# POSITION STATEMENT

Vetting Standard for Local Candidates



We welcome you to join us in preserving and protecting the freedoms and values which make Ottawa County special, so they may be enjoyed by generations to come.

Our passion is Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness!

We stand united to restore and amplify the principles of American exceptionalism, and endorse candidates who align with us on these core issues.

# **POSITION STATEMENT**

#### HIGH STANDING OF THE PEOPLE & THE CONSTITUTION

We affirm THE CONSTITUTION as written, and will not place demands on citizens outside of the Constitution and Michigan law. Civil government was instituted by our founders to secure God-given rights to LIFE, LIBERTY, and the PURSUIT OF HAPPINESS, deriving its powers from the consent of the governed—THE PEOPLE.

We value THE PEOPLE and their personal freedoms above the interests of government. We acknowledge our first loyalty is to THE PEOPLE.

We recognize civil liberties are not reduced or suspended in times of crisis. Unconstitutional orders imposed in such times by a Governor, state agency, or local agency will be actively opposed and not enforced.

#### **AMERICAN VALUES**

We respect and preserve religious freedom and values dear to our communities. We defend innocent life—including pre-born babies, the nuclear family, and our nation's Judeo-Christian heritage. We support the importance and influence of both mothers and fathers in the home.

We celebrate America as an exceptional nation blessed by God, and respect our great American flag. We embrace true history, preserve historical monuments, and reject revisionist history.

#### **PRO-LIFE**

We are thoroughly pro-life, believing that human life begins at conception and that the pre-born are entitled to the same Constitutional protections as enjoyed by all citizens. We oppose the practice and promotion of euthanasia,

#### FIRST AMENDMENT

We will protect the First Amendment right to free speech in the public arena. We reject political correctness and cancel culture, recognizing tyranny reigns in the absence of truth, free thought, and accountability for corruption.

#### **SECOND AMENDMENT**

We will protect the Second Amendment and the right to keep and bear arms.

#### **PARENTAL RIGHTS**

We affirm a parent's right to guide their child's care, education, and upbringing. Parents know best how to raise and care for their children, and are given the "natural" right to these responsibilities by God, protected by the 1st and 14th Amendments to the Constitution.

We affirm Michigan School Code, which states, "It is the natural, fundamental right of parents and legal guardians to determine and direct the care, teaching, and education of their children. The public schools of this state serve the needs of the pupils by cooperating with the pupil's parents and legal guardians to develop the pupil's intellectual capabilities and vocational skills in a safe and positive environment."

380.10 Rights of parents and legal guardians; duties of public schools

#### HEALTH FREEDOM OF INDIVIDUALS, PARENTS, CHURCHES, AND BUSINESSES

We will protect PARENTAL RIGHTS and PERSONAL FREEDOMS above perceived health measures promised for the common good, recognizing civil liberties are not suspended in times of crisis.

The Constitution and state law affirm the care of a child is a parental right—not a government right or responsibility. We will protect the freedom of individuals and parents to make voluntary health decisions for themselves and their own children (including masks, social distancing, mandatory testing, vaccination, etc.), free of coercion, in the work place, schools and public spaces.

We will protect RELIGIOUS FREEDOM in regards to health measures, to include the free operation of churches and private schools without threat or intimidation from the government.

We reject mandated BUSINESS closures. We value every job as "essential," and will protect the right of individuals to operate and/or be employed by their place of business without threat or intimidation.

We reject mandated SCHOOL closures, social distancing, masking of children, quarantining of school children (exclusion from school), which deprive children of freedom, education, development of speech and social skills, important life moments, and contribute to the degradation of their mental health and increased suicide risks.

#### **EDUCATION**

We support educational excellence, with an emphasis on high achievement in core subjects (English, math, science, etc.), and teaching that inspires creative, critical thinking.

We support students' right to free conscience and speech, and actively oppose indoctrination of students. We support full transparency with parents on all curriculum and books provided to students.

We support School Choice, including Charter Schools and homeschooling. We support public tax dollars following the student, not allowing a government monopoly on education.

### **DIVERSITY / CRITICAL RACE THEORY**

We agree with Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s dream that people "should not be judged by the color of their skin but by the content of their character." We value all people regardless of their ethnicity, sexuality, religion or gender and age, born or unborn.

We believe in equal opportunity over equal outcome. Equality, meaning equality of opportunity, is a human right outlined in the Declaration of Independence, which guarantees our unalienable rights to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. We are a nation of over-comers with countless real-life stories of those who have risen above adversity to create the impossible.

Equity is not a human right. Equity takes opportunity and resources from others (redistribution) for the unachievable promise of equal outcome for all. Although it promises utopia, it ignores personal agency and effort while dismantling the foundations of our society which made our nation exceptional. Equity, a core tenet of Racial Justice efforts and Critical Race Theory, binds us to state management of society and leads us down the road to socialism. Equity jeopardizes liberty.

We agree with teaching America's true history, including difficult subjects, using curriculum such as was written by 1776 Unites, which affirms, "It is essential that children learn they are agents of their own uplift, knowing their possibilities, responsibilities, and what it means to be an American."

We oppose promotion of divisive teachings aligned with Critical Race Theory through government schools, employee training, and government policy. Such concepts include; racial equity, privilege vs oppression based on skin color, intersectionality (combining all forms of perceived oppression), implicit bias, systemic racism, and revisionist history. We recognize any teachings that promote a worldview that divides people according to perceived forms of oppression are a Marxist tool aimed at reducing personal agency, deconstructing American institutions, and promoting socialism and/or communism.

We will not partner with Corporate or Special Interest groups on efforts which seek to change the core values and beliefs of our County and State.

#### **ELECTION INTEGRITY**

We support future election integrity measures of; citizenship requirements, showing a government issued photo ID, one election day, universal signature matching, voting absentee with a legitimate reason only and ensuring an unbroken chain of custody.

#### **LAW & ORDER**

We will not defund the police, and will maintain sufficient law enforcement for the protection of the community.

#### **SEXUALITY**

We reject policies that would permit males and females to share the same public restrooms, locker rooms, and showers, based on their self-identified gender instead of their natural born gender. We will protect the privacy and safety of children and women from biological males who desire to use women's bathrooms and locker rooms, as well as protecting the integrity of women's sports. We will not require government employees to use preferred pronouns of individuals based on their gender identity/expression.

We will not support the use of Government property such as libraries and schools for the promotion of sexualized activities targeting children such as Drag Queen Story Hours.

#### COMPREHENSIVE SEXUALITY EDUCATION AND PARENTAL RIGHTS

We do not support the sexualization of children, including Planned Parenthood aligned graphic Comprehensive Sexuality Education for PK-12 students (Info and documentary—*No opt-out allowed: California Sex Ed Indoctrination*, found at <u>alliance114.com/sex-ed</u>). Concepts include the sexuality of children from birth, the affirmative consent of children to sex, a child's ability to choose their gender, LGBTQ relationships, promoting oral and anal sex to children, promoting multiple sexual partners, and encouraging children to abandon the beliefs of their family and church to be an ally of the progressive sexuality agenda.

We will not support government teaching or facilitating the following:

- A minor's abortion
- A minor's gender transition, including hormone therapy and surgery
- · Surveys inquiring about a minor's sexual activities and family beliefs
- · Public or school library books provided to minors containing illicit sexual/sexuality content or graphic violence

We do not support the promotion of Planned Parenthood materials or services through local government agencies or related entities, including advocacy for Comprehensive Sexuality Education by government employees to local school districts.

We advocate for childhood innocence—for not pushing sexuality content onto children at school, especially at young ages. We believe teaching children issues of sexuality is the responsibility and privilege of parents. It is every parent's natural right to teach their OWN children what they believe in regards to sexuality, to "direct the care, teaching, and education of their children." It is not the legal right of teachers or community members to teach other people's children sexuality content without parental knowledge and/or consent.

## AMERICA FIRST/BORDERS

We will advocate for the people of America first, including our veterans. We will consider the risks, costs, and benefits presented by illegal immigration, as well as refugee influx from areas/countries hostile to America. We welcome legal immigrants to our community.

We recognize the dangers of open borders, which enable drug and human trafficking, putting the lives and well-being of men, women, and children at risk.

We promote compassion for people in need of refugee and resettlement consideration. We encourage government and private entities to provide resources to people in need within their home country, allowing the opportunity to remain and resettle in their homeland. When it is not possible to safely remain, we encourage thorough, careful vetting of all refugees to minimize potential safety risks to the American people.

#### LAND AND THE ENVIRONMENT

We will be good stewards of our public land, including protecting our Great Lakes and promoting clean air and water. We believe in being energy independent, and the careful consideration of the positives and negatives of all energy sources, including reliability and impact on jobs.

We will cautiously consider any private land acquisition requested for County projects, providing ample notice and opportunity for public comment, taking into account the impact on private land owners.

#### PERSONAL INTEGRITY

We will conduct government meetings with openness and transparency. We will respect the voices of fellow elected officials chosen by the people, including in public meetings, even if their comments are to express a minority opinion.

We will provide strong, principled leadership to government employees on the implementation of the issues addressed above, fulfilling my first loyalty and duty to THE PEOPLE of Ottawa County.

We will not accept money or favors to decide a vote on an issue or drop out of an election race.

#### **UNIONS**

We do not support employee unions forcibly deducting money from their members' paychecks to finance political activities.

#### **FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY**

We will use fiscal integrity and responsibility in Government operations, taking care not to impose undue taxation or regulation on the people. If faced with a budget deficit, we will cut spending rather than increasing taxes.









Thank you for taking the time to understand our positions on important issues!



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