

OCTOBER 2, 1954

STATEMENT OF LEGISLATIVE PRINCIPLES

THE REPUBLICAN LEGISLATIVE NOMINEES OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON AT A MEETING ASSEMBLED IN SEATTLE, OCTOBER 2, 1954, HEREBY STATE THEIR APPROVAL AND SUPPORT OF THE FOLLOWING PROPOSITIONS AND PRINCIPLES WITH WHICH THE NEXT LEGISLATURE WILL BE CONCERNED:

1. WE APPLAUD THE VISION AND THE SCOPE OF PRESIDENT EISENHOWER'S PROPOSED HIGHWAY EXPANSION PROGRAM. WE PLEDGE OURSELVES TO GIVE IT FULL SUPPORT TO THE EXTENT THAT THE STATE OF WASHINGTON, WITHIN THE RESOURCES AND MEANS AT HAND, IS CALLED UPON TO PARTICIPATE.

2. WE RECOGNIZE THAT OVER AN EXTENDED PERIOD OF YEARS THE PRESSURE FOR MONEYS IN OTHER FIELDS OF GOVERNMENT ACTIVITY HAS RESULTED IN SHARPLY RESTRICTED APPROPRIATIONS FOR STATE INSTITUTIONS. WE BELIEVE THAT A LONG-RANGE PROGRAM FOR THEIR MODERNIZATION AND IMPROVEMENT SHOULD BE ESTABLISHED AT ONCE WITH SPECIAL EMPHASIS UPON THE CARE AND TREATMENT OF JUVENILES. WE ARE IMPRESSED WITH GOVERNOR LANGLIE'S APPOINTMENT OF MR. FRED DICKSON AS HEAD OF THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS AND ARE PREPARED TO WORK CLOSELY WITH HIM IN DEVELOPING THE NECESSARY LONG-RANGE PLANS TO MAKE OUR INSTITUTIONAL SYSTEM THE BEST POSSIBLE.

3. THERE IS A REAL NEED FOR REORGANIZING THE STATE DEPARTMENTS OF GOVERNMENT FOR THE PURPOSE OF ELIMINATION OF DUPLICATION, UNNECESSARY DIVISION OF RESPONSIBILITY AND NEEDLESS EXPENSE. NOTHING HAS BEEN DONE IN THIS REGARD SINCE THE REPUBLICAN STATE ADMINISTRATION AND LEGISLATURE REVAMPED THE STATE GOVERNMENT IN 1921--THIRTY-THREE YEARS AGO. THE POPULATION OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON NOW IS FOUR OR FIVE TIMES LARGER THAN IT WAS IN 1921 AND IT IS NECESSARY THAT WE REVIEW AND ANALYZE CAREFULLY THE ACTIVITIES OF THE VARIOUS STATE DEPARTMENTS. REPUBLICANS SHOULD LEND FULL SUPPORT TO THE EFFORTS NOW BEING MADE TO ATTEMPT A SOUND, INTELLIGENT REORGANIZATION OF STATE GOVERNMENT.

4. THE REPUBLICAN PARTY HAS ALWAYS SUPPORTED EDUCATION AS A MATTER OF FIRST PRIORITY AND WE PLEDGE THAT WE WILL CONTINUE TO CARRY OUT THIS PRINCIPLE.

5. THE REPUBLICAN MAJORITY IN THE LAST LEGISLATIVE SESSION WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR MAKING AN INCREASE IN TEACHERS' SALARIES POSSIBLE AND PROVIDED AN AVERAGE ANNUAL PAY FOR TEACHERS EXCEEDED ONLY BY THE WEALTHY STATES OF NEW YORK AND CALIFORNIA. WE ARE PREPARED TO CONTINUE SUPPORT OF THE PREMISE THAT MAINTENANCE OF HIGH SALARY STANDARDS FOR TEACHERS IS A MATTER OF PRIMARY IMPORTANCE.

6. THE LEGISLATURE MUST BE CONTINUOUSLY ALERT AND INSIST THAT SOUND ECONOMIES BE PRACTICED IN STATE GOVERNMENT. THIS IS DOUBLY TRUE AT THE PRESENT TIME WHEN THE STATE IS FACED WITH A LARGE OUTSTANDING DEBT. CONTINUING DEFICITS MEAN INCREASED EXPENSE IN THE OPERATION OF GOVERNMENT. GOVERNMENT MUST BE RUN ECONOMICALLY AND TAXES HELD AT A MINIMUM. GOVERNOR LANGLIE'S RECORD OF SOUND, ECONOMICAL ADMINISTRATION IS NATIONALLY RECOGNIZED.

7. THE FIELD OF TAXATION BY MEANS OF GRADUATED INCOME TAX SHOULD BE LEFT EXCLUSIVELY TO THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT. BY THE SAME TOKEN, THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT SHOULD CONTINUE TO WITHDRAW FROM THE FIELD OF TAXATION BY SALES AND EXCISE TAXES. WE ARE OPPOSED TO ANY PROPOSAL FOR A CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT AUTHORIZING THE ENACTMENT OF A GRADUATED NET INCOME TAX LAW. THE CITIZENS OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON HAVE FOUR TIMES DECLARED THEIR OPPOSITION TO THIS FORM OF TAXATION. THE CITIZENS OF THIS STATE ARE ALREADY PAYING A HEAVY INCOME TAX TO THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT. NO OTHER STATE IN THE COUNTRY HAS ADOPTED THIS FORM OF TAXATION SINCE 1937 BECAUSE OF LEAPING GROWTH OF FEDERAL INCOME TAXES UNTIL 1953.

8. THE STATE OF WASHINGTON IS NOW SECOND IN THE NATION IN OVER ALL WELFARE PROGRAMS. WE ARE PREPARED TO GIVE OUR FULLEST SUPPORT AND ASSISTANCE TO GOVERNOR LANGLIE AND HIS EFFORTS TO CONTINUE TO DEVELOP A SOUND PUBLIC ASSISTANCE PROGRAM FOR HELPING THE NEEDY AND AGED, AND REHABILITATING THE HANDICAPPED AND DEPENDENT.

9. WE PLEDGE OUR SUPPORT TO CONTINUANCE AND ANY NECESSARY EXPANSION OF THE LANGLIE ADMINISTRATION PROGRAM WHICH IS CONSERVING AND DEVELOPING OUR GREAT NATURAL RESOURCES IN SOIL, TIMBER, WATER, MINERALS, FISHERIES, AND RECREATIONAL AREAS TO ENCOURAGE NEW INDUSTRIES FOR THE PURPOSE OF MAKING MORE JOBS FOR OUR CITIZENS AND INCREASING THE PLEASURE OF LIVING IN THE STATE OF WASHINGTON.

10. WE OPPOSE SOCIALISM AND THE DEMOCRAT 1954 PLATFORM PROPOSAL TO PROTECT SOME PERSONS WHO ARE SECURITY RISKS IN GOVERNMENT EMPLOY. WE APPROVE PRESIDENT EISENHOWER'S FEDERAL SECURITY PROGRAM AND THE REMOVAL OF ALL SUBVERSIVE PERSONS FROM GOVERNMENT EMPLOYMENT.