

# Report of the Resolutions Committee

Passed by the District 11 Democratic Party Convention, May 4 2019

## Background

The District 11 Resolutions Committee met to review resolutions submitted by county parties from their annual county conventions, held in late March. The committee reviewed all 92 resolutions, the results of which are detailed in this report. After consolidations, this report contains 74 resolutions.

The committee meeting was held at 5:00pm on April 15, 2019 at the Jackson County Democratic Party Headquarters.

## Members Present

Jeffrey Rose (Buncombe County, NCDP Platform and Resolutions Committee Member)

Dick Sinclair (Buncombe County)

Lorna Barnett (Jackson County)

Karen Smith (Macon County)

## Resolutions are presented below in the following categories:

- **Favorable Recommendation** - resolutions receiving a favorable recommendation from committee as submitted by county parties, or with minor typographical edits. Where appropriate, this report will list reaffirmation of a previously agreed upon resolution.
- **Favorable Recommendation as Amended** - resolutions receiving a favorable recommendation from committee which have been modified or consolidated from resolutions submitted by one or more county parties.
- **Recommended Substitute** - resolutions which have been heard by District 11 Convention in previous years and altered before passage. Committee recommends substitution of previously passed amendment but will present both the substitution and original submitted by the county in this report.
- **No Recommendation** - resolutions receiving neither a favorable or unfavorable recommendation from committee
- **Unfavorable Recommendation** - resolutions receiving an unfavorable recommendation from committee as submitted by county parties. These resolutions were either unclear or not germane to the district or the state in the opinion of the committee.

## Summary

- 56 Resolutions presented with favorable recommendations as submitted
- 7 Resolutions presented with favorable recommendations as amended/consolidated
- 2 Resolutions presented with recommended substitutes
- 3 Resolutions presented with no recommendation
- 6 Resolutions presented with unfavorable recommendations

## **Action at Convention**

At the District 11 Convention held on May 4 2019, the following resolutions were Approved and Not Approved by credentialed delegates in attendance.

- Resolutions 1 - 66 and Resolution 68 were Approved as written below
- Resolutions 67, 69 - 74 were Not Approved

# Resolutions Approved by Convention

## **1. A Resolution To Close All North Carolina Public Schools On Election Day**

WHEREAS, communities across the state of North Carolina rely on public school facilities as voting sites; and

WHEREAS, concerns about student safety have made many school administrators and staff leery about admitting hundreds of strangers onto school premises for elections; and

WHEREAS, extra traffic, and the probability of drivers being unfamiliar with traffic patterns, increases the possibility of auto accidents; and

WHEREAS, our politics have become increasingly contentious, with bomb threats and shootings now alarmingly common, and other violence erupting around politics more frequently than ever; and

WHEREAS, designating Election Day a school holiday would free schools from safety concerns related to voting, while serving to facilitate the provision of election services; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the North Carolina Democratic Party supports closing public schools statewide on Election Day in order to promote school safety while improving the electoral process.

*Submitted to the Eleventh Congressional District Executive Committee by Jake Quinn, Marge Shelton, and Linda Scott-Styles, Buncombe County, May 4 2019.*

## **2. A Resolution To Establish Voter Registration Routines At Health Care Facilities And Educational Institutions**

WHEREAS, voting offers citizens an opportunity to help select civic leaders and decide matters facing their communities; and

WHEREAS, registering to vote is an essential prerequisite to voting; and

WHEREAS, many citizens remain unregistered to vote; and

WHEREAS, many citizens routinely use health care and/or education facilities; and

WHEREAS, health care providers and schools routinely reach more community members than other social institutions, especially in rural communities; and

WHEREAS, offering voter registration as part of admissions and discharge processes at schools and health care providers would to serve include more North Carolinians in the electoral process; and

WHEREAS, enhancing admissions and discharge check-off lists to include voter registration would not impose an unreasonable burden; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the North Carolina Democratic Party supports establishment of a statewide program through which voter registration shall be offered as part of the admissions and discharge processes in health care facilities and educational institutions.

*Submitted to the Eleventh Congressional District Executive Committee by Jake Quinn, Buncombe County, May 4 2019.*

### **3. A Resolution Calling For Automatic Voter Registration When Obtaining A Driver's License In North Carolina**

WHEREAS, increasing the number of registered voters would ensure the widest participation in the electoral process; and

WHEREAS, making voter registration automatic would increase the number of registered voters; and

WHEREAS, more registered voters in North Carolina would help prevent the enactment of laws that deny residents the right to vote; and

WHEREAS, this would help prevent passage of laws that unfairly restrict voting; therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the North Carolina Democratic Party strongly support legislation to allow residents of North Carolina to register to vote automatically when they obtain a driver's license.

*Submitted to the Eleventh Congressional District Executive Committee by Eugene Charleton, Buncombe County, May 4 2019.*

### **4. A Resolution Opposing Changing Municipal Elections From Odd To Even Years**

WHEREAS, on the 27th day of February, 2017, the Town of Weaverville unanimously adopted a resolution opposing changing municipal elections from odd to even years; and

WHEREAS, as stated in the Weaverville resolution:

- that only six of some 550 NC municipalities have even year elections
- that holding municipal elections in odd years allows focus on local, not national issues,
- that holding municipal elections in odd rather than even years diminishes partisan politics,
- that there appears to be little cost savings to the municipalities by holding the elections in even vs odd years; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Asheville was mandated by General Assembly to move to the even year cycle with a mandated one year extension of current terms; and

WHEREAS, the Buncombe County Towns of Black Mountain and Montreat, but not Weaverville or Woodfin, voted themselves to move to the even year cycle and in so doing voted give themselves an unelected and unmandated extra year in office; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Democratic Party of North Carolina oppose changing the municipal election year cycle from odd to even years.

*Submitted to the Eleventh Congressional District Executive Committee by Myra Gross Schoen and Mary Standaert, Buncombe County, May 4 2019.*

## **5. A Resolution Calling For Elected Officials To Serve Only For Their Stated Term And To Not “ Self-elect” Themselves For Additional Time In Office**

WHEREAS, the Town Councils of the municipalities of Black Mountain and Montreat in Buncombe County, NC did in November and December 2018, respectively, vote to extend their own four year elected term in office to five years as they seek to go from an odd to an even year election cycle; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Black Mountain has 4 expiring terms (2 full terms and 2 filling unexpired vacancies) in 2019 and the Town of Montreat has three terms expiring in 2019, with both towns having additional 4 year terms expiring in 2021; and

WHEREAS, this self-election of the councils to an additional year in office disenfranchises the citizens of Black Mountain and Montreat during the 5<sup>th</sup> year; and

WHEREAS, it is a basic tenet of our democratic system that the electorate votes for whom represents them, not the elected officials themselves; and

WHEREAS, the right to vote for their representative is a sacred trust not only for the residents of Black Mountain and but for all citizens of Buncombe County, North Carolina and the United States of America; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Democratic Party of Buncombe County and North Carolina and Democratic members of the North Carolina General Assembly shall not introduce, support or endorse legislation in which elected officials for any reason, authorize themselves to serve additional (and unelected) time in office; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that if any legislation is introduced in the General Assembly by a member of the Democratic Party calling for the municipalities of Black Mountain and Montreat to change from an odd to an even year election cycle, that it include a provision such that elections for 1 year terms be held for the expiring seats in 2019 and 2021 to form the bridge to the even year cycle; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Democratic Party of Buncombe County and North Carolina shall consistently and proudly stand for the protection of voting rights, and the right of the individual to vote for own representative.

*Submitted to the Eleventh Congressional District Executive Committee by Connie Burns, Rebecca Schorr, Douglass Hay, and Mary Standaert, Buncombe County, May 4 2019.*

## **6. A Resolution For The Democratic Party To Oppose Any Effort To Convene An Article V Constitutional Convention**

WHEREAS, in today's political climate, an Article V Constitutional Convention could have far-reaching and devastating results for democracy; and

WHEREAS, it would take the votes of 34, that is, 2/3rds of the 50 state legislatures, to call an Article V Constitutional Convention to order; and

WHEREAS, the nation is much closer to convening such a convention than many realize, at least 20-some legislatures having already voted to do so; and

WHEREAS, although each state might have a single issue in mind, once a convention is convened its delegates would not be bound to any particular issue, so gun control laws could be banned entirely, or constitutional limits loosened, or marriage equality could be eliminated; and

WHEREAS, it is not even certain that three-fourths of the states would have to approve the convention's work for it to become the law of the land, as the Constitution currently prescribes; and

WHEREAS, nearly everything about this powerful process would be uncertain, in that convention rules, which would be written ad hoc, could be manipulated to favor one party, region, or interest group over another; and

WHEREAS, minority protections, so central to the Constitution guarantees, could be trampled upon, and sparsely populated states could impose their will on the majority of Americans who live in densely populated ones; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the North Carolina Democratic Party shall act to rescind any existing resolution to convene an Article V Constitutional Convention, and shall oppose any attempt to introduce or enact any future resolution to convene an Article V Constitutional Convention.

*Submitted to the Eleventh Congressional District Executive Committee by Beverly Kimble, Buncombe County, May 4 2019.*

## **7. A Resolution To Enact The National Popular Vote Interstate Compact In North Carolina**

WHEREAS, the Founders of our nation established the Electoral College in an era of limited nationwide communication and information sharing, which led them to believe citizens had a better chance of knowing about home-state electors than about Presidential candidates from out-of-state; and

WHEREAS, the development of mass media and the Internet has made information about presidential candidates easily accessible to United States citizens across the country and around the world, so that citizens now have a far better chance of knowing about any Presidential candidate than about Presidential electors from their home state; and

WHEREAS, the 17th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution establishes both a precedent and a preference for the direct election by citizens of their elected representatives; and

WHEREAS, the Electoral College has become an anachronism, violating the principle of political equality; and

WHEREAS, the National Popular Vote Interstate Compact is a legal agreement among a growing group of U.S. states and the District of Columbia, designed to guarantee the Presidency to whichever candidate receives the most popular votes in all 50 states and the District of Columbia, by awarding all their respective Electoral College votes to that candidate; and

WHEREAS, as of February 2019, the Compact has been enacted by eleven states plus the District of Columbia, together accounting for 172 electoral votes, or 63.7% of the votes needed to give the compact legal force; and

WHEREAS, the Compact will take effect when enacted by additional states having an aggregated total of at least 98 Electoral College votes, and North Carolina casts 15 votes in the Electoral College; therefore, let it be

RESOLVED, that the North Carolina General Assembly enact a law to enter North Carolina into the National Popular Vote Interstate Compact.

*Submitted to the Eleventh Congressional District Executive Committee by Lyda Karrh and Beverly Kimble, Buncombe County, May 4 2019.*

## **8. A Resolution To Undo And Prevent The Passage Of Laws That Prohibit Boycott, Divestment, And Sanctioning**

WHEREAS, citizens of the United States are granted freedom of speech and thought by the 1st Amendment of the Constitution; and

WHEREAS, laws and regulations affecting government contracts and individual speech that prohibit the use of methods such as boycotting, divestment and sanctioning violate this basic Right of the Bill of Rights; and

WHEREAS, a movement exists throughout the nation to promote such unconstitutional measures such as these anti-BDS laws, regulations and employment agreements which have already deprived individuals of their livelihood because they refused to allow their right to free speech to be abridged by agreeing to eschew boycott, divestment and sanctions; and

WHEREAS, the United States itself uses these tactics in the international arena with governments with whose policies or actions they do not agree including for example Venezuela, Cuba, and Iran among others, currently or in the past; be it therefore

RESOLVED, that the Democratic Party of North Carolina shall support policy to:

- Promote the right of free speech that is expressed in the United States Constitution;
- Repeal House Bill 161/SL2017-193 passed in the NC General Assembly which violates the freedom of expression guaranteed by the Constitution and not support any future legislation that also limits this sacred right;
- Express opposition to the recent passage of Senate Bill 1 in the U.S. Senate which attacks the right of free speech;

- Oppose all present and future attempts to stifle freedom of expression such as these anti-BDS laws, rules or employment agreements

*Submitted to the Eleventh Congressional District Executive Committee by Tom Craig, Buncombe County, May 4 2019.*

### **9. A Resolution That The Democratic Party Of North Carolina Oppose A Physical Border Wall Between The United States And Mexico, But Instead Support The Sound Enhancement Of Border Security**

WHEREAS, the building of a border wall between the United States and Mexico is a political ploy and not a legitimate or viable border security measure; and

WHEREAS, the building of a border wall is not an effective use of monies allocated for border security; and

WHEREAS, monies should be allocated for effective, humane, and environmentally sound means of border security; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Democratic Party of North Carolina advocates for the enhancement of border security not including a border wall between the United States and Mexico, but instead should support the enhancement of border security by means of, but not limited to, technology, more border control agents and personnel, and increased training.

*Submitted to the Eleventh Congressional District Executive Committee by Angela Branch, Buncombe County, May 4 2019.*

### **10. A Resolution That The Democratic Party Of North Carolina Supports Treating The Deportation Of Deferred Action For Childhood Arrivals (DACA) Recipients As A Separate Issue From Border Security And The Border Wall**

WHEREAS, the issue of DACA deferred action from deportation should not be used in negotiations for funding for a border wall; and

WHEREAS, DACA is an issue of immigration reform and not one of border security, including but not limited to a border wall; and

WHEREAS, DACA recipients are voluntary recipients that are students, employees, parents, and members of the armed forces and should not be used as a bargaining tool to get an ineffective border wall between the United States and Mexico; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Democratic Party of North Carolina supports treating the issue of the deportation of DACA recipients as a separate issue from border security and the border wall.



*Submitted to the Eleventh Congressional District Executive Committee by Angela Branch, Buncombe County, May 4 2019.*

## **11. A Resolution To Ban Hydraulic Fracturing**

WHEREAS, the safety of natural resources is of great concern to public health; and

WHEREAS, the biggest risks to human health from hydraulic fracturing, hereinafter referred to as “fracking,” are water and air pollution; and

WHEREAS, scientific research, including the EPA's study “Hydraulic Fracturing for Oil and Gas: Impacts from the Hydraulic Fracturing Water Cycle on Drinking Water Resources in the United States,” has concluded that the management of these risks has not prevented significant contamination of drinking water resources; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the North Carolina Democratic Party include a ban on fracking in the North Carolina State Party Platform, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the North Carolina Democratic Party will work to bring legislation to the North Carolina General Assembly to ban fracking in the state of North Carolina.

*Submitted to the Eleventh Congressional District Executive Committee by Jeremy Wood, Buncombe County, May 4 2019.*

*Note: This resolution reaffirms a similar one passed by the State Executive Committee.*

## **12. A Resolution To Support U.S. Reentry Into Paris Agreement**

WHEREAS, an overwhelming majority of scientific evidence suggests that human activity is affecting global climate change; and

WHEREAS, powerful special interest groups disregard this scientific evidence in pursuit of their own goals regardless of any negative impacts their actions may have on the environment; and

WHEREAS, the United States having stated its intent to withdraw from the Paris Agreement has damaged its reputation in world leadership in protecting the environment; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the executive committee of the North Carolina Democratic Party resolve to the Democratic Party of the United States that the platform thereof shall include a position that the United States shall revoke its intent to leave the Paris Agreement, and should the United States have already fully withdrawn from the agreement, it shall seek to rejoin.

*Submitted to the Eleventh Congressional District Executive Committee by John Kinnaird, Buncombe County, May 4 2019.*

*Note: This resolution reaffirms a similar one passed by the State Executive Committee.*

### **13. A Resolution To Support Nc Hb 179 – Dog Breeding Standards/Law Enforcement Tools, The "puppy Mill Bill"**

WHEREAS, there are no laws in North Carolina to protect dogs in commercial breeding facilities unless sold to pet stores or research labs; and

WHEREAS, in North Carolina dog breeders who sell to the general public via website, Craigslist, flea markets are not regulated and have no oversight thus no protection for the animals or consumers, and

WHEREAS, North Carolina is the location of many large puppy mill busts; and

WHEREAS, as more states pass puppy mill laws, NC could become a magnet for the worst operators given no regulations or oversight; and

WHEREAS, a bill to ensure that state commercial dog breeders--10 or more female dogs over age of 6 mos.-- treat animals humanely has been passed by the house since 2009, with partisan support and a 100,000 signature petition, only to die in a senate committee; and

WHEREAS, HB 179 sets standards of care and seeks to prevent animal cruelty by commercial pet breeders; and

WHEREAS, nothing in HB 179 limits "hunting or the ability to breed, raise, sell, control,train or possess dogs with the intention to use those dogs for hunting or other sporting purposes"; nor does it apply to kennels or boarding facilities or veterinary hospitals; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED that the North Carolina Democratic Party urge NC House and Senate Democrats to support HB 179 until there is finally a "puppy mill" law in our state.

*Submitted to the Eleventh Congressional District Executive Committee by Fran Greenberg, Judy Masnick, and Elizabeth Gilman, Buncombe County, May 4 2019.*

*Note: This resolution reaffirms a similar one passed by the State Executive Committee.*

### **14. A Resolution To Respect Human Rights And American Values**

WHEREAS, Jamal Khashoggi was a journalist with lawful residence in the United States and entitled to its protection; and

WHEREAS, he was a columnist for the Washington Post, where his legitimate criticism of the present government of his homeland, Saudi Arabia, earned the enmity of its tyrannical crown prince Mohammed bin Salman; and

WHEREAS, on October 2, 2018, he was lured into a Saudi consulate in Turkey and murdered by a gang of assassins in a particularly brutal fashion; and

WHEREAS, in another calculated affront to basic human decency, his body was dismembered and his remains disposed of in an unknown location; and

WHEREAS, it is the unwavering conclusion of the Turkish government, of the intelligence community of the United States, and of an independent expert advising the United Nations that his murder was a deliberate, premeditated action by officials of the Saudi government; and

WHEREAS, it is impossible that this crime was committed without the knowledge of and on the authority of Mohammed bin Salman; and

WHEREAS, our government's signal intercepts overheard Mohammed bin Salman threatening Jamal Khashoggi's murder a year before it happened; and

WHEREAS, President Donald Trump has refused to admit that Mohammed bin Salman is responsible and is clearly unwilling to hold him responsible; and

WHEREAS, President Donald Trump has betrayed America's core values by openly extolling American trade with and arms sales to Saudi Arabia as more important to the national interest than the murder of journalist Jamal Khashoggi; and

WHEREAS, on Friday, February 8, 2019, the Trump administration refused to comply with a lawful, bipartisan Congressional request, under the Global Magnitsky Human Rights Accountability Act, to report to Congress who was responsible for Mr. Khashoggi's murder, with particular emphasis on the Saudi royal family, and to impose appropriate sanctions; and

WHEREAS, Donald Trump's indifference in this matter is consistent with his often-professed admiration for foreign authoritarian states and thus betrays our nation's fundamental commitment to human rights; therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Democratic Party of North Carolina call upon the President to condemn the murder of Jamal Khashoggi, determine the responsibility of Mohammed bin Salman, and sanction him and all others responsible to the full extent of American law, and maintain those sanctions until each and every person implicated in the crime has been appropriately punished under Saudi law or, alternatively, delivered to American custody to be prosecuted under our laws for the murder of a person entitled to our protection; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Democratic Party of North Carolina declare its unalterable commitment to human rights for all people regardless of any sordid economic offsets and that it make this position known to the White House, the State Department, and all members of the North Carolina congressional delegation.

*Submitted to the Eleventh Congressional District Executive Committee by Nancee Neel, Buncombe County, May 4 2019.*

**15. A Resolution Calling For Reconsideration Of Us Military Aid Which Is Not Constructive Toward The Historical Objective Shared By The United States And By Israel, Of A Two-State Solution To The Occupation Of The West Bank And The Peaceful Existence Of Israel.**

WHEREAS, The United States government gives Israel over \$3 billion in military aid per year and has promised \$38 billion in aid over the next ten years; and

WHEREAS, some of this military aid is used to abet the military occupation of the West Bank and the blockade of the Gaza strip; and

WHEREAS, the settlements in the West Bank are illegal under international law and are located on expropriated Palestinian land; and

WHEREAS, the militarized actions of the Israeli government are accused of violating the human and civil rights of Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza; and

WHEREAS, the Leahy Law is a human rights law that prohibits the U.S. Department of State and the Department of Defense from providing military assistance to foreign military units that commit gross violations of human rights; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the NC Democratic Party will encourage debate related to continued military aid to Israel until such time that a real peace process begins in which Israel takes direct action to end the occupation of the West Bank and the blockade of Gaza and comes into compliance with international law and accepted human rights standards.

*Submitted to the Eleventh Congressional District Executive Committee by Tom Craig, Buncombe County, May 4 2019.*

**16. A Resolution Calling For Senior Medicare Coverage Expansion For Glasses, Hearing Aids, And Dental Work**

WHEREAS, many seniors (citizens 65 and older) need eye glasses, hearing aids, and/or dental work to maintain health, quality of life, and longevity; and

WHEREAS, many seniors cannot afford these services; and

WHEREAS, Medicare does not cover these services; and

WHEREAS, many seniors cannot afford additional Supplemental Insurance to cover these costs, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the North Carolina Democratic Party advocate for Medicare expansion for seniors to cover eyeglasses, hearing aids, and dental work.

*Submitted to the Eleventh Congressional District Executive Committee by Mary Goodkind, Buncombe County, May 4 2019.*

## **17. A Resolution For A Federal Requirement That Employer-Funded Healthcare Must Cover As A Benefit, Contraception Care And Medication Regardless Of The Employer's Religious Or Moral Convictions And Beliefs**

WHEREAS, employees and coverage-eligible family members need family planning contraceptive care and medication; and

WHEREAS, employers should not force or burden employees with an employer's religious or moral beliefs that oppose and economically deny the right of an employee or employee's family members to family planning contraceptive care and medications; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Democratic Party of North Carolina advocate for a federal requirement mandating that employer-funded healthcare insurance must cover as a benefit contraception care and medications for the employee and employee's eligible family members.

*Submitted to the Eleventh Congressional District Executive Committee by Angela Branch, Buncombe County, May 4 2019.*

## **18. A Resolution In Opposition To Privatizing Social Security And Medicare**

WHEREAS, older North Carolinians count on these Social Security and Medicare benefits earned through a lifetime of work; and

WHEREAS, these benefits keep middle-income older North Carolinians from falling into poverty; and

WHEREAS, Social Security plays an important role in North Carolina's economy: \$23.5 billion was contributed to the economy of North Carolina from Social Security benefits; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the North Carolina Democratic Party will oppose any attempt to privatize Medicare and Social Security or to cut benefits to recipients that live in North Carolina.

*Submitted to the Eleventh Congressional District Executive Committee by Eugene Charleton, Buncombe County, May 4 2019.*

*Note: This resolution reaffirms resolution 34 passed by the District 11 Convention in 2018.*

## **19. A Resolution To Protect And Fund Social Security**

WHEREAS, Democrats are proud to be the party that created Social Security – one of the nation's most successful and effective programs as nearly half of America's seniors would be living in poverty without it; and

WHEREAS, 1.42 million North Carolinians or 14% of the State population received an average of \$1404/monthly in Social Security payments or over \$2 billion in 2017; and

WHEREAS, for the past 80 years, every working person in this country, and their employers, have paid into Social Security through payroll FICA taxes in exchange for our government's promise to safeguard

these funds, invest them, and use them to provide continuing retirement income starting at age 65; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the North Carolina Democratic Party should fight every effort to cut, privatize or weaken Social Security, including attempts to raise the retirement age, diminish benefits by cutting cost of living adjustments or reducing earned benefits; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the North Carolina Democratic Party should call on all Congressional representatives to propose and support a tax increase for those earning over \$250,000 annually to be earmarked for Social Security and to aggressively research and legislate other means of funding Social Security.

*Submitted to the Eleventh Congressional District Executive Committee by Robin Sholder, Buncombe County, May 4 2019.*

*Note: This resolution reaffirms resolution 35 passed by the District 11 Convention in 2018.*

## **20. A Resolution Calling For The State Of North Carolina To Fully Fund Public School Students' Access To Mental Health Support**

WHEREAS, the state's public school system's ratio of school psychologists and school social workers is approximately 1 for every 2000 students and ideally would be 1:250; and

WHEREAS, many students are at a classroom disadvantage due to trauma, poverty, and behavioral issues, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the State of North Carolina increase funding for access to school-based mental health supports; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the State fund training for leaders of trauma-sensitive classrooms, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the State reimburse parents for lost wages when they must meet with school staffs.

*Submitted to the Eleventh Congressional District Executive Committee by Mary Goodkind, Buncombe County, May 4 2019.*

## **21. A Resolution Calling For Renewed Emphasis On Civics In N.C. Schools**

WHEREAS, the decrease in civics being taught in schools across the country contributes to the increase in extreme partisan divisive behavior, the rise of anti-media sentiment, and the erosion of basic institutions of government in the United States, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the North Carolina Democratic Party staff consult with other states, such as the state of Washington, for a possible template for changing legislation regarding civics requirements in the schools; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we Democrats commit to bringing civics back into the required curriculum for pre-high school graduation students.

*Submitted to the Eleventh Congressional District Executive Committee by Joyce M. Gayles, Mary Evers, and Stuart Smith, Buncombe County, May 4 2019.*

## **22. A Resolution Calling For The Expansion Of Work-Study Programs**

WHEREAS, the cost of a college education is high and getting higher; and

WHEREAS, student debt is increasing as many struggle to pay for education after high school; and

WHEREAS, work experience is an important factor in students' search for first jobs after graduation; and

WHEREAS, at present, public funding for work-study programs is provided only by the federal government; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the North Carolina Democratic Party encourage state and local funding for more work-study programs.

*Submitted to the Eleventh Congressional District Executive Committee by Maggie Charleton, Buncombe County, May 4 2019.*

*Note: This resolution reaffirms a similar resolution passed by the State Executive Committee in 2018.*

## **23. A Resolution Calling For Increased Funding For Public Schools In North Carolina**

WHEREAS, a recent study ranks North Carolina school funding 40<sup>th</sup> out of 50 states; and

WHEREAS, North Carolina ranks 35<sup>th</sup> out of 50 states for teacher pay; and

WHEREAS, the North Carolina Association of Educators (NCAE) finds rankings show North Carolina trails woefully behind in per-pupil funding and teacher pay; and

WHEREAS, North Carolina students deserve public schools that have the resources to prepare students to be successful and educators that are valued as professional; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the North Carolina Democratic Party work with legislators and educators at all levels to raise per pupil funding and teacher salaries to the top half in America.

*Submitted to the Eleventh Congressional District Executive Committee by Maggie Charleton, Buncombe County, May 4 2019.*

## **24. A Resolution In Support Of The Individuals With Disabilities Act (IDEA)**

WHEREAS, IDEA guarantees a free and appropriate education for children with disabilities; and

WHEREAS, IDEA ensures that children are evaluated in an appropriate way depending on their perceived disability; and

WHEREAS, there are procedural safeguards and audits to ensure that the school district is meeting the needs of the child; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the North Carolina Democratic Party will oppose any attempt to repeal or weaken IDEA, the Individuals with Disabilities Act.

*Submitted to the Eleventh Congressional District Executive Committee by Maggie Charleton, Buncombe County, May 4 2019.*

## **25. A Resolution Calling For Exemption Of Confederate Monuments From The Provisions Of North Carolina General Statute 100-2-1, “Protection Of Monuments, Memorials, And Works Of Art”**

WHEREAS, public property in North Carolina displays monuments and memorials dedicated to the Confederacy and all it represented; and

WHEREAS, this public display appears to support human inequality and contrasts starkly with the State of North Carolina’s desire to be regarded as “First In Freedom”; and

WHEREAS, North Carolina General Statute 100-2.1 prohibits removal of such monuments and memorials without the approval of the North Carolina Historical Commission; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that all North Carolina Democrats, including those elected to state Executive and Legislative branches of the government, work to exempt Confederate monuments and memorials from the requirements of North Carolina General Statute 100-2.1.

*Submitted to the Eleventh Congressional District Executive Committee by Ben Scales and Rene Mazurek, Buncombe County, May 4 2019.*

## **26. A Resolution For Studying Costs And Benefits Of A State Rail System**

WHEREAS, other states have developed plans for linking their major cities with rail service, North Carolina has only limited such rail service; and

WHEREAS, rail service would reduce highway congestion and accidents and serve to integrate the State’s economy; and

WHEREAS, plans have already been developed for such a system; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that further exploration of the costs and benefits of a state rail system be undertaken.



*Submitted to the Eleventh Congressional District Executive Committee by David Johnson, Buncombe County, May 4 2019.*

## **27. A Resolution Calling For Adequate Funding Of Public Transportation**

WHEREAS, public transportation is inadequate and underfunded in many built-up areas of the State; and

WHEREAS, car ownership is increasingly expensive or out of reach for many North Carolinians; and

WHEREAS, several cohorts of our population are unable to drive, such as the handicapped, the elderly, and youngsters below permitting age; and

WHEREAS, providing frequent, reasonable cost transit service on high-demand routes is essential for journey to work and other necessary trips; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that public transportation capital and operating costs be more equitably and adequately funded at state and local levels.

*Submitted to the Eleventh Congressional District Executive Committee by David Johnson, Buncombe County, May 4 2019.*

## **28. A Resolution In Support Of Racial Justice**

WHEREAS, given the current atmosphere in our country, it is important that Democrats work for racial justice; and

WHEREAS, Democrats recognize that our racist past has no place in our present or our future; and

WHEREAS, Democrats believe that there is no place for racism nationally, at the state level, or locally; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the North Carolina Democratic Party will promote racial justice through fair, just, and equitable governing of all public-serving institutions and in the formation of public policy; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the North Carolina Democratic Party will fight to end institutional and systemic racism in our state and in our society.

*Submitted to the Eleventh Congressional District Executive Committee by Bob Ballard, Buncombe County, May 4 2019.*

*Note: This resolution reaffirms resolution 12 passed by the District 11 Convention in 2018.*

## **29. A Resolution To Reserve The Second Saturday In February For The Annual Historic Thousands On Jones Street (“HK On J”) Rally**

WHEREAS, in 2007, the North Carolina State Conference of the NAACP formed a coalition, named the Historic Thousands on Jones Street (“HKonJ”) Peoples Assembly, composed of 93 assorted and diverse advocacy groups; and

WHEREAS, the North Carolina Democratic Party, and its District and County Parties, are in sympathy with the array of advocacy groups that form the HKonJ Peoples Assembly, and are glad for their work in the community; and

WHEREAS, the HKonJ Peoples Assembly has conducted its major annual rally on the second Saturday of February since 2007; and

WHEREAS, many Democratic Party members support the HKonJ Peoples Assembly, and wish to participate in the annual rally; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the North Carolina Democratic Party shall henceforth reserve the second Saturday in February for non-Party civic activism, and not schedule any meetings or events that conflict with the HKonJ rally; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the North Carolina Democratic Party shall encourage all of its District and County Parties, as well as all Party Auxiliaries, to participate in non-Party civic activism during that second Saturday in February, to include joining the HK on J rally in Raleigh.

*Submitted to the Eleventh Congressional District Executive Committee by Jake Quinn and Kris Kramer, Buncombe County, May 4 2019.*

## **30. A Resolution To Create Benefit Corporations In North Carolina**

WHEREAS, the purpose of our economic system is or should be to provide fair living wages to all workers in an environmentally sustainable manner; and

WHEREAS, traditional C corporations have been free to maximize profits while reducing employment opportunities and/or living wages for workers, and often imposing significant environmental costs on local communities and on society at large; and

WHEREAS, since 2010, thirty states and the District of Columbia have enacted laws allowing the creation of benefit corporations, also known as B corporations; and

WHEREAS, benefit corporations are designed to have a positive impact on society, workers, the community and the environment in addition to profit as their legally defined goals; and

WHEREAS, a benefit corporation's directors and officers operate the business with the same authority as in a traditional corporation, but are required to consider the impact of their decisions not only on shareholders, but also on society and the environment; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the North Carolina Democratic Party will support legislation before the North Carolina General Assembly to legalize benefit corporations and to encourage their formation and the conversion of existing corporations to benefit corporation status.

*Submitted to the Eleventh Congressional District Executive Committee by Jeremy Wood, Buncombe County, May 4 2019.*

*Note: This resolution reaffirms resolution 9 passed by the District 11 Convention in 2018.*

### **31. A Resolution Calling For Pretrial Justice And The End Of Cash Bail**

WHEREAS, judicial decisions about release or detention of defendants before disposition of criminal charges have a significant, and sometimes determine active, impact on thousands of justice-involved people and communities every day; and

WHEREAS, many of those incarcerated pretrial do not present a substantial risk of failure to appear or a threat to public safety, but do lack the financial means to be released; and

WHEREAS, the incarceration of individuals who cannot afford money bail without meaningful consideration of other alternatives is a violation of due process and equal protection; and

WHEREAS, defendants who are detained are more likely to plead guilty, receive more severe sentences, get less attractive plea bargain offers, and are more likely to become reentry clients as a result of their pretrial detention, regardless of charge or criminal history; and

WHEREAS, race and gender influence whether defendants are released on recognizance and the amount of money set for bail, which has long-lasting consequences throughout the justice system; and

WHEREAS, evidence-based pretrial assessment of a defendant's likelihood to appear in court and remain arrest free while awaiting trial can increase successful pretrial release outcomes and diminish racial disparities without imposing unnecessary financial conditions, impairing the judicial process, or jeopardizing public safety; and

WHEREAS, a policy of least restrictive conditions can greatly improve pretrial outcomes by providing appropriate and tailored supports for those awaiting trial and adjusting levels based on individual compliance or non-compliance; and now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Democratic party of North Carolina shall support policy to:

- Promote the use of citations in lieu of arrest and strategies that deflect and divert people from the criminal justice system when appropriate;
- Promote and support the adoption of evidence-based locally validated pretrial assessment and management in making the bail determination;

- Eliminate practices that cause people to remain incarcerated solely because they cannot afford to pay for their release;
- Call for the elimination of commercially secured bonds at any time during the criminal justice process;
- Call for the shift from secured to unsecured bonds at any time during the pre-trial phase, as is the stated statutory preference under North Carolina law;
- Promote and support the use of least restrictive graduated conditions of release which can be adjusted / the compliance or non-compliance of the person;
- Call for the conduct of a preventative detention hearing with full due process protections so that only people who are eligible may be detained;
- Promote training and development that addresses how using best practices and identifying sources of implicit bias can reduce racial, ethnic, and gender disparities; and
- Direct that elected district attorneys pursue the least restrictive release conditions and only seek or argue in favor of secured bonds in cases where a pretrial risk assessment indicates that such detention is necessary to protect the public and/or to ensure the defendant attends his or her court dates.
- Provide funding for staff at all levels of the court system to effectively and efficiently enact the above.

*Submitted to the Eleventh Congressional District Executive Committee by Ben Scales, Tom Craig, Larry Dodson, Anne Sayer, Tommy Carver, Jerome Hay, Joe Bowman, Angela Leonard, Robert Swett, Stuart Smith, and Lyda Karrh, Buncombe County, May 4 2019.*

### **32. A Resolution Calling For The Restoration Of The Federal Estate Tax**

WHEREAS, the Federal Estate Tax is century-old levy on inherited wealth paid exclusively by multi-millionaires and billionaires, and is a necessary part of a progressive tax system for a modern industrial democracy;

WHEREAS, the Federal Estate Tax is the most progressive part of the U.S. Tax Code because it affects only those who are most able to pay; large inheritances play a significant role in the concentration of wealth, thus weakening the estate tax exacerbates wealth inequality;

WHEREAS, the Federal Estate Tax was enacted in September 1916, as an additional revenue source to finance the military build-up before the United States entered World War;

WHEREAS, the Federal Estate Tax only applies to the largest inheritances. The law offers an exemption that allows estates under a certain value to pass property to heirs tax free;

WHEREAS, the Federal Estate Tax has been under attack since the late 1970s by supply-side economic theory advocates intending to shift taxes from capital to wages and consumption, resulting in a series of increases in the exemption and decreases in the tax rate;

WHEREAS, from 1997 to 2007, the estate tax exemption increased from \$600,000 to \$2 million, and the rate decreased from 55% to 45%; over the next ten years, the exemption rose to \$5.49 million and the rate dropped to 40%;

WHEREAS, congress came very close to abolishing the Federal Estate Tax in the 2017 Trump Tax Bill, agreeing instead to a compromise that more than doubled the exemption from \$5.49 million to \$11.4 million and reduced the rate to 35%, resulting in a tax cut of \$4.4 million per estate; thus, the Republican “reforms” have benefitted only on the heirs of the wealthiest estates,.

WHEREAS, under 2009 law, the estates of 997 out of every 1,000 people who died were fully exempt from tax; of the estimated 2.7 million people who died in 2018, only 1,900 left a taxable estate, i.e., less than 0.1 percent;

WHEREAS, the Republican Party has made the permanent repeal of the Federal Estate Tax a centerpiece of their tax reform efforts, mischaracterizing it as the “Death Tax,” as if it applied to everyone who died;

WHEREAS, More aptly, the Federal Estate Tax should be characterized as a “silver spoon tax” or “privilege tax,” such that rather than taxing Conrad Hilton, the virtuous industrialist, it would tax Paris Hilton, the idle heiress;

WHEREAS, the Republican efforts to “reform” the Federal Estate Tax are for the sole benefit of the heirs of the wealthiest estates;

WHEREAS, Republican “reforms” increasing the estate tax exemptions and lowering estate tax rates have resulted in revenue costs nearly as great as would result from a full repeal;

WHEREAS, the Congressional Joint Committee on Taxation estimates that the cuts to the Federal Estate Tax in the 2017 Trump Tax Bill will cost \$83 billion over the next ten years; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Democratic Party support an agenda strengthening the Federal Estate Tax by broadening the base, instituting a more progressive rate, and reducing the wealth exemption; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Democratic Party should instruct its federal legislators to consider other means to tax large transfers of wealth, such as modifying the federal income tax to apply to income from inheritances and gifts above a certain threshold, in order to better capture wealth passed on to heirs through hidden mechanisms used for tax avoidance purposes.

*Submitted to the Eleventh Congressional District Executive Committee by Ben Scales and Lyda Karrh, Buncombe County, May 4 2019.*

### **33. A Resolution Calling For Fair And Reasonable Treatment Of Immigrants In North Carolina**

WHEREAS, all U.S. citizens are either immigrants or are descended from immigrants to the United States;

WHEREAS, 8% of North Carolina's total population is foreign born and an additional 6.7% are native born Americans with at least one immigrant parent;

WHEREAS, North Carolina's immigrant population makes up a valuable and much larger share of North Carolina's working population in certain industries (44% in farming, fishery and forestry, 24% in construction, 21% in cleaning/maintenance and 20% in computer and mathematical sciences);

WHEREAS, immigrant led households (including those undocumented) pay an estimated \$3.6 billion in Federal taxes and \$1.8 billion in State taxes;

WHEREAS, the North Carolina State government has proposed or implemented in North Carolina many laws designed to make life more difficult for immigrants living in North Carolina (HB 318, HB 786 which was vetoed, Voter ID Constitutional Amendment) limiting needed food assistance, disallowing Sanctuary cities, mandating special immigrant IDs;

WHEREAS, the majority of Sheriffs in North Carolina continue to cooperate with U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) as it conducts raids on hardworking immigrants or refugees;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the NC Democratic Party will work to pass a comprehensive and fair means of achieving citizenship for those 41,000 North Carolina immigrants who qualify for Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED That the NC Democratic Party will oppose all Federal and State bills that negatively impact the civil rights, freedom to work, access to needed health, legal and social services of all NC immigrants; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED That the NC Democratic Party will actively propose legislation that gives all N.C. immigrants fair treatment and access to needed health, legal and social services, regardless of race, ethnicity, or country of origin.

*Submitted to the Eleventh Congressional District Executive Committee by Sarah Oram, Buncombe County, May 4 2019.*

### **34. A Resolution That The Democratic Party Of North Carolina Support The Full Funding Of Federal Immigration Courts And The Prompt Resolution Of Asylum Claims**

WHEREAS, persons seeking asylum in the United States are not receiving timely resolution of their applications for asylum; and

WHEREAS, the federal immigration courts need full funding in order to provide appropriate training and necessary staffing in order to provide timely resolutions of asylum claims; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Democratic Party of North Carolina support the full funding of immigration courts and necessary staffing of personnel in order to provide the compassionate and prompt resolution of claims for asylum in the United States.

*Submitted to the Eleventh Congressional District Executive Committee by Ms. Angela Branch, Buncombe County, May 4 2019.*

### **35. A Resolution To Support Nc Hb 976 – Extreme Risk Protection Orders, "red Flag Laws"**

WHEREAS, 42% of mass shootings, 2009-2016, had documentation that attacker exhibited dangerous warning signs before the shootings; and

WHEREAS, 2/3 of gun deaths are from suicides with 1 person dying of suicide every 6 hours in North Carolina; and

WHEREAS, in North Carolina, 2 people per week die from domestic violence; and

WHEREAS, domestic violence assaults are 12 times more likely to result in death if a gun is involved; and

WHEREAS, 30% of homicides are by person known to victim; and

WHEREAS, NC HB 976 purpose is to reduce gun deaths/injuries by permitting family, concerned citizens and law enforcement to petition a judge for a risk-protection order. If judge sees strong evidence that person in possession of firearms poses danger to self or others, that person could be required to surrender firearms, ammunition, permits to purchase and/or carry concealed firearms to a county sheriff for as long as 1 year. If surrender doesn't occur, a judge could issue warrant allowing law enforcement to search person's belongings and take all firearms and related possessions to be confiscated; and

WHEREAS, 13 states already have "Red Flag" laws

BE IT RESOLVED, that the North Carolina Democratic Party shall urge NC House and Senate Democrats to support HB 976.

*Submitted to the Eleventh Congressional District Executive Committee by Fran Greenberg and Judy Masnick, Buncombe County, May 4 2019.*

### **36. A Resolution That The United States Attorney General Should Follow The Prevailing Ethical Opinion Of The United States Department Of Justice (Doj) With Regard To Investigations**

WHEREAS, the Attorney General for the United States should not make ethical decisions that may be swayed by political party affiliation or by political favor; and

WHEREAS, the Attorney General of the United States should rely on the expert opinions of ethical experts in the United States Department of Justice; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Democratic Party should advocate for the requirement that the Attorney General for the United States must follow the majority and prevailing ethical opinions from the experts of the

DOJ on issues relating to the investigations conducted by the DOJ and by Special Counsel appointed by the DOJ.

*Submitted to the Eleventh Congressional District Executive Committee by Angela Branch, Buncombe County, May 4 2019.*

### **37. Resolution Asking Democratic Members Of Congress To Offer Legislation To Mandate Standardization Of The Operating Conditions And Equipment Of Our National Electric Power Grid**

WHEREAS, the integrity of our national electric power grid is vital for the wellbeing and security of our citizens, and

WHEREAS, our national electric power grid is vulnerable to major disruptions due to a “wide variety of threats, including natural, physical, cyber, and space weather,” and

WHEREAS, several countries (including Russia and China) probed our power grid in the first decade of the 21<sup>st</sup> century, there has already been an attempted “coordinated cyber-attack” of a component of our national power grid (California, 2013) and, more recently, Russian agents have again probed our grid’s vulnerabilities, and

WHEREAS, a solar event of moderate magnitude destroyed equipment and disrupted a major portion of the Canadian power grid (Hydro-Quebec, 1989), and even “normal” earth weather (e.g. an ice storm) has occasionally been responsible for a major regional disruption of the grid, and

WHEREAS, our national power grid is made up of many federally regulated private regional grids, with differing operating conditions (i.e. with a mix of single-phase and three-phase equipment, production voltages ranging from 115 to 765 volts, and transmission voltages ranging from 34.5 Kv. to 765 Kv.), and

WHEREAS, large power transformers that are a critical component of the power grid are exceedingly large, heavy and expensive (110-325 tons, \$2-7.5 million each (that is in addition to transportation and installation costs) – Further note, power transmission efficiency is influenced by transmission voltage, and system reliability is influenced by transformer design (shell vs. core form) – both of which influence costs), and

WHEREAS, because of the lack of system uniformity, these large and expensive power transformers must be custom designed and built for specific installations, and

WHEREAS, had the 1859 Carrington solar event happened today, or had the July 2012 solar event not narrowly missed us, it is likely that most of our electric power grid would have been destroyed, and

WHEREAS, there is a significant probability of such a massive event occurring each decade, and

WHEREAS, as things currently stand, it could take a decade to recover from a truly massive failure, and the economic loss during such a failure could be in the tens of billion dollars each day, and

WHEREAS, addressing the reliability and security of our national power grid, a DOE working group cited the following efforts: a) the development and implementation of mandatory “physical security



standards;” b) the development of reliability standards that include “operating procedures that can mitigate the effects” of a geomagnetic disturbance, coupled with “initial and ongoing assessments;” c) manufacturers who are “exploring” a variety of “mitigation and hardening options,” d) a “Spare Equipment Database,” to facilitate sharing “transformers across North America during an emergency;” and e) the development of a “lighter..., smaller, and easier to transport” transformer that is compatible with “ninety percent of transformers in [its] voltage class’ (emphasis mine), and

WHEREAS, no consideration appears to have been given to the standardization of operating conditions (phase and voltage) across the entire grid, and the use of modularity (using multiples of standardized units to accommodate differences in regional power demand), and

WHEREAS, standardization of equipment and operating conditions would reduce cost, and allow interchangeability, now, therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that Congress authorize the creation of a government-industry working group to determine to what degree standardization is feasible, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the working group shall develop a plan for the optimum standardization of our power grid, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the working group shall conduct an analysis of the cost-effectiveness of the various options it considers (including an analysis of the contribution of each option to the “hardness,” and resiliency of our grid), and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the working group shall develop a feasible timeline for the implementation of their plan, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the working group shall present its interim findings and recommendations within six months, and its final recommendations within two years of the group’s formation, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Congress will be asked to promptly implement the national electric power grid standardization plan, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the President will be asked to explore the possibility (e.g. through discussion and negotiation with Canada and Mexico) of extending the plan across the North American continent

*Submitted to the Eleventh Congressional District Executive Committee by Dr. Arnold Brown, Lindsey Prather, and Nancy Fullan, Buncombe County, May 4 2019.*

### **38. A Resolution Calling For Election Day To Be A National Holiday**

WHEREAS, the right of all citizens to vote for those who hold office is a right to be upheld and celebrated; and

WHEREAS, there are many challenges for many people to reach their polling place to vote on Election Day including for many citizens whose employment makes it difficult or impossible to fulfill their civil obligation to cast their vote; and

WHEREAS, those who work at places designated as polling locations in many cases find it difficult to carry on their daily activities; and

WHEREAS, it takes a lot of work by a lot of people to hold elections throughout the country; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Democratic Party work to make Election Day a National Holiday.

*Submitted to the Eleventh Congressional District Executive Committee by Virginia C. Pardo and Bibee Lloyd, Buncombe County, May 4 2019.*

Note: This resolution reaffirms resolution 78 passed by the District 11 Convention in 2018, and has also passed the State Executive Committee

### **39. A Resolution Calling For A Change Of Primary Election Date**

WHEREAS, the NC General Assembly during the 2018 session voted to move up the date of the Presidential primary voting day from May to March explicitly scheduled for the first Tuesday after the first Monday beginning in 2020, and

WHEREAS, subsequently, filing for all statewide and legislative seats has been moved up to December 1 of the year prior to the March primary, and

WHEREAS, the filing for the aforementioned seats occurs during the height of the busiest of holiday seasons, and

WHEREAS, the weather particularly in the mountainous areas of the state often have long stretches of severely inclement weather impacting candidates' and voters' abilities to travel and hold campaign events leading up to the primary and eventually impact voter turn-out for the primary, and

WHEREAS, the length of time between the primary and the general election increases greatly and therefore adds greater expense of resources for the candidates, therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that The NC General Assembly rescind, amend, or repeal the enacted change of the Presidential primary election and return, reinstate, or move it back the old time frame of May Primaries.

*Submitted to the Eleventh Congressional District Executive Committee by the Morganton 10 precinct, Burke County.*

#### **40. A Resolution In Support Of Extending Mandatory Early Voting To Include Sundays**

WHEREAS, the Quaker Meadows #2 Precinct of Burke County, Morganton, North Carolina voted in favor of this resolution recording the decision made at our annual precinct meeting held on January 31, 2019; and

WHEREAS, 84.6% of North Carolina residents are employed ([datausa.io/profile/geo/burke-county-nc](https://datausa.io/profile/geo/burke-county-nc)); and

WHEREAS, the most common job groups in North Carolina are management, business, science and art, sales, and office and service occupation; and

WHEREAS, many voters work schedules prevent them from voting Monday – Saturday; and

WHEREAS, in rural counties, disabled and/or incapacitated voters rely on their working family members for transportation; and

WHEREAS, as many people as possible are allowed to exercise their right to vote, therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Burke County Democratic Party calls on the North Carolina General Assembly to enact legislation requiring at least one Sunday early voting day.

*Submitted to the Eleventh Congressional District Executive Committee by the Quaker Meadows 2 precinct, Burke County.*

#### **41. A Resolution Protecting North Carolina Habitat And Wildlife**

WHEREAS, the Western North Carolina mountains make up a portion of the Appalachian/Blueridge forest ecoregion, containing “one of the most diverse assemblages of plants and animals found in the world's temperate deciduous forests.”<sup>1</sup>; and

WHEREAS, forest fragmentation and deforestation is increasing at a rapid rate as sections of forest habitat land are cleared for timber and mineral extraction as well as housing and commercial use.<sup>1,2</sup>; and

WHEREAS, one commercial use of forest land is the production of wood pellets. The wood pellet industry requires logging tens of thousands of acres of NC forests each year to meet the demands of Enviva’s wood pellet facilities.<sup>3</sup>; and

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<sup>1</sup> [www.worldwildlife.org/ecoregions/na0403](http://www.worldwildlife.org/ecoregions/na0403)

<sup>2</sup> [www.wncvitalityindex.org](http://www.wncvitalityindex.org)

<sup>3</sup> [www.dogwoodalliance.org/followthescience](http://www.dogwoodalliance.org/followthescience)

WHEREAS, burning these wood pellets, for electricity, releases CO2 emissions, adding to global climate change. <sup>3</sup>; and

WHEREAS, the process and outcome of forest fragmentation and deforestation create problems for storm water draining, water quality, erosion, acid precipitation, increase air pollution, increased deer population, and introduction of invasive pests and diseases. <sup>2,3</sup>; and

WHEREAS, another consequence, of deforestation and forest fragmentation, is less desirable land for certain wildlife species. Impacting species populations and resilience, as well as creating access for invasive species. <sup>1,2</sup>; and

WHEREAS, forests are our best defense against climate change.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that deforestation and forest fragmentation should not continue without increased careful study and a more aggressive plan for equal measures of reforestation in the same region with similar forest diversity; and

BE IT ALSO RESOLVED that any practice which is harmful to wildlife, including humans, should be controlled and mitigated; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that the Burke County Democratic Party calls on Governor Cooper, who committed to the goals of the Paris Climate Accord, to take action to protect our diverse ecoregion and stop the unchecked forest fragmentation and deforestation in Western North Carolina, especially the growth of the wood pellet industry.

*Submitted to the Eleventh Congressional District Executive Committee by the Burke County Democratic Party.*

## **42. A Resolution Calling For Exploring And Incentivizing Renewable Energy Options For North Carolina**

WHEREAS, the continued reliance on fossil fuels contributes to the buildup of carbon dioxide in the Earth's atmosphere, which is scientifically proven to be a significant contributor to rising global temperature; and

WHEREAS, rising global temperature impacts coastal ecosystems, communities, economies, activity, and coastal vitality through rising sea levels, incurring huge financial burdens for coastal states; and

WHEREAS, Fossil fuels are a finite source of energy; and

WHEREAS, renewable energy resources create well-paying jobs for the foreseeable future; and

WHEREAS, renewable energy resources do not create excess carbon dioxide emissions, slowing down and reducing global temperature rise and its effects;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Burke County Democratic Party calls on the North Carolina General Assembly to bring back the residential renewable energy tax credit, making it affordable for tax payers to explore residential renewable energy options; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that the Burke County Democratic Party calls on the North Carolina Democratic Party to support and help elect candidates at the local, state and federal level who prioritize a policy of incentivizing, exploring, researching and utilizing renewable resources for energy; as well as reducing our dependence on fossil fuels.

*Submitted to the Eleventh Congressional District Executive Committee by the Morganton 4 precinct, Burke County.*

### **43. A Resolution Calling For A Living Wage**

WHEREAS, A living wage is one that allows a worker to live on a single job of 40 hours a week without relying on government or community aid; and

WHEREAS, even with cost-of-living increases, there has been no increase in real wages (the wage after accounting for inflation) in 40 years; and

WHEREAS, wages for low-skilled workers have actually fallen; and

WHEREAS, rural areas in North Carolina remain in a depressed state with young people leaving Haywood County in search of higher paying jobs; and

WHEREAS, there is a link between poverty and the use of drugs and the current minimum wage maintains workers at a poverty level; and

WHEREAS, a living wage will increase both sales tax and income tax revenues; and

WHEREAS, New Jersey, California, Massachusetts, New York and the District of Columbia have already signed laws raising the minimum wage incrementally. They will soon be joined by Illinois and Connecticut; now, therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that the North Carolina Democratic Party supports incrementally raising the minimum wage in North Carolina to a living wage of \$15.00 per hour by 2024.

*Submitted to the Eleventh Congressional District Executive Committee by the Waynesville South 2 precinct, Haywood County.*

### **44. A Resolution To Reorient Statutes Influencing Income And Wealth Accumulation**

WHEREAS, The Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017 has dramatically increased the annual deficit despite a booming economy; and

WHEREAS, The Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017 ensured a continuing trend of the wealthiest residents of the United States accumulating an ever greater share of national assets; and

WHEREAS, The Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017 did nothing to equalize the tax burden on income earned by labor and income earned by financial assets; and

WHEREAS, The Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017 did nothing to discourage share buy-backs that benefit shareholder only and not the labor force whose productivity increases generated the revenue required for such buy-backs; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That Congress pass a new Comprehensive Progressive Revenue Act to:

- Restore marginal tax rates similar to those that sustained booming times for the middle class in the 1950s and 1960s, perhaps 70% on incomes above \$10 million as has already been proposed but also 50% on incomes above \$1 million.
- Tax all capital gains held for less than 10 years at the same rate as earned income.
- Set the cap on the 7.65% social security deduction (for employees only) at three times the national median salary (roughly where it is today) and charge employers (but not the self-employed) for the full 15.3% deduction for all salaries paid in excess of three times the national median salary, with no cap. Any revenue thereby generated excess to projected needs should be used to reduce payroll tax rates.
- Tax share buy-backs at a rate to be determined, with proceeds distributed equitably to company employees outside of its executive suites.

*Submitted to the Eleventh Congressional District Executive Committee by Brent Schaeffer, Horse Shoe Precinct, Henderson County.*

#### **45. A Resolution Calling For The Support Of The “We The People Act”**

WHEREAS, Article 1, Section 2 of the North Carolina state constitution asserts that political power is vested in and derived from the people; all government of right originates from the people, is founded upon their will only, and is instituted solely for the good of the whole; and

WHEREAS, Free and fair elections are essential to self-determination and self-governance as described in The Declaration of Independence and established in The Constitution of the United States; and

WHEREAS, The U.S. Constitution makes no mention of corporations or other artificial entities; there are no provisions therein extending rights to such entities; and

WHEREAS, Whenever special interests are able to spend unlimited amounts of money on political speech, candidates and officeholders can be corrupted and intimidated, and the free speech of most citizens is drowned out and denied; and

WHEREAS, Full and prompt disclosure of funding sources is essential to an informed electorate, fair elections, and effective governance; and

WHEREAS, Article V of the U.S. Constitution empowers the people and the States to use the amendment process to correct egregious decisions by the U.S. Supreme Court that subvert our representative government; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the privileges and obligations of artificial entities shall be determined by the People, through Federal, State, or local law and shall not be construed to be inherent or inalienable; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That Federal, State, and local government shall regulate, limit or prohibit contributions and expenditures, including a candidate's own contributions and expenditures, to ensure that all citizens, regardless of their economic status, have access to the political process, and that no person gains, as a result of their money, substantially more access or ability to influence in any way the election of any candidate for public office or any ballot measure; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That Federal, State, and local government shall require that any permissible contributions and expenditures be publicly disclosed; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That The judiciary, therefore, shall not construe the spending of money to influence elections to be speech under the First Amendment; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the North Carolina Democratic Party support the passage of the "We The People Act" {H [tbd] / S [tbd]}, the substance of which is laid out above} and to call for the North Carolina State Legislature to implement a proposal on the November 2019 ballot to declare that the people of North Carolina support amending the U.S. Constitution in accordance with the principles described above in re: That the privileges and obligations of artificial entities, e.g. corporations, shall be determined by the People, through Federal, State, or local law and shall not be construed to be inherent or inalienable.

*Submitted to the Eleventh Congressional District Executive Committee by Paul Weichselbaum, Laurel Park Precinct, Henderson County.*

## **46. A Resolution To Educate The Public Regarding Elected Officials Support On Bills And Policies Adversely Affecting Veterans**

WHEREAS, Throughout history our veterans have put their lives on hold and at risk to protect our country. Veterans are the backbone of this country, and without them, there would be no United States of America. No Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of happiness; and

WHEREAS, Elected officials like Republican Congressman Mark Meadows have sponsored bills such as the Veterans Empowerment Act, negatively impacting veterans' healthcare provisions leading to possible privatization of the Veterans Administration and diminished services; and

WHEREAS, Elected officials like Republican Congressman Mark Meadows and Senate Republicans Richard Burr and Thom Tillis have voted against certain benefits for our veterans, now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the North Carolina Democratic Party educate and make broad public notice of proposed bills, votes, and policies of all elected officials representing North Carolina that would negatively impact veterans.

*Submitted to the Eleventh Congressional District Executive Committee by Mr. Karl A Silverman, Atkinson Precinct, Henderson County.*

## **47. A Resolution Calling For Anticipation Of Climate Change And Promotion Of Energy Efficiency**

WHEREAS, Governor Roy Cooper issued Executive Order No. 80 last October to reaffirm North Carolina's commitment to fight climate change, and to call for the State of North Carolina to protect North Carolina's environment while growing clean energy technologies; and

WHEREAS, This Executive Order directs the North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) to develop a North Carolina Clean Energy Plan to encourage the use of clean energy, including wind, solar, energy efficiency, and energy storage; and

WHEREAS, Asheville and Buncombe County have committed to converting 100% of their local governments' energy expenditure to renewable energy sources by 2030 (<https://www.sierraclub.org/ready-for-100/commitments>), and the governments have reported \$1 million savings per year since 2009 by adopting measures saving 30% of energy used, and

WHEREAS, the public pressure campaign directed at Buncombe County and Asheville to adopt such policies brought together a variety of local means, including contact with business and tourism entities, surveys to identify what led to positive popular views of local businesses, events at breweries, ecotourism ventures, and solar energy providers, the creation of a Citizens' Sustainability Commission, backing by major campaign donors, ministers, petition campaigns at local schools, Warren Wilson College, UNCA, and other sites, and advocacy presentations by diverse speakers; and

WHEREAS Henderson County, Hendersonville and each municipality in the County shares significant interests and resources in common with Asheville-Buncombe, and could similarly become better prepared and more resilient to expected climate impacts by adopting suitable planning and policy measures;

NOW BE IT RESOLVED, That the District 11 Democratic Party urge all County and official municipal bodies and public utilities

- To explicitly incorporate projections of climate change into all future plans,
- To install equipment, buildings, and make operational plans with energy efficiency as a selection factor, and
- To encourage programs of public outreach and education for citizen efforts to abate production of greenhouse gases, promote energy efficiency and better understanding of the anticipated costs and distress of failure to take appropriate action to combat one of the strongest threats to our society within decades.



*Submitted to the Eleventh Congressional District Executive Committee by the East Flat Rock Precinct, Henderson County.*

#### **48. A Resolution To Support The Defeat Of N.C. HB 370 (2019-2020) Requiring Cooperation With I.C.E.**

WHEREAS, The NC House has introduced HB 370 requiring sheriffs and other law enforcement officers to cooperate with ICE; and

WHEREAS, The bill requires administrators or another in charge of county jails, local and district confinement facilities, or satellite jails/work release units to attempt to determine if a prisoner confined there and charged with a felony or with an impaired driving) is a U.S. resident; and

WHEREAS, The bill now mandates (previously, mandates “where possible”) the facility administrator or another in charge to make an query of Immigration and Customs Enforcement if unable to determine whether a prisoner is a legal resident or citizen; and

WHEREAS, The bill creates an annual reporting requirement; and

WHEREAS, The bill establishes a civil action for declaratory and injunctive relief for private residents to bring against a city, county, or local law enforcement agency that the complainant believes is not in compliance with a State law related to immigration; and

WHEREAS, This bill will place an undue and very expensive burden on local law enforcement offices and personnel, preventing them from properly deploying resources needed to protect citizens and make our communities safer; now be it therefore

RESOLVED, That the Democratic Party of North Carolina strongly oppose the passage of HB370 in the North Carolina House and do everything in its power to prevent HB370 from being enacted.

*Submitted to the Eleventh Congressional District Executive Committee by Larry Wyncoff, Long John Mountain Precinct, Henderson County.*

#### **49. An Honorary Resolution For Jane Hipps**

WHEREAS, Jane Hipps was a woman of passion and commitment to being a voice for the people of Western North Carolina, and

WHEREAS, she served as a teacher, counselor, and pediatric nurse practitioner to the people of the State of North Carolina, and

WHEREAS, her dedication and devotion to caring for children, the mountains and streams of North Carolina, and

WHEREAS, her years of consistent and unrelenting service to the North Carolina Democratic Party, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the North Carolina Democratic Party honor Jane Hipps for her decades of service to Western North Carolina and the state.

*Submitted to the Eleventh Congressional District Executive Committee by Eric Myers, Jackson County, March 30, 2019.*

## **50. A Resolution For The Creation Of A STEM Senior Corps**

WHEREAS, the jobs of the future need a work force of highly trained STEM workers; and

WHEREAS, STEM teachers must keep current in their rapidly advancing fields; and

WHEREAS, teachers acquire knowledge and STEM growth through continuing education including community outreach to practicing STEM professionals; and

WHEREAS, the State of North Carolina has a vast resource of newly retired and active STEM professionals; and

WHEREAS, at the time that a STEM professional initially separates from their employer they often receive a supplemental taxable sum that may include unused sick leave, unused vacation and other miscellaneous compensation; and

WHEREAS, the compensation received by the newly retired STEM professional may cause a substantial tax liability; and

WHEREAS, the newly retired STEM professional may possess both skills and a willingness to share these skills and time sharing and mentoring practicing STEM teachers; and

WHEREAS, the State of North Carolina has a state income tax; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the Democratic Party urges the NC General Assembly to promulgate legislation that forms a committee to create a “STEM Senior Corps” comprised of newly retired STEM professionals that provide onsite mentoring in their field of expertise for STEM teachers; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That during the time of active mentoring by a member of the STEM Senior Corps, the mentor shall receive a deferral of the payment of NC state income tax on the supplemental income received at the time of their retirement.

*Submitted to the Eleventh Congressional District Executive Committee by Pamela Krauss, Jackson County, March 30, 2019.*

## **51. A Resolution Calling For Regulations To Mitigate For Epa Rollback Of Environmental Regulations**

WHEREAS, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is charged with protecting the human health and environment for the citizens of the United States; and

WHEREAS, the Trump administration has rolled back at least twenty six environmental regulations and proposed regulations that protect the human health and environment for the citizens of the United States; and

WHEREAS, the citizens of North Carolina deserve the human health and environmental protections afforded by all regulations and proposals that have been rolled back by the Trump administration; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the North Carolina Democratic Party urges the North Carolina General Assembly to pass legislation that mitigates for and adopts the protections of the roll backed regulations and proposals of the EPA for the protection of the health and environment of the citizens of North Carolina.

*Submitted to the Eleventh Congressional District Executive Committee by Pamela Krauss, Jackson County, March 30, 2019*

*Note: This resolution reaffirms resolution 53 passed by the District 11 Convention in 2018.*

## **52. Evaluate The Feasibility Of A Solar Mandate In North Carolina**

WHEREAS, renewable energy goals for North Carolina will be, in part, met by the installation of photovoltaic systems (solar panels and arrays) on residential and commercial buildings; and

WHEREAS, building codes among local government entities will identify and require adequate renewable energy equipment; and

WHEREAS, the feasibility of new requirements in North Carolina depend on the evidence based research and testing, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the North Carolina Democratic Party urges the North Carolina General Assembly to pass legislation that provides for a study that evaluates the feasibility of mandating photovoltaic systems on all new residential and commercial buildings in North Carolina.

*Submitted to the Eleventh Congressional District Executive Committee by Pamela Krauss, Jackson County, March 30, 2019.*

## **53. A Resolution For Bringing Aspirational Politics To Democrats: When They Go Low We Go High**

WHEREAS, Revenge politics, retaliatory congresses, and attack campaigns are exhausting the morale of North Carolina Democrats; and,

WHEREAS, Campaigns focus less on their platforms and spend more time on smearing opponents, and the promulgation of half-truths (spin – fake news); and,

WHEREAS, Both the Republican and the Democratic parties have employed these tactics in the past; and,

WHEREAS, Over the past ten years the Democratic Party, due to these tactics, has lost members to Unaffiliated status at a steady rate since 2005; and,

WHEREAS, The NC General Assembly is getting very little done for the people of the state; and,

WHEREAS, Good party leadership and representation should be characterized by honest, inclusive, open and representative legislation that benefits and supports ALL the people; and,

WHEREAS, Input about how the party and its campaigns should conduct itself has been requested but ignored which by any other name is a farce; and,

WHEREAS, It should be axiomatic that elections can be won through genuine and constructive attention to the thoughts and concerns of grassroots members of the Democratic Party not only in Western North Carolina but across the state; and,

WHEREAS, We must do all we can to rejuvenate the Democratic Party, and elect Democratic leaders who are willing to take a critical look, and become responsive to grassroots Democratic constituents; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That in time for the 2020 election cycle, the leaders of the North Carolina Democratic Party and the Districts will make changes in their platform development process and ask for and include the views and positions of its constituents, encourage issue-focused campaigns, the promulgation of facts.

*Submitted to the Eleventh Congressional District Executive Committee by Karen Smith, Union Precinct, Macon County.*

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## **54. Expedite Rural High Speed Broadband Access**

PREAMBLE: Electrification of North Carolina’s rural communities brought its citizens into the 20th century. Broadband internet access will bring rural NC communities into the 21 st century.

WHEREAS, Private internet providers will not solve the lack of high-speed service in North Carolina rural areas and current North Carolina Legislation won’t allow rural government to provide a solution; and,

WHEREAS, Having access to a reliable high speed broadband internet service is now just as important as having electricity; and,

WHEREAS, The internet is the primary platform for business transactions locally and globally, for education, social media, healthcare, communications, jobs, banking, buying and selling; and,

WHEREAS, Without high speed internet services Western North Carolina is unduly challenged and cannot competitively conduct commerce which adversely affects small businesses ability to survive and the creation of jobs in rural areas; and,

WHEREAS, The lack of broadband internet access in the rural counties of North Carolina creates a “homework gap” hindering opportunities to learn and greatly handicapping public and private educational programs; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the purpose of this resolution is to ask our State governments to prioritize the changing of laws that impede local governments from assisting in providing access; and,

RESOLVED, That North Carolina Legislature provide funding and grants to initially support infrastructure creation; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That new emerging technologies combined with government and public resolve can overcome the difficulties involved in providing broadband internet access that will elevate our rural citizens into the 21st century just as was done when electricity was brought into these areas. This is a bi-partisan issue.

*Submitted to the Eleventh Congressional District Executive Committee by Marge Able and Larry Stenger, Ellijay Precinct, Macon County.*

Sources:

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<https://www.ncbroadband.gov>

## **55. A Resolution To Address Issues Of Unaffiliated Voters**

WHEREAS, the Democratic Party in North Carolina has lost the allegiance of many voters; and

WHEREAS, the number of unaffiliated voters in North Carolina has more than doubled since 2005; and

WHEREAS, younger voters are predominately registering as Unaffiliated; and

WHEREAS, the erosion of Democratic party registrations is especially notable in rural areas of the state; and

WHEREAS, candidates in most rural jurisdictions cannot win without capturing the majority of Unaffiliated votes; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Democratic Party utilize research to create a platform for the 2020 election cycle that appeals to unaffiliated voters.

*Submitted to the Eleventh Congressional District Executive Committee by John Gladden, Union Precinct, Macon County.*

Sources:

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## **56. A Resolution To Return Precinct Boundary Control To The County Board Of Elections Of Mitchell County, North Carolina**

WHEREAS, The Boards of Elections of 99 Counties in NC have the power to determine precinct boundaries as provided in G.S. 163-128 which states:

“to establish, define, provide, rearrange, discontinue, and combine election precincts as it may deem expedient, and to fix and provide for places of registration and for holding primaries and elections”; and

WHEREAS, The Boards of Elections of 99 Counties in NC may make changes as described in G.S. 163-132.3.- Alterations to approved precinct boundaries which states:

“(a) No county board of elections may change any precinct boundary unless the Executive Director of the State Board of Elections determines that the county board has a current capability of complying with G.S. 163-132.1B(a2) by reporting all election returns by voting tabulation district as required by G.S. 163-132.5G. If the Executive Director so determines, the county board may make any changes to precinct boundaries, provided that all proposed new precincts shall consist solely of contiguous territory. The State Board of Elections may set uniform standards for precinct boundaries, which the county boards of elections shall follow. The county board of elections shall report every change in precinct boundary to the Executive Director in a format required by the Executive Director. The county boards of elections shall report precinct boundary changes to the Executive Director in the manner the Executive Director directs. No newly created or altered precinct boundary is effective until approved by the Executive Director of the State Board as being in compliance with this section.”; and

WHEREAS, Mitchell County Board of Elections is the sole NC Board of Elections bound to this bill:

General Assembly of NC 1997 Session, S.L. 1997-183, House Bill, 102:

AN ACT TO REQUIRE THAT THERE BE AT LEAST ONE VOTING PLACE IN MITCHELL COUNTY  
WITHIN EVERY TOWNSHIP THAT EXISTED IN 1995; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Bakersville, Cane Creek, and Harrell Precincts vote to present a Resolution to Repeal NC 1997 Session, S.L. 1997-183, House Bill, 102 at the Mitchell County Democratic Party's 2019 County Convention.

*Submitted to the 11th Congressional District Executive Committee by Bruce Koran, Mitchell County, March 23, 2019.*

### **57. A Resolution To Elect The President By Popular Vote**

WHEREAS, the Electoral College was established in the Constitution to delegate the choice of president to a handful of elite citizens and magnify the political power of slaveholding states; and

WHEREAS, electors lost the power of independent judgment almost as soon as George Washington had retired to Mount Vernon; and

WHEREAS, the Electoral College now functions only as a formula for amalgamating 51 separate returns that attach disproportionate weight to the least populous states; and

WHEREAS, the six smallest states with a total population less than half that of North Carolina have 18 electoral votes compared to North Carolina's 15; and

WHEREAS, it has been responsible for the election of five presidents who lost the popular vote; and

WHEREAS, the American people deserve and demand to elect the president by popular vote; and

WHEREAS, presidential campaigns typically visit only 10 to 12 large states where the votes are likely to be close, ignoring all the others; and

WHEREAS, the present system discourages voting by citizens who believe their votes will not matter; and

WHEREAS, the difficulty of achieving popular election by constitutional amendment presents the need for a practical alternative method; and

RESOLVED, that the Democratic Party of North Carolina urge the United States Congress and legislatures of the States to provide for the direct popular election of the President of the United States.

*Submitted to the Eleventh Congressional District Executive Committee by Nancee Neel, Buncombe County, May 4 2019.*

## **58. A Resolution Supporting The Green New Deal**

WHEREAS, Over 90% of climate scientists agree that the rapid climate change we are witnessing today is in fact, human-caused global warming; and

WHEREAS, A resolution titled “Recognizing the duty of the Federal Government to create a Green New Deal” also known as, H.Res. 109 and S.Res. 59 was submitted into the House of Representatives by Rep Ocasio-Cortez and likewise submitted into the Senate by Sen Markey on February 7, 2019; and

WHEREAS, a 2018 report entitled ‘Special Report on Global Warming of 1.5 C’ by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change and the November 2018 Fourth National Climate Assessment report found that

1. A changing climate is causing sea levels to rise and an increase in wildfires, severe storms, droughts, and other extreme weather events that threaten human life, healthy communities, and critical infrastructure;
2. Global warming at or above 2 degrees Celsius beyond pre-industrialized levels will cause, mass migration from the regions most affected by climate change, risk of damage to \$1,000,000,000,000 of public infrastructure and coastal real estate in the United States, and more than 350,000,000 more people to be exposed globally to deadly heat stress by 2050; and

WHEREAS, the aforementioned report stated global temperatures must be kept below 1.5 degrees Celsius above pre-industrialized levels to avoid the most severe impacts of a changing climate, which will require global reductions in greenhouse gas emissions from human sources of 40 to 60 percent from 2010 levels by 2030; and net-zero global emissions by 2050; and

WHEREAS, the United States has historically been responsible for a disproportionate amount of greenhouse gas emissions, having emitted 20 percent of global greenhouse gas emissions through 2014, and has a high technological capacity, the United States must take a leading role in reducing emissions through economic transformation and renewable energy; and

WHEREAS, H.Res. 109 and S.Res. 59 calls for the Federal Government to recognize “that a new national, social, industrial, and economic mobilization on a scale not seen since World War II and the New Deal era is a historic opportunity”, “to create millions of good, high-wage jobs in the United States” and “to provide unprecedented levels of prosperity and economic security for all people of the United States”; and

WHEREAS, creating a Green New Deal would, combat human-caused global warming and climate change, create millions of high wage jobs for all, establish clean air and water, climate and community resiliency, healthy food, access to nature, and a sustainable environment for all in the U.S., and promote justice and equity for all; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the North Carolina Democratic Party strongly encourages elected officials and candidates to support the call for a Green New Deal; and



BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the North Carolina Democratic Party strongly promotes the importance of such legislation and the immediate importance of combating climate change caused by human-caused global warming.

*Submitted to the Eleventh Congressional District Executive Committee by Buncombe, Henderson, and Caldwell Counties, May 4 2019.*

## **59. A Resolution Calling For The State Of North Carolina To Expand Support For Public Early Childhood Education**

WHEREAS, educational opportunities should be available that support the healthy development of children so that they can be ready to learn when they start kindergarten; and

WHEREAS, a significant level of brain development occurs before children start kindergarten; and

WHEREAS, rural communities and low-income youth are at unique disadvantages, and the benefits of early childhood education for all are well established; and

WHEREAS, early preventive intervention helps to promote emotional, social, cognitive, and language development to best prepare children for success in school; and

WHEREAS, early childhood education provides essential skills and preparation for academic success; and

WHEREAS, funding for early childhood education was impacted by 2013 and 2015 state tax cuts; and

WHEREAS, funding for early childhood education by the state of North Carolina remains below the pre-recession levels; and

WHEREAS, to support the healthy development of children and ensure they are ready for kindergarten, it is critical to invest in certified early childhood education teachers, whose median wages are currently below a living wage in our state; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the North Carolina Democratic Party supports funding early childhood education to a minimum of pre-recession levels thereby enabling all children to receive quality services, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the North Carolina Democratic Party supports funding of evidence-based early childhood educational models, such as Smart Start, at a minimum of pre-recession levels, enabling experiences to be extended to all infants and toddlers from birth up to the age of three years, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the North Carolina Democratic Party support funding for attractive levels of pay, benefits, and continuing education for certified preschool and daycare staff.

*Submitted to the Eleventh Congressional District Executive Committee by Buncombe and Jackson Counties, May 4 2019.*

## **60. A Resolution Calling For Ratification Of Equal Rights Amendment (2019)**

WHEREAS, the U.S. Constitution does not explicitly guarantee that all of the rights it protects are held equally by all citizens without regard to sex, and the only right it specifically affirms as equal for women and men is the right to vote, guaranteed by the 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment in 1920; and

WHEREAS, the 14<sup>th</sup> Amendment's equal protection clause was not applied to sex discrimination cases until 1971 and has never been interpreted to guarantee equal rights in such cases through application of strict judicial scrutiny (the highest level of protection, used in cases of discrimination based on race or religion), and some “originalist” legal analysts (e.g., the late Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia) even contend that the Constitution does not prohibit sex discrimination; and

WHEREAS, the proposed Equal Rights Amendment (ERA) to the Constitution – which affirms simply that “Equality of rights under the law shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any state on account of sex” – was written by suffragist leader Alice Paul and introduced in Congress in 1923, and passed by Congress in 1972 with a seven-year time limit, later extended to June 30, 1982; and as of January 1, 2019 has been ratified by 37 of the 38 states necessary to put it into the Constitution; and

WHEREAS, Article V of the Constitution imposes no time limit for ratification of amendments, and no proposed amendment had a time limit until 1917; Supreme Court decisions have recognized the power of Congress to determine the mode of ratification; and the 1992 ratification of the 27<sup>th</sup> (“Madison”) Amendment 203 years after it was first proposed supports the premise that state ERA ratification votes since 1972 are sufficiently contemporaneous; and

WHEREAS, the process for ratification of the ERA maintaining the existing ratifications, overriding or removing the time limit via judicial and/or statutory action, and declaring the ERA to be part of the Constitution when 38 states ratify, is proposed as legally viable; and

WHEREAS, Senator Floyd B. McKissick, Jr. and Representative Carla Cunningham introduced ERA ratification bills in the NC General Assembly in the 2015 long session with Senator Mike Woodard co-sponsoring the Senate bill and Representative Henry M. Michaux co-sponsoring the House bill, and ERA ratification bills have been introduced in 2017 as SB85 and HB102; and

WHEREAS, US Representatives G.K. Butterfield, David Price and Alma Adams co-sponsored bills in the 114<sup>th</sup> Congress to pass an ERA and to lift the time limits on the states for ratifying the ERA;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that we call on North Carolina’s Legislature to ratify the Equal Rights Amendment as soon as possible in the current legislative session, in order to guarantee equal constitutional rights to all citizens without regard to their sex.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we call on North Carolina’s U.S. Senators and Members of the House of Representatives to co-sponsor, support, and pass into law the ERA ratification bills in the 116<sup>th</sup> Congress (2019-2020) that advance the process for removing the time limit.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we affirm strong support of ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment and our commitment to participate in effective legislative and advocacy actions at federal

and state levels in order to put the ERA into the Constitution and guarantee equal constitutional rights to all citizens without regard to their sex.

*Submitted to the Eleventh Congressional District Executive Committee by Buncombe, Burke, Henderson, and Macon Counties, May 4 2019.*

## **61. A Resolution Calling On North Carolina Democrats To Support Non-Partisan Redistricting**

WHEREAS, a representative government is a fundamental principle of our republic; and

WHEREAS, voters in North Carolina have been egregiously harmed by partisan and racial gerrymandering, and

WHEREAS, when voting districts that are drawn precisely to dilute to the votes of one party and favor another party citizens' votes are rendered meaningless and this results in a perversion of democracy; and

WHEREAS, North Carolina Democrats shall support proposals that create a method of redrawing voting districts to enable the votes of all to count so that their voices are heard and their participation is meaningful; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting and proper to recognize, commend, and encourage elected officials who have the courage to work together across party lines for the good of our republic and ensure that every citizen's vote will count,

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED, that the North Carolina Democratic Party calls upon our elected representatives at the county, state, and national levels to pass legislation mandating non-partisan redistricting in the State of North Carolina; and to encourage our elected officials to work together across party lines for the good of the people that they represent.

*Submitted to the Eleventh Congressional District Executive Committee by Buncombe, Henderson, and Haywood Counties, May 4 2019.*

## **62. A Resolution To Eliminate Future Government Shutdowns**

WHEREAS, Congress in 1976 permanently changed the start of the Government's fiscal year from July 1 to September 1, thereby giving itself three additional months to complete the work of funding government operations for the succeeding fiscal year; and

WHEREAS, Congress has consistently failed to exercise this responsibility on a timely basis despite the nearly nine months it now has between the start of each session in early January and the end of the fiscal year on September 30; and

WHEREAS, This failure has resulted in at least ten shutdowns since 1976, including three of two weeks or more, resulting in serious disruption of government services and dire personal impact on the employees affected; and

WHEREAS, Government employees have no role in or responsibility for the failure of Congress to fund government operations; and

WHEREAS, It is the exclusive responsibility of the Congress to pass appropriations necessary for government operations and, if necessary, to override any Presidential veto of essential appropriations; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the North Carolina Democratic Party support legislation providing for the following:

*Article 1.* On the last day of each fiscal year, every government agency that has not yet received specific Congressional appropriations to maintain statutory operations into the new fiscal year shall be automatically funded through a continuing resolution providing 100% (adjusted for inflation) of the previous year's appropriations. Appropriations provided by automatic continuing resolution shall remain valid until Congress passes specific superseding appropriations.

*Article 2.* Should such automatic continuing resolutions go into effect at the beginning of a new fiscal year, members of the House of Representatives and the Senate shall remain in session six days a week until they pass specific appropriations to replace all continuing resolutions and, if necessary, to override presidential vetoes of such appropriations.

*Article 3.* From the beginning of the fiscal year until all continuing resolution appropriations are replaced by specific appropriations, and taking into account that members of Congress are constitutionally entitled to compensation (Article I, Section 6), compensation for all members of Congress shall be reduced to the statutory minimum wage, with no provision for retroactive upward adjustment after such period expires.

*Submitted to the Eleventh Congressional District Executive Committee by Buncombe and Henderson Counties, May 4 2019.*

### **63. A Resolution To Close The Medicaid Coverage Gap In North Carolina**

WHEREAS, The NC General Assembly rejected Medicaid Expansion in 2013, thereby jeopardizing rural hospitals and denying coverage to over 600,000 North Carolinians; and

WHEREAS, The North Carolina General Assembly has consistently failed to authorize the expansion of Medicaid under the provisions of the Affordable Care Act (ACA) ten years ago; and

WHEREAS, Expanding Medicaid by 2016 would have allowed North Carolina to collect more than \$21 billion in federal funds over five years; and

WHEREAS, The State of North Carolina would have had to cover about \$1.7 billion in additional state-level Medicaid costs, which would have been fully offset by gains in state tax revenues generated by economic expansion and savings in other health costs such as uncompensated hospital costs and community mental health costs; and

WHEREAS, Rural areas of NC have higher rates of drug and alcohol use, suicide, injury, teen births, and preventable hospitalizations than urban areas; and

WHEREAS, Expansion of Medicaid can serve as an engine of economic development and job creation; now, therefore, be it

WHEREAS, currently 37 states (including DC) have expanded Medicaid and an additional 6 states are actively planning and discussing extending insurance coverage; therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the North Carolina Democratic Party support legislation to expand Medicaid in North Carolina without any means testing or restrictions.

*Submitted to the Eleventh Congressional District Executive Committee by Caldwell, Haywood, Henderson, and Mitchell Counties, May 4 2019.*

#### **64. A Resolution To Reduce Gun Violence In North Carolina**

WHEREAS, North Carolina is generally considered a permissive state for firearms owners with no state imposed restrictions on “assault weapons” , no magazine capacity restrictions, no caliber restrictions and few restrictions on open carrying of firearms;

WHEREAS, North Carolina maintains concealed carry reciprocity with all other states;

WHEREAS, Americans are 25 times more likely to be shot and killed with guns than people in other developed countries;

WHEREAS, the firearm death rate in North Carolina is higher than the national average; be it

RESOLVED that the North Carolina Democratic Party will support candidates who propose legislation to enact the following measures to reduce gun violence in North Carolina: a national gun registry with universal background checks, the banning of bumpstocks and assault weapons and measures to reduce the number of guns available in North Carolina.

*Submitted to the Eleventh Congressional District Executive Committee by Buncombe County, May 4 2019.*

#### **65. A Resolution To Commit To Promoting Changes In Human Activity To Mitigate Climate Change**

WHEREAS, there is a scientific consensus that increased concentrations of greenhouse gases, including carbon dioxide in the atmosphere from the burning of fossil fuels, are raising the mean global temperature and increasing the acidity of the oceans; and

WHEREAS, this scientific consensus is documented in the 5th Assessment Report of the UN Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change; and

WHEREAS, The projected impacts of climate change pose real and imminent threats to the health, welfare and security of the State of North Carolina, the nation and the world, including disruptions in world food and water supplies, rapid sea level rise, accelerating melting of land and sea ice masses,

increasing likelihood of extreme weather events, increasing wildfires, increasing insect and pathogen disease threats and increasingly likelihood of extinction for many plant and animal species; and

WHEREAS, such threats must be treated as urgent crises and a top priority by the President of the United States and our elected federal and state representatives; and

WHEREAS, Overuse of fossil fuels contributes to climate change, pollutes the air, damages our health, threatens our economic well-being and reduces our national security; and

WHEREAS, the window of opportunity to forestall climate chaos is rapidly closing; and

WHEREAS, the potential for global climate disruption threatens to undermine our ability to achieve critical Democratic Party goals including economic prosperity, national security, social justice and a healthy environment; and

WHEREAS, new, existing and developing technologies and industries can create clean, renewable sources of energy and achieve energy conservation and efficiency and, in turn, decrease greenhouse gas emissions while providing new economic opportunities and jobs;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that North Carolina Democratic Party calls upon the President of the United States, The Congress of the United States, the Governor of North Carolina, the North Carolina General Assembly, to create, support, and enact climate change and energy policies on the federal, state and local levels to combat climate change that include: adopting more stringent goals to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by at least 80% below 1990 levels by year 2050; increase investment in energy technology research and development with a goal of making solar, wind, wave, tidal, geothermal and other “green” power, including conservation and other viable energy sources; instituting carbon pricing with full revenue recycling, both to enhance efficiency and to offset regressive impacts on lower-income people and small businesses; creating a federal tax credit for the installation of residential and commercial energy-efficient systems including drain water heat exchangers, solar hot water heating systems and ground source heat pumps; increasing fuel efficiency standards for all vehicles and encouraging alternative fuel technologies such as plug-in-hybrids; development of alternative transport systems such as bike paths and mass transit options; investing in New Deal-like work projects that create green collar jobs, including a Clean Energy Corps to increase energy efficiency in buildings; protecting and preserving wildlife habitat for threatened and endangered species including acting vigorously to halt deforestation and other activities that threaten biodiversity; and providing global leadership by helping developing nations find pathways out of poverty using clean technologies developed here and around the world.

*Submitted to the Eleventh Congressional District Executive Committee by Buncombe County, May 4 2019.*

## **66. A Resolution Calling for Single-payer Healthcare for All**

WHEREAS, The United States is the only advanced democracy that does not guarantee health care for all its citizens; and

WHEREAS, Health care in the United States is the most expensive in the world but has the most undesirable health outcomes compared to nations with universal health care; and

WHEREAS, The current health care system favors giving care to those who can pay and leaves the least advantaged—children, the working poor, and minorities— to face financial ruin when treating major illnesses; and

WHEREAS, Despite the healthcare benefits provided by Medicare, Medicaid, CHIP (Children’s Health Insurance Program) and the Affordable Care Act many millions of Americans are still without health care coverage; and

WHEREAS, American businesses, dealing with escalating health care costs, are cutting medical insurance for employees and funding for the Affordable Care Act, Medicare, Medicaid, and CHIP are threatened; and

WHEREAS, the savings inherent in a single payer plan will more than pay for extending coverage to those currently uninsured or underinsured; be it

RESOLVED, that the North Carolina Democratic Party:

1. Recognizes access to quality health care is a basic human right and must be guaranteed for all; and
2. Supports a health care system that covers all and provides comprehensive medical services including wellness care, prescriptions, dental, vision, mental health, surgery, rehabilitation and long-term care; and,
3. Urges North Carolina and US Federal legislators to do what is socially just and economically sustainable, and pass universal single-payer Healthcare for All.

*Submitted to the North Carolina Democratic Party State Executive Committee by the Eleventh Congressional District Executive Committee, May 4th, 2019.*

## **68. A Resolution In Support Of Terminating Henderson County’s 287G Agreement With Federal Immigration And Customs Enforcement (ICE)**

Committee members believe the topic of 287G agreements is germane to both the Eleventh District and to the North Carolina Democratic Party, but also believe the resolution as presented is too specific in scope to make a recommendation. The committee chose to present this resolution for delegates in convention for discussion and further action.

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WHEREAS, Democrats have opposed the abusive treatment of immigrants by ICE; and

WHEREAS, Henderson County is the only Western North Carolina County to maintain a 287G agreement to cooperate with ICE by having Henderson County law enforcement officers deputized by ICE for the purpose of assisting ICE in identifying people on the ICE target list; and



WHEREAS, Henderson County law enforcement officers are paid by Henderson County taxpayers and not the Federal government, and should, therefore, confine their work to Henderson County law enforcement; and

WHEREAS, Henderson County is one of only three counties in the state of North Carolina cooperating with ICE after refusal to cooperate with ICE by Buncombe, Wake, Mecklenburg and other large Counties; and

WHEREAS, Numerous community faith leaders have petitioned Henderson County Sheriff Lowell Griffin to end Henderson County's active 287G agreement with ICE; and

WHEREAS, Henderson County Sheriff Lowell Griffin has expressed his own misgivings about cooperating with ICE and their practice of intimidation; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the North Carolina Democratic Party oppose 287G cooperation agreements between any North Carolina county and any other local law enforcement agency; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED that the North Carolina Democratic Party asks our local, state and federal elected officials to support humane treatment of immigrants to the U. S. A.

*Submitted to the Eleventh Congressional District Executive Committee by Lorraine Nash, Hendersonville-1 Precinct, Henderson County, May 4 2019.*

## Resolutions Not Agreed To

### **67. A Resolution Calling For The U. S. Immigration And Customs Enforcement (ICE) To Focus Efforts On Convicted Aliens And Gang Members**

Committee members chose not make a recommendation for or against this resolution from Henderson County and put it forward to the delegates in convention for discussion.

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WHEREAS, The US Immigration and Customs Enforcement has three operational directorates: Homeland Security Investigations (HSI), Enforcement and Removal Operations (ERO) and Office of the Principal Legal Advisor (OPLA). A fourth directorate, Management and Administration (M&A), supports the three operational branches to advance the ICE mission; and

WHEREAS, ERO operations target public safety threats, such as convicted criminal aliens and gang members, as well as individuals who have otherwise violated our nation's immigration laws, including those who illegally re-entered the country after being removed and immigration fugitives ordered removed by federal immigration judges; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Democratic Party of Henderson County supports the general purpose and intent of ICE to ensure the public safety; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Democratic Party of Henderson County encourages ICE to revisit the original mandate and focus its efforts on convicted aliens and gang members.

*Submitted to the Eleventh Congressional District Executive Committee by Larry Winecoff, Long John Mountain precinct, Henderson County, May 4 2019.*

### **69. A Resolution Calling For Nc Department Of Transportation's "Complete Streets" Policy Be Fully Implemented**

Committee members believe the scope of this resolution is unclear as to what action the North Carolina Democratic Party or District Eleven Democratic Party could take to support the program mentioned within.

Resolutions committee **recommends this resolution receive an unfavorable report.**

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WHEREAS, the State of North Carolina has the responsibility for the design and maintenance of nonlocal roads and highways; and

WHEREAS, the North Carolina Department of Transportation has adopted the "Complete Streets" policy which adequately provides for pedestrians, bicyclists, and motorists and also incorporates several modes of transportation in infrastructure projects; and

WHEREAS, this program has not always been applied by NCDOT in local situations where it is suitable and needed; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that NCDOT, working with communities, apply the Complete Streets guidelines where they are appropriate.

*Submitted to the Eleventh Congressional District Executive Committee by David Johnson, Buncombe County, May 4 2019.*

## **70. A Resolution For The Democratic Party To Support The Establishment Of A Communication System To Establish Ways And Means Of Getting Comprehensive, Effective, And Consistent Messages To The People**

Committee members believe this resolution is not structured in a way that provides actionable direction to either the district, state, or national party on how to meet statements contained in resolved clauses.

Resolutions committee **recommends this resolution receive an unfavorable report.**

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WHEREAS, the language we use to describe our vision for America, our values, beliefs, goals and intentions matters; and the specific words we use can make our message effective and thereby strengthen our position and outcomes, and

WHEREAS, other organizations have for decades dispersed information in a consistent and consciously planned way, much of which has undermined progressive Democratic values and outcomes. For this reason we need to provide communication that provides a simple, compelling vision and unity of purpose, and

WHEREAS, the systematic spread of untruths to the public in the face of science, research, and analysis is harmful to our country, our children, and our environment. The Democratic party needs a system of immediate corrections that will ensure information stated by all of their representatives is fact checked and true, and

WHEREAS, the Democratic Party has to build a strong, bold story never deviating from its core focus; inclusion, and mutual support of American workers and their families as well as the marginalized and dispossessed in society that resonates with all Americans and gets their support and vote, and

WHEREAS, it is important that Democrats understand that the political views about the nation are based on the metaphor of the Nation As Family, with two types of families – strict and nurturing (from George Lakoff). This differentiation then defines how conflicting family models divide US politics.

WHEREAS, civility has often times been negated. We need to develop a stronger will that will fortify the need for and the delivery of civility in all communication, and

THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED that the North Carolina Democratic Party establish a comprehensive communication system consisting of two main components. One, a technical component which support sending out messages to all who need them over the Internet, the other is a academic school for teaching the basic concepts and definition of terms to all Democratic candidates who are running for office.

*Submitted to the Eleventh Congressional District Executive Committee by Beverly Kimble, Buncombe County, May 4 2019.*

## **71. A Resolution Calling For An Organized Program Of Enhanced Public Communication, Nationally And Locally**

Committee members believe this resolution is not structured in a way that provides actionable direction to either the district, state, or national party on how to meet statements contained in resolved clauses.

Resolutions committee **recommends this resolution receive an unfavorable report.**

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WHEREAS, the Democratic Party seeks to improve the lives of all Americans, not only the wealthiest; and

WHEREAS, the Democratic Party seeks to address all threats to the wellbeing of Americans, not only those presented by armed adversaries, but also those presented by climate, geologic forces, and disease; and

WHEREAS, the Democratic Party seeks to stand for the highest ideals of political, economic and social justice; and

WHEREAS, the Democratic Party seeks to ensure each citizen a safe environment and workplace; and

WHEREAS, the Democratic Party seeks to ensure to each citizen a right to education, employment, access to healthcare, dignity, and fair protection under the laws of our nation and each of its states; and

WHEREAS, the Democratic Party seeks to have an inclusive, representative, and fair electoral system; and

WHEREAS, the Democratic Party seeks to use objective facts, science and reason in stimulating a national dialogue; and

WHEREAS, the Democratic Party seeks to be recognized as a protector of freedoms, liberty and justice, within the context of a social contract and our Constitution; and

WHEREAS, the Democratic Party hasn't consistently and forcefully communicated its beliefs, values, and objectives to the public; and

WHEREAS, the Democratic Party's political adversaries have been able to maintain an effective (if irrational) offensive against Democratic ideals and programs; and

WHEREAS, the Democratic Party's political adversaries are leading our nation over a fiscal, and environmental cliff; and

WHEREAS, the Democratic Party’s political adversaries have undermined essential services, attacked safeguards of our environment and public health, ignored international humanitarian law, insulted minorities and dissidents, restricted freedom of information; and

WHEREAS, the Democratic Party’s political adversaries have effectively used false rhetoric to blame, or share the blame with the Democratic Party for their own errors or obstinacy; and

WHEREAS, the Democratic Party’s political adversaries have offended our allies and trading partners, and thereby lowered the esteem of our nation that promotes goodwill and our national power; now, therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Democratic Party develop a comprehensive program to communicate its visions with the American people, that the program use all modalities including the internet (augmenting current web-site and blogs), regular town meetings, films, radio talk shows and televised presentations, and written media and communication<sup>1</sup>; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this new communication program be ongoing and year round, supplementing campaigns in support of individual candidates, and individual issues; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the program be planned, designed and implemented by a collaboration between representatives of the people, scientists, economists, and media/communication experts; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that, in addition to promoting Democratic values and programs, the communication program also respond to attacks by adversaries.

*Submitted to the Eleventh Congressional District Executive Committee by Arnold Brown and Lindsey Prather, Buncombe County, May 4 2019.*

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<sup>1</sup>The format will depend on topic and target audience. It should be easily understandable, grab attention, reach out and touch the audience. Some communications can take on a strictly educational format, some can be presented as dramatizations, and others may be interactive.

## **72. A Resolution For Haywood Democrats To Oppose Any Cuts In Health Care And Other Critical Programs**

Committee members believe this resolution is perfectly suited for Haywood county, but is not germane to the district or state party. Haywood specific whereas and resolved clauses cannot be applied directly to the district or the rest of the state. Elements of the whereas and resolved clauses not pertaining to Haywood county are covered in other resolutions in this report.

Resolutions committee **recommends this resolution receive an unfavorable report.**

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WHEREAS, over 4000 people in Haywood County still have health insurance thanks to the Affordable Care Act (ACA), and

WHEREAS, an additional 4000 children in Haywood County still have health insurance thanks to Medicaid and the Supplemental Childrens Health Insurance Program (Health Choice) and

WHEREAS, many senior citizens of Haywood County rely on meals on wheels, home heating assistance and other social benefit programs to make their lives more secure and healthier and

WHEREAS, the termination or drastic reduction of these and other federally funded programs as currently put forward by members of Congress and the Trump Administration would cause irreparable harm and even death to an undetermined number of Haywood County residents, and

WHEREAS, the goal of the aforementioned changes in the federal budget would be a massive and unnecessary tax cut to people such as the CEO of United Health, who earned \$102 MILLION in 2015 (based on a 40 hour week that is \$47,000 hourly wage)

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED, that the Haywood Country Democratic Party calls upon our elected representatives at the county, state and national levels to oppose any cuts in health care and other critical programs for the residents of Haywood County, to expand Medicaid in North Carolina, to work together to fix the shortcomings of the Affordable Care Act without destroying its many positive features, and further that they be warned that if it occurs, the destruction of the publicly funded part of the health care system and other critical parts of the safety net that exists for our most vulnerable citizens will be laid at their doorstep and every effort will be made to expose their complicity in this moral outrage.

*Submitted to the Eleventh Congressional District Executive Committee by Dr. Stephen Wall, Saunook Precinct, Haywood County, May 4 2019.*

### **73. A Resolution Requesting A Review Of Henderson County Precinct Boundaries**

Committee members believe this resolution is germane only to Henderson county, thus does not require action by the Eleventh Congressional District or North Carolina Democratic Party.

Resolutions committee **recommends this resolution receive an unfavorable report.**

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WHEREAS, The population of Henderson County is growing steadily and now numbers about 116,000 people; and

WHEREAS, The registered voters across the 35 precincts numbered 78,229 in March 2019; and

WHEREAS, For the November 2018 election four precincts numbered over 4,000 registered voters and six numbered over 3,000; and

WHEREAS, These large numbers make it very difficult for all voters to cast their ballots on Election Day, especially since none of these large precincts is close to the Board of Election Early Voting site; and

WHEREAS, This action is outlined in North Carolina General Statutes Chapter 163A. Elections and Ethics Enforcement Act § 163A-1045. Election precincts and voting places established or altered, and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Henderson County Democratic Party request that the Henderson County Board of Elections review precinct boundaries and, if warranted, divide the larger precincts into two.

*Submitted to the Eleventh Congressional District Executive Committee by the Fletcher Precinct, Henderson County, May 4 2019.*

## **74. A Resolution To Request Restoration Of An Early Voting Site In North Henderson County**

Committee members believe this resolution is germane only to Henderson county, thus does not require action by the Eleventh Congressional District or North Carolina Democratic Party.

Resolutions committee **recommends this resolution receive an unfavorable report.**

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WHEREAS, The population of Henderson County is growing steadily and now numbers about 116,000 people; and

WHEREAS, Much of this growth is in northern Henderson County; and

WHEREAS, There were 12,307 registered voters across the most northern precincts, Brickton, Fletcher, Hoopers Creek, and North Mills River, almost 11% of the total numbered registered in November 2018; and

WHEREAS, Park Ridge and South Mills River would also be a catchment for an early voting site; and

WHEREAS, These large numbers make it very difficult for all voters cast their ballots at their precinct voting site on Election Day; and

WHEREAS, It is very inconvenient for voters in these six precincts to early vote at the Board of Elections; and

WHEREAS, In years where early voting was available, a large percentage of the voters used this option.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Henderson County Democratic Party urges the Henderson County Board of Elections and County Commission to renew the practice of holding early voting in northern Henderson County.

*Submitted to the Eleventh Congressional District Executive Committee by the Fletcher Precinct, Henderson County, May 4 2019.*