

# NCDEMOCRATS

## PLATFORM & RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE RESOLUTIONS REPORT *2018*



# HONORARY RESOLUTIONS

## RESOLUTION HONORING FORMER BERTIE CHAIRWOMAN PENNY THOMPSON AND FORMER BERTIE CHAIRMAN DAVID THOMP- SON (CD-01)

**WHEREAS**, The Bertie County Democratic Party has had a long history of success and the reason for the success is because of the strong leadership we have had in our Democratic Party chairs;

**WHEREAS**, In the past year, the Bertie County Democratic Party has lost two of our successful leaders;

**WHEREAS**, Penny Thompson led the Bertie County Democratic Party during the election of President Barack Obama and Governor Beverly Perdue and organized all 12 of the precincts in Bertie County;

**WHEREAS**, David Thompson led the Bertie County Democratic Party during a turbulent time in the State of North Carolina; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED**, That the North Carolina Democratic Party issues this Resolution of Respect in memory of Chairwoman Penny Thompson and in memory of Chairman David Thompson for their service to Bertie County.

## RESOLUTION HONORING THE SERVICE OF ALLEN BURRUS OF HATTERAS TO THE PEOP- LE OF DARE COUNTY (CD-03)

**WHEREAS**, Allen Burrus served as a member of the Dare County Board of Commissioners for 10 years from 2006 until 2016; and

**WHEREAS**, Allen Burrus served 12 years as a member of the Dare County Board of Education; and

**WHEREAS**, Allen Burrus led the fight to improve drug addiction treatment and drive the scourge of drug addiction from Dare County; and

**WHEREAS**, Allen Burrus fought for fair treatment of all sectors of our county

**WHEREAS**, Allen Burrus worked tirelessly for the betterment of the public education in Dare County and was a leader in the fight to build and remodel schools in Dare County during his service on the Board of Education and the Board of Commissioners; and

**WHEREAS**, Allen Burrus fought to protect the interests of working waterman and to keep Hatteras Inlet, Oregon Inlet and other county waterways open and navigable; and

**WHEREAS**, Allen Burrus served all the people of Dare County;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT **RESOLVED**, that the North Carolina Democratic Party extends its most sincere thanks and gratitude to Commissioner Burrus on behalf of all the people of Dare County.

## A RESOLUTION HONORING HENRY DEAN HAYWOOD (CD-03)

**WHEREAS**, Henry Dean Haywood was a native and lifelong resident of Colington Island; and

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Haywood proudly served in our nation's military as a United States Marine; and

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Haywood was the first Fire Chief of the Colington Volunteer Fire Department; and

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Haywood served thirty-two years with the National Park Service and was honored with the Distinguished Employee Award from the National Park Service/ Department of the Interior; and

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Haywoods' family donated the land in 1885 for the Colington United Methodist Church to be built and he for which served as a longtime trustee; and

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Haywood provided leadership on a multitude of Dare County Boards including being the Vice Chairman of the Dare County Health Board and as the Chairman and the Dare County Planning Board; and

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Haywood was the longtime Chair of the Colington precinct of the Dare County Democratic Party; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED**, That the North Carolina Democratic Party honors the service, commitment, and energy to the Party, community and nation of Mr. Henry Dean Haywood.

#### **RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION FOR WARREN C. JUDGE III (CD-03)**

**WHEREAS**, Warren Judge served 16 years as a member of the Dare County Board of Commissioners and as Chairman for most of those years; and

**WHEREAS**, Warren Judge worked for the benefit of all of Dare County residents without regard to race, age, gender or party affiliation; and

**WHEREAS**, Warren Judge played a key role in the rebuilding and expansion of Dare County's public schools; and

**WHEREAS**, Warren Judge was an advocate for the interests of the County in Raleigh and Washington DC including the replacement of the Bonner Bridge, the dredging of Oregon and Hatteras Inlets, beach nourishment, protecting access to Cape Hatteras National Seashore Recreation Area and many other important projects; and

**WHEREAS**, Warren Judge participated in every event and activity he possible could, bringing his great smile and personality to all; and

**WHEREAS**, Warren Judge was beloved by the entire county and his presence is missed continuously for both his wisdom and his wit;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT **RESOLVED**, that the North Carolina Democratic Party expresses its deepest sympathies and condolences to the family of Warren Judge for their loss; and Be it Further **RESOLVED**, that the North Carolina Democratic Party pledges to honor the memory of Warren Judge and to continue his fight for what is best for all the people of Dare County with the same tireless energy and boundless enthusiasm that was his trademark.

#### **IN GRATITUDE AND IN MEMORIAM OF HUGHES LEONARD "BUCK" WILDE, JR (CD-03)**

**WHEREAS**, Capt. Hughes "Buck" Wilde, Jr. of Carteret County, Ship Captain, Master Diver, Master Boat Builder, avid Fisherman, Writer, Blogger, Storyteller, Seamanship Instructor, Eagle Scout, and Democratic Party leader and activist, passed away Friday, February 17, 2017; and

**WHEREAS**, "Buck" Wilde served Carteret County and the people of Eastern North Carolina as a candidate for Carteret County Commissioner, as Chair of the Carteret County Democratic Party, as a member of the North Carolina Democratic Party State Executive Committee, and the North Carolina Democratic Party Council of Review; and

**WHEREAS**, "Buck" Wilde was known and respected by North Carolina Democrats from the mountains to the Sea; and,

**WHEREAS**, "Buck" Wilde knew and was known by nationally prominent Democrats all along the Eastern Seaboard and successfully persuaded many of them to appear at Party events in Eastern North Carolina; and

**WHEREAS**, "Buck" Wilde contributed his boundless energy and enthusiasm to Democratic Party organizing, fundraising, and campaigning; and

**WHEREAS**, “Buck” Wilde was one of the most effective event organizer and fundraiser in Eastern North Carolina; and

**WHEREAS**, “Buck” Wilde held nothing back from our Party’s efforts to make life better for North Carolinians,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT **RESOLVED** that: The North Carolina Democratic Party gives special recognition to our friend, our Eastern North Carolina Democrat Extraordinaire, our special shipmate, “Captain” Hughes Leonard Wilde, Jr. for his long, faithful and effective service.

#### **RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE MEMORY OF WALTER MARSHALL (CD-05)**

**WHEREAS**, Walter Marshall, lifelong active Democrat, passed away on February 22, 2017 at the age of 74; and

**WHEREAS**, Walter Marshall was well known for his 50+ years as a Civil Rights Activist serving as the former president of the Winston-Salem chapter of the NAACP, and

**WHEREAS**, Walter Marshall was elected as the first African-American man to serve on the Forsyth County Board of Commissioners in 1996; and

**WHEREAS**, Walter Marshall received many awards and honors including being named Winston-Salem Chronicle's "Man of the Year" Award in 1986, the National Association of Education Human Relations Award in 1989, the Distinguished Alumni Award from National Association for Equal Opportunity in Higher Education in 1990, and the NC Legislative Black Caucus Community Leadership Award in 2001; and

**WHEREAS**, Walter Marshall cared about children in the school system, serving on the Winston-Salem/Forsyth County Board of Education for six years, and as Chairman of the NCACC Education Committee; and

**WHEREAS**, Walter Marshall was a champion for a clean environment, fighting against illegal dumping, and for making recycling mandatory throughout Forsyth County; and

**WHEREAS**, Walter Marshall. set an outstanding example for others through his involvement in the political process, both partisan and nonpartisan, and by his untiring support of desegregation in schools and minority representation in government.

**WHEREAS**, Walter Marshall is survived by wife, Paulette, two children Krista and Malcolm, and three grandchildren: Ashanti, Amani, and Khouri; now therefore, be it

**RESOLVED**, that this committee honor the memory and lifetime achievements of Walter Marshall, and support his family with our thoughts, prayers, and a moment of silence and reflection.

## **Democratic Party**

#### **ENDORSEMENTS IN 2018 STATEWIDE JUDICIAL ELECTIONS**

**WHEREAS**, Republicans in the North Carolina General Assembly recently passed legislation into law requiring all judicial candidates, whether local or statewide, to run with their political party affiliation on the ballot starting in 2018; and

**WHEREAS**, those same Republican legislative leaders recently eliminated political party primary elections for all judicial elections in 2018; and

**WHEREAS**, this is the only known instance of a state eliminating partisan primaries for statewide offices while maintaining a partisan general election for the same offices; and

**WHEREAS**, as a result of this recently passed legislation the 2018 General Election ballot in most instances will have multiple Democratic candidates per statewide judicial race; and

**WHEREAS**, Democrats will be forced to choose among registered Democrats who have not been vetted by a primary election, and may have only been Democrats for as few as 90 days, but will be identified as Democrats; and

**WHEREAS**, it is the unequivocal intent of Republican legislators to fracture the Democratic vote so that Republicans will win those judicial races and thereby protect their Republican judicial incumbents unfairly; and

THEREFORE, BE IT **RESOLVED** that the Chairman and state officers of the North Carolina Democratic Party, with the advice and consent of the State Executive Council, and due to these peculiar circumstances, develop transparent and fair rules for an endorsement process for the 2018 statewide judicial elections; and

**THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the NC Democratic Party State Executive Council be the body to formally approve the endorsement of one Democratic candidate for each statewide judicial office in 2018.

#### **IN OPPOSITION TO APPOINTMENT OF JUDGES AND TERM CHANGES**

**WHEREAS**, Republicans have attempted to maintain their dominance on our state's courts through an unconstitutional retention election, reducing the size of the North Carolina Court of Appeals, returning partisanship to judicial elections, proposing a gerrymander of the state's Superior Court and District Court districts; and attempting to pack the North Carolina Supreme Court; and

**WHEREAS**, our state's judicial system has been a bulwark against regressive and unconstitutional laws passed by the Republican-dominated General Assembly; and

**WHEREAS**, there have been unreleased proposals in the General Assembly to change how our state selects judges, including legislative appointment of judges and forcing our judges to run every two years; and

**WHEREAS**, removing the voters from the process of selecting judges through the ballot box and placing that power into the hands of the General Assembly would make our courts less fair and impartial and more partisan; and

**WHEREAS**, requiring judges to run every two years would directly place politics in the courtroom with judges possibly ruling on cases they were not present to hear; and

THEREFORE, BE IT **RESOLVED**, the North Carolina Democratic Party will oppose any constitutional amendment proposing appointment of judges as the method for choosing our state's judges, or changes reducing the term of office to two years; and

BE IT FURTHER **RESOLVED**, the North Carolina Democratic Party will embark on a voter education campaign on any proposed constitutional amendments relating to our state's judiciary in coordination with our local Democratic Parties.

## **Civil Rights**

#### **RESISTING A CLIMATE OF HATE (CD-01)**

**WHEREAS**, ours is a nation of immigrants;

**WHEREAS**, North Carolina is enriched by the diversity of its citizens in terms of race, ethnicity, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, religion, national origin, and disability;

**WHEREAS**, the 2016 election campaign saw a significant coarsening of public discourse as illustrated by the relentless demonizing of Muslims, immigrants, women, people with disabilities, and other groups; and

**WHEREAS**, The new GOP administration in Washington, D.C., has continued its assault on minority and marginalized groups, as illustrated by barring Muslim immigrants from the United States, directing Immigration Control and Enforcement (ICE) agents to round up and deport immigrants, withdrawing the Department of Education's support of transgender

students, and failing entirely or only belatedly condemning the recent shootings of immigrants, desecration of Jewish cemeteries, and attacks on mosques and Jewish community centers; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED**, that we, the members of the North Carolina Democratic Party, urge North Carolina's Governor and elected representatives in the General Assembly and in the U.S. Congress to resist a climate of hate by speaking out and condemning in the strongest possible terms all acts of hatred and bigotry.

**A RESOLUTION FOR THE NORTH CAROLINA DEMOCRATIC PARTY TO ENDORSE AND SUPPORT BILL H.R.40 – COMMISSION TO STUDY REPARATION PROPOSALS FOR AFRICAN-AMERICANS ACT (CD-01)**

**WHEREAS**, Congressman John Conyers, Jr. submitted a bill to acknowledge the fundamental injustice, cruelty, brutality, and inhumanity of slavery in the United States and the 13 American colonies between 1619 and 1865 and to establish a commission to examine the institution of slavery, subsequently de jure and de facto racial and economic discrimination against African-Americans, and the impact of these forces on living African-Americans, to make recommendations to the Congress on appropriate remedies, and for other purposes (U.S. Congressman John Conyers, 2017);

**WHEREAS**, In 1862, The District of Columbia Emancipation Act of 1862 paid reparations to slave owners who set their slaves free set a precedent, (National Archives, 2015);

**WHEREAS**, In 1980, Congress established a commission to study the incarceration of over 100,000 Japanese Americans during WWII set a precedent (Qureshi, 2013); and

**WHEREAS**, In 2014, the Obama Administration signed off on \$12 million in what many define as reparations, to the survivors of the Jewish Holocaust sets a precedent (Jewish Telegraph Agency, 2015); now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED**, That the North Carolina Democratic Party supports H.R. 40, the Commission to Study Reparation Proposals for African Americans Act - and encourage local, state, and federal elected officials (i.e. G. K. Butterfield and David Price) to support Congressman Conyers and H.R. 40.

**RESOLUTION FOR THE REPEAL OF SECTION 3 AND 4 OF HB142 AND RETURN OF POWER TO MUNICIPALITIES (CD-06)**

**WHEREAS**, the people of North Carolina recognize the inherent dignity and equality of all people; and

**WHEREAS**, the Republican-led legislature has used the law to codify discrimination and division rather than to advance the rights and dignity of North Carolinians; and

**WHEREAS**, the legislation is inconsistent with the Equal Protection Clause of the US Constitution; which provides that no state shall deny to any person within its jurisdiction "...equal protection of the laws;" and

**WHEREAS**, House Bill 142 imposes a moratorium preventing changes to non-discrimination ordinances until 2020; and

**WHEREAS**, in accordance to HB142, state institutions including schools, are barred from creating policies regarding access to multiple occupancy restrooms; and

**WHEREAS**, HB142 eliminates local governments from regulating public accommodations or private employment practices before December 1, 2020; and

**WHEREAS**, HB142 also prevents local governments from creating ordinances designed to protect equal rights for racial minorities, veterans, the elderly, women, unmarried adults, and LGBTQ people until December 1, 2020; and

**WHEREAS**, many states are providing more protections for their citizens, but HB142 was written to specifically prevent the implementation of such protections; and

**WHEREAS**, the Democrats believe all people should be treated equally and no one should ever be discriminated against based on their sexual orientation, gender identity, race, sex, color, creed, national origin, religion, ethnic identity, economic status, or disability;

THEREFORE, BE IT **RESOLVED**, that the North Carolina Democratic Party stands unified to support a repeal of SECTIONS 3 AND 4 OF HB142; and

BE IT FURTHER **RESOLVED** that the North Carolina Democratic Party urges the NC General Assembly to repeal SECTIONS 3 and 4 of HB142 and return power to local governments providing equal protection for all.

**RESOLUTION CALLING FOR A PROHIBITION OF THE USE OF CLAIMS OF RELIGIOUS FREEDOM AS AN EXCUSE FOR DISCRIMINATING AGAINST CITIZENS OF NORTH CAROLINA (CD-04)**

**WHEREAS**, some commercial entities have recently claimed license to deny their employees certain health benefits on religious grounds; and

**WHEREAS**, some public officials have claimed license to deny services to LGBTQ people on religious grounds, and

**WHEREAS**, some others have used the claim of religious liberty to justify discrimination against and denial of some services to citizens,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT **RESOLVED**, That the North Carolina Democratic Party shall adopt a policy of opposing any effort to claim religious liberty as an excuse to discriminate against any citizen of North Carolina.

**OPPOSE ANY LAW PURPORTING TO CRIMINALIZE PEACEFUL PROTEST (CD-04)**

**WHEREAS**, in January 2017, millions of people took to the streets across the nation in reaction to the agenda and proposed policies of the new federal administration; and

**WHEREAS**, several state legislatures have introduced bills to criminalize peaceful protests;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT **RESOLVED**, that the North Carolina Democratic Party opposes any bill or law purporting to criminalize peaceful protest or to criminally punish citizens engaged in the exercise of their First Amendment rights to assemble and/or protest; and

BE IT FURTHER **RESOLVED**, that the North Carolina Democratic Party urges the North Carolina General Assembly to uphold the United States Constitution that states that the right of the people to peaceably assemble, including in public protest of actions by their government that they find oppressive or unlawful, shall not be abridged.

**A RESOLUTION TO PREVENT THE SITING OF LANDFILLS WHICH WOULD DISPROPORTIONATELY IMPACT MINORITY OR LOW-INCOME COMMUNITIES (CD-06)**

**WHEREAS**, African-American communities in North Carolina are twice as likely as others to be burdened with landfills and other solid-waste facilities; and

**WHEREAS**, In Randolph County, only 7.9 percent of residents live within one mile of a solid waste facility; and

**WHEREAS**, over 72 percent of Randolph County's minority community residents live within one mile of a solid waste facility; and

**WHEREAS**, In 2007, NC General Statute 130A-294. (a) (4) c.9.: "The cumulative impact of the proposed facility, when considered in relation to other similar impacts of facilities located or proposed in the community, would have a disproportionate adverse impact on a minority or

low-income community protected by Title VI of the federal Civil Rights Act of 1964.” prevented the disproportionate siting of new landfills near minority communities; and

**WHEREAS**, Session Law 2013-413 modified G.S. 130A-294 (a) (4) c.9. by adding “This subdivision shall apply only to the extent required by federal law “; and

**WHEREAS**, that modification lifted the protection for minority communities as long as the new landfill is funded without the use of federal money; and

**WHEREAS**, that modification was used to site the Great Oak Landfill, a 200-acre new landfill that can accept refuse from anywhere in North Carolina, in a location that is already the site of an old leaking landfill and once again mainly impacts minority and low-income residents; therefore, be it

**RESOLVED**, That G.S. 130A-294 (a) (4) c.9. be modified by removing the phrase, “This subdivision shall apply only to the extent required by federal law. “; and,

BE IT FURTHER **RESOLVED**, That North Carolina landfills will no longer be sited in areas that disproportionately impact minority and low-income communities regardless of their source of funding.

## Economy

### PROTECTING UNIONS (CD-04)

**WHEREAS**, unions are vital to protecting the health and welfare of workers against employers;

**WHEREAS**, unions are under attack from corporate interest influencing elected officials;

THEREFORE, BE IT **RESOLVED**, that the North Carolina Democratic Party shall work with state and federal legislators to enact laws. that protect and strengthen the ability of unions to organize, protect their members health and welfare, and bargain on equal footing with employers.

### RESOLUTION SUPPORTING PAY EQUITY DURING THE EMPLOYMENT APPLICATION PROCESS (CD-04)

**WHEREAS**, questions about past compensation/salary history often appear on employment applications, and

**WHEREAS**, questions about past compensation/salary history are believed to contribute to pay disparities between female and minority workers and their male and white counterparts, because many employers set employees' salaries, in part, based on their past salaries, potentially locking in an unequal rate in perpetuity, and

**WHEREAS**, research has shown that women still earn approximately 79 cents for every dollar earned by men, even when variables such as education level, job title, and location are controlled, and

**WHEREAS**, the State of North Carolina and a number of local governments in North Carolina continue to ask questions about past compensation/salary history on employment applications,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT **RESOLVED**, that North Carolina Democratic elected officials support legislation and local policies that prohibit the use of questions pertaining to past compensation/salary history on government employment applications.



## **CHILD AND DEPENDENT CARE TAX CREDIT (CD-04)**

**WHEREAS**, the GOP-controlled General Assembly have made North Carolina's system of taxation even more regressive, placing the greatest tax burden on the working poor and middle class; and

**WHEREAS**, working families with children face particular hardships because a significant portion of their income goes to childcare; and

**WHEREAS**, our tax-system should reward hard work and support working families, especially those raising children; and

**WHEREAS**, twenty-two states and D.C. have a child care credit modeled on the federal program, whereby parents can offset up to \$6,000 of child care expenses, with low-income families able to claim up to 35% of the cost; and

THEREFORE, BE IT **RESOLVED**, that the North Carolina Democratic Party supports the creation of a Child and Dependent Care Tax Credit that is both fully-refundable and uses a sliding scale to target benefits to target benefits to low-income families.

## **RESTORE N.C. FILM INCENTIVES (CD-07)**

**WHEREAS**, the state of the N.C. has been home to a vibrant Film industry that has produced such number 1 hits as Iron Man 3, The Conjuring, and We're the Millers; and,

**WHEREAS**, according to a 2014 study the film industry between 2007 and 2012 had an economic impact of \$102 billion spent in the state and \$170 million in tax revenue collected; and,

**WHEREAS**, according to the study that every \$1 spent in tax credits generated \$9.11 dollars in direct spending and \$1.52 in tax revenue collected showing that the incentive program made more money that was granted out; and,

**WHEREAS**, Since the film incentive program was allowed to sunset in January of 2015 the Film Industry has dropped to a mere fraction of what it was.

THEREFORE, BE IT **RESOLVED** that the North Carolina Democratic Party calls upon the N.C. General Assembly to fully restore the Film incentives program.

## **A RESOLUTION TO CREATE A PUBLIC BANK OF NORTH CAROLINA (CD-04)**

**WHEREAS**, the inequity that exists between the very rich and the poor in the United States rests, in part, with the disproportionate salary plus bonuses of many corporations' highest executives, particularly in the financial industry; and

**WHEREAS**, we need to counter this disparity by providing a bank in our state that would function for the good of the people of North Carolina, and give them an alternative to the large banks of Wall Street; and

**WHEREAS**, an institution like the state-owned Bank of North Dakota (BND) that has been in existence since 1919 and is thriving, providing reasonable priced loans for community banks, businesses, consumer and students, while also delivering a significant profit to its owners – the 700,000 people of the state of North Dakota, is needed in our state;

THEREFORE, BE IT **RESOLVED**, that the North Carolina Democratic Party actively support the creation of a public Bank of North Carolina.

## **RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF AFFORDABLE HIGH-SPEED INTERNET\*\* ACCESS (BROADBAND) FOR ALL**

**WHEREAS**, Internet access allows citizens access to their government in a unique and highly functional way; and

**WHEREAS**, many government services and communications are available on the Internet; and

**WHEREAS**, Information about preparedness for hazardous events are posted on the Internet; and

**WHEREAS**, many medical services require one to use the Internet to make appointments, to check lab results and to communicate with the physician or healthcare provider; and

**WHEREAS**, The Internet facilitates opportunities for affordable and inclusive education; and

**WHEREAS**, The Internet allows one to find solutions to problems in the household or workplace including small businesses; and

**WHEREAS**, not all work schedules allow citizens to go the public library to access the Internet; and

**WHEREAS**, High speed broadband is a necessity and not an optional luxury in today's world;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT **RESOLVED**, that the North Carolina Democratic Party calls upon the North Carolina General Assembly to repeal S.L. 2011-84 (formerly House Bill 129) so that all municipalities and counties may engage in relationships with partners to secure broadband access; and

**THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the North Carolina Democratic Party urges the NCGA to recognize the Internet and broadband—i.e., the digital highway—as a utility and an essential element in urban and rural community development.

**THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the North Carolina Democratic Party encourages our local, state and federal government to provide residents with affordable access to the Internet and/or to enter into agreements with private companies to provide affordable access to everyone, regardless of where they live.

\*\* In this Resolution, Internet refers to services available via high speed or broadband access and to the servers of the World Wide Web.

## Education

### SUPPORT FOR GOVERNOR COOPER'S PLAN FOR PUBLIC EDUCATION (CD-04)

**WHEREAS**, access to a good education by all is the foundation for democracy and is fundamental to the continued economic strength of the state and country; and

**WHEREAS**, a quality public education is the birthright of North Carolina children and is highly correlated with professional and economic success in life; and

**WHEREAS**, there has been an expansion of school choices in recent years, with an inevitable and concomitant diminution of public funding for traditional public schools; and

**WHEREAS**, Governor Roy Cooper's proposed education budget with the goal of making NC a Top 10 Educated State by 2025 includes:

- More than a 5% average salary increase each year for teachers with the goal of reaching the national average in five years;

\$150 annual supply stipend to classroom teachers who often pay for supplies out of pocket;

Increase enrollment of 4-year-olds in pre-kindergarten programs from 22% to 55%;

Improve high school graduation rate from 85.6% to 91%;

Increase the percentage of adults (over 25) with an Associate's degree or higher from 39% to 55%;

Provides \$20M to raise principal and assistant principal salaries an average of 6.5%;

Improves student outcomes by investing

\$20M in flexible funding for additional school staff (e.g. behavioral staff, nurses, teacher assistants);

Invests \$13M for new textbooks and digital resources;

Provides an additional \$10M to transform low-performing schools and improve student achievement

THEREFORE, BE IT **RESOLVED**, the North Carolina Democratic Party stands firmly for the principle of making quality public education a renewed budgeting priority as exemplified by Governor Cooper's proposal; and

BE IT FURTHER **RESOLVED**, the North Carolina Democratic Party urges the North Carolina General Assembly and Governor Cooper to oppose the elimination of caps to classroom size, the reduction of the number of teacher assistants, and cutbacks to classroom resources, and to support salary increases for public school teachers; and

BE IT MOREOVER **RESOLVED**, that the North Carolina Democratic Party urges local and state legislators to adequately fund public education to ensure the fulfillment of their constitutional duty to provide a sound basic education as established under Article I, Section 15 of the North Carolina Constitution.

#### **ARTS EDUCATION AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION (CD-04)**

**WHEREAS**, The North Carolina Democratic Party believes that ALL North Carolina citizens, child, youth and adult, have the same and equal rights to a quality public education, and

**WHEREAS**, WE know that our state must return to its standing as one of the national and international leaders in quality PUBLIC education PreK-12, and

**WHEREAS**, WE believe that our state must have an outstanding educational system in order to produce an informed community, to promote economic development, and to build

for an economic future characterized by high skilled, high creativity and innovation, and high wage employment,

**WHEREAS**, WE are mindful and supportive of both numerous and long-standing research based and anecdotal evidence that a creative and innovative mind, works hand in hand with an invigorated and healthy body,

THEREFORE, BE IT **RESOLVED**, That the North Carolina Democratic Party calls on the North Carolina General Assembly to enact legislation that restores, improves upon, and accelerates Mind and Body learning through BOTH the Arts and Physical Health Education. Such Arts and Physical Health Education, either separately and/or in combination, shall be supported and assisted by state enacted education law and legal authority as well as appropriations to sustain the necessary review, research, development, implementation, and oversight of such activities of Arts and Physical Health Education throughout the state.

BE IT FURTHER **RESOLVED**, That the North Carolina Democratic Party calls on the North Carolina General Assembly to provide such support of BOTH the Arts and Physical Health Education, either separately and/or in combination, first and in the majority to and through any and all PUBLIC schools in the state. In addition, there shall be support for programing and departments, with existing, ongoing and future programing, activities and events through the various Arts, Cultural and Heritage agencies, departments, organizations, institutions both governmental and Non-Governmental Organizations (NGO's).

BE IT FURTHER **RESOLVED**, That the North Carolina Democratic Party calls on the North Carolina General Assembly to provide for BOTH the Arts and Physical Health Education, either separately and/or in combination, authority and appropriations that encourages and supports collaboration and combined efforts of both types of education and community engagement activities through research, evaluation and assessment.

**PROVIDE TRAINING FOR RESOURCE OFFICERS IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS (CD-04)**

**WHEREAS**, it has become common practice for law enforcement officers to serve as what are referred to as School Resource Officers in virtually all of North Carolina's public middle and high schools; and

**WHEREAS**, circumstances have shown that the training these officers possess is more in line with confronting street crime and is, all too often, at odds with what might be more appropriate for circumstances encountered in a middle or high school environment;

THEREFORE, BE IT **RESOLVED** that the School Resource Officer program be replaced by sufficient counselors and social workers thereby restoring the discipline and management of public schools in the hands of professionals

BE IT FURTHER **RESOLVED** that pending the restoration of school professionals that the School Resource Officers be provided certified training and at responding appropriately to circumstances likely to occur in a public middle or high school setting rather than their relying on training more attuned to instances of street crime.

**A RESOLUTION CALLING FOR NORTH CAROLINA CHARTER SCHOOLS TO BE UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION (CD-06)**

**WHEREAS**, charter Schools were created in North Carolina to develop new and innovative programs for education that would be later shared with all other public schools; and,

**WHEREAS**, and very few new and innovative programs have been shared with the public-school system to improve student performance; and

**WHEREAS**, funding for charter schools creates a financial burden for local educational agencies (LEAs) who are mandated to provide an education for all students in their service area; and

**WHEREAS**, on average, charter schools have a greater failing performance than traditional public schools, now, therefore be it

**RESOLVED**, That the charter schools be subject to the Department of Public Instruction oversight and be subject to the same regulations as public schools, including having a Board of Education with representatives elected in proportion to their funding from the LEA's the charter serves. Board members shall be elected at the same time as the LEA's board members are elected.

BE IT FURTHER **RESOLVED**, that any charter school (including any virtual charter school) whose performance lags significantly behind the state average shall be orderly closed and its students returned to their local educational agencies along with their associated funding.

**A RESOLUTION CALLING FOR TRANSGENDER STUDENTS TO BE ALLOWED TO USE BATHROOMS BASED ON THE GENDER WITH WHICH THEY IDENTIFY (CD-09)**

**WHEREAS**, the Union County Democratic Party is concerned with the rights of all school-age children and youth ages 4-18; and

**WHEREAS**, the federal government's revocation of guidelines on transgender bathrooms could lead to bullying and violence against vulnerable transgender children and youth ages 4-18; and

**WHEREAS**, The Fourteenth Amendment and Title IX of the U.S. Education Amendments of 1972 is a federal law prohibiting sex discrimination by schools

THEREFORE, BE IT **RESOLVED** that the North Carolina Democratic Party believes schools should be safe from bullying and reject discrimination of any kind and will advocate for

transgender bathroom use in schools based on gender identity through the NC Democratic Party platform and by lobbying our elected officials; and

Be it further **RESOLVED** that under federal law, Title IX, schools that receive federal funding are not allowed to discriminate against students on the basis of sex. That word "sex" includes gender identity; and

Be it further **RESOLVED** where new constructions of schools occur that gender-neutral bathrooms will be provided.

### **RESOLUTION TO EXPAND WORK STUDY PROGRAMS (CD-10 and CD-11)**

**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;

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Federal government should implement, and incentivize participation in, more Federal Work Study programs, and

**BE IT FURTHER 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.

### **A RESOLUTION TO OPPOSE TERMINATION OF THE FEDERAL DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION (CD-10 and CD-11)**

**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;

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Democratic Party opposes any attempt to terminate or dissolve the federal Department of Education, such as threatened by U.S. Bill H.R. 899.

### **RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT LEGISLATION TO EDUCATE STUDENTS ON HOW TO RECOGNIZE DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND ABUSIVE RELATIONSHIPS (CD-09 AND CD-12)**

**WHEREAS**, Domestic Violence is a pattern of abuse used to control or maintain power over another in an intimate relationship; and

**WHEREAS**, it is reported that 20 people per minute are victims of Domestic Violence; and

**WHEREAS**, it is reported that three or more women are murdered each day by a husband or boyfriend; and

**WHEREAS**, Domestic Violence can be seen as a pattern of abusive behavior that can begin as early as Middle School; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED**, That the North Carolina Democratic Party support legislation to support existing programs that educate students in Middle School and High School about how to develop healthy relationships and recognize patterns of control that lead to abusive relationships and Domestic Violence.

### **RESOLUTION CALLING FOR THE TEACHING OF SCIENTIFICALLY VALID CURRICULUM EXCLUSIVELY IN ALL SCHOOLS RECEIVING FEDERAL AND/OR STATE FUNDS**

**WHEREAS**, over 90% of American children are education via the public school system, and

**WHEREAS**, the Establishment Clause of the US Constitution prohibits the establishment of religion by Congress, and

**WHEREAS**, the progress and success of the United States is directly linked to its commitment to and investment in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) education, and therefore, be it

**RESOLVED**, that we, the Democratic Party will promote standards for science education and curriculum to be exclusively comprised of the accepted scientific consensus.

#### **TUITION-FREE UNIVERSITIES**

**WHEREAS**, Student loan debt has become a national issue; and

**WHEREAS**, Public education is necessary to sustain democracy and benefit society; and

**WHEREAS**, Student load debt stifles spending, slows the housing market, and holds back new businesses; and

**WHEREAS**, College degrees raise incomes and lower unemployment; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED**, That the North Carolina Democratic Party stands in favor of tuition-free public universities and colleges that would eliminate undergraduate tuition.

#### **A RESOLUTION OPPOSING HOUSE RESOLUTION 610 (CHOICES IN EDUCATION ACT OF 2017)**

**WHEREAS**, The United States House of Representatives has introduced House Resolution 610, and

**WHEREAS**, House Resolution 610 would defund the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA), and

**WHEREAS**, Defunding ESEA would eliminate

federal education programs funded under Title I severely damaging educational opportunities for the economically disadvantaged, and

**WHEREAS**, House Resolution 610 would create a voucher system for students to attend private schools, and

**WHEREAS**, A school voucher system, if used to attend a parochial school, would violate the separation of church and state under the First Amendment of the United States Constitution, and

**WHEREAS**, A school voucher system contributes to further segregating this nation's public schools in violation of Supreme Court decision in Brown vs Board of Education, and

**WHEREAS**, A school participating in the voucher program will likely not take all children e.g., special needs students, students who qualify for free and reduced lunches or who need school transportation. therefore

BE IT **RESOLVED** that the Brunswick County Democrats strongly oppose the passage of House Resolution 610.

## **Environment**

#### **RESOLUTION TO ADHERE TO THE PARIS CLIMATE AGREEMENT AND LIMIT GLOBAL TEMPERATURE RISE (CD-04)**

**WHEREAS**, the majority of Scientists in the US and around the world agree that Climate Change is an Authentic and Human based threat to all civilian and environment on the earth; and

**WHEREAS**, we are already seeing the initial effects of climate change with exceptional droughts, floods, super storms, the hottest water to spawn an El Nino, the hottest years on record, dry weather flooding in Miami, Pacific Coast and Island nations devastated by super storms as well as higher than usual tides; and

**WHEREAS**, storms and higher waters will threaten the coast and outer banks of North Carolina; and

**WHEREAS**, massive ice sheets are closer to breaking and Arctic ice is melting at faster rates than expected which will eventually cause sea level rise; and

**WHEREAS**, 146 parties (as of May 20, 2017) from around the world have signed on to the Paris Agreement and agreed to work together “to undertake ambitious efforts to combat climate change and adapt to its effects” Paris Agreement;

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that we must adhere to the Paris Agreement; and

**RESOLVED**, that we will do everything in our power as a state and as a nation to limit the global temperature rise to 1.5 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels.

#### **RESTORE THE RENEWABLE ENERGY INCOME TAX CREDIT (CD-04)**

**WHEREAS**, North Carolina has been a powerhouse in developing clean energy sources; and

**WHEREAS**, North Carolina ranks first in the South and second in the nation in solar energy production; and

**WHEREAS**, clean energy sources currently employ thousands of North Carolinians and promote economic development while creating fewer environmental problems; and

**WHEREAS**, the Renewable Energy Tax Credit in North Carolina was not renewed by the Legislature; and

**WHEREAS**, increasing the use of renewable energy sources will lead to decreased use of fossil fuel and will, therefore, reduce emissions of carbon dioxide, methane, and other air pollutants that harm public health and the environment; and

**WHEREAS**, the renewable energy tax credit

will help to build North Carolina’s strong foundation as a solar and wind energy leader;

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the North Carolina Democratic Party supports the Renewable Energy Income Tax Credit during the 2017 Session.

#### **FAIR SHARE CONTRIBUTION FOR ELECTRIC VEHICLES (CD-04)**

**WHEREAS**, the NC PEV Task Force has identified the following benefits of driving electric vehicles: fuel cost savings, environmental improvements, energy independence, economic development, and power sustainability.

**WHEREAS**, North Carolina has over 5300 Electric Vehicles registered as of December 2016.

**WHEREAS**, Senate Bill 710 is a method to generate tax revenue for road upkeep but results in penalizing motorists for driving electric vehicles by assessing initial and renewal registration fees of \$130;

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the North Carolina Democratic Party support the repeal of Senate Bill 710 Jan 1 2018. A study of assessing a use tax to contribute to road maintenance of 1 cent per mile based on odometer mileage driven since last registration and scaled by vehicle weight shall be performed to determine viability as an equitable replacement for Fair Share road maintenance tax.

#### **RESOLUTION ACKNOWLEDGING THE IMPORTANCE OF SOUND SCIENCE FOR POLICY DECISIONS ABOUT ENERGY, THE ENVIRONMENT AND GLOBAL CLIMATE CHANGE (CD-04)**

**WHEREAS**, the Trump Administration has proposed large cuts in the budgets of most of the Federal Agencies that conduct and fund scientific research. The largest of the proposed cuts is a reduction of the budget of the Environmental Protection Agency by 24%, which would substantially weaken the Agency’s ability to carry out its core functions and to respond to environmental problems.

**WHEREAS**, the Trump Administration is taking steps to suppress research and limit communication on scientific topics that it considers politically inconvenient. As Dr. Rush Holt, the president of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) puts it, "The concern now is whether policymakers even understand the meaning of evidence. ... If evidence becomes optional, if ideological assertions or beliefs are just as good as scientifically vetted evidence, then [communities'] quality of life suffers."

**WHEREAS**, EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt has criticized the previous Obama Administration for being "so focused on climate change" and has called for an 'aggressive' agenda of regulatory rollbacks despite (1) the scientific consensus on the amount, causes, and likely catastrophic results of climate change and (2) the extensive evidence that environmental regulation has led to large improvements in air and water quality and food safety public health and has greatly improved quality of life for most people living in the United States.

**WHEREAS**, multiple studies published in peer-reviewed scientific journals show that 97 percent or more of actively publishing climate scientists agree that climate-warming trends over the past century are extremely likely due to human activities. 2016 was the hottest year on record;

16 of the 17 hottest years ever recorded have occurred since 2000. All major scientific societies and institutions around the world have made very strong statements like that of the American Physical Society in 2007: "The evidence is incontrovertible: Global warming is occurring. If no mitigating actions are taken, significant disruptions in the Earth's physical and ecological systems, social systems, security and human health are likely to occur. We must reduce emissions of greenhouse gases beginning now." Not only is climate change real and measurable, there is very strong evidence that it is accelerating.

**WHEREAS**, the North Carolina General Assembly has shown disregard for scientific evidence related to the environment and climate change. For example, a law passed by in 2012 the NC Senate banned the state from basing coastal policies on the most recent scientific predictions of how much sea level will rise, instead restricting all sea-level predictions used to guide state policies to those based on "historical data." As noted by Scientific American, "Less than two weeks after the state's senate passed a climate science-squelching bill, research shows that sea level along the coast between N.C. and Massachusetts is rising faster than anywhere on Earth."

**WHEREAS**, scientific research has conclusively demonstrated that burning fossil fuels – coal, oil, and natural gas – has serious and long-standing negative impacts on public health, local communities and ecosystems, and the global climate. Electricity production accounts for more than one-third of U.S. greenhouse gas emissions, with coal-fired power plants producing approximately 25 percent of total U.S. greenhouse gas emissions.

**WHEREAS**, although coal mining is causing irreversible damage to the environment and to public health, and despite the reduced demand for coal in the U.S., regulations on the coal industry continue to be reduced. The U.S. House and Senate voted in February 2017 to repeal the so-called "stream protection rule" that restricted coal companies from dumping mining waste into streams and waterways; this waste kills nearly all life in the streams and waterways, and makes it practically impossible to make the water drinkable. This harm is adding to the impacts of mountaintop removal coal extraction, estimated to have buried nearly 2,000 miles (as of 2010) of Appalachian headwater streams and destroyed 1.4 million acres (as of 2012) of Appalachian forests.



**WHEREAS**, hydro-fracking does not reduce greenhouse gas emissions and can cause significant air pollution and water contamination unless carefully controlled and regulated. Methane gas released during fracking is a greenhouse gas 25 times more potent than carbon dioxide. Some of the pollutants released by drilling include: benzene, toluene, xylene and ethyl benzene (BTEX), particulate matter and dust, ground level ozone, or smog, nitrogen oxides, carbon monoxide, formaldehyde and metals contained in diesel fuel combustion.

**WHEREAS**, the true costs of our reliance on fossil fuels is hidden within public and private health expenditures, military budgets, emergency relief funds, and the degradation of sensitive ecosystems that we rely on for critical services.

**WHEREAS**, renewable energy – wind, solar, geothermal, hydroelectric, and biomass – provides substantial benefits for our climate, our health, and our economy. Most renewable energy sources produce little to no greenhouse gas emissions. Solar power now employs more Americans than oil, coal and natural gas combined. An important catalyst for growth in this rapidly expanding sector is government subsidies for development of alternative energy sources and consumer acquisition of energy derived from alternative energy sources.

**WHEREAS**, more generally, scientific research and associated technological innovation are major drivers of economic expansion and job creation in the United States; and

**WHEREAS**, the disregard for science by the Trump Administration and by the NC General Assembly could have catastrophic consequences not just for this country, but for the entire planet. Truth matters; the success or failure of policy initiatives depends on the quality of information used to recognize and define problems, identify significant causal factors, and develop effective solutions that will not create more and worse problems;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT **RESOLVED**, that the North Carolina Democratic Party states unequivocally that climate change is real, that human activities make a substantive contribution to climate change, and that it is imperative that the United States cooperate fully with the many other countries in the world that are working to limit the harm done by climate change.

**RESOLVED**, that the North Carolina Democratic Party will demand that North Carolina and the United States as a whole take steps now to reduce reliance on fossil fuels in order to promote energy independence and to meet established goals for reduced greenhouse gas emissions. This includes supporting a rapid and large increase in the percentage of U.S. power needs supplied by alternative energy sources, along with major reductions in the extraction and use of fossil fuels. We will work to provide incentives for the widespread adoption of current alternative energy technologies, and for the continued development of additional alternative energy technological developments.

**RESOLVED**, that we Democrats strongly support peer-reviewed scientific research and the Federal and State agencies that fund and oversee such research. We will seek to restore full funding to these Federal and State agencies and take steps to ensure that the leadership of these agencies fully support the mission of the agency they lead and will work to enhance the ability of that agency to carry out that mission. We will work with agency personnel and the science community to restore and enhance regulations intended to promote the public good, based on the best available science.

**RESOLVED**, that we Democrats will demand that those agencies responsible for funding and overseeing scientific research be required to base decisions about what research to conduct and fund based on the merits and potential public benefits of proposed research and not on political criteria. We understand that these agencies must maintain their ability

to serve as honest information brokers, able to provide decision makers with trustworthy and verifiable information. We aver that this information belongs to the American people, not to any one political faction.

BE IT FURTHER **RESOLVED**, that we Democrats recognize the importance of basing decisions on verifiable evidence and on the best available science. We fully acknowledge that verifiable facts exist and that policy decisions must be based on those facts. The concept of “alternative facts” is no more than a smokescreen to justify political maneuvering, and is inherently dangerous to the safety and well-being of the people of North Carolina, the United States of America, and the Earth’s population as a whole.

#### **A RESOLUTION TO ACHIEVE A LITTER FREE NORTH CAROLINA (CD-10 and CD-11)**

**WHEREAS**, litter free roads, streets, highways and byways are an essential asset that needs to be protected; and

**WHEREAS**, litter free roads, street, highways and byways enhance the appeal of traveling in North Carolina for residents, travelers, and visitors of our state; and

**WHEREAS**, litter can create road hazards which may cause serious damage to vehicles and accidents, injuries and potential death to people traveling on roadways in the state of North Carolina; and

**WHEREAS**, litter may create an additional environmental hazard in combination with run-off siphoning into streams, wetlands, and natural areas; and

**WHEREAS**, the costs associated with litter removal crews and the potential hazards to those engaged in the pick-up of letter are extremely high; and

**WHEREAS**, adequate enforcement and significant fines would offer the potential to significantly reduce the ugly litter that is strewn, and generate revenue from penalties/fines that

could be used to enhance and beautify the scenic roadways in North Carolina for all to enjoy;

THEREFORE, BE IT **RESOLVED**, that the North Carolina Democratic Party include a “Litter Free North Carolina” provision in the Party Platform; and

BE IT FURTHER **RESOLVED**, that the North Carolina Democratic Party will work to bring legislation to the North Carolina General Assembly to eliminate litter throughout the State of North Carolina, to establish an educational program to inform the public of the dangers and nuisance of litter, and develop an adequate penalty/fine system to help achieve this goal throughout the State of North Carolina.

#### **A RESOLUTION TO BAN TRANSPORT OF HIGH-LEVEL RADIOACTIVE WASTE THROUGH NORTH CAROLINA (CD-10)**

**WHEREAS**, North Carolina is crisscrossed by interstate highways and rail lines, transporting high-level radioactive waste for the purpose of consolidated storage would unnecessarily increase risks of accidents or terrorism activity, and some of the waste going to Texas or New Mexico would likely travel through North Carolina;

**WHEREAS**, these transportation links carry shipments of materials and wastes between nuclear sites, but not currently highly radioactive “spent” nuclear fuel rods or the residues from them; and

**WHEREAS**, nuclear waste corporations are targeting Andrews County in Texas and Eddy and Lea Counties in New Mexico for new sites for 40 years or more of storage for the nation’s most dangerous nuclear reactor waste, which could lead to dangerous de facto permanent dumps, and importing high-level radioactive waste would put millions of people at risk for financial and health impacts from potential accidents or incidents; and

**WHEREAS**, high-level radioactive waste should remain secured at or near the site of

generation and be transported only once, when a scientifically viable permanent isolation site is operational; and

**WHEREAS**, high-level radioactive waste consists of irradiated (spent) fuel from nuclear power reactors and/or weapons production that includes uranium, plutonium and other radioactive elements that must be isolated for thousands of years or longer and the waste on a single train car would likely contain as much plutonium as was in the bomb dropped on Nagasaki; and

**WHEREAS**, exposure to radioactivity is known to lead to birth defects, genetic damage, and cancers and unshielded exposure to high-level radioactive waste could give a lethal dose; and

**WHEREAS**, our lives, land and rivers must be protected from radioactive contamination which could result from accidents, radiation releases or leaks, or terrorist actions during the thousands of high-level radioactive waste shipments that would occur for a period of 24 years if consolidated storage is licensed; and

**WHEREAS**, an accident releasing only a small amount of radioactivity could contaminate a 42-square mile area, and a US Department of Energy ("DOE") study found that cleanup could cost \$620 million in a rural area, and \$9.5 billion in the most heavily contaminated square mile of a large city; and

**WHEREAS**, the same DOE plans to ship highly radioactive waste in LIQUID form as well as solid; and

**WHEREAS**, the DOE has demonstrated its incompetence by pursuing a permanent nuclear waste repository in Nevada instead of disqualifying the site under DOE siting guidelines and the regulations established by other federal agencies and honoring the wishes of the people of that state;

THEREFORE, BE IT **RESOLVED**, that the North Carolina Democratic Party does not support or consent to the inter-state transportation of

high-level radioactive waste on our railways or highways for the purpose of consolidated storage or permanent disposal of high-level radioactive waste in Texas or New Mexico or to the failed repository proposed for Yucca Mountain in Nevada.

### **A RESOLUTION TO ADOPT 100% RENEWABLE ENERGY IN NORTH CAROLINA BY 2035 (CD-10)**

**WHEREAS**, the need for energy is essential to maintaining a good quality of life; and

**WHEREAS**, the need for clean energy is essential for protecting our air, water, and land resources; and

**WHEREAS**, adopting renewable resources are essential to maintaining the economy of the future; and

**WHEREAS**, climate change has increased the global average surface temperature by 1.00 degrees Celsius (1.8 degrees Fahrenheit) since 1880; and

**WHEREAS**, climate change is expected to increasingly impact North Carolina's temperatures, precipitation and sea level with harmful consequences in coming years; and

**WHEREAS**, climate change and global average temperature increases are primarily due to human-caused fossil fuels emissions, including coal, oil and natural gas, according to the United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, National Academy of Science, American Meteorological Society, United States Environmental Protection Agency, United States Department of Defense, and numerous other leading scientific, academic and governmental authorities both in the United States and internationally; and

**WHEREAS**, North Carolina installed 1,140 MW of solar electric capacity in 2015, ranking it second nationally; nearly \$17 billion was invested on solar installations in North Carolina, a 159% increase over the previous year; there are currently more than 200 solar companies

at work throughout the value chain in North Carolina, employing some 6,000 people; North Carolina ranks third in the nation in installed solar capacity, enough to power 260,000 homes; and solar photovoltaic system prices in the U.S. have dropped by 66% since 2010; and

**WHEREAS**, North Carolina has more offshore wind energy potential than any Atlantic state; and

THEREFORE, BE IT **RESOLVED**, that, to avoid climate catastrophe, to promote job creation and economic growth, and to protect the Earth for current and future generations from climate catastrophe, the North Carolina Democratic Party endorses the State of North Carolina and the United States establishing a transition from a fossil fuel-based economy to one based on 100% clean renewable energy for all energy sectors, by December 31, 2035.

**A RESOLUTION CALLING FOR REPEAL S-786, ENERGY MODERNIZATION ACT WHICH ALLOWS FRACKING IN NC (CD-10)**

**WHEREAS**, the North Carolina Democratic Party ("NCDP") "opposes any and all efforts to implement or expand the dangerous practice of fracking in our state" and supports preservation of the environment and air and water quality control [from 2016 NCDP Platform]; and

**WHEREAS**, the legislature in North Carolina has created the Energy Modernization Act S-786 which permits fracking in North Carolina, prevents disclosure of the chemicals used during the fracking process, prevents local governments from using zoning, health and safety regulations to protect citizens from the adverse effects of fracking; and

**WHEREAS**, the latest Compendium Of Scientific, Medical, And Media Findings Demonstrating Risks And Harms Of Fracking (November 2016) presents research backed data which scientists assert proves fracking causes air pollution, water contamination, occupational health and safety hazards, radioactive releas-

es, public health effects which include, respiratory, neurological and skin ailments, noise pollution, light pollution, and stress, earthquakes and seismic activity, flood risks, threats to property value and mortgages, risks;

**WHEREAS**, the NCDP believes the North Carolina General Assembly should refrain from overreaching in local government decisions;

THEREFORE, BE IT **RESOLVED**, that the North Carolina Democratic Party seek legislation to repeal Energy Modernization Act S-786 in its entirety; and

BE IT FURTHER **RESOLVED**, that the North Carolina Democratic Party seek legislation to ban fracking in North Carolina.

**A RESOLUTION IN OPPOSITION TO THE ATLANTIC COAST PIPELINE, AND ALL FUTURE PIPELINE PROJECTS (CD-03, CD-05, CD-06, CD-07, CD-10)**

**WHEREAS**, the North Carolina Democratic Party ("NCDP") "opposes any and all efforts to implement or expand the dangerous practice of fracking in our state" and supports preservation of the environment and air and water quality control [from 2016 NCDP Platform]; and

**WHEREAS**, Duke Energy and, now, Southeastern energy providers propose the Atlantic Coast Pipeline be built to transport fracked gas, and that it pass through part of eastern North Carolina; and

**WHEREAS**, the Atlantic Coast Pipeline will cross through many of the poorest and most racially diverse counties in North Carolina; and

**WHEREAS**, The Atlantic Coast Pipeline would pass through lands of indigenous NC tribal communities making its construction a matter of social and environmental justice; and

**WHEREAS**, the Atlantic Coast Pipeline will cost an estimated \$5 billion, money which could be used to transition towards renewable energy, and which will eventually be paid by cap-

tive rate-paying customers of the companies (Duke Energy and Dominion Resources) funding the Atlantic Coast Pipeline; and

**WHEREAS**, construction of the Atlantic Coast Pipeline will lead to the construction, according to Duke Energy's Integrated Resource Plan, of as many as 19 more gas-fired electricity generating plants by 2030; and

**WHEREAS**, pipeline construction typically involves eminent domain, which can force land owners to allow burial on their property without their consent, lowering property values and violating basic private property rights; and

**WHEREAS**, the NC Democratic Party supports development of sustainable energy and a reduction in fossil fuel dependency; **THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the North Carolina Democratic Party pursue legislation to prevent construction of the Atlantic Coast Pipeline, and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the North Carolina Democratic Party oppose construction of fossil fuel or natural gas pipelines wherever proposed in North Carolina.

#### **RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF SUSTAINABLE BUILDING PRACTICES (CD-06)**

**WHEREAS**, Buildings consume the majority of electricity used in the United States and significantly add to emissions contributing to global climate change; and

**WHEREAS**, Green building practices have been demonstrated to be both environmentally sound and fiscally responsible; and

**WHEREAS**, the increased development and use of sustainable, renewable energy sources as well as the use of green building materials and techniques create an expanding network of employment opportunities; and

**WHEREAS**, Governmental building projects can have a significant impact on local building practices, both directly and indirectly, as models for non-governmental projects;

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the North Carolina Democratic Party supports the efforts of local municipalities and counties in their use of green building practices and sustainable energy sources in the construction of all new governmental buildings, as well as in the maintenance and retrofitting of existing governmental properties; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the North Carolina Democratic Party supports the development of education and training programs, such as those delivered through the community college system, to help prepare citizens for employment within the green building and renewable energy industries.

#### **RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTIONS (CD-06)**

**WHEREAS**, North Carolina has an interest in maintaining clean air, clean water and clean soil for the health and well-being of its citizens, current and future;

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the North Carolina Democratic Party urges the North Carolina General Assembly that permits for the drilling for oil, mining the earth, building pipelines and discharging pollutants should only be granted after an evidence-based scientific impact study is done, citizens are informed of the permit request through an open process, a period for citizen comment is allowed and a majority of citizens in the community affected have agreed to the new projects.

#### **RESOLUTION CALLING FOR THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS TO TAKE IMMEDIATE, COMPREHENSIVE ACTION TO COMBAT CLIMATE CHANGE (CD-06)**

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

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

**WHEREAS**, The projected impacts of climate change pose real and imminent threats to the health, welfare and security of the State of North Carolina, the nation and the world, including disruptions in world food and water supplies, rapid sea level rise, accelerating melting of land and sea ice masses, increasing likelihood of extreme weather events, increasing wildfires, increasing insect and pathogen disease threats and increasingly likelihood of extinction for many plant and animal species; and

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

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

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

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

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

THEREFORE, BE IT **RESOLVED** that North Carolina Democratic Party calls upon the President of the United States, The Congress of the United States, the Governor of North Carolina, the North Carolina General Assembly, to create,

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

## Healthcare

### REGULATION OF CRISIS PREGNANCY CENTERS (CD-04)

**WHEREAS**, the anti-choice movement has built a network of generally unlicensed, unregulated organizations posing as comprehensive healthcare providers known as “crisis pregnancy centers”, or CPCs;

**WHEREAS**, over 120 of these CPCs have been identified in the state of North Carolina, a number that has at least doubled since 2006;

**WHEREAS**, these CPCs present themselves as medical clinics, including outfitting staff in white lab coats like those worn by doctors and nurses in hospitals and clinics, but may not have medical professionals on staff, may not disclose that they are not state licensed medical facilities and are not bound by HIPAA to keep client information confidential;

**WHEREAS**, the women of North Carolina facing unintended pregnancies deserve professional medically sound counsel and should not instead receive biased or inaccurate information from volunteers posing as medical and counseling professionals;

**WHEREAS**, CPCs in the State of North Carolina receive funding from the state government;

**WHEREAS**, any group, community organization, museum, or economic development enterprise that receives state money or referrals is typically assumed to meet certain state standards,

THEREFORE, BE IT **RESOLVED**, that the North Carolina Democratic Party will encourage its members in the NC General Assembly to propose state regulations for “crisis pregnancy centers”;

BE IT FURTHER **RESOLVED**, that these regulations include: requirements for truthful, fact-based advertising and promotion that includes disclosing anti-choice bias, requirements that CPCs not employing professionally trained medical and/or counseling staff licensed by the state of NC disclose that the clients will be seen by unlicensed staff/volunteers, requirements that CPCs which are not licensed medical facilities by the State of North Carolina disclose this fact in a written notice to all clients, requirements that advice and counsel being dispensed are medically sound and accurate, and requirements that CPCs keep client confidentiality as is required by legitimate medical and counseling clinics;

BE IT FURTHER **RESOLVED**, that “crisis pregnancy centers” not complying with regulations

be faced with monetary penalties and/or closure;

BE IT FURTHER **RESOLVED** that we Democrats take pro-active actions that promote quality reproductive healthcare for all North Carolinians.

## **RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF CHILD HEALTH INSURANCE**

**WHEREAS**, More than 200,000 children in North Carolina use CHIP for their health insurance; and

**WHEREAS**, Health is strongly associated with a child's ability to learn; and

**WHEREAS**, Children who live in households who cannot afford to self-purchase health insurance rely on the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) for their health care; and

**WHEREAS**, Children are not responsible for their health problems nor can they get health care unassisted; and

**WHEREAS**, Healthy children improve the health of the community; and

**WHEREAS**, A healthy and well-educated community is an economically successful community;

THEREFORE, BE IT **RESOLVED** that the North Carolina Democratic Party strongly encourages the North Carolina General Assembly to provide healthcare coverage to all of North Carolina's children and to continue and expand CHIP in North Carolina.

## **A RESOLUTION IN FAVOR OF UNIVERSAL, SINGLE-PAYER HEALTHCARE**

**WHEREAS**, The United Nations **RESOLVED** that universal health coverage is essential for sustainable development;

**WHEREAS**, The United Nations **RESOLVED** to urge governments to move towards providing all people with access to affordable, quality

health care services on 12 December 2012;

**WHEREAS**, The United States spends the most per capita on health care of any industrialized nation and yet is number 38 in positive health outcomes.

**WHEREAS**, The United States is the only industrialized nation that does not have some form of universal health care (defined as a basic guarantee of health care to all of its citizens);

**WHEREAS**, there are substantial disparities in the U.S. 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.

**WHEREAS**, The US Institute of Medicine compiled an extensive report on the hidden costs of the uninsured such as fewer years of participation in the workforce, weakened local economies, developmental losses to children, and adverse effects on public health such as poor health outcomes and lowered life expectancies.

**WHEREAS**, despite the undeniable benefits of the Affordable Care Act, millions of Americans still are without 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.

**WHEREAS**, A universal health care system would help people pursue the American dream of providing for themselves and their families; now, therefore,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT **RESOLVED**, that the NCDP recognizes access to quality health care as a basic human right and supports efforts to reduce health inequality and disparities.

BE IT FURTHER **RESOLVED**, that the North Carolina Democratic Party Urges Congress to do what is morally right and economically advantageous and pass single payer health care legislation to cover all our citizens and

BE IT FURTHER **RESOLVED**, that North Carolina Democrats will work at the District level and the state level of the Democratic Party to have this resolution in support of universal health care become a part of the state platform of the Democratic Party; and

BE IT FURTHER **RESOLVED**, that our NCDP DNC representatives support the inclusion of a call for Universal Single Payer Healthcare in the National Democratic Party Platform;

And that we, as Democrats, commit to electing Democrats up and down the ballot who will continue to push for health care for all legal residents.

## **Criminal Justice**

### **RESOLUTION SUPPORTING MANDATORY BODY-WORN CAMERAS FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS (CD-06)**

**WHEREAS**, Police Officers bear incredible responsibility for ensuring public safety; and

**WHEREAS**, Police Officers are frequently the subject of close scrutiny of their actions, particularly in the use of force; and

**WHEREAS**, Body-worn camera footage provides protection for honest officers, by securing evidence to support their justified actions; and

**WHEREAS**, Body-worn camera footage provides opportunity for oversight and accountability for all officers' actions in the field; and

**WHEREAS**, Body-worn camera footage provides the greatest opportunity to protect evidence in disputed cases;



THEREFORE, BE IT **RESOLVED** that the North Carolina Democratic Party encourages local and state governmental officials to implement policies and funding that will result in all sworn law enforcement officers in North Carolina being equipped with and required to use body-worn camera systems, while on duty.

#### **RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF COMMUNITY BASED LAW ENFORCEMENT (CD-06)**

**WHEREAS**, the work of police and sheriff departments to serve and protect the public is best achieved within a context of mutual trust and respect; and

**WHEREAS**, Direct knowledge of the community members being served and of the law enforcement officers who live and work within the local community fosters such trust and respect; and

**WHEREAS**, the need to foster trust and respect is of special concern in relation to persons of color and to immigrant groups within our communities; and

**WHEREAS**, Members of these specific community groups are more likely to be of assistance to the work of law enforcement officers when officers are seen as protecting, rather than threatening, the welfare and safety of community members;

THEREFORE, BE IT **RESOLVED** that the North Carolina Democratic Party supports the establishment or continuation of community policing programs and policies; and

BE IT FURTHER **RESOLVED** that the North Carolina Democratic Party supports professional development opportunities for local law enforcement officers, including programs focused on better understanding and working with members of such special community groups.

#### **RESOLUTION CALLING FOR REPEAL OF HOUSE BILL 972 LIMITING ACCESS TO BODY CAMERA FOOTAGE (CD-06)**

**WHEREAS**, Law enforcement agencies are public agencies serving for the public and in the interest of the public; and

**WHEREAS**, Public access to police footage strengthens the relationship between police and the community, increases the transparency of law enforcement agencies, and helps monitor the effectiveness of body camera programs; and

**WHEREAS**, Body camera footage serves to resolve issues of fault in officer-involved shootings;

THEREFORE, BE IT **RESOLVED** that we urge the North Carolina Democratic Party to publicly voice its support for repeal of House Bill 972; and

BE IT FURTHER **RESOLVED** that we urge the North Carolina General Assembly to repeal House Bill 972 and all restrictions to public access of police body camera footage.

#### **RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF BANNING ASSAULT RIFLES AND MANDATORY BACKGROUND CHECKS FOR ALL GUN PURCHASES (CD-06)**

**WHEREAS**, there is no discernible sporting or self-defense justification for military-style assault rifles; and

**WHEREAS**, the lethality of these weapons has been demonstrated in multiple mass shooting events;

THEREFORE, BE IT **RESOLVED** that the North Carolina Democratic Party urges the North Carolina General Assembly to pass legislation banning the sale and possession of military-style assault rifles in North Carolina; and

BE IT FURTHER **RESOLVED** that the North Carolina Democratic Party urges the North Carolina General Assembly to pass legislation mandating background checks for all gun purchases in North Carolina, without exception, and including sales transacted at gun shows as well as those transacted between private citizens.

**IN SUPPORT OF BETTER BACKGROUND CHECKS FOR GUN PURCHASES AND OF RESTRICTIONS ON ISSUANCE OF GUN PERMITS (CD-06)**

**WHEREAS**, Guns are rarely used in self-defense; and

**WHEREAS**, Guns kill many Americans when the weapons are used in murders and suicides; and

**WHEREAS**, Many Americans are killed each year by accidental shootings;  
**THEREFORE**, BE IT **RESOLVED** that the North Carolina Democratic Party urges the North Carolina General Assembly to enact legislation to tighten background checks for gun purchases and to prohibit individuals diagnosed with a mental illness with suicidal or psychotic tendencies from obtaining a gun permit.

**RESOLUTION CALLING FOR THE PREVENTION OF CHILD ABUSE (CD-06)**

**WHEREAS**, Parents and caregivers may experience stressful times with crying babies resulting in more likely situations of child abuse; and

**WHEREAS**, every ten seconds, a report is made to the proper authorities that a child has been abused; and

**WHEREAS**, four or more children die every day at the hands of their abusers, and approximately seventy percent (70%) of those children are under the age of four; and

**WHEREAS**, Thirty percent (30%) of all victims of child abuse will abuse their own children; and

**WHEREAS**, Eighty percent (80%) of all victims of child abuse under the age of twenty-one have a psychological disorder; and

**WHEREAS**, in 2008, it was reported that child abuse cost our economy \$124 billion dollars a year; and

**WHEREAS**, it is reported that 2,000 children die every year at the hands of the people who are supposed to care for them and love them; and

**WHEREAS**, most child abuse occurs due to the fact that their caregiver has shaken them;

**THEREFORE**, BE IT **RESOLVED** that the North Carolina Democratic Party urges the North Carolina General Assembly and the United States Congress to fund mandatory education and training programs for new parents and caregivers, with a focus on child abuse and its symptoms, the risks posed by shaken baby syndrome and how to choose a good caregiver; and

BE IT FURTHER **RESOLVED**, that the North Carolina Democratic Party supports mandatory educational programs in middle schools and high schools regarding child abuse and parenting skills; and

BE IT FURTHER **RESOLVED** that the North Carolina Democratic Party supports programs that provide new parents and new caregivers with routine follow-up visits by medical personnel to promote child safety and health, with such follow-up visits to be provided monthly for a minimum of six months after a baby's birth, along with a nurse on call 24/7 to answer questions or relieve the caregiver during stressful times.

**BAN CONCEALED WEAPONS ON UNC AND COMMUNITY COLLEGE CAMPUSES (CD-04)**

**WHEREAS**, on March 2, 2017, House Bill 251 was filed to permit concealed carry of weapons on public university and college campuses;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT **RESOLVED**, that the North Carolina Democratic Party urges the North Carolina General Assembly to oppose passage of any legislation that allows individuals to carry concealed weapons on University of North Carolina and North Carolina community college campuses.

#### **A RESOLUTION TO ABOLISH STATE AND FEDERAL PRIVATE PRISONS (CD-10)**

**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 the North Carolina Democratic Party calls upon the United States Government to ensure the safety, security and health of prisoners and detainees by closing all federally contracted private prisons and operating only carefully regulated public prisons.

## **Voting and Voting Rights**

#### **RESOLUTION TO ENACT UNIVERSAL VOTER REGISTRATION IN NORTH CAROLINA (CD-06)**

**WHEREAS**, the right to vote is the heart of American democracy, yet in every election hundreds of thousands of North Carolinians are not registered to vote, and

**WHEREAS**, the other developed democracies have universal voter registration systems with near 90% of voters registered, resulting in a 63% to 90% Western Europe turnout, while in America voter registration is voluntary, much like voting itself, and state and local boards of election register voters resulting in many North Carolinians unregistered, with highly unsatisfactory turnout;

THEREFORE, BE IT **RESOLVED** that the North Carolina Democratic Party supports the following changes to the voting registration system to accomplish North Carolina universal voter registration:

(1) Use existing government databases to automatically register to vote all U.S. citizens 18 years and older, similar to the new Oregon law which directs its DMV to provide the Secretary of State names of qualified electors to be registered;

(2) Create a fail-safe policy to ensure voters left off the rolls can register and vote on election day;

(3) Provide every U.S. citizen, upon birth or naturalization, a voter registration number similar to a social security number to be used in all elections and activated when a voter turns 18;

(4) Set a voter pre-registration age of 16 years to automatically pre-register youth, tying this policy to a "national voting curriculum" in every high school;

(5) Require U.S. citizens to register to vote when completing taxes or actively opt-out of the process;

(6) Tie Post Office Change of Address forms to the voter registration database;

(7) Require state or local governments to send every residence a notice of those registered at that location. Residents may then make changes as needed and return the updated form;

BE IT FURTHER **RESOLVED** that a copy of this resolution be sent to all North Carolina state legislators, the NC Secretary of State, and the Governor.

#### **A RESOLUTION CALLING FOR A FEDERAL HOLIDAY ON ELECTION DAY (CD-10 and CD-11)**

**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;

THEREFORE, BE IT **RESOLVED**, that the Democratic Party of North Carolina supports and encourages the establishment of Election Day as a national holiday.

#### **A RESOLUTION CALLING FOR NONPARTISAN JUDICIAL ELECTIONS (CD-10)**

**WHEREAS**, a 2013 Princeton University political science study found that state supreme court justices who don't face voters are generally more effective than their elected counterparts; and

**WHEREAS**, partisan elections attempt to further politicize the already problematic process of judicial elections; and

**WHEREAS**, North Carolina has had good success with its nonpartisan elections for appellate court judges; and

**WHEREAS**, the recent return to partisan elections for the courts is unnecessary and tends to politicize races which ought to be based on candidates' records and reputation as impartial jurists;

THEREFORE, BE IT **RESOLVED** that the state of North Carolina should return to nonpartisan elections for all North Carolina state appellate courts; and

BE IT FURTHER **RESOLVED** that the North Carolina Democratic Party shall work toward nonpartisan elections for all judicial elections.

#### **A RESOLUTION CALLING FOR TAX RETURNS OF CANDIDATES FOR FEDERAL OFFICE (CD-10)**

**WHEREAS**, it has been common practice for the last 25 years for candidates for office to the US Congress and Presidency to release their tax returns; and,

**WHEREAS**, tax returns are one of the only methods to identify personal monetary and business influences for candidates, and

**WHEREAS**, recent candidates for election and elected offices have not been willing to release their tax returns; and,

**WHEREAS**, there are currently no laws requiring the release of tax returns for candidates to US offices;

THEREFORE, BE IT **RESOLVED**, that the Democratic Party support laws requiring candidates for Federal office to release their tax returns before they are placed on a public ballot.

## **Military and Veterans Affairs**

#### **RESOLUTION TO END VETERAN HOMELESSNESS IN NORTH CAROLINA (CD-07)**

**WHEREAS**, North Carolina aspires to be the most military and Veteran friendly state in the United States; and

**WHEREAS**, Veteran homelessness remains a prevalent problem in this country and affected nearly 900 NC Veterans in 2016; and

**WHEREAS**, Veterans continue to be overrepresented in the homeless population in America; and

**WHEREAS**, Homelessness among female Veterans is rising, including those with dependent children; and

**WHEREAS**, Ending Veteran homelessness is achieved when Veterans are not sleeping in the streets, have access to permanent housing, and when communities can quickly place Veterans in stable housing; and

**WHEREAS**, the cost of living, housing factors, and limited availability of HUD-VASH vouchers for Veterans necessitate state and local intervention to effectively end Veteran homelessness; and

**WHEREAS**, Neighboring Virginia and the state of Connecticut have effectively ended Veteran homelessness indicating this as an achievable goal; and

**WHEREAS**, we have a sacred obligation “to care for him who shall have borne the battle and for his widow, and his orphan” as stated by Abraham Lincoln and adopted as the Department of Veterans Affairs motto; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED**, That the North Carolina Democratic Party supports efforts to provide funding and resources to homeless Veterans and their families, including to prevent homelessness in those at highest risk; and

**RESOLVED**, that we Democrats believe that EVERY Veteran has a right to secure, safe, and appropriate housing regardless of their discharge status; and

BE IT FURTHER **RESOLVED** That we commit to end Veteran homelessness in NC and believe that fulfilling our “sacred obligation” to Veter-

ans and their families includes meeting their basic human needs for shelter.

## General Government

### A RESOLUTION TO ENSURE FREEDOM OF THE PRESS (CD-10 and CD-11)

**WHEREAS**, Freedom of the Press is a right guaranteed by the First Amendment to the Constitution, which prohibits the government from interfering with the distribution of information and opinions; and

**WHEREAS**, Freedom of the Press is essential to ensure transparency in government, which discourages unlawful or inappropriate use of governmental powers; and

**WHEREAS**, a Free Press is necessary to inform and educate the people, which is essential to a democracy; and

**WHEREAS**, the Press is currently being attacked and curtailed at a national level, which undermines our Constitution and our very democracy;

THEREFORE, BE IT **RESOLVED**, that the Democratic Party will respect the right of the Press to investigate and publicize information about leaders, companies, government officials, and government actions even if the information is negative and/or if the sources are anonymous; and

BE IT FURTHER **RESOLVED**, that Congress and the Executive Office will not undermine the First Amendment by restricting the Press’s freedom to fully participate in official briefings, to investigate and to report on all aspects of our government’s activities, unless doing so severely and clearly undermines our national security.

### A RESOLUTION TO PROTECT SCIENCE AND SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH (CD-10 and CD-11)

**WHEREAS**, scientific study is key to understanding our world, improving our economic future, and resolving issues facing our nation;

and

**WHEREAS**, many politicians seem to feel they are more qualified to define what is scientifically factual, instead of depending on learned experts to present well-reasoned conclusions from the factual data; and

**WHEREAS**, not only such politicians doubt the well-reasoned conclusions of these scientists, they threaten their careers, harass them needlessly, act to limit the scientific dialogue by silencing them, and preventing them from publishing; and

**WHEREAS**, it is important to maintain, preserve, and encourage a well-reasoned scientific dialogue in the country, and in the world;

**WHEREAS**, the current administration is acting to silence scientists with views different from their own, contrary to the scientific method. Further, many unqualified individuals are forcing their unqualified views in lieu of the scientific conclusions of experts in the field.

THEREFORE, BE IT **RESOLVED**, that the Democratic Party will work to enact laws and regulations that prevent political appointees from preventing publishing, discussing or otherwise distributing data and scientific papers; and

BE IT FURTHER **RESOLVED**, that the Democratic Party will act to prevent the undue pressure on scientist and enact legislation that restricts non-scientists from changing conclusions, limiting publications, or otherwise obstructing the time-honored practice of open scientific debate.

**RESOLUTION TO ENSURE THAT THE 2020 CENSUS IS COMPETENTLY AND FAIRLY ADMINISTERED AND ALL RESULTS ARE ACCESSIBLE TO ALL (PROGRESSIVE DEMOCRATS OF NORTH CAROLINA)**

**WHEREAS**, every decade since 1790, as required by the Constitution, the federal government has undertaken a comprehensive census of its people, the accuracy and fairness

of which serves the interests of government at every level, provides indispensable information to policy makers and shapers, private businesses and investors, and is a key resource for political parties, academics, journalists, researchers, and citizens, and

**WHEREAS**, since the Census is used to apportion seats in the House of Representatives to reflect shifts in population and to set the boundaries of congressional districts, North Carolina will be impacted as it is poised to gain another Congressional District whose boundaries need to be drawn fairly, and

**WHEREAS**, the Census determines how tens of billions of dollars in federal aid are apportioned across states, regions, counties, and municipalities, and

**WHEREAS**, the Government Accountability Office has placed the 2020 census on its list of high-risk projects due to uncertainties about its 300-million-dollar budget shortfall, technology that has not been tested yet, and lack of leadership as both the Census Bureau's Director and Deputy Director who left earlier this year have not been replaced; and

**WHEREAS**, the Bureau hopes to automate the counting process and introduce online reporting. However, there is no money to test whether this system will work and all field tests scheduled for this year and next year have been cancelled due to the current Administration's budget cuts, including tests among rural communities which historically are one of the most undercounted populations; and

**WHEREAS**, there is not enough funding nor any plan to safeguard the online system from hacking or data tampering which may open the door for the disenfranchisement of millions of Americans; and

**WHEREAS** the current Administration's decision to use an untested online system and strip sexual orientation from the voluntary 2020 Census Survey questions as well as its

aggressive deportation program may result in making rural, LGBTQ, and immigrant populations invisible in the 2020 Census data and therefore underserved for the next ten years.

THEREFORE, BE IT **RESOLVED** that the Progressive Caucus of the North Carolina Democratic Party urges our Senators and Congressional Delegation to demand sufficient funding for the 2020 Census as well as a bi-partisan effort to test the proposed online system rigorously and safeguard it against any possible hacking or attempts to tamper with data or methodologies, such as cherry-picking some data and suppressing other data for political gain; and

BE IT FURTHER **RESOLVED** that the North Carolina Democratic Party offers its full support to our rural, LGBTQ, and immigrant communities which may be negatively affected by the current 2020 Census planning

**RESOLUTION TO CENSURE CERTAIN MEMBERS OF THE NORTH CAROLINA GENERAL ASSEMBLY FOR PROVIDING LEGAL COVER FOR DOMESTIC TERRORISM (CD-06)**

**WHEREAS**, acts of violence have occurred at home and abroad, by individuals utilizing moving vehicles to attack pedestrians; and

**WHEREAS**, these acts of violence have resulted in deaths and serious injuries to persons, specifically, France -July 14, 2016 resulting in seventy-five people dead and forty hurt;

London-March 22, 2017 resulting in five people dead and dozens injured;

Berlin, Germany December 2016 twelve people dead and fifty injured as well as other similar attacks; and

**WHEREAS**, North Carolina House of Representatives Justin Burr is the chief sponsor of North Carolina House Bill 330, legislation that will immunize acts of terrorism by vehicle, when drivers run vehicles into people engaging in activity that is protected by the Free Speech and Assembly provisions of the First Amendment to the Constitution of the United States; and

**WHEREAS**, the North Carolina House of Representatives of the General Assembly has passed HB 330 conferring immunity for such assaults; and

**WHEREAS**, this legislation violates the intent of the following statutes: 18 United States Code § 956 prohibiting acts of conspiracy to maim and murder persons; and 18 United States Code § 373 that prohibits solicitation to commit crimes of violence; 18 United States Code § 242 prohibiting deprivation of rights under color of law; and 18 United States Code § 2339A prohibiting providing material support for terrorism,

THEREFORE, BE IT **RESOLVED** that this committee passes a resolution of censure against North Carolina Representative Justin Burr and all other members of the North Carolina General Assembly who voted in favor of HB 330.

**RESOLUTION CALLING FOR UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES TO FILE ARTICLES OF IMPEACHMENT AGAINST PRESIDENT DONALD J. TRUMP (CD-06)**

**WHEREAS**, The Founding Fathers of The United States Of America found it necessary to include provisions in the United States Constitution known as The Emoluments Clause intended to prevent undue influence by foreign and domestic powers upon the Office of The President Of The United States of America; and

**WHEREAS**, the Foreign Emoluments Clause of the United States Constitution provides that “no Person holding any Office of Profit or Trust under [the United States], shall, without the Consent of Congress, accept of any present, Emolument, Office, or Title, of any kind whatever, from any King, Prince, or foreign State”; and

**WHEREAS**, The Domestic Emoluments Clause of the United States Constitution provides that, besides the fixed salary for his four-year term, the President “shall not receive within that Period any other Emolument from the

United States, or any of them"; and

**WHEREAS**, The term "emoluments" includes a broad range of financial benefits, including but not limited to monetary payments, purchase of goods and services even for fair market value, subsidies, tax breaks, extensions of credit, and favorable regulatory treatment; and

**WHEREAS**, Donald J. Trump, the President of the United States, owns various business interests and receives various streams of income from all over the world; and

**WHEREAS**, Many of these businesses receive, and streams of income include, emoluments from individual States of the United States, the United States itself, or foreign governments, including, but not limited to, Russia and The Peoples Republic of China; and

**WHEREAS**, Donald J. Trump took the oath of office and became President of The United States on January 20th, 2017; and

**WHEREAS**, President Donald J. Trump has been in violation of the Foreign Emoluments Clause and the Domestic Emoluments Clause of the United States Constitution from the moment he took office; and

**WHEREAS**, These violations undermine the integrity of the Presidency, violate public trust, and corruptly increase the personal wealth of President Donald J. Trump and his immediate family; and

**WHEREAS**, Donald J. Trump, by such conduct, warrants impeachment, trial and removal from the Office of President of The United States Of America;

THEREFORE, BE IT **RESOLVED** that the Democratic Party of North Carolina calls upon the United States House of Representatives to pass a resolution authorizing and directing the House Committee on the Judiciary to determine if sufficient grounds exist for the Impeachment of Donald J. Trump, President of

the United States, including but not limited to the violations found herein; and

BE IT FURTHER **RESOLVED** that we call for a special prosecutor be appointed to investigate the matter, as the Attorney General Jeff Sessions was a political supporter of Donald J. Trump and was appointed by him to the Office of Attorney General; and

BE IT FURTHER **RESOLVED** that copies of this resolution should be transmitted officially to all Democratic Members of the United States House of Representatives and to all Members of the United States House of Representatives representing the State of North Carolina.

### **DENOUNCING LEGISLATIVE ACTION TO DIMINISH THE POWERS AND DUTIES OF NORTH CAROLINA'S OFFICE OF GOVERNOR (CD-09 AND CD-12)**

**WHEREAS** in the election of November 8, 2016, the citizens of North Carolina elected a legislature having a majority of Republicans but specifically did not re-elect the Republican governor; and,

**WHEREAS** in the brief period subsequent to the election, but before the swearing in of the new Governor, the Republican members of the legislature introduced, passed and had signed by the lame duck Republican Governor, purely partisan legislation restricting the powers and authority of the incoming Governor; and,

**WHEREAS** such partisan legislation was not in the best interests of North Carolina or in accordance with the expressed wishes of the citizens as demonstrated by the election of the Democratic Governor.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT **RESOLVED** that the Mecklenburg County Democratic Party hereby strongly denounces the actions of the legislature in acting to diminish the powers and duties of the office of Governor; and,



BE IT FURTHER **RESOLVED** that we wholeheartedly support all efforts to overturn these partisan actions; and,

FURTHER **RESOLVED** that we support all efforts to prohibit any similar abuse by the majority of the legislature in the future.

## Immigration

### A RESOLUTION TO OPPOSE A BORDER WALL (CD-10 and CD-11)

**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;

THEREFORE, BE IT **RESOLVED**, that the Democratic Party opposes construction of any additional border barrier, wall, fence or moat of any kind.

### A RESOLUTION TO OPPOSE A NATIONAL TRAVEL BAN (CD-10 and CD-11)

**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;

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.

### A RESOLUTION PROTECTING IMMIGRANTS AND OPPOSING THE SECURE COMMUNITIES PROGRAM AND 287(G) PARTNERSHIPS

**WHEREAS**, On January 20, 2017, Donald Trump was inaugurated as the 45th President of the United States;

**WHEREAS**, The President has made numerous statements that devalue racial, religious and ethnic minorities as well as demeaning women, dishonoring our armed forces, ignoring science, threatening foreign relations and disregarding the Constitution;

**WHEREAS**, The President has signed the Executive Order, Border Security and Immigration Enforcement Improvements, on January 25, 2017. the purpose of which is "to direct executive departments and agencies to deploy all lawful means to secure the Nation's southern border, to prevent further illegal immigration into the United States, and to repatriate illegal aliens" thus invigorating the Secure Communities Program (SCP) and revitalizing 287(g) partnerships;

**WHEREAS**, SCP was designed to dramatically increase the involvement of the local law enforcement officials in immigration enforcement, diverting local resources and creating fear of law enforcement to the detriment of public safety;

**WHEREAS**, SCP faced strong criticism for allowing officers to racially profile minorities and was found to violate Fourth Amendment rights by a federal judge, leading to its replacement by President Obama in 2015 and which was summarily rescinded by President Trump in January 2017;

**WHEREAS**, Additionally the 287(g) programs, which allows Immigration Customs Enforcement (ICE) to delegate immigration enforcement to partners in state and local agencies, has also been found to create "discriminatory policing practices" by the Federal Justice Department;

**WHEREAS**, approximately 794,684 immigrants (documented and undocumented) live in North Carolina, contributing to our economy as workers in farm, construction, service sectors, or participate as entrepreneurs and consumers; and

**WHEREAS**, we acknowledge 5 counties including Cabarrus, Gaston, Henderson, Mecklenburg, and Wake already have signed 287g agreements;

**WHEREAS**, we acknowledge that there have been recent new attempts at expanding the 287g programs across North Carolina, such as applications submitted by Sheriff Departments from Alamance County and Nash County, and including a renewal of the 287g contract in Mecklenburg County by Sheriff Carmichael on February 22nd, 2017;

**WHEREAS**, the city of Durham has a long-standing commitment to being open and welcoming to immigrants and refugees, and to understanding that our immigrant communities are integral to the life of our community; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED**, That the North Carolina Democratic Party declares its opposition to the above mentioned Executive Order, Border Security and Immigration Enforcement Improvements, and respectfully calls on the President to rescind the Executive Order in its entirety;

**RESOLVED**, That the North Carolina Democratic Party reaffirms the declaration of the city of Durham that it is open and welcoming to immigrants and refugees and reaffirms that the immigrant and refugee communities are integral to the life of our community;

**RESOLVED**, That the North Carolina Democratic Party affirms that the local, state and national Government must be accountable to all individuals and communities it serves, documented and undocumented, and must not be a tool for oppression or intimidation;

**RESOLVED**, That the North Carolina Democratic Party calls for and will advocate for reforms in local law enforcement and work to rebuild the trust between police and communities of color, immigrants and refugees;

**RESOLVED**, That the North Carolina Democratic Party opposes the use of Section 287(g) Immigration and Nationality Act (INA) agreements and urges the Office of the Sheriff in all counties across the state of North Carolina to refuse to enter into Section 287(g) agreements with ICE, or rescind all current contracts or applications in the 7 counties listed above, effective immediately;

**RESOLVED**, That the North Carolina Democratic Party affirms that city of Durham will not honor detainer requests for people who are not a danger to the public safety of Durham;

**RESOLVED**, That the North Carolina Democratic Party calls upon the people of good will of Our State and the North Carolina Democratic Party to join in calling on the President to permit immigrants and refugees to continue to resettle peacefully here and remain here without fear of persecution; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that upon adoption of this resolution, the North Carolina Democratic Party is authorized and requested to deliver a copy of this resolution to North Carolina County Commissioners, County Sheriff Departments, the US Department of Immigration and Customs Enforcement regional offices in our state, the Congressional Delegation, NC Senators and to the North Carolina Democratic Party.

### **ALLOW ISSUANCE OF STATE ID TO INDIVIDUALS WITHOUT SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBERS**

**WHEREAS**, Section 35.2 of S.L. 2006-264 rendered law-abiding resident's ineligible to obtain or renew their driver license or identification card from the Division of Motor Vehicles if they do not have a valid social security number;

**WHEREAS**, prior state law allowed the issuance of a driver license or identification card

to a person who did not have a valid social security number, and was unable to obtain one, if the individual could provide a valid Individual Taxpayer Identification Number issued by the Internal Revenue Service;

**WHEREAS**, this policy has disproportionately and negatively affected Latinx North Carolinians, who are now ineligible to obtain for or renew their driver license or identification card; and

**WHEREAS**, the Latinx community is disproportionately affected by this policy, it also negatively affects all individuals who do not have a social security number; and

**WHEREAS**, access to driving privileges, and its corresponding access to gainful employment, is essential to North Carolinians' economic well-being, and access to North Carolina identification is essential to the exercise of North Carolinians' civic and civil rights and duties;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT **RESOLVED** that the North Carolina Democratic Party urges the North Carolina General Assembly to repeal Section 35.2 of S.L. 2006-264 as it amends North Carolina General Statutes Section 20.7(b1), in order to support the economic and civic well-being of vulnerable North Carolinians.

#### **A RESOLUTION CALLING FOR THE REPEAL OF NC HB-318 TO HELP PROTECT OUR COMMUNITY (CD-07 and CD-10)**

**WHEREAS**, NC HB-318 targets undocumented immigrants in North Carolina by denying them access to due process, equal rights, and basic human dignity; and

**WHEREAS**, when local law enforcement officials detain individuals without a judicial warrant or prolong the detention of individuals without a judicial warrant, mistakes can be made, and

**WHEREAS**, in recent years, the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) and Customs and Border Protection (CBP) have made

many mistakes in detaining U.S. citizens, and

**WHEREAS**, the unlawful detention of individuals or the prolonged detention of individuals violates the Fourth Amendment of the Constitution, and

**WHEREAS**, U.S. cities and counties have paid large court-ordered penalties for violating the Fourth Amendment by the unlawful detention of individuals, and

**WHEREAS**, HB 318 does not preserve a clear separation between local police work and federal immigration work and cause communities to lose their trust in local law enforcement officials,

**WHEREAS**, HB 318 allows ICE or CBP officers free access to local law enforcement facilities, and

**WHEREAS**, HB 318 does not require ICE or CBC officers to clearly identify themselves while using local law enforcement facilities, and

**WHEREAS**, immigrants may not take advantage of their rights to be silent and to seek an attorney if they believe they are talking to local police rather than ICE or CBP agents, and

**WHEREAS**, HB 318 allows local police to ask questions about immigration status, which may lead to racial profiling, and

**WHEREAS**, HB 318 allows local law enforcement to provide ICE or CBC personal information about people and may not protect an individual's privacy, and

**WHEREAS**, NC HB-318 (2015) limits the ability to use a consular ID card or obtain a local North Carolina ID card to prove residency; and

**WHEREAS**, NC HB-318 limits a municipality's ability to create a sanctuary community;

THEREFORE, BE IT **RESOLVED**, we call on the state legislature to repeal NC HB-318.

## **SUPPORT FOR REFUGEE FAMILIES**

**WHEREAS**, the United States has long played a crucial role in exemplifying humanitarian ideals, from support for refugee emergencies overseas, to welcoming some of the most vulnerable refugee families into the United States to rebuild their lives in safety, freedom and dignity, and

**WHEREAS**, in a globalized society, stability across the world is in the interests of the United States; and

**WHEREAS**, the UN Refugee Agency estimates that there were a record number of over 21 million refugees in 2015, primarily from Syria, Somalia, Afghanistan and South Sudan; and

**WHEREAS**, the revised Executive Order blocking citizens of Syria, Iran, Libya, Somalia, Sudan and Yemen from obtaining visas for at least 90 days and suspending admission of refugees into the US for 120 days leaves tens of thousands of families in dangerous limbo; and

**WHEREAS**, all refugees sent to the US have undergone extremely thorough background and security checks, lasting 18 to 24 months;

**WHEREAS**, since the refugee program began in 1980, refugees have not committed any acts of terrorism in the United States; and

**WHEREAS**, North Carolina has accepted over 4,000 refugees since 2015 without problems;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the North Carolina Democratic Party supports an increase in refugee resettlement programs in the United States and North Carolina, and calls on State elected officials to help counties and cities become resettlement sites for refugees as proposed by the International Rescue Committee in 2016.



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