



2024  
THE SOUTH CAROLINA  
REPUBLICAN PARTY **PLATFORM**

# The South Carolina Republican Creed

I do not choose to be a common man. It is my right to be uncommon.

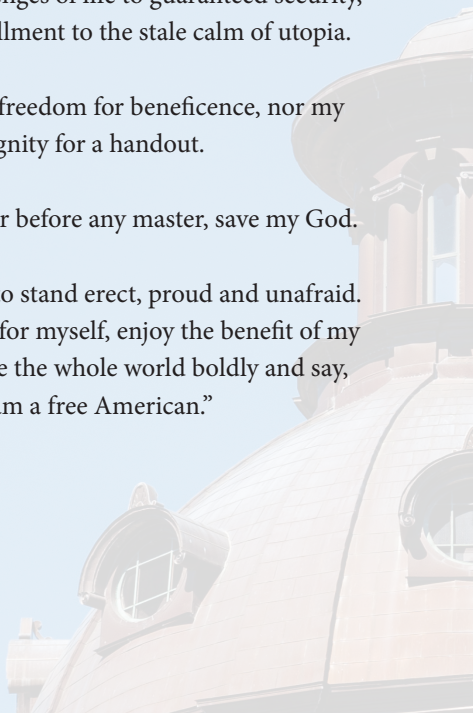
If I can seek opportunity, not security, I want to take the calculated risk to dream and build, to fail and to succeed. I refuse to barter incentive for dole.

I prefer the challenges of life to guaranteed security, the thrill of fulfillment to the stale calm of utopia.

I will not trade freedom for beneficence, nor my dignity for a handout.

I will never cower before any master, save my God.

It is my heritage to stand erect, proud and unafraid. To think and act for myself, enjoy the benefit of my creations; to face the whole world boldly and say, "I am a free American."



The background of the slide features a faded image of a classical building with a large dome and columns, with an American flag flying on a tall pole to the left.

## **Our Mission:**

Promote our Platform and elect candidates who will support it!

## **Our Fundamental Principles**

- \* The Right to Life
- \* Religious Liberty
- \* Private Property
- \* Personal Responsibility
- \* Traditional Values
- \* Limited, Constitutional Government
- \* State Sovereignty
- \* Low Taxes
- \* Personal Right to Keep and Bear Arms
- \* Strong National Defense & Secure Borders

# **The Platform of the South Carolina Republican Party PREAMBLE AND DEDICATION**

*We believe that God ordained three  
institutions in our lives: family,  
government, and religion. We further  
believe that severe restraints must be  
observed to keep the government from  
encroaching on family and religion.*

*We have chosen to highlight the  
Constitution of the United States  
and the role it plays in securing for our  
State and Nation the liberties we  
hold dear.*

*Therefore, the platform of the South Carolina Republican Party is intended to identify and clearly establish those principles for which our Party stands. Similar to the original intent of the Constitution of the United States, the principles of this Platform should lead to an appropriate resolution of specific issues.*

*Realizing that the governance of this great land will one day rest in the hands of the children we now raise, We, the South Carolina Republican Party, dedicate this platform to the children of South Carolina in the hope and sincere belief that the blessings of liberty will be maintained, provided the price of eternal vigilance is paid in full.*

# **- I - To Form A More Perfect Union**

We the People of the South Carolina Republican Party recognize that in order “To Form a More Perfect Union,” constitutional rights and responsibilities must be embraced, and the allocation of power is derived from We the People.

## **GOVERNMENT REFORM**

- We call for efforts to reform state government that will save taxpayer dollars, improve public services and lead to the appropriate balance of power.
- We recognize that privatization is an important alternative to higher taxes and reduced government services.

## **THE JUDICIARY**

- We believe the United States Supreme Court should return to its historic role of interpreting and applying the Constitution as understood and intended by its Framers.
- We believe the method of electing judges in our state by the General Assembly is flawed, lacks accountability, and should be reformed to inspire the confidence of the people.

## **POLICY**

- We support a tax policy that promotes economic growth and job creation.
- We believe the General Assembly should correct the Homestead Exemption for the elderly with inflationary adjustments.
- We believe local governments should only be able to lay and collect taxes as authorized by the General Assembly.

## **- II - To Establish Justice**

We the People of the South Carolina Republican Party recognize a chief function of civil government is to establish justice for the purpose of securing the inalienable rights endowed to the governed by their Creator. This function is first a moral task, discerning good from evil; right from wrong. This Party's foundation is traditional values and moral absolutes, not political correctness and moral relativism.

### **DISCRIMINATION AND AFFIRMATIVE ACTION**

- We are the historic party of equal opportunity and have always stood for the rights of all citizens to succeed.
- We support laws prohibiting discrimination on the basis of race, ethnicity, gender, or religion.
- We believe that no one can guarantee equality of results, only equality of opportunity.
- We oppose "Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion" (DEI) or any other Social Justice Policy impositions on South Carolina citizens.

### **ETHICS IN GOVERNMENT**

- We believe our constitutional republic is built upon faith and confidence in the goodness and capacity of our citizens.
- We believe elected officials must live within the confines of principle, virtue and law to safeguard against abuse.

### **PROPERTY RIGHTS**

- We strongly believe in protecting property rights and oppose any efforts to weaken these rights.
- We believe government regulations should respect property rights without imposing undue burdens.
- We endorse limitations on local taxation powers to ensure fairness and accountability.

## **ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE:**

- We believe efforts must be made to establish safeguards that will regulate the advancement of Artificial Intelligence (AI).
- We believe any technology used to access an individual's private data without consent should be banned.

## **THE RIGHT TO LIFE**

- We believe that the right to life is the first inalienable right, without which there can be no other rights.
- We believe that all human life has intrinsic worth and should be legally protected at all stages.
- We believe the Fourteenth Amendment's protection applies to unborn children who should be classified as legal persons not as legal property.
- We applaud the decision of the US Supreme Court to reverse Roe v. Wade by moving the question to the states.
- We oppose the use of public funds to pay for abortions or to fund organizations which advocate for abortion.
- We believe adoption is a loving and a viable alternative to abortion. We extend compassion to women who have experienced abortion and support pregnancy centers across the state that help women in need.
- We believe any pursuit of medical advances should be pro life and therefore oppose research on fetal tissue obtained from induced abortions, human embryonic stem cell research, as well as trafficking in the organs and body parts of aborted babies.
- We oppose the FDA and their efforts to make "chemical abortions" easily obtainable and accessible.
- We believe public or private efforts to "create" a human being via cloning should be opposed, as well as the appropriation of federal or state funds for any such research.

## **THE RIGHT TO WORK**

- We believe that the working men and women of South Carolina are our primary economic resource.
- We believe in the Right to Work laws of South Carolina and strongly oppose mandatory union membership.



## **ELECTION INTEGRITY**

- We support efforts to promote the integrity of the election process in South Carolina.
- We support requiring a photo identification card, issued by the State of South Carolina, to be shown to vote.
- We support allowing voters to designate a political party on their voter registration application.
- We believe political parties have the right to choose their nominees; therefore, we support primaries that are open, only to registered voters of that political party.
- We reject granting citizenship and voting rights to anyone who enters the United States illegally.

### **- III -**

## **To Insure Domestic Tranquility**

We the People of the South Carolina Republican Party believe domestic tranquility is achieved through commitments from both the civil government and its citizenry. We also believe that the “pursuit of happiness” does not provide freedom for hedonism, violence, or absolution of responsibility, as individual choices often present public consequences.

## **CRIMINAL JUSTICE**

- We believe a lack of moral values, personal accountability, and a breakdown of the family unit are the primary causes of crime.
- We believe justice requires penalties that match the crime, truth in sentencing and restitution to the victims.
- We support firm enforcement of existing laws against the abuse and distribution of controlled substances, including prosecuting drug dealers as adults, and calling for increased penalties on distributors and users.
- We oppose any effort to legalize the use of controlled substances.
- We believe human trafficking is morally reprehensible and should be condemned, with efforts made to eradicate the practice, and perpetrators and enablers prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law.
- We support capital punishment.
- We appreciate the vital role of all Law Enforcement Agencies and the sacrifices they make to keep our citizens safe.

## **GAMBLING**

- We oppose highly addictive state-owned, private, and unregulated gambling; including internet and offshore gambling; casinos; and gambling technologies yet to be developed.

## **MARRIAGE AND FAMILY**

- We believe the sacred institution of marriage is the foundational unit of our society.
- We believe in the traditional definition of marriage as between one man and one woman.
- We believe no legislation, or any curriculum offered by the State Department of Education, should attempt to redefine marriage.
- We believe private child service organizations should be able to set standards for who qualifies as an adoptive parent and can be based on their religious beliefs.
- We believe divorce negatively impacts the physical, mental, emotional, and economic well-being of children and therefore seek tightened, not relaxed, laws pertaining to divorce.
- We call on legislators to protect single parents from further economic abuse by strengthening laws related to collection of child or spousal support.
- We believe that there are two genders and the so-called “gender identity” movement is a direct threat to our children.
- We oppose any form of gender reassignment.

## **PORNOGRAPHY AND OBSCENITY**

- We condemn the publication, distribution, and consumption of obscene, pornographic, and sexually violent material.
- We call upon the state of South Carolina, the municipalities, and publicly funded institutions to strictly enforce all existing laws against obscenity.

## **RELIGION AND RELIGIOUS LIBERTY**

- We believe that the government should not regulate churches or religious institutions or infringe upon an individual's religious liberties.
- We believe in the constitutionality of expressions of religion as part of public meetings, functions, and monuments.
- We call for the return to Judeo-Christian values.

## **TEEN PREGNANCY AND CONTRACEPTION**

- We are committed through education and partnerships to reducing teen pregnancy and sexually transmitted diseases.
- We believe in promoting sexual purity before marriage and requiring parental permission for minors to access birth control.
- We strongly oppose criminal sexual conduct, especially involving minors, and urge swift prosecution of such perpetrators.

## - IV - To Provide for the Common Defense

We the People of the South Carolina Republican Party believe that the federal government's role in providing for the common defense should protect America's sovereignty and keep its citizens safe. We also believe that the 10th Amendment of the U.S. Constitution grants all other duties to the states.

### PEACE THROUGH STRENGTH

- We are committed to maintaining a robust military force to deter any threat to our national sovereignty and freedoms and to protect our national borders.
- We honor all South Carolinians who have served honorably in the military.

### ISRAEL

- We stand unequivocally with Israel.
- We believe that Israel has a right to self-defense and the right to live without fear and terror.
- We affirm the sovereignty of the State of Israel and believe that there can be no "two-state" solution if those surrounding Israel will not acknowledge the Jewish nation's right to exist.

### THE RIGHT TO BEAR ARMS

- We support an individual's constitutional right to keep and bear arms for self-defense, protection of family and property, and other lawful purposes.
- We also promote personal responsibility in the handling and use of firearms.

### SOUTH CAROLINA SOVERIGNTY

- We believe any federal government encroachments on state's sovereignty should be corrected by the state legislature and enforced by the governor's office.

## To Promote the General Welfare

We the People of the South Carolina Republican Party bring our time, talents, and conservative ideals to the public square to improve our State, nation, and citizens. We strongly affirm that the great Preamble of our nation's Constitution does not call for the establishment of government to provide for the general welfare, but to promote it.

### THE BUDGET, THE DEFICIT, THE DEBT

- We believe in responsibly managing taxpayers' funds at all levels of government and promoting transparency in budgeting and expenditures.
- We advocate for a balanced-budget amendment to the United States Constitution and oppose unfunded mandates.
- We believe that revenue designated for a specific purpose should be used exclusively for that purpose.

### THE ECONOMY

- We understand that robust economic growth is essential for the well being of society and urge legislation that fosters investment and the creation of new jobs.
- We believe that Americans are overtaxed and overregulated and efforts should be made to eliminate unnecessary regulations.
- We support incentives to strengthen the industries of agriculture, textiles, manufacturing, and tourism in our economy.
- We advocate for fair trade policies that safeguard U.S. jobs, workers, and exports from unfair competition and ensure a level playing field.

## EDUCATION

- We believe all children in the State should have the opportunity to receive a quality education.
- We recognize that children have different learning capabilities and should not all be taught at the same curriculum levels.
- We believe in academic learning standards, limited assessments, ability achievement grouping, sequential instruction, and firm, caring discipline.
- We believe school choice should be available to all students.
- We oppose federal intrusions into local schooling and believe parental authority should take precedent.
- We believe in providing adequate funding for public schools' instructional needs.
- We believe every child should receive comprehensive civics instruction, but we reject the introduction of political systems like critical race theory (CRT) in our schools.
- We believe that competition in physical sports should be based on biological gender.
- We believe in the right to voluntary prayer and standing to recite the Pledge of Allegiance.

## THE ENVIRONMENT

- We believe South Carolina's abundant natural resources must be protected and preserved for posterity.
- We believe true environmental concerns must be based on analysis of hard data.
- We believe energy is both an economic and national security issue, and we encourage the free market development of all forms of energy.
- We believe our environmental decisions should never be made by any authority beyond the United States.
- We believe the Department of Health and Environmental Control should continue to streamline permitting and encourage local solutions when enacting regulatory authority.

- We believe in reasonable policies to efficiently promote waste minimization, containment, and reuse.
- We believe that the Department of Energy should fulfill all its nuclear waste cleanup commitments to the state of South Carolina. All states should honor their interstate commitments to properly dispose of low level nuclear waste.

## HEALTH CARE

- We believe in a free market and individual choice to ensure the highest quality of healthcare.
- We support legislation that safeguards a patient's legal choice and limits all forms of government bureaucracy.
- We oppose government benefit mandates that deprive consumers of the freedom to purchase insurance policies they want at an affordable premium.
- We support limiting federal control of healthcare by converting Medicaid and premium assistance programs to block grants and giving states flexibility to better meet their citizens' needs.
- We affirm the rights of all South Carolinians to make informed decisions about legal healthcare practices.
- We do not support using government or employer coercion as a justifiable tool to obtain directive compliance.
- We reject any and all mandated vaccine decrees.

## TRANSPORTATION FUNDING AND SAFETY

- We advocate prioritizing the maintenance, funding, and improvement of existing infrastructure to meet the evolving needs of our state.
- We encourage private enterprises to contribute innovative solutions to transportation funding issues and promote coordination between land use and transportation planning.

## **SENIOR CITIZENS**

- We believe in providing re-entry of able retired persons into secondary employment programs.
- We believe in establishing tax credits to allow family members to lovingly care for their own elderly.
- We advocate for education, research, and training in geriatrics and gerontology.

## **WELFARE REFORM**

- We believe in personal responsibility, secure families, tax credits for working families, empowering states with block grants, and transitioning people from welfare to self-sufficiency through job tax credits and public-private partnerships.
- We believe non-custodial parents should support their families and advocate replacing subsidies with a housing voucher system.



## - VI - **To Secure the Blessings of Liberty**

We the People of the South Carolina Republican Party recognize that there are very real threats to the liberty of the people of the United States from beyond our borders. Nevertheless, the greatest threats to the blessings of liberty arise from within our borders.

- We believe that securing our liberties begins with limiting national government to its specified constitutional functions.
- We believe that sound fiscal policies at all levels of government must be coupled with sound moral principles to ensure that our nation thrives.

It is our firm belief that the application of the principles set forth in the Platform will truly permit us to form a more perfect union, establish justice, ensure domestic tranquility, provide for the common defense, promote the general welfare and secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and to our posterity. Join us!

# JOIN US!

*Help us promote our Platform and elect*

Becoming a volunteer at:

**[sc.gop/volunteer](https://sc.gop/volunteer)**

Getting involved in your local  
Republican Party at:

**[sc.gop/getlocal](https://sc.gop/getlocal)**

*candidates who will support it by:*

Supporting our work by becoming  
an Elephant Club Member at:

**[sc.gop/elephantclub](https://sc.gop/elephantclub)**

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