

# **The Republican Party *of* Wisconsin**



## **2008 Resolutions**

(adopted May 17, 2008)

**2008-01 Commendation of President Bush, Vice President Cheney, Republican State and Federal Office Holders, Grassroots Volunteers, Wisconsinites Serving in the Bush Administration, and our Armed Forces**

WHEREAS, President George W. Bush, our Commander-in-Chief, with the assistance of Vice President Richard B. Cheney, leads our Nation and represents our values; and  
WHEREAS, as a result of the president's strong, consistent leadership, America is safer in a dangerous world; and  
WHEREAS, Republican elected officials, both state and federal, continue to serve their constituents well with dignity and purpose; and  
WHEREAS, Grassroots Volunteers are those truly special members of the Republican Party who contribute to the organization's successes in so many ways, big and small, throughout the year and during election campaigns; and  
WHEREAS, President Bush has seen fit to honor Wisconsin by appointing several Wisconsinites to posts within his Administration; and  
WHEREAS, these individuals deserve our thanks and support for competently performing such vital tasks and representing Wisconsin and the Nation well; and  
WHEREAS, the actions of our armed forces have won the respect of the nation:  
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Republican Party of Wisconsin, in convention assembled, supports and thanks President George W. Bush and Vice President Richard B. Cheney for their leadership, and  
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Republican Party of Wisconsin, in convention assembled, recognizes and extends our appreciation and thanks to those Republican elected officials who serve the citizens of Wisconsin at the state and federal level, and  
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Republican Party of Wisconsin, in convention assembled, commends and extends its sincere appreciation to those special members of the Republican Party who selflessly offer their precious time, skills, experience and talents to improving and strengthening our organization, and enabling it to realize the success it continues to achieve, and  
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Republican Party of Wisconsin, in convention assembled, praises President Bush for appointing these individuals and congratulates, praises, and thanks them for their excellent service to our Nation and for representing Wisconsin so well, and  
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Republican Party of Wisconsin, in convention assembled, commends and thanks our armed forces and their families for the sacrifices they are making, and offer our prayers to the loved ones they leave behind in defending our great Nation.

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**2008-02 Military Commendations**

WHEREAS, our military is comprised of hundreds of thousands of dedicated volunteers that uphold our freedom and way of life; and  
WHEREAS, many men and women have made the ultimate sacrifice in the war on terror and many have been wounded while defending our freedom and safety; and  
WHEREAS, the families of our service men and women do bravely endure separation from their loved ones:  
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Republican Party of Wisconsin, in convention assembled, extends our heartfelt gratitude to the men and women and their families who serve in our armed forces and vows to remember them in our thoughts and prayers; and  
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Republican Party of Wisconsin, in convention assembled, supports a military policy that allows our service men and women to defend themselves without fear of reprisal and regardless of where the enemies are found, even if they are hiding in mosques, schools or other places presumed to be off limits; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Republican Party of Wisconsin, in convention assembled, humbly asks God to bless and protect our troops and to bring them home to us as soon as the job is done.

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### **2008-03 Remembering Governor Dreyfus**

WHEREAS, Lee Sherman Dreyfus, born and raised in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, PHD graduate of the University of Wisconsin, Chancellor of UW Stevens Point from 1967 to 1978, noted author of numerous articles and contributor to numerous books on the subject of communication technology, electrified the 1977 Republican State Convention at Stevens Point, Wisconsin with his inspiring and challenging keynote speech, roundly acknowledged as the best one in decades; and,

WHEREAS, in 1978 Lee Sherman Dreyfus ran for Governor, not the “darling” of the Republican Party establishment, asking: “Who shall rule people or money?” and asserting: “Let the people decide”; and,

WHEREAS, the 1978 campaign for Governor featured Dreyfus crisscrossing Wisconsin on the “Lack-a-Manna Express”, a bus that looked like a railroad engine, designed to prove to voters that one could run a low budget campaign, campaign on issues, represent common people, and govern without being “bought”; and,

WHEREAS, in Governor Dreyfus’ campaign he was asked: “What is the proper role of the federal government?” and responded thoughtfully: “To protect our shores, carry the mail, and stay the hell out of our business”; and,

WHEREAS, Governor Dreyfus after experiencing liberal Madison Democrats, defined Madison as “seventy-three (73) square miles surrounded by reality”; and,

WHEREAS, Governor Lee Sherman Dreyfus successfully dealt with a liberal Democrat legislature to hold the line on taxes and trim the bureaucracy, proclaiming that “the only way to control the bureaucrats is to starve ‘em”.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Republican Party of Wisconsin, in convention assembled, remembering the recent passing of former Governor Lee Sherman Dreyfus, recalls fondly his life and times, his many and major contributions to all of us in Wisconsin by providing limited government, a halt to ever rising taxes and most important an inspiration to us all as to how to live a worthwhile and productive life.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Republican Party of Wisconsin, in convention assembled, extends to Joyce Dreyfus and their children and grandchildren our heartfelt condolences.

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### **2008-04 Commendation of Senator McCain**

WHEREAS, Senator John McCain served our country with honor and distinction, and is a strong supporter of our military who will continue to lead us to victory in Iraq and not defeat; and

WHEREAS, Senator John McCain has long fought against pork barrel spending and has been named several times as Taxpayer Hero by Citizens Against Government Waste; and

WHEREAS, our future depends on leadership that will preserve and protect the country we love, and that will stand up for the values upon which our country was founded, ensuring our individual liberties, protecting our free market economy and working to limit the size and scope of government; and

Whereas, Senator John McCain is the best candidate to work for us to uphold our values as President of the United States of America:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Republican Party of Wisconsin, in convention assembled, pledges our support to our party’s presumptive nominee, the Honorable Senator John McCain and vows to stand with him throughout his campaign because he is our best hope for preserving our values and America.

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### **2008-05 Support of Policy in Iraq and Afghanistan**

WHEREAS, the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq are not isolated conflicts but rather two battles within the larger framework of this war on terror; and  
WHEREAS, withdrawing our troops from Iraq before the Iraqi government restores control over its country would doom Iraq to a brutal civil war and allow Al Qaeda to operate freely from Iraq and plan attacks on the United States; and  
WHEREAS, a strong U.S. military presence is needed in order to provide a sufficient number of troops to train the Iraqi military and the Iraqi police adequately as well as to mount an operation to clear Baghdad of terrorists, militias, and death squads:  
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Republican Party of Wisconsin, in convention assembled, supports the United States in the War on Terror; and  
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Republican Party of Wisconsin, in convention assembled, supports President Bush's policy concerning the U.S. military force levels in Iraq and Afghanistan and urges Congress to fully support our presence and not undermine the troops through destructive non-binding resolutions; and  
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Republican Party of Wisconsin, in convention assembled, insists that Congress give our armed forces all the necessary tools required for a victory in Iraq and Afghanistan and provide those that were oppressed with the opportunity for freedom and liberty through representative governments.

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#### **2008-06 Right to Keep and Bear Arms**

WHEREAS, the United States Constitution (in the Second Amendment) and the Wisconsin Constitution both guarantee the right to bear arms; and  
WHEREAS, Wisconsin does not allow law-abiding citizens to obtain permits allowing them to carry concealed weapons for their self-defense; and  
WHEREAS, virtually every state has adopted such legislation allowing their citizens to obtain permits to carry concealed weapons for their self-defense; and  
WHEREAS, in those states which have adopted such legislation there has been a significant drop in crime, as criminals realized they could no longer count on finding easy (unarmed) prey; and  
WHEREAS, in those states which have adopted such legislation, the number of incidents of misuse of the concealed weapon resulting in the revocation of the permit has been negligible; and  
WHEREAS, reform of the criminal justice system, not gun control, is the key to reducing violent crime in our society:  
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Republican Party of Wisconsin, in convention assembled, urges the state of Wisconsin and the U.S. Congress to pass legislation to prohibit individuals or organizations from suing manufacturers of guns and ammunition for damage caused by illegal acts committed by individuals or gangs, and  
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Republican Party of Wisconsin, in convention assembled, urges the Wisconsin State Legislature and governor to adopt with all due haste legislation permitting law-abiding citizens to obtain a permit to carry concealed weapons after passing a background check and completing a suitable firearms familiarization, use, and safety course, and  
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Republican Party of Wisconsin, in convention assembled, supports federal legislation to require states to honor concealed weapons permits granted by other states, and  
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Republican Party of Wisconsin, in convention assembled, supports the right to keep and bear arms and opposes any piece-meal gun control legislation that would erode this right, and  
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Republican Party of Wisconsin, in convention assembled, supports strict punishment of criminal activity involving firearms.

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#### **2008-07 Crime and Punishment**

WHEREAS, the prison system has violent criminals who show no remorse or repentance for their crimes;

and

WHEREAS, the increasing occurrence of lawsuits filed by inmates creates a drain on taxpayer money defending against them; and

WHEREAS, the release of repeat sexual offenders into the public poses a great threat to the safety of the public; and

WHEREAS, imprisonment isn't a substantial deterrent to crime when inmates do not serve their full period of incarceration, which lack of deterrent contributes to commission of more crimes:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Republican Party of Wisconsin, in convention assembled, urges that prisons should be built as needed and that prisoners should be required to work for their keep and provide restitution to their victims, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Republican Party of Wisconsin, in convention assembled, urges greater restrictions on the release of sexual offenders and supports the lifetime incarceration of sexual predators, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Republican Party of Wisconsin, in convention assembled, supports the following changes in law enforcement:

- A. Promote the increased use of DNA testing of evidence when and where appropriate, and
- B. Revise the legal system to limit the number of appeals, the time frame in which appeals can be filed, restrict judge substitutions, and restrict the filing of frivolous lawsuits by prisoners.
- C. Bar criminals (and their families) from suing their victim(s) for any injury that they may have sustained in the commission of a crime.

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### **2008-08 Capital Punishment**

WHEREAS, justice, the protection of law-abiding citizens, and the maintenance of civil order is a primary duty of government; and

WHEREAS, severity of punishment is very important in deterring crime; and

WHEREAS, the value society places on the sanctity of human life is reflected in the severity of punishment imposed for wrongfully taking human life; and

WHEREAS, prisoners confined for life are not only a burden to the taxpayers, but also a danger to prison guards and fellow inmates; and

WHEREAS, by failing to execute hardened criminals, we are condemning to death their future murder victims:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Republican Party of Wisconsin, in convention assembled, urges that the death penalty be re-instituted for certain specific heinous crimes for which any lesser penalty would be an injustice.

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### **2008-09 Sanctity of Human Life**

WHEREAS, our founding fathers recognized life as an inalienable, divine right which the Republican Party has reaffirmed in declaring abortion, infanticide, and euthanasia as violations of this sacred and basic human right; and

WHEREAS, the Fifth and Fourteenth Amendments of the United States Constitution guarantee that no person shall be deprived of life without due process of the law:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Republican Party of Wisconsin, in convention assembled, insists that our federal and state legislators reaffirm the sanctity of all human life and reestablish legal protection of human life from conception to natural death through legislation and a human life amendment to both the state and federal constitutions, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Republican Party of Wisconsin, in convention assembled:

- A. Demands that our state legislators support and pass legislation allowing those in the health care field to exempt themselves from any and all abortion procedures, and
- B. Demands the United States Congress pass legislation banning research on fetal tissue and all human cloning, and

- C. Demands our federal and state governments not directly or indirectly fund abortions, and
  - D. Demands that the selling of baby body parts and/or fetal tissue be prohibited with the exception of blood and blood products.
  - E. Urges our state and national legislators to impose reasonable limits on abortion, such as spousal notification, counseling, waiting requirements, a prohibition on crossing state lines, and parental notification requirements in cases of minors seeking abortions, and
  - F. Urges our state and national legislators to be sensitive to the difficult circumstances surrounding unplanned pregnancies, and supports programs which provide guidance, in a compassionate manner, to help mothers who face an unplanned pregnancy to understand the options available to them, in particular the option of saving the life of each mother's unborn child through adoption.
  - G. Opposes the use of embryonic stem cells and recognizes the contribution of and ongoing research using adult stem cells.
- BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Republican Party of Wisconsin, in convention assembled, supports the enactment of a ban on partial birth abortion.

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### **2008-10 Family Values and Preservation of Parental Rights**

- WHEREAS, the family is the basic unit of society, and it is the natural right and obligation of parents to raise and educate their children; and
- WHEREAS, governments have been infringing on parental rights:
- NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Republican Party of Wisconsin, in convention assembled:
- A. Opposes any and all infringement of parental rights and obligations by any branch of government, and
  - B. Insists that parents have access to any government files and records concerning their children, including records, files, and reports held by schools, and
  - C. Rejects any United Nations Organization conventions that infringe on the parental rights of U.S. parents and guardians, and
  - D. Desires explicit legal definitions of "child abuse" to prevent parental harassment, and
  - E. Recognizes that parents have the right and obligation to discipline their children including the reasonable use of corporal punishment, and
  - F. Urges that a child should not be removed from an allegedly abusive home until a judge has reviewed the factual basis for that removal, unless overwhelming facts dictate need for immediate action, and
  - G. Recognizes that parents have the right to counsel at all stages when a child is being removed from their home, and
  - H. Urges our state legislators to support and pass legislation requiring that all funding for family planning be based upon the principle of abstinence before marriage, and
  - I. Endorses the principle that the primary responsibility of teaching family values and sexual education should be upon parents and places of worship, and
  - J. Supports legislation that guarantees and protects the Father's inalienable right to decide against any decision to end his unborn child's life.
  - K. Urges our local leaders and legislators to support restrictions on pornography in public places to the greatest extent constitutionally permissible, and limits on minors' access to pornographic sites on the Internet at schools and libraries.

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### **2008-11 The USA Patriot Act**

- WHEREAS, the USA Patriot Act has proven to be a vital tool in the protection of our homeland, as is shown by the prevention of a major terrorist attack since September 11, 2001, and
- WHEREAS, the USA Patriot Act allows investigators to use the same tools that have long been used to fight organized crime and drug trafficking, to investigate terrorism, and
- WHEREAS, the USA Patriot Act permits the sharing of information between law enforcement and intelligence agencies, and

WHEREAS, an investigation conducted by the Department of Justice's Inspector General failed to uncover any civil liberties violations under the USA Patriot Act, and  
WHEREAS, the USA Patriot Act received overwhelming, bipartisan support in both the Senate and the House of Representatives upon its enactment;  
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Republican Party of Wisconsin, in convention assembled, that we support the objectives of the USA Patriot Act and we urge our Representatives in Congress to vote for the renewal of this important legislation every four years at an off presidential election year.

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## **2008-12 Taxes**

WHEREAS, Wisconsin remains one of the top taxed states in the country; and  
WHEREAS, high and punitive rates of taxation impede growth and discourage businesses from doing business in Wisconsin; and  
WHEREAS, high taxes stifle economic growth, discourage innovation and entrepreneurship, and diminish an individual's ability to realize the American dream; and  
WHEREAS, Wisconsin taxpayers have been provided with little or no legislative protection from referenda presented to voters without complete financial information; and  
WHEREAS, a Taxpayer Protection Amendment (TPA) limits the amount of revenue that the state or special purpose district, school district, technical college district, county, city, village, or town may receive in a given year, thereby limiting their spending; and  
WHEREAS, it is unfair and detrimental to economic growth to require businesses to pay property taxes on items just because they are located at their business, and  
WHEREAS, we support the following principles:

1. Annual state and local spending growth be limited to the rate of population growth and inflation.
2. Excess revenues collected above this limit should be used to create a budget stabilization fund, an emergency fund, and refunded to the taxpayers.
3. Tax increases should only be enacted by the people's vote:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Republican Party of Wisconsin, in convention assembled:

- A. Supports a Taxpayer Protection Amendment to the Wisconsin state constitution and urges its adoption, and
  - B. Urges the repeal of taxes imposed on estate, gifts, capital gains, interest and dividends, personal property, and
  - C. Recommends passage of a federal constitutional amendment requiring a balanced federal budget (excluding the Social Security Trust Fund from the general federal budget) with exceptions for national emergencies, and
  - D. Urges the state governments not to pass any unfunded mandates, and
  - E. Urges the Congress to make the tax cuts of 2001 and 2003 permanent, and
  - F. Urges the elimination of the Alternative Minimum Tax (AMT); and
  - G. Opposes the county sales tax and the exercise of any other local tax option without referendum, and
  - H. Supports requiring a "super majority" (2/3 vote) at the national and state levels to raise taxes, and
  - I. Directs the Congress, the state legislature, the county, town, village, technical college, special district, and school boards and city councils to reduce spending, and
  - J. Proposes that our entire federal tax code be sun-setted and replaced with a simpler, fairer tax system.
- BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Republican Party of Wisconsin, in convention assembled, supports ending the practice of attaching policy-making bills to the budget and calls for each policy bill to be introduced separately by title, and be debated fully and passed by recorded votes by both houses of the legislature.

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## **2008-13 No Taxation without Representation**

WHEREAS, taxation without representation is unfair, unjust, and unconstitutional; and  
WHEREAS, there exist a number of government jurisdictions with taxing authority whose governing boards are not elected by the public, including the Metropolitan Milwaukee Sewerage District (MMSD), the Wisconsin Center District, the Miller Park Stadium District, the Technical College Boards, and proposed authorities such as the Regional Transportation Authority:  
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Republican Party of Wisconsin, in convention assembled, urges that all taxing authorities be elected not appointed, to their positions by the voters in the communities they serve.

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### **2008-14 Fairness in Agricultural Production, Service, and Marketing**

WHEREAS, United States farmers lead the world in agricultural production and quality; and  
WHEREAS, federal and state agricultural policy significantly affects farm income; and  
WHEREAS, United States farmers face domestic competition from foreign commodities without equal competition in those same markets; and  
WHEREAS, Wisconsin farmers must have equal opportunity to compete in the agricultural production markets (dairy, beef, hog, field crops) with counterparts in other states, but are currently hampered and disadvantaged by artificial, government created barriers; and  
WHEREAS, current federal dairy policy has caused Wisconsin dairy farmers to be placed at a competitive disadvantage to dairy producers in other regions of the United States:  
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Republican Party of Wisconsin, in convention assembled:  
A. Opposes any farm program that interferes with a free, competitive market, and  
B. Supports the elimination of rules and regulations that interfere with the free flow of dairy products including raw milk and its products, and opposes the setting of a basic floor price for milk, and  
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Republican Party of Wisconsin, in convention assembled, supports completely open foreign markets to U.S. agricultural products, and  
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Republican Party of Wisconsin, in convention assembled, supports holding imported agricultural products to the same health and sanitary standards as domestic products.

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### **2008-15 Reforming Social Security**

WHEREAS, Social Security is a “pay-as-you-go” system with today’s taxpayers paying for benefits of today’s retirees; and  
WHEREAS, the current Social Security system will begin to experience deficits beginning approximately in the next decade; and  
WHEREAS, personal retirement accounts would provide individuals the opportunity to build wealth to be used for retirement and health care and would not cause reduction of benefits nor increase taxes; and  
WHEREAS, members of Congress as well as Wisconsin’s State Legislature and state and federal employees already have programs that allow for private investment for retirement purposes:  
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Republican Party of Wisconsin, in convention assembled, urges federal legislation allowing workers to place a portion of their Social Security payroll taxes into a private retirement account in which employees have the right to direct the investment of their Social Security taxes, and  
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Republican Party of Wisconsin, in convention assembled, urges legislation that would place the Social Security Program on an actuarially sound footing without raising taxes, and  
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Republican Party of Wisconsin, in convention assembled, supports the opportunity to opt out of the Social Security retirement program for Americans under age 40, and  
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Republican Party of Wisconsin, in convention assembled, supports tax policy that will raise current limits on individual contributions to IRA accounts, and  
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Republican Party of Wisconsin, in convention assembled, supports

full tax-deductibility and/or credits for alternative investments into non-government sponsored savings programs.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Republican Party of Wisconsin, in convention assembled, urges the protection of the social security trust fund by keeping it separate from the federal budget and prohibiting the transfer of those funds.

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### **2008-16 Election Reform**

WHEREAS, widespread election fraud has long involved citizens casting multiple votes from multiple registrations and multiple impersonations, and has now come to include the registration and voting of noncitizens;  
and

WHEREAS, current programs such as on-site registration invite fraud at the polling place; and  
WHEREAS, social security cards, driver's licenses, and similar identification cards are so plentiful today that it is no longer an imposition to require their display; and

WHEREAS, it has become more and more evident that rampant voter fraud is occurring in the state of Wisconsin:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Republican Party of Wisconsin, in convention assembled:

- A. Supports the requirement of photo identification when registering to vote and when voting, and
- B. Urges passage of legislation to eliminate same-day voter registration, and
- E. Demands that prosecution, to the fullest extent of the law, of anyone found to have broken any laws relating to ballot registration or ballot casting.

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### **2008-17 Union Political Activity**

WHEREAS, compulsory union dues provide unions vast amounts of money to spend on elections and political advocacy with which the contributors may not agree; and  
WHEREAS, all politically active organizations and groups, including unions, should be subject to the same election finance reporting regulations:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Republican Party of Wisconsin, in convention assembled, urges that all political fundraising be solicited separately and not combined with any other union dues or fees.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Republican Party of Wisconsin, in convention assembled, calls for the State legislature to pass a Paycheck Protection Act that will require written consent by individual union members before their union can levy dues for political purposes and that forbids employers from deducting political monies from employees' paychecks, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Republican Party of Wisconsin, in convention assembled, urges reinstatement of the executive order directing enforcement of the Supreme Court's *Beck* decision ruling that union members be informed of the amount of their dues spent on political activity, and giving those union members the right to a refund of that portion of their dues and the right to refuse the use of dues for political activity.

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### **2008-18 English as the Official Language**

WHEREAS, the lack of a common language is an impediment to commerce, and can contribute to a lack of national unity, as has happened in Canada and Belgium; and

WHEREAS, the lack of fluency in the dominant language in any society impairs the ability to become a productive and contributing member of society; and

WHEREAS, learning the dominant language is necessary to a complete assimilation into society:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Republican Party of Wisconsin, in convention assembled, recommends that English be designated the official language of the United States and the State of Wisconsin, and  
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Republican Party of Wisconsin, in convention assembled, recommends that decisions regarding the use of bilingual education in public schools be left to the discretion of local school boards.

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### **2007-19 Gambling**

WHEREAS, gambling promotes social problems such as gambling addiction, increased crime and corruption; and  
WHEREAS, these social problems are a financial drain on society with those costs increasing each and every year; and  
WHEREAS, statistics tend to show that gambling is supported mostly by those people who can least afford to lose their money; and  
WHEREAS, in the past on non-binding referenda, the people of Wisconsin have opposed the expansion of gambling in Wisconsin:  
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Republican Party of Wisconsin, in convention assembled, urges the Wisconsin Legislature to:  
A. Declare a moratorium on gambling expansion in Wisconsin, and  
B. Request a complete re-evaluation of the implementation of the entire gambling program in Wisconsin to see if it is providing the intended benefits, including a cost-benefit analysis of the amount of direct tax relief being provided, and  
C. Call a state referendum on the reduction or abolition of gambling in the State.

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### **2008-20 Gaming Compacts**

WHEREAS, Governor Doyle negotiated compacts in secrecy with no input from the citizens of Wisconsin or their elected representatives; and  
WHEREAS, the compacts entered into by Governor Doyle are not financially competitive compared to similar arrangements in other states; and  
WHEREAS, the Wisconsin State Supreme Court found compacts entered into by Governor Doyle to exceed his constitutional authority and found fault with the manner in which said compacts were negotiated, including the terms of those compacts:  
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Republican Party of Wisconsin, in convention assembled, strongly opposes the way in which current gaming compacts were negotiated; and  
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Republican Party of Wisconsin, in convention assembled, any compacts negotiated with the tribes should have reasonable durations, such as five years, to permit periodic adjustments depending on economic conditions.  
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Republican Party of Wisconsin, in convention assembled, urges state legislators to further pursue options to protect the people of Wisconsin from the current high risk gaming compacts.

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### **2008-21 Education**

Whereas, virtual schools have come under attack by the leadership of the state teacher's union; and  
WHEREAS, parents have the fundamental right and responsibility to educate their children and provide for their moral guidance; and  
WHEREAS, parents should have as much choice as possible in selecting the right school for their children; and

WHEREAS, vigorous competition from independent schools will stimulate government schools to strive for and achieve excellence:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Republican Party of Wisconsin, in convention assembled:

A. Urges that parents of school-age children be given vouchers or tax credits designed to give all parents equal freedom of choice in education without regard to their financial means, and

B. Urges that religiously oriented schools not be discriminated against for exercising their freedom of religion, and

C. Strongly urges that the right to home school shall not be abridged, and

D. Urges our state legislators and local school boards to push for curriculum changes that place greater emphasis on the basics, including science, social studies, mathematics, reading, and phonics, and eliminate all programs whose objectives are social engineering or advocacy of special interests, and

E. Urges the state legislature to stop schools from advocating gay and lesbian behavior, and

F. Urges the state legislature to stop schools from providing contraception to students, and

G. Calls for the state legislature to eliminate funding of 4-year-old kindergarten, and

H. Urges Congress to pass legislation that prohibits schools from forcing or coercing parents to put their children on drugs and eliminates all funding for government-mandated mental health screening of all children, and

I. Supports academic efforts that ensure that the presentation of our history and founding principles in our educational institutions, including those of higher learning, is objective, truthful and complete, and

J. Urges legislation adopting alternative standards for teacher licensing that do not require a degree in education or student-teaching experience, and

K. Believes that school boards should have discretion as to the teaching of intelligent design within their districts, and

L. Urges that the religious heritage of our nation be taught.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Republican Party of Wisconsin, in convention assembled, supports legislation to make it easier to fire unsatisfactory teachers in the public schools.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Republican Party of Wisconsin, in convention assembled, supports local school districts' decision to set up virtual schools and parents right to participate in their children's education and to choose virtual schools for their children's education; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Republican Party of Wisconsin, in convention assembled, urges that libraries in all publicly-funded schools have a balance of reading materials that reflect conservative values as well as liberal values, and

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## **2008-22 Mandated Government Controlled Health Care**

WHEREAS, Government on both the state and federal levels are attempting to take control of our health care; and

WHEREAS, the Democrat presidential candidates support government mandated universal healthcare; and Whereas, universal, government-based health care has proven to lead to increased cost and decreased access to healthcare for most consumers; and

WHEREAS, the Democrat controlled state senate has proposed a program called Healthy Wisconsin; and WHEREAS, our state and federal governments are threatening to mandate health care coverage for every Wisconsinite and U.S. Citizen:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Republican Party of Wisconsin, in convention assembled, oppose the proposal called Healthy Wisconsin and any state or federal government controlled health care.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Republican Party of Wisconsin, in convention assembled, urges specific measures, such as Health Savings Accounts, Health Insurance Co-ops and greater transparency of health care costs that are market and consumer-based.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Republican Party of Wisconsin, in convention assembled, urges both the state and the federal governments to halt the slide to health care socialism; and instead, promote the cure to problems in the health care industry by relying more on deregulation, free enterprise, individual responsibility, and market-oriented solutions.

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### **2008-23 Promoting National Energy Independence**

WHEREAS, reliable sources of energy are essential to maintaining economic prosperity; and  
WHEREAS, our country's reliance on foreign sources of energy is detrimental to our economy, balance of trade, and national security:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Republican Party of Wisconsin, in convention assembled, supports the renewed use of nuclear power, and investigation and development of other energy sources within the private sector, to meet our state and nation's energy needs, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Republican Party of Wisconsin, in convention assembled, supports greater exploration and development of oil resources within our country, including opening up small portions of the Alaskan National Wildlife Refuge for energy exploration, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Republican Party of Wisconsin, in convention assembled, we strongly oppose interference in the free market by mandating or subsidizing the use of ethanol as an additive to or substitute for gasoline at both the state and federal level.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Republican Party of Wisconsin, in convention assembled, supports removal of restrictions on the building of refineries, and supports the minimization of the requirements for specialty blends of gasoline, all of which will make the United States less dependent on foreign oil and will reduce the cost of our energy

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### **2008-24 Tort Reform**

WHEREAS, frivolous lawsuits and extraordinary damage awards burden all citizens because they result in increased costs for services and products:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Republican Party of Wisconsin, in convention assembled, supports a change in the joint and several liability concept that would limit awards against each defendant to the actual percentage of that defendant's liability, thereby eliminating the "deep pockets" concept, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Republican Party of Wisconsin, in convention assembled, urges legislation requiring plaintiffs to show a direct causal link between the defendant party's breach of duty and the actual damages incurred by the plaintiff, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Republican Party of Wisconsin, in convention assembled, supports restricting class action lawsuits to those who actually suffer harm or economic loss.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Republican Party of Wisconsin, in convention assembled, urges limiting compensation for "pain and suffering", "emotional distress", etc. with restrictions and caps.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Republican Party of Wisconsin, in convention assembled, urges prohibition of product liability in cases of negligent or willful product misuse.

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### **2008-25 Fair Immigration Policies**

WHEREAS, current laws, and their enforcement at the federal level, have not succeeded in preventing the movement of illegal immigrants across our borders; and

WHEREAS, this situation has resulted in unsecured borders, opportunities for terrorists, and a large underground economy that is reliant on the labor of illegal immigrants; and

WHEREAS, maintaining the integrity of our requirements for citizenship and entry into the country is vital to our national security; and

WHEREAS, an amnesty program such as the "guest worker program" is counterproductive to upholding America's laws and rewards illegal activity at the expense of the many who abide by the law and gain legal entry into the United States and encourages continued illegal immigration; and

WHEREAS, illegal immigration not only creates social, economic, and educational problems but also

threatens our national security;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Republican Party of Wisconsin, in convention assembled, insists that Congress act immediately to secure our borders from illegal immigration; and BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Republican Party of Wisconsin, in convention assembled, applauds and supports Congressman Sensenbrenner's efforts to enact real immigration reform; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Republican Party of Wisconsin, in convention assembled, opposes any amnesty program for illegal immigrants, including the 'guest worker program'; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Republican Party of Wisconsin, in convention assembled, urges our congressional delegation and State Legislature to prohibit all benefits to illegal immigrants; and BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Republican Party of Wisconsin, in convention assembled, supports legislation requiring state law enforcement officials to process immediate deportation orders on illegal immigrants who commit misdemeanor crimes and on illegal immigrants who have a prior criminal record of either felonies or misdemeanors, and requiring that illegal immigrants who commit felonies serve their appropriate sentence and then be deported.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Republican Party of Wisconsin, in convention assembled, that the government also take a hard stand with companies that willingly employ migrant workers who they know or have reason to believe are illegal immigrants in this country.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Republican Party of Wisconsin, in convention assembled, that the Republican Party supports policies that all illegal immigrant children upon reaching the age of majority be encouraged to seek citizenship without fear of recrimination.

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#### **2008-26 Smaller Government**

WHEREAS, the size of our local, state and federal governments has significantly increased and continues to do so; and

WHEREAS, the size of government directly affects our daily lives, liberties, pursuits and endeavors; and WHEREAS the federal government has usurped numerous powers that the Constitution reserves to the states, and this usurpation of power has been accomplished with the connivance of many politicians and judges who have violated their oaths of office to uphold the Constitution of the United States:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Republican Party of Wisconsin, in convention assembled, urges a moratorium on the expansion of government, and a return to a conservative agenda and history as the party of less government, less intrusive government, less taxes and more responsible spending, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Republican Party of Wisconsin, in convention assembled, urges the periodic congressional reauthorization (sunsetting) of the following Federal Departments and Agencies: Education, HUD, Energy, Transportation, HHS, Labor, Agriculture, National Endowment for the Arts, and Public Broadcasting System, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Republican Party of Wisconsin, in convention assembled, urges our Republican members of Congress to work with the Republican Study Committee to enact the Contract With America Renewed, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Republican Party of Wisconsin, in convention assembled, encourages government at all levels to privatize all functions capable of performance by the private sector, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Republican Party of Wisconsin, in convention assembled, urges the greatest possible devolution of governmental authority to the states, as required by the Tenth Amendment to the United States Constitution.

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#### **2008-27 Restricting the Exercise of Eminent Domain**

WHEREAS, the U.S. Supreme Court, in the case *Kelo vs. City of New London*, expanded the ability of government to take private property for economic development purposes; and

WHEREAS, the Fifth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution prohibits the taking of private property, except

for public use upon payment of just compensation:  
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Republican Party of Wisconsin, in convention assembled, urges passage of legislation preventing any government entity from using eminent domain to take private property purely for purposes of economic development, and  
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Republican Party of Wisconsin, in convention assembled, supports the prohibition of regulatory takings without just compensation.

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#### **2008-28 Conservative Direction: GOP**

WHEREAS, the Republican Party of Wisconsin at the local, district, and state level at the Convention, has passed numerous resolutions of a conservative nature; favoring a smaller less intrusive government, a right to bear arms, and a directive to secure our borders, etc.; and  
WHEREAS, these resolutions are the direction that the people of the party want their representatives to adhere to; and  
WHEREAS, the people of the party recognize that while they cannot compel their representatives to vote in this manner, they can and do expect them to adhere to conservative principles.  
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Republican Party of Wisconsin, in convention assembled, urge the Republican Party to withhold support for those candidates that do not consistently subscribe to this overall conservative agenda, be they incumbent or new candidates, and  
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Republican Party of Wisconsin, in convention assembled, actively and vigorously seek candidates that will adhere to these conservative principles, and respect the wishes of party members.

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#### **2008-29 Smart Growth Comprehensive Planning Repeal**

WHEREAS, Smart Growth legislation (Comprehensive Planning), Chapter 66.1001 Wis. Stats., was signed into law as part of the 1999-2000 budget bill; and  
WHEREAS, this land use act was never properly addressed separately by the Wisconsin State Legislature; and  
WHEREAS, the consequences of this act could result in loss of property rights, increased government regulation and economic hardship; and  
WHEREAS, legislation has been introduced to repeal Smart Growth law:  
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Republican Party of Wisconsin, in convention assembled, opposes Smart Growth and calls for the law to be promptly repealed by the state legislature.

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#### **2008-30 National Motto**

WHEREAS, during the Second Great Awakening, the Republican Party responded to popular sentiment and put "In God We Trust" on our national coinage; and  
WHEREAS, then like now, broad based religious sentiment grew in response to national crisis and war; and  
RECOGNIZING, that great leaders such as Salmon P. Chase, Abolitionist, Senator, Treasury Secretary and U.S. Supreme Court Justice and President Abraham Lincoln were instrumental in giving us the National Motto; and  
RECOGNIZING, that nearly a century later President Dwight D. Eisenhower, responding to popular wishes extended the "In God We Trust" motto to our paper currency as well as our coined money; and  
RECOGNIZING, with prior U.S. Supreme Court decisions that the National Motto, like the Pledge is nonsectarian  
and does not violate the Establishment Clause,  
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Republican Party of Wisconsin, in convention

assembled, strongly encourages Republican lawmakers and Party officials to defend the use of the “In God We Trust” motto on our money as part of our Nation’s and Party’s heritage and if challenged in the courts, to submit Amicus briefs supporting its continued use on our nation’s money.

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### **2008-31 Light Rail and KRM**

WHEREAS, various proposals for light and commuter (KRM) rail systems in the Milwaukee-Kenosha corridor have been made in recent years, almost invariably at frightful cost to the taxpayers; and  
WHEREAS, Southeastern Wisconsin does not have the density of population necessary for the economical operation of such a system; and  
WHEREAS, the voters have demonstrated their opposition to light rail in referendum after referendum; and  
WHEREAS, the voters have not been able to vote on the proposed KRM line; and  
WHEREAS, most supporters of light and commuter rail do not intend to ride the rails themselves but just want to get the other guys off the road, whether they like it or not:  
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Republican Party of Wisconsin, in convention assembled, that no public funds be expended on light or commuter (KRM) rail in Wisconsin.

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### **2008-32 End Stewardship Fund Land Purchases**

WHEREAS, the Wisconsin State Legislature has authorized an undetermined amount of debt to be used for environmental purposes; and  
WHEREAS, instead vast tracts of private property have been purchased by the State, and taken off the tax rolls:  
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Republican Party of Wisconsin, in convention assembled, shall stand opposed to Stewardship Fund land purchases and calls for the ending of the Stewardship Fund. Furthermore, the State should be selling land instead of purchasing more land.

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### **2008-33 Affirmative Action**

WHEREAS, the Republican Party was formed March 20, 1854, in Ripon, Wisconsin, to address the issue of slavery, and addressed racism as a moral issue in its first platform in 1856; and  
WHEREAS, discriminating against people on the basis of race is against our constitutional principles, and  
WHEREAS, policies implemented by the UW Board of Regents, the State of WI Executive Branch and several cities and counties encourage preference based on race and sex:  
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Republican Party of Wisconsin, in convention assembled, reaffirm and renew the Republican Party’s historic and moral commitment against racism, and continue to welcome Americans of every ethnicity to take a seat at the table in our Party as we work together to preserve our heritage of equality, religious freedom, and strong moral values.  
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Republican Party of Wisconsin, in convention assembled, calls upon our legislature to pass a constitutional amendment forbidding preferences based upon race or sex in the state of Wisconsin.

### **2007-34 Establishing Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP)**

WHEREAS, Wisconsin Governor Doyle has used accounting tricks to “eliminate” the deficit; and  
WHEREAS, Governor Doyle fooled the electorate into believing that he had “balanced” the budget; and  
WHEREAS, Governor Doyle likely was re-elected by “smoke and mirrors-style accounting”; and  
WHEREAS, if General Accepted Accounting Practices (GAAP) would have been applied, it would have shown that Wisconsin had a massive general fund deficit; and

WHEREAS, GAAP is required of all publicly traded companies; the federal government requires it for its internal auditing; most state and local governments are moving towards GAAP and all certified accountants must use GAAP; and

WHEREAS, Representative Frank Lasee has made this a legislative priority:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Republican Party of Wisconsin, in convention assembled, supports legislation to establish Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP) and encourages all state legislators to prioritize enacting GAAP legislation.

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#### **2008-35 Requiring Governor to Submit a Balanced State Budget**

WHEREAS, it is a top priority for our state government to be frugal with tax payer dollars; and,

WHEREAS, Wisconsin currently has a spending problem where the state is one of the highest taxing states in the nation while Wisconsin's citizens incomes are less than the national average; and,

WHEREAS, it is not in the interest of the citizens of our state to have our taxes raised; and,

WHEREAS, having a balanced state budget is a constitutional requirement and clearly a vitally important public policy; and,

WHEREAS, while state law requires the legislature to balance the state budget but does not commit the Governor to submit a balance state budget to the legislature; and,

WHEREAS, it is much more effective if both the legislature and executive branches of government would have a shared responsibility to balance the budget to provide for better stewardship of our tax payer dollars in Wisconsin;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Republican Party of Wisconsin, in convention assembled, support efforts to require the Governor to submit a balanced budget in order to more effectively provide for the mandatory objective of a balanced state budget which our constitution requires and to carefully explain all tax shifts and increases in user fees.

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#### **2008-36 Desecration of the American Flag**

WHEREAS, the American flag is the banner to which loyal Americans regularly pledge allegiance to our great country, and

WHEREAS, the American flag is the banner which represents our "one nation, under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all":

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Republican Party of Wisconsin, in convention assembled, urges enactment of state and federal legislation to ban desecration of the American flag.

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#### **2008-37 Care for Veterans**

WHEREAS, it is essential to our nations security that we maintain a strong military made up of the best men and women we can enlist;

WHEREAS, our brave military personnel are defending our freedoms at the risk of their life and limb;

WHEREAS, the Veterans Administration is responsible for providing medical care to veterans injured in the line of duty;

WHEREAS, that funding is as important to our national security as funding for the Defense Department;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Republican Party of Wisconsin, in convention assembled, that it is essential to providing that care that we properly fund the operation of VA hospitals and clinics

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#### **2008-38 Repealing the "Minimum Markup" Law**

Whereas, Wisconsin's retailers are still governed by the Unair Sales Act originally passed in the 1930s; and  
Whereas, Wisconsin's residents are forced to pay higher prices by this law which has outlived its  
usefulness;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Republican Party of Wisconsin, in convention  
assembled, urges the State Legislature to quickly pass legislation that will repeal the Unair Sales Act

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### **2008-39 Stop General Purpose Revenue Funding of Wisconsin Public Radio and Wisconsin Public Television**

WHEREAS the taxpayers of the state of Wisconsin provide approximately nineteen percent of funding for  
Wisconsin Public Television (WPT) from General Purpose Revenue (GPR) and  
WHEREAS, the taxpayers of the state of Wisconsin provide approximately forty per cent of Wisconsin  
Public Radio's (WPR) funding is supplied by direct and indirect state/university money, and  
WHEREAS, the State of Wisconsin is experiencing a significant budget deficit, and  
WHEREAS, neither WPR nor WPT provide equitable representation of all political perspectives;  
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Republican Party of Wisconsin, in convention  
assembled, calls for the cessation of GPR support to WPR and/or WPT.

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### **2008-40 Personal Liberty**

WHEREAS, America was founded on the premise of Freedom; and  
WHEREAS, the constitution guarantees personal liberty; and  
WHEREAS, each individual has the right over his or her own person; now  
WHEREAS, private property rights are destroyed by the continued regulation of behavior on private  
property, including business open to the public, and  
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Republican Party of Wisconsin, in convention  
assembled:

- A. Supports individual personal rights and responsibilities
- B. Does not support any reduction in personal freedoms and liberties through the legislation of Smoking  
Bans.

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### **2008-41 Climate Change and the Environment**

WHEREAS, the Republican Party is governed by conservative principles which inform our positions  
regarding the environment; and  
WHEREAS, as a party we believe in stewardship of our natural resources, replenishment of said resources  
when possible, and responsible management of our natural environment; and  
WHEREAS, because the alarmist tone of some in the environmentalist communities' misguided solutions  
have been quickly seized upon which have proven not to adequately address any real (or perceived)  
problem; and  
WHEREAS, we do not want to cede our national sovereignty to international law; and  
WHEREAS, there is far from a preponderance of evidence within the scientific community on the extent  
and cause of global climate change; now  
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Republican Party of Wisconsin, in convention  
assembled, urges federal, state and local governments:

- A. To wait for a preponderance of evidence among the scientific community before taking any legislative  
action.
- B. Not to enact any legislation that will hinder the free market's ability to address issues pertaining to  
climate change and the environment.

C. Seek other, non-intrusive constitutionally legitimate means of encouraging citizens and industry to take positive steps toward energy conservation, positive natural resource management, and development of new technologies.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Republican Party of Wisconsin, in convention assembled, calls upon the President to refuse to sign any treaty or international agreement calling for reductions in greenhouse gas emissions in the United States.

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#### **2008-42 Local Zoning Control**

WHEREAS, basic conservative values promote local property rights and local control of issues; and  
WHEREAS, the Public Service Commission (PSC) is promoting a revision of SS 66.0401 that would restrict the zoning and permitting authority of counties, towns and municipalities; and  
WHEREAS, one size does not fit all in locating industrial facilities; now  
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Republican Party of Wisconsin, in convention assembled, supports that siting and permitting rights of renewable energy facilities (REF's) remain with the county, township or municipality.

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#### **2008-43 Fighting Poverty and Commending Ambassador Mark Green**

WHEREAS, God has endowed every human being with the inalienable right to “Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Happiness”; and  
WHEREAS, more than a billion people live on less than \$1 a day and do not have access to essentials such as food, clean water and shelter; and  
WHEREAS, in impoverished parts of the world, despair and hopelessness all too often create fertile ground for radical and extremist ideologies, and such ideologies can produce the kind of terrorist extremists who seek to threaten our national and economic security; and  
WHEREAS, Mark Green is continuing his public service as the United States Ambassador to the United Republic of Tanzania; and  
WHEREAS, in his current service, Ambassador Green is leading an effort to use such foreign assistance tools as the President’s Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) and the President’s Malaria Initiative (PMI) to address conditions leading to despair and hopelessness, to strengthen democratic principles and individual liberty in a troubled part of the globe, and to reinforce America’s image as a compassionate force for change; and  
WHEREAS, it is our nation’s moral obligation and strategic duty to protect life and help those in extreme poverty:  
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Republican Party of Wisconsin, in convention assembled, commends Ambassador Mark Green and other like-minded foreign policy leaders for their work to spread freedom and democracy in the developing world; and  
  
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Republican Party of Wisconsin, in convention assembled, encourages our next president to continue America’s legacy as a moral leader in the world by helping those with no voice while working on the principle that our assistance is most effective when reinforcing good governance, economic freedom and investments in individuals.