

Indiana Green Party Platform

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Electoral Reform:

1. All state-wide and local campaigns should be publicly financed. A system such as Clean Money Campaign Reform, currently being used in Arizona, Maine, New Mexico, North Carolina and Vermont, serves as a good model.
2. Ballot access for third parties must be made easier. Current Indiana rules make it extremely difficult for third party and independent candidates to get on the ballot for state or national office. The minimum number of signatures of registered voters required to get on the ballot should be ½ of 1% of total votes for Secretary of State in that district. The deadline for petition signatures should be noon the day after Labor Day of the election year
3. Broadcast bands are public property so it is fair to require broadcast media using those bands to fulfill public needs as a condition of their licensing. All broadcast media within the state should be required to dedicate a certain amount of time to fair and balanced campaign coverage as a public service to the community. In this coverage, each candidate for a particular office should be given equal air time to present her/his views on the issues.

4. IGP calls for replacing winner-take-all election systems with proportional representation and instant run-offs.
5. IGP supports the use of public referendums in the state of Indiana.

Transportation:

The Indiana Green Party recognizes the unsustainable nature of our fossil fuel based transportation system, and therefore hold the following positions regarding transportation in our state.

1. We oppose the proposed new terrain Interstate 69 extension through southwestern Indiana for environmental, fiscal, political and social reasons.
2. We support the building of high-speed rail connections between Indiana cities instead of more roads for individual gas-powered vehicles. The Indiana Department of Transportation should put more effort and funding toward the development of such rail connections, and less toward road development.
3. We support public transportation within Indiana cities. All state offices should be built on local public transportation lines to be accessible to the greatest number of constituents, and the state government should encourage publicly funded municipal public transportation.
4. We support use of alternative fuels, which, if used in motorized vehicles, would be less damaging to the environment and more sustainable in the long run than gasoline. We support the use of ethanol, which is already available and has been studied and accepted by the scientific community as safe and reliable.

Non-Violence:

1. IGP calls for the abolition of the death penalty.
2. IGP calls for teaching non-violent conflict resolution in all public schools through a systematic program beginning in the elementary grades and continuing through the senior year of high school.
3. IGP calls for implementation of peaceful conflict resolution when disagreements arise within the school setting.

4. All police should be trained in non-violent conflict resolution. Other police training should be examined to ensure that officers are trained to use minimum necessary force.
5. IGP supports universal public access to and promotion of programs to prevent domestic violence, including rape prevention and domestic sexual abuse of children.
6. IGP shall make the funding of rape prevention a top priority.
7. IGP supports universal public access to anger-management programs.

Economic Justice:

The Indiana Green Party recognizes that in our society money equals power, and those with money will generally use their power to further increase their wealth at the expense of the public good. We seek a more equitable balance of power, and pursue the following goals to work toward greater economic justice.

1. A steeply progressive state income tax should be established. Those living under poverty level should pay no income tax at all.
2. A living wage should be required of all employers, starting with the State of Indiana itself, so that Indiana families can afford basic necessities such as food, clothing, shelter, and health care.
3. Labor's right to organize and engage in collective bargaining must be supported and strengthened. These and other labor rights must be extended to migrant and temporary workers.
4. : IGP opposes agreements such as CAFTA, NAFTA, FTAA which export jobs and undermine workers rights and livelihoods and the environment both here and abroad.

Social Justice and Civil Liberties

1. IGP pursues implementation in Indiana as much as possible of the national GP platform, which supports universal healthcare and a single-payer insurance program that is publicly financed at the

- national level, administered locally, and privately delivered with freedom of choice of provider.
2. IGP supports increasing access to affordable and low-income housing.
3. IGP recognizes the services provided to the State of Indiana and the United States by non-citizen workers and will seek ways to expand and protect their rights.
4. IGP demands that the USA Patriot Act be repealed.
5. IGP supports restoring full citizenship rights to convicted felons after they have served their sentence.
6. The American Indian Commission in Indiana, composed of Natives, per the recent proposal, should be authorized to deal with tribes on grave repatriation issues.
7. IGP recognizes and calls for full equality of public and private treatment of same-sex marriage.
8. IGP supports passage of an Equal Rights Amendment to the U.S. Constitution.
9. IGP supports equal opportunity in employment and education and supports affirmative action required to redress past and present inequalities in employment and education.
10. Drug Policy and Prison Reform:
 - IGP calls for the decriminalization of drug use and drug addiction.
 - IGP supports public funding of, and universal access to, drug and alcohol addiction treatment programs.
 - IGP supports increased use of alternative sentencing.
 - IGP supports public funding for and increased use of victim-offender reconciliation programs.
 - IGP calls for a ban on the use of private prisons.
 - IGP calls for an end to the isolation of prisons and prisoners from the rest of society wherever public safety allows.
 - IGP calls for community-based prison system that integrates rehabilitation and reconciliation into the life of the community being served by a prison.
 - IGP supports improvements in living conditions in prisons.
 - IGP supports improved education programs in prisons.

- IGP supports universal in-prison access to drug rehabilitation programs.
- IGP supports substantial expansion in counseling programs in prison in areas such as anger management, nutrition, and healthy lifestyles.
- IGP calls for committing the criminal justice system in general to the goal of rehabilitation, reconciliation, and effective re-integration of former inmates into community life.
- IGP opposes the use of Eminent Domain by state and local government for the benefit of corporations or private entities.

Commerce and Economic Development:

1. IGP calls for redirecting public tax and infrastructure-based incentive programs away from large and multinational corporations and toward the support of community-based independent businesses, especially in the area of sustainable alternative energy. IGP supports economic development policy aimed at supporting enterprises such as:
 - Member-owned consumer cooperatives;
 - Worker-owned companies;
 - Family-owned small businesses;
 - Businesses committed to sustainable models of local economic development;
 - Businesses committed to workplace democracy;
 - Businesses committed to keeping jobs in Indiana, regardless of the cost of labor elsewhere.
 - Businesses committed to effective environmental stewardship.
2. IGP is opposed to urban sprawl. Toward this end:
 - IGP supports intra-urban and inter-urban public transportation
 - IGP supports sustainable growth that is controlled democratically and locally.
3. IGP opposes the New Terrain Interstate-69 project in Southern Indiana.
4. On the issue of the extension of Interstate-69, IGP supports either:
 - The no-build option, or;
 - The alternative I-70 and U.S. 41 Route.

5. Extractive mining practices and coal burning in Indiana and elsewhere are environmentally destructive. IGP calls for accelerating the implementation of wind, solar and other non-fossil fuel based electricity production. IGP calls for the development of home-based and local community based self-sufficiency in electricity generation through renewable energy. IGP supports public subsidies for these purposes where necessary. IGP calls for ending the use of coal for energy generation.

Agriculture

1. IGP supports sustainable organic agriculture and the consumption of locally grown food.
2. IGP opposes the following agricultural practices:
 - factory farms
 - inhumane treatment of animals in agriculture
3. IGP supports the following reforms in agriculture:
 - Stricter pollution controls
 - Higher environmental regulatory standards generally in agriculture
 - Reduction of dependence on fossil fuels through development of ethanol and biodiesel
4. IGP supports local collectively-owned democratically-operated agricultural cooperatives
5. In light of Indiana's heritage of hemp growing, IGP supports re-introducing production of industrial hemp.
6. IGP supports public programs promoting local farmers' markets.
7. IGP calls for tax and infrastructure-based incentives to increase urban-rural integration and solidarity through local farmers' markets.
8. IGP supports public programs promoting community gardens and local food self-sufficiency generally
9. IGP supports the labeling of all foods with genetically modified ingredients.
10. IGP supports the current bill proposed by state legislators known as the "Farmers' Bill of Rights".

Education:

1. Funding should be increased for counselors in public schools.
2. Programs dealing with anger management and peaceful conflict resolution in public schools should be supported and increased.
3. ISTEP should be supplemented with other forms of assessment.
4. ISTEP should not be used to threaten funding decreases or cutoffs or the shut-down of local schools.
5. Neither ISTEP nor any other form of testing should be used to threaten the graduation prospects of any individual student or group of students.
6. Funding of public education should be increased at the state and federal levels.
7. Funding of public schools should be gradually removed from dependence on local property taxes.
8. Funding for public education should be equal for all school districts, on a per-student basis, and regardless of the economic condition of the community.
9. Education reform measures:
 - IGP calls for an end to corporate propaganda in the schools by declaring public schools to be “corporate advertising-free zones.”
 - IGP opposes junk food in schools.
 - IGP calls for smaller class sizes.
 - IGP calls for increased funding for teachers’ aides.
 - IGP opposes the presence of military recruiters in schools and opposes providing information to recruiters about children in schools.
 - IGP supports funding of education in music and the arts.
 - IGP supports sex education in the schools.
 - IGP supports increased funding for professional development and continuing education for teachers.
 - IGP supports the right of teachers to organize unions and collectively bargain.

- IGP supports separation of church and state especially in public schools.
- IGP is opposed to prayer in public schools.
- IGP is opposed to mandatory reciting of the Pledge of Allegiance in public schools.

Environment:

- 1) IGP calls for the implementation of stronger air and water quality standards throughout the State of Indiana.
- 2) IGP opposes all logging on public lands.
- 3) IGP calls for limiting forestry in the State of Indiana to sustainable forestry practices only, including forestry on privately-owned land.
- 4) IGP supports the development of biking and hiking trails on public lands wherever these would not unduly harmful to ecosystems.
- 5) IGP supports linking public forest lands with wildlife corridors.
- 6) IGP supports protection of endangered species.
- 7) IGP supports further development of existing, and launching new community recycling programs.
- 8) IGP supports immediate action to address the following specific environmental problems in Indiana:
 - Depleted Uranium at Jefferson Proving Grounds;
 - Nerve gas at Newport;
 - Brown field re-mediation;
 - Dumping fly-ash in coal mines;
 - U.S. Steel dredging in the Grand Calumet River;
 - Aging oil tanks at the British Petroleum facility in northwestern Indiana.

Public Health:

- 1) Aids Prevention and Treatment:
 - IGP supports aids education in schools and for the general public;
 - IGP supports making condoms freely available in schools and to the public;
 - IGP supports public funding of Aids Hospice Programs;

- IGP supports needle exchange programs for drug abusers.
- 2) IGP supports public funding for end-of-life hospice care.
 - 3) IGP calls for the legalization of the medical use of marijuana.
 - 4) Health Care and Insurance Reform:
 - IGP calls for full legalization of certified midwifery, and for coverage of midwife services under all private and public insurance plans.
 - IGP calls for full coverage under all private and public insurance plans for the services of Nurse-Family Practitioners.
 - IGP calls for full coverage for birth control by public and private insurance plans.
 - IGP calls for public support of and universal public access to birth control and abortion counseling.
 - IGP supports full parity of coverage for mental illness under all public and private insurance programs.
 - IGP opposes insurance companies and HMOs intervening inappropriately in health care decisions.
 - IGP opposes unreasonable limitations on hospital stays.
 - 5) Health Awareness Issues:
 - IGP supports public funding of educational programs in the schools and for the general public on healthy and sustainable lifestyles.
 - IGP supports strict public monitoring and reporting of the quality of the food supply.
 - IGP supports and encourages availability and consumption of organic foods.
 - IGP supports teaching and promotion of holistic approaches to health and medicine.
 - IGP supports public research initiatives in areas of alternative medicine, such as homeopathy, herbal medicine, acupuncture and acupressure.
 - IGP supports Public funding for stem cell research.