

**APPROVED RESOLUTIONS**  
**State Executive Committee**  
**August 27, 2005**

**RESOLUTION TO OPPOSE PRIVATIZATION OF SOCIAL SECURITY**

**WHEREAS**, Social Security has lifted many older Americans out of poverty, making it possible for vast numbers of seniors, persons with disabilities, and survivors to live independently, and

**WHEREAS**, current Congressional Budget Office projections report that the Social Security trust fund will remain solvent through 2042 with no change to the program, yet abandoning Social Security in favor of private accounts will cost an estimated \$2 trillion and will actually harm the system's solvency, and

**WHEREAS**, income over \$90,000 per year is inexplicably exempt from social security taxation, which creates a proportionally greater burden on the poor;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** by this body that the Social Security contract must not be compromised and that the economic safety net is too important to gamble any portion of Social Security funds by shifting them to a private accounts-based system; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** by this body that raising the cap on the payroll tax is the simplest, surest, most conservative means to assure the continued solvency of the Social Security system; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** by this body that we urge all Democratic elected officials and candidates to strongly oppose privatization and to do everything in their power to defeat it, and instead work to raise the cap on the payroll tax.

**Adopted by NCDP State Executive Committee**  
**August 27, 2005, Greensboro, North Carolina**

**RESOLUTION ON A FISCALLY RESPONSIBLE FEDERAL BUDGET**

**WHEREAS** the \$250 billion budget surplus in the federal budget in 2000 has now turned into a \$500 billion budget deficit; and

**WHEREAS** over the last four years the United States dollar has lost value against almost every other major world currency; and

**WHEREAS** the growing national debt threatens the future of all Americans;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the North Carolina Democratic Party calls on the federal government to immediately return to fiscally responsible policies working towards reducing the federal budget deficit. A first step in this direction should be to roll back the 2000 tax cuts on those with annual incomes over \$140,000.

**Adopted by NCDP State Executive Committee**  
**August 27, 2005, Greensboro, North Carolina**

**RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF AN EDUCATION LOTTERY**

**WHEREAS** the opportunity to receive a high quality public education is an essential right for every North Carolina child; and

**WHEREAS** a lottery, the proceeds from which will be dedicated to the support of public education, would benefit the children of North Carolina and advance the State's economy; and

**WHEREAS** an estimated \$300 million is spent annually by North Carolinians purchasing lottery tickets in the neighboring States of Virginia, Tennessee, and South Carolina;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the North Carolina Democratic Party supports a referendum for the creation of a State lottery, the proceeds from which would be dedicated to public education without diminution of state funding of the same.

**Adopted by NCDP State Executive Committee  
August 27, 2005, Greensboro, North Carolina**

### **RESOLUTION ON THE MINIMUM WAGE INCREASE**

**Whereas** the current statewide minimum wage of \$5.15/hr is not enough for the average family to make ends meet, and

**Whereas** keeping such a low minimum wage is inconsistent with the values of a democratic society,

**Be it resolved** that the North Carolina Democratic Party does support the bill introduced in the 2005 legislative session by Representative Alma Adams that would raise the minimum wage in North Carolina to \$8.50/hr over the next three years.

**Adopted by NCDP State Executive Committee  
August 27, 2005, Greensboro, North Carolina**

### **RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT MILITARY FAMILIES**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the North Carolina Democratic Party urges our elected officials to give priority to support of military families, including establishing a program for mortgage relief.

**Adopted by NCDP State Executive Committee  
August 27, 2005, Greensboro, North Carolina**

### **RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT LEGISLATION TO HOLD CORPORATIONS ACCOUNTABLE FOR ACTIONS**

**WHEREAS** U.S. corporations have a duty to the country to act responsibly;

**THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED** that the North Carolina Democratic Party urge Democratic members of Congress and the NC legislature to support amendments to procurement regulations to specify that the federal government and the state of North Carolina will not award contracts to any corporation that has been convicted of fraud on a previous government contract or;

**THAT** either directly or through subsidiaries has violated U.S. embargoes or sanctions unless no officer at the time of the fraud or violation is currently employed or receiving any monetary compensation of any kind whatsoever from the corporation; or

**THAT** is in arrears on debt to the U.S. government; or

**THAT** is evading its tax responsibilities through the establishment of off-shore shell headquarters or subsidiaries.

**Adopted by NCDP State Executive Committee  
August 27, 2005, Greensboro, North Carolina**

### **RESOLUTION ON NON-PARTISAN ACCESS TO PRESIDENTIAL MEETINGS CHARACTERIZED AS PUBLIC**

**WHEREAS** the President of the United States is holding public meetings around the country, and

**WHEREAS** the President or his organizers have prevented attendance by citizens who may hold different views about his topics, and

**WHEREAS** he and his organizers have required tickets and/or Republican loyalty oaths as a means of admission, and

**WHEREAS** he is using public funds for these public events,

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that no United States citizen may be barred from attending any presidential event characterized as a public, non-partisan event and no signing of any loyalty oath or advance ticket holding may be required.

**Adopted by NCDP State Executive Committee  
August 27, 2005, Greensboro, North Carolina**

### **RESOLUTION TO OPPOSE CUTS IN MEDICAID AND EDUCATION**

**WHEREAS** Medicaid, Medicare and Education are three of the most important federally supported domestic spending areas and the Bush Administration is proposing irresponsible cuts in both areas; and

**WHEREAS** military spending is an area where some cuts in spending could be made;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the North Carolina Democratic Party oppose irresponsible cuts to Medicaid, Medicare, and education programs through unfunded federal mandates and instead suggest redirecting military spending from weapons of mass destruction such as new nuclear weapons systems to pay, training, and benefits for troops, force protection such as body armor, and improved armor for vehicles.

**Adopted by NCDP State Executive Committee  
August 27, 2005, Greensboro, North Carolina**

## **RESOLUTION TO OPPOSE OFF-SHORING OF US JOBS, NAFTA, CAFTA**

**WHEREAS**, corporations have outsourced an alarming and growing number of American jobs overseas, enhancing profits for these companies at the expense of U.S. workers; and

**WHEREAS**, flawed global trade policies have cost the United States more than 3 million manufacturing jobs since 1994; and

**WHEREAS**, government agencies contract out public service jobs to private companies, many of whom move or outsource those jobs overseas without notifying the government or the public; and

**WHEREAS**, the Bush administration has declared that “when a good or service is produced more cheaply abroad, it makes more sense to import it than make or provide it domestically;” and

**WHEREAS**, the savings to the average American due to “cheap imports” amounted to \$550 a person and an average wage-paying job of more than \$43,000 have been lost for more than 7.7 million American jobs, in large part due to outsourcing; and

**WHEREAS**, the European model of trade agreements raises working standards and wages for citizens of the poorest and weakest countries and the American-style “free trade” agreement instead diminish working standards in the richer countries creating a “race to the bottom,” and

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the North Carolina Democratic Party opposes the off-shoring of U.S. jobs and opposes unfair global trade deals such as NAFTA, CAFTA, FTAA and GATS that have or will spur such off-shoring; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the North Carolina Democratic Party supports federal legislation that protects U.S. jobs from being moved overseas, allowing federal tax dollars to benefit the states rather than off-shoring corporations; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that companies choosing to off-shore American jobs be assessed a tariff on the labor dollars moved out of the country for a period of five years; and

**BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED** that these collected tariff funds be used to update the American industrial infrastructure and to move “displaced” workers into new, stable American industries.

**Adopted by NCDP State Executive Committee  
August 27, 2005, Greensboro, North Carolina**

## **RESOLUTION SUPPORTING NORTH CAROLINA’S STRONGER LOBBYING LAWS**

**Whereas**, the North Carolina Democratic Party is devoted to transparency in government and erasing undue influence in government;

**Now, therefore, be it resolved** that the North Carolina Democratic Party joins other civic leaders and organizations in supporting the NC General Assembly’s efforts in passing meaningful lobbying reform and the Secretary of State’s office in enforcing these stronger laws.

**Adopted by NCDP State Executive Committee**

**August 27, 2005, Greensboro, North Carolina**

## **RESOLUTION TO INVEST IN INVESTMENT**

**WHEREAS** North Carolina Investment Firms could benefit from investment opportunities of State dollars; and

**WHEREAS** the use of North Carolina Investment Firms in State investment opportunities would retain investment fees within the State; and

**WHEREAS** the use of North Carolina Investment Firms in the State investment opportunities could result in increased employment with the State; and

**WHEREAS** North Carolina Investment Firms that lack sufficient capital to meet State statutory requirements could be partnered with national big cap firms;

**THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED** that the North Carolina Democratic Party urge our Democratic candidates and elected officials shall do everything in their power to extend the opportunities of investment of State funds to North Carolina Investment firms.

**Adopted by NCDP State Executive Committee  
August 27, 2005, Greensboro, North Carolina**

## **RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT DIPLOMATIC AND ECONOMIC ACTION TO STOP FURTHER KILLING OF INNOCENT PEOPLE IN DARFUR, SUDAN**

**WHEREAS** at least 200,000 people have been killed by government-backed militia in Darfur, Sudan and 2 million people have been displaced and otherwise brutalized by the systematic use of starvation, sexual violence, and torture during the past 24 months; and

**WHEREAS** the United States can take diplomatic and economic action to stop further killing of innocent people and has a moral obligation to do so;

**THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED** that the North Carolina Democratic Party supports the United Nations Security Council authorization of a commission of inquiry, and further supports a quick agreement as to the form of the tribunal, even if it is the International Criminal Court, so that the inquiry may proceed expeditiously and prevent further loss of lives; and

**THAT** we endorse the expansion of the African Union troops' mandate from observation to protection and the expansion of the number of troops, including UN Security Forces, in order to realistically provide protection to civilians; and

**THAT** we urge our members of Congress to support the Darfur Accountability Act and to pass a "Sense of the Congress" resolution to request that President Bush impose an arms embargo and travel ban, freeze the assets of Sudanese officials, and appoint a special envoy to negotiate a comprehensive peace process; and

**THAT** a copy of this resolution shall be promptly transmitted to the members of the North Carolina Congressional delegation for its consideration.

**Adopted by NCDP State Executive Committee**

August 27, 2005, Greensboro, North Carolina

### **RESOLUTION TO RESPECT AND PROMOTE HUMAN RIGHTS AT HOME AND ABROAD**

**WHEREAS** the United States was created from a vision of freedom and justice; and

**WHEREAS** its continued safety depends on its moral strength as well as its armed forces;

**THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED** that the North Carolina Democratic Party urges the United States government to respect and promote human rights at home and abroad, by respecting all foreign governments, by using appropriate diplomatic and economic policies to eliminate oppression, and by extending aid to organizations that deal with the effects of oppression such as those supporting women's health and economic status; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the North Carolina Democratic Party demands that the United States vigorously opposed such barbarianisms as torture, extraordinary rendition, collective punishment, and cruel and unusual punishment abroad as well as at home.

**Adopted by NCDP State Executive Committee  
August 27, 2005, Greensboro, North Carolina**

### **RESOLUTION TO REDUCE THE MEDICAL EXCLUSION PERCENTAGE ON THE 1040 TAX FORM**

**WHEREAS** the 7 ½ percent medical exclusion on the 1040 tax return means that very few taxpayers are able to claim any credit for medical deductions; and

**WHEREAS** if Congress would give taxpayers full credit for long term care, doctors, hospital and prescription drug bills this credit would help stimulate the economy and improve the economic status of working people;

**THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED** that the North Carolina Democratic Party and the NC Democratic Delegation work to reduce the 7 ½ percent medical exclusion on the 1040 tax form.

**Adopted by NCDP State Executive Committee  
August 27, 2005, Greensboro, North Carolina**

### **RESOLUTION ON PROVISIONAL BALLOTS**

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the North Carolina Democratic Party supports counting all provisional ballots cast by registered voters in North Carolina as long as the votes are cast within the correct county.

**Adopted by NCDP State Executive Committee  
August 27, 2005, Greensboro, North Carolina**

## **RESOLUTION ON CAMPAIGN FINANCE REFORM**

**WHEREAS** spending on political campaigns in North Carolina has skyrocketed in recent years; and

**WHEREAS** the high costs of campaigning act as a barrier to exclude many qualified candidates; and

**WHEREAS** the increasing importance of private money in campaigns gives wealthy donors and special interests an advantage over ordinary voters and diminishes the rule of "one person, one vote".

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the North Carolina Democratic Party urges the N.C. General Assembly and the governor to enact a Voter-Owned, Clean Elections program for state elections similar to the public financing alternative now available for statewide judicial candidates in North Carolina. Such a program provides a competitive amount of campaign money to candidates : (a) who voluntarily agree to strict campaign spending limits; and (b) who demonstrate broad support by gathering hundreds of small donations from registered voters in the relevant district. Closing tax loopholes or other means that result in no tax increase for the average taxpayer should fund such a program.

**Adopted by NCDP State Executive Committee  
August 27, 2005, Greensboro, North Carolina**

## **RESOLUTION ON GRASSROOTS CAMPAIGNING**

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the North Carolina Democratic Party institute, enlist and encourage support and financing for grassroots campaigns in support of Democratic Issues and candidates during the upcoming 2006 elections.

**Adopted by NCDP State Executive Committee  
August 27, 2005, Greensboro, North Carolina**

## **RESOLUTION TO OPPOSE UNFAIR LABOR PRACTICES BY WAL-MART CORPORATION**

**WHEREAS** on June 22, 2004, Federal Judge Martin Jenkins certified the largest civil rights class action ever on behalf of more than 1.6 million women who have worked at Wal-Mart since the end of 1998. The lawsuit charges that female Wal-Mart workers have endured years of discrimination in pay and promotions in all levels of the corporation; and

**WHEREAS** Wal-Mart is notorious for its rampant violations of workers' rights to organize, and more than 100 unfair labor practices have been charged against the company in the past few years for violations including unlawful surveillance, intimidation, and threats against workers seeking a voice at work; and

**WHEREAS** Wal-Mart is the country's largest employer, with more than 1 million U.S. workers, and the biggest employer in 25 states, granting the company the market power to set standards for wages and labor practices; and

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the North Carolina Democratic Party opposes the inhumane labor practices and human rights abuses conducted by Wal-Mart and all other public and private employers that not only mistreat workers but undermine the rights of all working people; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the North Carolina Democratic Party advocate for policies to block Wal-Mart and other public and private employers who are found to have abusive employment practices from receiving job training and other types of taxpayer funds; and

**BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED** that the North Carolina Democratic Party oppose the expansion of Wal-Mart stores in North Carolina and support the efforts of local labor and community organizations to block Wal-Mart's expansion in North Carolina.

**Adopted by NCDP State Executive Committee  
August 27, 2005, Greensboro, North Carolina**

## **RESOLUTION TO ENDORSE THE AGENDA OF THE CONGRESSIONAL BLACK CAUCUS**

**WHEREAS** Congressman Mel Watt and members of the Congressional Black Caucus (CBC) maintain racial disparities between African Americans and White Americans continue to exist in 2005 in every aspect of our lives; and

**WHEREAS** the historical mission of the CBC has been to close and, ultimately, to eliminate disparities; and

**WHEREAS** members of the CBC have adopted an agenda in the 109th Congress to address such disparities; and

**WHEREAS** the agenda includes closing the achievement and opportunity gaps in education, assuring quality health care for all, advocating employment and economic security, building wealth and business development, ensuring justice for all, and guaranteeing retirement security for all Americans;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the North Carolina Democratic Party endorses and supports the CBC Agenda for the 109th Congress for Closing Disparities and Creating Opportunities in as much as the CBC has never sought to limit the benefits of its endeavors to African Americans for the CBC believes that its priorities in the 109th Congress will benefit all Americans and will make our country better for all people.

**Adopted by NCDP State Executive Committee  
August 27, 2005, Greensboro, North Carolina**

## **RESOLUTION ON DEFENDING AND IMPROVING PUBLIC BROADCASTING**

**WHEREAS** Kenneth Tomlinson, the new chair of the Corporation for Public Broadcasting appointed by President Bush, has interfered with the editorial independence of public broadcasting by ordering the CPB staff to redirect money for NPR away from national newscasts and public affairs programming toward music programs, by using CPB money to monitor the PBS show Now with Bill Moyers for evidence of liberal bias, and by considering a plan to monitor Middle East coverage on NPR programs for evidence of liberal bias, and

**WHEREAS** a vigorous and independent media which seeks and tells the public the truth unfettered by commercial considerations or government control is absolutely essential for the functioning of democracy,

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the North Carolina Democratic Party urge the National party leadership and membership and our elected representatives to ask the Corporation for Public Broadcasting to stop efforts to influence programming decisions at National Public Radio (NPR) and the Public Broadcasting Service (PBS); to eliminate the two ombudsman positions recently created to evaluate and critique public broadcasting programs for bias; to support the appointment of board members to the CPB who have demonstrated expertise and commitment to public broadcasting as opposed to the current system, which favors the appointment of partisans, and to publicly assure journalists working for public broadcasting that they can conduct fact based investigative reporting critical of government without fear of reprisals.

**Adopted by NCDP State Executive Committee  
August 27, 2005, Greensboro, North Carolina**

### **RESOLUTION ON RESTORING SELECTION AND NOMINATION OF STATE BOARD OF ELECTION MEMBERS TO STATE PARTY CHAIRS**

**WHEREAS**, since 1969, North Carolina law has required that members of the State Board of Elections (hereinafter "SBOE") "shall" be chosen from names submitted to the Governor by State Party Chairs; and

**WHEREAS**, the deadline for the Governor to appoint these SBOE members expired in May of 2005; and

**WHEREAS**, the language of the controlling statute was changed from "shall" to "may" with little debate during last-minute budget deals in the General Assembly, thereby allowing the Governor to ignore the recommendations of the State Party Chairs; and

**WHEREAS**, House Bill 128, as amended by the Senate, restores the language of the controlling law so the Governor "shall" choose members of the SBOE from names submitted to the Governor by the State Party Chairs;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the North Carolina Democratic Party recommends that the North Carolina House consider and pass House Bill 128 and concur with the Senate to restore SBOE nominations to the State Party Chairs; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, the North Carolina Democratic Party urges the General Assembly to pass legislation that would change the law back to its original form.

**Unanimously Adopted by the 720 member NCDP State Executive Committee  
August 27, 2005, Greensboro, North Carolina**

### **RESOLUTION ON A NC APPROACH TO A GLOBAL CLIMATE CHANGE AND NUCLEAR POWER**

**WHEREAS** there is virtually unanimous agreement in the worldwide scientific community that greenhouse gases created by human activity have resulted in the highest average global temperatures in the last 14,000 years, and

**WHEREAS** most climatologists agree that the rate of warming is accelerating and predict that global warming will have the effect of increasing floods, droughts, forest fires, damaging storms, rising ocean level, the spread of tropical diseases, poorer air quality, and damage to U.S. agricultural and timber industries, and

**WHEREAS** there is major scientific concern that greenhouse gas accumulation will trigger “abrupt-climate-change” tipping points that may dramatically alter climate conditions in various parts of the world in a very short time, and

**WHEREAS** recent floods, drought, and hurricanes in North Carolina have had major impact on our state and its economy, and our low-lying barrier islands and coastlines are very vulnerable to rising ocean level and violent storms, and

**WHEREAS** the Bush administration, dominated by the oil and coal lobbies, has refused to sign the Kyoto Treaty on Climate Change and strongly opposed almost all other constructive approaches to reducing U.S. greenhouse gas emissions, with the result that states are being forced to provide leadership in cutting their emissions, preparing for increased weather emergencies, and lobbying for a change in national policy, and

**WHEREAS** North Carolina utilities are forecasting a 62% increase in CO<sub>2</sub> emissions (the main greenhouse gas) from their coal burning power plants from 2002 through 2020, and

**WHEREAS** the nuclear industry is using global warming as a justification for re-licensing present aging power plants and building new plants with massive public subsidies in spite of the fact that safe and permanent solution has not been found for nuclear waste, that nuclear plants have been repeatedly mentioned by terrorist groups as prime targets, that nuclear fuel pools, such as the Shearon Harris, Brunswick, and McGuire plants are highly vulnerable to terrorist attack, and that such an attack could result in a devastating radioactive fire that could highly contaminate thousands of square miles, and

**WHEREAS** North Carolina can dramatically cut greenhouse gas emissions from coal burning plants and begin phasing out its nuclear plants by initiating a vigorous program of electrical energy use reduction while bringing online non-polluting renewable energy sources, and

**WHEREAS** the technology for dramatic electrical energy use reduction now exists through modern architectural design and, for existing buildings, upgrades such as efficient lighting, weatherization, electrical motors and heating and air-conditioning, and such an initiative would stimulate both major cost savings and major economic stimulation and job growth,

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the North Carolina Democratic Party communicate with Governor Easley and our members of the North Carolina General Assembly and to urge them to initiate, as a matter of urgent priority, a plan to dramatically reduce greenhouse gas emissions by reducing electrical energy use in the state and by bringing non-polluting renewable generation on line, and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that our elected representatives be further urged to work with local government and other state governments and to lobby the federal government to implement these goals.

**Adopted by NCDP State Executive Committee  
August 27, 2005, Greensboro, North Carolina**

## **RESOLUTION ON NORTH CAROLINA HEALTH CARE REFORM**

**WHEREAS**, almost one third of North Carolinians (2.5 million people) are without health insurance coverage during at least part of each year and another million North Carolinians have inadequate health insurance coverage, and

**WHEREAS**, nearly half of individual bankruptcy filings are related to medical bills, and

**WHEREAS**, the uninsured receive fewer health care services and are more likely to suffer from preventable health problems, and

**WHEREAS**, most uninsured adults have jobs but cannot afford health insurance, and

**WHEREAS**, many of those families with health insurance are susceptible to losing it due to unemployment resulting from a layoff or a serious accident or illness, and

**WHEREAS**, the Bush administration is not addressing this crisis and instead is proposing to decrease Medicaid funding,

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the North Carolina Democratic Party urge Governor Easley and our members of the North Carolina General Assembly to support Representative Verla Insko's Bill on the Right to Health Care; this bill would give voters the opportunity to decide by referendum whether the North Carolina Constitution should be amended to guarantee that residents of our state enjoy the right to health care, just as it does the right to education. If the resolution passes it would mandate that the General Assembly create a plan to bring about affordable health care for all in the state.

**Adopted by NCDP State Executive Committee  
August 27, 2005, Greensboro, North Carolina**

### **RESOLUTION ON CESSATION OF PARTISAN POLITICAL ACTIVITY ON GOVERNMENT TRIPS TO AFGHANISTAN AND IRAQ AND IN MILITARY RADIO PROGRAMMING (LIMBAUGH)**

**WHEREAS** President Bush's administration has invited conservative radio talk show host Rush Limbaugh and conservative political commentator Mary Matalin to accompany a high ranking U.S. aid official to visit Afghanistan and Iraq, and

**WHEREAS** Rush Limbaugh is the only partisan radio talk show host allowed on the military radio service, and

**WHEREAS** public funds are involved in all of these endeavors,

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that any such partisan political activity must cease immediately on any government trips and any US military radio programming.

**Adopted by NCDP State Executive Committee  
August 27, 2005, Greensboro, North Carolina**

### **RESOLUTION ON BIO-DIESEL**

**WHEREAS**, North Carolina citizens need to help reduce dependence on foreign oil and contribute to the local economy, and

**WHEREAS**, North Carolina citizens need affordable alternatives to standard home heating and transport fuels, and

**WHEREAS**, North Carolina needs to maintain clean air for the health of our citizens, and bio-diesel is the only alternative fuel to have fully completed the health effects testing requirements of the Clean Air Act, and

**WHEREAS**, bio-diesel is better for the environment because it is made from renewable resources and has lower emissions compared to petroleum diesel, and

**WHEREAS**, the use of bio-diesel in contemporary cars and trucks requires little or no modifications to standard diesel-powered engines;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the North Carolina Democratic Party supports a “Bio-Diesel Project” to educate its citizens, and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that we encourage the development of a pilot demonstration of the bio-diesel production processes and support the marketing of bio-diesel fuel in North Carolina.

**Adopted by NCDP State Executive Committee  
August 27, 2005, Greensboro, North Carolina**

## **RESOLUTION FOR ALTERNATIVE ENERGY**

**WHEREAS**, energy costs and instability are a significant contributing factor to job loss in many sectors of the economy, but particularly in the industrial sector, and

**WHEREAS**, rising energy costs are creating economic hardships for most people in the United States, and

**WHEREAS**, rising natural gas, electricity, and oil prices are making energy conservation, energy efficiency, and renewable power production much more compelling and economically viable, and

**WHEREAS**, a more diverse energy portfolio could help bring about greater energy security and less reliance on foreign energy, and

**WHEREAS**, if we turned our attention to the manufacturing of renewable energy systems for use worldwide, it would not only make the U.S. less reliant on foreign sources of energy but also would increase U.S. economic development, and

**WHEREAS**, investment in energy-efficient new construction and retrofitting existing real estate will save consumers in energy costs and create thousands of good construction jobs, and

**WHEREAS**, renewable energy markets are predicted to grow to \$92 billion within the next decade, and

**WHEREAS**, increasing the diversity of our energy supply will create new employment and the utilization of domestic materials, and

**WHEREAS**, investment into renewable energy and energy efficiency (promoting advanced technology and hybrid cars, more efficient factories, high-performance buildings, energy-efficient appliances, modernized electrical infrastructure, etc.) would be a substantial stimulus for the national economy;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the North Carolina Democratic Party endorses public and private investment in renewable energy and energy efficiency as well as research and energy conservation.

**Adopted by NCDP State Executive Committee  
August 27, 2005, Greensboro, North Carolina**

## **RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT OUR ARMED SERVICES AND RETURN THEM HOME**

**Whereas**, the soldiers serving in Iraq have been denied adequate equipment by the Bush Administration and the Secretary of Defense has flippantly denied these soldiers such protections;

**Whereas**, reservists are having to serve longer than any reservists in history and families are not being taken care of adequately;

**Whereas**, the Bush administration went to war without proper understanding of the situation, with no clear plan, and under false pretenses without exhausting other options;

**Whereas** continued occupation continues to make the US less safe in the world and continues to perpetuate violence and instability in the region;

**Be it resolved**, that the North Carolina Democratic Party calls on all elected officials to make it a priority to support the armed services and the families left behind to ensure that they are provided for in every way;

**Be it resolved** that every man and woman serving in Iraq should be brought home as soon as possible.

**Adopted by NCDP State Executive Committee  
August 27, 2005, Greensboro, North Carolina**

## **RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT OF MEASURES TO CREATE ECONOMIC PROSPERITY IN NORTH CAROLINA**

**Be it therefore resolved:** That the North Carolina Democratic Party request that all Party and governmental officials work together to implement innovative solutions to solve a problem that is not a Republican problem or a Democratic problem but a North Carolina problem; and,

**Be it further resolved:** That the North Carolina Democratic Party endorse and support Democratic candidates who will work on immediate solutions to relieve our citizens of the pain of unemployment and economic desperation.

**Adopted by NCDP State Executive Committee  
August 27, 2005, Greensboro, North Carolina**

## **RESOLUTION IN OPPOSITION TO PROPOSED REPUBLICAN CHANGES TO THE SOCIAL SECURITY LAW**

**Be it therefore resolved:** That the North Carolina Democratic Party denounce the President's campaign to undermine and sabotage the Social Security program.

**Adopted by NCDP State Executive Committee  
August 27, 2005, Greensboro, North Carolina**

## **RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF FAIRNESS IN SOCIAL SECURITY TAXATION**

**Be it therefore resolved:** That the \$90,000 cap be raised or removed entirely; and

**Be it further resolved:** That no Social Security Funds be diverted into private accounts.

**Adopted by NCDP State Executive Committee  
August 27, 2005, Greensboro, North Carolina**

## **RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF UNIVERSAL HEALTH CARE**

**Be it therefore resolved:** That the North Carolina Democratic Party promote and support a single payer universal health care system that includes equal coverage for both physical and mental health.

**Adopted by NCDP State Executive Committee  
August 27, 2005, Greensboro, North Carolina**

## **RESOLUTION ON VACCINES**

**WHEREAS**, recent events have shown that without government intervention the free enterprise system may not deliver a sufficient supply of vaccine for use in the prevention of flu and other infectious diseases;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the North Carolina Democratic Party reaffirms the inherent responsibility of the federal government to provide for the general welfare of the people by taking required actions to ensure an adequate supply of safe vaccine and specifically urges immediate formulation of a plan by said government to avoid vaccine shortages in times of critical need.

**Adopted by NCDP State Executive Committee  
August 27, 2005, Greensboro, North Carolina**

## **RESOLUTION ON NUCLEAR WEAPONS**

**WHEREAS**, a most urgent national security threat is the existence of weapons of mass destruction and materials to construct same which are housed in the republics of the former USSR;

**WHEREAS**, these said weapons and materials could fall into the hands of terrorists or hostile nations for use against the United States' troops abroad or citizens at home;

**WHEREAS**, thirteen years have elapsed since the dissolution of the Soviet Union and some 30,000 nuclear warheads are still mostly unsecured;

**WHEREAS**, only 1 billion of our \$500 billion defense spending budget is devoted to nuclear material control when some \$30 billion over three years is needed; therefore be it

**RESOLVED** that immediate Congressional action be taken to bring "loose nukes" under control and that existing and new fissile material be supervised and be held under the strictest security standards.

**Adopted by NCDP State Executive Committee  
August 27, 2005, Greensboro, North Carolina**

## **RESOLUTION ON CONSERVATION EASEMENTS AND DONATIONS**

**WHEREAS**, millions of acres of forests, agricultural lands, waterways, wildlife habitats, historic landscapes, and parkland have been protected by conservation easements and voluntary donations throughout the United States;

**WHEREAS**, landowners have been adequately compensated since 1976 by tax deductions which have provided incentive for the granting of conservation easements;

**WHEREAS**, under proposed changes landowners would receive only 33% of the original value (not market value) of their property in tax deductions instead of the present 100% and no deductions if the owner lives on the land;

**WHEREAS**, these changes, if enacted into law, would make it much less desirable for landowners to donate land or conservation easements;

**WHEREAS**, a successful and economically efficient system of voluntary land donations is in danger of being crippled by these misguided changes pro-posed by the Congressional Joint Committee on Taxation;

**WHEREAS**, this shortsighted means to reduce the national deficit would result in lost opportunities to conserve our precious natural heritage; therefore be it

**RESOLVED** that every effort be made to see that these proposals of the Congressional Joint Tax Committee be rejected.

**Adopted by NCDP State Executive Committee  
August 27, 2005, Greensboro, North Carolina**

## **RESOLUTION ON POVERTY**

**WHEREAS**, poverty is a worldwide blight, including the United States, where more than one hundred million people struggle on family incomes less than \$20,000 a year;

**WHEREAS**, in addressing poverty we fail to distinguish among three groups: the poor who cannot work (elderly, sick, or handicapped, children), the poor who work on their own (independent farmers, shopkeepers, artists) and the employed poor with task and income determined by others;

**WHEREAS**, the jobs done by the employed poor are essential for the functioning of every organization in our society;

**WHEREAS**, we all benefit from the products, conveniences, and low costs assured by the employed poor, we should recognize our role in perpetuating poverty that has created the world's greatest gap between the rich and the poor;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the North Carolina Democratic Party commit itself between now and the 2008 election to explore new possibilities in the way we think and talk about poverty, addressing causes as well as consequences, stand for a decent annual income for all employees and their families, and change the conditions in which the poor are compelled to live so that they may live in decent neighborhood settings.

**Adopted by NCDP State Executive Committee  
August 27, 2005, Greensboro, North Carolina**

## **RESOLUTION TO ESTABLISH A LIVING WAGE**

**WHEREAS** persons who contribute their work to our society have a right to receive compensation sufficient to support themselves with dignity; and

**WHEREAS** the current minimum wage is inadequate for that purpose; and

**WHEREAS** wages for the bottom 10 percent of wage earners fell by 9.3 percent between 1979 and 1999; and

**WHEREAS** the number of jobs where wages were below what a worker would need to support a family of four above the poverty line also grew between 1979 and 1999; and

**WHEREAS** living wage ordinances have the potential to counteract the destructive race to the bottom wherein cities and counties try to attract businesses by offering larger subsidies than their neighbors; and

**WHEREAS** the more prevalent living wage ordinances are, the less firms will be able to shop around for the cheapest locality on the basis of cutting wages;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the North Carolina Democratic Party 1) urges its Representatives to support House Bill 330 or any other legislation establishing a living wage and 2)urges the North Carolina General Assembly to support H330 or any other legislation establishing a living wage.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the North Carolina Democratic Party commends Democratic Representatives Alma Adams and Jean Farmer-Butterfield for introducing a living wage bill in the General Assembly and Democratic Representatives Martha Alexander, Bernard Allen, Linda Coleman, Maggie Jeffus, Paul Luebke, Deborah Ross, and Jennifer Weiss for co-sponsoring the bill. We also note with approval that Edgar Starnes of the Republican party has acted righteously to co-sponsor the bill.

**Adopted by NCDP State Executive Committee  
August 27, 2005, Greensboro, North Carolina**

## **RESOLUTION ON HUMAN RIGHTS**

**WHEREAS** the United States was created from a vision of freedom and justice; and

**WHEREAS** its continued safety depends on its moral strength as well as its armed forces;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the North Carolina Democratic Party urges the United States government to respect and promote human rights at home and abroad, by respecting all foreign governments, by using appropriate diplomatic and economic policies to eliminate oppression, and by extending aid to organizations that deal with the effects of oppression such as those supporting women's health and economic status; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the North Carolina Democratic Party demands that the United States vigorously oppose such barbarisms as torture, extraordinary rendition, collective punishment, and cruel and unusual punishment abroad as well as at home.

**Adopted by NCDP State Executive Committee  
August 27, 2005, Greensboro, North Carolina**

### **RESOLUTION ON MEDICAL COST REDUCTION RESOLUTION**

**WHEREAS**, the total cost of medical care in North Carolina is rising faster than taxes can sustain the necessary services provided by NC Government supported medical programs; and

**WHEREAS**, the total cost of Government supported medical care in North Carolina is an increasing and disproportionate part of the cost of NC Government; and

**WHEREAS**, the increasing costs of prescription drugs is a major cause of the increasing total cost of medical care; and

**WHEREAS**, facts show that the about 30% of the cost of prescription drugs is the cost of advertising; and

**WHEREAS**, a portion of the advertising of prescription drugs are unsuitable for viewing by children; and

**WHEREAS**, only tax increases can solve the deficit budget of Medicaid and other Government supported financing.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** by the North Carolina Democratic Party that the advertising of prescription drugs be eliminated by law in any media in North Carolina to reduce the cost of providing medical care and protect against unsuitable viewing by children.

**Adopted by NCDP State Executive Committee  
August 27, 2005, Greensboro, North Carolina**

### **RESOLUTION TO BAN AERIAL POISONING**

**WHEREAS**, the N.C. Pesticide Board admits the inevitability of pesticide drift contamination from aerial applications, as evidenced by the N. C. Interagency Study on the Impact of Pesticides on Ground Water; and

**WHEREAS**, according to a General Accounting Office report, pesticide effects include cancer, short- and long-term injury to the nervous system, lung damage, reproductive dysfunction, and possible dysfunction

of the endocrine (hormone) and immune systems. Children are at greater risk from pesticide exposure than most adults. Parkinson's, Alzheimer's, Toxicant Induced Loss of Tolerance (TILT), Attention Deficit Disorder (ADD), violence and other diseases have also been linked to pesticide exposures.

**WHEREAS**, in approximately 1 out of every 100 births, errors occur during the various stages of fetal sex differentiation, causing babies to develop abnormally, a factor seen in fish and linked to synthetic chemicals; and

**WHEREAS**, human studies are based on an average male, with no studies on females and children; and

**WHEREAS**, North Carolina currently ranks 38th in the nation for cancer, striking 1 out of 2 men and 1 out of 3 women. Childhood cancers have increased 20% overall: non-Hodgkin's lymphoma, 67%; acute lymphocytic leukemia, 63%; kidney, 43%; soft tissue sarcoma, 38%; and brain cancer, 30%.

**WHEREAS**, 15% to 30% of the population is now estimated to suffer from or be disabled by Toxicant Induced Loss of Tolerance (TILT), also known as Multiple Chemical Sensitivity (MCS) and will be unable to avoid exposure and therefore will not have access to public places as required by the Federal Americans with Disabilities Act, thus endangering federal funding for the entire state; and

**WHEREAS**, hazardous waste containing untested heavy metals and radiation are legally allowed to be "recycled" into pesticides (CFR 40, Section 261, Part 261.2 & 261.6), a very profitable practice now replacing pest control with hazardous waste disposal as the primary undisclosed profit in pesticides; and

**WHEREAS**, pesticides are inadequately tested and testing of commonly used aerial tank mixes are non-existent; and

**WHEREAS**, pesticide drift contaminates surface water, some of which becomes municipal water supplies and such water is not tested nor treated for pesticides; and

**WHEREAS**, pesticides promote pests by killing beneficial insects (there have been 500 instances of pesticide resistant pest insects as compared to only 30 cases of pesticide resistant beneficial insects); and

**WHEREAS**, pesticides impact pollinators at an estimated cost of \$200 million per year in crop losses; and,

**WHEREAS**, pesticides impact the seafood industry at an estimated \$56 million per year in the death of fish alone; and,

**WHEREAS**, legalizing pesticide drift deprives North Carolinians of their right to self-preservation;

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the North Carolina Democratic Party support a BAN on aerial applications of pesticides.

**Adopted by NCDP State Executive Committee  
August 27, 2005, Greensboro, North Carolina**

## **RESOLUTION TO REQUIRE CITIZEN REPRESENTATION AND CONTROL ON THE NORTH CAROLINA PESTICIDE BOARD**

**WHEREAS**, the North Carolina Pesticide Board (NCPB) recently attempted to deregulate NC aerial pesticide laws and was only stopped from doing so by the intervention of the US Environmental Protection Agency and outraged

citizen non-profit organizations; and

**WHEREAS**, in his report to Congress on Inert Ingredients in Pesticides, then Inspector General, John Martin, stated that due to poorly regulated inert ingredients the federal EPA could not assure the safety of pesticides; and

**WHEREAS**, the NCPB has admitted in public hearings that aerial pesticides can not be applied without breaking current buffer zone laws and the NCPB refuses to enforce said current laws and is thereby exposing innocent citizens to health injury and property damage by continued contamination from aerial poisons; and

**WHEREAS**, the NCPB has shown extreme industry bias and allowed an unqualified industry lobbyist to write the aerial pesticide deregulation proposal and displayed said proposal on their official state website as representing the intentions of the NCPB; and

**WHEREAS**, the citizens of North Carolina need to be protected from harmful pesticide exposures. NC studies show 15-30% as being chemically injured and disabled and a growing number of catastrophic diseases and injuries such as Cancer, Parkinson's, Alzheimer's, Neurological, Immune, Asthma, Miscarriage, and Birth Defects are being directly linked to pesticides. These pesticide related injuries and disabilities directly affect Medicaid costs to the state, productivity and personal medical expenses that often result in bankruptcy; and

**WHEREAS**, economic costs from environmental damages due to pesticide contamination is enormous in terms of water degradation, reduced air quality, loss of ecotourism, wildlife deaths, beneficial insect deaths, pesticide resistant and uncontrolled pests; and

**WHEREAS**, citizens with a proven interest in pesticide safety and no income derived from the regulated industry can best serve to regulate and protect citizens from pesticides; and,

**WHEREAS**, there is no representation on the NCPB by citizens who have been injured by pesticides when plainly these citizens would have much to contribute to proper regulation of pesticides.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the North Carolina Democratic Party shall call for citizen representation and control on the North Carolina Pesticide Board consisting of citizens with a proven interest in pesticide protection (50% of which will be pesticide injured citizens) who will have no income derived from the pesticide industry themselves or among their family.

**Adopted by NCDP State Executive Committee  
August 27, 2005, Greensboro, North Carolina**

## **RESOLUTION TO ESTABLISH A TOXIC TORT ABATEMENT ACT**

**WHEREAS**, pesticides, nuclear waste, hazardous waste, PVC, and other dangerous toxic chemicals inevitably injure, disable and kill innumerable citizens each year, and

**WHEREAS**, citizens are not finding just compensation in the courts for these injuries due to; fraudulent concealment of the harmful effects of chemicals, manipulation of research data, falsification of data by test labs, conflicts of interest on scientific research panels, corporate 'disinformation' and corporate political donations, failure to enforce protective laws and regulations, and

**WHEREAS**, studies indicate from 15-30 % of the population experiences some form of chemical intolerance, with around 3% of these being seriously disabled, and

**WHEREAS**, chemical induced injury is linked to chronic and deadly diseases such as Cancer, Toxicant Induced Loss of Tolerance (TILT), Parkinson's and Alzheimer's Disease, Diabetes, Heart Disease, Attention Deficit Disorder (ADD), Chronic Fatigue Syndrome, Fibromyalgia, endocrine, neurological and immunological damage, aggression, , loss of bone density, and other chemical injuries, and

**WHEREAS**, tax dollars, in the form of Medicare and Medicaid, generally provide coverage for health care when citizens are chemically injured or disabled and are unable to receive fair compensation in the courts or maintain their financial independence, and

**WHEREAS**, research into causes, treatments, and cures of chemical injury is inadequate due to limits on funding controlled by compromised elected representatives dominated by the self-interest of corporations, and

**WHEREAS**, no provision is made for the many special needs of chemically injured and disabled citizens such as; emergency and long-term medical care and housing, legal representation, schooling, personal products and household goods, communication and socialization.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that this Toxic Tort Abatement Act shall reduce litigation through fair treatment of the chemically injured and disabled and reducing feelings of frustration, anger and betrayal. We recognize the moral responsibility to eliminate the use of toxic chemicals which cause injury, disability and premature death to a significant percentage of citizens. Until harmful chemicals are eliminated those who profit from toxic or harmful products, chemicals, hazardous waste, and radiation must provide for the needs of inevitable victims.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that any and all corporations that manufacture, process, dispose of, or incorporate into other products any toxic chemical or hazardous products that would cause chemical injury, disability or death, will contribute 2% of the corporations gross annual income to the Toxic Tort Abatement Fund to be set aside for the needs and expenses of chemical injury survivors and their families. This Act presupposes that compassion, fair treatment, and sincere apology reduce the need and will to litigate. Corporations may best show compassion, fair treatment, and sincere apology by providing in advance for those who are inevitably injured, disabled or killed. This Act in no way limits or prohibits the right to file, pursue or recover in any toxic tort lawsuit.

**Adopted by NCDP State Executive Committee  
August 27, 2005, Greensboro, North Carolina**

## **HONORING THE YOUNG DEMOCRATS OF BUNCOMBE COUNTY**

**WHEREAS**, the Buncombe County Young Democrats recently received the 2005 National Club of the Year Award from the Young Democrats of America, and;

**WHEREAS**, their receipt of this award offers a unique opportunity to promote youth engagement in our Party, and to draw attention to the central role that young people play in the leadership of our county, district and statewide Party organizations.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the delegates to today's NC Democratic Party Executive Committee meeting be invited to contribute to a special honorium for the purpose of promoting this important achievement - promotion aimed at recruiting new young Democratic leaders and workers, and at raising the profile of the Young Democrats statewide.

**Adopted by NCDP State Executive Committee  
August 27, 2005, Greensboro, North Carolina**

## **RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF PRECINCT ORGANIZATION**

**WHEREAS**, North Carolina citizens represent a critical target population for the development and maintenance of behavior patterns to provide for better lifestyles; and

**WHEREAS**, the precinct is the basic unit next to the family for promotion of positive attitudes, skill and habits for a high quality of life; and

**WHEREAS**, a comprehensive precinct committee arrangement is focused on improving the community life of its inhabitants (which includes committees on education, youth development, early childhood education, economic development, crisis resolution, public relations and publicity programs, and civic responsibility); and

**WHEREAS**, a coalition of the seven auxiliary organizations as a catalyst for the revitalization of programs that can manifest the mission of the party which is to elect as many Democrats as possible at election time. The organizations: The Senior Democrats, Democratic Women, Young Democrats, College Democrats, Hispanic Democrats, Teen Democrats, and African-American Democrats.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the North Carolina Democratic Party supports a program of comprehensive precinct committee arrangements, to include those listed above, and hereby urges the Democratic Party to authorization the inclusion of this procedure as part of the Plan of Organization.

**Adopted by NCDP State Executive Committee  
August 27, 2005, Greensboro, North Carolina**

## **RESOLUTION AFFIRMING AND PROMOTING INTEGRITY OF THE VOTING PROCESS IN NORTH CAROLINA**

**WHEREAS** the North Carolina Democratic Party Executive committee is on record, unanimously calling on party leaders and legislative representatives to correct deficiencies in voting machinery and practices; and

**WHEREAS** the Joint Select Committee on Electronic Voting Systems has taken testimony and developed legislative bills toward that goal; and

**WHEREAS** House Bill 238 and Senate Bill 223 incorporate key elements of the Joint Select Committee's recommendations; and

**WHEREAS** voter confidence in the electoral process is at stake; and

**WHEREAS** an independently verifiable recount is essential; and

**WHEREAS** the Joint Select Committee's bills deserve bipartisan support; and

**WHEREAS** North Carolina has received Federal funding through the Help America Vote Act to upgrade election systems by 2006; and

**WHEREAS** many counties are moving toward machines without paper ballots nor methods to audit the results;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the North Carolina Democratic Party urges party members across North Carolina to support the strongest protections for the integrity of the voting process as embodied in these bills.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that purchase of voting systems by the state of North Carolina and its counties must incorporate a voter verified physical ballot, deposited at the polling place in a secure ballot box or delivered by the United States Postal Service; operate such that the voter is able to void a ballot and cast a new one; and maintain the anonymity of the voter; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that management policies and rules for elections systems be established to maintain that physical ballots marked directly by, or at the direction of, each voter have precedence over electronic data as the true copy of voter intent for recounts, when required by statute or if challenged, and require random checks of the physical ballots against the totals of the computer system for purposes of audit.

**Adopted by NCDP State Executive Committee  
August 27, 2005, Greensboro, North Carolina**

## **RESOLUTION ON CAMPAIGN REFORM AND VOTER-OWNED ELECTIONS**

**WHEREAS** the cost on political campaigns in North Carolina has skyrocketed in recent years;

**WHEREAS** the pressure to raise funds acts as a barrier that excludes many qualified candidates and traps others in an almost endless money chase;

**WHEREAS** the increasing importance of private money in campaigns gives special-interest donors an advantage over ordinary votes and diminishes the rule of "one person, one vote";

**WHEREAS** providing candidates with an alternative source of public funds, contingent on obtaining lots of support from voters, makes voters the real "owners" of the election process and rescues candidates from the money chase;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the North Carolina Democratic Party urge the N.C. General Assembly and Governor to enact a Voter-Owned, Clean Elections program for state elections similar to the public financing alternative now available for statewide judicial candidates in North Carolina and to programs in states as diverse as Arizona and Maine. Such a program provides a competitive amount of campaign money to candidates (a) who voluntarily agree to strict campaign spending limits and b) who demonstrate broad support by gathering hundreds of small donations from registered voters in the relevant district. Such a program should be funded by closing tax loopholes or by other means that result in no tax increase for the average taxpayer.

**Adopted by NCDP State Executive Committee  
August 27, 2005, Greensboro, North Carolina**

## **RESOLUTION TO JOIN THE KYOTO ACCORD TO CONTROL GREENHOUSE GASES**

**WHEREAS** the United States is the leading producer of greenhouse gasses; and

**WHEREAS** the scientific community overwhelmingly supports the proposition that these greenhouse gases are creating a problem with global warming;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the North Carolina Democratic Party urge the United States Congress to pass legislation joining the world community in committing to the Kyoto Treaty in an effort to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the North Carolina Democratic Party urge the North Carolina legislature to enact legislation and seek cooperation with neighboring states to implement Kyoto Treaty goals notwithstanding the actions on Congress.

**Adopted by NCDP State Executive Committee  
August 27, 2005, Greensboro, North Carolina**

## **RESOLUTION ON VOTING SYSTEMS FOR NORTH CAROLINA AND THE UNITED STATES**

**WHEREAS**, the Help America Vote Act of 2002 (HAVA) began a rush by states to purchase new voting technology, and

**WHEREAS**, computer-based systems are subject to errors, breakdowns, and design flaws leading to the disfranchisement of over 4,500 Carteret County voters in the 2004 general election and to numerous other problems in this and other states, including the changing of votes cast electronically or the failure to count votes cast electronically, and

**WHEREAS**, computer-based systems inherently cannot be secured to the extent required to protect voting integrity, and source code may not be available for public inspection, and

**WHEREAS**, this new voting technology provides no assurance that the voter's ballot was recorded as the voter intended, and no means for conducting a meaningful recount of the ballots, and

**WHEREAS**, there is technology available that is fully accessible to individuals with disabilities and also allows voters to verify their paper ballots before they are cast, and

**WHEREAS**, a North Carolina bipartisan Joint Select Committee on Electronic Voting Systems held hearings for two months and heard extensive expert testimony on voting systems (as detailed in their final report of February 9, 2005), and

**WHEREAS**, there are bills in both houses of the United States Congress that will address these problems;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the North Carolina Democratic Party urges the North Carolina General Assembly to adopt the "Public Confidence in Elections" bill (HR 238), and its Senate counterpart (SB 223), during this session before more North Carolina counties purchase balloting systems not in compliance with the verified systems recommended by the Joint Select Committee on Electronic Voting; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the North Carolina Democratic Party urges the US Congress to adopt "Public Confidence in Elections" bill (US House bill 550) and its US Senate counterpart.

**Adopted by NCDP State Executive Committee  
August 27, 2005, Greensboro, North Carolina**

## **RESOLUTION TO PRESERVE THE WORKER'S COMPENSATION SYSTEM**

**WHEREAS**, the North Carolina Workers' Compensation Act was enacted in 1929.

**WHEREAS**, the Workers' Compensation Act contained mutual concessions between the employer and the employee. The employer received limited liability. The employee was promised a small sum without having to go through the riggers of a civil trial.

**WHEREAS**, for the past 76 years, the Workers' Compensation system has provided a safety net for workers whose lives are devastated by work place injuries.

**WHEREAS**, S984, a bill introduced in the North Carolina Senate, would deprive injured workers of many of the rights they have fought for years to obtain in the legislature and the court system. Passage of this bill could make fairness to injured employees a thing of the past, and allow employers and insurance companies to increase their profits while injured workers receive little or no benefits.

**WHEREAS**, the proposed bill allows an employer and insurance company to delay paying benefits ninety (90) days while they "investigate" a claim. This would be devastating to a person who is out of work due to an on the job injury. Most injured employees who are not able to work following an injury would be bankrupt within 90 days if they did not begin receiving benefits.

**WHEREAS**, S984 would stop payment of any benefits after 500 weeks of payments. Thus, a 20 year old worker who is totally and permanently disabled by a job related accident will have his payments cut off before he is 30 years old. Who takes care of him after that? We, the tax payers will, through welfare, Medicaid and the like.

**WHEREAS**, the bill would require an injured worker to accept any offer of employment no matter how unsuitable the job is, as long as it is within his or her physical limitations. Suitable employment is defined under current law as a job the worker can actually get in the real world. The proposed change would remove all other factors and require acceptance of any job a worker is physically able to do no matter what shift, how far away from you home it is, or what it pays. Under this proposal, a company could offer injured workers a job that they can physically do, but for which they have no skills or training to do. If they refuse the job, the company can cut off their workers' compensation benefits. If they accept the job, the workers' compensation benefits stop and the company can then fire them because they cannot adequately perform the job.

**WHEREAS**, the bill will significantly decrease the amount of compensation available for victims of asbestosis and silicosis – permanent, progressive and often terminal diseases. A person with asbestosis who smokes and has a Class 1 breathing impairment will receive a maximum of \$800. Further, under the bill's new strict definition of asbestosis and silicosis, many people will be denied even this minute sum.

**WHEREAS**, S984 would deprive workers of any right to privacy that they now have regarding their medical records. It allows the insurance company to have unfettered contact with a worker's physician without the workers' consent and punishing the doctor if he or she refuses to breach the patient's confidentiality

**WHEREAS**, the total number of workers' compensation claims has decreased steadily each year for the last 10 years, from 86,000 in 1995 to 59,000 in 2004. North Carolina has the 8<sup>th</sup> lowest workers' compensation rates in the country, and those rates have been reduced by 27.3% since 1995.

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the North Carolina Democratic Party urge the North Carolina legislature to defeat S984 and all other such measures which would destroy the Workers' Compensation system, leave injured workers destitute and increase the cost to taxpayers for care for and support these injured workers.

**Adopted by NCDP State Executive Committee  
August 27, 2005, Greensboro, North Carolina**

### **RESOLUTION IN OPPOSITION TO MONOPOLISTIC CONTROL OF THE MEDIA**

**BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED:** That this body deplore and condemn those efforts undertaken by the Bush administration and its Federal Communications Commission to facilitate monopolistic ownership of the media in clear violation of both the letter and the spirit of long-established law.

**Adopted by NCDP State Executive Committee  
August 27, 2005, Greensboro, North Carolina**

### **RESOLUTION TO MAKE CORPORATIONS ACT RESPONSIBLY**

**WHEREAS** U.S. corporations have a duty to the country to act responsibly;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the North Carolina Democratic Party urge Democratic members of Congress to support amendments to procurement regulations to specify that the federal government will not award contracts to any corporation that has been convicted of fraud on a previous government contract or that either directly or through subsidiaries has violated U.S. embargoes or sanctions unless no officer at the time of the fraud or violation is currently employed or receiving any monetary compensation of any kind whatsoever from the corporation, or that is in arrears on debt to the U.S. government, or that is evading its tax responsibilities through the establishment of off-shore shell headquarters or subsidiaries.

**Adopted by NCDP State Executive Committee  
August 27, 2005, Greensboro, North Carolina**

### **RESOLUTION CONCERNING SMITHFIELD PACKING, INC.**

**WHEREAS**, Smithfield Packing Inc. is the largest pork producer and processor in the world, and the Smithfield Packing plant in Tar Heel, NC is the largest pork processing facility in the world, employing more than 5,000 workers and slaughtering more than 32,000 hogs a day; and

**WHEREAS**, Human Rights Watch has found that Smithfield Packing has violated internationally recognized human rights standards by using intimidation, threats and violence against workers; and

**WHEREAS**, Human Rights Watch reported evidence which shows that Smithfield Packing discourages workers from reporting workplace injuries; and

**WHEREAS**, Smithfield Packing Inc has its own private company police force; and

**WHEREAS**, evidence shows that Smithfield Packing uses the Company Police to intimidate, threaten and harass workers who engage in organized activity to defend their labor rights; and

**WHEREAS**, a federal court in North Carolina ruled that Chief of Company Police Danny Priest violated the Ku Klux Klan Act for physically assaulting a pro-union worker and a union organizer after a union election in 1997; and

**WHEREAS**, the NLRB found Smithfield Packing guilty of violating workers rights to organize a union and ordered Smithfield to obey the law and allow workers to exercise their legal rights without retaliation or threats; and

**WHEREAS**, Smithfield Packing has repeatedly appealed the rulings against the company, thereby delaying and denying justice for Smithfield workers; and

**WHEREAS**, Smithfield Packing Inc. and Smithfield sub-contractor QSI Inc, were found guilty of using the Company Police to physically assault workers, cause the false arrest of a worker, and threaten bodily harm in retaliation for legal activities to protest working conditions, in violation of federal labor law;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** the North Carolina Democratic Party supports justice for workers at Smithfield Packing; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that we call on Smithfield Packing to: disband the company police; obey the law; stop the use of threats, intimidation and violence against workers; and implement the NLRB orders to respect workers rights; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that we will communicate this call for justice to: *Joseph Luter, III, CEO, Smithfield Foods, Inc, 200 Commerce St, Smithfield, VA 23430.*

**Adopted by NCDP State Executive Committee  
August 27, 2005, Greensboro, North Carolina**

## **RESOLUTION PROTECTING OUR CHILDREN FROM PREDATORY MILITARY RECRUITMENT AND PROTECTING FAMILY PRIVACY**

**WHEREAS**, student records are now accessible for military recruitment efforts through the paramilitary new "open door" access. School districts now provide to the military, the student names, address, and telephone listings. And,

**WHEREAS**, aggressive, predatory-like behavior and pro-military propaganda has been and is actively distributed to high school students throughout North Carolina; and

**WHEREAS**, it is essential that the North Carolina Democratic Party support, encourage, and participate in, state-wide efforts to inform students, parents of students and school districts of their personal privacy rights and opting-out options available from the military recruitment;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the North Carolina Democratic Party, in conjunction with community based groups, school counselors, administrators and educators will develop appropriate resources (opt-out information and support) to adequately assist parents and students in the best practices to protect their privacy as well as the involuntary receipt of military related recruitment materials from military recruiters and alternatives to military service; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, in accordance with Section 9528 of the No Child Left Behind Act, the North Carolina Democratic Party shall work to ensure that all parents and students within North Carolina High Schools are properly notified and informed of all opt-out options and necessary procedures, in the first week of school, and that said efforts will extend throughout the calendar year heretofore; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the North Carolina Democratic Party will additionally support the protection of personal privacy and predatory military recruitment by assuring that adequate opt-out

materials are provided in multiple languages and that opt-out cards will be required in high school registration materials and maintained in the personnel files of each student.

**Adopted by NCDP State Executive Committee  
August 27, 2005, Greensboro, North Carolina**

## **RESOLUTION CONCERNING THE NORTH CAROLINA NATIONAL GUARD AND THE WAR IN IRAQ**

**WHEREAS**, the Party strongly supports the men and women serving in the United States Armed Forces in Iraq and recognizes the sacrifices that each of them is making, and the Party stands ready to help these North Carolinians in any way they can; and

**WHEREAS**, in October of 2002 the United States Congress adopted a Joint Resolution to authorize the use of United States Armed Forces against Iraq, relying on statements that were untrue, when in fact:

- a. the United States was not threatened with attack by Iraq;
- b. Saddam Hussein had no weapons of mass destruction; and
- c. Saddam Hussein had no role in the 9/11 attacks; and

**WHEREAS**, in going to war, the President did not meet the conditions imposed by Congress, failing to show Congress why he:

- a. decided that diplomatic or peaceful means alone would not protect the national security of the United States or lead to enforcement of Security Council resolutions on Iraq; and
- b. decided that going to war was a necessary action against Iraq on the theory – never proven – that Iraq authorized, committed, or aided in the 9/11 attacks; and

**WHEREAS**, the war has resulted in serious and potentially long-lasting consequences for the United States and for the chances for a just and durable peace in Iraq and the Mideast; and

**WHEREAS**, the United States Constitution provides that Congress shall have the power to “provide for calling forth the Militia to execute the Laws of the Union, to suppress insurrections and repel invasion,” and the North Carolina Constitution provides for the General Assembly to direct the training and arming of members of the North Carolina National Guard for defense of the State; and

**WHEREAS**, at least since 1986 the President and the Congress have had nearly total control over state militias, including the North Carolina National Guard; and

**WHEREAS**, the costs of the call-up of North Carolina National Guard members for deployment in Iraq has been significant, as reckoned in lost lives, combat injuries, psychic trauma, disruption of family life, financial hardship for individuals, families, and businesses, interruption of careers, and damage to the fabric of civic life in many North Carolina communities; and

**WHEREAS**, these costs which would be suffered willingly were there a threat to our nation, but which are not tolerable where there is none; and

**WHEREAS**, North Carolinians have joined the Guard thinking that they would be serving their neighbors by helping with North Carolina-based emergencies, unless there was a danger to America requiring transfer to active duty; and

**WHEREAS**, stop-loss orders violate the mutual understanding between North Carolinians in the Guard and the state and nation they agreed to serve; and

**WHEREAS**, there is reason to believe that the federalization and deployment of North Carolina National Guard members has rendered the remaining Guard force unable to carry out its state activities effectively.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the North Carolina Democratic Party requests the members of North Carolina's Congressional Delegation to urge Congress to restore the balance between the federal government and the states, limiting the nearly complete federal control over State National Guard units to cases: where there is reasonable evidence that war powers are requested in order to protect against a threat to the territory of the United States; where there is an insurrection or a plausible threat of insurrection; or where there is a declaration of war under the United States Constitution; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the North Carolina Democratic Party requests the General Assembly of the State of North Carolina, exercising its powers to: investigate and discuss whether members of the North Carolina National Guard have been called to active service and assigned to duties relating to the war in Iraq in conformity with the U.S. Constitution and federal laws, including the 2002 Congressional Resolution on Iraq; and create a commission or other body to collect statutory, historical, and statistical information about the role of the National Guard in serving the State of North Carolina and to study the impact of the federalization and deployment of its members on the ability of the Guard to perform its mission in North Carolina; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the President and the Congress take steps to withdraw American troops from Iraq, consistently with the mandate of international humanitarian law; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Secretary of the Party send a copy of this resolution to each member of the North Carolina Congressional Delegate and the North Carolina Governor.

**Adopted by NCDP State Executive Committee  
August 27, 2005, Greensboro, North Carolina**

## **RESOLUTION TO INVESTIGATE RICHARD CHENEY FOR WAR PROFITEERING**

**WHEREAS** Vice President Cheney is a former official of Halliburton and is still paid by Halliburton into a blind trust; and

**WHEREAS** Halliburton was awarded a contract without following the usual bidding process; and

**WHEREAS**, the Vice-President may own stock in Halliburton in blind trust; and

**WHEREAS** Halliburton also has the contract for returning the bodies of Americans who die in the war for a profit;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the North Carolina Democratic Party urges Congress to investigate the relationship between the Vice President and the contract without a bid; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that Congress to determine if the vice president owned Halliburton stock in a blind trust and how much the vice president has profited from the war and from the death of each service person; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that if there is a relationship as outlined above, Congress should start impeachment proceeding against the Vice President; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the North Carolina Democratic Party request that the Democratic members of Congress from North Carolina start impeachment procedures immediately if the evidence so indicates.

**Adopted by NCDP State Executive Committee  
August 27, 2005, Greensboro, North Carolina**

## **RESOLUTION CONDEMNING U.S. REP. CHARLES H. TAYLOR**

**WHEREAS**, credible political and law enforcement leadership, with regards to the ethical and legal standing of public officials in government and in the public trust, are central to legitimate life in this Union's liberal democratic system of checks and balances, we Citizens of Congressional District NC 11, and North Carolina, hereby condemn the actions of US Representative Charles H. Taylor (R, NC-11), US Attorney Gretchen Shappert; Assistant US Attorney Richard Edwards; former US Attorney and now US District Court Judge Robert Conrad; and the Republican leadership of Congress. After long suffering the people of North Carolina have found that these individuals, following several years of incongruent media reports and government actions, have violated the public trust, and very likely the laws of the United States; and

**WHEREAS**, Congressman Taylor has egregiously deceived the public's trust and has abused his authority by making special and secretive business deals through the government of the Russian Federation while flaunting Article I, Sec. 9, Cl. 8 of the Constitution and the Ethics Rules (House Ethics Manual Ch. 3 – 'Foreign Governments') of the US House of Representatives and the Official Code of Conduct for employees of the US Government; and

**WHEREAS**, the Republican leadership has failed to act in a credible manner regarding upholding US Laws and House and Federal Ethics Rules, and instead sought to obfuscate and undermine such laws, when issues of honorable and lawful conduct are faced by politicians of their Party; and

**WHEREAS**, the Republican leadership and Taylor sponsored a bill by US Rep. Walter Jones (R, NC - 3), known as HR. 235 'Houses of Worship Free Speech Restoration Act': (Summary: Amends the Internal Revenue Code to protect churches from losing their tax-exempt status because of the content, preparation, or presentation of any homily, sermon, teaching, dialectic, or other presentation made during religious services or gatherings. Permits church leaders to express personal views on political matters or elections during regular religious services without violating campaign finance laws, as long as such views are not disseminated beyond the members and guests assembled at such services); and

**WHEREAS**, the Republican leadership and Taylor have lead us into optional wars; injured the environment and the people; facilitated and/or disregarded the illegal activities of corporations such as *Enron*; and forced the gross inequity of *Bush vs. Gore* upon the Union by failing to take up their Constitutional duties in a ethical and legal manner, while generally performing in deceitful, self-aggrandizing, illegal, dishonorable, injurious, exploitive, and deadly fashions without consideration of the least powerful members of this society, the Honor of the Union, the National Fortune, and in a manner wholly devoid of moral capacity and credibility to the public trust; and

**WHEREAS**, 1,600 Citizens of Congressional District NC 11 called upon Congressional Committees of Ethics (House Committee on Standards of Official Conduct) and the Judiciary on October 4, 2003 to investigate Taylor; and

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Office of the US Attorney for Western North Carolina has willfully made the legal status of Congressman Taylor a mystery to voters in NC 11 by failing to definitively make a finding as to Taylor's guilt or innocence regarding past financial crimes that have occurred under Taylor's management at he and his wife's bank, as much as Taylor's Russian activities. The present US

Attorney for Western North Carolina is Gretchen Shappert. The final responsibility for prosecuting Federal crimes in Western North Carolina, *committed by any person*, largely falls in her purview; whether concerning the past or present. Attorney Shappert must be made to organize a press conference in Asheville, NC (in a well publicized and open forum, arranged with 30 days advance notice, at a convenient place and time for Citizens) well before NOVEMBER 1, 2006; be willing and well prepared to take questions from the public and the press; produce a report that unambiguously clears Taylor and his associates of ANY past or present wrongdoing; or initiate legal proceedings against Taylor and any possible associates WITHOUT DELAY;

**AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the aid of Citizens throughout North Carolina in other Congressional Districts, as well as throughout the Union, be called upon in the form of pressing other Members of Congress to submit formal ethics investigation documents against Taylor immediately; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that American press corps be called into account for ignoring these matters and pushed towards action by Good Citizens; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the North Carolina Democratic Party, Democratic National Committee, the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee, and Democrat Members of Congress, must begin to take decisive action against these and similar matters, both by making the Truth known in the public realm and in Congress, at their earliest convenience, but with haste and vigor.

**Adopted by NCDP State Executive Committee  
August 27, 2005, Greensboro, North Carolina**

## **RESOLUTION FOR LEGAL SUPPORT FOR INDIGENT PEOPLE**

**WHEREAS**, in 1963, the U.S. Supreme Court issued its landmark ruling in Gideon vs Wainright, establishing a constitutional right to counsel in criminal cases. The right to counsel deserves to be broadened to include civil cases involving fundamental rights and basic human needs. In Gideon vs Wainright, the court believed that counsel was required when an individual was placed in danger of losing their own liberty. Yet there are other scenarios which are just as egregious and must be addressed, such as a parent's loss of custody and control of their own children, loss of income, or denial to proper health care; and

**WHEREAS**, the 107<sup>th</sup> Congress found there is a need to encourage the provision of high quality legal assistance for persons who would otherwise be unable to afford legal counsel, and for years Federal resources available to the local Legal Services Corporation have eroded. Nearly half of all people who applied for assistance from local Legal Services Corporation have been turned away, and one of the cases the Legal Services Corporation handle is employment matters; and

**WHEREAS**, Gene Nichol, dean of the University of North Carolina School of Law reported we have one lawyer for every 380 people generally, and one Legal Services lawyer for every 4,300 persons living in poverty. Study after study shows about 80 percent of the legal need of the poor is unmet. Equal justice under the law doesn't approximate the way the system operates in practice, and ordinary citizens are priced out of the system; and

**WHEREAS**, under the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, Article 14 sets international standards to provide fair and equal justice for all, including access to counsel that "all persons shall be equal before courts and tribunals." America should be no different. Poverty does not equate ignorance, and those who cannot afford an attorney within civil cases dealing with fundamental rights should not be forced into such situations. Our fundamental rights do not lie just in criminal statutes, but within the basic

rights to family, health, employment, education, and other rights needed to live and prosper. This country's task is not done; and

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, the North Carolina Democratic Party supports legislation amending the Constitution of North Carolina and the Constitution of the United States providing indigent people the right to appointment of counsel in civil legal matters involving basic rights to family, health, employment, education, and other rights needed to live and prosper. The Mecklenburg County Democratic Party also encourages members to contact their legislatures encouraging support on this resolution; and

**FURTHER**, the North Carolina Democratic Party encourages the National Headquarters of the Democratic Party to work in a coalition with other groups and organizations to develop a lobbying campaign to petition state and federal legislatures across the country to provide a constitutional amendment right to appointment of counsel for indigent people in civil cases.

**Adopted by NCDP State Executive Committee  
August 27, 2005, Greensboro, North Carolina**

## **RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT A 75 CENT TAX ON CIGARETTES IN NC**

**WHEREAS** North Carolina expects to suffer approximately a \$1.3 billion budget deficit in fiscal year 2005; and **WHEREAS** this would be the fifth consecutive year that the state has suffered huge deficits; and

**WHEREAS** these deficits have caused cuts to important programs affecting the health and wellness of the citizens and more reductions are threatened; and

**WHEREAS** such a tax increase could generate \$553 million in new revenue; and

**WHEREAS** North Carolina's cigarette tax is currently 5 cents per pack, the 2nd lowest in the nation; and

**WHEREAS** the national average cigarette tax is 84 cents per pack; and

**WHEREAS** the use of tobacco products is the leading cause of preventable death and disability in North Carolina; and

**WHEREAS** the use of tobacco products costs the state \$4.75 billion in medical costs and lost productivity annually; and

**WHEREAS**, the best way to prevent and reduce tobacco use by children is to substantially increase the cost of cigarettes; and

**WHEREAS**, such a tax increase could result in a 16.1 percent decrease in youth smoking rates, preventing 105,750 N.C. children from starting to smoke and saving 33,750 from premature smoking-related deaths;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** the North Carolina Democratic Party favors the cigarette tax in North Carolina be increased to at least 75 cents a pack.

**Adopted by NCDP State Executive Committee  
August 27, 2005, Greensboro, North Carolina**