

A tradition of strong Republican leadership

"We must rise above the challenge of what is, and set the course for what this state can and should be. I believe Kansas should be a state that provides opportunity for all its citizens. I believe Kansas should be a state where people are treated with compassion, decency and dignity. I believe Kansans know their future is in the hearts and minds of their children. I believe in a state that knows past greatness can be a prologue to the future."



— GOVERNOR BILL GRAVES

If you seek a place where Republicans gather to promote inclusive government, where compassion and civility are revered, where the Republican Party serves as a place for diverse — not divisive — thoughts and opinions, then welcome to the Kansas Traditional Republican Majority.

A new style of leadership



"It is not enough that we watch the evening news and maybe read a newspaper, that we pay our taxes and vote. Our duties as citizens go beyond that—to know what decisions are before our communities and our state and to take part in shaping them."

— SENATOR NANCY KASSEBAUM-BAKER

The case for a new model

Kansas is facing tremendous challenges. Our country is at war, our state economy is struggling, our rural communities are dwindling, our family farms — the strong foundation on which Kansas was built — are disappearing, our educational system is in crisis, and the current, so-called "conservative" leadership in the Kansas Legislature has all but bankrupted our state, leaving Kansas nearly a half-billion dollars in the red.

The obstacles are daunting, but the Kansas Traditional Republican Majority (KTRM), by working with leaders from across Kansas, is finding answers to these challenging issues and providing a promising vision for our state's future.

It is time for Kansas to look to a new style of leadership

Americans' distrust of both major political parties and voters' disinterest in the political process is unparalleled in recent history. Surveys and common sense both tell us that citizens are tired of the politics of hatred and alienation and are looking for answers instead of blame. Kansans are fed up with politics that seek to divide our families, our communities, and our Party, and that do more to force out than to welcome.

It is clear that our state needs a new model for political leadership.

Our Republican Party must be a model that not only claims the mantle of Abraham Lincoln, Ronald Reagan, Dwight D. Eisenhower, and Nancy Kassebaum, but that is also willing to embody their values. It must be a model that offers common sense in a time of uncertainty. This model must stretch far beyond the corridors of power in Topeka and into the lives of every Kansan.

Governing with promise, not fear

*"In politics, honorable
compromise is no sin. It's
what protects us from
absolutism and intolerance."*

— SENATOR BOB DOLE



Reasonable, compassionate, Republican leadership. At last.

The Kansas Traditional Republican Majority is a gathering of leaders from government, business, and education who share a commitment — a commitment to conservative, pragmatic approaches to business, to compassion in our communities, and to character in our elected leaders.

Unlike other organizations, we are focused on governing with promise, not fear, and on providing discussion, policy development, and research that emerge from the Republican center to deliver wise and thoughtful governance.

Our agenda is comprehensive. We are addressing a broad spectrum of issues and our doors are open to people of differing views, cultures, backgrounds, and approaches. We are reaching out to disenfranchised Republicans — people who are distressed by the politics of hate and intolerance that too often dominate the Party—and to others attracted by a thoughtful, centrist approach to Republican politics. Such an approach allows us to explore multiple perspectives without fear in order to reach reasonable, fair-minded, fiscally sound, and responsible solutions. It demonstrates inclusion, respect, reason and, yes, compassion.

We are the Kansas Traditional Republican Majority, and we invite you to join us for the future of the Party, our State and our Nation.

Fiscal stability, social compassion

Our beliefs about . . .

Fiscal responsibility

No group of leaders has been more consistent in their commitment to fiscal responsibility than those who make up the Kansas Traditional Republican Majority. We **reject the practice of deficit spending**. Unfortunately, under “conservative” Republican leadership in Topeka, deficit spending in Kansas has increased to nearly a half-billion dollars. KTRM advocates a limited, yet appropriate, role for government based on a set of principles: we must **balance the budget**; we must fund government at a level that keeps it healthy but lean; and, we must prepare to keep our economy strong even when the economy of our nation is weak.

Economic development

The Kansas Traditional Republican Majority believes that business is an essential partner in the success of our state – a healthy business community delivers the well-paid jobs individuals require to live lives of self-reliance and dignity and to provide for our families. Therefore, KTRM members believe that an environment must be created within Kansas with a **focus on economic development and employment security**. Simply put, business goes where it is invited and stays where it is appreciated. KTRM members are committed to creating an environment that **welcomes new businesses** while nurturing

and **encouraging existing businesses** to expand within their communities.

Economic development and supporting business needs are critical to the future success of our state. KTRM members support a pro-growth agenda and are committed to following legislative policies that do not adversely affect the credibility of our state.

Education

Members of the Kansas Traditional Republican Majority believe that our state cannot continue to play a leading role in our national and global economy unless our educational system is reinvigorated and reformed. We cannot continue to ensure our future without addressing the “changing face” of our nation and the needs presented by our growing and diverse student population. We must **ensure public and higher education keeps up** with the dramatic changes in technology and society in order to prepare our citizens for a changing world. This cannot be achieved by electing leaders who pursue narrow ideological agendas that undermine our students’ long-term success and destroy our state’s educational credibility. This path hurts our schools, our communities, but most of all, our children.

KTRM believes that we need elected officials at all levels of government who understand **a properly funded, well-maintained school system is the cornerstone for a successful society**. With a solid educational system, a community’s crime,

teenage pregnancy, drop-out, and unemployment rates fall significantly. The goal of the Kansas Traditional Republican Majority is to provide the tools necessary for our educators and our young people to be successful in a way that leads to healthy Kansas communities.

Agri-business and rural communities

For almost 150 years, agriculture in Kansas has formed the **bedrock of our state's economic system and cultural identity**. In that time, farming has witnessed changes in science, industry, and general farming practices — and Kansas farmers have always risen to meet these new challenges.

However, today's family farm faces challenges that could not have been imagined even just a few years ago. Rising operating costs, coupled with a cheap and abundant food supply, are forcing our younger generation to abandon their family farm to seek employment in larger cities. The "brain-drain" from the agricultural sector is having a major impact not only on the future of the family farm, but also on the rural communities and local businesses that are left behind.

The Kansas Traditional Republican Majority seeks to find real **solutions to the complex challenges facing agriculture** today and beyond. Our members are committed to ensuring that the bedrock of our state survives another 150 years.

Personal freedom and limited government

Limited government is a major tenet of the Republican philosophy. However, over the past decade leaders from our Party have abandoned the belief that **the best form of government is a small one**. Record deficits, increased government programs and attacks on personal freedoms have become standard operating procedure for the radical elements within the GOP.

However, the Kansas Traditional Republican Majority believes that limited government — in all areas — is still the best form of government. Government should play as small of a role as possible in areas such as business and personal freedoms. KTRM members **reject the politics of hate and intolerance** that have done so much to tear apart families instead of supporting them. Additionally, KTRM members believe that the sanctity of life extends to those who are living and making difficult decisions every day.

In short, KTRM members believe in the traditional tenets of the Republican Party and seek to **return the Party to its roots based in limited government, personal responsibility and freedom**. This is not a new concept; it is the Party that our parents and grandparents believed in, and it is the Party that we need to return to.

Sanctity of life

“To err on the side of life means to embrace the extreme hope expressed by so many . . . that they may see again, that their bodies might stop shaking, that they may stand up from their chairs and walk and that their children may die of a different disease than their parents,” said Missouri Republican State Senator Chris Koster.

The Kansas Traditional Republican Majority believes in the sanctity of life and the need to preserve and extend it for loved ones suffering from devastating illnesses like Alzheimer’s disease, Parkinson’s disease, and diabetes. **One way to protect life is to advance it through research and understanding.** It is because of this strong commitment to protecting life that KTRM supports expanded embryonic stem cell research by funding new stem cell lines that have been ethically derived — from discarded embryos created through the in-vitro fertilization (IVF) process — through informed consent of the donors and without financial inducement.

KTRM seeks to work with leaders from the scientific and medical communities to **expand our national stem cell policy** in an ethical and moral manner that unleashes the potential of embryonic stem cell research. We believe it can be done, and we believe it should be done for the millions of Americans suffering nationwide.

The time for leadership is now

"The political processes of our country are such that if a rule of reason is not applied in this effort, we will lose everything . . . this is what I mean by my constant insistence upon 'moderation' in government."

— PRESIDENT DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER



Will you join us at the Kansas Traditional Republican Majority?

The Kansas Traditional Republican Majority is committed to finding quiet reason in place of loud arguments, reasonable consensus in place of political conflict, and compassion in the place of fundamentalism. Our call is not to divide but to invite those who have left the Party — or those who have grown increasingly uncomfortable with it — to join healthy, open debate and to once again be proud of what it means to be a Republican.

If the organization itself is new, its roots are not: the goals and ideals of KTRM are based in the Republican Party to which our parents and grandparents belonged. It was a Party that was welcoming and believed in limited government, personal freedoms, lower taxes, a strong military, and spending within our means.

The radical elements that control our Party today have lost sight of these fundamental Republican principles. Instead, they are choosing litmus tests on candidates and members, expanded government, deficit spending and social policies that divide the American family. Unlike these radical elements, the Kansas Traditional Republican Majority is an organization whose members are committed to producing solutions that can unite.

The time for leadership is now.

We need your help. Please join the Kansas Traditional Republican Majority today. Our state and our children cannot afford to wait.