

46 We oppose Seattle Mayor Greg Nickels' proposal for the "Seattle Big Dig," which due to its restrictive
47 design would block 50% of current port traffic from utilizing the thoroughfare. We support the more
48 fiscally responsible and reasonable retrofit of the viaduct.

49 We oppose a Washington State income tax.

50

Education

51 Parents have the primary responsibility and authority for educating their children. To that end, the
52 education system in Washington State is responsible for assisting parents in preparing their children to
53 become intellectually mature and productive citizens. Education reform through the No Child Left
54 Behind act gives parents more choices and requires stronger accountability of schools. However, there
55 is cause for alarm that our public school standards are not addressing the math, science and
56 technology needs of the future. Our students are less prepared than those in other industrialized
57 nations in these subjects. Sadly, more than half of all students entering community and technical
58 colleges in Washington State must take remedial math, English or writing classes in preparation for
59 college-level courses. Much remains undone in restoring the American education system and we regard
60 it as a top priority for our party and the nation. Without a fundamental change in attitude, trying to move
61 our education system forward is futile. Excellence in education can be reached through this practical
62 agenda:

- 63 • Abolish the invalid, unreliable and costly Washington Assessment of Student Learning (WASL),
64 and other attitudinal assessments, and return to rigorous, fact-based tests;
- 65 • Reinstigate standardized academic testing such as the Iowa Test of Basic Skills (ITBS) as a
66 check on schools and districts;
- 67 • Require annual academic and fiscal performance audits of each public school;
- 68 • Fund public schools appropriately, with vouchers for other choices, whether public, private or
69 home-based;
- 70 • Require all children to master the English language. Provide language programs focused on
71 integrating non-English speaking students as quickly as possible;
- 72 • Prohibit teaching that encourages sexual activity by school-aged and younger children;
- 73 • Eliminate public school programs that promote homosexuality and sexual promiscuity as
74 acceptable alternative lifestyles;
- 75 • Teach a view of our nation's history, ideals and accomplishments with academic integrity, relying
76 on unedited, fundamental founding documents such as the Declaration of Independence and the
77 Constitutions of the United States and the State of Washington to be part of high school
78 curriculum;
- 79 • Protect home-schooling from government interference;
- 80 • Elect the State Board of Education directly by the people;
- 81 • Reduce administration costs so that more tax money reaches the classroom to benefit the
82 students; and
- 83 • Require the cost of remedial classes for entering college freshmen to be borne by the respective
84 school districts.

85

Restoring Election Integrity

86 Fair and open elections are vital to retaining our liberties and preventing our republic from becoming a
87 tyranny. We believe it is the duty of government to provide clean elections by ensuring only legally
88 registered citizens vote, only legal ballots are cast, that all legally-cast ballots are properly and
89 impartially counted, and that both voters and elections officials adhere to the letter of the law. We also
90 believe that citizens have the right to actively monitor all aspects of the elections process and challenge
91 irregularities. In order to restore the integrity of our elections, we believe it's necessary to:

- 92 • Require proof of U.S. citizenship to register;
- 93 • Verify the accuracy of the current voter rolls, including reregistering each voter if necessary;
- 94 • Use balloting techniques and technologies which are secure and verifiable;

- 95 • Establish consistent standards for determining voter intent;
- 96 • Enact a charter amendment to make the county auditor an elected position;
- 97 • Investigate and prosecute all credible cases of election fraud;
- 98 • Uphold the right of the Republican Party to appoint its own poll workers and recruiters;
- 99 • Require identification to vote at the polling place; and
- 100 • Ensure that the original ballot remains the official record throughout the entire voting process.

101 **Environment**

102 The Republican Party continues to support a long tradition of responsible stewardship of our
103 environment. Landmark Republican legislation includes creation of our National Parks system and
104 establishment of the Environmental Protection Agency.

105 We support:

- 106 • Improved access for citizens to enjoy the public lands; and
- 107 • State shoreline management programs that protect local shoreline property owners while
108 respecting water quality of wetlands, ponds, lakes, streams, rivers and the Puget Sound.

109 **Family**

110 The traditional family is the cornerstone of our free society. Strong caring families with both a father and
111 mother provide the ideal environment for raising and preparing children to become positive, contributing
112 members of their community. We recognize that not all families have both parents in the home. We
113 applaud the many single parents, grandparents, and others, such as extended family members and
114 adoptive parents, who accept the responsibility of preserving families. It is the right and responsibility of
115 parents to provide for and direct all matters concerning the health, welfare, education and moral training
116 of their minor children.

117 We are opposed to the courts limiting a child or children to one parent when both are equally capable
118 and desire to take an active part in their children's upbringing; except when there is proven criminal
119 wrongdoing, abuse or neglect. Our laws must strengthen and sustain family rights and the traditional
120 family structure.

121 We support:

- 122 • Protecting the institution of marriage and its benefits to society with a Constitutional
123 amendment defining marriage as between a man and a woman; and
- 124 • Eliminating government practices and policies that diminish the role of family and personal
125 responsibility.

126 **Government**

127 We believe that our three-branch form of government, as established by the Constitutions of the United
128 States and the State of Washington, with its system of checks and balances, is the best in the world.
129 We believe in a strict construction of the two founding documents with full consideration of original
130 intent. Both clearly define the roles and limitations of each branch as: Legislative in making law,
131 Executive in administering and enforcing the law, and Judicial in deciding cases according to the law.
132 We believe that government exists to serve the people, and not the other way around. But above all, we
133 believe in limited government.

134 **Accountability**

135 Government is the creation of its citizens and is therefore accountable to the citizens. In order to
136 ensure accountability, government decisions must be made in the open. We oppose attempts by
137 officials to hide their activities from the public by such tactics as invoking "attorney-client privilege"
138 or otherwise violating the spirit of public disclosure laws. We also oppose legislating from the
139 bench. Judges who willfully alter the original intent of law should be removed.

140 We renew our commitment to regular performance and fiscal audits and call on officials at all levels
141 to eliminate government waste using the State Auditor's recommendations as a guide. Government
142 must adhere to a strict standard of financial accounting.

143 **Limited Role**

144 We believe that the responsibility for providing the necessities of life rests with the individual.
145 Families, voluntary associations, religious groups and other societal institutions play an important
146 part in assisting individuals in that responsibility. Government has a defined, limited role.

147 **Health Care**

148 Health care is a personal issue, and individuals should be responsible for maintaining a healthy lifestyle.
149 Persons should have choices in insurance coverage, providers, and all other aspects of care.
150 Innovative solutions built on free market principles are the best way of increasing access, affordability
151 and quality within our health care system.

152 We support:

- 153 • Private insurance which allows individual choice of providers, policies and coverage through
154 Consumer-Directed Health Plans such as Health Savings Accounts, Health Reimbursement
155 Arrangements and Flexible Spending Accounts;
- 156 • Restoring variable-benefit plans, from basic to universal, according to personal preference with
157 the option of lower premiums, higher deductibles and co-pays which will reduce unnecessary
158 utilization;
- 159 • Tax credits for private health insurance and deductibility of pharmaceutical costs for all;
- 160 • Eliminating those regulations that unnecessarily increase the cost of health care and prescription
161 drugs;
- 162 • Meaningful malpractice liability reform which will lower the cost of medical insurance and health
163 care services;
- 164 • The right of any health care worker to refuse to provide a service which would violate his or her
165 conscience or professional judgment;
- 166 • The privacy of health care information except between legitimate health care professionals or for
167 determination of insurance liability;
- 168 • Parents' right to health care information concerning their minor children with prior parental
169 consent for all medical procedures, treatments and pharmaceuticals;
- 170 • Adult stem cell research but oppose embryonic stem cell research;
- 171 • Medicare reform that restores fiscal sustainability;
- 172 • Redefining the FDA approval process to focus on determination of harm and risk while letting
173 medical professionals determine efficacy; and
- 174 • The consumer's right to buy health insurance across state lines.

175 We oppose:

- 176 • Government-mandated health care benefits;
- 177 • Human cloning for any reason;
- 178 • Legalization of harmful street drugs. Highly-regulated prescription narcotics are already the
179 second leading drug problem in the country. Making street drugs legal and more readily available
180 will result in more users with detrimental personal and societal results.
- 181 • Government mandating or funding of elective cosmetic surgery and adult sex-change operations.
182 These are personal choices and should be funded on an individual basis.

183 **Border Security and Immigration**

184 While many areas of our national security have been addressed since the attacks of September 11,
185 2001, border security and illegal immigration remain a serious concern. Current border control practices
186 threaten our national and economic security, and have resulted in the growth of an underclass of illegal
187 immigrants. We urge our government to gain control of our borders and enforce our immigration laws

188 while encouraging legal immigrants who come seeking the American Dream. We applaud the
189 President's efforts to encourage discussion and action on these critical issues.

190 Life

191 We believe human life is precious and must be respected in our culture and our laws. We stand with the
192 founders in declaring that everyone has a fundamental, unalienable right to life.

193 We support:

- 194 • Protection of innocent human life, pre-born or born, through all stages of life, sickness and
195 disability; and
- 196 • Legislative prohibitions on infanticide, euthanasia, partial-birth abortion and assisted suicide.

197 National Security

198 We believe in a strong and free America, a nation that leads the world in demonstrating the values of
199 peace, freedom, and human rights. We recognize that there are masses of people that want to enjoy
200 our freedoms, but we must gain control of our borders, prevent proliferation of weapons of mass
201 destruction and win the war on terrorism. We believe in working with all nations to promote freedom, but
202 under no circumstances should the sovereignty of the United States of America be subordinated to any
203 foreign or international body.

204 We believe:

- 205 • Local and state government must support and coordinate with national efforts to provide for our
206 safety and security;
- 207 • Our intelligence agencies must be strengthened and empowered to work together as well as
208 closely cooperating with immigration authorities and local law enforcement;
- 209 • Our national security must take precedence over international commerce, including securing our
210 key infrastructure, ports and utilities;
- 211 • It is important to support our military and allies in Iraq, Afghanistan and the world in building the
212 infrastructure necessary for freedom;
- 213 • Open access for military recruiters in public and private schools is proper and lawful;
- 214 • Continuing to honor all past and current obligations to our troops and veterans is our duty;
- 215 • Gaining control of our borders and adopting a firm immigration policy is vital to national security; and
- 216 • The historical doctrine of pre-emption in U.S. conflicts is worthy of support.

217 **Israel's Right to Defend Itself**

218 Israel, as a sovereign state, has a right to defend itself against foreign enemies and state-sponsored
219 terrorism. We support Israel in the war against terror in their homeland.

220 Property Rights

221 Washington State and local governments have responded to rapid population growth by devising a
222 Growth Management Act that violates the property rights guaranteed to state citizens under its
223 Constitution and has set the stage for broad takings of private property.

224 The implementation of this act, such as the Critical Areas Ordinance in King County, and further
225 regulations, has taken property and violated (usage) rights without just compensation. We believe that
226 increasingly onerous and unjustified land-use regulations are affecting our ability to maintain a
227 sustainable economy.

228 We support:

- 229 • Preservation of property rights of those who have invested their lives and resources in our
230 county and state;

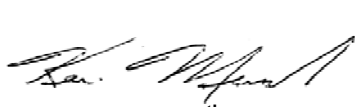
- 231 • Legislative action to nullify the effects of U.S. Supreme Court decision Kelo V. New London that
 232 allows taking of private property for the purpose of generating increased tax revenue;
 233 • Restoration of citizens' property rights; and
 234 • Preservation of historic water rights.

235 **Social Security**

236 Social Security was designed in 1935 as a supplemental income program for retirees. The increase
 237 in American life expectancy and expansion of benefits has made the system unsustainable. We
 238 must recognize the Social Security system cannot be the primary means for funding retirement; that
 239 responsibility rests with the individual. We need to take a fresh look at the program with an eye for
 240 the needs of current and future retirees in the 21st Century.

241
 242 We call for more choices in retirement accounts, such as private Social Security accounts that
 243 belong to the holder established with appropriate rules for investment. Social Security alternatives
 244 must include an option for individuals who wish to remain in the current system.

**King County Republican Central Committee
 Platform Committee Members**



Kevin Murch, 5th District



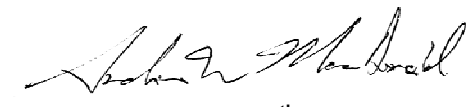
Len Boscarine, 34th District



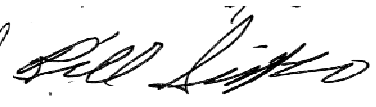
Ralph Kosche, 46th District



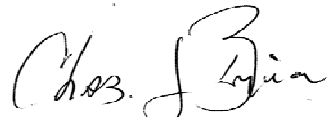
Marilynn Sears, 11th District



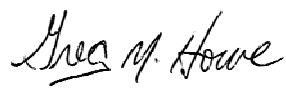
Andy MacDonald, 36th District



Bill Simpson, 47th District



Chuck Brezina, 30th District



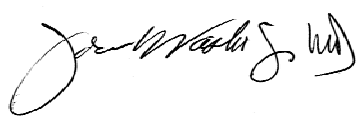
Greg Howe, 37th District



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Dave Marks, 31st District



John Vasko, 39th/45th District



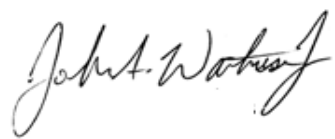
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 Parliamentarian**



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Tim Borders, 43rd District