



ABOUT AFRW:

The Alabama Federation of Republican Women (AFRW) is an issue-oriented organization that believes in and works to retain the core values of our Founding Fathers enshrined in the Declaration of Independence and the U.S. Constitution.

We believe in freedom and individual liberty, the rule of law, low taxes, limited government, individual initiative, free enterprise, fiscal responsibility, strong national security, judicial restraint, quality education and family values.

ORGANIZATION: AFRW is divided into seven Congressional districts and each district has several local clubs. To find our Republican Women's Clubs in your district, go to our website, <http://www.afrw.org>.



FREEDOMS ON THE FRINGE

HOW OUR U.S. CONSTITUTION IS IN DANGER



HELP KEEP LIBERTY'S FLAME BURNING



**For more information about Republican Women,
Visit our Website: [AFRW.org](http://www.afrw.org)**

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PROTECT OUR LIBERTIES!

Join others to pass the heritage of liberty to the next generation.

A BATTLE CRY:

Beware! The American way of life is on life support. Our Declaration of Independence was a desperate cry for freedom and today it still is.

Will *We The People* save our Republic or allow our U.S. Constitution to expire under the relentless, life-threatening assaults on our freedoms?

A free press was established to be the "watchdog of government." Instead the media has too often become partisan and structures "news" like a reality show, tracking how partisan parties compete and which will win the spins of the day. Important political issues get buried. The purpose of this brochure is to highlight the big issues that put the American Dream in jeopardy.

Eternal Vigilance is the Price of Liberty

To secure the blessings of liberty, citizens must "be watchful in your States as well as in the Federal Government." (Andrew Jackson, Farewell Address)



CAP AND TRADE "Climate Control"



How does it impact you?

SUMMARY: *Cap-and-trade rations CO₂ and will significantly increase energy costs, raise taxes and do considerably more economic harm than environmental good.*

- ◆ The hoped-for-green-job gain is a mirage. Job losses, however, are real.
- ◆ Global warming legislation will give bureaucrats more control over our lives; to regulate the size of our homes, tax the mileage we drive every year, tell us how much heat and air conditioning we can use, etc.
- ◆ It will significantly roll back the quality of our lives without significant lowering of the world's temperature.

Cap-and-trade is just one more way to take more of our freedoms, more of our money, and to exert more control over our daily lives.

What is cap-and-trade?

- ◆ Regulations to limit (cap) carbon dioxide emissions from burning of fossil fuels.
- ◆ Companies could sell (trade) CO₂ emissions allowed by gov't. but not used.
- ◆ Over time, cap would be lowered, requiring more rationing and more sacrifices.
- ◆ The purpose is to ration coal, oil, and natural gas.

Poor and working families will bear the brunt of new taxes

- ◆ Poor and working families. "Households would face an annual burden of roughly \$144.8 billion per year with costs disproportionately borne by low-income households ... those in Southern states, and single parents with dependent children." (<http://taxfoundation.org/article/who-pays-climate-policy-new-estimates-household-burden-and-economic-impact-us-cap-and-trade-system>)
- ◆ Workers. Jobs will be lost and the economy will be hurt since cap-and-trade will force manufacturing jobs to China and India, where power and labor will be cheaper and there are no such caps on energy restrictions.

GUN RIGHTS



The U.S. Constitution guarantees Americans the right to own and keep guns.

Yet this Second Amendment right could be in danger from four sources.

◆ *The U.S. President:* The Obama administration continually seeks way to end-run this constitutional right.

The U.S. Congress: The U.S. Congress can change gun laws by statute and by ratifying the United Nations treaty. A current bill by Senator Harry Reid waters down the strong protection against a national firearms registry in section 103(i) of Public Law 103-159.

- ◆ *The U.S. Supreme Court:* The U.S. Supreme Court has ruled repeatedly that Congress cannot do by treaty anything that would be unconstitutional if it were a statute. However, a liberal majority of the U.S. Supreme Court could change this.
- ◆ *The United Nations*

In April 2013, the United Nations adopted a global ban control treaty called the Arms Trade Treaty. Provisions of this treaty are the long-time favorites of gun-control proponents:

- * registration of guns and ammunition
- * licensing of guns and ammunition, and
- * restrictions on private gun transfers.

U.S. courts have ruled that we're bound by "customary international law." If enough U.N. member states adopt this treaty, a liberal U.S. Supreme Court could rule that it has become international law and the U.S. is therefore bound by it. This is a real danger if Obama changes the balance of the U.S. Supreme Court.

"This must never happen! Second Amendment supporters need to step up, get involved in the electoral process, and make 2014 and especially 2016 banner years for supporters of the U.S. Constitution. The right to bear arms may depend on it." (Breitbart News legal columnist Ken Klukowski, April 2013)

IRS SCANDAL



IRS TARGETED CONSERVATIVES:

The IRS violated the Due Process Clause under the Fifth Amendment by its arbitrary action to single out conservative groups to punish them for opposing the political views of the current president.

If the IRS can target these selected organizations, it opens the door for them to target any individual who either the IRS or their political masters deem on the "enemies list" or worthy of special attention and harassment. This is a direct threat to everyone's freedom of speech protected by the First Amendment.

IRS TARGETED REPORTERS:

The U.S. Department of Justice subpoenaed the phone records for 20 telephone lines used by the Associated Press and its journalists. The intent was to identify a whistleblower.

The confiscation of personal records of AP reporters by our government is scary and a threat to a truly free press. It is a violation of the **First Amendment**.

Typical Reactions:

Texas Senator Ted Cruz emphasized that this behavior is part and parcel of a pattern of this Administration to ignore the Bill of Rights over and over again.

"The pattern we have seen is an unfortunate willingness to use the machinery of the federal government as a tool and a partisan tool to punish those perceived as political enemies."

A Tuscaloosa News editorial dated June 6, 2013 reads: "When government uses its powers to harass, intimidate and bully average citizens, it isn't just a political scandal. It's oppression."

ObamaCare



ObamaCare could become “a third-world experience.”

(Chief information officer for the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services)

ObamaCare will seize many freedoms:

- Takes away your choice of what kind of health insurance you want.
- 16,000 new IRS agents will be hired to snoop into your personal financial documents to see if you are following government mandates.
- Takes away your choice to keep doctor/patient confidentiality. Bureaucrats in the Dept. of Health and Human Services can inspect your most personal medical information to see if your doctor is following government edicts.
- Takes away your right to choose the type of treatment you want. Faceless bureaucrats and commissions will decide what treatments doctors can give.
- Takes away your choice to have the best medical care available. The government will ration health care, based on age, medical condition, and “social needs”. Death panels will become reality.
- Takes away the freedom of speech of health care businesses through intimidation by the Obama administration which threatens penalties and retaliation by Congressional committees if health care businesses blame the health care law for rate increases or job losses.

The Obama Administration issued an edit that almost all employers would have to cover contraception, sterilization and possibly abortion-inducing drugs, whether or not employers objected on religious grounds.

*This violates the **Religious Freedom Restoration Act**, which stipulates that government can override religious conscience only when it is the least restrictive means of furthering a compelling interest.*

The IRS will enforce ObamaCare regulations.

“The IRS can confiscate tax refunds, place liens on property and seek jail time if health-related penalties and taxes are not paid.” The President, Vice-President, the Cabinet, senior members of Congress and leadership staff will be exempt.

The IRS has decided to apply tax credits and penalties in states that refuse to set up healthcare exchanges, despite the U.S. Supreme Court ruling this act unconstitutional.

ILLEGAL IMMIGRATION



What is the cost for illegal immigration?

- ♦ Taxpayers currently pay \$133 billion/year for illegal immigration.
- ♦ Twice as many illegal alien households receive welfare as citizen households.
- ♦ These costs will become permanent and will grow if a path to citizenship is approved at a time when our debt and deficit is taking us over the fiscal cliff.

What benefits do illegal immigrants receive?

- ♦ In addition to free education and health care, illegal immigrants may receive public housing and rent assistance, food stamps, Medicaid, SSI, unemployment benefits, cash assistance, even Earned Income Tax Credits, and more.

What are solutions to illegal immigration?

- ♦ Mandate that all employers use E-Verify (the computerized system that matches all employment applications with the Social Security list.)
- ♦ Pass legislation that ends automatic birthright citizenship.
- ♦ Seal the border.

These three proposals would solve the problem of illegal immigration. Illegals would not cross the border and those here would go home if they could not get jobs and welfare.

All the shenanigans about the urgency to change immigration quotas, etc. are just phony excuses for amnesty. Current laws should first be enforced, E-Verify mandated, and automatic citizenship banned; then if adjustments are needed, we can address them in a logical, limited, and methodical way that won't violate laws, cost trillions in welfare costs, and incentivize more illegal immigration.

ILLEGAL IMMIGRATION



The U.S. Congress is currently debating giving illegal immigrants a “path to citizenship”. This shows disregard for the “rule of law.”

- ◆ Proposals being considered would irreversibly alter the fundamental structure of America forever.
- ◆ This bill would cost taxpayers trillions of dollars.

If amnesty is granted, America cannot go back. “The pillars of American exceptionalism will crumble and fall because we have made massive exceptions to the rule of law.” (Rep. Steven King)

Arguments for amnesty are fallacious:

- ◆ **Argument 1: A bill can be written to stop illegals from getting welfare while on the “path to citizenship”.**
 - This argument is a ruse: Laws already prohibit illegals from getting welfare and other “entitlements”, but –
 - Illegals evade laws and get free benefits anyway by having children born in the U.S. They are called “anchor babies”.
 - The only way to end the practice of illegals getting welfare and other public benefits is for Congress to pass legislation to ban automatic birthright citizenship. A bill is currently before Congress, but no one is trying to get it passed or including this requirement in the debate.
- ◆ **Argument 2: Amnesty is necessary since the U.S. cannot round them up and bus them out of the country.**
 - This argument is a ruse: No “round up” or “busing” or other transportation will be needed. Illegals will “self-deport” if current U.S. laws were enforced. (See “Solutions on the next page.”)
- ◆ **Argument 3: A new immigration bill is necessary since the U.S. needs a visa program for agricultural and other low-paid workers.**
 - This argument is a ruse: Laws already allow employers to hire as many foreign workers as they want and honest employers are using this law. There is considerable proof that it works!

ObamaCare (page 2)



“ObamaCare represents a level of coercion that is alien to the American experience”

(Daniel Henninger, WSJ)

Promises made by President Obama were not fulfilled:

- President Obama said people could keep their coverage if they wanted to, yet an analysis by the National Center for Policy Analysis indicates that will not be true for between 87 million and 117 million Americans.
- Obama promised that reform would bend the cost curve, reducing what our nation spends on health care, yet the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services have found the U.S. will spend an estimated \$311 billion more on health care over the next decade than if the bill hadn't passed.
- Obama said health care reform would stop insurance premiums from rising rapidly, and reduce them \$2,500 a year per family. Yet Price Waterhouse-Coopers has found that premiums are likely to rise 111% over ten years.
- Obama said ObamaCare would boost jobs and the economy, yet health insurance brokers are realizing they are unlikely to have jobs or businesses in the future; and many employees who now work full-time will be cut to part-time so employers won't have to provide insurance under the law.

SUMMARY:

- ◆ ObamaCare was passed without a single Republican vote and the only way some Democrats would vote for it was in return for “bribes”.
- ◆ ObamaCare costs more. It will add \$239 billion to the federal deficit and raise taxes at least \$800 billion.
- ◆ The Obama Administration is cannibalizing other federal health budgets in a mad rush to find more money to set up exchanges.
- ◆ Thousands of seniors will lose Medicare Advantage coverage and hundreds of thousands of Health Savings Account holders may need to buy new policies or face stiff penalties.

ObamaCare is a massive intrusion into private lives and takes away freedoms from patients, doctors, and health insurance companies.

SCHOOLS: Assault on Academic Freedom



Education is a power reserved to the states and their citizens under the U.S. Constitution.

But a revolutionary set of national standards called "Common Core" for K-12 changes this.

The federal government is using Common Core to **circumvent the Constitution**.

Parents will lose control over what their children learn in school and they will have no ability to change standards, tests, curriculum, or correct problems. This is a loss of liberty!

WHAT IS COMMON CORE?

- ♦ Common Core is a set of mandatory, one-size-fits all, K-12 national standards, tests, textbooks, instructional materials, and assessments, that will be controlled from Washington, D.C. Its euphemism is "college and career readiness."
- ♦ It collects massive personal, non-academic data on our kids and tracks them from preschool through college to the workforce.
- ♦ It will impact private and home schools as well as public schools.
- ♦ It will cost Alabama taxpayers hundreds of millions of dollars.

RADICAL CHANGES OF COMMON CORE INCLUDE:

- ♦ Moving away from the founding principle that parents and states, not government, should control education.
- ♦ Re-training teachers to become mere "facilitators".

COMMON CORE DUMBS DOWN EDUCATION:

- ♦ *Alabama's Plan 2020, which implements Common Core, uses race-based standards and discriminates against poor and minority students by holding them to a lower standard.*
- ♦ Education experts assert that the English and Math standards will put American students two years behind their international peers.

SCHOOLS: Assault on Academic Freedom



Alabama will invade student privacy by collecting highly personal, non-academic information.

- ♦ Alabama measures students' behaviors and psycho-social attributes through ACT Engage.
- ♦ Alabama has a system to track students and follow them all the way from preschool through high school to career and/or college.
- ♦ These assessments are in line with the federal government's plans to turn classrooms into laboratories to experiment on our children — to learn how to motivate desired behavior.
- ♦ The federal government wants to measure emotions, beliefs, attitudes, and feelings. Recordings will be made of facial expressions, EEG brain wave patterns, skin conductance, heart wave, eye-tracking, etc.; and DNA will be taken.
- ♦ This highly personal, non-academic data will be shared with federal agencies, other states, private organizations and even sold to vendors. Former Texas Education Commission stated that these data systems on our children are an identity thief's wildest dream.
- ♦ All of this is made possible because (1) the Obama administration weakened the Family Educational Rights Protection Act (FERPA) in January 2012, and (2) states like Alabama agreed to create these data systems and adopt Common Core in return for millions of dollars in federal funds from the economic-stimulus bill.

"Very few people want to see their government even slightly imitate that of China, which keeps dossiers on all citizens' performance and attitudes." (Joy Pullman, The Heartland Institute)

"National standards and tests ... will be costly in terms of liberty lost ... [and] state and local educational control"
(George Will, syndicated journalist)