



Oklahoma Taxpayer Platform

1. Fiscal Responsibility

We demand state and local government that is fiscally responsible, transparent and accountable. Heads of state agencies and local government entities should answer directly to elected officials. **State agencies must be subjected to regular, independent fiscal and performance audits by the State Auditor and held accountable for the findings and recommended reforms.** The 20 largest agencies should be audited no less than every 4 years.

Establish a permanent, full-time Legislative Oversight Committee that is bipartisan, bicameral and has subpoena power. It will oversee each agency's mission and spending, and offer suggested legislation and reform, providing transparency and accountability.

2. Limited Government

Focus on priorities. Most Oklahomans agree that state and local government should focus on four basic areas: **public safety, transportation and infrastructure, education, and a safety net for the most vulnerable.** Encourage and protect self-responsibility and liberty in religious expression, occupation, health care, education, etc. **The first instinct of elected officials should be to limit government's reach.**

3. Structural Reform

We want structural reform to transform and eliminate governmental dysfunction, duplication and corruption. 500+ school districts are too many. Schools are bloated with administration. 500+ Agencies, Authorities, Boards, Trusts and Commissions are too much. Too many unelected officials are making decisions that affect taxpayers. **Education and health would be better served by a dramatic downsizing of state bureaucracies, with more decisions made locally.** We want fair legislative operating rules that do not abridge the right and responsibility of legislators to represent their constituents. Needed government services should be efficient and user-friendly.

4. Fair Taxation

Tax people in the least-burdensome way. Income taxes impose a discouraging penalty on work, productivity, personal responsibility, savings, investment, capital formation and entrepreneurial risk-taking. No income taxes of any kind should be levied by Oklahoma's state and local government. **Shift Oklahoma's tax structure to focus on consumption.** This will help Oklahoma become a magnet for private-sector both large and small job creators and productive individuals of all incomes. **The key is to attract more taxpayers, spreading the cost of state and local services among more people and allowing for a lower tax burden on everyone.**

5. Free-Market Environment

Preserve the gains made in Oklahoma in the past 20 years toward greater worker freedom and a less-adversarial legal climate. **Remove unnecessary barriers set up by state and local government for many occupations.** Encourage stronger market forces in health care, education, and other sectors, with less picking of winners and losers by government.

6. Criminal Justice System Reform

We need criminal justice reform that keeps citizens safe but doesn't lock people up unnecessarily. Oklahoma can't afford the bankrupting costs and social dysfunction that go with leading the nation in the rate of incarceration.

7. State Sovereignty

Provide a barrier between Oklahomans and Federal overreach that limits our Constitutional liberties. We cannot continue to let the Federal government impose restrictions, mandates and costs that infringe on our rights.



SACRED WORD OF HONOR PLEDGE

I hereby give my Word of Honor, that I, J Kevin Shitt, will consistently and faithfully guide my legislative votes and/or policy decisions according to the principles conveyed in the Oklahoma Taxpayers Platform.

Signature 

Date 03/28/2018

Witness Ann Code Rose

Date 03/28/2018



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