



"We the People of the United States, in Order to... secure the Blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our Posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution..."
 – U.S. Constitution



"Being a conservative in America traditionally has meant that one holds a deep, abiding respect for the Constitution... We treasure the freedoms that document protects..."
 – Barry Goldwater



"Each State, in ratifying the Constitution, is considered as a sovereign body, independent of all others, and only to be bound by its own voluntary act. In this relation, then, the new Constitution will, if established, be a Federal, and not a National constitution."
 – James Madison

ABOUT THE REPUBLICAN LIBERTY CAUCUS

The Republican Liberty Caucus (RLC) of Florida is a grassroots, Republican caucus affiliated with the national RLC, founded in 1990. The RLC of Florida is governed by an elected board with members representing all regions of the state. We promote libertarian principles and policy ideas to and through the Republican Party of Florida (RPOF).

We believe that every individual is endowed with inherent rights to life, liberty and property that are properly secured by law. We support the protection of individual rights, a limited Constitutional government and free enterprise.

We encourage active member participation in the local Republican Party clubs and Republican Executive Committees. We offer educational speakers and literature to these and other civic groups in order to promote these ideals.

The RLC network has regular meetings in most areas of the state, coordinated online through Meetup.com and member communications. We provide news and support through the RLCFL.org website, our statewide online discussion group and local meetings. In addition to activism and education, RLC members actively work to assist Republican candidates at both the state and local levels.

"If you analyze it, I believe the very heart and soul of conservatism is libertarianism. The basis of conservatism is a desire for less government interference or less centralized authority or more individual freedom and this is a pretty general description also of what libertarianism is."
 – Ronald Reagan

Timeless Principles for a Modern FloridaSM

INDIVIDUAL RIGHTS

A rule not of men, but a rule of objective laws

The proper role of government is to protect an individual's right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. This is the philosophic basis of the founding of the United States of America. We oppose government restrictions on the right to bear arms and free and honest expression, especially those that infringe on political discourse. People must be secure in their persons, property and privacy; we stand against any form of government regulation that restricts the use of one's own private property. We support initiatives in defense of privacy and oppose any form of National Identification Card and the Real ID Act.

"The Conventions of a number of the States having at the time of their adopting the Constitution, expressed a desire, in order to prevent misconstruction or abuse of its powers, that further declaratory and restrictive clauses should be added: And as extending the ground of public confidence in the Government, will best insure the beneficent ends of its institution."
 – Preamble to the Bill of Rights

CONSTITUTIONAL GOVERNMENT AND STATE SOVEREIGNTY

The constitution of the State of Florida is the supreme law of the state, limited by the specific powers granted by the people through the states to the federal government in the U.S. Constitution. We recognize the U.S. Constitution as the supreme protector of the rights of all Americans, the republican form of government it requires, and the right to petition for a redress of grievances. We strongly support a strict construction of the 10th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, which states that any powers not specifically delegated to the United States by the Constitution are reserved to the states or to the people.

We oppose the adoption of broad and vague powers under the guise of general welfare or interstate commerce and oppose federal regulation of education, land use or business within the State of Florida. We support competitive educational services provided by the free market. We especially oppose federal regulation of the private lives of the citizens of Florida. We propose the phase-out of federal government programs especially those that are duplicated at the state level and/or not allowed under the U.S. Constitution. Just as Washington should not dictate legislation and taxation to Tallahassee, the state must respect municipal bodies on issues such as local taxation, land use and education.

"If the American people ever allow private banks to control the issuance of their currency, first by inflation and then by deflation, the banks and corporations that will grow up around them will deprive the people of all their property until their children will wake up homeless on the continent their fathers conquered."
 – Thomas Jefferson



"All of us have heard this term 'preventive war' since the earliest days of Hitler. I recall that's about the first time I heard it. In this day and time, I don't believe there is such a thing, and frankly I wouldn't even listen to anyone seriously that came in and talked about such a thing."
 – Dwight D. Eisenhower

FREE ENTERPRISE

The cornerstone of a truly free enterprise economy is the absence of government regulation and interference in economic matters. A free enterprise economy will enable Floridians to create, produce, transform, develop, innovate and compete in the marketplace here and abroad. These principles also apply to free market health care alternatives. We support a complete transition and overhaul of the federal and state taxation system. We favor minimal, equitable, and fair taxation for the essential functions of government. Potential alternatives include replacement with a national sales tax coupled with other constitutional methods such as a tariff based revenue system. We favor the prompt and permanent repeal of all capital gains and inheritance taxes, as well as the special privileges and deductions in the current code.

"I am a Republican with a capital 'R' and a libertarian with a small 'l'. I have a party membership as a Republican... because that's the way I am the most useful and have most influence. My philosophy is clearly libertarian."
 – Milton Friedman

STRONG NATIONAL DEFENSE

We support a modern and efficient military capability that can promptly and overwhelmingly respond to any attack and protect the United States. We favor active state support of the National Guard and respect for the individual right to keep and bear arms as the ultimate reserve for repelling invasion or tyranny.

We endorse a non-interventionist foreign policy platform represented by peaceful diplomatic relations, free trade and open secure borders. We support foreign military action only upon a Declaration of War by the U.S. Congress, except in the face of an immediate threat to the United States. Prior to commitment of troops, we favor a clear strategy for entrance into and conclusion of any foreign engagement and a definable goal that constitutes victory.

We oppose any international laws or treaties that work to compromise or threaten the sovereignty of the United States or the State of Florida. Specifically, we oppose any treaty or international agreement that puts American troops under the control or authority of any other executive or administrative power.

"Peace, Commerce, and Honest Friendship with all nations-entangling alliances with none."
 – Thomas Jefferson