right-to-work" (Taft-Hartley Act, 14.b) (Iowa Code 731.1)
107. Union-busting, captive audience meetings
108. Replacing laid-off/striking union workers
109. Misclassifying employees as independent contractors

Unemployment/Benefits

We support:

110. Strengthening short-term and long-term unemployment benefits

We oppose:

111. Waiting for WC/UE benefits
112. Drug-testing as a condition for receiving benefits

Workers' Compensation/Safety

We support:

113. Considering bidders' safety records for government contracts
114. Increased staffing and funding OSHA/MSHA/NIOSH
115. Right to refuse unsafe work without retaliation
116. Employee/union participation in OSHA inspections
117. Workers' rights to select their medical providers and doctors for workplace injuries
118. Restoring protections under Iowa Worker's Compensation Law

Employment Practices

We support:

119. Whistleblower protections

120. The Equal Pay Act
121. FLSA
122. Strengthening anti-discrimination protections
123. Accredited retraining for displaced/automation related job-loss
124. Minimum wage indexed to the MIT living wage calculator
125. Reducing executive/employee compensation inequity
126. Benefits for part-time workers
127. Tipped workers receiving full minimum wage
128. Guaranteed PTO for vacation/sick-time/disability/family leave
129. Local control to raise minimum wage
130. Enhancing enforcement/penalties for wage and pension theft
131. Right-to-Rest laws
132. Annual wage increases indexed with inflation
133. Preventing employers from limiting employee political participation
134. Employee-owned businesses

We oppose:

135. Employment-at-will doctrine
136. Unfair overtime practices
137. Social networking identification/password as condition of employment
138. Use of credit-scores for employment decisions

Retirement

We support:

139. Fully-honored/secure/portable retirement
140. Fully funding/protecting IPERS/FED/MFPRSI/RRB/FELA/SSA
141. COLA for public retirement programs

Government Policy

We support:

142. Assessing the economy-based on meeting human needs
143. Business-funded with state matching dollars a paid disability fund for all workers
144. Election-day paid holiday
145. Enforcing/strengthening antitrust/consumer protection laws
146. Skill-building programs for disadvantaged individuals
147. Expanding Davis-Bacon Act to include publicly-funded projects
148. Local criteria for responsible government contract bidding
149. Net neutrality
150. Statewide broadband access
151. Dodd-Frank/21st Century Glass-Steagall Act
152. Expanding free and public mass-transit
153. Equitable/transparent trade agreements

154. Corporate accountability when using public funds
155. Federal jobs and infrastructure programs in U.S. territories
156. Inclusive workplaces with equal opportunities for PWD
157. Safeguarding personal data privacy and ownership
158. Repealing the Jones Act while retaining worker's comp protections

We oppose:

159. Deregulating industry
160. Fast-tracking trade agreements
161. Privatizing USPS
162. USPS retiree health benefit prefunding
163. Billionaires retaining any more of their wealth beyond \$1 billion

Taxes

We support:

164. Retaining the State Historic Tax Credit Program
165. Eliminating Social Security payroll tax cap
166. Taxing high-frequency trading
167. Progressive tax structures
168. Estate tax beginning with \$2.5 million estates
169. Increasing EITC/dependent exemptions
170. Property tax-credits for low-income/veterans/elderly/PWD
171. Sunsetting and evaluating business tax-credits every year
172. Depositing state and local funds only in state-chartered financial institutions
173. Funding IRS/IDR for high-dollar recovery, investigating fraud, and pursuing tax-evasion
174. Land-Use taxes
175. Enforcing a 1% tax on corporate stock buybacks

We oppose:

176. Tax-breaks for companies outsourcing Iowa jobs
177. Increasing taxes on credit unions
178. Off-shore tax-shelters
179. Corporate tax-evasion
180. Regressive taxes

Bankruptcy

We support:

181. Ensuring full-pension benefits in employer bankruptcy
182. Listing employees as first-in-line creditors
183. Removing barriers to discharging student loans

Business Practices

We support:

184. Expanding antitrust analysis/enforcement
185. Incentives creating/retaining lowan jobs
186. Regulating financial speculation
187. Complete disclosure of financial conflicts of interest
188. Breaking up “too-big-to-fail” corporations
189. Protection against predatory lending
190. 90% minimum U.S. content for 'Made in USA' products

We oppose:

191. Regulatory capture
192. Corporate welfare
193. Insurance credit scoring
194. The mass consolidation of media organizations
195. An economy of exclusion stemming from burgeoning wealth inequality

Acronyms Used in This Section

- CCC – Civilian Conservation Corps
- COLA – Cost of Living Adjustment
- EFCA – Employee Free Choice Act
- EITC – Earned Income Tax Credit
- FED – Favorable Experience Dividend
- FELA – Federal Employers Liability Act
- FMLA – Family Medical Leave Act
- FLSA – Fair Labor Standards Act
- IDR – Iowa Department of Revenue
- IPERS – Iowa Public Retirement System
- IRS – Internal Revenue Service
- LPA – Leased Purchase Agreement
- MFPRSI – Municipal Fire and Police Retirement System of Iowa
- MSHA – Mine Safety and Health Administration
- NIOSH – National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health
- NLRB – National Labor Relations Board
- NPERB – National Public Employees Relations Board
- OSHA – Occupational Safety and Health Administration
- PLA – Project Labor Agreements
- PRO – Protecting the Right to Organize
- PTO – Paid Time Off
- PWD – People with Disabilities
- RRB – Railroad Retirement Benefits

- SSA – Social Security Administration
- UE – Unemployment
- USPS – United States Postal Service
- WC – Workman’s Compensation
- WPA – Works Progress Administration

C. Education

We support:

196. Public money for public education only
197. Prioritizing student-centered education
198. Giving local control to school districts
199. Appropriate, equitable funding for public schools/AEAs/community colleges/public universities
200. An equitable method for funding public schools
201. Requiring private/charter schools to follow the same laws/rules as public schools if receiving voucher money
202. Eliminating racial disparities in discipline policies and educational outcomes
203. Attracting/retaining educators from underrepresented populations
204. A safe/inclusive environment protecting students from bullying/harassment/bias/retaliation
205. Reinstating DVDP
206. Increasing SSA to no-less-than 8% within the first 30-days of legislative calendar
207. Funding on-site ESPs, including but-not-limited to:
 - a. Librarians
 - b. Paraprofessionals/associates
 - c. Nurses
 - d. Licensed mental-health providers
 - e. School-counselors
 - f. STOTPT
208. Full, sustainable funding for programs addressing:
 - a. MH/MI
 - b. Poverty
 - c. ELL/ESL
 - d. Career/vocational education Literacy
 - e. STEAM
 - f. Civics
 - g. Personal financial literacy
 - h. Special-education/twice-exceptional
 - i. TAG
 - j. At-risk dropout-prevention
 - k. Reduction in student/teacher ratios
 - l. NEA/NEH/NSF
 - m. Safe, adequate facilities
 - n. Fine Arts
 - o. IDEA
209. Restoring full funding/services to AEAs

210. All public PreK-12/higher-education, non-administrative, salaries/benefits/pensions above national average
211. A competitive living-wage/benefits for ESPs
212. Unemployment benefits for ESPs who experience seasonal layoffs
213. Comprehensive education including access to the arts/music/physical education/CTE/foreign language/STEAM/work-based learning, and other programs
214. Age/level appropriate technology and instruction for PreK-12 students
215. Investment for university STEAM programs
216. Medically accurate, evidence based, age-appropriate sex-education/family-planning, including LGBTQIA+/nonbinary, in all public-schools
217. Training for all literacy skills
218. Thorough/fact-based/all-inclusive approach to teaching science and Indigenous/US/world history
219. Fully-funded, universal, free, high-quality full-day preschool
220. Free nutritious breakfast/lunch/snack for all students, including special-diets, food backpack and summer food programs
221. Efficient/free transportation for all children PreK-12
222. Access/funds/financial-aid for incarcerated/formerly-incarcerated people for accredited basic-adult/higher-education, including Pell Grants
223. Free tuition for vocational-programs/state-universities/community-colleges
224. Student-loan forgiveness
225. Bankruptcy/predatory-loan protections for student-borrowers
226. Restoring the right to full collective bargaining including binding arbitration
227. Adopting universal mental-health policies, procedures, and educational standards for PreK-12
228. Transgender children's right to utilize names, restrooms, and sports-teams matching their gender-identities
229. Protections from discriminatory actions against BIPOC/LGBTQIA+ individuals
230. Valuing the literature/experiences/contributions of BIPOC/LGBTQIA+ individuals
231. Equitable funding based on student need
232. Universal ADA compliance
233. Reduction of class size and special education rosters
234. Ratio of child-to-staff caps in-line with AAP/NAEYC
235. Learning disability screening in PreK-12 schools/IJJS
236. Anti-bias PD
237. Funding for early identification/treatment of special-needs, emotional/hostile/violent behavior
238. Funding education on the effects of social media
239. Fully-funded public libraries with independent boards
240. Multi-lingual opportunities for PreK-12 learning in writing/speaking/reading

241. Equal access to education/language-rich environments for PreK-12 Blind/Low-vision/Deaf/Hard-of-Hearing students to optimize language development.
242. Middle/high-school health-curriculum, including information about consent and dating violence
243. The ISEA's Educator Bill of Rights
244. Erin's Law
245. Investment in afterschool programs that provide working parents with a safe place for their kids to receive academic & enrichment opportunities after the school days end

We oppose:

246. School-sanctioned religious practice/bias/clergy in public-schools
247. Immigration enforcement on school grounds
248. Limiting scope of AEAs
249. Any diversion/allocation of public education dollars to any private/charter school or for-profit educational institution
250. Unfunded school district mandates
251. Lowering standards for teacher licensure
252. Merit pay
253. Arming school employees including SROs
254. The school-to-prison pipeline/nexus
255. Criminalizing educators for teaching equitable topics
256. Banning books/literary resources
257. Restraints/seclusion rooms
258. Sanctioning/endorsing any group/club recognized by the SPLC as a hate group
259. The micromanagement of public universities and the board of regents by the legislature
260. Iowa legislators being on the Board of Regents

Acronyms Used in This Section

- AAP – American Academy of Pediatrics
- ADA – Americans with Disabilities Act
- AEA – Area Education Agency
- BIPOC – Black, Indigenous, and People of Color
- CTE – Career Technical Education
- DVDP – District Voluntary Diversity Plans
- ESA – Education Savings Account
- ELL – English Language Learners
- ESL – English as a Second Language
- ESP – Educational Support Professionals
- IDEA – Individuals with Disabilities Education Act
- IJJS – Iowa Juvenile Justice System
- ISEA – Iowa State Education Association

- LGBTQIA+ – Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer/Questioning, Intersex, Asexual/Agender, and Community
- MH/MI – Mental Health/Mental Illness
- NAEYC – National Association for the Education of Young Children
- NEA – National Endowment for the Arts
- NEH – National Endowment for the Humanities
- NSF – National Science Foundation
- PD – Professional Development
- POC – People of Color
- SPLC – Southern Poverty Law Center
- SRO – School Resource Officer
- SSA – State Supplemental Aid
- STEAM – Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, Math
- STOTPT – Speech, Occupational, and Physical Therapy
- TAG – Talented and Gifted
- TLC – Teacher Leadership and Compensation

D. Government and Law

Institutions, Operations, Taxes

We support:

261. The Emoluments Clause
262. Increasing the size of U.S. House of Representatives
263. The right for citizens to initiate Iowa Constitutional amendments by petition
264. Time-limited bans on lobbying by former officials
265. Returning to the progressive tax rates of the 1950s
266. Removing the Social Security cap for high earners
267. Wealth Tax
268. Election of County Auditors, Recorders, Treasurers
269. Gender-balancing on public boards and commissions
270. Nonpartisan commissions for merit-based selection of judges
271. Self-determination for U.S. territories; giving residents of territories the rights of U.S. citizens
272. Statehood for D.C.
273. The right to privacy
274. A statutory right to recover attorney fees & costs by consumers in residential construction projects

We oppose:

275. Giving state voter rolls to the federal government
276. The SAVE Act and SAVE System
277. DOGE cuts
278. Presidential immunity
279. Self-pardons and preemptive pardons
280. Elected officials and political appointees trading in securities, NFT, and crypto using insider information

Campaigns and Elections

We support:

281. Automatic and same-day voter registration
282. Permanent no-excuse absentee (mail) voting
283. Extended Early Voting
284. Alternative forms of voting that ensure anyone elected has a majority
285. Eliminating the Electoral College
286. Federal holiday for Election Day
287. Recall of state and local officeholders by petition of at least 10% of registered voters
288. Conditions of ballot listing for federal offices:
 - a. Release of 5 years of tax returns
 - b. No felony convictions

289. Public campaign financing including small donor matching programs

We oppose:

290. Federalizing elections
291. Citizens United/Super-PACs
292. Voter suppression laws

Human and Civil Rights

We support:

293. More equitable government policies
294. Due process for all people in the U.S.
295. Free exercise of religion and freedom to be free of religion
296. Tenants' rights
297. Fair housing
298. Public Employee Collective Bargaining
299. Right to reproductive healthcare
300. No-Fault divorce
301. Maintaining Iowa's Civil Rights Act and restoring gender identity as a protected class, with local option to enhance statewide civil rights
302. Adequate funding for Victim Services, emergency contraception, and abortion service for rape and incest victims.
303. Eliminating the statutes of limitations for sexual violence

We oppose:

304. White supremacy
305. Terrorism
306. Religious Nationalism
307. Systemic discrimination
308. Any discrimination against LGBTQIA+ persons
309. Compelling anyone to divulge the sexual orientation or gender identity of a minor under their supervision
310. All anti-LGBTQIA+ government acts & decrees

Immigration

We support:

311. Immigration reform, including an expansion of legal immigration with a fair and achievable path to citizenship
312. Abolishing ICE

We oppose:

313. Mass deportation, indiscriminate arrests, excessive use of force, and illegal deportation of U.S. citizens, Green Card holders, immigrants, and refugees
314. Concentration Camps (or any similar detention facilities)

315. Discriminatory policies based on race/religion/sexual orientation/gender identity/nationality/country of origin/socio-economic status/marriage status/family-affiliation

Criminal Justice Reform

We support:

316. Immediate restoration of voting rights after incarceration and voting rights for incarcerated people
317. Funding prison post-release reentry programs and wrap-around services
318. Increased funding for legal services, courts, and restorative justice programs
319. The right to record interactions with law enforcement

We oppose:

320. Capital punishment
321. Solitary confinement
322. Charging people for court-appointed attorneys or incarceration
323. Privatization of prisons, prison services, or parole supervision
324. Cash bail
325. Mandatory minimum sentencing

Gun Safety

We support:

326. Effective Measures to Reduce Gun Violence
327. Funding research on gun violence
328. Assault weapons bans

We oppose:

329. Gag orders on doctors talking about gun violence or prevention
330. “Stand your Ground,” “Castle Doctrine,” “Guns for Tots,” “Trans(phobic) Defense” laws

Acronyms Used in This Section

- DOGE – Department of Government Efficiency
- ICE – Immigration and Customs Enforcement
- LGBTQIA+ – Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer/Questioning, Intersex,
- Asexual/Agender, and Community
- NFT – Non-fungible Tokens
- SAVE Act – Safeguard American Voter Eligibility Act
- SAVE system – The Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements system

E. Healthcare and Human Services

General

We support:

331. Comprehensive, universal healthcare for all
332. Requiring licensed health providers to provide non-discriminatory services
333. Clean water, housing, and food security as basic human rights
334. Maintaining state licensing integrity for healthcare professionals
335. Expanded/subsidized access to low-income and affordable housing
336. Establishing state-sponsored group medical, retirement, central tax/payroll support, and other benefits for childcare workers
337. Increasing funding for state-administered Medicaid benefits
338. Funding programs that address the social determinants of health that contribute to lower rates of cancer
339. Funding nonprofits that fill health care and human services gaps

Reproductive Healthcare

We support:

340. Reproductive healthcare/insurance coverage including abortion/contraceptives
341. A person's right to make their own reproductive choices
342. Medicaid postpartum coverage for a minimum of one year
343. Funding healthcare organizations that provide abortion services
344. No-cost/easy access to contraception
345. Protecting access to all infertility services
346. Mandatory state-supported parental leave

We oppose:

347. Restricting funding and/or access to reproductive healthcare, contraceptives, and abortion
348. Criminalization of abortion, abortion assistance, and abortion education
349. "Crisis pregnancy centers" that do not provide standard medical care, education, or counseling for reproductive healthcare

Access to Care

We support:

350. Expanded medical end-of-life options
351. Guaranteed access to essential healthcare services including oral, vision, and mental health
352. Increasing funding to community health centers and FQHCs, promoting culturally competent healthcare to underserved and rural areas of Iowa
353. Expanded access to home and community-based care options for older adults and people with disabilities
354. Access to CHIP/HAWKI

- 355. Regulation and transparency in healthcare pricing
- 356. Awareness/training to help identify/respond to human-trafficking victims

We oppose:

- 357. Making healthcare coverage dependent on employment status, citizenship, permanent residency, or economic status
- 358. Disparate treatment based on personal/political/religious preferences
- 359. Denying or discouraging undocumented individuals' access to healthcare
- 360. Lapses in services for people with disabilities or who are vulnerable

Mental Health, Substance Use, and Suicide Prevention

We support:

- 361. Comprehensive state-wide mental health reform
- 362. Evidenced-based substance-use disorder treatment and prevention
- 363. Harm reduction efforts
- 364. Expanding access and insurance coverage to and research of medical cannabis and psychedelic therapies
- 365. Cannabis decriminalization and legalization; expunging related charges/convictions
- 366. Increasing funding for HCBS for elderly, disability, mental health, and addiction services
- 367. Classifying addiction as a disease to be treated medically
- 368. Funding for comprehensive first responder mental health training
- 369. Funding and easy access to opioid addiction treatment programs

We oppose:

- 370. Chaplains in schools providing mental health services

LGBTQIA+

We support:

- 371. Inclusive, quality healthcare
- 372. Reinstating/upholding LGBTQIA+ and gender identity protections in the Iowa Civil Rights Code
- 373. Full access to age-appropriate medical treatment and gender-confirmation services

We oppose:

- 374. Outlawing necessary healthcare for individuals in the LGBTQIA+ community
- 375. Conversion/reparative/reorientation therapy
- 376. Banning discussion of LGBTQIA+ history, culture, and personhood/existence
- 377. Discrimination against LGBTQIA+ individuals

Adequate Nutrition

We support:

- 378. Access to quality nutritious foods for all
- 379. Increasing the number of food access points available in rural towns
- 380. Funding programs that increase access to healthy food

We oppose:

381. Denying children access to federally-funded food security assistance

Long Term Care Reforms

We support:

382. Enforcing minimum staffing and pay standards
383. Permitting room cameras
384. Enforcing penalties
385. Ensuring dignified care and staffing supports

Acronyms Used in This Section

- EBT – Electronic Bank Transfer
- CHIP – Children’s Health Insurance Programs
- HAWKI – Healthy and Well Kids in Iowa
- HCBS – Home and Community Based Services
- LTSS – Long Term Services and Supports
- FQHC – Federally Qualified Health Center
- PTSD – Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder

F. International Affairs

Peace and Human Rights

We support:

386. Diplomacy first
387. Multilateral equitable solutions to international problems
388. UDHR, CRC, protecting individual human dignity and universal civil rights
389. Territorial integrity and self-determination of all nations
390. Cultural/educational exchange programs
391. Ending violence and targeted rhetoric against vulnerable populations
392. Protecting survivors/efforts to end human trafficking
393. Free/fair/transparent democratic elections
394. Paris Agreement, international climate cooperation, promoting renewable/sustainable energy
395. Rejoining all the international organizations from which the administration withdrew
396. An immediate ceasefire in Israel/Palestine
397. Self-determination for Palestinians, an end to apartheid, and reinstatement of funding for UNRWA
398. Eliminating privately held patents for vaccines developed with public funds
399. Reestablishment of USAID
400. Rescinding Iowa HR3 (91st General Assembly)

We oppose:

401. US aid that enables the oppression/criminalization/discrimination of any groups protected under US or international law
402. Foreign governmental interference/donations into US campaigns/direct payments to political entities
403. All acts of genocide, ethnic cleansing, and colonization, including those by Israel in Palestine
404. The Board of Peace
405. Government involvement/support for privately held real estate development in international regions

Military

We support:

406. NATO membership and strategic alliances
407. Repealing 2001/2002 AUMF
408. Congressional approval for extending military deployment
409. Transparency in military expenditures documented through rigorous and independent auditing
410. Following congressional guidelines for military and economic interference
411. Reducing military spending

412. Prosecution of war crimes including US personnel and US government officials
413. Closing all “black sites” and ending Guantanamo Bay detention
414. Continued aid and security guarantees to Ukraine

We oppose:

415. Preemptive military strikes
416. Signature drone strikes
417. Contracting/privatizing military efforts
418. Use of child soldiers as defined by CRC
419. Military/lethal aid to foreign states/organizations that enable oppression or killing of civilians
420. War profiteering
421. The usage of drone strikes on vulnerable populations

Nuclear

We support:

422. Ratification of TPNW
423. Multilateral agreements, START/NPT, curbing the development/use of nuclear weapons/hypersonic missiles
424. Expanding international inspections of all atomic energy/nuclear weapons sites

We oppose:

425. Nuclear first strike policy

Immigration

We support:

426. Humane treatment, due process rights, legal representation in court, for all immigrants/undocumented/refugees
427. UN Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees
428. Expanding access to TPS/citizenship/visas/asylum
429. Abolishing ICE
430. Expanding funding and resources to process all immigrant/asylum petitions/applications expeditiously
431. Expanding access to funding and resources for integration
432. Lawful employment of refugees before 6 months’ residence
433. In-state tuition for immigrant residents of Iowa
434. Establishment of educational resources on immigration for the general public

We oppose:

435. Closing of the borders
436. Inhumane/unreasonable treatment/detention/imprisonment of all persons
437. For-profit detention centers
438. Border militarization and walls

439. Quotas and banning persons based on country of origin/religion
440. Using safe third country agreement
441. English as the official language of Iowa
442. AI in identifying and engaging in DHS operations

Trade

We support:

443. Reduction in international arms trade
444. Fair trade/enforcement of WTO obligations
445. Meeting the needs of labor and the environment in trade agreements
446. International minimum corporate tax
447. Prosecuting corporations/corporate leadership for environmental/ethical misconduct
448. Releasing frozen financial assets in the US for the purposes of humanitarian aid
449. International state publicly held debt forgiveness/foreign aid

We oppose:

450. Economic exploitation/imperialism
451. Sanctions/blockades/embargos that harm civilian populations
452. Trade wars
453. Tax havens
454. Tariffs/foreign aid without congressional approval
455. Trade and corporate decisions that lead to personal financial gain
456. Poverty wages/forced labor/modern slavery/child labor
457. Currency/market manipulation
458. Theft of intellectual property/patents

Acronyms Used in This Section

- AI – Artificial Intelligence technologies
- AUMF – Authorization for Use of Military Force (Public Law 107-40)
- CRC – Convention on the Rights of the Child, aka Child Soldier Treaty
- ICE – Immigration and Customs Enforcement
- DHS – Department of Homeland Security
- HR1 – House Resolution number 1, aka “One Big Beautiful Bill”
- HR3 – Iowa House Resolution 3 affirming Iowa’s support for the State of Israel
- LGBTQIA+ – Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer/Questioning, Intersex, Asexual/Agender, and Community
- NATO – North Atlantic Treaty Organization
- NPT – Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons
- START – Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty
- TPNW – Treaty on Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons
- TPS – Temporary Protected Status
- UDHR – Universal Declaration of Human Rights

- USAID – US Agency for International Development
- UN – United Nations
- UNRWA – United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East
- WHO – World Health Organization
- WTO – World Trade Organization

G. Veteran and Military Affairs

We support:

459. Rigorous oversight of DoD and DoVA
460. Full and non-politicized funding and expansion of Veteran Medical and Educational benefits
461. Improving standards/methods for mental/physical care
462. Ending Veteran homelessness
463. Military and Veteran suicide prevention
464. Expanding VA outreach centers/mobile units
465. Full and continuing implementation of the PACT Act and generational benefits to those affected by toxic exposures.
466. Use of CBD/THC and psychotropic therapies for Veteran care
467. Gender and LGBTQIA+ equality including gender affirming care for Veterans and active forces
468. Equal benefits regardless of era of service
469. Raising all Iowa veteran benefits to highest national standard including yearly COLA
470. Establish and expand veteran diversionary courts
471. Job protection for Veterans with service-connected disabilities
472. Removing time limits for G.I. Bill
473. Property tax exemption for owners and renters with disability rating
474. Assistance for Veteran business start-ups
475. Balancing funding of the military with other societal, environmental, and diplomatic needs that support our principles and objectives.
476. Transparent recruitment
477. Living wage for active-duty personnel
478. Equitable benefits for Reserves and National Guard
479. Promoting, expanding, and fully funding meaningful alternate opportunities for public service through AmeriCorps/TFA/Peace Corps/WPA
480. Family assistance for activated reserve component personnel
481. Independent/non-military reporting, investigative, and judicial processes for military physical/sexual assault, harassment, and domestic violence with mandatory permanent record retention
482. OK Home Base Iowa initiative
483. Implementation of an independent, centralized reporting network for instances of misconduct

We oppose:

484. The use of active military/reserve/guard forces domestically assisting ICE
485. Banning LGBTQIA+ individuals from military service
486. Preemptive unilateral military action

Acronyms used in this section

- CBD – Cannabinoid based product
- COLA – Cost of Living Adjustment
- DoD – Department of Defense
- DoVA – Department of Veterans Affairs
- ICE – Immigration and Customs Enforcement
- LGBTQIA+ – Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer/Questioning, Intersex, Asexual/Agender, and Community
- PACT Act – Promise to Address Comprehensive Toxins
- THC – Tetrahydrocannabinol
- TFA – Teach for America
- WPA – Works Progress Administration