

**Buncombe County Democratic Party County Convention**  
**Resolutions Passed for consideration by District 10 and District 11 Conventions**  
**March 24 2018**

**A RESOLUTION TO FORMALIZE THE POSITION OF CLUSTER LEADER ON COUNTY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEES**

WHEREAS, many counties in North Carolina organize multiple precincts into geographic or logical clusters to more effectively organize regions of the county; and

WHEREAS, leadership within each cluster take on an expanded role in the County Party and are expected to work closely with the County Executive Committee to develop regional organizing, fundraising, and get out the vote goals; and

WHEREAS, leadership in each cluster are expected to organize membership of the cluster to effectively enact those goals in coordination with the County Executive Committee; and

WHEREAS, cluster coordinator is an appointed position in Buncombe County, rather than one elected by members of the precincts composing the cluster; and

WHEREAS, cluster coordinators within Buncombe County do not have voting rights on the County Executive Committee; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that officers of the Buncombe County Executive Committee will develop, in coordination with cluster leaders, a proposed Alternative Plan of County Organization under section 2.11 of the NCDP Plan of Organization which will enumerate the duties of the Cluster Leader position, prescribe a method for electing and filling vacancies for Cluster Leaders, and formally grant Cluster Leaders a vote on the County Executive Committee; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Buncombe County Democratic Party shall submit this plan, once approved by weighted vote of the full County Executive Committee, to the NCDP Plan of Organization Review Committee for approval by the State Executive Committee.

Submitted to the 10th and 11th Congressional District Executive Committees by Soren Pedersen, Tom Sullivan, Janet Betke, Angela Leonard, Nancee Neel, Jerome Hay, Catori Swan, Larry Dodson, Glenda Overbeck, and Rich Wasch, Buncombe County, March 24 2018.

**A RESOLUTION CALLING FOR TRANSPARENCY OF A RESOLUTION'S STATUS**

WHEREAS, Resolutions allow Democratic voices to be heard; and

WHEREAS, Precinct members put in time and effort to craft resolutions in order to stand up for issues and ultimately influence elected officials; and

WHEREAS, Resolutions are an important tool to impact the Democratic Platform and Democratic politicians; and

WHEREAS, Currently resolution authors have no clear way to find out what has happened to their resolution after it leaves the precinct; and

WHEREAS, Currently there is not an easy way to determine what resolutions have already been passed by the Platform & Resolutions Committee; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the North Carolina Democratic Party provide a listing of all resolutions (preferably with easy access from their website) given to the Platform & Resolutions Committee and what their status is (awaiting discussion or approved); and

RESOLVED, That each Congressional District Democratic Party provide a listing of all resolutions (preferably with easy access from their website) that passed during the last District Convention and post these results within 30 days of the convention; and be it further

RESOLVED, That each County Democratic Party provide a listing of all resolutions (preferably with easy access from their website) that passed during the last County Convention and post these results within 30 days of the convention.

Submitted to the 10th and 11th Congressional District Executive Committees by Kris Kramer, Angela Leonard, Jerome Hay, Larry Dodson, Joel Mazelis, and Richard Wasch, Buncombe County, March 24 2018.

## **A RESOLUTION TO CHANGE THE DATE OF ELECTION OF MEMBERS OF THE DEMOCRATIC NATIONAL COMMITTEE**

WHEREAS, the Charter and Bylaws of the Democratic Party of the United States provides that members of the Democratic National Committee shall be elected by the state executive committee in each year of a presidential election; and

WHEREAS, the terms of such members of the Democratic National Committee commence after adjournment of the Democratic Party National Convention of that presidential year and, therefore, exert power and control over the processes governing the selection of a Democratic Party presidential candidate four years hence; and

WHEREAS, the state executive committee in North Carolina and potentially in other states is elected in odd number years; and

WHEREAS, members of a state's executive committee who are elected in odd number years are selecting Democratic National Committee members who will preside over the selection of a Democratic Party presidential candidate five years into the future; and

WHEREAS, such a process, in effect, favors a perpetuation of current leadership within the Democratic National Committee and does not reflect the most current will of the party membership, particularly as that will may be affected by the outcome of the most recent selection of a presidential nominee by the Democratic Party; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the executive committee of the North Carolina Democratic Party resolve to the Democratic Party of the United States that the Charter and Bylaws thereof be amended to require that, whenever a state's executive committee membership is elected in odd numbered years, the election of members to the Democratic National Committee representing that state is to be conducted at the first meeting of the state's executive committee following the election of members to that state's executive committee taking place subsequent to the prior year's presidential election; and

RESOLVED that the executive committee of the North Carolina Democratic Party resolve to the Democratic Party of the United States that the Charter and Bylaws thereof be amended to require that, whenever a state's executive committee membership is elected in even numbered years, that state's election of Democratic National Committee members by its executive committee membership take place during the presidential election year but subsequent to the date of the presidential election.

Submitted to the 10th and 11th Congressional District Executive Committees by Jeremy Wood, Buncombe County, March 24 2018.

### **A RESOLUTION TO CHANGE THE DATE OF ELECTION OF STATE DEMOCRATIC PARTY OFFICIALS**

WHEREAS, the North Carolina Democratic Party Plan of Organization provides in Section 4.02, Elected Officers, that officers of the State Executive Committee shall be elected prior to March 1 of each odd numbered year; and

WHEREAS, the state chair of the North Carolina Democratic Party is provided with discretion to call for the election of officers of the State Executive Committee at any time between January 1 and the last day of February in a year in which officers are to be elected; and

WHEREAS, the election of officers of the State Executive Committee may and has occurred prior to the election of delegates to North Carolina Democratic Party county and district conventions and the election in that year of members of the State Executive Committee; and

WHEREAS, such early calling for the election officers of the State Executive Committee is inconsistent with a timely grassroots process of selecting officers of the State Executive Committee; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that Section 4.02 of the North Carolina Democratic Party Plan of Organization be amended to provide that officers of the State Executive Committee shall be elected in each odd numbered year in its first meeting after the completion of the county and district conventions and the election of members of the North Carolina Democratic Party state executive committee, but no later than ninety (90) days after the election of members of the State Executive Committee; and

RESOLVED, that the provisions of Sections 4.07 and 4.08 of the North Carolina Democratic Party Plan of Organization shall continue without disruption.

Submitted to the 10th and 11th Congressional District Executive Committees by Jeremy Wood, Buncombe County, March 24 2018.

### **A RESOLUTION CALLING FOR AN ORGANIZED PROGRAM OF ENHANCED PUBLIC COMMUNICATION, NATIONALLY AND LOCALLY**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

RESOLVED, That the program be planned, designed and implemented by a collaboration between representatives of the people, scientists, economists, and media/communication experts; and be it further

RESOLVED, That, in addition to promoting Democratic values and programs, the communication program also respond to attacks by adversaries.

Submitted to the 10th and 11th Congressional District Executive Committees by Steve Pohl, Buncombe County, March 24 2018.

**A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING ADOPTION IN TOTAL OF THE NEGOTIATED RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE UNITY REFORM COMMISSION TO THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY**

WHEREAS, The twenty-one members of the Unity Reform Commission (“URC”) met over the course of several months, completing in December 2017, a list of negotiated reforms to improve the function, fairness, and transparency of the Democratic Party; and

WHEREAS, The strength of these reform efforts depends to a certain extent upon adoption at the state and local Party level; and

WHEREAS, The URC recommendations are currently under consideration for adoption by the national Rules and Bylaws Committee, subject to review and possible revision; and

WHEREAS, The makeup and membership of that committee has been heavily influenced by the activity of Party Chairman Tom Perez, creating doubt as to the ability of the Rules and Bylaws Committee and Party Chairman to faithfully execute the adoption of the URC recommendations; and

WHEREAS, Because past conflicts within the Party demand reform, and the URC recommendations represents the best efforts of the Party, an expression of support at every level of the organization is not only warranted, but necessary to insure that this good work is not lost; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Democratic Party of Buncombe County hereby declare and insist that the recommendations of the Unity Reform Commission be adopted by the state and national Democratic Party in total, and without substantive revision or omission.

Submitted to the 10th and 11th Congressional District Executive Committees by Julie Montanea, Buncombe County, March 24 2018.

**A RESOLUTION CALLING FOR A REQUIREMENT THAT PRESIDENTIAL AND VICE PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES RELEASE THEIR TAX RETURNS**

WHEREAS, the President of the United States may have personal and business interests that conflict with his duties of loyalty and fiduciary responsibility to those of the United States; and

WHEREAS, the President is empowered by law to execute the laws, including those related to taxation and regulation that may impact the President’s individual interests; and

WHEREAS, the President may develop and advocate for policies affecting those competing interests; and

WHEREAS, tax returns can reveal conflicts of interest that may not appear in financial disclosure statements; and

WHEREAS, until now, every United States Presidential candidate since Jimmy Carter had made their tax returns public; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the North Carolina Democratic Party take a formal position in support of legislation requiring all candidates for the offices of the President of the United States and Vice President of the United States make available for public view their income tax returns for at least the previous five years for that candidate's name to appear on any general or primary election ballot.

Submitted to the 10th and 11th Congressional District Executive Committees by Susan Presson, Buncombe County, March 24 2018.

### **A RESOLUTION CALLING FOR THE ABOLITION OF THE ELECTORAL COLLEGE**

WHEREAS, In the history of the United States there have been four presidential elections in which, due to the operation of the Electoral College, the winning candidate received fewer votes from eligible voters of the United States than the losing candidate; and

WHEREAS, In recent U.S. history both the winners of the 2000 U.S. presidential election and the 2016 U.S. presidential election received fewer popular votes from the voters of the U.S. but still won the election due to the operation of the Electoral College; and

WHEREAS, Currently all of the states with the exception of Maine and Nebraska award all of their electoral votes to the candidate who receives the most votes in that state, regardless of the closeness of the outcome; and

WHEREAS, The continued existence of the Electoral College has the effect of diluting the votes of minority votes and disproportionately amplifying the votes of non-minority voters; and

WHEREAS, The continued existence of the Electoral College is counter to the principle of one person having one vote since it is possible that a person could be elected President of the United States by receiving the electoral votes of states that constitute only 22% of the population of the United States; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the North Carolina Democratic Party take a formal position in support of a Constitutional Amendment that would conform with the procedure set forth in Article 5 of the United States Constitution and would completely abolish the Electoral College system and therefore require the election of the President of the United States based solely on the popular votes of United States voters; and

RESOLVED, That the North Carolina Democratic Party shall seek support from the Democratic National Committee for a Constitutional Amendment abolishing the Electoral College.

Submitted to the 10th and 11th Congressional District Executive Committees by Susan Presson, Buncombe County, March 24 2018.

### **A RESOLUTION FOR ESTABLISHING A FAIR REDISTRICTING PROCESS FOR FEDERAL AND STATE LEGISLATIVE DISTRICTS IN NORTH CAROLINA**

WHEREAS, the right to vote is fundamental to the American system of representative government;  
and

WHEREAS, it is a self-evident truth that the voters should select their representatives rather than  
suffer the affront of having their representatives select themselves; and

WHEREAS, the pernicious practice of designing voting districts to assure the outcome of elections,  
commonly known as gerrymandering, is a gross violation of these principles; and

WHEREAS, an unrepresentative legislature is poisonous to the public's trust in their government;  
and

WHEREAS, there is blame to be had by both major political parties for gerrymandering, past and  
present; and

WHEREAS, there has long been bipartisan support in the North Carolina General Assembly for  
legislation to establish a fair redistricting process for Congressional districts and seats in the state  
House and Senate; and

WHEREAS, Senate Bill 209 and House Bill 200 in the present session incorporate this reform,  
modeled on highly successful legislation in Iowa; and

WHEREAS, the present leadership of the General Assembly plainly intends to keep this overdue  
reform from coming to a vote; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Democratic Party of North Carolina commit itself fully to enactment of this or  
similar successive legislation and make this an issue of highest priority in every campaign for the  
House and Senate.

Submitted to the 10th and 11th Congressional District Executive Committees by Nancee Neel, Laura  
Evans, Bob Ballard, Janene Donovan, Jeff Vanderlip, and Rebecca Crandall, Buncombe County,  
March 24 2018.

## **A RESOLUTION CALLING FOR NON-PARTISAN JUDICIAL ELECTIONS**

WHEREAS, justices are expected to make decisions impartially and without concern for political  
consequences; and

WHEREAS, publicly declared political affiliation of justices may exasperate partisan ideologies; and

WHEREAS, partisan judicial campaigns often require campaign donations from business groups, and  
research from the American Constitution Society shows that justices that receive large donations  
from business groups are more likely to rule favorably in the interest of the same business groups  
that appear before them in court; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the North Carolina Democratic Party will advocate for all state and local judicial  
elections be conducted without the candidate publicly affiliating with a political party.

Submitted to the 10th and 11th Congressional District Executive Committees by Laura Evans and  
Rebecca Crandall, Buncombe County, March 24 2018.

## **A RESOLUTION CALLING FOR THE UNIVERSAL RIGHT TO VOTE**

WHEREAS, the right to vote is intrinsic to democracy; and

WHEREAS, the ability of numerous U.S. citizens to vote has been hindered or prevented in many states, including North Carolina, by unnecessary voter identification requirements and other strategies, which may include inappropriate location or inadequate number of polling places, voting machines subject to hacking and lacking a paper trail, reduction of early voting days, and interstate cross-check; and

WHEREAS, instances of in-person voter fraud, which voter ID is purported to prevent, are exceedingly rare; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the North Carolina Democratic Party goes on record to support same-day voter registration based on the guaranty of a citizen's signature; and

RESOLVED, That the North Carolina Democratic Party goes on record to oppose any of the above-mentioned strategies that may disenfranchise legitimate voters; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the North Carolina Democratic Party shall do its utmost to increase participation by North Carolina citizens in exercising their right to vote.

Submitted to the 10th and 11th Congressional District Executive Committees by Marshall E. Johnston, Buncombe County, March 24 2018.

## **A RESOLUTION CALLING FOR INNOVATIVE STRATEGIES BY THE MUNICIPALITIES TO HELP CITIZENS VOTE**

WHEREAS, The President of the United States was voted into office with a mere 27% of the eligible voting population; and

WHEREAS, The president is being investigated for several offenses, such as collusion with a foreign government and/or obstruction of justice; and the response to this unfolding constitutional crisis by the majority party in Congress has been at turns deceitful, enabling, or anemic; and

WHEREAS, The majority party of North Carolina has created a structural advantage due to unconstitutional partisan gerrymandering; has passed an unconstitutional voter ID law; purged voter rolls; eliminated polling places; cut voting hours; and now seeks to redraw the judicial and prosecutorial districts for partisan gain; and

WHEREAS, Voters must also overcome: the influence of dark money; the advantage of incumbency; the Republican electoral advantage on the Congressional map; the disinformation campaigns spread by Russian bots and the conservative media; and Russia's penetration of our voting systems; and

WHEREAS, Municipalities are the nation's civic laboratories, where experimentation can be carried out for the good of the locality and then duplicated across the state and the nation; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the municipalities of North Carolina should take concerted action to help their citizens vote, by a variety of innovative means such as: installing automatic registration at the local

level, in each municipality; installing vote-by-mail at the local level, in each municipality; and possibly installing compulsory voting at the local level, in each municipality.

Submitted to the 10th and 11th Congressional District Executive Committees by Soren Pedersen, Buncombe County, March 24 2018.

**A RESOLUTION CALLING ON THE NORTH CAROLINA LEGISLATURE TO ENACT “VOTE BY MAIL” LEGISLATION**

WHEREAS, participation of the citizenry in the electoral process is essential for the survival of our democratic republic; and

WHEREAS, such participation in North Carolina’s general election totaled barely half of registered voters in 2014; and

WHEREAS, such Participation in Primary elections is particularly low, thus contributing substantially to disproportionately partisan outcomes; and

WHEREAS, Vote by Mail is an election system in which registered voters receive ballots and secure envelopes in the mail, fill them out in the privacy of their homes and send them back; and

WHEREAS, Vote by Mail increases turnout, as evidenced by the fact that the average voter participation rates of registered voters of the three Vote by Mail states exceeded the averages of the rest of the nation by 17%; and

WHEREAS, concerns about the potential for systemic voter fraud have led to measures making voting more complicated, thus impeding participation; and

WHEREAS, voting by mail makes such laws moot, while assuring accuracy by signature verification; and

WHEREAS, a shrinking and aging pool of qualified poll workers makes the administration of elections increasingly difficult; and

WHEREAS, the costs associated with purchasing and maintaining voting machines, recruiting and training poll workers, maintaining or leasing polling places, and potentially paying overtime wages for election board workers would be eliminated by Voting by Mail (for example in one county, Madison, the amount budgeted for the 2016 primary and General elections for election activities was \$104,825; not included was \$182,385 set aside for the new voting machines mandated by the Legislature); now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the North Carolina Legislature enact Voting by Mail legislation modeled on that in effect in Oregon.

Submitted to the 10th and 11th Congressional District Executive Committees by Tom Sullivan, Buncombe County, March 24 2018.

**A RESOLUTION TO ALLOW STATEWIDE BALLOT INITIATIVES IN NORTH CAROLINA**

WHEREAS, since 1916, the North Carolina Legislation Restrictions Amendment, also known at the time as Amendment 1, has prohibited citizen-sponsored statewide ballot initiatives in North Carolina; and

WHEREAS, in contrast, the citizens of various cities in North Carolina may pursue initiative petitions proposing or opposing civic charter amendments; and

WHEREAS, the citizens of North Carolina ought to have the right to directly petition the state for new laws, or for changes to current laws, just as they have the right to directly petition their cities for new laws, or for changes to current laws; and

WHEREAS, ballot initiatives would allow the citizens of North Carolina to petition to have laws introduced by referendum, where the people themselves vote rather than a representative; and

WHEREAS, North Carolinians deserve to have their voices heard; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the North Carolina Democratic Party strongly supports the re-establishment of ballot initiatives and referendums in North Carolina; and

RESOLVED, that the North Carolina Democratic Party shall include the re-establishment of ballot initiatives and referendums in its platform.

Submitted to the 10th and 11th Congressional District Executive Committees by Janet Betke, Buncombe County, March 24 2018.

## **A RESOLUTION TO IMPLEMENT LOCAL CAMPAIGN FINANCE DISCLOSURE LAWS**

WHEREAS, the Supreme Court's Citizens United decision has unleashed hundreds of millions of dollars of anonymous corporate spending on political campaigns across North Carolina and the nation; and

WHEREAS, the United States Supreme Court has held repeatedly that disclosure of campaign funding is constitutional and essential to the public's faith in our democratic process; and

WHEREAS, in an attempt to hide their funding of election activity, large political actors across the country have been funding such activity through nonprofit organizations and other entities that generally do not have to disclose their funding sources (hereafter "dark money"); and

WHEREAS, the rise of dark money undermines our election disclosure laws, preventing transparency of campaign contributions and expenditures; and

WHEREAS, dark money has grown exponentially at the federal and state levels, has begun to be employed on local levels and is likely to expand rapidly in the future if not addressed; and

WHEREAS, North Carolina has been a prime target for dark money spending; and

WHEREAS, there is a movement nationally to promote local action and establish regional autonomy over Campaign Finance Disclosure; and

WHEREAS, the North Carolina Democratic Party supports transparency in the financing of political elections; and

WHEREAS, The Democratic Party supported the DISCLOSE Act legislation, which would broaden the definition of “express advocacy” to include advertisements that are the functional equivalent of express advocacy as judged by a reasonable person; expand the electioneering communications window from 30 days before a primary and 60 days before a general election to 120 days before a primary through the date of a general election; require immediate reporting of significant independent expenditures and electioneering communications; strengthen coordination rules; obstruct the use of shell corporations in political spending; and require all corporations and organizations described in section 501(c) of the IRS tax code (except 501(c)(3) corporations), along with labor groups and any political organization under section 527 of the IRS tax code who have spent more than \$10,000 in aggregate in an election cycle to disclose their donors who have contributed more than \$10,000 to the organization for the purposes of political spending; and

WHEREAS, the Buncombe County Democratic Party acknowledges and understands that cumulative local action can change State and Federal policy; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Buncombe County Democratic Party shall draft model legislation for Campaign Finance Disclosure relevant to City and County governments using, as a basis, the Disclose Act, The California Advertising Disclosure Bill, and the Austin Texas Dark Money Resolution; and

RESOLVED, that the Buncombe County Democratic Party shall actively seek to enact such legislation in Buncombe County; and be it further

RESOLVED, The Buncombe County Democratic Party shall share its draft legislation with the State Party and work with the State Party to have the legislation passed in as many Counties in the State as is possible.

Submitted to the 10th and 11th Congressional District Executive Committees by Rebecca Crandall, Buncombe County, March 24 2018.

## **A RESOLUTION ON HOME RULE FOR MUNICIPALITIES**

WHEREAS, the North Carolina General Assembly (NCGA) has shown an unacceptable level of interference with Asheville City and Buncombe County affairs; and

WHEREAS, several other North Carolina municipalities and counties have seen unsolicited intrusion by the NCGA into their affairs; and

WHEREAS, the majority of citizens have not been favorable to most, if not all, of the alternations thrust upon them by NCGA; and

WHEREAS, the citizens of Asheville, Buncombe County, and other North Carolina political jurisdictions are capable of managing their own affairs that are not constitutionally delegated to the State; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the North Carolina Democratic Party will advocate and support action leading to Home Rule for political jurisdictions in North Carolina.

Submitted to the 10th and 11th Congressional District Executive Committees by Laura Evans, Buncombe County, March 24 2018.

**A RESOLUTION TO PREVENT THE NORTH CAROLINA LEGISLATURE FROM INFRINGING UPON CITY AND COUNTY BUSINESS**

WHEREAS, The Republican legislature has interfered with city and county business, such as water systems, and city voting systems; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the legislature shall refrain from imposing its will on cities and counties without the consent of the involved parties, and shall not contradict the will of the citizens of such city or county.

Submitted to the 10th and 11th Congressional District Executive Committees by Janene Donovan, Buncombe County, March 24 2018.

**A RESOLUTION TO REPEAL NC SESSION LAW 2016 - HOUSE BILL 2**

WHEREAS, the passage of NC HB-2 regulates restroom usage around the concept of “biological sex” which denies individuals the right to use the restroom in alignment with their gender identity; and

WHEREAS, NC HB-2 prevents local governments from setting a minimum wage, and also limits the ability of local governments to regulate and enforce well-being of minors in the workforce, commonly referred to as child labor laws; and

WHEREAS, NC HB-2 supersedes any local ordinance regulating discrimination and limits the classes protected from discrimination under North Carolina law to “race, religion, color, national origin, age, biological sex, or handicap” and therefore, other classes like veteran status, pregnancy status, gender identity, gender expression, and sexual orientation are not protected classes in North Carolina; and

WHEREAS, NC HB-2 prohibits local governments from providing any protections beyond those spelled out in the bill; and

WHEREAS, NC HB-2 contains a provision that provides if any part of the bill falls, the rest will stand; and

WHEREAS, we believe every North Carolinian has the right to participate fully and equally in society and enjoy its benefits and freedoms; and

WHEREAS, lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, intersex, asexual, and non-binary (LGBTQIA+) North Carolinians suffer pervasive discrimination in education, employment, housing, and public accommodations including public restrooms, as a result of discrimination, homophobia, transphobia, and lack of legal protections; and

WHEREAS, non-discrimination laws help to ensure that LGBTQIA+ people have equal access to the same opportunities and protections granted to others, such as the ability to live free of fear, abuse, discrimination, and violence, as well as the ability use the public restroom in alignment with one's gender identity safely and without fear of discrimination, abuse, or violence; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that NC HB-2 will be repealed in its entirety; and

RESOLVED, that public buildings will provide restrooms that are available to all people regardless of their sexual orientation, gender identity or gender assigned at birth; and

RESOLVED, that the North Carolina Democratic Party supports the passage of comprehensive non-discrimination legislation that would make discrimination based upon sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, veteran status, and pregnancy status illegal in employment, housing, education, health care, and public accommodations including public restrooms.

Submitted to the 10th and 11th Congressional District Executive Committees by Soren Pedersen, Buncombe County, March 24 2018.

### **A RESOLUTION TO END NORTH CAROLINA SALES TAX ON SELECTED LABOR**

WHEREAS, the North Carolina assembly passed a law to require certain businesses to charge and collect sales tax on the total amount of the labor charge; and

WHEREAS, many of the businesses that are required to charge sales tax on specific types of labor are small businesses; and

WHEREAS, many of the small businesses may be a single person business and the added tax on the labor is a burn on that business in the form of financial, time, operating cost; and

WHEREAS, the sales tax on labor is an additional tax on the labor; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the North Carolina Democratic Party illuminate the sales tax burden on the labor for the currently selected industries and businesses.

Submitted to the 10th and 11th Congressional District Executive Committees by Jeff Vanderlip, Buncombe County, March 24 2018.

### **A RESOLUTION TO ELIMINATE THE NORTH CAROLINA STATE LOTTERY**

WHEREAS, Governance under the U.S. Constitution is explicitly intended to secure the general welfare of our citizens; and

WHEREAS, teaching children that success in life is best achieved through education and diligence; and

WHEREAS, a lottery benefits a few at the expense of many and teaches children that success is the result of luck rather than personal effort; and

WHEREAS, gambling is an addictive behavior for many people, to the extent that all advertising for the NC lottery includes information about such addiction and a hotline phone number for access to help for so-called "problem" gamblers; and

WHEREAS, encouraging behavior that often leads to personal financial ruin is not in the best interest of individuals, families and the general welfare; and

WHEREAS, it is a well-established fact that participation in public lotteries is highest among citizens with the lowest income, therefore comprising a de facto tax on the poor; and

WHEREAS, education is mandatory for children in the state of North Carolina and should therefore be funded from general revenues; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the North Carolina Democratic Party supports elimination of the NC State Education Lottery and supports fully funding public education in this state from general revenues.

Submitted to the 10th and 11th Congressional District Executive Committees by Julie Montanea, Buncombe County, March 24 2018.

### **A RESOLUTION TO CREATE BENEFIT CORPORATIONS IN NORTH CAROLINA**

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

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

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

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

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

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

Submitted to the 10th and 11th Congressional District Executive Committees by Jeremy Wood, Buncombe County, March 24 2018.

### **A RESOLUTION CALLING FOR UNEQUIVOCAL SUPPORT FOR PUBLIC SCHOOLS IN NORTH CAROLINA**

WHEREAS, Our public schools are the backbone of our democracy, and

WHEREAS, Public schools accept and nurture all children; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Democratic Party will actively support public schools by opposing any attempts on the part of the federal or state government to enact legislation that gives public money to private or parochial schools, or to homeschoolers or establishes a national or state voucher scheme (such as U.S. Bill H.R. 610).

Submitted to the 10th and 11th Congressional District Executive Committees by Bob Ballard, Buncombe County, March 24 2018.

## **A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF TEACHERS AND TEACHER EDUCATION AND COMPENSATION IN THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS OF THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA**

WHEREAS, a just, humane, imaginative, well-educated and industrious citizenry is essential to a democratic society; and

WHEREAS, public education has long been recognized as an essential function of government; and

WHEREAS, free public education provides tangible benefits for individuals, the community and the economy; and

WHEREAS, a high-quality public education requires that the State of North Carolina recruit, train and support teachers of outstanding character and intellect; and

WHEREAS, the compensation and benefits currently offered public school teachers in North Carolina denigrate their abilities and commitment, discourage entry into the profession, and lead teachers to seek employment elsewhere; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the recruitment, training, empowerment and compensation of a high-quality teaching force is regarded as the top priority in the expenditure of revenues of the State of North Carolina; and

RESOLVED, that in addition to significant increases in the regular budget devoted to the preparation and support of a high-quality teaching force for the public schools, any budget surpluses are to be devoted to making teachers' compensation competitive with any other state, encouraging the enrollment of the best and brightest in teacher preparation, the provision of adequate instructional supplies and the reduction of student-teacher ratios; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the North Carolina General Assembly and the U.S. Congress should increase funding for public education from Pre-K through College.

Submitted to the 10th and 11th Congressional District Executive Committees by Rebecca Crandall, Buncombe County, March 24 2018.

## **A RESOLUTION TO STOP STRIPPING PUBLIC FUNDS FROM NORTH CAROLINA'S PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

WHEREAS, the North Carolina constitution says that taxpayer money be used "exclusively for establishing and maintaining a uniform system of free public schools," (*Asheville Citizen-Times*, "Growing Interest in School Voucher Program in WNC," 7/31/15); and

WHEREAS, the North Carolina Supreme Court still ruled in favor of a voucher program – The Opportunity Scholarship Program – providing up to \$4,200 per student to attend private schools for families of four whose annual income is below \$59,667 family; and

WHEREAS, in Buncombe County last year, just 13 students received scholarships, where 113 students have applied for scholarships for the 201516 school year; and

WHEREAS, in many cases the \$4,200 scholarship fails to cover the total cost of the private schools and ultimately leaves some students still not able to attend the private school, therefore possibly leading to segregation of schools by economic levels; and

WHEREAS, most of the tax dollar scholarships have been going to religious schools, for example, the Trinity Christian School in Fayetteville (receiving \$118,230 of public school funds), the Greensboro Islamic Academy (receiving \$279,300 of public school funds), and in Buncombe County, the Temple Baptist School, with 28 applicants; and

WHEREAS, Republicans have tried to remove income requirements so everyone can attend the private school of their choice with public school funds; and

WHEREAS, in 2015, House Bill 535 proposed allocating \$1 million per year to Parents for Education Freedom in NC (“PEFNC”), a nonprofit funded by the Walton family to established to distribute taxpayer dollars to new charter schools in NC without public oversight; and

WHEREAS, when once a student transfers to a private school but drops out, the money has not been transferred back to public schools; and

WHEREAS, critics of money being taken away from the public schools point out that there is a lack of standards and accountability at private schools as to the curriculum; and

WHEREAS, North Carolina public school funding has been cut drastically in the Republican budgets coming out of Raleigh to give tax cuts to high income corporations and households instead; and

WHEREAS, local school districts like Buncombe’s have had to subsidize public schools to make up for Raleigh’s drastic funding cuts; and

WHEREAS, local governments may need to raise local taxes to maintain the quality of their schools in the face of the General Assembly’s failure to provide adequate funding, and due to charter school scholarships diverting funds from public schools to private schools; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the North Carolina legislature follow the state constitution and stop withdrawing money from public education, which impairs North Carolina public schools’ ability to be successful; and

RESOLVED, that the North Carolina legislature implement other proven methods of improving public schools, including refraining from furthering any voucher systems, rather than diverting funds for a select few to private schools.

Submitted to the 10th and 11th Congressional District Executive Committees by Rebecca Crandall, Buncombe County, March 24 2018.

**A RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT INCREASED STATE AND LOCAL OVERSIGHT OF NORTH CAROLINA’S CHARTER SCHOOLS TO ENSURE THEY OPERATE ACCORDING TO THE SAME FISCAL AND ACADEMIC STANDARDS AS TRADITIONAL PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

WHEREAS, North Carolina charter schools are funded by North Carolina taxpayers and share funding equally with traditional public schools in North Carolina; and

WHEREAS, the rules by which charter schools are organized differ from traditional public schools and are not subject to the same fiscal and demographic requirements as those that regulate traditional public schools in North Carolina; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that to ensure North Carolina charter schools are held to fiscal and academic standards commensurate with traditional public schools, the North Carolina Democratic Party requires that necessary oversight be instituted at both the state and county levels such that each North Carolina charter school operates according to the instructions and guidance documents set forth by the NC Department of Public Instruction Office of Charter Schools.

Submitted to the 10th and 11th Congressional District Executive Committees by Laura Evans, Buncombe County, March 24 2018.

### **A RESOLUTION CALLING FOR REFORM OF PRISON INMATE JOB TRAINING PROGRAMS**

WHEREAS, education and job training is minimal for residents in state prison facilities; and

WHEREAS, North Carolina Community Colleges are tooled with resources to implement such job training; and

WHEREAS, recidivism rate for inmates receiving training is 5% versus 60% for those who do not receive job training; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That North Carolina Community Colleges, County agencies, and/or private businesses form partnerships with the North Carolina prisons; and

RESOLVED, That these partnerships yield training in areas of high employability such as but not limited to hospitality and tourism and computer coding; and be it further

RESOLVED, That this action will reduce repeat offenders and will yield more prosperous and productive citizens

Submitted to the 10th and 11th Congressional District Executive Committees by Sarah Jean Young, Buncombe County, March 24 2018.

### **A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF RACIAL JUSTICE**

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

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

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

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

RESOLVED, That the North Carolina Democratic Party will fight to end institutional and systemic racism in our state, in our society, and in our Party; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the North Carolina Democratic Party will seek out and encourage participation, input, and leadership by racial and ethnic minorities.

Submitted to the 10th and 11th Congressional District Executive Committees by Bob Ballard, Buncombe County, March 24 2018.

### **A RESOLUTION CALLING FOR FAIR AND REASONABLE TREATMENT OF IMMIGRANTS IN NORTH CAROLINA**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Submitted to the 10th and 11th Congressional District Executive Committees by Janene Donovan, Buncombe County, March 24 2018.

### **A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING NORTH CAROLINA AS A SANCTUARY STATE**

WHEREAS, The North Carolina Democratic Party ("NCDP") believes that immigrant communities in North Carolina contribute positively to the economy, commerce and culture of the State; and that intensification of detention and deportation activity against undocumented immigrants creates an unnecessarily fearful atmosphere within immigrant communities and emboldens prejudiced actions against immigrants; and

WHEREAS, The NCDP opposes any efforts to transfer federal immigration responsibilities to state, county or local officials and agencies and believes that such efforts would divert local tax dollars to activities of federal responsibility and strain our already overburdened law enforcement agencies while damaging relationships with and eroding trust of immigrant communities; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the NCDP urges the State of North Carolina to prohibit state and local law enforcement from cooperating with federal immigration authorities in complying with authorities' requests to keep suspected undocumented immigrants in jail; and

RESOLVED, That the State of North Carolina prohibit police or jailers from arresting or detaining individuals solely for immigration violations unless a judge issues a warrant; and

RESOLVED, That the State of North Carolina prohibit state agencies from inquiring about the immigration status of individuals they work with or detain; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the State of North Carolina prohibit state agencies from providing information about immigrants that federal agencies are seeking to deport.

Submitted to the 10th and 11th Congressional District Executive Committees by Tom Sullivan, Buncombe County, March 24 2018.

#### **A RESOLUTION TO REDUCE GUN VIOLENCE IN NORTH CAROLINA**

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

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

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

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

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

RESOLVED, That the North Carolina Democratic Party will work to enact a State and Federal program, funded entirely by gun manufacturers, arms retailers and gun advocacy groups, to educate the public about gun violence.

Submitted to the 10th and 11th Congressional District Executive Committees by Janene Donovan, Buncombe County, March 24 2018.

#### **A RESOLUTION TO URGE THE STATE DEMOCRATIC CAUCUSES TO SUPPORT HB 179 - DOG BREEDING STANDARDS/LAW ENFORCEMENT TOOLS, THE "PUPPY MILL BILL"**

WHEREAS, A bill to ensure that state dog breeders treat animals humanely has been passed by the House since 2009 with bipartisan support only to die in a Senate committee; and

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

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

RESOLVED, that the North Carolina Democratic Party shall ask NC House and Senate Democrats to support HB 179 or derivative bills that follow these principles.

Submitted to the 10th and 11th Congressional District Executive Committees by Tom Sullivan, Buncombe County, March 24 2018.

### **A RESOLUTION CALLING FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF A LIVING WAGE BY NORTH CAROLINA**

WHEREAS, The federal minimum wage has not increased since July 24, 2009, and therefore does not currently reflect the increased cost of living or the diminished value of dollar; and

WHEREAS, The lack of a living wage factors heavily into systemic poverty and the societal ills that accompany that poverty; and

WHEREAS, It has been shown that the institution of a living wage has net positive effects for local, regional, and state economies, with increases to both private and public revenue while lowering the cost of other governmental programs meant to address poverty; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the State of North Carolina should implement a Living Wage of \$15 an hour for all hourly employees and laborers; and

RESOLVED, That this Living Wage should scale automatically annually with the value of the dollar such that further legislation is not needed in the future.

Submitted to the 10th and 11th Congressional District Executive Committees by Bob Ballard, Buncombe County, March 24 2018.

### **A RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT GREATER INVESTMENT IN AFFORDABLE HOUSING**

WHEREAS, The lack of affordable housing is a nationwide issue that is denying many in our communities of simple, decent, affordable housing; and

WHEREAS, This issue limits many from living close to where they work, or would like to work; and

WHEREAS, It also denies many of the basic human right of safe, stable housing to live and raise their families; and

WHEREAS, The stratification of social classes leads to a dysfunctional society in many ways, such as creating an unstable economic situation where a secure work force is not available for local

employers, increasing prejudice due to lack of interactions between individuals of different social status and experiences, and leading to families either living in substandard housing, or having to endure long commutes that deny workers time with their families; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the North Carolina Democratic Party will work to enact laws and regulations that encourage the development of affordable housing in ways that might take the form of zoning, investments in low income housing programs, housing credits, tax credits and the like.

Submitted to the 10th and 11th Congressional District Executive Committees by Jeff Vanderlip, Buncombe County, March 24 2018.

### **A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE FREEDOM OF ALL WORKERS TO JOIN TOGETHER IN STRONG UNIONS AND COLLECTIVELY NEGOTIATE FOR A BETTER LIFE**

WHEREAS, by denying public employees the freedom to collectively negotiate as equals with their employer to secure better working conditions, raise living standards, and advocate for quality services in their communities, the state of North Carolina undermines that freedom for all working people; and

WHEREAS, the denial of the freedom for public employees to collectively negotiate for a better life is a direct historical vestige of slavery, indentured servitude, and segregation; and

WHEREAS, collective negotiating by workers with employers promotes workplace democracy, reduces conflict through the orderly resolution of labor disputes, builds upon existing agreements, and ensures that workers' voice in setting rights, wages, benefits, and working conditions is both recognized and protected; and

WHEREAS, people who work in unions can secure better on-the-job training and career development opportunities, often becoming more highly skilled than non-union workers and leading to safer, more stable work environments, resulting, on average, in 27 percent greater productivity; and

WHEREAS, working people in strong unions leveraged their collective power to secure the eight-hour work day, the forty-hour work week, employer-provided health care, Social Security and Medicare, and wage standards that built the middle class in the United States; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the North Carolina Democratic Party supports the enactment of legislation and public policies to secure the freedom of all workers in North Carolina, both public and private, to organize strong unions and collectively negotiate for a better life.

Submitted to the 10th and 11th Congressional District Executive Committees by Glenda Overbeck, Buncombe County, March 24 2018.

### **A RESOLUTION CALLING FOR AN EXPANSION TO MEDICAID IN NORTH CAROLINA**

WHEREAS, All Americans should have access to healthcare; and

WHEREAS, The health of our neighbor effects our own health; and

WHEREAS, Medicaid expansion in North Carolina will create good jobs; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That, in the absence of national universal health care, the North Carolina Democratic Party will support Medicaid expansion in North Carolina.

Submitted to the 10th and 11th Congressional District Executive Committees by Bob Ballard, Buncombe County, March 24 2018.

### **A RESOLUTION REJECTING THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE ATLANTIC COAST PIPELINE THROUGH NORTH CAROLINA**

WHEREAS, the purpose of this pipeline is for the transport of fracked gas, and that both the pipeline and the fracked gas pose environmental and health concerns; and

WHEREAS, the proposed route of the pipeline traverses some of the most disenfranchised, impoverished and ecologically vulnerable counties in North Carolina, and would transport fracked gas via an unstable process, with a potential for gas leaks, fires and explosions; and

WHEREAS, hydraulic fracturing causes contamination of surface and ground water, and induces seismicity, or micro earthquakes, and leads to the release of methane, a greenhouse gas with a global warming potential 104 times greater than carbon dioxide in a 20 year time frame; and

WHEREAS, the construction of fossil fuel infrastructure prolongs the reliance on fossil fuels, producing negative climate and economic consequences; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the North Carolina Governor and government immediately rescind any and all approvals of the construction of the Atlantic Coast Pipeline through North Carolina; and

RESOLVED, that the Buncombe County Democratic Party endorses this resolution in convention at the district and state levels.

Submitted to the 10th and 11th Congressional District Executive Committees by Kathie Kline, Buncombe County, March 24 2018.

### **A RESOLUTION TO BAN HYDRAULIC FRACTURING**

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

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

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

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

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

Submitted to the 10th and 11th Congressional District Executive Committees by Jeremy Wood, Buncombe County, March 24 2018.

**A RESOLUTION TO COMMIT TO PROMOTING CHANGES IN HUMAN ACTIVITY TO MITIGATE CLIMATE CHANGE**

WHEREAS, in the opinion of the majority of environmental scientists, the earth is beginning to undergo radical ecological changes, including: increasing annual temperatures, intensified storm activity, droughts, sea level rises, and their consequent effects on life on Earth; and

WHEREAS, it is the opinion of climate scientists that these effects are being caused by the accumulation of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere such as carbon dioxide, methane, nitrous oxide and others; and

WHEREAS, the increased accumulation of these greenhouse gases in the atmosphere is directly related to the increasing use of fossil fuels such as, oil natural gas, and coal, and our demand for and reliance on animal products; and

WHEREAS, increasing global temperatures contributes to a cycle of methane released into the atmosphere, from deposits previously contained within the permafrost regions and arctic ocean beds thus intensifying greenhouse gas accumulation; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the continued study of global climate change and its causes and effects be prioritized and encouraged and not abandoned; and

RESOLVED, that economic incentives to encourage energy conservation, decreased consumption, reuse & recycling of energy and materials and promotion of renewable energy infrastructure such as solar, wind, tidal and geothermal and reduce or eliminate reliance on meat and dairy products be adopted by our government; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Democratic Party supports election and appointment to office of those individuals who will commit to promoting actions that support the concepts expressed in this resolution.

Submitted to the 10th and 11th Congressional District Executive Committees by Jeremy Wood, Buncombe County, March 24 2018.

**A RESOLUTION CALLING FOR THE LEGALIZATION OF MARIJUANA FOR MEDICAL PURPOSES**

WHEREAS, About 20 years ago, scientists discovered a system in the brain called the endocannabinoid system that responds to 60 chemicals in marijuana, also known as cannabis; and

WHEREAS, The system plays a role in many of the body's functions, such as in the heart, along with the digestive, endocrine, immune, nervous, and reproductive systems; and

WHEREAS, The discovery sparked interest in finding specific chemicals made from marijuana that could be targeted for specific conditions; and

WHEREAS, Marijuana is inappropriately classified as a Schedule 1 drug, and drugs such as cocaine, methamphetamine, methadone, hydromorphone (Dilaudid), meperidine (Demerol), oxycodone (OxyContin), fentanyl, Dexedrine, Adderall, and Ritalin are classified as Schedule II drugs; and

WHEREAS, In April, 2010, the DEA gave its approval to a study on the effects of medical marijuana on post-traumatic stress disorder – the first randomized controlled research in the US for PTSD that will use the actual plant instead of oils or synthesized cannabis; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the State of North Carolina grant doctors the right to prescribe Medical Marijuana in the same way they prescribe other drugs; and

RESOLVED, That the State of North Carolina legalize the use of Medical Marijuana.

Submitted to the 10th and 11th Congressional District Executive Committees by Bob Ballard, Julie Montanea, and Lynn Miller, Buncombe County, March 24 2018.

### **A RESOLUTION THAT MARIJUANA USE BE LEGALIZED**

WHEREAS, 64% of the population supports either the decriminalization or complete legalization of medical marijuana; and

WHEREAS, Thirty states and the District of Columbia currently have laws broadly legalizing marijuana in some form; and

WHEREAS, eight states have legalized medical and recreational marijuana use already; and

WHEREAS, the state of Colorado has pulled in \$506 billion dollars in revenue since January of 2014 when it first legalized recreational marijuana (as reported in July of 2017); and

WHEREAS, the criminalization of marijuana has helped fill America's prisons with 2.2 million prisoners; and

WHEREAS, 84% of the drug cartels' income is from the sale of marijuana; and

WHEREAS, *Decriminalization* is a loosening of criminal penalties now imposed for personal marijuana use even though the manufacturing and sale of the substance remain illegal, while *Legalization*, on the other hand, is the lifting or abolishment of laws banning the possession and personal use of marijuana; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Democratic Party and its candidates for public office favor the legalization of the medical and recreational uses of marijuana in the state of North Carolina.

Submitted to the 10th and 11th Congressional District Executive Committees by Sam Speciale, Steve Pohl, and Lindsey Prather, Buncombe County, March 24 2018.

### **A RESOLUTION TO ENHANCE THE INTEGRITY OF THE PRESIDENCY**

WHEREAS, the presidency of the United States of America is an office of enormous power and immense potential for good or for evil; and

WHEREAS, the authors of the Constitution intended for the office to be held, in the words of Alexander Hamilton, "by characters preeminent for ability and virtue;" and

WHEREAS, since the administration of George Washington, Americans have looked to the presidents for moral leadership and inspiration; and

WHEREAS, current events demonstrate that the nation can no longer rely on tradition and faith alone to assure the integrity of their president; and

WHEREAS, the president is the only federal official exempt from the ethics laws; and

WHEREAS, President Donald J. Trump has refused to put his considerable assets in a blind trust and is profiteering from expenditures by domestic parties seeking his favor and by foreign entities in plain violation of Article 1, Section 9 of the Constitution which forbids the acceptance of any "present" or "emolument" from any "king, prince or foreign state;" now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Democratic Party of North Carolina call upon the Congress to make the ethics laws fully applicable to the president, require him or her to sequester all private assets in a genuinely blind trust, and provide criminal penalties for violation of the emoluments clause.

Submitted to the 10th and 11th Congressional District Executive Committees by Nancee Neel, Buncombe County, March 24 2018.

## **A RESOLUTION TO CURTAIL ABUSIVE PRESIDENTIAL SPENDING**

WHEREAS, the American people work hard for the money that they pay in taxes and expect that it will be spent prudently; and

WHEREAS, they realize that the presidency of the United States is a notably demanding position with special concerns for security; and

WHEREAS, they do not begrudge the president a reasonable opportunity for rest and recreation; and

WHEREAS, President Donald J. Trump has abused the public's trust by taking overly frequent and expensive vacations, involving the enormous costs of transporting him, his entourage and his family members on Air Force One; and

WHEREAS, this level of self-indulgence is far in excess of the time and expense charged to presidential vacations during previous administrations; and

WHEREAS, it has become apparent that Donald J. Trump is immune to being shamed out of his profligate spending; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Democratic Party of North Carolina calls on the Congress to enact a specific budget for non-essential presidential travel and require that personal funds be applied when the allotted public funds have been spent.

Submitted to the 10th and 11th Congressional District Executive Committees by Nancee Neel, Buncombe County, March 24 2018.

## **A RESOLUTION CALLING FOR THE NORTH CAROLINA DEMOCRATIC PARTY TO FULLY SUPPORT "THE DREAM ACT"**

WHEREAS, "The Dream Act" is the most effective and efficient way to promote the values of our nation in regard to immigration, and

WHEREAS, "The Dream Act" is an accepted and agreed-upon component of federal law, and

WHEREAS, "The Dream Act" supports the path to citizenship that this Party and this country do currently, and should continue to, support; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the North Carolina Democratic Party supports The Dream Act, with no hesitations, and will devote its political power to ensuring the continued support of The Dream Act.

Submitted to the 10th and 11th Congressional District Executive Committees by Bob Ballard, Buncombe County, March 24 2018.

## **A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF IMMIGRATION REFORM AND A PATH TO CITIZENSHIP**

WHEREAS, Many of our ancestors were immigrants; and

WHEREAS, America is a country populated and built by immigrants; and

WHEREAS, Immigrants provide a valuable resource for America; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Democratic Party supports common-sense immigration laws that provide a path to citizenship and voting rights for currently undocumented immigrants.

Submitted to the 10th and 11th Congressional District Executive Committees by Bob Ballard,  
Buncombe County, March 24 2018.

### **A RESOLUTION IN OPPOSITION TO A NATIONAL TRAVEL BAN**

WHEREAS, Refugees should be welcomed to America; and

WHEREAS, There is no evidence that refugees from specific countries make us any less secure; and

WHEREAS, The Democratic Party values our national security, and believes that the ban against entry to the United States by travelers from Muslim majority (or any other specific) nations does little to enhance our national security, and may in fact place us in greater danger; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Democratic Party opposes any travel ban that targets specific nationalities, religions, or other populations from immigrating to the United States.

Submitted to the 10th and 11th Congressional District Executive Committees by Bob Ballard,  
Buncombe County, March 24 2018.

### **A RESOLUTION IN OPPOSITION TO A BORDER WALL**

WHEREAS, The number of undocumented immigrants has actually fallen over the last several years; and

WHEREAS, Undocumented immigrants are an integral part of our economy; and

WHEREAS, Our nation is in need of many things to which our available resources can be better put; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Democratic Party opposes construction of any additional border barrier, wall, fence or moat of any kind.

Submitted to the 10th and 11th Congressional District Executive Committees by Bob Ballard,  
Buncombe County, March 24 2018.

### **A RESOLUTION CALLING FOR HEARINGS AND RATIFICATION OF THE EQUAL RIGHTS AMENDMENT**

WHEREAS, Women, who constitute over 51% of the population of North Carolina, continue to confront workplace discrimination; health care inequities; disparate rates of poverty; rape and domestic violence assaults; a lack of political parity; and

WHEREAS, Anti-discrimination state laws are not uniform and federal laws are not comprehensive; additionally, these laws can be repealed or reduced; and

WHEREAS, The Equal Rights Amendment (ERA) is needed to help correct systemic sex discrimination, since the US Constitution does not explicitly guarantee that all the rights that it protects are held equally by all citizens without regard to sex; and

WHEREAS, The ERA was proposed in 1923, passed by Congress in 1972 and ratified by 35 of the 38 states necessary to put it into the Constitution as of a June 30, 1982 time limit; and

WHEREAS, Irrespective of a time limit for ratification, the Nevada Legislature ratified the ERA with a bipartisan vote on March 22, 2017, becoming the thirty-sixth state to ratify the amendment; and

WHEREAS, Congress can alter time limits in the proposing clauses of amendments, and the deadline for the ERA appeared only in the preamble and not in the text of the amendment; and

WHEREAS, Fifteen municipalities across North Carolina have adopted resolutions of support for the ERA in 2017; and

WHEREAS, ERA bills were introduced into both chambers of the North Carolina General Assembly in 2015 and 2017; were assigned to Judiciary and/or Rules Committees, but were not considered in hearings; and

WHEREAS, The North Carolina Democratic Party Platform calls for a renewed effort to ratify the ERA; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Buncombe County Democratic Party calls upon the State Party to prioritize advocating that the General Assembly hold committee hearings upon like ratification bills and calls on all Democrats to pursue ratification of the ERA to the US Constitution as proposed by Congress on March 22, 1972.

Submitted to the 10th and 11th Congressional District Executive Committees by Linda Scott-Styles, Kris Kramer, Jeremie Konegni, Emory Underwood, David Harney, Angela Leonard, Lindsey Prather, Jerome Hay, Catori Swann, Larry Dodson, Joel Mazelis, Richard Wasch, Laura Evans, and Rebecca Crandall, Buncombe County, March 24 2018.

## **A RESOLUTION CALLING FOR FREEDOM FROM RELIGIOUSLY BASED DISCRIMINATION**

WHEREAS, recent years have brought an abundance of cases involving discrimination justified by religious belief; and

WHEREAS, the first amendment is the basis for discriminatory actions; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the North Carolina Democratic Party be committed to legislatively ensuring that religiously justified discriminatory practices be illegal in secular society.

Submitted to the 10th and 11th Congressional District Executive Committees by Marshall E Johnston, Buncombe County, March 24 2018.

## **A RESOLUTION FOR THE INCREASED ADOPTION OF DIVERSION PROGRAMS**

WHEREAS, The United States of America has the highest incarceration rate in the developed world;  
and

WHEREAS, Many of those incarcerated individuals are imprisoned for non-violent offenses; and

WHEREAS, Mentally ill individuals without the means to seek mental health treatment often end up in our prisons and jails, with some committing offenses intentionally as a means of seeking treatment; and

WHEREAS, The cost of the prison-industrial complex is not only economically unsustainable, it is morally reprehensible and must be addressed; and

WHEREAS, It has been proven both domestically and internationally that diversion and rehabilitation programs substantially lower the recidivism rate for first time offenders and the mentally ill; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That Federal, State, and local governments should institute, implement, and adopt a variety of economic and societal diversion policies to address the issues enumerated above.

Submitted to the 10th and 11th Congressional District Executive Committees by Bob Ballard,  
Buncombe County, March 24 2018.

## **A RESOLUTION FOR THE ABOLISHMENT OF PRIVATE PRISONS**

WHEREAS, The United States of America has the highest incarceration rate in the developed world;  
and

WHEREAS, Many of those incarcerated are housed in private prisons which benefit from contracts with multiple levels of government, and that these contracts cost the nation's taxpayers more than if these institutions were run publicly; and

WHEREAS, These institutions often use inmates as a form of labor compelled against their will, i.e. slavery, the evils of which do not need to be reiterated here, for the expansion of private wealth and with no mind towards the public good; and

WHEREAS, The cost of the prison-industrial complex is not only economically unsustainable, it is morally reprehensible and must be addressed; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That all levels of government must immediately endeavor to end their contracts with private prisons, and that private prisons should be banned through the form of legislation, and that the lobbying by private prison institutions must also be banned; and

RESOLVED, That any public official must immediately, upon taking office, divest themselves of any interest in private prisons.

Submitted to the 10th and 11th Congressional District Executive Committees by Bob Ballard,  
Buncombe County, March 24 2018.

## **A RESOLUTION CALLING FOR THE ACTIVE SUPPORT OF POLICE TRAINING IN NONVIOLENT TACTICS AND POLICIES TO END INSTITUTIONAL RACISM IN LAW ENFORCEMENT**

WHEREAS, Shootings, the use of unnecessary force, discretionary traffic stops, warrantless searches, and other forms of harassment by public safety officers occur disproportionately against people of color; and

WHEREAS, The taint of racism and racially colored attitudes throughout American society is the result of centuries of indoctrination, both overt and implicit, concerning the supposed inferiority of people of color and especially, but not limited to, the supposed inherent danger posed by black males and other male persons of color; and

WHEREAS, Due to the pervasiveness of such indoctrination and its absorption into the subconscious mind, practically no individual in American society, regardless of race or class, is immune to the influence of racism, through no personal fault, resulting in behavior perpetuating institutional racism in American society; and

WHEREAS, Due to high levels of situational stress experienced daily by public safety officers, it is acknowledged that subconsciously embedded racial attitudes may be exhibited with undesirable frequency due to the suspension under stress of the executive brain's ability to block and control negative racial attitudes; and

WHEREAS, The stereotype of the "dangerous black male", which extends to other male persons of color, is highly likely to have contributed to the disproportionate use of force and deadly force against black males (and other male persons of color) by public safety officers in high stress situations; and

WHEREAS, the combination of the effects of institutional racism, subconscious racial attitudes, and a reduced ability to control racially motivated behavior that can occur under stress makes it imperative that proactive measures be taken to reduce the likelihood that such attitudes result in the occurrence of unwarranted violence, in all its forms, by public safety officers against people of color; and

WHEREAS, despite these unfortunate circumstances, the valuable service to society, often performed at great risk to personal safety, by most public safety officers is acknowledged and appreciated; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED**, That the North Carolina Democratic Party acknowledges that the destructive effects of institutional racism within our public safety organizations, as delineated above, is one of the most serious problems facing society and one which must be proactively addressed; and

**RESOLVED**, That the North Carolina Democratic Party, as a matter of policy, supports and encourages all public safety organizations to provide mandatory training of both recruits and experienced personnel in anti-racial attitudes, nonviolent communication, conflict de-escalation techniques, and the use of non-deadly force to subdue uncooperative suspected criminals; and

**RESOLVED**, That the North Carolina Democratic Party will work at the state and local level to provide adequate funding for such training as described above; and

**RESOLVED**, That it is the policy of the North Carolina Democratic Party to end the legal justification for the use of deadly force by public safety officers on grounds of fear of the endangerment of life

and public safety, replacing this justification with a higher standard requiring reasonable and careful judgment that failure to use deadly force would likely endanger life and public safety; and

RESOLVED, That the North Carolina Democratic Party makes it incumbent upon its officers, elected public officials, appointed public officials, and members to support and actively pursue the above Resolutions to the extent that they are in a position to do so; and be it further

RESOLVED, That upon adoption of this Resolution by the North Carolina Democratic Party, Party officials shall, in the most timely manner, introduce and support this Resolution, appropriately modified, for adoption by the National Democratic Party.

Submitted to the 10th and 11th Congressional District Executive Committees by Gabrielle White, Buncombe County, March 24 2018.

### **A RESOLUTION FOR THE PASSAGE OF THE FIX NICS ACT WITHOUT ATTACHMENT TO RECIPROCITY FOR CONCEALED CARRY**

WHEREAS, There were 346 verified mass shootings (4 or more people injured or killed) in the United States in 2017 (gunviolence.org); and

WHEREAS, Between 1966 and 2012, the United States had 5% of the world's population, but 31% of mass shootings (CNN); and

WHEREAS, As of February 17, 2018, according to gunviolencearchive.org, there were 70 children (up to age 11) and 373 teens (between 12 and 17) who were killed or injured by guns so far this year already, and 15,591 deaths in all age groups as a result of gun related violence in the USA in 2017; and

WHEREAS, As stated in *The News and Observer*, "A recent study of World Health Organization data published in the American Journal of Medicine that found that, among high-income nations, 91 percent of children younger than 15 who were killed by bullets lived in the United States;" and

WHEREAS, A Washington Post analysis from early 2018 had found that over 150,000 students attending a minimum of 170 primary or secondary schools have experienced a school shooting on their campus since the events at Columbine High School in 1999 (News and Observer); now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the North Carolina Democratic Party supports passage of the FIX the NICS Act<sup>[2]</sup> into law; and

RESOLVED, That this bill not be attached to other legislation related to concealed carry reciprocity.

Submitted to the 10th and 11th Congressional District Executive Committees by Marjorie Smith, Buncombe County, March 24 2018.

### **A RESOLUTION FOR THE PROHIBITION OF BUMP STOCKS AND SIMILAR ADAPTATIONS TO FIREARMS**

WHEREAS, There were 346 verified mass shootings (4 or more people injured or killed) in the United States in 2017 (gunviolence.org); and

WHEREAS, Between 1966 and 2012, the United States had 5% of the world's population, but 31% of mass shootings (CNN); and

WHEREAS, As of February 17, 2018, according to gunviolencearchive.org, there were 70 children (up to age 11) and 373 teens (between 12 and 17) who were killed or injured by guns so far this year already, and 15,591 deaths in all age groups as a result of gun related violence in the USA in 2017; and

WHEREAS, As stated in *The News and Observer*, "A recent study of World Health Organization data published in the American Journal of Medicine that found that, among high-income nations, 91 percent of children younger than 15 who were killed by bullets lived in the United States;" and

WHEREAS, A Washington Post analysis from early 2018 had found that over 150,000 students attending a minimum of 170 primary or secondary schools have experienced a school shooting on their campus since the events at Columbine High School in 1999 (News and Observer); now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Democratic Party support the prohibition of bump stocks and similar adaptations to firearms in the United States of America.

Submitted to the 10th and 11th Congressional District Executive Committees by Marjorie Smith, Buncombe County, March 24 2018.

## **A RESOLUTION FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF UNIVERSAL BACKGROUND CHECKS FOR THE PURCHASE OF FIREARMS IN THE USA**

WHEREAS: Not all states require background checks for all firearm sales

WHEREAS, There were 346 verified mass shootings (4 or more people injured or killed) in the United States in 2017 (gunviolence.org); and

WHEREAS, Between 1966 and 2012, the United States had 5% of the world's population, but 31% of mass shootings (CNN); and

WHEREAS, As of February 17, 2018, according to gunviolencearchive.org, there were 70 children (up to age 11) and 373 teens (between 12 and 17) who were killed or injured by guns so far this year already, and 15,591 deaths in all age groups as a result of gun related violence in the USA in 2017; and

WHEREAS, As stated in *The News and Observer*, "A recent study of World Health Organization data published in the American Journal of Medicine that found that, among high-income nations, 91 percent of children younger than 15 who were killed by bullets lived in the United States;" and

WHEREAS, A Washington Post analysis from early 2018 had found that over 150,000 students attending a minimum of 170 primary or secondary schools have experienced a school shooting on their campus since the events at Columbine High School in 1999 (News and Observer); now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that it be prohibited to sell a firearm prior to the completion of a background check (to include sales by all means, online, at gun shows, or from private sellers) in the United States of America.

Submitted to the 10th and 11th Congressional District Executive Committees by Marjorie Smith, Buncombe County, March 24 2018.

**A RESOLUTION TO PROHIBIT THE SALE OF MILITARY GRADE WEAPONS, INCLUDING THE AR-15 AND SIMILAR WEAPONS, TO CIVILIANS**

WHEREAS, the United States ranks first in the number of deaths by firearms of any developed nation; and

WHEREAS, There were 346 verified mass shootings (4 or more people injured or killed) in the United States in 2017 (gunviolence.org); and

WHEREAS, Between 1966 and 2012, the United States had 5% of the world's population, but 31% of mass shootings (CNN); and

WHEREAS, AR-15 and other military grade weapons have no viable use for hunting or personal protection; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the future sale of military grade weapons, including AR-15s and similar, to civilians be prohibited as previously outlined in the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994; and

RESOLVED, That loopholes as indicated by the Giffords Law Center be addressed, to include the two-feature test.

Submitted to the 10th and 11th Congressional District Executive Committees by Marjorie Smith, Buncombe County, March 24 2018.

**A RESOLUTION OPPOSING THE TERMINATION OF THE FEDERAL DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**

WHEREAS, An educated public is essential to a healthy community and informed citizens; and

WHEREAS, The responsibilities of the Department of Education are essential to our democracy; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, The Democratic Party opposes any attempt to terminate or dissolve the federal Department of Education (such as U.S. Bill H.R. 899).

Submitted to the 10th and 11th Congressional District Executive Committees by Bob Ballard, Buncombe County, March 24 2018.

**A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF UNIVERSAL PUBLIC PRESCHOOL EDUCATION**

WHEREAS, All children should be ready to learn when they start Kindergarten; and

WHEREAS, A significant level of brain development occurs before children start Kindergarten; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Democratic Party will support universal public preschool education for children as young as 3.

Submitted to the 10th and 11th Congressional District Executive Committees by Bob Ballard, Buncombe County, March 24 2018.

### **A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF FREE COLLEGE EDUCATION FOR ALL**

WHEREAS, The global economy has radically changed in the past two decades in response to technological developments, opening up markets and creating a global workforce where every nation is in full competition with all other nations; and

WHEREAS, It is imperative that for the United States to retain its status as a global superpower it remain competitive in this global workforce, and to do so all American citizens need to be able to compete intellectually and technologically with their international counterparts; and

WHEREAS, This need can only be properly addressed by an increase in collegiately educated citizens; and

WHEREAS, The price of college education has skyrocketed over the past four decades, with rising tuition costs, fees, books, and housing, forcing many individuals to face the choice of taking out inordinate amounts of student loans or not receiving a full college education; and

WHEREAS, This financial barrier to education harms our economy by limiting the development of many hardworking people who otherwise would thrive if given the opportunity; and

WHEREAS, Tuition-free college education is not “free,” as all citizens continue to pay taxes, and even by providing full tuition students will still need to provide their own funds for food, housing, etc.; and

WHEREAS, An increase in college-educated citizens would create an economic boon of creativity and productivity that would dramatically increase the nation’s GDP; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the United States of America should provide a public college education to all Americans free of tuition and free of academic fees, such that they can attend a four-year public institution without taking on additional financial burdens.

Submitted to the 10th and 11th Congressional District Executive Committees by Benjamin Stainback “Sullivan”, Buncombe County, March 24 2018.

### **A RESOLUTION FOR THE EXPANSION OF WORK STUDY PROGRAMS**

WHEREAS, The cost of higher education has dramatically increased in the past three decades while general household incomes have been stagnant after factoring in inflation; and

WHEREAS, This economic reality has made it increasingly difficult for members of the working class to attend secondary higher education institutions without taking on egregious amounts of student debt; and

WHEREAS, In today's global economy it is imperative that the United States maintain and increase its skilled labor force to remain competitive; and

WHEREAS, Work Study Programs not only assist students financially, they also provide valuable support for higher education institutions while increasing the student's experience and skill set preparing them for an increasingly competitive workforce; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Federal government should implement, and incentivize participation in, more Federal Work Study programs, and

RESOLVED, That Federal and State governments should work to increase the number of Non-Federal Work Study programs, and to incentivize private institutions to do so as well.

Submitted to the 10th and 11th Congressional District Executive Committees by Bob Ballard, Buncombe County, March 24 2018.

#### **A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING REFORM AND OPPOSING REPEAL OF THE AFFORDABLE CARE ACT**

WHEREAS, It is a human right to have access to health care; and

WHEREAS, A vibrant democracy must have citizens in good health; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Democratic Party supports reforming the Affordable Care Act, but opposes any attempt to repeal it.

Submitted to the 10th and 11th Congressional District Executive Committees by Bob Ballard, Buncombe County, March 24 2018.

#### **A RESOLUTION TO DEMAND AFFORDABLE HEALTH CARE FOR ALL AMERICANS**

WHEREAS, The cost of healthcare continues to escalate for all Americans and all North Carolinians; and

WHEREAS, Affordable healthcare should be available to all Americans and all North Carolinians; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the North Carolina Democratic Party will work to oppose all efforts to repeal or undermine the Affordable Care Act, as originally enacted; and

RESOLVED, That the North Carolina Democratic Party will support candidate who will work to expand the existing Medicare program to all Americans and North Carolinians.

Submitted to the 10th and 11th Congressional District Executive Committees by Janene Donovan, Buncombe County, March 24 2018.

## **A RESOLUTION CALLING FOR RECOGNITION OF QUALITY HEALTH CARE AS A BASIC HUMAN RIGHT**

WHEREAS, the United Nations resolved that access to Health Care for All is essential for sustainable development; and

WHEREAS, the United States spends the most per capita on health care of any industrialized nation and yet is rated 38<sup>th</sup> in positive health outcomes; and

WHEREAS, the United States is the only industrialized nation that does not have some form of Health Care for All (defined as a basic guarantee of health care for all of its citizens); and

WHEREAS, there are substantial disparities in the US with regard to health care access based on factors such as income, education, housing, race, gender, and geography; and the system weighs most heavily on the most vulnerable of our citizenry, legal residents, the poor, the unemployed and minorities; and

WHEREAS, the US Institute of Medicine compiled an extensive report on the hidden costs of the uninsureds' fewer years of participation in the workforce, weakened local economies, developmental losses to children, and adverse effects on public health including poor health outcomes and lower life expectancies; and

WHEREAS, despite the undeniable benefits of the Affordable Care Act, millions of Americans are still without quality health care coverage; and

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

WHEREAS, health care for all would help people pursue the American dream of providing for themselves and their families; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Buncombe County Democratic Party recognizes access to quality health care as a basic human right and supports efforts to reduce health inequality and disparities; and

RESOLVED, that the Buncombe County Democratic Party recognizes access to quality health care as a basic human right and supports efforts to reduce health inequality and disparities; and

RESOLVED, that North Carolina Democrats will work at the precinct, county, district and state levels of the Democratic Party to have this resolution in support of health care for all become part of the state platform of the Democratic Party; and

RESOLVED, that our North Carolina Democratic Party Democratic National Committee Representatives support the inclusion of a call for universal Improved Healthcare for All in the National Democratic Party Platform; and be it further

RESOLVED, that we, as Democrats, are committed to electing Democrats up and down the ballot who will continue to push for health care for all.

Submitted to the 10th and 11th Congressional District Executive Committees by Catori Swann, Buncombe County, March 24 2018.

## **A RESOLUTION FOR SINGLE-PAYER HEALTHCARE FOR ALL**

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

WHEREAS, Our healthcare is the most expensive in the world with costs per capita more than twice any other country; with health insurance premiums increasing significantly, and, according to the Congressional Budget Office, with 30% of every healthcare dollar spent on the individual marketplace being consumed by administrative costs; and

WHEREAS, The current healthcare system weighs most heavily on the least advantaged—children, the working poor, women, and minorities—leaving thousands to die and hundreds of thousands more to face uncertain futures from major illnesses or financial ruin, that the system “rations” healthcare to those who can pay; and

WHEREAS, A recent Harvard study shows that 62% of all personal bankruptcies are due to medical expenses; and

WHEREAS, American businesses, dealing with escalating healthcare costs, either cut medical insurance for employees or move production overseas because they are not competitive with foreign businesses in countries with universal healthcare; and

WHEREAS, The Affordable Care Act, Medicare, and Medicaid face uncertain funding futures as a result of recent tax “reform” legislation passed in Congress; and

WHEREAS, The money saved by a single-payer plan would more than pay for extending coverage to those currently uninsured or underinsured; and

WHEREAS, Legislation has been introduced in both houses of Congress—H.R. 676 and S. 1782, which create a “pathway to single-payer”— and several states are independently pursuing single-payer legislation; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Buncombe County Democratic Party urges our state and federal legislators to do what is socially just and economically sustainable, and pass universal single-payer Healthcare for All; and

RESOLVED, That the Buncombe County Democratic Party advance this Resolution to the North Carolina Democratic Party for inclusion in the state party platform, aligning it more with the 2016 Democratic National Platform, which supports universal healthcare.

Submitted to the 10th and 11th Congressional District Executive Committees by Laura Evans, Kathie Kline, and Bob Ballard, Buncombe County, March 24 2018.

## **A RESOLUTION PROTECTING A WOMAN'S RIGHT TO CHOOSE**

WHEREAS, The Constitution of the United States of American guarantees us basic human rights including the right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness; and

WHEREAS, Efforts are underway to repeal a law guaranteeing basic human and constitutional rights for women - specifically, a woman's right to decide what can and cannot happen in her body, including the choice to terminate pregnancy without harassment or intimidation; and

WHEREAS, It should never be our government's right, nor a physician's right, to make decisions about a woman's body that violate her wishes; and

WHEREAS, The fundamental question boils down to who should be in charge of a woman's body - the woman or our government; if we allow this right to be taken away by the repeal of Roe versus Wade we would be sending millions of desperate, frightened teens and women nationwide to the back alleys of the past; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the North Carolina Democratic Party goes on record in determined and unwavering opposition to all proposals in Congress and our State Legislature to repeal Roe versus Wade, as we want clear and decisive laws that protect a woman's right to choose; and

RESOLVED, That the North Carolina Democratic party will work with stakeholders to ensure that our Congressional and Legislative representatives understand our passionate commitment to protect and constitutionalize health care rights for all women that uphold a woman's right to be in charge of what happens in her own body.

Submitted to the 10th and 11th Congressional District Executive Committees by Laura Evans, Bob Ballard, Pamela Hanson, Janene Donovan, and Jeffrey Vanderlip, Buncombe County, March 24 2018.

## **A RESOLUTION TO RESTORE STATE AND FEDERAL FUNDING OF PLANNED PARENTHOOD**

WHEREAS, In 2015, the Center for Medical Progress - an anti-abortion organization that promotes a complete ban on abortion - targeted Planned Parenthood ("PP") with a series of dramatically altered videos which misrepresented PP as selling fetal tissue - an illegal activity; and even though 12 state-level investigations and other congressional inquiries found no wrongdoing, anti-abortion Republicans continue to pass legislation seeking to defund the 100- year-old health care organization permanently, at both state and federal levels, despite the fact that only three percent of those served by PP receive abortions, and absolutely no federal or state funds are used for this service; and

WHEREAS, PP is a critical component of our flawed and inadequate health care system, and is a primary health care provider for one out of five women in our country, including many of our nation's poorest; and 97% of the services provided by PP - birth control, teen pregnancy prevention, cancer screenings and family planning - have nothing to do with abortion; and

WHEREAS, Planned Parenthood of North Carolina ("PPNC") which has nine clinics across the state serving 25,000 men, women and teens, are able to see patients the very same week while there are 12-to-14-week waits for women to get into the health department for birth control or breast cancer screening; and

WHEREAS, North Carolina, responding to anti-abortion sentiment generated from the video hoax, has already axed funding to PPNC, and without this funding PPNC will have to axe its teen pregnancy prevention and adolescent parenting programs, and force its poorest patients to pay out of pocket; and

WHEREAS, Planned Parenthood receives an infinitesimal piece of the annual federal budget and NONE of it goes toward abortion, nevertheless, the new Trump Administration has vowed to defund Planned Parenthood because they provide privately-funded abortion care, thereby

crippling Planned Parenthood's ability to continue to provide timely and affordable care to the other 97% of the clients they serve; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the North Carolina Democratic Party goes on record in determined and unwavering support of refunding PPNC and PP, and opposing all proposals in Congress and our State Legislature to defund Planned Parenthood and cripple their ability to serve 97% of their clients; and

RESOLVED, That the North Carolina Democratic party will work with stakeholders to ensure that our Congressional and Legislative representatives understand our passionate commitment to women's health and constitutional rights, and equal health care rights for all women.

Submitted to the 10th and 11th Congressional District Executive Committees by Laura Evans, Bob Ballard, Pamela Hanson, Janene Donovan, and Jeffrey Vanderlip, Buncombe County, March 24 2018.

### **A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES ACT**

WHEREAS, For over 40 years, people with disabilities have been guaranteed a Free and Appropriate Education; and

WHEREAS, People with disabilities contribute to our economy and to our society; and

WHEREAS, Every child in America should have the right to reach their full potential; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Democratic Party will oppose any attempt to repeal IDEA, the Individuals with Disabilities Act.

Submitted to the 10th and 11th Congressional District Executive Committees by Bob Ballard, Buncombe County, March 24 2018.

### **A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF SCIENCE, CULTURE, AND THE ARTS**

WHEREAS, Science and the arts are important to our quality of life; and

WHEREAS, It is important for our federal government to fund research and support science and the arts; and

WHEREAS, Publicly funded broadcasting, scientific research, and artistic endeavors enrich our lives; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Democratic Party will oppose any attempt to defund NPR, PBS, NEA, NSF, NEH, NIH, and other groups which add to our cultural heritage and to the breadth and depth of scientific knowledge.

Submitted to the 10th and 11th Congressional District Executive Committees by Bob Ballard, Buncombe County, March 24 2018.

## **A RESOLUTION TO PROTECT AND FUND SOCIAL SECURITY**

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

WHEREAS, Nationally, 91% of those over 65 receive Social Security, in North Carolina the numbers are even higher with 98% over 65 receiving it, and for a third of that group Social Security is their only source of income; and

WHEREAS, For the past 80 years, every working person in this country, and their employers, have paid into Social Security through payroll FICA taxes in exchange for our government's promise to safeguard these funds, invest them, and use them to provide continuing retirement income starting at age 65; and

WHEREAS, Starting in the 1980s, when Reagan wanted to cover the budget deficit created by tax cuts for the wealthy, payroll taxes were increased to ostensibly provide funds to be invested to cover the projected Social Security deficit in 30 years when baby boomers started retiring; in fact, the Reagan administration spent every dollar of the surplus on government operating expenses; and since then, both parties have continued to spend surpluses in the Social Security Trust Fund for non-social security purposes - in effect, stealing \$2.8 trillion from the American people; and

WHEREAS, There are no plans to pay back any of the monies stolen over the past 30 years, and the new Trump administration has called Social Security a "Ponzi scheme," thereby justifying steps already being taken to weaken, diminish and eventually phase out Social Security rather than taking steps to find other means of funding Social Security; now, therefore, be it

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

RESOLVED, That the Democratic Party shall strive to ensure Social Security's guaranteed benefits continue for generations to come by calling on our Congressional representatives to propose and support a tax increase for those earning over \$250,000 annually to be earmarked for Social Security, and to aggressively research and implement other means of funding Social Security.

Submitted to the 10th and 11th Congressional District Executive Committees by Laura Evans, Bob Ballard, and Janene Donovan, Buncombe County, March 24 2018.

## **A RESOLUTION IN OPPOSITION TO THE PRIVATIZATION OF MEDICARE AND/OR SOCIAL SECURITY**

WHEREAS, Medicare and Social Security are efficiently run programs; and

WHEREAS, No senior citizen should need to worry about whether they can go to the doctor or have a roof over their head as they age; and

WHEREAS, A private company cannot provide benefits at the current available level and make a profit; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Democratic Party opposes any attempt to privatize Medicare and Social Security.

Submitted to the 10th and 11th Congressional District Executive Committees by Bob Ballard, Buncombe County, March 24 2018.

## **A RESOLUTION FOR THE INSTITUTION OF A UNIVERSAL BASIC INCOME**

WHEREAS, Throughout the course of history, major technological developments have radically reconstituted the structure of societies; and

WHEREAS, The current development and implementation of new technologies are rapidly upending the old order through automation, threatening to create mass unemployment and unprecedented income inequality; and

WHEREAS, This nation is founded upon the premise that all men are created equal; irrespective of their faith, sex, gender, ethnicity, race, or nationality, and that they are endowed with the rights to Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness; and

WHEREAS, Any inequality is corrosive to the self-determination and self-affirmation of the individual, limiting those rights enumerated in this nation's Declaration of Independence; and

WHEREAS, Those enumerated rights are inherent to all of mankind, not bestowed by governments, but through man's sovereignty unto himself, and where governments are formed for the sole affirmation of the will of its citizens; and

WHEREAS, The proper representation of the citizens and residents of the state, as well as the general welfare of the state, demands the active participation of all citizens irrespective of ownership of property or financial status; and

WHEREAS, Citizens oppressed by poverty are hampered through economic circumstance from actively participating in our democracy, and this inequality fosters societal ills that morally assault the individual and the state itself; and

WHEREAS, We are a nation without societal class or caste, where all individuals are entitled to an equal opportunity to participate in our government and society and to affirm themselves as individuals, and that no child should be born into poverty or destitution through economic circumstance; and

WHEREAS, The existence of poverty is an inexcusable affront to our democracy; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the North Carolina Democratic Party should introduce into its platform a demand for the institution of a Universal Basic Income such that no citizen should fall or be born into poverty, and that it should advocate that the Democratic National Committee and other state parties should do so as well.

Submitted to the 10th and 11th Congressional District Executive Committees by Ben Stainback "Sullivan", Buncombe County, March 24 2018.

## **A RESOLUTION TO RAISE THE FEDERAL MINIMUM WAGE**

WHEREAS, the current federal minimum wage of \$7.25 hasn't been raised since 2009 and, adjusted for inflation, is actually lower than what a minimum-wage worker earned in 1968; and

WHEREAS, in the last several years, 95% of all new income went to the top 1%; and

WHEREAS, we need to reverse that trend if we want to live in a fair and just society; and

WHEREAS, if we put higher income into the hands of people who need it, they will spend more and that will create jobs; and

WHEREAS, the current minimum wage is too meager to offer anyone the chance to climb out of poverty, let alone afford basic goods and services; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Democratic Party and its candidates for public office should favor a raise in the federal minimum wage from \$7.25 to a living wage as defined by MIT's living wage calculator, thus giving 30 million Americans a long-overdue pay raise.

Submitted to the 10th and 11th Congressional District Executive Committees by Lindsey Prather, Sam Speciale, and Lynn Miller, Buncombe County, March 24 2018.

### **A RESOLUTION TO PROVIDE FINANCIAL AND EDUCATIONAL SUPPORT FOR DISPLACED FOSSIL FUEL INDUSTRY WORKERS**

WHEREAS, Human caused climate change is creating chaos endangering human settlements and biodiversity; and

WHEREAS, A broad initiative to implement an urgent response to halting and reversing climate change will displace a large number of American workers; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that resulting unemployment be addressed by a national initiative to retrain displaced workers in other fields; with a particular focus on clean energy.

Submitted to the 10th and 11th Congressional District Executive Committees by Marjorie Smith, Buncombe County, March 24 2018.

### **A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF BANK RE-REGULATION**

WHEREAS, The major national banks of the United States made terrible investment decisions which would have led them to bankruptcy; and

WHEREAS, These banks were considered too big to fail without bringing down our entire financial system with them; and

WHEREAS, The U.S. government and U.S. taxpayers had to bail these banks out to save them and the nation's economy; and

WHEREAS, These banks are now even bigger, and are still much too big to fail; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Democratic Party and its candidates should stand for a law that breaks up these banks into smaller corporations and re-regulates them to split them into savings and

investment banks, and make any other changes required to guarantee the taxpayers that banks will never need government bailouts again.

Submitted to the 10th and 11th Congressional District Executive Committees by Sam Speciale, Lindsey Prather, and Lynn Miller, Buncombe County, March 24 2018.

## **A RESOLUTION FOR THE INSTITUTION OF A SECOND WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION**

WHEREAS, The original Works Progress Administration (“WPA”) was the most successful domestic job stimulus package that the United States has ever implemented; and

WHEREAS, The current state of the nation’s infrastructure is unacceptable and unsustainable, with many dams, bridges, and roads consistently failing to pass inspection or meet suggested standards; and

WHEREAS, This state of affairs is not only dangerous, it is unacceptable and oxymoronic in the wealthiest nation on the planet; and

WHEREAS, An infrastructure stimulus package such as this would create a boon for economic development in many of the rural regions of the nation that have not benefited from the 2008 economic crisis recovery, as well as the nation as a whole; and

WHEREAS, As of January 2017, the nation’s unemployment rate still stands at 4.8% and an infrastructure and economic stimulus package such as a second WPA would do a great deal to address each of these pressing issues; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the United States should create a second Works Progress Administration for the purpose of rebuilding and repairing the nation’s dams, bridges, roads, and other public utilities, as well as other public infrastructure developments.

Submitted to the 10th and 11th Congressional District Executive Committees by Bob Ballard, Buncombe County, March 24 2018.

## **A RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT AN URGENT RESPONSE TO CLIMATE CHAOS**

WHEREAS, Human caused climate change is creating chaos endangering human settlements and biodiversity; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That it become a National, State and Local legislative priority, to mitigate the impact of human activity on the earth’s climate by implementing sweeping changes in infrastructure and city/development planning; and

RESOLVED, That it become a National, State and Local legislative priority, to mitigate the impact of human activity on the earth’s climate by incentivizing the use of renewable sources and energy efficiency to replace the use of fossil fuels.

Submitted to the 10th and 11th Congressional District Executive Committees by Marjorie Smith, Buncombe County, March 24 2018.

## **A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY**

WHEREAS, The majority of scientists agree that climate change is real, and is a result of human activity; and

WHEREAS, For decades our nation's environment has improved because of the work of the Environmental Protection Agency ("EPA"); and

WHEREAS, Clean air and clean water are essential to life; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Democratic Party opposes any attempt to dissolve the federal Environmental Protection Agency, or to dilute its authority or mission; and

RESOLVED, That the Democratic Party supports the mission of the EPA to improve our environment and reduce the causes of climate change; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Democratic Party opposes any attempt to stifle scientific research or publication of any kind or in any way.

Submitted to the 10th and 11th Congressional District Executive Committees by Bob Ballard, Buncombe County, March 24 2018.

## **A RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT U.S. RE-ENTRY INTO PARIS AGREEMENT**

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

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

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

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

Submitted to the 10th and 11th Congressional District Executive Committees by Jeremy Wood, Buncombe County, March 24 2018.

## **A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF A FEDERAL HOLIDAY ON ELECTION DAY**

WHEREAS, Our goal in America should be to do everything possible to make voting easier and more accessible; and

WHEREAS, Any action that promotes this concept should be supported and encouraged; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Democratic Party of North Carolina supports and encourages the establishment of Election Day as a national holiday.

Submitted to the 10th and 11th Congressional District Executive Committees by Bob Ballard, Buncombe County, March 24 2018.

### **A RESOLUTION TO OVERTURN *CITIZENS UNITED***

WHEREAS, Caring, thoughtful Americans support a government that represents all the people, not just the wealthy and the powerful; and

WHEREAS, Large money donors are overwhelming the voices of everyday citizens, who do not always have the means to resist their power; and

WHEREAS, Americans need to eliminate the presence and power of undisclosed, unaccountable money in politics, and promote complete disclosure and transparency; and

WHEREAS, The voices of the people must be paramount over the voices of corporations and pseudo non-profits; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the North Carolina Democratic Party will fight for campaign finance reform now; and

RESOLVED, That the North Carolina Democratic Party supports a constitutional amendment to overturn the Supreme Court's decisions in *Citizens United* and *Buckley v. Valeo*; and

RESOLVED, That the North Carolina Democratic Party supports the immediate elimination of "super PACs"; and

RESOLVED, That the North Carolina Democratic Party supports a system of small donor and public financing of elections; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Federal Election Commission must be strengthened to ensure enforcement of campaign finance laws.

Submitted to the 10th and 11th Congressional District Executive Committees by Bob Ballard, Buncombe County, March 24 2018.

### **A RESOLUTION CALLING FOR THE END OF THE DOCTRINE OF CORPORATE PERSONHOOD**

WHEREAS, The Constitution and The Bill Of Rights was written for human beings; and

WHEREAS, the doctrine of corporate personhood was established by the Judiciary Branch thereby granting corporate entities the rights established within The Constitution and The Bill Of Rights; and

WHEREAS, the vast majority of U.S. citizens consider the doctrine of corporate personhood an unjust ruling or interpretation providing corporate entities disproportional and unfair legal advantages; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the North Carolina Democratic Party shall be committed to amending the North Carolina Constitution so that the rights therein apply only to humans and not to corporate entities; and

RESOLVED, that the North Carolina Democratic Party be committed to participating to amend the U.S. Constitution to ensure that the rights granted by the U.S. Constitution apply only to human beings and not to corporate entities.

Submitted to the 10th and 11th Congressional District Executive Committees by Marshall E Johnston, Buncombe County, March 24 2018.

## **A RESOLUTION TO LIMIT LARGE UNDISCLOSED MONEY AND CORPORATE MONEY FROM ENTERING INTO LOCAL, STATE, AND NATIONAL CAMPAIGNS**

WHEREAS, the Supreme Court's *Citizens United* decision has unleashed hundreds of millions of dollars of anonymous corporate spending on political campaigns across North Carolina and the nation; and

WHEREAS, the influence of money has overridden our political and democratic process; and

WHEREAS, corporate contributions weigh-out peoples contributions and conflict with the public interest; and,

WHEREAS, large money donors are overwhelming the voices of everyday citizens, who do not have the means to rebut such influence; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the North Carolina Democratic Party will fight for campaign finance reform now; and

RESOLVED, that the North Carolina Democratic Party supports a constitutional amendment to Overturn the Supreme Court's decisions in *Citizens United* and *Buckley v. Valeo*; and

RESOLVED, that the North Carolina Democratic Party supports the immediate elimination of "Super PACs"; and

RESOLVED, that the North Carolina Democratic Party supports a system of small and public donors; and

RESOLVED, that the North Carolina Democratic Party and its candidates for public office support an Amendment to the U.S. Constitution that would limit campaign financing to contributions from breathing, individual U.S. citizens, and not corporations, not to exceed an amount per year determined by law; and

RESOLVED, that this same amendment lower the cost of campaigns substantially by requiring that all U.S. radio stations and major TV networks that have a license to broadcast from the FCC provide free equal time for all candidates during election periods; and

RESOLVED, that the North Carolina Democratic Party supports the development or renewal of laws to regulate limits on campaign contributions by individuals and groups and to impose limits on campaign spending; and

RESOLVED, that the North Carolina Democratic Party supports the development or renewal of laws ensuring transparency and disclosure in all campaign contributions and spending; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the North Carolina Democratic Party supports the strengthening and empowerment of the Federal Election Commission to enforce campaign finance laws, close loopholes and expose conflicts of interest in all campaign finance activities.

Submitted to the 10th and 11th Congressional District Executive Committees by Jeff Vanderlip, Buncombe County, March 24 2018.

### **A RESOLUTION TO ADDRESS CORRUPTION IN GOVERNMENT**

WHEREAS, a study has shown that the opinions of 90% of Americans have essentially no impact on what laws are passed, yet those who can afford to hire lobbyists are much more likely to get the laws they want; and

WHEREAS, in the last five years the 200 most politically-active companies in the U.S. spent \$5.8 billion influencing government, and those same companies got \$4.4 trillion in taxpayer support; and

WHEREAS, under current law it is perfectly legal to buy political influence with campaign contributions and promises of lucrative jobs, and routine for lawmakers receiving these favors to approve bills written by lobbyists; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the North Carolina Democratic Party supports state and federal legislation to make it illegal for lobbyists to give campaign contributions or job offers to government officials; and

RESOLVED, that the North Carolina Democratic Party supports state and federal legislation to require immediate online disclosure of all significant political contributions so that the public knows who is buying political influence.

Submitted to the 10th and 11th Congressional District Executive Committees by Jeremy Wood, Buncombe County, March 24 2018.

### **A RESOLUTION PROPOSING THE CREATION OF INDEPENDENT NONPARTISAN OR BIPARTISAN COMMISSIONS TO DETERMINE VOTING DISTRICT BOUNDARIES IN EACH STATE AND DESCRIBING A MECHANISM FOR FAIRLY DESIGNING VOTING DISTRICTS**

WHEREAS, a democracy depends on a fair mechanism to determine the opinion and will of citizens, and the influence of each citizen on the electoral outcome should be equal; and

WHEREAS, the aggregation of citizen opinion occurs within established voting districts that are currently determined and designated by state legislatures in a highly partisan manner; and

WHEREAS, the determination of voting district contours following each decennial national census is almost entirely determined by the then current majority party in each state legislature; and

WHEREAS, voting district boundaries are usually drawn to keep the majority party in power in that state, and to promote the success of that party in obtaining majority representation in national

elections, even when most citizens in that state support the opposing party; this process of partisan redistricting is commonly known as *gerrymandering*; and

WHEREAS, in the past both parties (Democratic and Republican) have been guilty of gerrymandering to allow them to win greater representation than they would have earned had votes been reasonably apportioned; and

WHEREAS, in the current era of Republican dominance in state legislatures, sophisticated computer programs, and the availability of data about population characteristics and voting preferences have allowed gerrymandering to be done with such refinement that the majority opinion of voters can be completely suppressed; and

WHEREAS, gerrymandering is not merely a hypothetical concern, it has corrupted, and is currently corrupting our process of democratic representation; and

WHEREAS, gerrymandering, when combined with other methods of voter suppression, perniciously serves to disenfranchise people of color, and citizens likely to vote for Democratic candidates or support “liberal” issues to a degree reminiscent of the “Jim Crow” era, or the voting practices of authoritarian countries; and

WHEREAS, one remedy for the Democrat Party is to regain control of state legislatures before the next census; however, this does not correct the basic flaw in our electoral system that permits future abuses; and

WHEREAS, the degree that current gerrymandering violates the voting rights of minorities and citizens with particular political positions has been brought to the attention of state and federal court systems; and

WHEREAS, in most instances the courts have recognized that gerrymandering violates constitutionally guaranteed voting rights; and

WHEREAS, while courts have ordered some states to correct gerrymandered voting district boundaries, they have been unable to determine a test for fair voting district design; and

WHEREAS, courts, when asking for guidance to determine fair voting district design, or when delaying their decisions until an “acceptable” standard is found, are overlooking existing systems of geographic relationships that developed and evolved without (at least overtly) partisan purpose; and

WHEREAS, we generally “feel” we belong to a neighborhood, borough, township, city, metropolitan area, county, and state, it is therefore reasonable that voting district boundaries should in all cases comport with the geographic areas that citizens identify as their “home community;” now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Democratic Party shall adopt a strong and vocal position opposing gerrymandering for the reasons stated above; and

RESOLVED, that the Democratic Party shall launch a coordinated program to convince the American people of the evils of gerrymandering that now threaten our very democracy; and

RESOLVED, that the Democratic Party shall promote the use of geographically compact voting districts based on ZIP code, borough, township, city, metropolitan area, or county; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Democratic Party shall introduce legislation to require the following:

- 1) that the process of redistricting be delegated by state legislatures to independent non-partisan, or bipartisan commissions; and
- 2) that if one of the geographic units listed above is too large for a voting district, it will be subdivided into parts defined by natural boundaries to commerce such as rivers, hills and major thoroughfares, and preferably using aggregates of smaller units listed; and
- 3) that if one of the geographic units listed above is too small for a voting district, it will be combined with abutting adjacent districts, preferably considering the natural flow of commerce; and
- 4) that if more than one unit is aggregated to create a district of appropriate population size, the units will be aggregated in the most compact fashion, preferably considering the natural flow of commerce; and be it further

RESOLVED, that pending the process of educating our citizenry, and the legislative implementation of these standards, that these principles should be presented to the courts to aid in their deliberation.

Submitted to the 10th and 11th Congressional District Executive Committees by Steve Pohl, Buncombe County, March 24 2018.

### **A RESOLUTION CALLING FOR THE IMPOSITION OF SANCTIONS AGAINST RUSSIA FOR ITS ASSAULT ON US ELECTION AND VOTER REGISTRATION SYSTEMS**

WHEREAS, twenty-one states had their state's voter registration systems assaulted by the Russians during the 2016 election and a few were actually penetrated; and

WHEREAS, most government officials agree that there is proof that our US voter registration systems were assaulted by the Russian government; and

WHEREAS, it was reported in NC that due to the voting problems in Durham, NC in 2016 was stopped & delayed because of possibly such issues; and

WHEREAS, the US House & US Senate overwhelmingly passed sanctions against the Russian government for this assault on our voting system; and

WHEREAS, in fact, Trump denies that there was any assault on our voting system by the Russians and refuses to institute these sanctions on Russia; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Democratic Party must push for money for investigations into the 21 states into what assaults actually happened to the US before the midterms; and

RESOLVED, That the Democratic Party must push for solutions to stop the Russian assault on our election systems before the November midterms; and be it further

RESOLVED, That Democrats push for the institution of these sanctions against Russia before the midterm elections.

Submitted to the 10th and 11th Congressional District Executive Committees by Janet Betke, Buncombe County, March 24 2018.

## **A RESOLUTION CALLING FOR TRANSITION FROM A WAR ECONOMY TO A PEACE ECONOMY**

WHEREAS, The U.S. is the largest exporter of conventional armaments in the world; and

WHEREAS, The U.S. has had a military presence in Iraq and Afghanistan and has been providing weapons to the Middle East for years including billions of dollars in arms to Israel and Egypt and supplying Saudi Arabia with weapons to attack Yemen and Syria; and

WHEREAS, U.S. military presence and support has not resulted in resolutions of conflicts in those countries and a return to normalcy for those nations; and

WHEREAS, The U.S. maintains nearly 800 military bases in more than 70 countries; and

WHEREAS, In 2014, the most recent year available, the United States led the world in military spending at \$610 billion, spending more than the next eight highest spending countries combined according to the International Institute for Strategic Studies (IISS); and

WHEREAS, Results of this military spending include massive loss of life, injury, destruction of infrastructure and damage to the natural environment and dubious security benefits for the U.S. or it allies; and

WHEREAS, The only parties to benefit from such expenditure are the weapons related industries and the governments who trade with them; and

WHEREAS, Critical human and environmental challenges are facing our country including but not limited to housing, health care, education, infrastructure, air, water and soil pollution, go unmet; and

WHEREAS, 54% of the U.S. budget's discretionary spending (spending allocated by lawmakers each year) is for military purposes; and

WHEREAS, The percentage of spending for other discretionary budget items including education, transportation, housing, energy and environment, veterans' benefits, Medicare and health are in the single digits; and

WHEREAS, Real and long term security and survival results from investment in human needs; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the North Carolina Democratic Party will promote reduction in the U.S. military budget and an increase in discretionary budget items that support human needs, infrastructure and environmental integrity.

Submitted to the 10th and 11th Congressional District Executive Committees by Soren Pedersen, Buncombe County, March 24 2018.

## **A RESOLUTION CALLING ON THE U.S. TO SIGN ON TO THE TREATY TO ABOLISH NUCLEAR WEAPONS**

WHEREAS, The potential use of nuclear weapons represents a threat to all life on the planet; and

WHEREAS, The United States is the only country to have used nuclear weapons against another country in war; and

WHEREAS, The only way to guarantee that nuclear weapons are never used again is to eliminate such weapons; and

WHEREAS, On July 7, 2017 122 nations voted in favor of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons; and

WHEREAS, In order to come into effect, 50 nations must sign and ratify the treaty; and

WHEREAS, The United States, who has the world's largest military and spends more than any nation on weapons of war, has the moral responsibility to show leadership on this existential threat to humanity; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the North Carolina Democratic Party will take every opportunity available to promote support of this treaty by our nation.

Submitted to the 10th and 11th Congressional District Executive Committees by Soren Pedersen, Buncombe County, March 24 2018.

## **A RESOLUTION TO CALL FOR AN END TO U.S. MILITARY AID WHICH ENABLES THE ISRAELI OCCUPATION OF THE WEST BANK AND BLOCKADE OF GAZA**

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

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

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

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

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

RESOLVED, That the North Carolina Democratic Party will bring to the question, continued military aid to Israel until such time that a process begins that Israel takes direct actions to end the occupation of the West Bank and blockade of Gaza.

Submitted to the 10th and 11th Congressional District Executive Committees by Soren Pedersen, Buncombe County, March 24 2018.

## **A RESOLUTION TO END SUPPORT OF THE MILITARY DETENTION OF PALESTINIAN CHILDREN**

WHEREAS, Israel ratified the Convention on the Rights of the Child on October 3, 1991, which states:

- (A) in article 37(a), that “no child shall be subject to torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment”;
- (B) in article 37(b), that the arrest, detention or imprisonment of a child “shall be used only as a measure of last resort and for the shortest appropriate period of time”;
- (C) in article 37(c), that “every child deprived of liberty shall be treated with humanity and respect for the inherent dignity of the human person, and in a manner which takes into account the needs of persons of his or her age”; and
- (D) in article 37(d), that “every child deprived of his or her liberty shall have the right to prompt access to legal and other appropriate assistance, as well as the right to challenge the legality of the deprivation of his or her liberty before a court or other competent, independent and impartial authority, and to a prompt decision on any such action;” and

WHEREAS, In the Israeli-occupied West Bank, there are two separate legal systems, with Israeli military law imposed on Palestinians and Israeli civilian law applied to Israeli settlers; and

WHEREAS, The Israeli military detains around 500 to 700 Palestinian children between the ages of 12 and 17 each year and prosecutes them before a military court system that lacks basic and fundamental guarantees of due process in violation of international standards; and

WHEREAS, Approximately 2,700,000 Palestinians live in the West Bank, of which around 47 percent are children under the age of 18, who live under military occupation, the constant fear of arrest, detention, and violence by the Israeli military, and the threat of recruitment by armed groups; and

WHEREAS, Since 2000, an estimated 10,000 Palestinian children have been detained by Israeli security forces in the West Bank and prosecuted in the Israeli military court system; and despite that children under the age of 12 cannot be prosecuted in Israeli military courts, Israeli military forces detain children under the age of 12 and question them, for several hours, before releasing them to their families or to Palestinian authorities; and

WHEREAS, Human Rights Watch documented, in a July 2015 report titled “Israel: Security Forces Abuse Palestinian Children”, that such detentions also included the use of chokeholds, beatings, and coercive interrogation on children between the ages of 11 and 15 years; and

WHEREAS, The United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF) concluded, in a February 2013, report titled “Children in Israeli Military Detention,” that the “ill-treatment of children who come in contact with the military detention system appears to be widespread, systematic and institutionalized throughout the process, from the moment of arrest until the child’s prosecution and eventual conviction and sentencing;” and

WHEREAS, The 2013 UNICEF report further determined that the Israeli system of military detention of Palestinian children profoundly deviates from international norms, stating that “in no other country are children systematically tried by juvenile military courts that, by definition, fall short of providing the necessary guarantees to ensure respect for their rights;” and

WHEREAS, UNICEF also released reports in October 2013 and February 2015 noting that Israeli authorities have, since March 2013, issued new military orders and taken steps to reinforce existing military and police standard operating procedures relating to the detention of Palestinian children; however, the reports still found continued and persistent evidence of ill-treatment of Palestinian children detained by Israeli forces; and

WHEREAS, In 2013, the annual Country Report on Human Rights Practices for Israel and the Occupied Territories (“Annual Report”) published by the Department of State noted that Israeli security services continued to abuse, and in some cases torture minors, frequently arrested on suspicion of stone-throwing, in order to coerce confessions; and the torture tactics used included threats, intimidation, long-term handcuffing, beatings, and solitary confinement; and

WHEREAS, The 2013 Annual Report also stated that “signed confessions by Palestinian minors, written in Hebrew, a language most could not read, continued to be used as evidence against them in Israeli military courts;”and

WHEREAS, The 2016 Annual Report noted a “significant increase in detentions of minors” in 2016, and that “Israeli authorities continued to use confessions signed by Palestinian minors, written in Hebrew;” and it also highlighted the renewed use of “administrative detention” against Palestinians, including children, a practice in which a detainee may be held indefinitely, without charge or trial, by the order of a military commander or other government official; and

WHEREAS, The nongovernmental organization Defense for Children International Palestine collected affidavits from 429 West Bank children who were detained between 2012 and 2015, and concluded that—

- (A) three-quarters of the children endured physical violence following arrest;
- (B) under Israeli military law, children do not have the right to a lawyer during interrogation;
- (C) 97 percent of the children did not have a parent present during their interrogation;
- (D) 84 percent of the children were not properly informed of their rights by Israeli police;
- (E) interrogators used stress positions, threats of violence, and isolation to coerce confessions from detained children; and
- (F) 66 children were held in pre-trial, pre-charge isolation for interrogation purposes for an average period of 13 days; and

WHEREAS, Amendments to Israeli military law concerning the detention of Palestinian children have had little to no impact on the treatment of children during the first 24 to 48 hours after an arrest, when the majority of their ill-treatment occurs; and

WHEREAS, In 2002, the United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child, which monitors implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, reviewed Israel's compliance with the Convention and expressed serious concern regarding “allegations and complaints of inhuman or

degrading practices and of torture and ill-treatment of Palestinian children” during arrest, interrogation, and detention; and

WHEREAS, In 2013, the Committee declared that Palestinian children arrested by Israeli forces “continue to be systematically subject to degrading treatment, and often to acts of torture” and that Israel had “fully disregarded” the previous recommendations of the Committee to comply with international law; now, therefore, be it.

RESOLVED, That the North Carolina Democratic Party supports the passage of H.R.4391 - Promoting Human Rights by Ending Israeli Military Detention of Palestinian Children Act, The purpose of which is to promote and protect the human rights of Palestinian children and to ensure that United States taxpayer funds shall not be used to support the military detention of Palestinian children.

Submitted to the 10th and 11th Congressional District Executive Committees by Soren Pedersen, Buncombe County, March 24 2018.

### **A RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT H.R. 4837, THE NO UNCONSTITUTIONAL STRIKE AGAINST NORTH KOREA ACT**

WHEREAS, Our nation spends more on military force than any other nation on earth; and

WHEREAS, Our nation is the only country to have used nuclear weapons in war; and

WHEREAS, The threat of the use of nuclear weapons is a threat to destroy all life on this planet; and

WHEREAS, Many Americans lack basic shelter, food and medical care; and

WHEREAS, Our country's basic infrastructure is crumbling; and

WHEREAS, Our constitution states that only Congress shall have the right to declare war, and  
whereas; and

WHEREAS, True strength and security arises in a society where basic needs are met, and citizens have the resources to pursue life, liberty and happiness; and

WHEREAS, Diplomacy is the only way to solve conflict in a nuclear armed world; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the North Carolina Democratic Party supports the passage of H.R. 4837, the No Unconstitutional Strike Against North Korea Act.

Submitted to the 10th and 11th Congressional District Executive Committees by Soren Pedersen, Buncombe County, March 24 2018.



