**2024 Pend Oreille County Republicans**

**Plank #6 – Taxes & Government Spending** *Revised 3/24/2024*

**The purpose of taxation is to fund the constitutionally mandated functions of government, not to redistribute wealth or to fund ever-expanding social programs.** We should always strive to have less government, fewer government employees, less duplication of effort between government agencies, greater government efficiencies, and therefore lower taxes.

**We believe;**

1. Promoting economic growth and prosperity through reducing and/or eliminating certain taxes, fees and regulations on businesses and individuals at the local, state and federal levels; primarily including but not limited to the capital gains tax, property tax, estate and inheritance tax, and personal and business income taxes.
2. Legislation should only contain expenditure line items directly related to the central purpose of the legislation as titled, eliminating extraneous “earmark: spending.
3. Under no circumstances shall government at any level be allowed to use public funds to purchase equity stakes in private business.
4. In restricting the independent power of the Federal Reserve and Central Bank through rigorous, independent auditing coupled with Congressional oversight of all banking activities and policies.
5. The Federal government should allow the marketplace, rather than the Central Bank and Federal Reserve, to determine the production, storage, transfer, value of digital currency.
6. Neither the Federal government nor any political, public or private entity or institution should be able to track the spending of private citizens, except in cases where a warrant is obtained based showing that there is, or has been, credible or determinative evidence of illegal activity.
7. National monetary policy should be backed by gold and other precious metals with the primary objective of promoting currency value and stability.
8. Government budget surpluses should never be used to create or expand government spending programs, but used exclusively for debt reduction, and/or returned to the taxpayer through direct refund or by tax rate deduction.
9. In a Constitutional Amendment for annual balance budgets and that no amount, from the social security funds, or any other existing entitlement fund is ever made available to balance the budget.

**We oppose;**

1. The creation of state income taxes or any disguised taxes such as capital gains tax as being clearly unconstitutional in Washington State.

*(2024 POCR Platform Plank 6 cont.)*

1. The creation of Central Bank Digital currency (CBDC) by the Federal Reserve in collusion with public banks.
2. “Carbon Taxes” based on environmental political agendas and faulty science.
3. Unreasonable user license fees on residents and out of state sportsmen, as a hidden form of taxation for hunting and fishing, which further discourages tourism.
4. The creation of a state bank that uses state or private pensions funds as base collateral.