



SPOKANE COUNTY REPUBLICAN PARTY RESOLUTION

Affirming American Exceptionalism, Patriotism, and Civic Education

Executive Summary: American exceptionalism is rooted in the enduring principles of liberty, self-government, equal justice under law, personal responsibility, and the recognition that individual rights come from our Creator rather than government. The Spokane County Republican Party affirms that preserving these principles requires informed patriotism and a strong commitment to civic education. By promoting understanding of America's founding documents, constitutional traditions, civic responsibilities, and shared national heritage, this resolution seeks to strengthen citizenship, encourage active participation in self-government, honor those who have defended our freedoms, and help ensure that future generations inherit a strong, free, and self-governing Republic.

WHEREAS, the United States of America was founded upon the self-evident truth that all people are created equal, endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights, and that legitimate government derives its just powers from the consent of the governed;

WHEREAS, the Declaration of Independence, the Constitution of the United States, the Bill of Rights, and the constitutional principles of federalism and separation of powers established a unique system of self-government dedicated to protecting liberty, equal justice under law, and the rule of law;

WHEREAS, the American experiment in constitutional self-government has advanced freedom, opportunity, representative government, entrepreneurship, innovation, and human flourishing to an unprecedented degree in history;

WHEREAS, the preservation of liberty requires citizens who understand the historical foundations, governing principles, rights, and responsibilities of a constitutional republic;

WHEREAS, knowledge of the Declaration of Independence, Constitution, Bill of Rights, federalism, separation of powers, private property rights, free enterprise, individual liberty, equal treatment under the law, and personal responsibility is essential to informed citizenship and effective self-government;

WHEREAS, free-market capitalism, private property, entrepreneurship, limited government, and economic freedom have contributed significantly to American prosperity and opportunity;

WHEREAS, free societies are strengthened when constitutional and civic principles are advanced through education, persuasion, civic engagement, open debate, and the free exchange of ideas rather than censorship or suppression of lawful speech;

WHEREAS, religious liberty is a foundational American principle that protects the right of every individual to practice his or her faith freely and without governmental interference;

WHEREAS, families, faith communities, charitable institutions, civic organizations, and voluntary associations play an indispensable role in strengthening communities, fostering civic virtue, and sustaining a free society;

WHEREAS, the American Flag serves as a symbol of the Nation's founding principles, liberties, sacrifices, and unity, and the Pledge of Allegiance provides an opportunity to express respect and gratitude for the Republic for which it stands;

WHEREAS, veterans, active-duty military personnel, first responders, and countless citizens have sacrificed to defend and preserve the liberties secured by the Constitution and the institutions of constitutional government;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Spokane County Republican Party reaffirms its commitment to constitutional government, constitutional originalism, individual liberty, equal justice under law, free enterprise, limited government, personal responsibility, religious liberty, civic education, patriotism, and American exceptionalism.

Constitutional Government

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Republican candidates seeking endorsement shall affirm that the Constitution should be interpreted according to its original public meaning and that substantive changes to constitutional rights or governmental powers should occur only through the constitutional amendment process.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that endorsed candidates shall defend constitutional liberties, including freedom of speech, religion, press, due process, equal protection, private property rights, the right to petition government, and the right to keep and bear arms.

American Exceptionalism and Civic Education

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Party supports efforts to promote understanding of the Declaration of Independence, Constitution, Bill of Rights, federalism, separation of powers, free enterprise, personal responsibility, and the foundations of constitutional self-government.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Party supports civic education that prepares citizens to understand their rights, fulfill their responsibilities, engage in their communities, and participate effectively in self-government.

Free Enterprise

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Spokane County Republican Party supports free-market capitalism, entrepreneurship, private property rights, economic opportunity, and individual economic freedom, and opposes unnecessary expansion of government control over private enterprise and markets.

Free Speech and Open Debate

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Party supports defending America's founding principles through education, persuasion, civic engagement, open debate, and the free exchange of ideas, and opposes censorship of lawful speech and suppression of constitutionally protected expression.

Patriotism and National Service

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Party honors the American Flag, supports the respectful and voluntary recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance, recognizes the sacrifices of veterans, active-duty military personnel, and first responders, and supports teaching the history and founding principles of the United States.

Religious Liberty and Community Institutions

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Party supports and defends religious liberty and recognizes the vital role of families, faith communities, civic organizations, charitable institutions, and voluntary associations in strengthening communities and sustaining a free society.

Republican Party Endorsement Standards

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that candidates endorsed by the Spokane County Republican Party are expected to faithfully represent Republican values, principles and policies while serving the public with integrity and accountability.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that candidates and elected officials receiving Party endorsement should demonstrate a commitment to preserving, teaching, and advancing the principles of constitutional self-government and responsible citizenship.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that candidates endorsed by the Spokane County Republican Party shall not accept an official endorsement from Democratic Party officials (party, officers, candidates, or elected officials) unless and until that party formally and publicly disavows organizations or factions identifying themselves as "Democratic Socialists" or Communists. This provision expresses the Spokane County Republican Party's endorsement policy and does not seek to restrict the constitutional rights, speech, political advocacy, or association of any individual or organization, merely that we are using our right not to associate with those who hate America and wish to see its downfall. Candidates may expressly ask for an exception to be granted from the board, though such grant shall be entirely at the board's discretion.