

2015 Platform

PREAMBLE: We, the delegates to the 38th Quadrennial Prohibition National Convention, assembled July 31, 2015, after several weeks of e-mailed discussions of the agenda. Recognizing Almighty God as the Source of all just government, and with faith in the teachings of the Lord Jesus Christ, we do hereby pledge to serve the needs and preserve the prerogatives and freedoms of the citizens of the United States of America.

CONSTITUTIONAL GOVERNMENT: We affirm our loyalty to the Constitution of the United States of America. We will protect it from violation by legislation, evasion, or judicial usurpation of rights belonging to the executive and legislative branches of government, or reserved to the States and to the people.

AMERICAN INDEPENDENCE: We will conduct foreign affairs with the preservation of American liberty and independence as our chief objective. We are jealous of American sovereignty; we are opposed to the interference of America in the like sovereignty of other nations. American garrisons in foreign countries should not exceed the level required to protect American diplomatic missions unless specifically authorized by Congress. We support volunteer armed forces, well trained and highly motivated; we oppose conscription except in time of Congressionally declared war.

FOREIGN TRADE: The importing of goods from and the offshoring of services to other nations are the primary causes of lost jobs and impoverished communities in America. We favor free trade only on a reciprocal basis among equals. We will impose balancing tariffs on all goods imported from countries whose wage scales, labor benefits, and environmental protections are not similar to our own. No nation which fails to protect the civil rights of its citizens may be accorded "most favored nation."

MONETARY POLICY: The Constitution mandates that Congress shall have the sole power to coin money and to regulate its value. We will abolish the Federal Reserve System, establishing in its place a government-owned National Bank. Predatory lending activities and punitive rates of interest will be banned. We will encourage the formation of state banks where qualified entrepreneurs can borrow money for investment in job-creating enterprises at minimal interest.

SECOND AMENDMENT RIGHTS: We support the right of citizens to own and to carry firearms for personal defense and for sport; we encourage instruction in gun safety.

LABOR AND MANAGEMENT: We will defend the right of all workers to freely choose to join or not to join a union. Toward that end, we urge all states to adopt right-to-work laws. We will index the pay of Congress and of federal officials to changes in the federal minimum wage.

TAXATION AND SPENDING: We favor a balanced budget amendment to the U.S. Constitution.

SOCIAL SECURITY: We advocate an actuarially sound federal Social Security System.

ILLEGAL IMMIGRATION: We would deploy sufficient resources to stop all illegal traffic in people and drugs across America's land and sea borders. We would not provide driver's licenses, educational subsidies, or welfare benefits to illegal aliens, except that the medical conditions of gravely ill illegals would be stabilized before they are deported. We strongly oppose granting citizenship to "anchor babies" born to illegal alien mothers.

MARRIAGE: We deplore the recent decision of the U.S. Supreme Court on same-sex marriage as an abomination to God. We call for a constitutional amendment, which shall read as follows: "Marriage is, historically, an Institution and Sacrament of the Church. Only the Church shall decide what qualifies as a 'marriage.' For the purpose of two individuals who need only legal protection, such as for inheritance and for power of attorney one for the other, the state may license Civil Unions."

RELIGIOUS LIBERTY: We find a constitutional right of individual citizens to believe, worship, fellowship, educate, evangelize, and organize religious institutions. Voluntary prayer and other religious activities shall not be prohibited in schools and other public spaces

EDUCATION: The 10th Amendment gives to the states and to the people full responsibility for education. The major emphasis in primary and secondary schools should be on science, mathematics, citizenship, American history, and English. We advocate free tertiary education for all qualified citizens. We would promote re-training programs for displaced workers, paid for by tariffs on imports.

PRO-LIFE: We consider abortion to be morally repugnant. We will implement policies to minimize the number of abortions without infringing on the doctor/patient relationship and without thrusting government into family decisions about child rearing. Abortion procedures should not be funded by government.

ENERGY INDEPENDENCE: America must not allow itself to be dependent upon other, sometimes hostile, countries for its energy supply. We advocate increased research on and development of non-fossil fuel resources, tax breaks for companies engaging in such, and subsidies for consumers wishing to change from fossil fuels to renewable domestic sources of energy.

THE ENVIRONMENT: We believe God has given man dominion (responsible use) over all the Earth. We will safeguard the biosphere, soil, water, and air which we all must share. However,

pollution abatement projects must balance costs with benefits. We believe that climatic change is an existential threat to civilization, and we will co-operate with other nations in mitigating its effects.

HEALTH CARE: We prefer state-level health care programs to federal programs. We will find ways to reduce the 33% inefficiency imposed on American health care by insurance industry overhead and profits.

PUBLIC MORALITY: We would agitate against all forms of gambling, including state lotteries, which prey on the poor and the poorly educated. We believe schools should place more emphasis on developing self-discipline and habits of good citizenship.

RECREATIONAL DRUGS: The alcohol question is the Prohibition Party's unique, signature issue. Beverage alcohol is America's No. 1 narcotic drug problem. We also oppose tobacco in all its forms: Alcohol and tobacco together are responsible for 40% of America's health care costs. Cannabis and so-called "hard drugs" such as heroin and cocaine account for a smaller, but still significant, share of the total public health bill. Prohibitionists oppose the traffic in all of these drugs -- their production, transportation, and sale, except for medicinal use as regulated by the federal Food and Drug Administration. We believe a sustained program of education and legislation, building from the local to the national, is the best way to strengthen community disapproval of drug indulgence and enable a return to National Prohibition of all recreational drugs. We consider it immoral for government to subsidize the cultivation of tobacco and to promote exporting tobacco products to other countries. We would end business expense deductions for advertising tobacco and alcohol products. We support programs to assist tobacco farmers and vineyard owners in switching to alternative crops.