

# SpokaneGOP

## Our Guiding Principles: Healthcare

By Juli Skinner

Friday evening, at home, after work and you feel some discomfort in your chest - *Something you ate?* Your legs are achy too - *From the thirty-five hundred squats on Tuesday?* You're relatively healthy but a medical professional you are not; you call your doctor's office. *"When were you last seen?"*, they ask. An appointment is set for three months from now! You gasp, "I may be dead by then!" Your last visit was a year ago (because you are healthy!) so it seems you are being punished. Urgent Care closes in an hour and likely to refer you to ER anyway, which can be costly. You cross your fingers, pray, and grudgingly take the appointment.

*Three months later... (In the best Jacques Cousteau voice).*

You make it to patient intake and you are asked the latest trending questions; *"What do you identify as?" "Do you feel safe at home?"* **What!?** Finally the questions conclude and you get to see that doctor you trust. Uh; remember he retired last month? But YOU get a stand-in who possesses polar medical philosophies. She orders some tests. But she forgets to ask about your leg pain. No, she didn't. The complaint wasn't listed as primary; you will have to come back. To your chagrin, she hurries you out the door. At that moment you think back to when you had a family doctor, unwrapped from bureaucracy, free to treat you in-house, directly answered questions with no need to refer you to superfluous amounts of specialists. *"Sigh"*. Whatever healthcare shortfalls we experience, nothing compares to what the Democrats continue to push. While proponents prop up the American Health Care Act

**Equal Justice** - All people have a right to equal treatment under the law. We support the enforcement of the original Bill of Rights as written and intended by the Founders.

**Jobs, Economy and Currency** - We support balanced budgets, reduced regulations, limited taxation and Free Market, allowing growth to the individual and to the economy as a whole.

**Education** - We are dedicated to reaffirming the importance of safety for students and staff. We support a rigorous "back to basics" curriculum as determined by parents and local school districts.

**Keep and Bear Arms** - You have the right to protect yourself against enemies both foreign and domestic.

**National Sovereignty, Immigration and Defense** - We believe America must have the strongest national defense necessary to defend our borders, homes and national interests.

**Individual Rights** - We believe individual human rights come from our Creator, not the government. We recognize the right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness from conception to natural death. We believe in free speech, thought, worship and dissent without fear of government interference or penalty.

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(AHCA), an ill-fated alternative to the Affordable Care Act (ACA), we feel the real effects of its failures.

If you were one of the fortunates, allowed to keep your doctor and your plan, you may find that your doctor was forced out of the profession due to stringent regulations, damaged doctor-patient relationships, lower wages and corporate buyouts. Moreover, your plan, not your doctor, recommends screenings based on age and gender; not based on specific individual physiologies. Universal coverage and extensive single payer sounds great until you peel back the layers.

The individual mandate, an element of ACA, met with opposition before it was removed under President Trump. Likened to a Ponzi scheme, ACA depended on each adult being insured lest they be fined. Those who afforded premiums or paid fines, mostly financed the program. True beneficiaries were those who could not afford to pay in but prolifically utilized the medical services. Essentially, some received free care, paid for by others. On a tiny positive note: Some states provide Medicaid based only on work and school requirements (via President Trump's advice). Be warned: Democrats want to bring back the individual mandates. But first, they are working to "secure" our elections.

On several healthcare fronts, Republicans differ with Democrats. Free-market competition for example, is a natural price corrector and promotes innovation. It is vital for capitalism. Public-sector, low-cost policies will obliterate private-run insurance companies. Another point of contention concerns medical procedures. Preventative educational programs and procedures, if ethical, are supported by Republicans; practices such as terminating the unborn, is not. If you are pro-abortion, you are encouraged to watch one. It is abhorrent. Healthcare managed by government is expensive. We need reformation, not a one-size-fits-all government-run program that is neither personal nor private.

**Limited Government** - Government is best when it governs the least. Big government infringes upon the rights of the citizens, is prohibitive, inefficient and extremely expensive.

**Healthcare** - We believe that the best healthcare model is one with very limited government intervention, based around the principle of individual responsibility.

**Property Rights** - It is the right of all citizens to legally acquire, own, use and dispose of private property. It is your right to protect your property with reasonable force against another person who is threatening to infringe upon your property.

**Infrastructure (Energy/Utilities, Transportation and Technology)** - We understand that government must continue to invest wisely in infrastructure and transportation projects, especially those critical to growth and safety and strive to be a leader in energy and information technologies through our free market system rather than with government intervention.

**Family Values** - We support the right of families to be free to raise their children according to their personal morals, values and spiritual beliefs.

**Find more on our principals**  
<https://d3n8a8pro7vhmx.cloudfront.net/scrcc/pages/30/attachments/original/1544655338/Spokane-GOP-2014-Platform-FINAL.pdf?1544655338>

## WHAT'S HAPPENING IN WASHINGTON: A SMALL VICTORY

President Trump said we would get tired of winning. Despite his amazing accomplishments, we now find ourselves in an abysmal state of being. No need to regurgitate all that is wrong; it's just important to reflect. President Trump took a metaphorical bullet for us. It took him being on hiatus before we understood how bad it could get. And it is bad. Mr. President, you have passed the mantle on to us and we will carry it until 2024. You found the crack in the armor of our enemy and sent us into battle prepared with our minds and our voices. Sir, Washington is speaking.

The Washington State Board of Health (WABOH) held a public meeting on January 12<sup>th</sup> 2022. Statements leading up to the meeting appeared to many to be deceptive. Agenda topic WAC 246-100 was sold as a mere existing law on the books. Nothing to see here. But in the age of Covid, why discuss the code if an addition wasn't to be contemplated? Some local stations rushed to report and exempt WABOH from any confusion. But given the hype surrounding Covid and the boundaries of ethics crossed by the Radical Left each day, why wouldn't you be suspicious? We must consider its validity and for that reason, **7500 letters and comments in opposition** Were presented. You were on guard and showed up in force. Whether WABOH meant to mislead or not, it's better to be proactive than reactive.

### **BOARD OF HEALTH STATEMENT**

[https://www.nbcrightnow.com/news/washington-board-of-health-says-they-will-not-enact-mandatory-covid-19-quarantine-during-wednesday/article\\_7fdeebca-727b-11ec-a1ad-8760e3f062f5.html](https://www.nbcrightnow.com/news/washington-board-of-health-says-they-will-not-enact-mandatory-covid-19-quarantine-during-wednesday/article_7fdeebca-727b-11ec-a1ad-8760e3f062f5.html)

Mandating K-12 students to be vaccinated against Covid was another agenda item that people feared would be implemented. No vote took place on the 12<sup>th</sup> but the WABOH voted against the Informed Choice Washington petition the next day. The petition specified that the Covid vaccine mandates for school children had too many risks and needed more scrutiny in trials. See below.

<https://www.clarkcountytoday.com/news/washington-board-of-healths-vote-supports-option-of-mandating-experimental-vaccines-for-children/>

President Trump had no problem speaking up but this is not a partisan issue. Many Democrats are strongly opposed to these mandates as well so keep pushing back. **KUDOS to you!**

WAC 246-100-070: Enforcement of Local Health Officer Orders.  
WAC 246-100-040: Procedures for Isolation of Quarantine.

Spokane County Republican Party  
<https://www.spokanegop.com/>

Ponderosa Republican Women, PRW  
<http://www.PonderosaRepublicanWomen.com>

House Republicans  
<https://houserepublicans.wa.gov/2021/02/01/how-you-can-be-involved-in-the-legislative-process/>

## HOW ARE YOUR REPRESENTATIVES VOTING?

**2019 House Bill 1087:  
Concerning long-term  
services and supports**

**HOUSE REPUBLICANS**  
*Voted yes:* NONE

**2021 House Bill  
1323: Concerning  
the long-term  
services and  
supports trust  
program**

**HOUSE REPUBLICANS**  
*Voted yes:* Corry (R)

Graham (R)

Harris (R)

## CONSTITUTIONAL CORNER

By Lori Burns

The basis of our earth-shattering Constitution was the foundational principle that the government's main duty is to protect life, protect liberty and protect the opportunity to pursue happiness. The Founding Fathers did not guarantee happiness; indeed, they knew that they, and certainly no government entity, could. Happiness is as individual a pursuit as there are individuals and is a completely subjective matter. Therefore, they believed that the best thing a government could do is to provide a safe structure in which each citizen could count on equal justice under the law and inalienable rights so that we could each "pursue" happiness.

Inalienable rights, as seen by the Founders, are those rights given us by God that NO government entity or form of government has the right to interfere with, nor grant. We cede as little liberty as possible back to the government so that we may live in an ordered society. With each passing year, our liberties are steadily eroded by the creep of new laws and increased bureaucratic rules. Sadly, many of our citizens have become deluded into the thinking that it is the government's job to take care of its citizens. That is exactly backwards. It is our job to take care of ourselves, within the foundations of a structured society maintained by government.

But what about those that can't care for themselves? It is a sad reality of life that there will always be those who struggle among us; the list of reasons is endless. If the past 120 years or so have demonstrated anything it is the total incapacity of the government to "provide" and care for those in need. Its failure was both foreseeable and common sense because first and foremost, that is not the job of government. Secondly, government of any size, but especially at the federal level, is inefficient, expensive, wasteful, slow to react and fraught with unnecessary red tape and regulations. What works better? Communities. By communities, I mean neighborhoods, churches, involved businesses--the people closest to the problems.

Historically, before health insurance was a thing, people paid their own medical bills. When they couldn't, their "community" would pool their resources and help their neighbors. This would often include donations, fund-raisers, neighbors harvesting crops, churches providing meals and child care, etc. until the crisis had passed. In every case, the givers and receivers of this true charity, were blessed. Now, almost without fail, we look to a government

program. This one example is the kind of thing that has driven us apart as people and caused us to disconnect from each other and truly care about what is happening in our each other's lives. As health care and medicine have advanced in both quantity and quality, many argue that it is now a right. That "feels" right when we consider such an emotional subject as people's health and issues of life and death.

But is it a right? In a country with equal protection under the law, every citizen has the right to expect access to health care. Indeed, that is the case. You cannot go to any hospital in the country and be refused care. As usual, there are people who abuse this right to access and use emergency rooms as their personal physician. Illegal immigrants exploit the generosity of the American hospital system. Hospitals are writing off billions of dollars each year in unpaid bills leaving them with two choices: 1) bankruptcy 2) passing on their costs to the "paying" customers. Obamacare, that great savior of our medical system, has proven only to limit choice and increase costs while creating both shortages in nursing and doctors. Let us be clear. Health care is not a right.



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Health care is a business like a grocery store chain or a department store. The simple fact is that if our health care system cannot operate in the black, it will shut down. In other words, people have to pay their bills. We have no more right to free health care than we have a right to go in any grocery store in the country and demand free food. That does not mean that we should not provide health care for the destitute and needy--I believe we should. But that weight should be shouldered by those closest to the problem not farthest. This idea that anything is "free" is the biggest lie told by government today. No government generates revenue. Every single thing that comes "free" from the government is paid for by those few who still pay income tax. Working class Joes who punch the clock every day all the way up to CEO's who pay exorbitant income taxes pay for the freebees--not the Bill Gates', not investors, not CEO's paid in stock options--you and me.

I could go on for days about the things that need fixing in our medical system. The problems are legion. But it is still the best the world has to offer and is definitely worth saving. The fix is absolutely not to make it a "right", nor make it "free". The only guarantee I can absolutely declare, were we to pursue that path, is the destruction of both the quality and the availability of American health care. Real problems require real solutions. That can only happen when we set aside our emotions and look at the realities, clear-eyed and honestly.

### [More healthcare options](#)

Washington implemented Cascade Care in 2021. A public option insurance offered by five Washington private insurance companies but still, regulated by the state which "controls the terms and manages costs". Admittedly, consumers won't save on any large scale but the proponents expect that in the future, it will manage to evade rising costs; IF the plan works like they hope. The question is how is it going to be paid for if its intention is to fill the gap after the elimination of ACA individual mandates? Subsidies? Taxes?

*A side note: ACA punted to the states, abortion coverage. Washington, circumventing the Hyde Amendment, uses your tax money to pay for qualified mothers to terminate their pregnancies. Such policies are not in line with our County GOP Guiding Principles.*

#### CONTACT US

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[Instagram.com/SpokaneGOP](https://www.instagram.com/SpokaneGOP)

## SAVE THE DATES:

[February 28 2022](#)

WFRW Day at the Capital  
**CANCELLED DUE TO...COVID**

[March 5 2022](#)

Lincoln Day

ANNOUNCING:

**Alveda King**

as guest speaker at Lincoln Day  
Celebration.



*Our thoughts go out to one of our valuable Newsletter Committee members. The family suffered a tragic loss last month. Please send your prayers.*

Interested in sharing your ideas, knowledge or time? Please consider volunteering for a GOP committee position by signing up on the GOP website:

[https://www.spokanegop.com/new\\_volunteer](https://www.spokanegop.com/new_volunteer).

If interested in helping with the Communications Committee, you may also contact Terri at

[terrizalevits@gmail.com](mailto:terrizalevits@gmail.com).

**Spokane**  **GOP**

**2021/22 SUSTAINING MEMBERSHIP**

[https://d3n8a8pro7vhmx.cloudfront.net/scrccl/pages/488/attachments/original/1611537441/2021\\_Sustaining\\_Membership\\_Application.pdf?1611537441](https://d3n8a8pro7vhmx.cloudfront.net/scrccl/pages/488/attachments/original/1611537441/2021_Sustaining_Membership_Application.pdf?1611537441)

[https://www.spokanegop.com/2021\\_sustaining\\_membership](https://www.spokanegop.com/2021_sustaining_membership)