

**REPUBLICAN
PLATFORM**



**DEMOCRATIC
PLATFORM**



Abortion

“We assert the sanctity of human life and affirm that the unborn child has a fundamental individual right to life which cannot be infringed. We support a human life amendment to the Constitution.”

“We oppose using public revenues to promote or perform abortion or fund organizations which perform or advocate it and will not fund or subsidize healthcare which includes abortion coverage.”

“The Democratic Party strongly and unequivocally supports Roe v. Wade and a woman’s right to make decisions regarding her pregnancy, including a safe and legal abortion, regardless of ability to pay.”

“Democrats support access to affordable family planning services, and President Obama and Democrats will continue to stand up to Republican efforts to defund Planned Parenthood health centers.”

Marriage

“Congressional Republicans took the lead in enacting the Defense of Marriage Act, affirming the right of States and the federal government not to recognize same-sex relationships licensed in other jurisdictions ... We reaffirm our support for a Constitutional amendment defining marriage as the union of one man and one woman.”

“We support marriage equality and support the movement to secure equal treatment under law for same-sex couples... We support the full repeal of the so-called Defense of Marriage Act and the passage of the Respect for Marriage Act.”

**Healthcare/
Medicare**

“Congressional Republicans are committed to [Obamacare’s] repeal; and a Republican President... will use his legitimate waiver authority under that law to halt its progress.”

“We support the ability of all organizations to provide, purchase, or enroll in healthcare coverage consistent with their religious, moral or ethical convictions without discrimination or penalty.”

“Mitt Romney and the Republican Party would repeal health reform... No law is perfect...but we are committed to moving forward... The Affordable Care Act is not the end of efforts to improve health care for all Americans.”

“The Affordable Care Act ensures that women have access to contraception in their health insurance plans.”

Guns

“We uphold the right of individuals to keep and bear arms... We acknowledge, support, and defend the law-abiding citizen’s God-given right of self-defense ... This also includes the right to obtain and store ammunition without registration.”

“We believe that the right to own firearms is subject to reasonable regulation... We can work together to enact commonsense improvements – like reinstating the assault weapons ban and closing the gun show loophole.”

<p>Education</p>	<p>“The Republican Party is the party of fresh and innovative ideas in education. We support options for learning, including home schooling and local innovations like single-sex classes, full-day school hours, and year-round schools. School choice ... is important for all children, especially for families with children trapped in failing schools.”</p> <p>“The federal government should not be in the business of originating student loans; however, it should serve as an insurance guarantor for the private sector as they offer loans to students. Private sector participation in student financing should be welcomed.”</p> <p>“We renew our call for replacing ‘family planning’ programs for teens with abstinence education.”</p>	<p>“Public education is one of our critical democratic institutions. We are committed to ensuring that every child in America has access to a world-class public education so we can out-educate the world and make sure America has the world’s highest proportion of college graduates by 2020.”</p> <p>To make college affordable for students of all backgrounds and confront the loan burden our students shoulder, we doubled our investment in Pell Grant scholarships and created the American Opportunity Tax Credit worth up to \$10,000 over four years of college.”</p> <p>“Democrats support evidence-based and age appropriate sex education.”</p>
<p>Taxes</p>	<p>“We propose to: [Extend] the Bush tax cuts...reform the tax code...eliminate the taxes on interest, dividends, and capital gains altogether for lower and middle-income taxpayers; End the Death Tax; and Repeal the Alternative Minimum Tax.”</p> <p>“Taxes, by their very nature, reduce a citizen’s freedom.”</p>	<p>“President Obama will extend key tax relief for working families and those paying for college, while asking the wealthiest and corporations to pay their fair share.”</p> <p>“We are committed to reforming our tax code so that it is fairer and simpler, creating a tax code that lives up to the Buffet Rule so no millionaire pays a smaller share of his or her income in taxes than middle-class families do.”</p>
<p>Energy and Environment</p>	<p>“Republicans advocate an all-of-the-above diversified approach, taking advantage of all our American God-given resources...[including] the Outer Continental Shelf...the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge (AN WR)... [and] the Keystone XL Pipeline”</p> <p>We will end the EPA’s war on coal and encourage the increased safe development in all regions of the nation’s coal resources, the jobs it produces, and the affordable, reliable energy that it provides for America. Further, we oppose any and all cap and trade legislation.</p> <p>(there is no recognition of climate change in the party platform)</p>	<p>“We can move towards a sustainable energy-independent future if we harness all of America’s great natural resources. That means an all-of-the-above approach to developing America’s many energy resources, including wind, solar, biofuels, geothermal, hydropower, nuclear, oil, clean coal, and natural gas. President Obama has encouraged innovation to reach his goal of generating 80 percent of our electricity from clean energy sources by 2035.</p> <p>“We know that global climate change is one of the biggest threats of this generation - an economic environmental and national security catastrophe in the making. ... We are committed to environmental justice... Preserving sensitive public lands from exploration, like the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge, Pacific West Coast...”</p>

<p>Immigration</p>	<p>“(W)e oppose any form of amnesty for those who, by intentionally violating the law, disadvantage those who have obeyed it. Granting amnesty only rewards and encourages more law breaking. We support the mandatory use of the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements (S.A.V.E.) program—an internet-based system that verifies the lawful presence of applicants—prior to the granting of any State or federal government entitlements or IRS refunds. We insist upon enforcement at the workplace through verification systems so that jobs can be available to all legal workers ... State enforcement efforts in the workplace must be welcomed, not attacked.”</p>	<p>“Democrats know there is broad consensus to repair that system and strengthen our economy, and that the country urgently needs comprehensive immigration reform that brings undocumented immigrants out of the shadows and requires them to get right with the law, learn English, and pay taxes in order to get on a path to earn citizenship. We need an immigration reform that creates a system for allocating visas that meets our r economic needs, keeps families together, and enforces the law.”</p> <p>“President Obama and the Democrats fought for the DREAM Act, legislation ensuring that young people who want to contribute fully to our society and serve our country are able to become legal residents and ultimately citizens.”</p>
<p>Labor</p>	<p>“We support the right of states to enact right-to-work laws and encourage them to do so to promote greater economic liberty. Ultimately, we support the enactment of a national right-to-work law to promote worker freedom and to promote greater economic liberty.”</p>	<p>“Democrats believe that the right to organize and collectively bargain is a fundamental American value; every American should have a voice on the job and a chance to negotiate for a fair day’s pay after a hard day’s work. We will continue to fight for the right of all workers to organize and join a union.”</p>