

# A Better Way:

## *Our Commitment to Kansas*

America has always been the land of opportunity, a land where freedom is secure and our hopes and dreams can be achieved with hard work and perseverance. Sadly, in the last few years, that optimism has been replaced by a profound pessimism. It is easy to understand why, as over the last two years we have seen jobs shrink, paychecks stay the same, and the cost of living for items like food and fuel go through the roof. The good news is we are Kansans, and we value hard work, faith, freedom, and family—all of which will guide us through the current challenges and toward a brighter future.

As your voice in Topeka, we are ready to meet these challenges head on and set a steady course to prosperity for Kansas families. That is why we are committed to A Better Way, a policy agenda that puts Kansas families first and protects our communities, honors the value of work, and does everything we can to make Kansas a great place to live, work, raise a family, and retire. From the farmer in western Kansas to the blue-collar worker in our airline industry to the small business startup in Johnson County, we will promote an agenda that puts individuals, their freedom, and their way of life before government. That is our commitment.

### **IT'S YOUR MONEY: OUR COMMITMENT TO TAXPAYERS**

We believe Kansans should keep more of what they earn and send less to Topeka. While many Kansas families live on a “paycheck to paycheck” budget, state and local governments have forgotten where their money comes from: the taxpayer. To compete with our neighboring states and make Kansas an attractive place to live, work, and play, we must make the Kansas tax code simpler and ensure that government at all levels respects the taxpayer.

- **Pass a balanced budget that eliminates wasteful spending, pays down debt, and saves for a rainy day.**
- **Reduce the tax burden on both retirees and families.**
- **Make the state tax code flatter and simpler to help families and businesses.**
- **Resist all tax increases and ensure the Truth in Taxation law is being implemented as intended.**



## **IT'S YOUR HEALTH: OUR COMMITMENT TO FREE MARKET HEALTH CARE**

For most Kansas households and businesses, the cost of health care is a heavy burden. While much of that burden is due to mandates from Washington, we are committed to doing everything in our power at the state level to put Kansans more in control of their health coverage by expanding consumer choices and their ability to access to health care.

- Protect Kansas consumers and stop new costly mandates that drive up rates.
- Expand consumer choice by allowing Kansans access to alternatives to expensive ObamaCare plans.
- Promote Health Savings Accounts so Kansans have control over their health care funds.
- Continue to implement reforms that promote health care freedom while preserving quality.

## **IT'S THEIR FUTURE: OUR COMMITMENT TO FOCUS ON STUDENTS**

Parents expect state education funding and policy to be focused on what is best for students, not for systems. That includes ensuring a child's success is not limited by their race, economic status, or ZIP Code. It also includes listening to parents and providing them the right to direct their child's education, and renewing our emphasis on academic achievement and fairness, not on radical woke ideologies that divides our communities and harms their future.

- Expand educational opportunities so our kids' future is not limited by economic status.
- Work to implement fairness in women's sports until it gets enacted.
- Place the state back on the side of parents by adopting the Parents' Bill of Rights.
- Focus on academic achievement and not radical ideologies.

## **IT'S OUR ECONOMY: OUR COMMITMENT TO FREE ENTERPRISE**

Environmental, social, and governance (ESG) left unchecked will allow corporate elites in the financial sector to pick winners and losers, driving up inflation on Kansans, and punishing those who disagree with their woke agenda.

- Prohibit ESG investing in the state retirement system and post-secondary institutions.
- Authorize the attorney general to investigate companies that conspire to constrain the fossil fuel industry.
- Prohibit state investment in entities owned or operated by hostile foreign governments.
- Enact reforms to lower energy rates for all Kansans.

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## **HELP WANTED: OUR COMMITMENT TO GROW THE KANSAS WORKFORCE**

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Government often makes it too difficult to start a business via unnecessary bureaucracy, exorbitant fees, and outdated and irrelevant requirements. We believe in removing barriers and opening the path to prosperity for all Kansans.

- Make college a more affordable pathway to career success, including promoting technical education.
- Support apprenticeship-to-licensure training and lower the cost of licensing fees.
- Require real work searches to obtain unemployment benefits so Kansans can regain full employment.
- Make it as easy as possible for Kansans to create their own jobs by starting a business.

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## **PROTECTING THE VULNERABLE: OUR COMMITMENT TO THE KANSAS SAFETY NET**

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In Kansas, we take care of each other, and we are proud of the safety net and want to ensure it remains in place for those in need, while ensuring our social welfare programs are working to the best interests of families and children.

- Stop fraud and abuse by regularly checking eligibility of those receiving government assistance.
- Guarantee that those who cannot work go to the front of the line for services.
- Reject any expansion of welfare to able-bodied adults until waiver waiting lists are eliminated.
- Fight for single moms so they get more support from deadbeat dads.
- Support additional opportunities for persons with disabilities to earn a living through meaningful work.
- Fix our foster care system by investing in alternatives and protecting children who do enter the system.

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## **LAW & ORDER: OUR COMMITMENT TO A SAFE AND SECURE KANSAS**

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Kansas has a strong tradition of being a safe place to live, work, and raise a family. We do that through robust support for law enforcement and laws that make it clear we will have no tolerance for the disorder we have seen in American cities the past few years. Republicans will always back the blue.

- Combat the fentanyl crisis and the increase of crime and drugs coming across the southern border.
- Protect Kansas families and businesses from cyberattacks and intellectual property theft by China.
- Strengthen Kansas statutes that protect Kansans from violent and repeat offenders.
- Protect first responders and health care workers from acts of physical violence.
- Support Kansas Highway Patrol troopers and ensure the KHP is fully staffed and competently managed.

## **FREEDOM STARTS HERE: OUR COMMITMENT TO LIFE, LIBERTY, AND THE PURSUIT OF HAPPINESS**

Most fundamental to our responsibilities is standing up for the life and liberty of Kansans and putting government on the side of the people. Over the last three years, some states have shown the rest of the nation that there is a better way which promotes freedom and individualized choices for their residents. We will do the same.

- Encourage individual freedom, personal responsibility, and commonsense strategies, and reject mandates, passports, and other restrictions that impose upon the liberty of Kansans.
- Complete the safeguarding of our elections and resist Biden's efforts to hijack our elections.
- Respect the constitutional rights of all Kansans by fighting any attempts to undermine those rights.
- Support a culture of life in Kansas and reduce abortions through support for crisis pregnancy centers and preserving protections currently in law supported by the vast majority of Kansans.

