



SPOKANE COUNTY REPUBLICAN PARTY RESOLUTION

Affirming Taxpayer Protection, Taxpayer Relief, and Sound Fiscal Policy

Executive Summary: The Spokane County Republican Party believes that limited government, fiscal responsibility, and taxpayer protection are fundamental Republican principles. As individuals including seniors and disabled veterans, families, and local businesses continue to face the financial pressures of inflation and rising living costs, government should demonstrate the same discipline and restraint expected of the citizens and business owners who fund it. This resolution affirms the Party's commitment to opposing tax increases, promoting immediate taxpayer relief, and establishing clear expectations for endorsed Republican officials and candidates.

WHEREAS, government exists to protect individual rights and liberties and possesses no resources of its own, deriving public funds directly or indirectly from the taxpayers whom it serves; and

WHEREAS, elected and appointed government officials and all government employees are entrusted with the responsible stewardship of taxpayer resources and have a duty to exercise the same care, prudence, and restraint that responsible citizens apply to their own finances; and

WHEREAS, excessive taxation, unnecessary fees, unchecked spending, unfunded mandates, chronic deficits, and unsustainable debt threaten economic prosperity, individual liberty, and the financial security of current and future generations; and

WHEREAS, excessive taxation burdens individuals, families and businesses, limits economic growth, reduces individual liberty, and expands government beyond necessary functions; and

WHEREAS, individuals, families, workers, retirees, farmers, seniors, disabled veterans, small businesses, and job creators have been severely impacted by inflation, rising housing and utility costs, and increasing prices for everyday necessities; and

WHEREAS, senior citizens and disabled veterans living on fixed incomes are disproportionately affected by inflation and rising taxes;

WHEREAS, Families and single parents with minor children are struggling to make ends meet due to government induced inflation and the resulting devaluation of the dollar; punitive taxes on fuel due to Climate Change policy with no documented proof of effectiveness; the steep rise in the cost of consumer products due to government fiscal and tax policy, and rising state and local taxes, particularly public school levies, passed by simple majority vote of the electorate and in most cases, a small margin of that vote; and

WHEREAS, government should prioritize responsible budgeting, efficient use of existing revenues, spending reductions, operational improvements, and budget reforms before seeking additional revenue from the public; and

WHEREAS, taxpayers are entitled to transparent, accountable, and efficient government that provides essential public services while minimizing waste, unnecessary costs, administrative expansion, and misuse of public resources; and

WHEREAS, major expenditures of public funds, including programs, grants, contracts, subsidies, and capital projects, should be justified by clear public necessity, transparent fiscal analysis, measurable objectives, performance standards, and regular public review; and

WHEREAS, fraud, waste, abuse, corruption, favoritism, mismanagement, and the use of public resources for personal gain, partisan advantage, or political retaliation undermine public trust and divert resources from lawful and essential services; and

WHEREAS, Republican elected officials and candidates should consistently uphold limited government, fiscal stewardship, taxpayer relief, transparent elections, and accountability for the expenditure of public funds;

WHEREAS, Republican elected officials and candidates should seek efficiencies, eliminate waste, prioritize core services, and practice responsible budgeting before seeking additional taxpayer revenue;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Spokane County Republican Party affirms its commitment to taxpayer protection, sound fiscal policy, and the prudent stewardship of public resources.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Party opposes unnecessary tax increases and any new or increased tax, fee, assessment, penalty, or mandatory government charge that increases the overall burden on taxpayers without extraordinary justification and lawful public approval where required.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Republican candidates seeking or holding Party endorsement shall not propose, sponsor, advocate for, or vote in favor of new or increased taxes, fees, assessments, or mandatory charges that increase the overall tax burden, except where a replacement revenue mechanism is substantially revenue-neutral, transparent, and designed solely to maintain existing revenue after a material change in the current tax base.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that for **five (5) years following adoption of this resolution**, candidates seeking or holding Party endorsement shall oppose the creation of any new local tax, fee, assessment, or other mandatory revenue mechanism that increases the overall burden on taxpayers.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Party supports reducing the tax burden on individuals, families, workers, retirees, farmers, seniors, disabled veterans, small businesses, and job creators whenever fiscally prudent and practical, including lawful exemptions, rebates, deferrals, fee reductions, or other mechanisms that provide meaningful relief.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Party supports responsible and balanced budgeting practices, debt restraint, responsible reserves, spending reductions, operational efficiencies, consolidation where appropriate, and budget reforms before seeking additional taxation from the public.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Party strongly opposes income taxes of any kind, capital gains taxes, death taxes, unfunded mandates, and unnecessary fees, penalties, or assessments imposed by unelected governmental departments and organizations.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Party supports requiring demonstrated public necessity, transparent cost analysis, measurable objectives, performance standards, and publicly accountable outcomes before supporting major government expenditures, programs, grants, subsidies, contracts, or significant tax proposals.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that government programs, agencies, grants, contracts, subsidies, and expenditures should be regularly audited and evaluated, and those that repeatedly fail to produce meaningful public benefit should be reformed, reduced, consolidated, or discontinued as appropriate.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Party supports the elimination of fraud, waste, abuse, corruption, favoritism, mismanagement, duplication, and misuse of taxpayer resources at every level of government and expects public officials to exercise diligent oversight of taxpayer-funded activities.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that public resources, governmental authority, and taxpayer-funded programs **shall never be used** for personal enrichment, partisan advantage, political retaliation, favoritism, or any purpose inconsistent with the public trust.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Party supports increased transparency in government operations, expenditures, contracting, program performance, audits, monitoring reports, and evaluation results so taxpayers may effectively evaluate the use of public resources, consistent with applicable law.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Republican candidates seeking prosecutorial office should publicly commit to prosecuting fraud and public corruption offenses when supported by sufficient admissible evidence and consistent with constitutional, statutory, and ethical obligations.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution does not prohibit replacing an existing tax with another revenue source when the current tax base has materially changed, become obsolete, or can no longer provide reliable revenue, provided that the replacement:

1. Maintains substantially equivalent, revenue-neutral funding;
2. Does not increase the overall tax burden; and
3. Is transparent and clearly intended to maintain existing revenue rather than expand government.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that adherence to these principles and accountability standards in-line below shall be a significant factor in determining whether a candidate receives or retains the endorsement of the Spokane County Republican Party. Candidates who repeatedly violate these standards without extraordinary justification may be denied future Party endorsement.

Candidate Accountability Standards

The following criteria shall be considered during endorsement evaluations and when determining whether an incumbent has remained in good standing with the Spokane County Republican Party:

1. **No Tax Increase Record** – The candidate has not proposed, sponsored, or voted in favor of a tax increase or new tax inconsistent with this resolution.
2. **Budget Reform** – The candidate has demonstrated a good-faith effort to identify spending reductions, efficiencies, or budget reforms before considering additional revenue.
3. **Taxpayer Relief** – The candidate has proposed, sponsored, or supported measures that reduce taxes, fees, or assessments whenever fiscally responsible to do so.
4. **Senior and Veteran Advocacy** – The candidate has actively supported policies that reduce the local tax burden on seniors and disabled veterans.
5. **Transparency** – The candidate has publicly explained votes involving taxes, fees, assessments, or significant spending increases to Republican voters and constituents.

6. **Fiscal Stewardship** – The candidate has demonstrated a commitment to balanced budgets, responsible reserves, debt restraint, and protecting taxpayers from unnecessary government growth.
7. **Consistency** – The candidate's public statements, campaign commitments, and voting record reflect a consistent commitment to the principles of this resolution.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that by adopting this resolution, the Spokane County Republican Party, the Party's Endorsed Elected Officials and Endorsed Candidates affirm their combined and united commitment to fiscal discipline, taxpayer protection, and accountable Republican leadership. The Party expects endorsed elected officials and candidates to resist efforts to increase the overall tax burden, pursue efficient and responsible government, and champion meaningful immediate tax relief for the citizens they serve, particularly seniors and disabled veterans surviving on limited fixed incomes.

Adopted by we, the delegated representatives of the Republican electors of Spokane County, assembled in convention on this 22nd day of August 2026.

Signed: _____,

Chair, Spokane County Republican Party Convention

Signed: _____,

Secretary, Spokane County Republican Party Convention