

Pledgers Platform: The ‘Sweet Sixteen’

1. ECONOMY

- ◆ I want the U.S. to have the best economy, which doesn't mean only the elites have all the fun. 'We measure economic success not by the number of billionaires, but by the number of people helped out of poverty.'
- ◆ I want America to be the most innovative country in the world.
- ◆ I want more trading partners for America, and win-win business partnerships.
- ◆ I want good-paying jobs in America, from Americans being the best-qualified job candidates, ideally.

2. NATIONAL DEFENSE

- ◆ I want the U.S. military to be the best in the world, by doing the best good in the world, and not costing more than is needed.

3. BUSINESS & LABOR

- ◆ I want U.S. businesses being the best in the world, in part by being good to their employees and customers (gaining loyalty from both in the process). I don't just executives having all the fun.
- ◆ I want workers paid fairly, and to put in an honest day's work.
- ◆ I want equally qualified women to be equally compensated.

4. EDUCATION

- ◆ I want U.S. education to be world-class, and efforts made to ensure ALL American kids receive that—not a system where only private schools able to pay for the best education get the best education.
- ◆ I want safe schools for all American students.

5. TAXES & REGULATIONS

- ◆ I want U.S. taxes to not be too much or too little, but just right (and the least amount needed), where everyone pays their fair share, no one pays less than that, and the poor pay in by token civic service repayment.
- ◆ I want the least burdensome regulations on business, needed to ensure the health, safety and honest dealings with the consuming public, determined on a case-by-case basis (vs. random percents).

6. FOREIGN POLICY

- ◆ I want America to lead, in making relations good with any and all nations with whom that can occur.
- ◆ I want America to strengthen its bonds with our allies, and make even more of them, worldwide.
- ◆ I want NATO and the U.N. to be used as forces for good in the world.
- ◆ I want an end to terrorism, ideally, by both destroying their capabilities, short-term, and addressing their legitimate complaints, medium- to long-term.
- ◆ I want justice and temporary peace in the Middle East.
- ◆ I want foreign aid to aid these values, and not get funneled to evil leaders and their cronies, or it gets cut off.

7. HEALTHCARE

- ◆ I want every American to have access to at least minimal healthcare, and catastrophic insurance, paid for by token civic service repayment for any government subsidizing.

8. ECOLOGY

- ◆ I want every state to have a base minimum of healthy air, where other states can vote for even cleaner air, but no state can kill at will and no business can be killed in the process.
- ◆ I want both green energy and oil and gas fully utilized, as fossil fuels won't last forever, but we will likely always need their derivatives (like plastic, asphalt, etc.).

9. GUNS

- ◆ I want technology and laws to keep guns out of the hands of terrorists, criminals and the criminally insane.

10. RICH & POOR

- ◆ I want the poor empowered to move into the lower middle class, ASAP.
- ◆ I want generous vs. selfish rich people.

11. SOCIAL ISSUES

- ◆ I want LBGTQs to be treated with respect, and equally (no discrimination)—not greater or lesser than any others.
- ◆ I want women not to have unsafe, back alley abortions, but also to use safe sex practices, and know what they're choosing to do to their baby if they have an abortion.
- ◆ I also want religious liberties to be honored (where they are moral vs. immoral).

12. HIGHER EDUCATION

- ◆ I want more affordable college options, and lenders not to rake students over the coals with student loan debt.

13. IMMIGRATION

- ◆ I want immigrants here who want a better life for themselves by working for it, and if our economy needs their skills.
- ◆ I want people legally immigrating, but also for legal immigration to be more efficient and less expensive for the poorer workers our economy needs.

14. JUSTICE, LAW & ORDER

- ◆ I want the punishment to match the crime, in criminal justice policy reforms.
- ◆ I want crime to be eliminated, and no rogue cops, ideally.

15. GOVERNMENT & NATIONAL DEBT

- ◆ I want Social Security and Medicare to last for those to whom it was promised.
- ◆ I want poor people empowered (trained and motivated) to escape severe poverty.
- ◆ I want entitlements to be temporary hand-ups, and not permanent hand-outs.
- ◆ I want government streamlined to be able to provide the best bang for the buck.
- ◆ I want to lower our debt, by making wiser expenditure decisions.

16. POLITICIANS & VOTERS

- ◆ I want fair elections where everyone's vote equally counts and is counted.
- ◆ I want honest and decent politicians.
- ◆ I want politicians not on the take, unbiased, and not mainly seeking self-advancement, or win at all costs.
- ◆ I want voters to put their feet down and demand as much! Am this asking too much?

In short, if it's a good idea, and we can afford it, let's #JustDoIt!