

# REPUBLICAN, LIBERTERIAN, & DEMOCRATIC PLATFORMS

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Beacon volunteer

In order to give our readers a better idea of what they are voting for, we thought it would be helpful to provide approximately 500-word summaries of party platforms. The full platforms are available on the Web: Republican at NHGOP.org/pages/detail/32; Libertarian at LP.org/platform; Democratic at NHDP.org/free\_details.asp?id=59

## The Republican Platform

When contacted about a 500-word summary, the New Hampshire Republican party office said they could not summarize it. What is shown below is some general information from the Republican platform, and two of its specific planks.

### Preamble

We, New Hampshire Republicans, are united by our belief in God, individual liberty, personal responsibility, limited government, limited spending, limited taxes, economic opportunity, homeland security, compassion for the truly needy and our confidence in the strength of families, places of worship, communities and volunteerism.

### Taxes and Spending

#### Tax Free New Hampshire

We reject higher taxes and excessive government spending with the belief that taxes unfairly erode earnings, contribute to the growth of government and provide disincentives for economic growth. To affirm our strong opposition to any broad-based taxes, including an income, sales or capital gains tax, we will:

- Support cutting or eliminating taxes which inhibit enterprise, earnings and savings and investment, such as the Interest and Dividends Tax and the Business Enterprise/Business Profits Tax

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funds – hundreds of millions of dollars in the current two-year budget. Nor does the General Fund include the highway fund or education funding. The letter was deceptive for not making that distinction and for failing to mention other state spending that past Republican legislatures kept “off budget,” but that Democrats believe must be included to be fully transparent.

So while these non-General Fund items have increased the state’s overall budget, Democrats have not increased General Fund spending. Indeed, after Democrats closed a \$300 million budget gap, the General Fund budget fell two percent from the previous budget, due in large measure to difficult budget cuts we made during the past two years, including closing the Laconia prison and Tobey School for emotionally troubled children; laying off some state employees; and cutting \$1 million to the Children’s Hospital at Dartmouth Hitchcock.

And Democrats balanced this bud-

- Oppose taxation of the Internet
- Support initiatives that lower property taxes for those in need
- Assessed value for the purpose of property taxation shall eliminate the subjective elements of value, such as view, and be determined on the basis of objective standards to determine the assessed land and building values
- Work to reduce New Hampshire’s energy costs and remove New Hampshire from the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative
- Work to limit the growth of state spending to not more than the rate of inflation, taking into account population growth, by adopting a taxpayers bill of rights

### The Family

#### Preserving Marriage and Family

We realize that the family’s most important function is to raise the next generation of Americans. We place our highest priority on promoting and preserving the family as the most important institution of human development by:

- Recognizing marriage as the legal union between one man and one woman
- Opposing recognition by the State of New Hampshire of all other forms of civil unions, regardless of where such unions were formed (other states, US territories, and foreign countries)
- Believing the unborn child has a fundamental right to life which cannot be infringed upon; supporting a human life amendment to the Constitution and endorsing legislation to make clear that the Fourteenth Amendment’s protections apply to unborn children
- In light of current court interpretations, requiring parental consent for minors seeking abortions; barring the use of public resources to fund or pro-

get without downshifting costs to cities and towns – a fact the New Hampshire Municipal Association confirmed when it said, “The budget did not result in a direct downshift of state budget shortfalls,” and that legislators should be commended.

The next two-year state budget will be challenging. However, our state is doing better than most. Our unemployment rate is 40 percent below the national average and falling. We have one of the lowest tax burdens, and our business tax environment remains one of the best, producing the second-highest job growth last year of any state. The 247wallstreet.com blog this month recognized us as being the eighth best-run state in the country.

These ratings prove that Governor Lynch and the Democratic legislature have implemented effective, fiscally responsible policies. District 5 deserves a senator who will continue to find enduring solutions that will move our state forward.

*Matthew Houde*

New Hampshire Senate, District 5

mote abortion; banning the procedure of partial-birth abortion; supporting the appointment of judges who respect traditional family values and the sanctity of innocent human life

- The New Hampshire Republican State Committee not supporting financially or by in-kind contributions, any candidate or nominee of this party who opposes measures to end partial-birth abortions
- Commending and encouraging those individuals and organizations who provide alternatives to abortion by meeting the needs of mothers through

## Rules from page 6

beyond the minimum limit of 75 feet, if the purity of the water thereby shall be deemed by the department to be endangered in accordance with the criteria in Env-Ws 386.03;

- 5) A person shall not permit sawdust to be thrown or allowed to fall into said lake or into any inlet thereto;
- 6) A person shall not permit any domestic animals to enter said lake;
- 7) A person shall not swim or bathe, nor shall a person fish in the waters of said lake south of a line drawn from a point on the easterly shore approximately 1,700 feet north of the present water supply intake to the point on the westerly shore located by describing an

adoption, support, counseling and educational services

- Encouraging scientific research using adult and cord blood stem cells; opposing the use of embryonic stem cells; and supporting a comprehensive ban on human cloning, the creation of human embryos solely for experimentation, and the public funding thereof

### The Libertarian Platform

A summary of the Libertarian platform found at LP.org states:

We, the members of the Libertarian  
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angle of 90° from the true north direction; and

- 8) A person shall not use seaplanes on said lake.

H) The Andover Precinct shall post a summary of the prohibitions contained in (g) above at all public access locations where persons might reasonably be expected to access Bradley Lake or its tributaries. This posted summary may also contain any prohibitions enacted by local ordinance.

(A separate regulation, enacted by the New Hampshire legislature in 1989, prohibits outboard motors of more than 30 horsepower on Bradley Lake. Proposals to amend this regulation will not be considered in the coming DES revision process.)

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