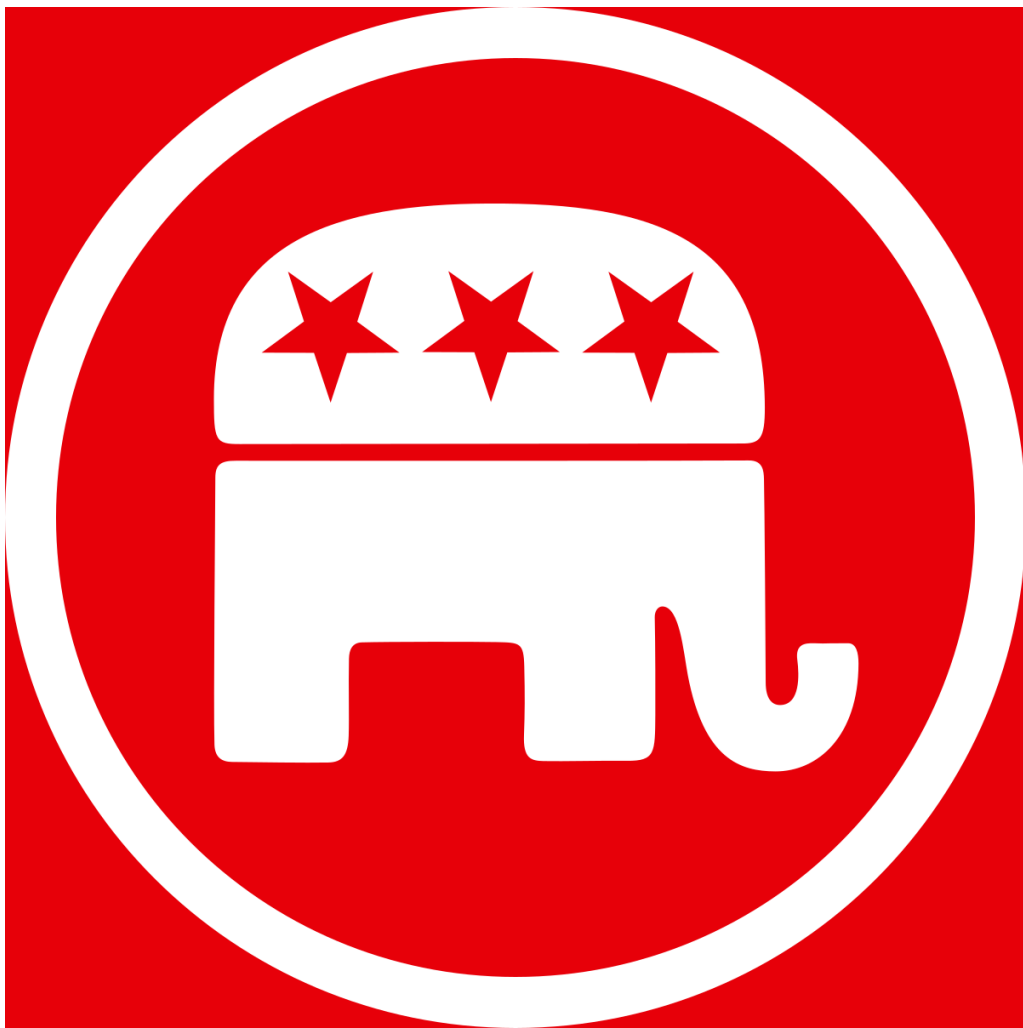


WestwoodMUNC V

★RNC★



Dear Delegates,

My name is Mia Warrington, and I will be your chair for the 2024 Republican National Convention crisis committee at Westwood MUNC V. I am a Sophomore at Westwood High School, and I have been doing Model UN since the beginning of my freshman year.

With that being said, I anticipate strong debate in our committee. Because the committee is current and politically focused, I would like to remind you to please be respectful of your fellow delegates and maintain decorum and diplomacy throughout political debate. Finally, please keep in mind that although you, as a delegate, may or may not agree with the position of your role on specific topics, it is imperative that the original viewpoints of the candidates are maintained.

I look forward to serving as your chair for the committee, and I hope to make your experience at Westwood MUNC V as enjoyable as possible! Feel free to email me at any point with questions. See you soon! :)

Email: 23mwarrington@wpsstudents.org

Dear Delegates,

My name is Marcus Kelly and I will be serving as the chair for the 2024 Republican National Convention. I have been participating in Model UN for two years now. I am a Sophomore at Westwood High School and am excited to chair this Committee. I participate in Cross Country, Track, and Student Council. I also enjoy playing the piano and reading.

While running this committee, Mia and I, will strive to create fair processes and open dialogue that value the opinions of all delegates. This should be a fun committee with a spirited debate that will enhance the understanding of the Republican Party. Although this committee may require delegates to adopt opinions that they do not hold as their own; it is important that delegates

do not stray from the arguments of their person. This will ensure a smooth and coherent debate that is substantive for all.

I am excited to serve as the chair for this committee, and I hope all delegates leave Westwood MUNC V feeling valued and excited to continue their Model UN career. For any questions, do not hesitate to email me. Goodluck!

Email: 23mkelly@wpsstudents.org

Schedule:

8:30-9:00- Opening Ceremony

9:00-11:50- First round of debate: this debate will focus on forming connections with other committee members and discussion, as well as combating any crises that arise.

11:50-12:00- Candidates will submit their final statements to the ballot.

12:00-1:00- Lunch Break

1:00-3:00- Second round of debate: Winner of Presidential Candidacy and Vice Presidential Candidacy will be announced. Committee will work with the nominees to construct a Republican Party platform.

IMPORTANT NOTE: Background guides are due April 24th in order to be eligible for an

award. They can be emailed to the chairs 23mwarrington@wpsstudents.org and

23mkelly@wpsstudents.org

Current Situation: The year is 2024 and the Republican party needs to come up with a candidate. The Republican party has been in an identity crisis ever since the last GOP president, Donald J. Trump, left office. Leaning away from the traditional Conservative strategy of the Republican Party, Trump reconstructed the ideals, priorities, and overall image of the party. Now, the Republicans have to decide on an identity that coincides with this new version of the Republican Party or on an identity that reverts them back to a traditional republican view.

Goal: The goal of this committee will be for candidates to gain popular support among delegates at the Republic National Convention. Though some delegates will be representing actual candidates, others will be representing political figures or organizations who can endorse candidates. During the conference, delegates will be developing strategies and gaining support for their campaign, while navigating any crises which may arise. Halfway through the conference, delegates in candidatorial positions will have collaborated with their supporters to create a statement that will be delivered to the group, and a frontrunning Republican candidate will emerge by popular vote (mimicking the primaries). Afterwards, delegates will be tasked with the challenge of deciding how the Republican Party will run their campaign with the newly-elected presidential nominee and decide on which issues are the entire party's top priority. By the end of the committee, delegates will nominate a presidential nominee and create the 2024 Republican Party's Presidential Platform.

IMPORTANT NOTE: this committee will have two sections, nominating Presidential and vice presidential nominees, and then creating a Republican party platform.

Voting for the presidential nominee: This committee will conduct a conference wide vote to determine who the winning candidate will be. At the end of the first session of debate, before the lunch break, presidential candidates will submit their statements to be compiled on a ballot (a

Google form). Statements should be 2-3 sentences and detail the most compelling reasons why they should be elected.

Example: Hello delegates, I am Joe Biden, former vice president and senator of Delaware. If I am to be elected, I will fight for the climate, diplomacy, economic prosperity, and the livelihoods of each citizen. I will hold up our democratic values to instill liberty, equality, and the rule of law in America.¹

Once these statements are compiled, they will be sent out to the other committees who will vote for them, as well as the endorsers and organization representatives in this committee. The candidate with the most votes will be presidential nominee, while the second most votes will be vice presidential nominee.

Republican Party Platform (2016)

Rather than creating a new party platform, the Republican Party recycled their past 2016 objectives which references the “current president” and attacks on “the administration” (referring to Barack Obama and the Obama administration). The Republican party has several factions including the moderates, populist, Tea Party, and the Paleoconservatives. Generally, no matter what faction, Republican lawmakers and enthusiasts advocate under a united platform in order to maintain a coherent message. Below are some of the most important issues in the United States along with how the Republican Party regards them.

¹ “Remarks by President Biden on America's Place in the World,” The White House (The United States Government, February 5, 2021), <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/speeches-remarks/2021/02/04/remarks-by-president-biden-on-americas-place-in-the-world/>.

Gun Control:

Republicans believe that American citizens have the right to own, carry, and use guns. This belief is grounded in their interpretation of the Second Amendment in the Constitution along with the basic philosophy of the party. The Republican Party advocates for gun rights not because of a love for guns, but rather with the intent to uphold certain unalienable rights. Gun rights have become a contentious topic in America. In 2020, nearly 20,000 people died from gun violence; a 25% increase from the year prior². Mass shootings have also become an unfortunate reality for American citizens as there have been 160 shootings at schools, concerts, and other public events since the year 2000.³

Health Care:

Healthcare is a complicated and nuanced issue present in America today. There are many different factors at play including the insurance industry, government spending, needs of Americans, and seemingly endless bureaucratic red tape. American healthcare is separated into two categories; Medicare and Medicaid which include type A, B, C, and D. With the passing of the 2010 Obamacare or Affordable Care Act (ACA) legislation, Americans would now have access to cheaper and more affordable healthcare. However, due to Republican agendas on government spending, the Republican Party has opposed federal-funded healthcare and advocated for limited or no healthcare legislation.⁴ The ACA has had a contentious past -- Republican opposition almost repealed the legislation in the July 2017 Senate voting session. Even though backlash was harsh, John McCain

² Michael S. Schmidt, "F.B.I. Confirms a Sharp Rise in Mass Shootings since 2000," September 25, 2014, <https://www.nytimes.com/2014/09/25/us/25shooters.html>.

³ Lulu Garcia-Navarro, "2020 Was A Record-Breaking Year For Gun-Related Deaths In The U.S.," NPR (NPR, January 3, 2021), <https://www.npr.org/2021/01/03/952969760/2020-was-a-record-breaking-year-for-gun-related-deaths-in-the-u-s#:~:text=According%20to%20the%20Gun%20Violence,jump%20from%20the%20year%20before>.

⁴ Audrey Kearney, "A Conundrum: Majority of Republican Voters Want to Overturn ACA but Keep Protections for People with Pre-Existing Conditions," KFF, November 4, 2020, <https://www.kff.org/policy-watch/a-conundrum-majority-of-republican-voters-want-to-overturn-aca-but-keep-protections-for-people-with-pre-existing-conditions/>.

cast his famous vote in support of Obamacare that ultimately saved the legislation and kept millions of people covered under the government sponsored insurance program.⁵ During his presidency, Donald Trump expressed interest in TrumpCare but never proposed substantial legislation.

Government Spending:

Republicans tend to advocate in favor of laissez-faire economics, fiscal conservatism, and eliminating government run welfare programs in favor of the private industry.⁶ The Republican Party has historically followed policy that supports limited government spending. Government spending in America is primarily includes the defense spending, social programs, and debt payback.⁷ The United States has an annual deficit of \$966 billion dollars and a total national debt of 27 trillion. The national debt has ballooned in recent years, with the last three presidents having each added at least \$6 billion. The ultimate goal of both Republican and Democratic legislators is to reduce this debt, however, the methods of doing so is where the two parties diverge. Delegates should focus on little government spending in areas like social programs, modernization of government equipment, and creation of government programs. Republicans also advocate for tax breaks and defense spending.

Immigration:

Immigration, particularly on the Southern border, is a controversial issue on the United States political stage. With an influx of South American immigrants seeking a better life, the Southern border has become compact, and the immigration legal system is bogged down. In his

⁵ Susan Davis and Domenico Montanaro, "McCain Votes NO, Dealing Potential Death Blow to Republican Health CARE EFFORTS," July 28, 2017, <https://www.npr.org/2017/07/27/539907467/senate-careens-toward-high-drama-midnight-health-care-vote>.

⁶ Kimberly Amadeo, "Republicans Economic Views and How They Work in the Real World," The Balance, November 30, 2020, <https://www.thebalance.com/do-republican-economic-policies-work-4129139>. /?

⁷ Kimberly Amadeo, "Secrets of the Federal Budget Revealed," The Balance, October 29, 2020, <https://www.thebalance.com/u-s-federal-budget-breakdown-3305789#:~:text=President%20Trump's%20budget%20for%20FY,federal%20revenues%20by%20%24966%20billion>.

2016 campaign, Donald Trump promised severe restrictions on the border and also offered his infamous Southern border wall as a solution. Donald Trump also came under fire for his infamous migrant detention camps that were started under the previous administration but were popularized during Trump's presidency.⁸ Compared to Democrats, Republicans tend to favor restrictions and guidelines regarding the types of people who can and can not legally immigrate from their country of origin.

Questions to Consider:

Is my candidate/representative/endorser more traditional or more radical?

What are my candidate's/representative's/endorser's views on the economy, international policy, infrastructure, ect.

What does my candidate/representative/endorser think is important for the President to accomplish during the next four years?

Who might my candidate/representative/endorser be interested in working with?

How can I garner support for causes my candidate's/representative's/endorser's are passionate about?

Which ideas about the 2024 republican campaign can the party agree to support?

How will the Republican party rebuild its reputation to a traditional conservative party? Will it rebuild its reputation to a traditional conservative party?

Who will the focus of the Republican Party be? The American People? Business leaders? Etc.

⁸ Miriam Jordan, "Thousands of Migrant Children Detained in Resumption of 'Trump-Era Policies,'" The New York Times (The New York Times, February 26, 2021), <https://www.nytimes.com/2021/02/26/us/migrant-children-border-detained.html>.

Candidates

Conservative and Populist Candidates:

Donald Trump, 45th president of the United States,

Donald Trump is a businessman, entrepreneur, politician who won the 2016 Presidential Election and became the 45th President of the United States. He is expected to run in the 2024 presidential election as a front runner for the Republican Party. Donald Trump is a populist candidate who appeals to rural working class families who feel disenfranchised by current and past government policies. Trump's first, and currently only, term was filled with tumultuous scandals, tweets, and events that spotlighted his administration. Donald Trump was impeached twice by the Democratic House of Representative but never indicted by the Republican held Senate. Donald Trump agrees with the platform of the Republican Party. Although controversial and unconventional Donald Trump is an important figure in the Republican Party would most likely decide the future of the party.

Josh Hawley, U.S. senator from Missouri,

Josh Hawley is Missouri Senator and is a shining star in the Republican Party. Hawley has encountered backlash for his handling of a case involving Governor Eric Greitens while serving as Missouri Attorney General.⁹ Hawley's work ethic during campaigning has also been questioned as photographs of him going to the gym mid day were leaked in a local newspaper.¹⁰ Senator Josh

⁹ Daniel Malloy, "Can Josh Hawley Distance Himself from Missouri's Scandal? - Latest National, World & Political News | McClatchy ...," McClatchy, 2018, <https://www.mcclatchydc.com/news/politics-government/article218130170.html>.

¹⁰ Sarah Fenske, "Josh Hawley Works Out in Columbia While Jefferson City Burns," Riverfront Times (Riverfront Times, February 12, 2021),

Hawley serves on numerous committees including the Committee on Armed Services and the Judiciary Committee. Josh Hawley is a strong Trump ally, a nationalist, and is also considered a populist in American politics. As Missouri Attorney General, Hawley supported the deregulation of environmental regulations¹¹ as well as criticized LGBTQ+ rights.¹² Hawley ran and defeated Democratic incumbent Senator Claire McCaskill in the 2018 election.

Ron DeSantis, Governor of Florida,

Currently the Governor of Florida, Ron DeSantis is a potential candidate for the 2024 presidential election. Governor Desantis is a supporter of Donald Trump and is considered unpredictable but also vital in the Republican Party. He has faced backlash over his widespread ban on “sanctuary cities” in Florida that protect immigrants from being deported to their country of origin.¹³ He has also faced controversy after using a racist dog whistle targeted towards people of color when addressing tax increases in Florida.¹⁴ Governor Desantis is considered a conservative and believes that abortion should be outlawed, gun rights are constitutional, and the a free market economy should be prioritized. While in office, the economy of Florida has suffered as the Gross State Product (GSP) growth in the State saw a 2.8 increase in 2019 compared to 3-4% growth in

<https://www.riverfronttimes.com/newsblog/2018/04/25/josh-hawley-works-out-in-columbia-while-jefferson-city-burns>.

¹¹ LaRoss, David, and Doug Obey. "Pruitt Moves To Curtail EPA Use Of 'Sue And Settle' As GOP Pushes Bills." Inside EPA's Water Policy Report 26, no. 11 (2017): 11-12. Accessed March 22, 2021. doi:10.2307/26840644.

¹²Burgess Everett, “Hawley on LGBTQ Ruling: Conservative Legal Movement Is Over,” POLITICO (POLITICO, June 16, 2020), <https://www.politico.com/news/2020/06/16/josh-hawley-lgbt-supreme-court-conservatives-323254>.

¹³ Arian Campo-Flores, “Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis Signs Sanctuary-City Ban,” The Wall Street Journal (Dow Jones & Company, June 14, 2019), <https://www.wsj.com/articles/florida-gov-ron-desantis-signs-sanctuary-city-ban-11560536897>.

¹⁴Julia Jacobs, “DeSantis Warns Florida Not to 'Monkey This Up,' and Many Hear a Racist Dog Whistle,” The New York Times (The New York Times, August 29, 2018), <https://www.nytimes.com/2018/08/29/us/politics/desantis-monkey-up-gillum.html>.

years prior.¹⁵ Before being elected to the Governorship, DeSantis was a representative in the United States Congress for the 6th congressional district of Florida.

Ted Cruz, U.S. senator from Texas,

Ted Cruz is a Junior Republican Senator from Texas and is expected to run in the 2024 presidential election.¹⁶ Ted Cruz is currently serving on the Committee on Foreign Relations, the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, and the Joint Economic Committee. He also serves as the Chairman of the Subcommittee on Aviation and Space¹⁷. As a 2016 presidential candidate, Ted Cruz supported free trade, the Pro-Life Movement, gun rights¹⁸. Cruz also openly opposes same-sex marriage,¹⁹ Obamacare, and Civil Unions.²⁰ Cruz is considered a social and constitutional conservative with Libertarian leaning views.²¹ He comes from a Cuban family as he was born in a United States military base in Calgary Canada. Questions about Cruz's eligibility to run have been raised since his birthplace was outside of the United States.

Tom Cotton, U.S. senator from Arkansas,

Tom Cotton is a Junior Senator from Arkansas serving his second term.²² Tom Cotton previously served in the House of Representatives until 2013 to 2015. Cotton was born and raised in

¹⁵“Industry Market Research, Reports, and Statistics,” IBISWorld, 2019, <https://www.ibisworld.com/united-states/economic-profiles/florida/>.

¹⁶ Rachel Bucchino, “Will Ted Cruz Run for President in 2024?,” The National Interest (The Center for the National Interest, February 7, 2021), <https://nationalinterest.org/blog/buzz/will-ted-cruz-run-president-2024-177802>.

¹⁷ Ted Cruz, “Committees,” Ted Cruz | U.S. Senator for Texas, September 4, 2013, <https://www.cruz.senate.gov/?p=committees>.

¹⁸ Ted Cruz, “Issues,” Ted Cruz | U.S. Senator for Texas, October 22, 2014, <https://www.cruz.senate.gov/?p=issues>.

¹⁹ Mike Allen, Shane Goldmacher, and Nick Gass, “What Ted Cruz Said behind Closed Doors,” POLITICO, December 23, 2015, <https://www.politico.com/story/2015/12/ted-cruz-gay-marriage-secret-audio-217090>.

²⁰ Ted Cruz, “Issues,” Ted Cruz | U.S. Senator for Texas, October 22, 2014, <https://www.cruz.senate.gov/?p=issues>.

²¹ Katie Glueck, “Ted Cruz, Born-Again Libertarian,” POLITICO, February 3, 2016, <https://www.politico.com/story/2016/02/ted-cruz-libertarian-218687>.

²² Tom Cotton, “Sen. Tom Cotton,” GovTrack.us, 2019, https://www.govtrack.us/congress/members/tom_cotton/412508.

Arkansas and graduated from Harvard Law in 2002. He served in the military until 2009. Cotton serves on numerous committees including the Committee on Armed Services, and the Senate Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs. Tom Cotton is a staunch Republican and is considered one of the most conservative Republicans serving in the Senate.²³ He is also a close ally with former President Trump and voted to acquit the President in both Senate Impeachment Trials.²⁴ Cotton has grown louder on the national political stage in recent years and the 43-year-old senator has long been mentioned as a potential presidential candidate.²⁵

Moderate Republicans:

Marco Rubio, U.S. senator from Florida

Marco Rubio is a Republican Senator from Florida and is a potential moderate Republican Candidate for the 2024 presidential election. Senator Marco Rubio is Chairman of the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship, Acting Chairman of the Select Committee on Intelligence. He also serves as a member of the Senate Committee on Appropriations and as a senior member of the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations and the Special Committee on Aging.²⁶ Marco Rubio has run for president once before in the 2016 presidential election but was never a front runner during his campaign. Although never a serious contender, Rubio is an important figure in the moderate conservative party and offers a safe option for undecided Republican leaning voters. Rubio is also

²³“2019 Report Cards All Senators / Ideology Score,” GovTrack.us, 2019, <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/members/report-cards/2019/senate/ideology>.

²⁴ Andrew Solender, “Sen. Tom Cotton – Staunch Trump Ally – Tells President To Concede, 'Quit Misleading' Americans,” Forbes (Forbes Magazine, January 7, 2021), <https://www.forbes.com/sites/andrewsolender/2021/01/06/sen-tom-cotton-staunch-trump-ally--tells-president-to-concede-quit-misleading-americans/?sh=3fdd9f4f596a>.

²⁵ Jake Lahut, “Tom Cotton Is Already Laying the Groundwork in New Hampshire for a 2024 Presidential Run,” Business Insider (Business Insider, October 21, 2020), <https://www.businessinsider.com/tom-cotton-laying-groundwork-2024-presidential-run-new-hampshire-2020-10>.

²⁶ Rubio, Marco. “Committee Assignments.” Committee Assignments - U.S. Senator for Florida, Marco Rubio, 2020. <https://www.rubio.senate.gov/public/index.cfm/committee-assignments>.

well-known for his contentious town hall between him and students and parents of Parkland High School.²⁷ In early 2018 the Parkland High School became the victim a school shooting which kickstarted support for gun control in the country.^{28 29} Marco Rubio stands for gun rights, is pro-life, and supports a free economy with limited government restraints.³⁰

Mitt Romney, senator of Utah

Senator Mitt Romney is a staple in the Republican Party and has run for Presidents three times, in 2008 and 2012. Mitt Romney is known for his moderate Republican views who sees faith as a guiding principle. He is deeply religious and he cited this while explaining his vote for impeachment during President Trump's first impeachment.³¹ Romney has often broken partisanship and supported Democratic bills like the 2019 bill to end the month long government shutdown.³² Senator Romney sits on the numerous senate committees including the Committee on the Budget and the Committee on Foreign Relations.³³ He advocates for versions of government sponsored

²⁷ Safia Samee Ali, "Rubio Grilled by Parkland Shooting Students, Parents," NBCNews.com (NBCUniversal News Group, February 22, 2018), <https://www.nbcnews.com/news/us-news/rubio-grilled-parkland-shooting-students-parent-n850176>.

²⁸ Dakin Andone, "It's Been 2 Years since the Deadly Shooting at a High School in Parkland, Florida," CNN (Cable News Network, February 14, 2020), <https://www.cnn.com/2020/02/14/us/parkland-shooting-marjory-stoneman-douglas-2-years/index.html>.

²⁹ Michelle Mark, "Here's What's Changed on Gun Control since Last Year's Deadly Parkland Shooting - and What Hasn't," Insider (Insider, February 14, 2019), <https://www.insider.com/parkland-shooting-anniversary-gun-control-legislation-school-safety-progress-2019-2>.

³⁰ Max Ehrenfreund, "A Simple Guide to What Marco Rubio Really Believes," The Washington Post (WP Company, April 29, 2019), <https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/wonk/wp/2016/02/06/a-simple-guide-to-what-marco-rubio-really-believes/>.

³¹ Julie Zauzmer, "Mitt Romney's Mormon Faith Motivated Him to Vote for Trump's Removal from Office," The Washington Post (WP Company, February 5, 2020), <https://www.washingtonpost.com/religion/2020/02/05/mitt-romneys-mormon-faith-motivated-him-vote-trumps-removal-office/>.

³² Eli Watkins, "How Senators Voted: These Lawmakers Crossed the Aisle to Vote for Plans to Reopen Government - CNN Politics," CNN (Cable News Network, January 25, 2019), <https://www.cnn.com/2019/01/24/politics/how-senators-voted-shutdown-wall-vote/index.html>.

³³ Mitt Romney, "Committee Assignments," Senator Mitt Romney, 2019, <https://www.romney.senate.gov/committee-assignments>.

healthcare and free trade.³⁴ However, Romney has had an incoherent past in regards to abortion and LGBTQ rights as his support and opposition on these issue is hard to measure.³⁵ He is a potential presidential candidate in the 2024 election and represents a stark change to the rhetoric of populist candidates like Donald Trump.

Nikki Haley, former ambassador to the United Nations

Nikki Haley is a former United Nations ambassador for the United States under Donald Trump. She also served two terms as South Carolina's first female governor from 2011 to 2017. She is expected to run in the 2024 presidential election and enter as a moderate conservative front runner. Ambassador Haley has potentially jeopardized her candidacy by sending mixed signals about former President Donald Trump and his handling of the January 6th riots at the Capital.³⁶ On February 18th, 2020, Donald Trump denied a meeting request from Haley at his Florida residence, Mar A Lago.³⁷ As ambassador to the UN, Nikki Haley completed ground breaking work specifically in her U.N. Security Council Resolution 2356, 2371, and 2375 which was unanimously approved. These Resolutions targeted North Korea and its allies as well as imposing tough sanctions on the dictatorship which would cost the regime \$1 Billion (USD) per year.³⁸ Nikki Haley has shown strong leadership in her positions while not compromising what she believes in. Haley supports laws

³⁴Mitt Romney, "Issues," Senator Mitt Romney, 2019, <https://www.romney.senate.gov/issues>.

³⁵ Amy Bingham, "ABC News," ABC News (ABC News Network, October 10, 2012), <https://abcnews.go.com/Politics/OTUS/mitt-romneys-abortion-evolution/story?id=17443452>.

³⁶Chris Cillizza, "Analysis: Nikki Haley Makes Her Move against Donald Trump," CNN (Cable News Network, February 12, 2021), <https://www.cnn.com/2021/02/12/politics/nikki-haley-2024-donald-trump/index.html>.

³⁷Zachary Evans, "Trump Refuses Meet with Nikki Haley after Capitol Riot Criticism," National Review (National Review, February 19, 2021), <https://www.nationalreview.com/news/trump-refuses-meet-with-nikki-haley-after-capitol-riot-criticism/>.

³⁸Jen Kerns, "Nikki Haley Achieved Historic Accomplishments, Just like the Many Women in Trump's Administration," TheHill, October 12, 2018, <https://thehill.com/opinion/white-house/411174-nikki-haley-achieved-historic-accomplishments-just-like-the-many-women-in>.

limiting abortion, immigration, and has never supported any legislation in regards to LGBTQ rights.³⁹ If elected, Haley would be the first female president of the United States.

Susan Collins, senator of Maine

Susan Collins is a Republican Senator from Maine and will potentially run in the 2024 presidential elections. Senator Collins, if elected, would be the first woman president and would also represent the moderate conservative party. Collins has considered running as an independent but would most likely run as a Republican due to state election laws around the country.⁴⁰ Susan Collins, alongside six other Republicans,⁴¹ has received backlash from Maines GOP over her vote to convict former President Donald Trump for his role in the Jan. 6 insurrection.⁴² Collins is chair of the Senate Special Committee on Aging. She also sits on the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence and the Committee on Appropriations. As a moderate Republican, Collins still supports pro-life legislation, free trade, and other Republican views. Susan Collins is considered a bipartisan senator and has been proactive on issues like cybersecurity and rights of minorities.⁴³

³⁹Berman, "South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley Says Her State Doesn't Need Transgender Bathroom Law," The Washington Post (WP Company, April 28, 2019), <https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/post-nation/wp/2016/04/07/south-carolinas-gov-nikki-haley-says-her-state-doesnt-need-transgender-bathroom-law/>.

⁴⁰Christopher Burns, "Susan Collins Considered Running as an Independent in 2020," Bangor Daily News, October 23, 2020, <https://bangordailynews.com/2020/10/23/politics/susan-collins-considered-running-as-independent-in-2020/>.

⁴¹ John Eligon and Thomas Kaplan, "These Are the Republicans Who Supported Impeaching Trump," The New York Times (The New York Times, January 13, 2021), <https://www.nytimes.com/article/republicans-impeaching-donald-trump.html>.

⁴²Steve Mistler, "The Maine GOP Has Condemned Susan Collins' Vote To Convict Trump - But She's Not Having Any Of It," Maine Public, February 19, 2021, <https://www.mainepublic.org/post/maine-gop-has-condemned-susan-collins-vote-convict-trump-shes-not-having-any-of-it>.

⁴³ Grant Gross, "Senator: Congress Needs to Pass Cybersecurity Bill Now," CIO (IDG News Service, October 1, 2012), <https://www.cio.com/article/2391716/senator-congress-needs-to-pass-cybersecurity-bill-now.html>; Peter Weber, "Susan Collins Is the 4th, and Least-Surprising, GOP Senator to Come out for Gay Marriage," The Week - All you need to know about everything that matters (The Week, June 26, 2014), <https://theweek.com/speedreads/450965/susan-collins-4th-leastsurprising-gop-senator-come-gay-marriage>.

Organizations :

Darron Woods, CEO of ExxonMobil

Darron Woods joined ExxonMobil, a gas company, in 1992 where he had worked for Exxon for 24 years prior to being promoted to CEO following Rex Tillerson's departure to the White House. Darron Woods has given thousands of dollars in donations to republican political figures and organizations. He has supported the nomination of Donald Trump. Contrary to oil industry consensus, Darren Woods wrote in opposition to then President Donald Trump's move to pull out of the Paris Climate Accords. He felt that by participating in the accords the United States would have a seat at the table in fossil fuel regulation policy.⁴⁴ Although considered obsolete, fossil fuels still provide the United States with 62% of all its energy.⁴⁵ The fossil fuel industry holds a big lobbying and financing position in the Republican Party, as Republicans usually hold an anti-renewable energy agenda.

Jeffrey Sprecher, New York Stock Exchange (NYSE) chief,

Jeffrey Sprecher is the chief of the New York Stock Exchange (NYSE). Jefferey Spreecher and his wife former Senator Kelly Loeffler (R- Georgia) were involved in an insider trading scandal

⁴⁴“Exxon Chief Urges Trump to Back Climate Agreement,” Subscribe to read | Financial Times (Financial Times, May 26, 2017), <https://www.ft.com/content/fcf73abc-4202-11e7-9d56-25f963e998b2>.

⁴⁵ “Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) - U.S. Energy Information Administration (EIA),” Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) - U.S. Energy Information Administration (EIA), November 2, 2020, <https://www.eia.gov/tools/faqs/faq.php?id=427&t=3>.

when the COVID-19 Pandemic first struck the globe. Loeffler took part in confidential intelligence briefings as part of her senatorial duties, and understood the impact of the pandemic before the general public knew. Soon after Loeffler and Sprecher made big purchases and liquidations of their portfolio in correlation with the information presented to Loeffler. Although never punished the two are widely believed to commit acts of insider trading to increase wealth.⁴⁶ The NYSE was founded on March 8th, 1817 and stands as the world's largest stock exchange with over two thousands eight hundred companies that combine make a total market capitalization of \$30.1 trillion.⁴⁷ The Stock Market does not serve as the definition of a country's economic well being, however, it is a good indicator of business performance which transcends and impacts the people of a country. Economic prosperity is a central focus of the [Republican Party Platform](#) and often serves as a defining issue on a candidate's success in any party. Republicans strongly believe that free markets and individual achievement are the primary factors behind economic prosperity. Republicans tend to advocate in favor of laissez-faire economics, fiscal conservatism, and eliminating government run welfare programs in favor of the private industry.⁴⁸ Jeffrey Sprecher serves as a representative of Wall Street, private industry, and big business which appeals directly to Republicans and their success.

Sarah Lenti, Executive Director of the Lincoln Project

Sarah Lenti is the Executive Director of The Lincoln Project. Lenti kicked off her career in politics by joining the Bush-Cheney 2000 campaign as a policy staffer. She served in the Bush

⁴⁶Dan Mangan, "SEC Warns on Coronavirus Insider Trading after Stock Sales by NYSE Chair, His Wife Sen. Loeffler, 3 Other Senators," CNBC (CNBC, March 23, 2020), <https://www.cnbc.com/2020/03/23/coronavirus-sec-warns-on-insider-trading-after-loeffler-sales.html>.

⁴⁷Sheila Mason, "Is the New York Stock Exchange the Largest Stock Market in the World?," Finance, November 21, 2017, <https://finance.zacks.com/new-york-stock-exchange-largest-stock-market-world-5426.html>.

⁴⁸Kimberly Amadeo, "Republicans Economic Views and How They Work in the Real World," The Balance, November 30, 2020, <https://www.thebalance.com/do-republican-economic-policies-work-4129139>. /?

administration on the National Security Council under National Security Advisor Condoleezza Rice. Lenti also served as an advisor to former Massachusetts Governor Mitt Romney. The Lincoln Project is a Political Action Committee (PAC) that was formulated in 2019 with the intentions of preventing Donald Trump from being reelected. The Lincoln Project targeted undecided voters with their social media and television ads throughout the 2020 presidential election.⁴⁹ Sarah Lenti represents the Lincoln Project which has become a key ally for moderate Republicans. This organization could stand as a uniting force in this committee.

Tucker Carlson, Fox News Anchor

Tucker Carlson is a conservative television host and political commentator who has hosted the nightly political talk show Tucker Carlson Tonight on Fox News since 2016. Carlson is widely considered extremely biased who appeals and succeeds in riling up Former President Donald Trump's base. Carlson is a populaist and is cited in defending Donald Trump during his presidential term.⁵⁰ Fox News is an extremely important organization in the Republican party as a recent Pew Research study found that Fox News is the most trusted news source amongst conservatives.⁵¹ The organization often supports Republican views and defends members of the party. They are most notable for defending and reporting on Former President Donald Trump and his actions.

⁴⁹Sarah Polus, "Lincoln Project Unveils Mid-Impeachment Trial Ad Targeting Republicans over Capitol Riot," TheHill (The Hill, February 11, 2021), <https://thehill.com/homenews/news/538350-lincoln-project-drops-ad-mid-impeachment-trial-targeting-ted-cruz-and-others>.

⁵⁰Philip Bump, "Analysis | Tucker Carlson Is Making His Play to Be the Post-Trump MAGA Champion," The Washington Post (WP Company, January 14, 2021), <https://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/2021/01/14/tucker-carlson-is-making-his-play-be-post-trump-maga-champion/>.

⁵¹John Gramlich, "5 Facts about Fox News," Pew Research Center (Pew Research Center, August 18, 2020), <https://www.pewresearch.org/fact-tank/2020/04/08/five-facts-about-fox-news/>.

Wayne LaPierre, executive vice president of the National Rifle Association (NRA)

Wayne LaPierre is the executive vice president of the National Rifle Association (NRA). The NRA has been involved in multiple scandals of wrongdoing⁵² and has recently filed for Bankruptcy although their finances seem to be in an adequate state.⁵³ Wayne LaPierre and other executives at the NRA have also been involved in an investigation regarding the misuse of charitable donations.⁵⁴ Wayne LaPierre represents the NRA and its views on gun rights in America. He advocates for full and extreme gun rights for the American people and even arming personnel in school.⁵⁵ The NRA is a central organization in the Republican Party and has continued to provide funding for Candidates seeking political offices in exchange for support.⁵⁶ The NRA's support is vital in the republican party and often holds power over even the most powerful candidates.

⁵²Tim Dickinson, "WTF Is Happening at the NRA, Explained," Rolling Stone (Rolling Stone, May 3, 2019), <https://www.rollingstone.com/politics/politics-features/wtf-nra-scandals-explainer-830567/>.

⁵³Nathan Bomey, "The NRA Says Its Finances Are Solid. So Why Is It Filing for Bankruptcy?," USA Today (Gannett Satellite Information Network, January 28, 2021), <https://www.usatoday.com/story/money/2021/01/28/nra-bankruptcy-national-rifle-association-chapter-11/6657581002/>.

⁵⁴Tim Mak, "New York Attorney General Moves To Dissolve The NRA After Fraud Investigation," NPR (NPR, August 6, 2020), <https://www.npr.org/2020/08/06/899712823/new-york-attorney-general-moves-to-dissolve-the-nra-after-fraud-investigation>.

⁵⁵Gary Fields, Stephanie Banchemo, and Colleen McCain Nelson, "NRA Calls for Arms in School," The Wall Street Journal (Dow Jones & Company, December 22, 2012), <https://www.wsj.com/articles/SB10001424127887324461604578193364201364432>.

⁵⁶Victor Reklaitis, "These Lawmakers Receive the Most Campaign Money from Gun-Rights Backers like the NRA," MarketWatch (MarketWatch, August 10, 2019), <https://www.marketwatch.com/story/these-lawmakers-receive-the-most-campaign-money-from-gun-rights-backers-like-the-nra-2019-08-05>.

Endorsers:

Chris Christie

Chris Christie is a lobbyist from New Jersey, and a former prosecutor and governor. He ran for president in 2016, but denounced his candidacy. He endorsed Trump in the 2016 election, and was the head of his transition planning team.

Mike Pence

Mike Pence was Trump's Vice President, former governor of Indiana, and a member of the U.S. house of representatives. Pence is a supporter of the Tea Party movement and a traditional conservative. While in office, Pence made laws to limit abortion and he signed the Religious Freedoms Restoration Act.⁵⁷ Stating that he will not run if Trump runs, he will be acting as an endorser rather than a candidate. Pence was loyal to Trump unwaveringly throughout his presidency, yet when the Capitol was stormed he followed his constitutional duty, denouncing his partner's actions.⁵⁸

Mike Pompeo

CIA director under former president Trump and 70th secretary of state, Mike Pompeo, is a strong supporter of Trump. Originally a critic of Trump, his opinions changed when he ran for

⁵⁷"Mike Pence," Encyclopædia Britannica (Encyclopædia Britannica, inc., January 20, 2021), <https://www.britannica.com/biography/Mike-Pence>.

⁵⁸Rachel Bucchino, "Is Mike Pence for President in 2024 Still a Go?," The National Interest (The Center for the National Interest, January 12, 2021), <https://nationalinterest.org/feature/mike-pence-president-2024-still-go-176279>.

president and was able to appoint people to higher political power. As secretary of state, he floated laws and procedures, fired and dismissed people he did not agree with, and criticized democratic ideals.⁵⁹

President George W. Bush

America's 43rd President, George W. Bush, accomplished a lot during his presidency, most notably being his task of conducting the country during the terrorist 9/11 attacks.⁶⁰ George W. Bush is a traditional conservative in the Republican Party and will not be supporting Trump in his quest for reelection.⁶¹

Tim Scott

Scott is a former member of the South Carolina House of Representatives and current Senator from South Carolina. Appointed by Nikki Haley, Scott is one of the seven African Americans ever to be elected to the Senate from the Republican Party.⁶² When asked about Trump's statements about there being good people on both sides of the white supremacy rally, he said it erased his previous advancements in combating racism.⁶³

⁵⁹Lara Jakes, "Pompeo, Who Led Trump's Mission at State Dept., Leaves With a Dubious Legacy," The New York Times (The New York Times, January 18, 2021),

<https://www.nytimes.com/2021/01/18/us/politics/mike-pompeo-secretary-of-state.html>.

⁶⁰ George Bush, "George W. Bush," The White House (The United States Government, January 15, 2021),

<https://www.whitehouse.gov/about-the-white-house/presidents/george-w-bush/>.

⁶¹Jonathan Martin, "Vote for Trump? These Republican Leaders Aren't on the Bandwagon," The New York Times (The New York Times, June 6, 2020),

<https://www.nytimes.com/2020/06/06/us/politics/trump-biden-republicans-voters.html>.

⁶²Lindsay Deutsch, "Political Firsts: How History Was Made This Midterm Election," USA Today (Gannett Satellite Information Network, November 5, 2014),

<https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/nation-now/2014/11/05/historical-firsts-from-the-election/18523511.4/>

⁶³ Dan Merica, "Trump Says Both Sides to Blame amid Charlottesville Backlash - CNN Politics," CNN (Cable News Network, August 16, 2017), <https://www.cnn.com/2017/08/15/politics/trump-charlottesville-delay/index.html>.

Ben Carson

Carson was a candidate in the 2016 election and a pioneer in the field of neurosurgery.⁶⁴ He served under Trump as the United States Secretary of Housing and Urban Development (2017-2021). As an African American Man, Carson has consistently urged people of color to support Trump.⁶⁵

Donald Trump Jr.

Donald Trump Jr. is a political activist, American businessman, and reality television personality. He is Trump's first born child and openly supports his father to a great extent.⁶⁶ He runs the Trump Organization with his brother Eric.⁶⁷

Ivanka Trump

Under her father's administration, she worked as a senior advisor on the Director Office of Economic Initiatives and Entrepreneurship. Similarly to her brother, she is an avid supporter of her father.⁶⁸

⁶⁴Fox News, "Ben Carson Performed Historic Conjoined Twin Separation Surgery 30 Years Ago," Fox News (FOX News Network, September 19, 2017),

<https://www.foxnews.com/health/ben-carson-performed-historic-conjoined-twin-separation-surgery-30-years-ago>.

⁶⁵Dr. Ben Carson, "Dr. Ben Carson: I Knew Donald Trump Before Politics. I Urge America to Reelect My Friend.," USA Today (Gannett Satellite Information Network, November 2, 2020),

<https://www.usatoday.com/story/opinion/voices/2020/11/02/ben-carson-donald-trump-vote-election-2020-column/6075169002/>.

⁶⁶Ryan STRUYK, "ABC News," ABC News (ABC News Network, April 11, 2016),

<https://abcnews.go.com/Politics/donald-trumps-kids-eric-ivanka-miss-deadline-vote/story?id=38303943>.

⁶⁷Nicolò Campo, LightRocket, and Getty Images, "Donald Trump," CNBC (CNBC, April 24, 2019),

<https://www.cnbc.com/donald-trump-jr/>.

⁶⁸Annie Karni and Maggie Haberman, "Ivanka Trump Now Acknowledges: 'I'm a Proud Trump Republican'," The New York Times (The New York Times, March 2, 2020),

<https://www.nytimes.com/2020/03/02/us/politics/ivanka-trump-republican.html>.

Kimberly Guilyfoil

Guilyfoil is a prosecuting attorney from San Francisco and Las Angeles. She married Gavin Newsome, and was the first lady of San Francisco during his time as Mayor. She is a Republican Trump supporter and worked on Fox News from 2006-2018.

Mitch McConnell

Serving as the Senate Minority Leader, Republican Politician, and Senator of Kentucky, Mitch McConnell is leading a long political career. In 2020 McConnell was elected to his 7th term as Senator.⁶⁹ McConnell was a supporter of former president Trump until the attack on the Capitol in 2021, where he felt things had escalated too far.⁷⁰

Paul Ryan

Paul is a retired politician, who ran as the vice president nominee in the 2012 election unsuccessfully with Mitt Romney. He served as the 54th speaker of the House (2015-2019), and was succeeded by democratic nominee Nancy Pelosi.⁷¹ Paul originally preached that Trump, the reality show host, would be an unfit president. Then, when he noticed he could not have his senate seat and be conscious of his party, abandoned his original sentiments.⁷²

⁶⁹“Presidential Election Results: Biden Wins,” The New York Times (The New York Times, November 3, 2020), <https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2020/11/03/us/elections/results-president.html>.

⁷⁰Jane Mayer, “Why McConnell Dumped Trump,” The New Yorker, 2021, <https://www.newyorker.com/magazine/2021/02/01/why-mcconnell-dumped-trump>.

⁷¹MARK BARABAK, “TJ Cox Beats Republican Rep. David Valadao to Give Democrats Gain of 40 House Seats, Seven in California,” Los Angeles Times (Los Angeles Times, November 28, 2018), <https://www.latimes.com/politics/la-me-pol-valadao-cox-victory-20181128-story.html>.

⁷²Tim Alberta et al., “Inside Trump's Feud With Paul Ryan,” POLITICO Magazine, July 16, 2019, <https://www.politico.com/magazine/story/2019/07/16/donald-trump-paul-ryan-feud-227360/>.

Liz Cheney

Cheney is a American politician and attorney, serving as a U.S representative from Wyoming. She is the House Republican Conference Chair and has focused her career on bettering national security, the military, and businesses. She voted to impeach Trump in 2021, and faced blowback from Trump supporters.

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