

Statement of Principles

Iowa Democrats are proud of our Party's heritage, its diversity, and its accomplishments. The spirit that animates the United States of America's oldest political party is alive throughout the world today and stands as a model for those who strive to obtain the liberties and freedoms that we currently enjoy. Iowans embrace that spirit and nothing declares it more proudly than our State motto, "Our Liberties We Prize, and Our Rights We Will Maintain".

No part of that heritage is more valuable than our belief in the rights and worth of each individual. Americans through history have fought and died to protect our freedoms and extend those freedoms to the oppressed. We honor our military veterans, and support those in our armed services today who, with their families, sacrifice so much. Because we view our military service members with the utmost regard, we demand that US foreign policy stress cooperation and respect, with military action only as a last resort.

The primary function of government is to accomplish those social goals collectively that we cannot achieve as individuals. Beyond safe and sustainable food and shelter, we consider health care, employment and education to be basic human needs. Market forces alone often do not serve the common good. Enforcement of fair taxation, labor compensation and trade policies, and protection of the right for workers to organize and for small businesses to flourish, will build a strong, competitive and efficient marketplace that encourages ingenuity, integrity and, ultimately, prosperity.

We believe in a truly representative government that is compassionate, progressive, responsible and fair. We support a return to meaningful checks and balances between the three branches of government so that the United States can again inspire confidence and hope for all.

We consider it a travesty that many Americans cannot afford the health insurance that higher health care costs have made a necessity. We demand that our elected officials take action to ensure all Americans have equal access to affordable, high-quality health care.

Religion and government are important parts of American life; however, we support separation of church and state.

We must protect our environment from wasteful and indiscriminate use, and promote sound energy practices. Our national parks, oceans and ancient forests, as well as our local land and family farms, must be preserved for our children's futures.

Education is an investment in that future, and is essential to personal and social growth and prosperity. To maintain the high standards expected of Iowa's education systems and safeguard the future of our nation, we must provide relevant, affordable, innovative, accessible and adequately funded, high-quality education at all levels.

We are committed to upholding the unalienable rights we were founded under; therefore, we unequivocally oppose policies that require forfeiting those rights under any circumstances. We must stand against terrorism, but we cannot allow that fight to cost us the freedoms that so many have sacrificed to preserve. By maintaining those freedoms for all people, we can be proud to call ourselves Iowans, Americans and Democrats.

Statement of Issues

Agriculture & Environment

Planning and Zoning

We Support:

Green building practices:

Publicly financed projects must meet Green building standards;

Restricting urban sprawl;

Urban two-rate property tax;

Limit TIFs to original intended use;

Eliminating property tax credits/subsidies for developers;

Enforcement of laws protecting ambient air quality.

We Oppose:

Selling public assets for private enterprise;

Enforcing Eminent Domain favoring private enterprise.

Watershed Management

We Support:

Increased federal support of municipal treatment plants to conserve our waters and aquifers;

Environmentally safe disposal of agricultural and municipal wastes;

Watershed authority to manage the retaining of storm water where it falls.

We oppose:

Farming practices that create hypoxia in waterways.

Livestock Management

We Support:

Environmental quality standards;

Local augmentation of state regulations for CAFO sites, maintenance & operations;

Giving CBSs authority to approve siting, construction, and operation of CAFOs

Humane treatment of animals.

We Oppose:

Restrictions on filing complaints with the IDNR/EPA;
New or expanded CAFOs pending adequate air and water
regulations, inspection programs, and enforcement.

Environment Enhancement and Regulation

We Support:

Adequate funding for REAP plus enforcement authority for IDNR and IDALS;
Environmentally responsible agriculture;
Preservation of the commons;
Hard caps on mercury/carbon emissions from burning coal; & eco-safe disposal;
Honor and enforce the Federal ESA, CAA, and CWA;
Dark night sky;
Restoration of bio-diverse eco-systems;
All recycling;
Radon Testing;
Increasing penalties for polluters;
Favoring environmental protection/public health over corporate profits;
Protecting bees and pollination by banning neonicotinyl pesticides.

We Oppose:

Subsidizing clear-cutting, mining, grazing, oil drilling in sensitive areas;
Grandfather clauses for power plant emissions and waste.

Environmentally Safe Energy

We Support:

Energy independence;
Renewable energy:
Sustainable bio-fuels, wind, solar, geothermal, and low head hydroelectric power;
Decreasing fossil fuel use:
Incentivizing efficiency;
Hybrids, EV's and electric charging stations;
Improved CAFE standards (including SUVs, pickups);
Full-life cost-cycle analyses for all power-plants including long term safe storage of nuclear waste and coal ash;

Safe disposal of coal ash and toxic waste.

We Oppose:

Government subsidy of nuclear power, offsite or tribal-land storage of waste;
New pulverized coal power plants;
Importing strip-mined coal into Iowa.

Sustainable Rural Development

We Support:

Organic farming & transitional small farming subsidies;
Crop and livestock diversification;
Funding of local soil conservation districts.

Structure of Agriculture

We Support:

Family farms;
Banning meat-packer ownership of livestock;
Capping subsidies for large corporate farms.

Consumer Choice and Food Safety

We Support:

Fundamental Right to Safe and Healthy Food without the use of artificial hormones or routine antibiotic use;
Food product labeling indicating:
Origin;
GMOs;
Irradiation;
Hormone/antibiotic use;
Animal products;
Testing for diseases, including BSE;
Legal definition of GMOs;
Safe-use labeling of GMO seed that holds GMO owners liable should contamination to non-GMO crops occur;
Protection against lawsuits by GMO patent owners against non-GMO farmers for accidentally “planting” GMOs;
The right to save seeds.

US Agricultural Policy

We Support:

Conservation Security Program;
Inflation indexing USDA loan rates;
Humane slaughter of horses in USDA regulated & inspected USA
facilities.

Economy, Commerce, & Labor

Worker's Rights & Safety

We Support:

- "Free-choice";
- "Fair-Share";
- Strengthening OSHA and NIOSH;
- Enforcement and funding of NLRA;
- FLSA;
- Binding arbitration in labor disputes;
- Safety record review on all government contractors;
- Workers' right to refuse unsafe work;
- Covering agricultural workers with health and safety statutes;
- Increasing staffing and workplace safety;
- Eliminate and penalize employee and independent contractor misclassification;
- Employee protection during plant closure or bankruptcy;
- Employees as first-in-line creditors;
- Benefits and protections for workers on strike or "Lockout";
- Whistleblower protection for all employees;
- Equal rights & opportunities for GLBT people;
- Equal pay for equal work;
- Sanctions on employers who knowingly hire or contract with undocumented workers;
- Injured worker's right to choose their doctor with no waiting period.

We Oppose:

- "Temps" replacing permanent employees;
- Privatization of public services;
- Limiting overtime pay;
- Mandatory overtime;
- Mandatory employment screening except where public safety is at risk.

Pension & Insurance

We Support:

- Actuarially sound funding of IPERS overseen by independent board of trustees;
- Secure portable retirement and healthcare plans;

Incentives for long-term, retirement savings;
Employer's fully complying with Health Care Reform Act.

We Oppose:

Insurance credit scoring.

Economic Development

We Support:

Regulating mortgage companies and investors;
Regulating private equity firms as publicly traded companies;
Encouraging local enterprise;
Government-run job trainings program like WPA, PWA & CCC;
Truly US made products;
Infrastructure improvements.

We Oppose:

Non-banking entities establishing banks;
Deregulating utility industries;
Double charges on ATM's;
Incentives to companies moving jobs outside the US;
Predatory lending practices;
Price gouging.

Living Wages

We Support:

A "Living Wage" indexed to inflation;
Removing minimum wage exemptions.

Job Security

We Support:

Non-discriminatory parental leave benefits;
Proportionate wages and benefits for part-time and contingent employees;
Unemployment benefits for strikers;
Expanded job security and flexibility for single parents.

We Oppose:

Temporary immigration status;
Right-To-Work laws;
Employment-at-Will Doctrine;
Replacement workers for strikers;

Prison labor displacing non-incarcerated workers;
Out-sourcing of jobs.

Trade Regulations

We Support:

Anti-trust legislation;
Quality inspections and tariffs on all imports;
Environmental and labor standards in trade agreements;
"Fair Trade";
Foods and products labeled by country of origin;
Restoring public domain.

We Oppose:

NAFTA, WTO and CAFTA.

Project Labor Agreements

We Support:

Project Labor agreements;
Prevailing wage laws on government projects;
Establishing tools for employers to verify employee legal status.

We Oppose:

No-bid government contracts.

Budget & Taxation

We Support:

Vigorous enforcement of the tax code for corporations and high
income earners;
Paying down the National Debt;
Increasing income tax dependency exemptions and credits;
Reestablishing estate taxes;
Windfall profit taxes on fossil fuel companies for R&D of alternative
energy.

We Oppose:

Corporate bailouts and tax breaks;
Subsidies for corporations earning excessive profits;
Tax benefits and loopholes for companies moving offshore.

Education

Funding

We Support:

Increased funding for:

Special Education including at-risk, TAG, ELL, and all exceptionalities;

Pre-K-12 mandates;

Salaries for Iowa school employees at the top half of the nation;

Literacy campaigns;

Vocational Rehabilitation to eliminate waiting lists;

Early childhood education including Head Start or NAEYC standards;

Before and after school and summer programs;

Regent universities and community colleges to offset tuition increases;

The State Library of Iowa;

Library and media center enrichment in public schools;

Restoring AEA funding;

Increasing Iowa's public school growth rate to 6%;

Reinstatement of funding for technology, including ICN;

Including teacher compensation funding in the school aid formula.

We Oppose

Cuts in art, music, dramatic arts, P.E., media, counseling, educational support personnel, and school nursing;

Diverting money from public schools to fund vouchers, charter schools and other incentives;

Mid-year reductions of state and federal aid;

Public funding of private schools.

Pre-K thru 12

We Support:

Increasing the tax credit for K-12 instructors for out-of-pocket classroom materials;

A minimum state-wide drop-out age of 18;

Best-in-the-nation student/teacher ratio;

State and local agencies and government funded family services in public schools;

Amending NCLB to:

Allow multiple-source assessments as evidence of learning and school effectiveness;

Increase the public school percentage of highly qualified teachers;

Meet student funding obligations;

Creative and innovative classrooms.

We Oppose:

Personal information databases under NCLB;

Signing bonuses and merit pay;

“Fast track” teacher certification.

School Programming

We Support:

Music, art education, and the dramatic arts available to all students;

Applying research to improve teaching with ICC;

DE sponsored evaluation of ICC by mathematicians, scientists and engineers;

Universal early childhood education;

Building awareness of the consequences of substance abuse;

Diversity positive curricula;

Voluntary community service;

Expanding vocational training and internship programs without tracking;

An awareness campaign on the environment;

Serving healthy, locally grown food in the school lunch program;

New technology;

Foreign language education in the elementary curriculum;

Prevention and intervention in bullying.

We Oppose:

“Abstinence only” sex education;

“Intelligent design” as science;

GLBT exclusion from the 2007 Safe Schools Act.

Special Needs

We Support:

Enforcement of equal access to all educational services and facilities;
Expansion of special needs and alternative education programs;
Funding of state-run institutions equivalent to that of community
public schools;
Classroom size and staffing based on individual student needs;
More accessible learning environments for people of varying size;
Language translation services including ASL;
Access to technology assistive devices.

Student Aid

We Support:

Incentives to keep tuition affordable;
Student loan forgiveness for graduates who stay in Iowa;
Timely disbursements of student funding;
Increasing work-study programs;
Student loan repayment through public service;
Expanding eligibility and increasing all funding of student aid for
college education;
Two year tuition freeze forcing the Board of Regents to consider new
funding options to reduce dependency on tuition increases;
Offering a fully refundable COTC for greater collegiate access;
Free universalized post-secondary education;
Increasing federal and state funding for veterans' educational
benefits;
Development of a forgiveness formula for student financial aid
sources denied due to drug-related crimes.

We Oppose:

Punitive fees and interest for college loans;
Private banking for federally-subsidized student loans.

Government & Law

Campaigns & Elections

We Support:

- VVPAT and independent, mandatory random audits;
- Public campaign financing;
- Full disclosure of all lobbyists' financial activities;
- Aggressive prosecution of violations of campaign finance and political corruption laws;
- Third-party, independent ethics oversight of elected officials;
- Instant runoff voting;
- Restricting elected officials from becoming lobbyist for five years after leaving office;
- Free and equal media time to qualified candidates;
- Post-election audits, with manual counts of a random sample of voted ballots, as a check on the accuracy of electronic vote tallies.

We Oppose:

- Super-delegates;
- Unrelated riders.

Civil Rights

We Support:

- Repeal of the Patriot Act;
- Universal habeas corpus;
- Affirmative action;
- Title IX;
- Civil Rights Act full enforcement;
- ADA;
- ERAs;
- ENDA;
- Death with Dignity Act;
- Political affiliation, sexual orientation, gender identity and victims of domestic abuse as protected classes;
- Constitutional right to privacy;
- Civil rights protections in housing, employment, insurance, credit, education, government and public accommodations;
- Legislation protecting non-public information;
- Requiring video recording of detainee interrogations;

Separation of church and state;
Miranda rights;
Education for the recognition and prevention of bullying, harassment
and suicide;
Training mandatory reporters in issues relevant to protected classes;
Reasonable accommodations for the expression of breast milk in the
workplace.

We Oppose:

Constitutional amendments limiting civil rights;
Warrantless wiretapping and searches;
“Enemy detainee” status;
National ID cards;
Funding for discriminatory organizations;
Racial profiling;
Religious discrimination.

Taxes & Social Security

We Support:

Fully funding legislative mandates;
Progressive tax system;
Earned Income Tax Credit;
Rescinding 2001/2003 tax cuts for the upper 10%;
Estate Tax;
Property tax credits to seniors, disabled, and veterans;
Deficit repayment plan within all increases in the Federal debt
ceiling;
Equitable tax credits for low income renters;
“Green” incentives;
Replenishing Senior Living Trust Fund;
Revoking tax breaks for companies that outsource;
10% cut to corporate tax credits;
Decoupling SS from general fund;
Extending the SS tax to all forms of income;
Removing SS tax income cap;
Gas tax for road construction and maintenance only.

We Oppose:

Privatizing SS;

- SS benefit reductions;
- Taxation of unemployment, workers compensation, and SS;
- Increased SS retirement age;
- Value-added tax;
- Inclusion of social security funds in any discussion or effort regarding the federal deficit or the national debt.

Government Services

We support:

- Increased social services, dependent care services and food stamps;
- Assistance for victims of natural disasters;
- Non-English language accessibility;
- Increased State funding for library services.

We oppose:

- Iowa's English-Only Law.

Criminal Justice

We support:

- Fully funded, non-discriminatory DVA and services to crime victims;
- Rights of victims to no-contact orders and the enforcement of anti-stalking laws;
- Due process for forfeiture of private property;
- Alternatives to incarceration for non-violent offenders;
- Substance abuse assessment and treatment for inmates;
- Automatic restoration of ex-felons' voting rights;
- Hate crime prevention acts;
- Prisoners' human rights;
- Binding plea bargains;
- White-collar crime enforcement;
- Improved educational, vocational, and technical training for prisoners;
- Increased funding for public defenders and legal assistance;
- The human rights of immigrants;
- Mandatory and open immigration hearings;
- More accurate definitions and categorizations of offenders under Iowa's sex-offender laws.

We Oppose:

- Capital punishment;

Mandatory minimum sentences;
Forced inmate labor;
Criminalization of providing humanitarian aid.

Media & Communications

We Support:

First Amendment protection for all electronic media;
Publicly owned broadband networks;
Affordable access to broadband;
Network Neutrality;
Local government cable franchise fees to fund PEG channels;
Antitrust legislation to rollback media consolidation;
Reinstatement of FCC Fairness Doctrine for all mass media.

We oppose:

Internet censorship;
Government misinformation.

Consumer Protection

We Support:

Consumer fraud act;
A low-income utility rate;
Adequate legal representation for all;
Distribution, regulation and pricing of LP Gas.

We Oppose:

Corporate personhood;
Restricting the rights of free speech extended to corporations so that
artificial entities cannot impede the rights of natural persons in
the exercise of democratic government;
Exempting corporations from lawsuits;
Any limits on financial judgments in civil liability lawsuits
Traffic control cameras.

Reasonable Gun Regulation

We Support:

Responsible gun ownership;
Comprehensive firearms education.

We Oppose:

Selling firearms to barred individuals.

Military and Veterans

We Support:

- Pay adequate to support service members and their families;
- Family health benefits; including same-sex domestic partners;
- Adequate funding and support;
- National Guard readiness for any state of emergency;
- Full privileges of adulthood for all military personnel;
- Support for homeless veterans;
- Fully staffed and funded VA;
- Dole-Shalala Committee recommendations;
- Raising veterans' benefits;
- Equal or equivalent benefits for time served by reserve military members;
- Access to fully funded quality mental health care;
- Iowa National Guard rejection of DADT.

We Oppose:

- Privately contracted combatants;
- Torture;
- GLBT discrimination including DADT;
- Offsets of disability compensation;
- Funding obsolete or unnecessary weapons programs.

Participation in Government

We Support:

- Fair juror compensation;
- Government transparency and sunshine laws;
- Redistricting immediately following census;
- Full representation in Congress for DC and PR;
- Competitive bidding in contracts;
- Reform of Senate rules regarding executive appointments.

Transportation

We Support:

- Improved public transit;
- Bike/hike trails;
- High speed rail;
- Fully funded port inspections;
- "Complete Streets";

Fuel economy-related incentives;
An overhaul of the no-fly list and inclusion of due process;
Renegotiating contracts with NATCA and strengthening safety requirements for feeder airlines.

We Oppose:

Infrastructure privatization;
Denying cyclists access to roadways.

Drug Control

We Support:

Addressing substance abuse as a public health issue;
Legalization of marijuana;
Alternatives to incarceration for marijuana use.

Disaster Recovery & Accountability

We support:

Recovery Reform:

Efficient, transparent and priority-based distribution of recovery funds;
Federally-designed recovery programs;
Elimination of SBA's FEMA disqualifier for personal contents;
Extending FEMA assistance to businesses and landlords;
Federal funding for local government's tax-base loss;
Health Department oversight on structural rehabilitation;
Legal representation for all disaster victims, regardless of income;
Penalty enhancement for crimes in disaster zones;
Property acquisition and SBA loans not counted as "assistance."

Accountability:

Governmental liability regarding citizen protection;
Disaster funding used for intended purpose with strict oversight and heavy penalties for abuse.

We oppose:

Rate increases or coverage cancellation of vacant disaster-stricken property.

Health & Human Services

Universal Healthcare

We Support:

- Universal healthcare;
- Encouraging wellness and prevention efforts;
- Choices of long-term care;
- Universal hearing, vision, dental care;
- Affordable prescription drugs;
- Eliminating pre-existing conditions clauses;
- Regulating insurance premium increases.

Creation of such a healthcare plan by the state of Iowa for Iowans in the absence of a national plan.

Child Protection

We Support:

- Government subsidized childcare;
- Prosecution of unpaid child support;
- Requiring background checks for child care workers;
- Increased funding to eliminate abuse and neglect of children;
- Providing support for children from foster homes until the age of 21;
- Kinship care subsidy to ensure parity with foster parents and minimum 6 hour annual training to remain licensed;
- Affordable, high quality daycare that is adequately regulated and inspected.

Homeless Services

We Support:

- Safe, decent affordable housing for all;
- The Housing Trust Fund;
- Homeless Shelters Operation Grants;
- Transitional housing programs.

Patients' Bill of Rights

We Support:

- Patient-originated decision making, including doctor choice;
- Enforcing and raising safe staffing standards at health care facilities.

Abused persons

We Support:
Fully funding for victims services.

Elderly Services

We Support
Independent living services;
Perpetually solvent non-privatized Social Security system.

Affordable Housing

We Support:
Section 8 & 42 housing programs;
Incentives for mixed-income zoning.

Health Care Costs

We Support:
Importation of prescriptions drugs;
Protecting retirees pension benefits.

We Oppose
Billing discrimination against uninsured persons;

Consumer Protection

We Support:
A state minimum staffing requirement for hospitals to allow no more than 5 patients per nurse;
A robust and effective FDA and full-funded USDA food inspection program;
A federal ban on mass media advertisement of prescription medications.

Medicare / Medicaid

We Support:
Parity in national reimbursement rates;
Negotiated prescription drug prices and a competitive bid system for supplies;
Division of spousal resources before making spend down determination;

Full funding of Hawk-I or equivalent health insurance programs for kids;
Full funding and expansion of Iowa Care;
Eliminating Medicare Advantage coverage plans;
Shielding states from legal attack by insurance companies if a state chooses to pursue not-for-profit healthcare.

Mental Health

We Support:

Mental health, brain disorders and substance abuse parity;
More free-standing mental health hospitals and clinics in Iowa.

Medical Research

We Support:

Patient Rights take precedence over researcher interests;
Increased funding for NIH;
Medical marijuana;
Alternative medicine and wellness programs;
Stem cell research;
Research of illnesses due to workplace toxic exposures, including federally controlled ammunition plants;
Independent review of doctors/researchers charged with research safety standards;
Strengthening standards of review for all medical research;
Private or corporate ownership or claim to proprietary rights of human genetic material which inhibits access to free medical research.

Public Health

We Support:

Increased funding for HHS programs;
Maximizing federal matching funds for human service programs;
Nondiscriminatory human services providers.

We Oppose:

Privatization of HHS programs.

Reproductive Rights

We Support:

Legal right of women to make their own reproductive decisions;
Preservation of Roe-v-Wade with extension to military
servicewomen;
Developmentally appropriate, medically accurate, reproductive
education;
Paid FMLA;
Affordable, confidential HIV/AIDS/STI testing;
Access to affordable contraception and family planning;
Free-choice access to a CPM.

Disability

We Support:

ADA;
Family and community support services;
Increased program flexibility and funding to permit home living;
Fair Housing Act.

Substance Abuse & Tobacco Use

We Support:

Prevention, treatment and cessation programs.

International Affairs

Peace and Security

We Support:

- Combating terrorism as an international criminal problem;
- Reducing military aid to foreign countries;
- Increased funding for improved border and port security;
- Diplomacy and negotiations, including bilateral talks, regarding Iran's nuclear program;
- Normalization of diplomatic relations with Iran, Syria, Cuba and North Korea;
- Efforts to stabilize Pakistan;
- Protecting victims and prosecuting those who traffic in humans for sexual exploitation and forced labor;
- Humane treatment and habeas corpus protection for all.

We Oppose:

- Preemptive warfare;
- Torture, secret prisons, detention facilities, and rendition to countries known to use torture;
- USA installation of ballistic missiles in Eastern Europe;
- Use of cluster bombs, human shields, collective punishments, suicide bombings, interference with aid workers, and blockading affecting basic human needs to civilians;
- Militarization of USA foreign policy.

Regional Conflicts – Iraq and Afghanistan

We Support:

- The complete withdrawal of US troops from Iraq by summer 2011, and from Afghanistan in a reasonable time frame;
- Reconstruction of Iraq and Afghanistan through financial and diplomatic cooperation with the UN and the local governments;
- Infrastructure development;
- Improving local education and skill-building to achieve self-reliance.

Regional Conflicts – Israel/Palestine

We Support:

- Peaceful efforts to achieve separate and secure Israeli and Palestinian States, working with all parties to end the conflict.

Regional Conflicts – Central and South America

We Oppose:

Training, military, and financial support of repressive regimes;
Indiscriminate aerial use of herbicides for coca eradication.

Regional Conflicts – Africa

We Support:

Robust world efforts to prevent and end genocide;
Rapid international peacekeeping intervention in armed conflicts.

We Oppose:

Illegal transfer of weapons to armed groups;
Amnesty for war criminals;
Rape as a weapon of war.

Development Assistance

We Support:

Meeting UN Millennium Development Goals through diplomatic,
economic and cultural means;
Linking foreign aid to the promotion of human rights;
Funding of the GFATM, as well as sex and birth control education;
Comprehensive reproductive health care and family planning
programs;
Administering reconstruction and disaster relief contracts under
open bid processes favoring local contractors/laborers.

Immigration

We Support:

Non-discriminatory immigration policies;
Judicial reviews of visa denials and removal orders;
An earned path to citizenship for undocumented workforce;
Driver's license and insurance requirements to insure legal driving
safety for all;
Passage of an Iowa DREAM Act;
Refugee policy based on humanitarian goals and family reunification;
Protecting immigrants and their families' civil rights;
Congressional oversight of ICE to ensure fair political asylum policies;
Enforcing current laws prohibiting employers from hiring illegal
immigrants;

Economic development of countries with high USA immigration rates.

United Nations

We Support:

- Full USA payment of UN dues;
- USA membership in the International Criminal Court;
- Participation in multilateral peacekeeping missions;
- Full participation in the Human Rights Council and adherence to the UDHR and the ICESCR.

Treaties and Conventions

We Support:

- Adherence to the Geneva and Vienna Conventions;
- Ratification and/or full participation in:
 - CEDAW;
 - CRC;
 - CTBT;
 - BWC;
 - Ottawa Landmine Treaty;
 - Kyoto Protocol;
 - RSICCJ;
 - CWC

Glossary – Acronyms Used

Agriculture & Environment

BSE	Bovine Spongiform Encephalitis (Mad Cow)
CCA	Clean Air Act
CBS	County Board of Supervisors
CRP	Conservation Reserve Program
CAFE	Corporate Average Fuel Efficiency
CAFO	Confined Animal Feeding Operation
CWA	Clean Water Act
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency
ESA	Endangered Species Act
EV	Electric Vehicle
GMO	Genetically Modified Organism
IDALS	Iowa Department of Agricultural and Land Stewardship
IDNR	Iowa Department of Natural Resources
LDP	Loan Deficiency Payments
LEED	Leadership in Energy and Efficient Design
NPDES	National Pollutant Discharge Elimination Systems
REAP	Resource Enhancement and Protection Program
SUV	Sport/Utility Vehicle
TIF	Tax Increment Financing
USDA	United States Department of Agriculture

Economy, Commerce & Labor

ATM	Automatic Teller Machine
CAFTA	Central America Free Trade Agreement
CCC	Civilian Conservation Corps.
FLSA	Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938
GLBT	Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgender/Transsexual
IPERS	Iowa Public Employees' Retirement System
NAFTA	North American Free Trade Agreement
NIOSH	National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health
NLRA	National Labor Relations Act
OSHA	Occupational Safety and Health Administration
PWA	Public Works Administration
R&D-	Research and Development
SS	Social Security

WPA Works Progress Administration
WTO World Trade Organization

Education

AEA Area Education Agency
ASL American Sign Language
COTC College Opportunity Tax Credit
DE Department Education
ELL English Language Learners
GLBT Gay Lesbian Bisexual Transgendered
ICC Iowa Core Curriculum
ICN Integrated Campus Network
NAEYC National Association for the Education of Young Children
NCLB No Child Left Behind
P.E. Physical Education
TAG Talented and Gifted

Government & Law

ADA Americans with Disabilities Act
DATD Don't Ask, Don't Tell
DC District of Columbia
DVA Domestic Violence Act
ENDA Employment Non-Discrimination Act
ERA Equal Rights Amendment
FCC Federal Communications Commission
FEMA Federal Emergency Management Agency
GLBT Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender
NATCA National Air Traffic Controllers Association
PEG Public, Educational, & Government Access
PR Puerto Rico
SBA Small Business Administration
SS Social Security
VA Veterans' Administration
VVPAT Voter Verified Paper Audit Trail

Health & Human Services

ADA Americans with Disabilities Act
CPM Certified Professional Midwife

FMLA	Family and Medical Leave Act
HIV/AIDS	Human immunodeficiency virus/ acquired immunodeficiency syndrome
NIH	National Institutes of Health
HHS	Health and Human Services
STI	Sexually Transmitted Infections

International Affairs

BWC	Biological Weapons Convention Protocol
CEDAW	Convention on Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women
CRC	Convention on the Rights of Children
CTBT	Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty
CWC	Chemical Weapons Convention Protocol on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction
DREAM	Development, Relief and Education for Alien Minors
GFATM	Global Fund for AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria
ICE	Immigration and Customs Enforcement
ICESCR	International Covenant on Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights
RSICCJ	Rome Statute on the International Court of Criminal Justice
UDHR	Universal Declaration of Human Rights
USA	United States of America