

2023 District 11 Resolutions - Proposed

Reported favorably from County Conventions between April 15 and April 22, 2023

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Agriculture, Environment, and Healthcare

1. A Resolution on Reproductive Health Guarantees Via Constitutional Rights

Result	<input type="checkbox"/> Adopted in bundle	<input type="checkbox"/> Adopted original	<input type="checkbox"/> Adopted as amended	<input type="checkbox"/> Not adopted
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WHEREAS, Consistent with the 14th Amendment of the Constitution, its limits on governmental powers, and the Bill of Rights, that no state government or institution may restrict rights and/or grant or allow greater liberties to any one person, individual group, or specified groups; and

WHEREAS, the term 'Person(s)', used in the 14th amendment, refers to the commonly accepted definition of the word, with no exclusions based on gender, race, ethnicity, age, sexual designation or orientation, nor physical attributes or any such affectations; and

WHEREAS, the amendment refers to all people (U.S. residents), not any one group, with no differentiation of rights between genders, or based on race, ethnicity, age, sexual designation or preference, and physical attributes or any such affectations; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED,

- That women have complete control over their bodies and healthcare decisions, and we believe the 14th amendment of the Constitution guarantees this control, as it does for every male citizen.
- That a woman's decisions regarding pregnancy should be her own choice and not that of the government.
- That abortion procedures must be safe, legal, accessible to all North Carolina women regardless of ability to pay; therefore, the State abortion fund should be fully funded and accessible to indigent women.
- That every woman, including trans-identified individuals, should have access to prenatal and postnatal care, appropriate counseling, as well as access to information regarding all choices related to pregnancies.
- That we should focus on preventing unintended pregnancies and reducing the need for abortion through increasing access to family planning services, access to affordable birth control, including emergency contraception, and by providing fact based, comprehensive age-appropriate, sex education; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the North Carolina General Assembly must ensure people’s rights to reproductive freedom and complete bodily autonomy, as reflected by the 14th amendment's equal protection and non-discrimination clause.

Submitted to the Congressional District 11 Democratic Party by the Swain County Democratic Party on April 15, 2023 and the Buncombe County Democratic Party on April 22, 2023. A similar resolution was submitted by the McDowell County Democratic Party on April 15, 2023.

2. A Resolution to Push for Medicare For All

Result	<input type="checkbox"/> Adopted in bundle	<input type="checkbox"/> Adopted original	<input type="checkbox"/> Adopted as amended	<input type="checkbox"/> Not adopted
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WHEREAS, We are pleased that Governor Cooper signed Medicaid expansion into law in North Carolina in March 2023; and

WHEREAS, We feel that everyone should receive necessary healthcare; be it

RESOLVED, That we should further strive for “Medicare for All” (universal healthcare).

Submitted to the Congressional District 11 Democratic Party by the McDowell County Democratic Party on April 15, 2023.

3. A Resolution to Protect our Right to Pursue Health

Result	<input type="checkbox"/> Adopted in bundle	<input type="checkbox"/> Adopted original	<input type="checkbox"/> Adopted as amended	<input type="checkbox"/> Not adopted
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WHEREAS, it is a natural and inalienable right for an individual to seek being healthy and pursue courses of action to maintain or better their health; and

WHEREAS, it is by an individual’s own discernment that they may decide by what action or method may make them healthy; and

WHEREAS, these actions include seeking the opinion of medical professionals and, at times, authorizing medical, surgical or other procedures to produce their standard of health; and

WHEREAS, this is not a protected right when said action directly or inadvertently causes the health of another individual to decrease, such as refusing to guard oneself against transmissible diseases; and

WHEREAS, in recent years it has become of increased interest of many governments and individuals to determine for specific groups of persons what makes the individuals in said groups healthy; and

WHEREAS, this interest has become, and for the foreseeable future will be, a legislative priority for members of the conservative movement; and

WHEREAS, these legislative priorities have been undertaken without consideration or care that they will, by making them law, decrease the individuals freedom to to actions that will make them healthy; and

WHEREAS, recent legislation from the North Carolina General Assembly to expand Medicaid under the Affordable Care Act requires recipients of certain funding to be employed, further limiting the pursuit of health if that individual is medically unable to be employed; therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that to maintain a balance of freedoms and ensure that the arc of governmental authority does not bend to punish a select few; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a priority for our movement shall be to defend the freedom of an individual to choose, of their own judgment and perception, what actions are necessary for them to maintain their health, so long as said action does not constitute a foreseeable risk to another individual's health

Submitted to the Congressional District 11 Democratic Party by the Haywood County Democratic Party on April 22, 2023.

4. A Resolution to Support Enhanced Efforts to Reduce Highway Litter

Result	<input type="checkbox"/> Adopted in bundle	<input type="checkbox"/> Adopted original	<input type="checkbox"/> Adopted as amended	<input type="checkbox"/> Not adopted
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WHEREAS, North Carolina “is a beautiful place, rich with natural resources, and home to vibrant and diverse ecological communities”; and

WHEREAS, the presence of roadside litter detracts from that beauty; and

WHEREAS, current programs to reduce the amount of such litter rely heavily on volunteers and have been inadequate; therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that the state of North Carolina make the development and implementation of a systematic, effective and efficient program of highway litter management a funded priority.

Submitted to the Congressional District 11 Democratic Party by the Jackson County Democratic Party on April 15, 2023.

5. A Resolution to Enhance Access, Trail Maintenance and Signage in National Forests

Result	<input type="checkbox"/> Adopted in bundle	<input type="checkbox"/> Adopted original	<input type="checkbox"/> Adopted as amended	<input type="checkbox"/> Not adopted
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WHEREAS, North Carolina contains a significant expanse of federal land managed by the National Forest Service; and

WHEREAS, one of the broadened missions of the National Forest Service is to manage land for recreational purposes; and

WHEREAS, outdoor recreation generates significant national, state and local income and contributes to the creation of 7.6 million jobs; and

WHEREAS, access, trail maintenance and signage for many areas is inadequate; therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Democratic Party supports increasing financial support for the National Forest Service for improved access, trail maintenance and signage at recreation sites located within our national forests.

Submitted to the Congressional District 11 Democratic Party by the Jackson County Democratic Party on April 15, 2023.

6. A Resolution on Protecting Old Growth Forests

Result	<input type="checkbox"/> Adopted in bundle	<input type="checkbox"/> Adopted original	<input type="checkbox"/> Adopted as amended	<input type="checkbox"/> Not adopted
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WHEREAS, old-growth forests were once common in the Southern Appalachian Mountains, and are an important part of the region's cultural, economic, recreational, and natural history; and

WHEREAS, old-growth forests are now very rare due to exploitation, and make up less than 1% of the forests of the Eastern U.S., and less than 5% of the forests in the Southern Appalachians; and

WHEREAS, the best remaining old-growth forests are harbored on public land; and

WHEREAS, the Nantahala and Pisgah National Forests are the largest units of public land in North Carolina and the Southern Appalachians; and

WHEREAS, the Nantahala-Pisgah Forest Plan allows old-growth forest to be commercially logged despite over 15,000 objectors to the Plan (an unprecedented number); now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the North Carolina Democratic Party calls for a prohibition against commercial logging in old-growth areas in our Nantahala and Pisgah National Forests.

Submitted to the Congressional District 11 Democratic Party by the Madison County Democratic Party on April 22, 2023.

7. A Resolution Towards the Reduction of Plastic Waste

Result	<input type="checkbox"/> Adopted in bundle	<input type="checkbox"/> Adopted original	<input type="checkbox"/> Adopted as amended	<input type="checkbox"/> Not adopted
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Preamble: Taking a step towards reducing the use of single-use plastic bags in North Carolina, thereby reducing harmful plastic pollution in the environment.

WHEREAS, plastics are known not to degrade over time but only to break down into ever smaller particles that eventually infiltrate the soil and water and are ingested by humans and wildlife alike; and

WHEREAS, research has shown that a very small percentage of shopping bags are actually recycled, but instead end up as litter that is harmful to the environment, flora & fauna; and

WHEREAS, some countries around the world and some states and municipalities in our country are addressing this issue with bans or partial bans on single-use plastic bags; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that North Carolina enact a full ban on producing and using single-use plastic bags.

Submitted to the Congressional District 11 Democratic Party by the Buncombe County Democratic Party on April 22, 2023.

8. A Resolution to Reduce Harmful Pollution

Result	<input type="checkbox"/> Adopted in bundle	<input type="checkbox"/> Adopted original	<input type="checkbox"/> Adopted as amended	<input type="checkbox"/> Not adopted
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WHEREAS, Fossil fuel carbon pollution and other pollution pose a threat to our current health and the future of our planet, be it

RESOLVED, That we will strive in our personal, political, and professional lives to reduce harmful pollution.

Submitted to the Congressional District 11 Democratic Party by the McDowell County Democratic Party on April 15, 2023.

9. A Resolution to Urge Against the Use of Fossil Fuels and Speculative Technologies in Carbon Planning

Result	<input type="checkbox"/> Adopted in bundle	<input type="checkbox"/> Adopted original	<input type="checkbox"/> Adopted as amended	<input type="checkbox"/> Not adopted
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WHEREAS State law HB951 mandates that North Carolina should achieve net zero carbon emissions in the utility sector by 2050; and

WHEREAS the North Carolina Utilities Commission is responsible for regulating private utilities in the public interest; and

WHEREAS the Secretary General of the United Nations has called the construction of new fossil fuel projects “moral and economic insanity”; and

WHEREAS small modular reactors and fully hydrogen-fired power plants are uncostered, speculative technologies; now, therefore

BE IT RESOLVED that the NC Democratic Party urges new appointees to the North Carolina Utilities Commission should be committed to significantly reducing the use of fossil fuels with a goal of elimination as technology allows. The NC Democratic Party urges new appointees to the North Carolina Utilities Commission should be committed to barring uncostered, speculative technologies from a role in carbon planning.

Submitted to the Congressional District 11 Democratic Party by the Swain County Democratic Party on April 15, 2023.

10. A Resolution to Promote the Use of Local Solar and Storage in Carbon Planning

Result	<input type="checkbox"/> Adopted in bundle	<input type="checkbox"/> Adopted original	<input type="checkbox"/> Adopted as amended	<input type="checkbox"/> Not adopted
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WHEREAS, solar and storage has a levelized cost of \$42-69/MWh; and

WHEREAS, North Carolina has 86 GW of PV potential in North Carolina on rooftops, commercial parking lots, urban parcels, and brownfield sites; and

WHEREAS, solar and storage can be built near its point of use, cutting down on transmission project costs; now, therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that the NC Democratic Party urges new appointees to the North Carolina Utilities Commission should be committed to moving toward local solar with battery storage as the backbone of the statewide electricity system; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the State and Federal Government shall fund publicly-owned wind, solar, geothermal, and storage resources, with the goal of US energy production becoming 100% carbon neutral by 2040.

Submitted to the Congressional District 11 Democratic Party by the Swain County Democratic Party on April 15, 2023.

Civil Rights, Criminal Justice, and Education

11. A Resolution in Support of the Freedom to Read

Result	<input type="checkbox"/> Adopted in bundle	<input type="checkbox"/> Adopted original	<input type="checkbox"/> Adopted as amended	<input type="checkbox"/> Not adopted
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WHEREAS, in 2023 the coordinated wave of proposed restrictions on access to reading material by Republican legislators and Republican-backed organizations is continuing,

WHEREAS, the American Library Association Office of Intellectual Freedom has documented that in the Fall of 2021 they were seeing an “unprecedented volume of [book] challenges,” (<https://www.ala.org/advocacy/statement-regarding-censorship>),

WHEREAS, despite being couched in language falsely claiming that certain books are “child abuse,” “pornography,” “indoctrination,” or “promoting division,” both the intent and impact of these book bans is to restrict student’s access to accurate information about both the past and present lived experiences of marginalized groups, including but not limited to the experience of Black and LGBTQ+ Americans,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT Democrats firmly denounce efforts to restrict access to books based on their content and reject censorship as a fundamentally un-American,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT Democrats applaud the efforts of educators, authors, advocates, and others to share stories which reflect the perspectives and experiences of all Americans, particularly those which have not been widely known,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT Democrats agree with the statements in the American Library Association’s Freedom to Read Statement that “The freedom to read is guaranteed by the Constitution,” that “free communication is essential to the preservation of a free society and a creative culture,” and affirm the principles outlined in the American Library Association’s Freedom to Read Statement (<https://www.ala.org/advocacy/intfreedom/freedomreadstatement>),

Submitted to the Congressional District 11 Democratic Party by the Buncombe County Democratic Party on April 22, 2023.

12. A Resolution Opposing the Banning or Intercession in the Provision of Published Books or Articles in Publicly Funded Facilities of Learning

Result	<input type="checkbox"/> Adopted in bundle	<input type="checkbox"/> Adopted original	<input type="checkbox"/> Adopted as amended	<input type="checkbox"/> Not adopted
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WHEREAS, media functioning to provide the written word is a staple of civilization by way of the expansion of knowledge, stimulus of inspiration, challenge to the intellect, the prompting of inquiry, and the quest for truth; and

WHEREAS, no existing human or ideological cohort has a monopoly on the ability to identify where, when and by what written or other mechanism such may induce expansion of individual gestalt; and

WHEREAS, in the current political environment there appears a metastasizing effort to permit the banning of or other intercession in the availability of the written word under all color of excuses, ideological compunction, and efforts to socially engineer; therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED that the Democratic Party of North Carolina, opposes any effort, from whatever source, and by whatever patent or latent means, to proscribe any written material otherwise acceptable to and promoted by educators, teachers, librarians, and others professionally invested in literature, literacy, and human development, and further opposes any resulting loss or restriction of freedom in accessing ideas, or the frustration of an inquiring existence.

Submitted to the Congressional District 11 Democratic Party by the Swain County Democratic Party on April 22, 2023.

13. A Resolution Amending the University of North Carolina Mission Statement

Result	<input type="checkbox"/> Adopted in bundle	<input type="checkbox"/> Adopted original	<input type="checkbox"/> Adopted as amended	<input type="checkbox"/> Not adopted
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WHEREAS, the relationship between an informed citizenry, democracy and systems of public education is well established; and

WHEREAS, the public schools and University of North Carolina (UNC) system is instrumental in contributing to the education of hundreds of thousands of citizens annually; and,

WHEREAS, the importance of public and higher education to increased student civic awareness and engagement in the democratic process is known; therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that the North Carolina Democratic Party and NC legislators propose a statutory language amendment to the mission of the UNC NC General Statutes § 116-1 to read “. . . to discover, create, transmit, and apply knowledge to address the needs of individuals and [a democratic] society.”

Submitted to the Congressional District 11 Democratic Party by the Jackson County Democratic Party on April 15, 2023.

14. A Resolution to Encourage Student Civic Awareness and Voting

Result	<input type="checkbox"/> Adopted in bundle	<input type="checkbox"/> Adopted original	<input type="checkbox"/> Adopted as amended	<input type="checkbox"/> Not adopted
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WHEREAS, the relationship between an informed citizenry, democracy and systems of public education is well established; and

WHEREAS, the public education and University of North Carolina (UNC) system are instrumental in contributing to the education of hundreds of thousands of citizens annually; and

WHEREAS, public and higher education can provide increased civic awareness and engagement in the democratic process is known; therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that the North Carolina Democratic Party propose formalized institutional support by the UNC system office to all public universities for strengthened invigoration of student participation in civic awareness and voting, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that such support include, but be not limited to, requirements for and assistance with a university-hosted non-partisan website including election and voting information, civic curriculum and civic internship and service opportunities including those related to elections, on-campus polling locations: and

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that faculty, staff, or student engagement will not affect employment, enrollment, financial aid or student dependency status.

Submitted to the Congressional District 11 Democratic Party by the Jackson County Democratic Party on April 15, 2023.

15. A Resolution to Support Calendar Flexibility in the Preparation of Annual Public School Calendars

Result	<input type="checkbox"/> Adopted in bundle	<input type="checkbox"/> Adopted original	<input type="checkbox"/> Adopted as amended	<input type="checkbox"/> Not adopted
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WHEREAS, the state of North Carolina sets very specific guidelines for the construction of a public school system calendar (North Carolina General Statutes §115C-84.2), including start and ending dates; and

WHEREAS, neither charter schools nor private schools are required to follow as strictly the traditional public school academic calendar mandated by the state; and

WHEREAS, waivers for weather disruptions of calendars, which can disproportionately affect the length of the two semesters, are now more difficult to get; and

WHEREAS, local School Boards are best equipped to determine the most appropriate starting and ending times for their school years as well as the most appropriate times to schedule breaks in that calendar; therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that the state continue to set minimum standards for student contact hours and days, but allow greater flexibility for local determination of how those standards will be met.

Submitted to the Congressional District 11 Democratic Party by the Jackson County Democratic Party on April 15, 2023.

16. A Resolution to Raise Teacher Pay by Taxing Corporations and the Wealthy

Result	<input type="checkbox"/> Adopted in bundle	<input type="checkbox"/> Adopted original	<input type="checkbox"/> Adopted as amended	<input type="checkbox"/> Not adopted
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WHEREAS, North Carolina average salaries rank 23 out of 50 among US states, while average teacher pay ranks 38 out of 50, school funding ranks 48th, while North Carolina ranks 9th in population; and

WHEREAS, North Carolina is the #1 top state in the US for business (*per www.cnbc.com 7/13/22*); but with the 17th strongest economy; and

WHEREAS, There are proposals to end corporate taxes in North Carolina; be it

RESOLVED, That corporations be taxed and the wealthy be taxed further to provide greater funding to our public schools and to our public school teachers.

Submitted to the Congressional District 11 Democratic Party by the McDowell County Democratic Party on April 15, 2023.

17.A Resolution Calling for Equitable and Inclusive Education in North Carolina

Result	<input type="checkbox"/> Adopted in bundle	<input type="checkbox"/> Adopted original	<input type="checkbox"/> Adopted as amended	<input type="checkbox"/> Not adopted
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WHEREAS, a free, high quality, non-partisan public school education is the cornerstone of American democracy; and

WHEREAS, exposure to an equitable and inclusive core curriculum is beneficial to every student in North Carolina, regardless of ability, race, ethnicity, and gender; and

WHEREAS, a party political label is more likely to obscure than define an individual candidate's qualifications, ability and educational philosophy essential to oversee the operation and administration of school systems; therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that school board elections in Henderson County should remain non-partisan; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the North Carolina legislature should amend the law allowing party designations in school board elections to mandate non-partisan elections throughout North Carolina; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that public (taxpayer) money is needed in, and belongs in, public schools; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that party politics should NOT be injected between school and university boards and the communities they serve when it comes to design and implementation of curricula that treat all students equitably and inclusively.

Submitted to the Congressional District 11 Democratic Party by the Henderson County Democratic Party on April 19, 2023.

18. A Resolution Calling for Tuition Equity in Higher Education for NC Qualified DACA and Undocumented Students

Result	<input type="checkbox"/> Adopted in bundle	<input type="checkbox"/> Adopted original	<input type="checkbox"/> Adopted as amended	<input type="checkbox"/> Not adopted
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WHEREAS, the future workforce of the United States is dependent on an educated population; and

WHEREAS, the birth rate of citizens in the US is declining; and

WHEREAS, the current policies for undocumented and DACA students to attend higher education in North Carolina often leads to three or four times higher tuition costs than for US citizens; and

WHEREAS, twenty-three states currently (November 2022) provide some form of tuition equity for higher education; therefore

BE IT RESOLVED that the Democratic Party of Henderson County seeks candidates for the NC General Assembly who will introduce and support legislation which will provide tuition equity for qualified DACA and undocumented students who graduate from a North Carolina high school.

Submitted to the Congressional District 11 Democratic Party by the Henderson County Democratic Party on April 19, 2023.

19. A Resolution in Support of the LGBTQIA+ Community

Result	<input type="checkbox"/> Adopted in bundle	<input type="checkbox"/> Adopted original	<input type="checkbox"/> Adopted as amended	<input type="checkbox"/> Not adopted
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WHEREAS, having lost public support over the issue of same-sex marriage, Republicans have continued abhorrent attacks on the rights of LGBTQIA+ Americans by targeting smaller sections of the LGBTQIA+ community that are less understood, especially transgender youth,

WHEREAS, prominent Republican leaders both in North Carolina and at the Federal level continue to make disgusting public statements disparaging LGBTQ+ Americans with alarming frequency,

WHEREAS, by May of 2021 that year broke a new a record for the highest number of anti-LGBTQ+ bills proposed in a single legislative session,

<https://www.hrc.org/press-releases/2021-officially-becomes-worst-year-in-recent-history-for-lgbtq-state-legislative-attacks-as-unprecedented-number-of-states-enact-record-shattering-number-of-anti-lgbtq-measures-into-law>)

WHEREAS, in 2021 three bills were proposed in the North Carolina General Assembly which would have made it illegal for medical providers to provide necessary medical care for transgender youth (SB514), created a “license to discriminate” for religious medical professionals (SB515), and prevented transgender athletes from participating in sports (HB358),

WHEREAS, in the 2023 legislative session so far we are seeing multiple bills targeting the LGBTQ community, including SB49 which would make schools less safe for LGBTQ students, and HB43 which would restrict access to healthcare options for LGBTQ youth regardless of parental support,

WHEREAS, there is strong agreement within the medical community “that improving access to LGBTQ-affirming care is a central means of improving health outcomes for LGBTQ people,” and further,

“major medical associations, including the American Medical Association, the American Academy of Pediatrics, and the American Academy of Family Physicians, recognize that supporting transgender youth is critical to their health and well-being.”

<https://ncisready.org/s/Letter-from-NC-Medical-Providers-Opposing-Anti-Trans-Bills.pdf>

WHEREAS, in spite of strong agreement within the medical community, as demonstrated by public statements by the American Psychological Association and American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry and others, that sexual orientation change efforts and gender identity change efforts, more commonly known as “conversion therapy,” are not rooted in evidence-based medicine and have been demonstrated to cause those subjected to it harm, conversion therapy is still legal in North Carolina, (<https://www.apa.org/about/policy/resolution-gender-identity-change-efforts.pdf>, <https://www.apa.org/about/policy/resolution-sexual-orientation-change-efforts.pdf>, https://www.aacap.org/aacap/Policy_Statements/2018/Conversion_Therapy.aspx, https://www.lgbtmap.org/equality-maps/conversion_therapy)

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Democratic Party reaffirms its unequivocal support for the LGBTQIA+ community and vows to oppose current and future efforts to discriminate against the LGBTQIA+ community.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Democratic Party supports the passage of a statewide non-discrimination ordinance, and until such time the Democratic Party urges municipal governments to pass local ordinances,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Democratic Party vows to support educational policies that support safe and welcoming classrooms for all students and their families, including those who happen to be LGBTQ, and further resolves to fight against any attempts to erase representation of the LGBTQ community from classroom materials,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Democratic Party vows to fight current and future efforts to prevent transgender athletes from participating in sports in alignment with their gender identity,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Democratic Party vows to fight current and future efforts to restrict access to gender affirming care for transgender people,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Democratic Party will work to pass legislation to ban “conversion therapy” (sexual orientation change efforts and gender identity change efforts) in North Carolina,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Democratic Party will work to ensure that all Party functions are safe, welcoming, and supportive of all LGBTQIA+ people so that everyone feels empowered to participate in the political process.

Submitted to the Congressional District 11 Democratic Party by the Buncombe County Democratic Party on April 22, 2023.

20. A Resolution to Protect Gender-Affirming Healthcare for Youth in North Carolina

Result	<input type="checkbox"/> Adopted in bundle	<input type="checkbox"/> Adopted original	<input type="checkbox"/> Adopted as amended	<input type="checkbox"/> Not adopted
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WHEREAS, More than half a dozen state legislatures have passed complete bans on gender-affirming care for minors; and

WHEREAS, The American Academy of Pediatrics states gender-affirming care improves the overall well-being of youth and adolescents diagnosed with gender dysphoria; and

WHEREAS, The American Academy of Pediatrics states access to healthcare and gender-affirming care for youth and adolescents leads to lower incidents of lifetime suicidal ideation; and

WHEREAS, The Pediatric Endocrine Society has affirmed that gender-affirming healthcare is potentially life-saving; and

WHEREAS, The conservative movement to restrict gender-affirming care is a further politicization of medical care; and

WHEREAS, The right of transgender and nonbinary people to seek lifesaving, gender-affirming care is under attack; be it

RESOLVED, That the legislature oppose measures to deny life-saving care to NC transgender and nonbinary youth; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the legislature support measures to protect gender-affirming healthcare and turn to the knowledge of medical professionals and the research community to make determinations on healthcare policy.

Submitted to the Congressional District 11 Democratic Party by the Haywood County Democratic Party on April 22, 2023.

21. A Resolution in Support of the Indian Child Welfare Act

Result	<input type="checkbox"/> Adopted in bundle	<input type="checkbox"/> Adopted original	<input type="checkbox"/> Adopted as amended	<input type="checkbox"/> Not adopted
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WHEREAS, the history of the United States is replete with examples of the forced removal of indigenous children from their families and was often prelude to attempts to eradicate Indian language, culture, and history through placement in boarding schools or in non-indigenous homes; and

WHEREAS, such harmful practices were ended with the 1978 passage of the Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA), which protected indigenous children from the cultural trauma of removal; and

WHEREAS, the Supreme Court is currently hearing a case which may result in the overturning of the ICWA, thereby giving states control over future child removal from indigenous families which would be contrary to the status of tribes as dependent, domestic entities governed by Congress and not the various states; therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Democratic Party supports the continued prohibition of child removal embraced by the Indian Child Welfare Act; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that, if in the event the ICWA is declared Unconstitutional by the Supreme Court, Congress will pass legislation to prohibit state removal of children from indigenous families.

Submitted to the Congressional District 11 Democratic Party by the Jackson County Democratic Party on April 15, 2023.

22. A Resolution of Support for the Equal Rights Amendment

Result	<input type="checkbox"/> Adopted in bundle	<input type="checkbox"/> Adopted original	<input type="checkbox"/> Adopted as amended	<input type="checkbox"/> Not adopted
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WHEREAS, women constitute more than 51% of the population in North Carolina and play an essential role in society, contributing to our economy and serving our state in both public and private realms; and

WHEREAS, women continue to face workplace discrimination, health care and pay inequities, higher rates of poverty, rape and domestic violence, and other forms of sex-based discrimination; and

WHEREAS, the ERA was initially proposed in 1921, was passed by Congress and submitted to the states for ratification in 1972, has been approved by three-quarters of the states, is deemed still viable in spite of ratification deadlines in 1979 and 1982 and despite the efforts of five states to rescind their prior ratifications; and

WHEREAS, the ERA does not regulate reproduction, abortion or gender preference, does not mandate women's service in the military nor unisex restrooms, but, instead, seeks to clarify the legal definition of sexual discrimination and make it a violation of the US Constitution; and

WHEREAS, the ERA would affect the rights of men and women in matters involving divorce, child custody, property, pay, employment and promotion, the military draft, immigration, name changes, and sexual violence, and would require strict scrutiny of sexual discrimination by the courts; and

WHEREAS, existing state and federal anti-discrimination laws are not uniform or consistent, are subject to change at any time, and have proven unreliable before the courts as guarantees of equal rights; and

WHEREAS, the amendment contains only 58 words and says:

- Section 1. Equality of rights under the law shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of sex.
- Section 2. The Congress shall have the power to enforce, by appropriate legislation, the provisions of this article.
- Section 3. This amendment shall take effect two years after the date of ratification;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Democrats, believing equality for all to be a fundamental American value and a critical component of American justice, express their support for passage of the Equal Rights Amendment and call for ratification of the ERA by the North Carolina General Assembly.

Submitted to the Congressional District 11 Democratic Party by the Swain County Democratic Party on April 15, 2023.

23. A Resolution in Support of an Expanded Supreme Court

Result	<input type="checkbox"/> Adopted in bundle	<input type="checkbox"/> Adopted original	<input type="checkbox"/> Adopted as amended	<input type="checkbox"/> Not adopted
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WHEREAS, the number of justices who sit on the Supreme Court is not limited by the Constitution, which is silent on the number of justices; and

WHEREAS, the power to decide the number of justices resides with the Legislative Branch, which has, over time, ranged between 5 and 10; and

WHEREAS, one recent nominee and now Justice was confirmed even though a promised investigation into alleged misconduct was never conducted; and

WHEREAS, the recent selection judicial nominees has been prejudiced by the refusal of a Majority Leader of the Senate to schedule a confirmation of a Barack Obama appointment in an election year but his decision to rush an appointment of a Justice nominated by Donald Trump in another election year has raised questions of both propriety and legitimacy; and

WHEREAS, there have been and continue to be multiple allegations of ethical improprieties having to do with conflict of interest and acceptance of gifts by sitting members of the Court; and

WHEREAS, there have been few people of color or women as members of that court; therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that we support the expansion of the Supreme Court from its current 9 members to 13, to be staggered in appointment over the next 4 years; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that those appointments take into account the paucity of diversity on the court historically.

Submitted to the Congressional District 11 Democratic Party by the Jackson County Democratic Party on April 15, 2023.

24. A Resolution to Ban Military Assault Weapons and Ammunition

Result	<input type="checkbox"/> Adopted in bundle	<input type="checkbox"/> Adopted original	<input type="checkbox"/> Adopted as amended	<input type="checkbox"/> Not adopted
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WHEREAS, Guns are the #1 killer of children under 18, and

WHEREAS, We hear reports of military-style assault weapons being used by school shooters, killing children in school, and

WHEREAS, Military-style assault weapons and ammunition that can kill dozens in seconds did not exist at the time of the 2nd amendment to the US Constitution, be it

RESOLVED, That such weapons be banned as they were from 1994 to 2004.

Submitted to the Congressional District 11 Democratic Party by the McDowell County Democratic Party on April 15, 2023.

Democratic Party, Government, and Voting Rights

25. A Resolution to Thank Governor Cooper

Result	<input type="checkbox"/> Adopted in bundle	<input type="checkbox"/> Adopted original	<input type="checkbox"/> Adopted as amended	<input type="checkbox"/> Not adopted
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WHEREAS, Gov Roy Cooper has led our state well thru a pandemic, has worked to reduce carbon pollution, to expand places civil rights, to expand Medicaid, etc, be it

RESOLVED, That we Democrats of North Carolina greatly appreciate Gov Cooper.

Submitted to the Congressional District 11 Democratic Party by the McDowell County Democratic Party on April 15, 2023.

26. A Resolution to Require Polling Places on College Campuses

Result	<input type="checkbox"/> Adopted in bundle	<input type="checkbox"/> Adopted original	<input type="checkbox"/> Adopted as amended	<input type="checkbox"/> Not adopted
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WHEREAS, Colleges have a large concentration of population age 18 and over, be it

RESOLVED, That each NC public college/university has its own polling place.

Submitted to the Congressional District 11 Democratic Party by the McDowell County Democratic Party on April 15, 2023.

27. Resolution Asking the Democratic Party to Develop a Strategic Plan for Enhanced Public Communication, Nationally and Locally

Result	<input type="checkbox"/> Adopted in bundle	<input type="checkbox"/> Adopted original	<input type="checkbox"/> Adopted as amended	<input type="checkbox"/> Not adopted
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WHEREAS, the Democratic Party seeks to fight for our freedoms and protect us from decline into a dictatorship, and

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 domestic enemies of freedom, but also those presented by climate change, 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, the right to education, employment, access to healthcare, dignity, and equal protection under the laws of our nation and each of its states, and

WHEREAS, the Democratic Party seeks 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 our Constitution, and

WHEREAS, it has been shown that the nation's economy is more likely to prosper under Democratic administrations, and

WHEREAS, it has been shown that crime rates are lower in Democratically controlled states, and

WHEREAS, the Democratic Party's political adversary has protected the interests of wealthy industrialists at the expense of the environment, and

WHEREAS, the Democratic Party's political adversaries have promoted theories without a basis in fact and threatened our democracy with clever, yet deceptive messages directed at a misinformed audience, and

WHEREAS, the Democratic Party's political adversary has 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 adversary has effectively used false and misleading messages to blame the Democratic Party for their own crimes and mistakes, and

WHEREAS, the Democratic Party's political adversary has offended our allies and trading partners, and thereby lowered the esteem of our nation internationally, and

WHEREAS, our political adversary is undermining our electoral systems to facilitate their creation of an authoritarian state, and

WHEREAS, since the Democratic Party’s adversary is often more forceful and effective in controlling the political dialogue, most voters are either unaware of, or don’t appreciate the significance of the distinctions listed above, now therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED that the Democratic Party shall develop a strategic plan and a comprehensive implementation program to communicate its vision of freedom and good governance to the American people. A plan aimed at controlling the political dialogue, with clear messages in plain language, that effectively counteract the false narrative of its adversary. The program shall use all modalities, including the internet, website, blogs, apps, regular town meetings, films, radio talk shows, televised presentations, and printed media and communication, and

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

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the strategic plan and its implementation program shall be created by media/communication experts, in collaboration with representatives of the people, scientists, and economists, and lastly,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the new communication program shall include media productions and messages in languages spoken by the various foreign language communities living in this country, and for proper understanding, members of these communities must be directly involved.

Submitted to the Congressional District 11 Democratic Party by the Buncombe County Democratic Party on April 22, 2023.

28. Resolution Asking for the Democratic Party to Establish Rules for Political Candidate and Elected or Appointed Public Official Disclosures

Result	<input type="checkbox"/> Adopted in bundle	<input type="checkbox"/> Adopted original	<input type="checkbox"/> Adopted as amended	<input type="checkbox"/> Not adopted
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WHEREAS an effective Democracy depends on public trust, and

WHEREAS citizens of a democratic state deserve a government free of bias and special interests, and

WHEREAS citizens of a democratic state have a right to be represented by public officials who are committed to act in the public’s best interest, and

WHEREAS citizens of a democratic state need to know if their public officials are free of conflicts of interest or other corrupting influence, and

WHEREAS public officials in a democratic state are (or should consider themselves to be) in the employ of each and every citizen no matter their color, religion, social status, or economic status, and

WHEREAS, if a public official gives advice to one citizen, but not another, this is a violation of their responsibility to act in the common interest, and

WHEREAS, if a public official receives compensation or a gift from one citizen or group of citizens, all citizens deserve to be notified so as to be able to judge whether or not a conflict of interest might exist that would interfere with the official's ability to act fairly and without bias, and

WHEREAS it must be determined whether a donated gift is the property of the democratic state, or the public official who receives it, and

WHEREAS the history of the United States is replete with examples of violations of these basic principles, now therefor,

BE IT RESOLVED that the Democratic Party shall seek legislation at the federal and state level that would regulate these issues that compromise our trust in elected or appointed officials, and pose potential threats to our democracy itself, and that these regulations shall include the items listed below, and

- Before their election or appointment, candidates for elected or higher-level appointed office shall be required to submit their federal tax returns for public scrutiny for the most recent a) ten years for Presidential and Vice-Presidential candidates, and b) five years for other candidates.
- These elected or appointed officials shall also be required to provide their federal tax return for public scrutiny every year of their incumbency.
- The IRS shall be required to audit the federal tax return of these officeholders during each year of their incumbency.
- These elected or appointed office holders shall be required to provide their federal tax returns for public scrutiny for three years after leaving office.
- If any elected or appointed office holder provides advice or counsel to private individuals or entities, they shall publish such advice for public scrutiny; this includes information presented in lectures and at conferences that are not open to the public.
- All honoraria, awards, gifts, or other emoluments received by an elected or appointed office holder (and their immediate family) shall be reported for public scrutiny.
- Promulgated rules shall establish appropriate monetary value limits for such honoraria, awards, gifts, or other emoluments.
- These rules shall define acceptable sources, and acceptable purposes for such honoraria, awards gifts, or other emoluments.
- The donor of any honorarium, award, gift, or other emolument shall be required to state, in writing, the purpose of such a donation, to whom it is being given, and whether it is in compensation for a service provided by the office holder.

- Promulgated rules shall establish a mechanism for their enforcement, and appropriate penalties for their infringement, and
- These rules shall establish a mechanism to maintain records of the above and make them available for public scrutiny.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Democratic Party shall establish enforceable rules that can be imposed on Democratic candidates and office holders in the presence or absence of any federal or state regulation.

Submitted to the Congressional District 11 Democratic Party by the Buncombe County Democratic Party on April 22, 2023.

29. A Resolution To Urge Against the Acceptance of Campaign Donations from Duke Energy

Result	<input type="checkbox"/> Adopted in bundle	<input type="checkbox"/> Adopted original	<input type="checkbox"/> Adopted as amended	<input type="checkbox"/> Not adopted
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WHEREAS the Climate Crisis is one of the greatest threats ever faced by humanity; and

WHEREAS the Climate Crisis has been created by emissions of greenhouse gasses; and

WHEREAS Duke Energy is the 2 nd largest corporate emitter of greenhouse gasses in the US; and

WHEREAS Duke Energy is pursuing an expansion of up to 11.7 GW of new fracked gas plants in North Carolina by 2050; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the NC Democratic Party urges candidates for public office to refuse Duke Energy campaign donations; and

BE IT RESOLVED that the NC Democratic Party urges candidates for public office to vigorously denounce Duke Energy money spent in their favor through Super PACs.

Submitted to the Congressional District 11 Democratic Party by the Swain County Democratic Party on April 15, 2023.

30. A Resolution Regarding Proper Vetting of Candidates Before Endorsement By State Democratic Party

Result	<input type="checkbox"/> Adopted in bundle	<input type="checkbox"/> Adopted original	<input type="checkbox"/> Adopted as amended	<input type="checkbox"/> Not adopted
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WHEREAS, The Democratic Party is a valuable Brand, and we need to assure the public that the party has vetted its candidates and does not allow liars and pretenders to use our brand to raise money and deceive voters. Professional Background checks cost between \$500.00 and \$1000.00 each. This type of check makes telephone checks with past employers and educational institutions to determine if what the candidate says on their resume is in fact true.; and

WHEREAS, Candidates for major positions must raise serious money to have a chance of electoral success. Democratic Candidates must be vetted prior to soliciting campaign donations. Public knowledge of our candidate vetting will give candidates a Democratic Party Seal of Approval; and

WHEREAS, we owe that to our Donors to Democratic candidates need to be assured that our candidates are who they say they are. It is not the donor’s job to vet a candidate’s background. It is the donor’s job to vet the candidate’s views on the issues and then make their decisions on whether to supply financial support; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that background checks need to be made on primary candidates for Governor, Senate, Congress and Council of State offices. The NC Democratic Party would contract for such independent background checks to be made; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that results would be received and evaluated by the NCDP Executive Officers. If a background check turns up significant questionable areas, the candidate would be contacted for explanations. Serious unresolved issues would be grounds for the candidate not being allowed to run under the NCDP banner. A candidate’s refusal to pay for a background check would also be grounds for refusing to allow the candidate to run under the NCDP Banner.

Submitted to the Congressional District 11 Democratic Party by the Rutherford County Democratic Party on April 15, 2023.

31. A Resolution to Refrain from Formal Democratic Party Endorsements Running for Party Offices

Result	<input type="checkbox"/> Adopted in bundle	<input type="checkbox"/> Adopted original	<input type="checkbox"/> Adopted as amended	<input type="checkbox"/> Not adopted
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WHEREAS, when candidates within the party, be it at the precinct, county, district or state levels, run for a party office, endorsements for one candidate over another cause discord; and

WHEREAS, endorsements tend to favor established candidates, serving as a disadvantage to newcomers in a party that takes pride in being a “bottom-up” party; and

WHEREAS, inherent in that “bottom-up” claim is the idea that every member of the party should have an equal chance at securing an elected office; and

WHEREAS, the 2023 election for state party officers included a number of top-down endorsements of particular candidates; therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that there should be no formal endorsements of any candidates in such party elections.

Submitted to the Congressional District 11 Democratic Party by the Jackson County Democratic Party on April 15, 2023.

32. A Resolution that the North Carolina Democratic Party Must Allow and Support Unionization of the NCDP Professional Staff

Result	<input type="checkbox"/> Adopted in bundle	<input type="checkbox"/> Adopted original	<input type="checkbox"/> Adopted as amended	<input type="checkbox"/> Not adopted
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WHEREAS, in the 2022 cycle the previous director and elected board either directly or indirectly engaged in union busting activities; and

WHEREAS, as this was a direct violation of Democratic Party values and allowed Republicans to, correctly and honestly attack Democrats as anti-Labor; and

WHEREAS, employees of the NCDP were given their union membership along with termination of employment; now, therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, That The North Carolina Democratic Party be required to allow for unionization of its professional staff.

Submitted to the Congressional District 11 Democratic Party by the Swain County Democratic Party on April 15, 2023.

33. Resolution Asking the Democratic Party to Develop a Comprehensive Program to Enhance Voter Turnout

Result	<input type="checkbox"/> Adopted in bundle	<input type="checkbox"/> Adopted original	<input type="checkbox"/> Adopted as amended	<input type="checkbox"/> Not adopted
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WHEREAS, citizen participation is critical for the success and survival of a democracy, and

WHEREAS, citizens most directly and effectively participate in a democratic system by casting their ballots in a free and informed manner, and

WHEREAS, there are currently (approximately) 235 million US citizens of voting age, during presidential election years only three quarters of eligible voters register to vote and only two thirds actually vote, and in mid-term congressional elections only half may vote, and

WHEREAS, studies have shown that voting rates differ depending on an individual's age, education level, gender, and race or ethnic group, and

WHEREAS, some people do not vote because they feel uninspired or uninformed, or otherwise lack motivation, and others may not vote because of physical handicaps or other physical barriers, and

WHEREAS, although Democratic and Democratic-leaning "Independent" voters significantly outnumber Republican and Republican-leaning "Independent" voters (69 million vs. 54 million during the recent midterm election), Republicans have a disproportionately high representation at all governmental levels (national, state and local) because of the Constitutional determined structure of the Senate and Electoral College, and because of gerrymandering and voter suppression efforts in Republican controlled states, and

WHEREAS, because of the bias against Democratic voters, it is critical that the Democratic Party methodically determine a) the barriers to voting at all levels, b) the specific needs and preferences of voters, and c) the source of their information, and then develop targeted programs to inform, educate, motivate, and assist Democratic and Democratic-leaning voters to register and vote, with goals of exceeding a 95% registration rate, and a 90% voting rate, now therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Democratic Party shall establish a formal, ongoing, and comprehensive program to determine 1) why potential voters do or don't vote, 2) how voter preferences are being influenced, and where voters get information they trust, 3) how effective voter suppression efforts have been, and how they can be overcome (besides through legislation or the courts), and 4) how citizens can be motivated to vote, and lastly,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that (in addition to protecting the right to vote through legislation and legal processes) the Democratic Party shall establish a formal, ongoing, and comprehensive program to overcome identified obstacles to voting (including accessibility), educate and inform voters, and more effectively promote Democratic programs designed to a) preserve and protect democracy, b) create opportunities to improve the wellbeing of all citizens, c) protect and improve our environment, d) promote social, political, and economic justice, e) grow our economy (creating jobs and shared wealth), and f) protect Americans from foreign and domestic dangers.

Submitted to the Congressional District 11 Democratic Party by the Buncombe County Democratic Party on April 22, 2023.

34. A Resolution for the Democratic Party to Have Plant-Based Food Options at All Events Where Food is Served

Result	<input type="checkbox"/> Adopted in bundle	<input type="checkbox"/> Adopted original	<input type="checkbox"/> Adopted as amended	<input type="checkbox"/> Not adopted
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WHEREAS, the majority of members in the Waynesville South one (1) precinct in Haywood County are either vegetarian or vegan; and

WHEREAS, being concerned about the environment also means to be concerned about reducing the impact of meat based processing; and

WHEREAS, plant based foods offer just as much if not more protein per gram as meat based foods; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Democratic Party have plant based options or substitutes at all events involving food.

Submitted to the Congressional District 11 Democratic Party by the Haywood County Democratic Party on April 22, 2023.

35. A Resolution Calling for the Use of Ranked Choice Voting for Federal, State, and Local Elections for Public Offices

Result	<input type="checkbox"/> Adopted in bundle	<input type="checkbox"/> Adopted original	<input type="checkbox"/> Adopted as amended	<input type="checkbox"/> Not adopted
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WHEREAS, the principle of majority rule is a commonly accepted, and often assumed, tenet of Democracy; and

WHEREAS, our current method of plurality voting often fails to result in majority winners; and

WHEREAS, voting methods that incentivize positive campaign tactics and reduce negativity would help reduce the extreme hyper-partisanship that is crippling our democratic government; and

WHEREAS, reduction of extreme hyper-partisanship will help advance numerous other policy priorities of the party; and

WHEREAS, voting methods for primary elections that result in a nominee with the broadest support from the primary voters sends the strongest possible candidate to the general election; and

WHEREAS, voting methods that produce the above desired results while also saving taxpayer money (by eliminating the costs of repeating elections and eliminating the need for runoffs) is a benefit to all citizens; and

WHEREAS, ranked choice voting, also known as instant runoff voting, produces the effects described above; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that elections for all public offices, including nomination or primary elections, should use the ranked choice method of instant runoff voting; be it further

RESOLVED, that our Democratic representatives in the North Carolina Legislature promote bipartisan action to adopt Ranked Choice Voting for general elections in the State of North Carolina, ensuring that office holders win a true majority of voter support and better reflect the will of North Carolina voters.

Submitted to the Congressional District 11 Democratic Party by the Henderson County Democratic Party on April 19, 2023 and the Buncombe County Democratic Party on April 22, 2023.

36. A Resolution to Professionalize the State Legislature

Result	<input type="checkbox"/> Adopted in bundle	<input type="checkbox"/> Adopted original	<input type="checkbox"/> Adopted as amended	<input type="checkbox"/> Not adopted
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WHEREAS, Both the North Carolina State House and Senate are considered part-time legislative bodies; and

WHEREAS, This part-time designation provides legislators with less pay, resources, and staff than they would have in a full-time position; and

WHEREAS, Factors such as no-notice, in-person votes on legislation, legislative sessions that can be lengthened indefinitely, and large constituency bases requiring varied constituent services make this part-time status incompatible with the real-world requirements of the office; and

WHEREAS, The base legislative salary of \$13,951 annually is incongruous with the ideals of a “citizen legislature” and, instead, limits legislative service to only those who can afford to otherwise supplement their legislative income; and

WHEREAS, This low base pay creates incentives for legislators to cater to private interests who can provide post-office benefits like jobs or more direct financial support; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the North Carolina Democratic Party and all its elected members support moving to a full-time state legislative model; and

RESOLVED, That the pay, resources, and staff of the state legislators be increased to match the additional work that would be required by this change; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That additional voting methods be explored to allow for the greater participation of physically absent legislators.

Submitted to the Congressional District 11 Democratic Party by the Buncombe County Democratic Party on April 22, 2023.

37. Resolution Requiring Legislative Thresholds be Based on Total Seats

Result	<input type="checkbox"/> Adopted in bundle	<input type="checkbox"/> Adopted original	<input type="checkbox"/> Adopted as amended	<input type="checkbox"/> Not adopted
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WHEREAS, In order to address the business of government, state, territorial, and national legislative bodies require a quorum of members - most often a majority - be present in order to function; and

WHEREAS, Until such quorum is determined to have been lost, the work of the given legislative body is done via votes based on the fraction of “present and voting” members rather than fraction of total seats of the body; and

WHEREAS, The determination of voting thresholds by present and voting members rather than by total seats effectively disenfranchises the communities whose legislator is absent or otherwise unable to participate; and

WHEREAS, Legislative bodies often strategically “garage” votes until absences cause thresholds to fall as a way of bypassing the will of the majority to pass legislation or do other business that would normally not have the necessary support; and

WHEREAS, The absence of a legislator should not be taken as that community’s disinterest or neutrality in the given business of government; and

WHEREAS, The threshold of votes fluctuating based on attending members leaves vulnerabilities in our democratic government in which actors supporting the passage of unpopular legislation can artificially lower the necessary thresholds of affirmative votes by blocking the attendance of opposed members; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Democratic Party and all its elected members support changing the threshold requirements of public legislative bodies from present members to total seats of the body in all cases except under legislative emergency as dictated by the constitutions of the operating political entities; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That additional voting methods be explored to allow for the greater participation of physically absent legislators.

Submitted to the Congressional District 11 Democratic Party by the Buncombe County Democratic Party on April 22, 2023.

38. A Resolution Calling for Governors to Retain Their Executive Powers in Cases of Their Absences From the State

Result	<input type="checkbox"/> Adopted in bundle	<input type="checkbox"/> Adopted original	<input type="checkbox"/> Adopted as amended	<input type="checkbox"/> Not adopted
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WHEREAS, Article Three, Section Three of the North Carolina State Constitution states that “During the absence of the Governor from the State... the Lieutenant Governor shall be Acting Governor;” and

WHEREAS, Many other state constitutions contain similar language transferring executive authority in similar circumstances; and

WHEREAS, This delegation of authority is unnecessary in our modern world of rapid communication and transportation; and

WHEREAS, Unlike the other triggers for enacting the gubernatorial line of succession (death, resignation, removal from office, or physical or mental incapacity), absence from the state does not diminish the Governor's ability to serve their role as chief state executive; and

WHEREAS, This forced transference of power undermines the executive authority of the Governor by allowing such authority to be effectively sidestepped through the Lieutenant Governor when the Governor is required to leave the state, forcing a governor who wishes to retain that authority to remain in the state for the entire duration of their term; and

WHEREAS, This further limits the Governor’s capacity to fill their role as chief representative of the state on matters that would take them outside of state lines; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the North Carolina Democratic Party and all its elected members support amending the North Carolina State Constitution to strike the offending language from the relevant subsection; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Democratic Party and all of its elected members support amending state and territorial constitutions across the country to strike similarly offending language pertinent to their own state officials.

Submitted to the Congressional District 11 Democratic Party by the Buncombe County Democratic Party on April 22, 2023.

39. A Resolution Calling for the End to Constitutional Age Requirements

Result	<input type="checkbox"/> Adopted in bundle	<input type="checkbox"/> Adopted original	<input type="checkbox"/> Adopted as amended	<input type="checkbox"/> Not adopted
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WHEREAS, Article Two, Section Six; Article Three, Section Two; and Article Six, Section Six of the North Carolina State Constitution establish minimum age requirements for State Senators, Governors, and all other elected officeholders respectively; and

WHEREAS, Article Four, Section Eight of the North Carolina State Constitution establishes a maximum age limit for Justices and Judges; and

WHEREAS, Article One, Section One; Article One, Section Two; and Article Two, Section One of the Constitution of the United States establish minimum age requirements for Representatives, Senators, and Presidents respectively; and

WHEREAS, Many other political subdivisions - such as states and territories - include age requirements within their own constitutions; and

WHEREAS, Age has no intrinsic relationship with intelligence, ability, or any other attribute desirable in our representative democracy; and

WHEREAS, Limitations on who can hold public office are inherently antidemocratic and must only exist where absolutely necessary; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the North Carolina Democratic Party and all its elected members support amending the North Carolina State Constitution to remove the language creating age requirements for public officeholders; and

RESOLVED, That the Democratic Party and all its elected members support amending the Constitution of the United States to remove the language creating age requirements for public officeholders; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Democratic Party and all of its elected members support amending state and territorial constitutions across the country to remove the language creating age requirements for public officeholders.

Submitted to the Congressional District 11 Democratic Party by the Buncombe County Democratic Party on April 22, 2023.

40. A Resolution Calling for the End of the “Natural-Born Citizen Clause”

Result	<input type="checkbox"/> Adopted in bundle	<input type="checkbox"/> Adopted original	<input type="checkbox"/> Adopted as amended	<input type="checkbox"/> Not adopted
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WHEREAS, Article Two, Section One of the Constitution of the United States states that “No Person except a natural born Citizen... shall be eligible to the Office of President;” and

WHEREAS, This clause alone permanently disqualifies 45 million Americans, 23 million of which are current citizens, from ever becoming President based solely on where they were born; and

WHEREAS, Birthplace, in itself, has no bearing on the qualities or allegiances of any person to any nation; and

WHEREAS, Limitations on who can hold public office are inherently antidemocratic and must only exist where absolutely necessary; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Democratic Party and all its elected members support amending the Constitution of the United States to remove the language creating the “Natural-Born Citizen Clause”.

Submitted to the Congressional District 11 Democratic Party by the Buncombe County Democratic Party on April 22, 2023.

41. A Resolution Calling for Governors and Lieutenant Governors to Run on Joint Tickets

Result	<input type="checkbox"/> Adopted in bundle	<input type="checkbox"/> Adopted original	<input type="checkbox"/> Adopted as amended	<input type="checkbox"/> Not adopted
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WHEREAS, In North Carolina and 16 other states, the Governor and Lieutenant Governor are elected on separate ballot items in the general election; and

WHEREAS, The chief responsibility of the Lieutenant Governor is to serve as the first link in the chain of succession should the Governor become temporarily or permanently unable to fulfill the role of their office; and

WHEREAS, The separate election of the Lieutenant Governor leaves vulnerabilities in our democratic system in which actors opposing the Governor may artificially disqualify them, shifting their executive authority to an oppositional Lieutenant Governor, now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the North Carolina Democratic Party and all its elected members support amending the state's electoral process to have the Governor and Lieutenant Governor run on a single, joint ticket; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Democratic Party and all of its elected members support amending the electoral processes of the 16 other states to have their Governors and Lieutenant Governors run on joint tickets.

Submitted to the Congressional District 11 Democratic Party by the Buncombe County Democratic Party on April 22, 2023.

Economy and Labor

42. A Resolution Supporting Drivers Licenses for Undocumented Workers who Pass the North Carolina Drivers' Test

Result	<input type="checkbox"/> Adopted in bundle	<input type="checkbox"/> Adopted original	<input type="checkbox"/> Adopted as amended	<input type="checkbox"/> Not adopted
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WHEREAS, North Carolina is short of workers to meet the needs of employers, especially in construction, hospitality, health care, and agriculture; and

WHEREAS, eighteen states provide driving privileges for undocumented persons who pass the driver's test and are eligible to purchase insurance; and

WHEREAS, passage of such legislation will also make road travel safer for all; therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that Henderson County Democrats support any legislation in the NC General Assembly providing for the issuance of drivers' licenses to undocumented residents.

Submitted to the Congressional District 11 Democratic Party by the Henderson County Democratic Party on April 19, 2023.

43. A Resolution to Have a Variable Minimum Wage Based on Employer Ability

Result	<input type="checkbox"/> Adopted in bundle	<input type="checkbox"/> Adopted original	<input type="checkbox"/> Adopted as amended	<input type="checkbox"/> Not adopted
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WHEREAS, The North Carolina and Federal minimum wage of \$7.25 has remained since 2009, and

WHEREAS, Prices of food, housing, transportation, and other necessities have increased significantly [for example, Duke Energy has recently announced another rate hike (18%); food prices are about 50% higher (or more) now than in 2009]; and

WHEREAS, There are vast differences in employee compensation (eg \$100,000/year = \$50/hr x 40 hours/wk x 50 wks/yr; \$1 million a year = \$500/hr; and

WHEREAS, Some company CEO and other executive salaries vastly exceed \$100,000/year, with some making millions a year;

WHEREAS, Some employers may be able to afford to pay a higher minimum wage than others; be it
RESOLVED, That the minimum wage be increased after careful study to determine whether some
employers should have to pay a higher minimum wage than others.

Submitted to the Congressional District 11 Democratic Party by the McDowell County Democratic Party
on April 15, 2023.

44. A Resolution in Support of Equalizing the Penalties for Wage Theft and Property Theft

Result	<input type="checkbox"/> Adopted in bundle	<input type="checkbox"/> Adopted original	<input type="checkbox"/> Adopted as amended	<input type="checkbox"/> Not adopted
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WHEREAS, There is no equivalent criminal penalty for wage theft by employers from “servants and
other employees” (As stated in G.S. 14-75).

WHEREAS, Wage Theft affects millions of American workers every year, costing workers an estimated
15 billion dollars a year; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, The Democratic Party of North Carolina holds the belief, in agreement with John Locke,
that workers are entitled to the full value of their labor. To that end we condemn wage theft in all its
forms, including but not limited to:

1. payment below the minimum wage;
2. withholding agreed upon wages (this includes overtime on commissions, piece rate, and regular wages);
3. not accruing or not being allowed to use paid sick leave;
4. not paying promised vacations or bonuses;
5. requesting job duties be performed outside of compensated time;
6. not paying final wages in a timely manner;
7. withholding unauthorized deductions (not otherwise provided for in law);
8. denying required or promised meal breaks, rest breaks, or preventative cool-down breaks;
9. managers or owners taking tips;
10. failing to reimburse business expenses;
11. bounced paychecks;
12. withholding or denying reporting time pay; or
13. misclassifying employees as independent contractors; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, In the spirit of fairness, the penalty for theft by an employee should be no more severe than the penalty for wage theft by an employer.

Submitted to the Congressional District 11 Democratic Party by the Swain County Democratic Party on April 15, 2023 and Haywood County Democratic Party on April 22, 2023.

45. A Resolution to Support Low-Barrier Shelters

Result	<input type="checkbox"/> Adopted in bundle	<input type="checkbox"/> Adopted original	<input type="checkbox"/> Adopted as amended	<input type="checkbox"/> Not adopted
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WHEREAS homelessness is on the rise in American cities and towns due to the effects of the Covid-19 pandemic, the opioid epidemic, rising costs of living, and reductions in needed services by local, state, and federal governments;

WHEREAS many communities offer homeless services and supports that significant vulnerable populations are unable to access for a variety of reasons, including: relationship status, family composition, lack of identification, access to personal possessions, companion animals, sexuality, gender identity, residency status, curfew restrictions, substance use, arrest history, and health concerns or physical ability;

WHEREAS these coverage gaps have left a growing segment of the population chronically homeless, at increasing risk to themselves and the public health;

WHEREAS low-barrier shelters, defined as overnight housing accommodations for individuals who are homeless, for the purpose of providing safe shelter without imposition of identification, time limits, or other program requirements, are demonstrated to produce better outcomes for impacted communities at lower costs than emergency medical services and criminal justice involvement;

WHEREAS Democrats seek evidence-based alternatives to the chronic involvement with the criminal justice system and emergency medical service in order to promote better overall community health;

WHEREAS Democrats recognize the dignity and human rights of all, regardless of characteristic or circumstance;

WHEREAS Democrats embrace the words of Eleanor Roosevelt when she asserts that human rights begin “in small places, close to home... where every [person] seeks equal justice, equal opportunity, equal dignity without discrimination. Unless these rights have meaning there,” in our neighborhoods, “they have little meaning anywhere;”

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Democratic Party supports the creation of low-barrier shelters across our communities utilizing modeled best practices with input from served populations in order to provide an effective, safe, and humane response to the incidence of homelessness.

Submitted to the Congressional District 11 Democratic Party by the Buncombe County Democratic Party on April 22, 2023.

46. A Resolution in Support of a Comprehensive Approach to Housing Policy

Result	<input type="checkbox"/> Adopted in bundle	<input type="checkbox"/> Adopted original	<input type="checkbox"/> Adopted as amended	<input type="checkbox"/> Not adopted
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WHEREAS, The availability, quality, cost, and location of housing matter to all Americans. Where people live affects the jobs they can get, the schools their children can attend, and the kind of community they live in. Rents rose faster over the previous year than they have in the past 20 years, leaving many low- and medium-income renters priced out of their homes. Affordable housing is generally defined as housing costs not exceeding 30% of household income; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED that we support the following forms of housing relief at the local, state, and federal levels of government:

- Continue to provide federal funds for rental and mortgage assistance to persons caught by inflationary housing costs.
- Include immigrants, regardless of status, in subsidized rent and mortgage payments.
- Pass the Housing Survivors of Major Disasters Act (H.R., 3037, 2022) to address barriers preventing access to FEMA aid, and ensure that expanded options for proving home ownership apply retroactively.
- Pass federal legislation to permanently implement HUD’s Mixed-Status Rule to provide access to federal housing assistance regardless of immigration status of family members.
- Promote state and local rental assistance programs to provide emergency rental and utility costs assistance and provide resources for homeowners struggling with mortgage payments.
- Enforce the federal enforcement mechanisms of the Fair Housing Act (Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968) including punitive damages and attorneys’ fees as the Act provides.
- Support and enforce fair housing provisions of the North Carolina Human Right Act that apply to persons discriminated against because of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, physical or mental handicaps, and family status; and,

RESOLVED that we support the following economic recovery initiatives:

- Pass a Public Housing Act, to retrofit public housing and provide workforce training, and workforce training subsidies for residents.
- Enact a federal Home Owners Loan Corporation (HOLC) modeled after the HOLC provided in Roosevelt's New Deal; ensure loans are available to all.
- Repeal the Faircloth Amendment, which bans any net increase in public housing units.
- Increase funding for affordable housing programs at HUD and the USDA by increasing block grants to states to build, rehabilitate, or preserve housing targeted to extremely low income (ELI) households.
- Allow underwater homeowners to write down principal to the value of the property and refinance to take advantage of cheap federal credit, limited to the price of the median home following the guidelines of President Obama's Plan to Help Responsible Homeowners.
- Provide civil and criminal penalties against mortgage holders and related mortgage service providers for deceptive practices during repackaging and refinance negotiations; require explanation of optional payback choices, such as paying at end of loan term.
- Publicly funded universal child care shall be provided.
- Join with the National Low Income Housing Coalition (NLIHC) to support the Campaign for Housing and Community Development Funding (CHCDF), a coalition working to increase resources for affordable housing and community development
- Publicize the availability to North Carolina jurisdictions of HOME-ARP funds from the America Rescue Plan to assist vulnerable populations such as individuals and households who are homeless or at risk of homelessness; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that we support the following policy reforms to improve housing affordability for North Carolina residents:

- Subsidize housing equitably between homeowners and renters, e.g., federal mortgage-interest deduction (MID) and capital gains exemptions on homeowners.
- Increase the supply of affordable housing by including funds for the repair of existing units, including weatherization/energy efficiency, and construction of new units in any infrastructure package.
- Include housing investments for America's low-income households in any infrastructure package.
- Revise "not in my backyard" NIMBY zoning codes enacted by municipalities and counties that restrict high-density projects such as building heights.
- Encourage local and state governments to revise building codes to increase the availability of high-density housing. The average rent in North Carolina increased 20% from Jan. 2021 to Jan. 2022.
- Encouraging public transit-oriented developments.
- Require developers to include a certain number of affordable units within a larger market-rate development
- Achieve net zero carbon footprint for all residences by 2050.

- Increase funding for USDA and HUD programs, including those that provide funding to support affordable housing in rural areas and on Native American tribal lands.
- Address housing barriers to successful reentry into their communities for the nearly one in three Americans with a criminal record.

Submitted to the Congressional District 11 Democratic Party by the Buncombe County Democratic Party on April 22, 2023.

47. A Resolution on Prioritizing Affordable Housing

Result	<input type="checkbox"/> Adopted in bundle	<input type="checkbox"/> Adopted original	<input type="checkbox"/> Adopted as amended	<input type="checkbox"/> Not adopted
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WHEREAS, High housing prices and increasing rental rates make it impossible for working-class families, retirees, and the elderly, as well as debt-burdened young adults to access decent and affordable housing; and

WHEREAS, The cost burden of housing has increased with rising inflation; now, be it

RESOLVED, That from the municipality to the county to the legislature shall adopt new zoning reforms to increase the supply of affordable single-family homes.

Submitted to the Congressional District 11 Democratic Party by the Haywood County Democratic Party on April 22, 2023.

48. A Resolution on the Responsibility for Managing the Expansion of Broadband Access

Result	<input type="checkbox"/> Adopted in bundle	<input type="checkbox"/> Adopted original	<input type="checkbox"/> Adopted as amended	<input type="checkbox"/> Not adopted
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WHEREAS, high quality broadband internet service is now a fundamental and essential component of employment, education, and public and family life for all Americans; and

WHEREAS, extension of broadband to small town and rural areas in Henderson County and North Carolina in general is done through a scattershot and cumbersome collection of federal/state/local funding, private sector implementation, and prioritization that is ad hoc at best, leaving many of our fellow citizens waiting years for broadband to reach them; and

WHEREAS, the federal government has the capacity and history of implementing critical infrastructure (e.g. electricity, highways, postal service); therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that responsibility for managing expansion of broadband internet service to small towns and rural areas be assumed directly by the state government in coordination with the federal government in order to speed up the process and ensure equity, communication, and fairness to all Americans.

Submitted to the Congressional District 11 Democratic Party by the Henderson County Democratic Party on April 19, 2023.

Immigration, Foreign Affairs, and Military Affairs

49. A Resolution Calling for a New National Immigration System

Result	<input type="checkbox"/> Adopted in bundle	<input type="checkbox"/> Adopted original	<input type="checkbox"/> Adopted as amended	<input type="checkbox"/> Not adopted
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WHEREAS, our national immigration system is broken, it is unconscionable to leave millions of immigrants in legal limbo without a clear, simple path to citizenship(1); and,

WHEREAS, since 1990, Congress has not updated the quotas for the legal immigration system. During that time, the population of the United States has increased 30 percent and the economy has doubled. Quotas—to the extent that they exist at all—should be linked to economic growth (in the case of employment-based immigrants) or population growth (in the case of family-sponsored immigrants), so they don't immediately become antiquated(2); and,

WHEREAS, Congress treats immigrants differently based on where they were born (literally their place of birth—they can't even escape this system by getting citizenship in another country). No "country" (i.e. nationals or former nationals of that country) can receive more than 7 percent of the total green cards in a category. These per-country limits are why Indian immigrants sponsored by their employers may have to wait decades for a green card, while other immigrants sponsored by their employers don't have to wait at all. Congress should repeal the per-country limits and ban discrimination based on nationality(2); now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the following relief be enacted:

- Release or parole all immigrants from detention,
- Impose an immediate moratorium on placing immigrants in detention,
- Reunite all children with their families immediately,
- Improve all detention center conditions immediately,
- End the 287(g) program under which local sheriffs cooperate with U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE),
- Permanently end mandatory detention of immigrants; and,

RESOLVED, that the following recovery be enacted:

- End federal prison sentences and criminal prosecution of immigrants crossing the border seeking freedom, safety, opportunity, or to reunite with their families,
- Allow immigration judges the discretion to consider individual circumstances during deportation proceedings,
- Allow immigration judges to revisit previous decisions made under the harsh 1996 immigration laws(3),

- Ban local police from acting as deportation agents or otherwise doing the work of ICE;
- Congress must provide the funding needed to clear immigration court backlogs and alleviate pressure on the immigration system; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the following immigration reforms be enacted:

- Pass the Dream Act and the New Way Forward Act,
- Ban for-profit immigration jails,
- Abolish ICE,
- Limit deportation for drug convictions and other minor offenses that result from disproportionate enforcement of communities of color,
- Allow previous deportees to apply to return to the U.S.

Sources:

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1zf_aJwmomH0z0QLqEbC7EQq2mjVbYYSZK/view

<https://www.cato.org/blog/why-legal-immigration-system-broken-short-list-problems>

<https://www.hrw.org/news/2016/04/25/us-20-years-immigrant-abuses#:~:text=The%20Illegal%20Immigration%20Reform%20and.residents%2C%20to%20detention%20and%20deportation.>

Submitted to the Congressional District 11 Democratic Party by the Buncombe County Democratic Party on April 22, 2023.

50. A Resolution in Support of Increasing Diplomacy and Decreasing Militarism

Result	<input type="checkbox"/> Adopted in bundle	<input type="checkbox"/> Adopted original	<input type="checkbox"/> Adopted as amended	<input type="checkbox"/> Not adopted
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WHEREAS, According to the World Bank, the United States spends more money on the military than the next nine countries combined and 12 times more than Russia[1]; and

WHEREAS, The United States taxpayer supports 750 military bases spread across 80 nations, in contrast to the United Kingdom’s 145, Russia’s 36, and China’s five[2]; and

WHEREAS, As Representative Barbara Lee has said, “Year after year, this country pours billions into our already-astronomical defense budget without stopping to question whether the additional funding is actually making us safer. We know that a large portion of these taxpayer dollars are used to pad the pockets of the military-industrial complex, fund outdated technology, or are simply mismanaged[3];” and

WHEREAS, The United States is the world's leading arms seller; and

WHEREAS, The United States military is currently engaged in armed conflicts all around the world[4]; and

WHEREAS, The United States has used its military to engage in interventions around the world that, since the end of World War II, have not resulted in the establishment of democratic governments or flourishing societies - including, but not limited to, the invasions of Iraq and Afghanistan - but have resulted in millions killed or wounded, violations of human rights, degraded economies and natural environments, poverty and malnutrition, money lost to waste, fraud, and abuse, and a global revulsion for U.S. imperialism[5]; and

WHEREAS, The United States refuses to allocate the resources necessary to provide universal health care, quality public education, affordable housing, good jobs, food security, adequate disaster relief, infrastructure, safe air, water, and soil, or address the challenges of climate change; and

WHEREAS, President Biden said on February 4, 2021, that "Diplomacy is back at the center of our foreign policy," and called for a diplomacy-first foreign policy, yet the 2023 budget for the State Department was \$59.7 billion compared to a Pentagon budget of \$816.7 billion; and

WHEREAS, Stock prices for weapons contractors have soared since the Russian invasion of Ukraine, and weapons company leaders have spoken of the invasion as an "opportunity[6];" and

WHEREAS, The current Secretary of Defense former General Lloyd Austin served as a paid Board member of Raytheon Technologies before joining President Biden's cabinet, creating an apparent conflict of interest; and

WHEREAS, The combined CEO pay of the top 5 weapon makers - General Dynamics, Raytheon, Boeing, Northrop Grumman, and Lockheed Martin - exceeds \$100 million dollars totally and a total of \$287 million is paid to their top two dozen executives[7]; and

WHEREAS, Research done by Dr. Heidi Garrett-Peltier of Brown University indicates that spending \$287 million on productive activities would create thousands of jobs: 2,812 jobs in clean energy or infrastructure, 4,104 in health care, and 4,362 in education[8]; and

WHEREAS, Military conflict causes immense human suffering, disintegration of societies, degradation of the environment, and increases the possibility of nuclear conflagration[9]; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. prophetically stated "Mankind must put an end to war or war will put an end to mankind;" now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Democratic Party will encourage our elected leaders to support a 'diplomacy first' foreign policy; and

RESOLVED, That the Democratic Party will question and openly debate the economic, social, environmental, and moral effects of a militarized economy and foreign policy based on militarism; and

RESOLVED, That the Democratic Party will support Marc Pohan and Barbara Lee's People Over Pentagon Act which would slash \$100 billion from the nation's military budget and reallocate that money to urgent needs: from investments in education and healthcare to combating the climate emergency; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Democratic Party will call for significantly increased investment in diplomacy, recognizing increasing militarization as the dangerous, escalating, and counterproductive factor it too often is.

Submitted to the Congressional District 11 Democratic Party by the Buncombe County Democratic Party on April 22, 2023.

[1] "Military expenditure (current USD)" - World Bank
<https://www.state.gov/world-military-expenditures-and-arms-transfers-2021-edition/>

[2] "How Many US Military Bases Are There in the World?" - The Souldiers Project
<https://www.thesoldiersproject.org/how-many-us-military-bases-are-there-in-the-world>

[3] "Lee, Pocan Revive Bill to Cut Military Budget by \$100 Billion" - Common Dreams
<https://www.commondreams.org/news/lee-pocan-people-over-pentagon>

[4] "Biden Declared the War Over. But Wars Go On." - The New York Times
<https://www.nytimes.com/2021/09/22/us/politics/biden-war.html>

[5] "Chris Hedges: Ukraine: The War That Went Wrong" - Scheerpost
<https://scheerpost.com/2023/01/29/chris-hedges-ukraine-the-war-that-went-wrong/>

[6] "Biden FY 2023 budget puts war before human needs" - National Priorities Project
<https://www.nationalpriorities.org/analysis/2022/biden-fy-2023-budget-puts-war-human-needs/>

[7] "Pentagon Profiteers: Executive Compensation In The Arms Industry" - Forbes
<https://www.forbes.com/sites/williamhartung/2022/12/12/pentagon-profiteers-executive-compensation-in-the-arms-industry/>

[8] "War Spending and Lost Opportunities" - Brown University
<https://watson.brown.edu/costsofwar/files/cow/imce/papers/2019/March%202019%20Job%20Opportunity%20Cost%20of%20War.pdf>

[9] "A time of unprecedented danger: It is 90 seconds to midnight" - Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists
<https://thebulletin.org/doomsday-clock/>

51. A Resolution in Support of the People and Nation of Ukraine

Result	<input type="checkbox"/> Adopted in bundle	<input type="checkbox"/> Adopted original	<input type="checkbox"/> Adopted as amended	<input type="checkbox"/> Not adopted
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WHEREAS, For more than a year, the people of Ukraine have been under attack by Russia in a war in which Russia has sought the total destruction of the Ukrainian nation and the decimation of its people; and

WHEREAS, Russia has committed uncounted crimes against the people of Ukraine - both violations of human rights and of war - including during previously established bilateral ceasefires; and

WHEREAS, As a sovereign nation, Ukraine has the right to direct its own foreign policy, including during the future peace process with Russia, without undue pressure from international actors including the United States; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the North Carolina Democratic Party and all its elected members continue their unequivocal support for Ukraine and its people in this ongoing, defensive conflict; and

RESOLVED, That the North Carolina Democratic Party and all its elected members continue to condemn the actions of and put pressure on Russia to end the conflict and make reparations to Ukraine for the damage they have caused; and

RESOLVED, That the United States continue its leading role in advocating for, directing, and supplying financial, humanitarian, and military aid to Ukraine and its people until such time that Ukraine chooses to resolve the conflict on their own terms; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That, once the conflict comes to an end, the United States continue to advocate for, direct, and supply financial and humanitarian aid to Ukraine and its people to help restore its civil and economic infrastructure and avert other post-war crises that may arise.

Submitted to the Congressional District 11 Democratic Party by the Buncombe County Democratic Party on April 22, 2023.