

## **Illinois GOP 2020 Resolution America First for Illinois**

WHEREAS, the United States of America is the indispensable nation which has led the world toward freedom for the past 100 years, liberating more people from the scourges of fascism, totalitarianism, and communism at great cost in both treasure and lives than any nation in the past; and

WHEREAS, American exceptionalism is founded upon the principle that, “We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights, that among these are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. That, to secure these rights, governments are instituted among men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed;” and

WHEREAS, we once again find ourselves under the influence of elites who have been managing the decline of America in the beginning of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century against the perception of a rising China as they did in the 20<sup>th</sup> Century with the Soviet Union whom we confronted and defeated under Ronald Reagan; and

WHEREAS, decades of that managed decline have hollowed out the working class as manufacturing was transferred overseas chasing cheap labor, and in some cases slave labor, while Wall Street indiscriminately profited at the expense of Main Street; and

WHEREAS, with the 2016 election of the 45<sup>th</sup> President of the United States of America, Donald J. Trump, who, unlike all previous Administrations through to Reagan’s, is working to end the ceaseless wars in the Middle East that have taken American lives and cost upwards of \$7 trillion dollars that could have been used to revitalize our homeland, promoting an “America First” agenda to restore our industrial and innovative might by bringing supply chains back to our shores, and forming alliances with liberty promoting nations; and

WHEREAS, President Trump stated in his 2020 remarks at the foot of Mount Rushmore on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of July, 2020, “We remember that governments exist to protect the safety and happiness of their own people. A nation must care for its own citizens first. We must take care of America first. It’s time;” and

WHEREAS, the division and discord that has been sown among us through all forms of media, weaponization of civilian security institutions in an ongoing pursuit to nullify the 2016 election, exploitation of tragedies for political ends, and the abdication of law and order which is the first duty of government;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the members of Illinois GOP and the Republican Party of Illinois proudly declare that we must lay hold of and promote the principles, values and vision of our Founders and reinvigorate our efforts to offer all Americans the bounty that individual liberty, economic opportunity, entrepreneurship, innovation, integrity through the protection of our sovereign borders, the promotion of justice which needs no modifiers, and the equal application of the rule of law provide our nation and the great state of Illinois.

Passed and adopted this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of October, the year of our Lord 2020.

Attest:

- \_\_\_\_\_ Illinois GOP Chair
- \_\_\_\_\_ Illinois GOP Secretary
- \_\_\_\_\_ Platform and Resolutions Chair
- \_\_\_\_\_ Platform and Resolutions Co-Chair
- \_\_\_\_\_ Platform and Resolutions Co-Chair

## **Illinois GOP 2020 Resolution Protect Our Heritage**

WHEREAS, the United States of America is uniquely founded upon the principle enunciated in our Declaration of Independence that, “We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights, that among these are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. That, to secure these rights, governments are instituted among men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed;” and

WHEREAS, some scoff at the brilliant vision our founders penned because they purposely focus on the fallible men who wrote it, and not the stupendous vision which they cast. It was unique, even exceptional. The culmination of thousands of years of human history; and

WHEREAS, as Ronald Reagan said, “Freedom is never more than one generation away from extinction. We didn't pass it to our children in the bloodstream. It must be fought for, protected, and handed on for them to do the same, or one day we will spend our sunset years telling our children and our children's children what it was once like in the United States where men were free;” and

WHEREAS, the division and discord that has been sown among us through all forms of media, exploitation of events for political ends, tearing down of historical monuments, expunging the names of those who came before us, and the abdication of law and order which is the first duty of government; and

WHEREAS, President Donald J. Trump stated in his 2020 remarks at the foot of Mount Rushmore on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of July, 2020, “It is time for our politicians to summon the bravery and determination of our American ancestors. It is time. It is time to plant our flag and protect the greatest of this nation, for citizens of every race, in every city, and every part of this glorious land. For the sake of our honor, for the sake of our children, for the sake of our union, we must protect and preserve our history, our heritage, and our great heroes.” “We will never let them rip America’s heroes from our monuments, or from our hearts. By tearing down Washington and Jefferson, these radicals would tear down the very heritage for which men gave their lives to win the Civil War; they would erase the memory that inspired those soldiers to go to their deaths, singing these words of the Battle Hymn of the Republic: ‘As He died to make men Holy, let us die to make men free, while God is marching on.’” “We stand tall, we stand proud, and we only kneel to Almighty God.” “Centuries from now, our legacy will be the cities we built, the champions we forged, the good we did, and the monuments we created to inspire us all. My fellow citizens: America’s destiny is in our sights. America’s heroes are embedded in our hearts. America’s future is in our hands. And ladies and gentlemen: the best is yet to come;”

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the members of Illinois GOP and the Republican Party of Illinois proudly declare that we stand with our President and shall lay hold of and continue to promote the principles, values and vision of our Founders and renew our efforts to educate all Americans in our great heritage, protect the symbols and dedications of our parks, roads, buildings, et al to those who came before us that forged this nation. We will not let the sun set upon the greatest and most blessed nation on our watch. We owe it to all who have come before us and to all who will come after. The best is yet to come!

Passed and adopted this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of October, the year of our Lord 2020.

Attest:

\_\_\_\_\_ Illinois GOP Chair

\_\_\_\_\_ Illinois GOP Secretary

\_\_\_\_\_ Platform and Resolutions Chair

\_\_\_\_\_ Platform and Resolutions Co-Chair

\_\_\_\_\_ Platform and Resolutions Co-Chair

**Illinois GOP 2020 Resolution  
Condemnation of the Chinese Communist Party**

WHEREAS, the Chinese Communist Party knew of human to human transmission of a novel corona virus (officially designated SARS-COV-2) in the Capitol city of Wuhan of Hubei Province sometime before the end of 2019; and

WHEREAS, the Chinese Communist Party ordered all transportation inside of China from Hubei Province to cease on January 23, 2020 while allowing international travel to continue; and

WHEREAS, the Chinese Communist Party, to this day, has not fully disclosed information related to all aspects of the origin of SARS-COV-2 including the earliest samples, nor cooperated with the global community per the International Health Regulations of the World Health Organization (WHO) acknowledged by the Chinese Communist Party; and

WHEREAS, a University of Southampton study concluded that 95% of infections could have been avoided had the Chinese Communist Party followed international biological protocols; and

WHEREAS, the United States of America has suffered over 200,000 casualties from SARS-COV-2, with over a million lost worldwide, along with trillions of dollars in economic devastation;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the members of Illinois GOP and the Republican Party of Illinois condemn the Chinese Communist Party—not the Chinese people—for knowingly and willingly allowing the SARS-COV-2 virus which originated in Wuhan to spread throughout the world as a crime against humanity for which they must be held accountable by the government of the United States and, further, all commerce conducted by the State of Illinois with China must cease immediately.

Passed and adopted this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of October, the year of our Lord 2020.

Attest:

\_\_\_\_\_ Illinois GOP Chair  
\_\_\_\_\_ Illinois GOP Secretary  
\_\_\_\_\_ Platform and Resolutions Chair  
\_\_\_\_\_ Platform and Resolutions Co-Chair  
\_\_\_\_\_ Platform and Resolutions Co-Chair

Data:

- In December, a Chinese doctor, Li Wenliang, was conversing with colleagues on WeChat regarding a pneumonia outbreak in Wuhan. He was arrested, some say tortured, and made to confess he was wrong and never to speak of it. He later was acquitted, returned to his practice, and died of the virus he was silenced for. (<https://www.cnn.com/2020/02/06/asia/li-wenliang-coronavirus-whistleblower-doctor-dies-intl/index.html>)
- On December 31, Taiwan informed the World Health Organization (WHO) that there was human to human transmission of a SARS like virus in China. They were ignored because WHO does not recognize the free Chinese state. (<https://www.thenation.com/article/world/taiwan-who-coronavirus-china/>)
- On January 14, WHO tweeted out "Preliminary investigations conducted by the Chinese authorities have found no clear evidence of human-to-human transmission of the novel #coronavirus (2019-nCoV) identified in #Wuhan, #China," (<https://www.foxnews.com/world/world-health-organization-january-tweet-china-human-transmission-coronavirus>)
- On January 23, the Communist Party of China (CPC) partially locked down a city of over 11 million people, Wuhan in Hubei province, discontinued travel out of the province in China, yet allowed flights to continue to the rest of the world. (<https://www.msn.com/en-us/news/world/wuhan-coronavirus-2-cities-locked-down-disrupting-lunar-new-year-travel-plans-of-millions/ar-BBZf4X0>)
- On January 31, the President of the United States ended flights from China (<https://www.nytimes.com/2020/01/31/business/china-travel-coronavirus.html>)
- A University study concluded that 95% of infections could have been avoided had the CPC followed the biological protocols they agreed to with the international community and notified the world instead of covering it up. (<https://www.southampton.ac.uk/news/2020/03/covid-19-china.page>)

## **Illinois GOP 2020 Resolution Never One Man's Rule**

WHEREAS, governance in the United States of America is predicated upon the principle stated in our Declaration of Independence, “That, to secure these rights, governments are instituted among men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed.”; and

WHEREAS, the Illinois Constitution states that we shall “maintain a representative and orderly government;” and

WHEREAS, our republican form of government is founded upon a system of “checks and balances” with co-equal branches in the Executive, Legislative and Judicial; and

WHEREAS, the constitutional rights of citizens must be upheld using strict scrutiny and are subject to due process and access to the courts in an emergency; and

WHEREAS, no one individual should ever be allowed to indiscriminately and unilaterally rule over so many for an unbounded period of time, especially in an emergency;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the members of Illinois GOP and the Republican Party of Illinois declare that we shall continue to stand against tyranny in all its forms and promote legislation that clearly limits the duration of time, delineates the extent of power and types of emergencies in which the Executive may act. We shall never subjugate ourselves to the rule of one individual in Illinois or our Nation.

Passed and adopted this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of October, the year of our Lord 2020.

Attest:

\_\_\_\_\_ Illinois GOP Chair

\_\_\_\_\_ Illinois GOP Secretary

\_\_\_\_\_ Platform and Resolutions Chair

\_\_\_\_\_ Platform and Resolutions Co-Chair

\_\_\_\_\_ Platform and Resolutions Co-Chair

## **Illinois GOP 2020 Resolution Defend the Police**

WHEREAS, the United States of America and the State of Illinois are founded upon the rule of law which provides strict accordance with well-established and clearly defined laws and procedures without regard to person; and

WHEREAS, the implementation of law enforcement has taken many forms in our nation's history. From volunteers, night watchmen, lawman, and others to our first publicly funded police force instituted in Boston in 1838; and

WHEREAS, the modern day institution of law enforcement that has evolved, specifically our local police, is necessary to the continuance of safe streets and neighborhoods; and

WHEREAS, the police are subject to oversight, can continuously improve, and should be regularly examined by the public through their elected representatives; and

WHEREAS, steps should be taken to ensure that the few "bad" individuals in the police force are more diligently vetted initially with immediate expulsion and punishment, if necessary, for illegal actions; and

WHEREAS, the division and discord that is being sown among us through all forms of media, the exploitation of statistically few incidents perpetrated by negligent individual officers for political ends, and the cries to defund the police which would result in utter chaos;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the members of Illinois GOP and the Republican Party of Illinois proudly declare that we shall defend the police, who put their lives on the blue line each day as part of an institution that is fundamental for the continued survival of our civilization.

Passed and adopted this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of October, the year of our Lord 2020.

Attest:

\_\_\_\_\_ Illinois GOP Chair

\_\_\_\_\_ Illinois GOP Secretary

\_\_\_\_\_ Platform and Resolutions Chair

\_\_\_\_\_ Platform and Resolutions Co-Chair

\_\_\_\_\_ Platform and Resolutions Co-Chair



Data:

History of Policing in America: <https://time.com/4779112/police-history-origins/>

## **Illinois GOP 2020 Resolution Educational Choice**

WHEREAS, America is founded upon the principle that, “We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights, that among these are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness;” and

WHEREAS, education is one of the most critical components to developing the minds of our children and offering the opportunity to grow beyond one’s circumstances to achieve success in life and prepare them to participate as citizens in our state and nation; and

WHEREAS, no child should be relegated to compulsory attendance in a failing school because of the zip code they reside in; and

WHEREAS, parents have the preeminent right to direct the education of their children in the manner of their choosing; and

WHEREAS, the continuing failure of our monolithic system of government directed schooling as evidenced in the internationally recognized Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA) test, that while our ranking may improve, scores have not since 2015, along with no marked improvement in grade advancement for decades versus the skyrocketing costs; and

WHEREAS, we have the opportunity to heal much which divides us in our current cultural climate if we return to preparing children for life and civic engagement through the mastering of the English language, mathematics, reading and science versus the wasted time and money indoctrinating them in useless ideologies that cause nothing but conflict;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the members of Illinois GOP and the Republican Party of Illinois declare that we shall continue to promote policies that provide all Illinoisans the bounty that individual liberty, economic opportunity, entrepreneurship, innovation, and success in life offer to the great state of Illinois and our nation by freeing parents and children to choose educational options which best suit their values and goals.

Passed and adopted this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of October, the year of our Lord 2020.

Attest:

\_\_\_\_\_ Illinois GOP Chair  
\_\_\_\_\_ Illinois GOP Secretary  
\_\_\_\_\_ Platform and Resolutions Chair  
\_\_\_\_\_ Platform and Resolutions Co-Chair  
\_\_\_\_\_ Platform and Resolutions Co-Chair

<https://www.usnews.com/news/education-news/articles/2019-12-03/us-students-show-no-improvement-in-math-reading-science-on-international-exam>

## **Illinois GOP 2020 Resolution End Corruption**

WHEREAS, the Illinois Constitution states that we shall “maintain a representative and orderly government;” and

WHEREAS, our republican form of government is based upon the rule of law which provides strict accordance with well-established and clearly defined laws and procedures without regard to person; and

WHEREAS, a 2020 study by the University of Chicago stated that, “Chicago continues to be the most corrupt city in the country and Illinois remains the third most corrupt state,” with a Chicago Alderman, State Senator and two State Representatives indicted in the past year;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the members of Illinois GOP and the Republican Party of Illinois declare that we shall continue to work tirelessly to rebuild our state, implement real ethical reforms and demonstrate to citizens that they can rely on Republican elected officials to hold the public trust in the utmost regard.

Passed and adopted this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of October, the year of our Lord 2020.

Attest:

_____	Illinois GOP Chair
_____	Illinois GOP Secretary
_____	Platform and Resolutions Chair
_____	Platform and Resolutions Co-Chair
_____	Platform and Resolutions Co-Chair

Data:

- [https://pols.uic.edu/wp-content/uploads/sites/273/2020/02/Corruption.Rpt\\_12.Complete.pdf](https://pols.uic.edu/wp-content/uploads/sites/273/2020/02/Corruption.Rpt_12.Complete.pdf)

## **Illinois GOP 2020 Resolution Culture of Life**

WHEREAS, the United States of America is founded upon the principles stated in our Declaration of Independence that we assumed, "...among the powers of the earth, the separate and equal station to which the Laws of Nature and of Nature's God entitle them;" "We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights, that among these are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness;" and

WHEREAS, since 1973 when the Supreme Court of the United States on a vote of 7-2 legalized abortion for over 200 million people, the life of over 60 million Americans of every race, creed, color and sex has been terminated; and

WHEREAS, the Republican Party is a political party founded upon the dignity and freedom of each human created in the image of God, freeing slaves in the bloodiest civil war in US history; and

WHEREAS, President Donald J. Trump stated in his 2020 remarks at the foot of Mount Rushmore on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of July, 2020, "We believe in equal opportunity, equal justice, and equal treatment for citizens of every race, background, religion, and creed. Every child, of every color — born and unborn — is made in the holy image of God;" and

WHEREAS, the Democrat-controlled Illinois General Assembly passed the most radical abortion bill in the Reproductive Health Act, where abortion was expanded beyond all bounds up to restricting aid to babies who survive an abortion procedure—basically infanticide—promoting a culture of death;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the members of Illinois GOP and the Republican Party of Illinois proudly declare that we are a party that shall promote a culture of life, implementing policies that step back from the advancement of the wholesale destruction of life, such as, more and easier adoption, removing taxpayer funding, medical standards and full disclosure including ultrasounds for clinics performing abortions, and other sound social policies to protect human life from cradle to grave.

Passed and adopted this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of October, the year of our Lord 2020.

Attest:

_____	Illinois GOP Chair
_____	Illinois GOP Secretary
_____	Platform and Resolutions Chair
_____	Platform and Resolutions Co-Chair
_____	Platform and Resolutions Co-Chair

## **Illinois GOP 2020 Resolution The Real War on Women**

WHEREAS, the United States of America is founded upon the principles stated in our Declaration of Independence that we assumed, "...among the powers of the earth, the separate and equal station to which the Laws of Nature and of Nature's God entitle them;" "We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights, that among these are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness;" and

WHEREAS, the Supreme Court of the United States by a vote of 6-3 recently redefined the word "sex" in Title VII of federal employment law to include discrimination on the basis of "sexual orientation" and "gender identity;" and

WHEREAS, the Laws of Nature and of Nature's God from the beginning of humanity demonstrate that it is self-evident that there are two distinct physiological types in the human species, male and female; and

WHEREAS, all of modern biology, neurology, physiology, and genetics, acknowledge the distinction except for the recent ideological and anti-intellectual tyranny that desires to eradicate that difference; and

WHEREAS, the distinctions between male and female have been the basis for specific considerations being afforded women, such as Title IX which revolutionized women's sports where it is patently unfair for a biological male to be allowed to participate as a female merely upon verbal declaration; private spaces, such as restrooms being biologically sex segregated; and

WHEREAS, the division and discord that has being sown among us through all forms of media, exploitation of people for political ends, and the abandonment of all scientific and intellectually honest knowledge and dialogue regarding the human species;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the members of Illinois GOP and the Republican Party of Illinois will continue to dedicate ourselves to restoring the Laws of Nature and of Nature's God and the reasonable protections society has fought to offer women based on the very real biological and physiological differences so that women may thrive and achieve the heights of success in whatever endeavor they choose.

Passed and adopted this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of October, the year of our Lord 2020.

Attest:

\_\_\_\_\_ Illinois GOP Chair

\_\_\_\_\_ Illinois GOP Secretary

\_\_\_\_\_ Platform and Resolutions Chair

\_\_\_\_\_ Platform and Resolutions Co-Chair

\_\_\_\_\_ Platform and Resolutions Co-Chair

## **Illinois GOP 2020 Resolution Fix the Fiscal Fiasco**

WHEREAS, the Illinois Constitution states that we shall “maintain a representative and orderly government” and a balanced budget—“Appropriations for a fiscal year shall not exceed funds estimated by the General Assembly to be available during that year;” <sup>(1)</sup> and

WHEREAS, Illinois possesses total liabilities exceeding \$250 billion due to the past 20 years of one-party Democrat rule, despite the balanced budget provision in the Illinois Constitution; <sup>(2)</sup> and

WHEREAS, the Democrat-controlled General Assembly passed a \$42 billion spending budget for the 2021 Fiscal Year that was more than \$6 billion in the hole, dependent upon borrowing money from the Federal government and then hoping for grants from the same to pay off the 6% increase with no reforms, no cuts, and no shared sacrifice whatsoever; <sup>(3)</sup>

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the members of Illinois GOP and the Republican Party of Illinois declare that we shall implement real reforms such as, amend the Illinois Pension clause, convert pensions to defined contribution, freeze COLA, reform collective bargaining, allow for municipal bankruptcy and other sound fiscal policies to restore our state’s financial health.

Passed and adopted this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of August, the year of our Lord 2020.

Attest:

\_\_\_\_\_ Illinois GOP Chair  
\_\_\_\_\_ Illinois GOP Secretary  
\_\_\_\_\_ Platform and Resolutions Chair  
\_\_\_\_\_ Platform and Resolutions Co-Chair  
\_\_\_\_\_ Platform and Resolutions Co-Chair

Sources:

1. <https://www.ilga.gov/commission/lrb/con8.htm>
2. [https://www.data-z.org/state\\_data\\_and\\_comparisons/detail/illinois](https://www.data-z.org/state_data_and_comparisons/detail/illinois)
3. <https://www.illinoispolicy.org/press-releases/recession-triggered-by-covid-19-could-lead-to-5-5-billion-drop-in-tax-revenue-6-3-billion-budget-deficit/>



## **Illinois GOP 2020 Resolution Stop the Tax Hike Amendment**

WHEREAS, America is founded upon the principle that, “We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights, that among these are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness;”<sup>(1)</sup> and

WHEREAS, the right of the citizens of Illinois to pursue happiness is currently guarded against unequal and arbitrary taxation by an equal and fair flat-tax provision in the Illinois Constitution which states, “A tax on or measured by income shall be at a non-graduated rate. At any one time there may be no more than one such tax imposed by the State for State purposes on individuals and one such tax so imposed on corporations;”<sup>(2)</sup> and

WHEREAS, the Illinois Constitution also states that the government shall maintain a balanced budget to prevent the accumulation of deficits and liabilities to be paid for by future generations, “Appropriations for a fiscal year shall not exceed funds estimated by the General Assembly to be available during that year;”<sup>(3)</sup> and

WHEREAS, Illinois possesses total liabilities exceeding \$250 billion due to the past 20 years of one-party Democrat rule in the General Assembly, despite the balanced budget provision in the Illinois Constitution;<sup>(4)</sup> and

WHEREAS, Governor J.B. Pritzker (D) signed Senate Bill 687 on June 5<sup>th</sup>, 2019, which would amend Section 3 of Article IX of the Illinois Constitution, thereby removing the current flat-tax provision and providing the General Assembly with unlimited power to impose new taxes, new tax brackets, and new tax rates on the people of Illinois at its whim. The following underlined text would be added and stricken text would be deleted:

### Section 3. Limitations on Income Taxation.

(a) ~~A tax on or measured by income shall be at a non-graduated rate. At any one time there may be no more than one such tax imposed by the State for State purposes on individuals and one such tax so imposed on corporations.~~ The General Assembly shall provide by law for the rate or rates of any tax on or measured by income imposed by the State. In any such tax imposed upon corporations the highest rate shall not exceed the highest rate imposed on individuals by more than a ratio of 8 to 5;<sup>(5)</sup> and

WHEREAS, the Democrats in Springfield are portraying Illinois’ financial woes as a revenue problem that can be solved with increased taxation, instead of recognizing that a severe spending problem is at the core of Illinois’ high debt, deficits, and unfunded pension liabilities;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the members of Illinois GOP and the Republican Party of Illinois declare that we shall unequivocally fight against the passage of the proposed tax hike amendment.

Passed and adopted this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of October, the year of our Lord 2020.

Attest:

\_\_\_\_\_ Illinois GOP Chair  
\_\_\_\_\_ Illinois GOP Secretary  
\_\_\_\_\_ Platform and Resolutions Chair  
\_\_\_\_\_ Platform and Resolutions Co-Chair  
\_\_\_\_\_ Platform and Resolutions Co-Chair

Sources

1. <https://www.archives.gov/founding-docs/declaration-transcript>
2. <https://www.ilga.gov/commission/lrb/con9.htm>
3. <https://www.ilga.gov/commission/lrb/con8.htm>
4. [https://www.data-z.org/state\\_data\\_and\\_comparisons/detail/illinois](https://www.data-z.org/state_data_and_comparisons/detail/illinois)
5. <https://ilga.gov/legislation/fulltext.asp?DocName=10100SC0001sam001&GA=101&SessionId=108&DocTypeId=SJRCA&LegID=114006&DocNum=1&GAID=15&Session=>

## **Illinois GOP 2020 Resolution Local Government Access to Federal Bankruptcy Court**

WHEREAS, numerous localities in Illinois have liabilities that exceed assets and expenditures that exceed revenues; and

WHEREAS, the City of Chicago has \$10 billion available to pay over \$46 billion in total liabilities; <sup>(1)</sup> and

WHEREAS, local governments in Illinois are not currently authorized under Illinois State law to file for bankruptcy; and

WHEREAS, Detroit filed in Federal Bankruptcy Court for Chapter 9 protection as allowed under Michigan law in July 2013 with an estimated \$18 billion in debt and was able to shed \$7 billion of its debt burden; <sup>(2)</sup> and

WHEREAS, the Illinois Constitution prohibits meaningful reform to public pension benefits and would require an amendment to modify benefits that have not yet accrued:

### SECTION 5. PENSION AND RETIREMENT RIGHTS

Membership in any pension or retirement system of the State, any unit of local government or school district, or any agency or instrumentality thereof, shall be an enforceable contractual relationship, the benefits of which shall not be diminished or impaired; <sup>(3)</sup> and

WHEREAS, the bankruptcy of Detroit was precipitated by the implementation of income, utility, and wagering taxes that did not prevent city income from falling to a 60-year low in the 2010s; <sup>(4)</sup> and

WHEREAS, the Democrats in Springfield are portraying Chicago's financial woes as a revenue problem that can be solved with increased taxation, instead of recognizing that a severe spending problem is at the core of the city's high debt, deficits, and unfunded pension liabilities;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the members of Illinois GOP and the Republican Party of Illinois declare that we shall support and advocate for the Illinois State government to pass legislation that would allow local governments to have access to bankruptcy courts, and thereby provide Chicago and all other local government entities the possibility of restructuring their crippling unfunded pension liabilities and related financial issues.

Passed and adopted this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of October, the year of our Lord 2020.

Attest:

\_\_\_\_\_ Illinois GOP Chair  
\_\_\_\_\_ Illinois GOP Secretary  
\_\_\_\_\_ Platform and Resolutions Chair  
\_\_\_\_\_ Platform and Resolutions Co-Chair  
\_\_\_\_\_ Platform and Resolutions Co-Chair

Sources

1. <https://www.truthinaccounting.org/library/doclib/CHI-2019-2pager.pdf>
2. <https://www.forbes.com/sites/petesaunders1/2016/04/24/detroit-after-bankruptcy/#a8a1e0363d77>
3. <https://www.ilga.gov/commission/lrb/con13.htm>
4. <https://taxfoundation.org/detroit-free-press-explains-why-detroit-went-bankrupt>

## **Illinois GOP 2020 Resolution State Entity Access to Federal Bankruptcy Court**

WHEREAS, the Illinois Constitution states that the government shall maintain a balanced budget to prevent the accumulation of deficits and liabilities to be paid for by future generations, “Appropriations for a fiscal year shall not exceed funds estimated by the General Assembly to be available during that year;” <sup>(1)</sup> and

WHEREAS, Illinois possesses total liabilities exceeding \$250 billion due to the past 20 years of one-party Democrat rule in the General Assembly, despite the balanced budget provision in the Illinois Constitution; <sup>(2)</sup> and

WHEREAS, Illinois State expenses exceed revenue by over \$6 billion per year; <sup>(3)</sup> and

WHEREAS, the Illinois Constitution prohibits meaningful reform to public pension benefits and would require an amendment to modify benefits that have not yet accrued:

### SECTION 5. PENSION AND RETIREMENT RIGHTS

Membership in any pension or retirement system of the State, any unit of local government or school district, or any agency or instrumentality thereof, shall be an enforceable contractual relationship, the benefits of which shall not be diminished or impaired; <sup>(4)</sup> and

WHEREAS, the Supremacy Clause of the U.S. Constitution clarifies that federal law preempts any state law to the contrary, including provisions in state constitutions:

This Constitution, and the laws of the United States which shall be made in pursuance thereof; and all treaties made, or which shall be made, under the authority of the United States, shall be the supreme law of the land; and the judges in every state shall be bound thereby, anything in the Constitution or laws of any State to the contrary notwithstanding; <sup>(5)</sup> and

WHEREAS, Senator Mitch McConnell (R-KY) expressed support for individual State entities to have access to Federal Bankruptcy Court in a discussion with Hugh Hewitt, “I would certainly be in favor of allowing States to use the bankruptcy route. It saves (saved) some cities. And there’s no good reason for it not to be available;” <sup>(6)</sup> and

WHEREAS, the Democrats in Springfield have shown themselves utterly unwilling to pursue sustainable pension reform that addresses future obligations, and instead have passed a tax hike amendment proposal to grant the General Assembly unlimited authority to tax Illinois citizens more than ever;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the members of Illinois GOP and the Republican Party of Illinois declare that we shall support and advocate for the Federal government to pass legislation that would allow State entities to have access to the Federal Bankruptcy Court system, and thereby provide Illinois the possibility of restructuring the State’s crippling unfunded pension liabilities and related financial issues.

Passed and adopted this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of October, the year of our Lord 2020.

Attest:

\_\_\_\_\_ Illinois GOP Chair  
\_\_\_\_\_ Illinois GOP Secretary  
\_\_\_\_\_ Platform and Resolutions Chair  
\_\_\_\_\_ Platform and Resolutions Co-Chair  
\_\_\_\_\_ Platform and Resolutions Co-Chair

Sources

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