

Guidelines for Resolutions

(Counties and Districts)

The North Carolina Democratic Party's Resolutions and Platform Committee recently adopted guidelines to help shepherd the Committee through the resolutions process. The Resolutions and Platform Committee suggests that counties and districts have a local resolutions committee to edit, consolidate, and otherwise consider resolutions from precincts and counties, respectively.

Below are guidelines and standards of review these local resolutions committees should be considered and are based on Standard Operating Procedure adopted by the NCDP Resolutions and Platform Committee.

Resources:

- NCDP 2020 Platform: <http://bit.ly/ncdp-platform>

Committee Goals:

1. Considering resolutions for the county or congressional district convention.
 - a. Identifying resolutions that the NCDP have passed in the past or are part of the current Platform, unless there is a significant development on the issue or a change in the Party's position.
 - b. Consolidating or prioritizing resolutions on the same issue(s) for consideration
 - c. Tracking Resolutions
 - d. Full reporting on resolutions (favorable, unfavorable, no recommendation, etc.)
2. Defining the format for Resolutions (e.g. consistency, proofing, etc.)

Standard of Review:

1. This committee shall consider resolutions based upon three (3) standards of review;
 - a. Necessity
 - b. Distinction
 - c. Where does our base/constituencies stand on the issue?



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2. The necessity of a resolution shall be based upon the need for its eventual consideration by the NC Democratic Party for incorporation into the party platform by the Resolutions and Platform Committee and the State Convention and/or State Executive Committee.

a. If the spirit and meaning of a resolution is already incorporated in our party platform it may be deemed redundant and therefore lack necessity.

b. Resolutions that have already been passed by the State Executive Committee may be deemed redundant as they have already been given place in the process for incorporation into the NC Democratic Party Platform.

3. The Distinctiveness of a resolution shall be based upon the presence of similar resolutions in the consideration of the Resolutions Committee.

a. If two or more resolutions are deemed to request the same action(s), these resolutions may be determined to lack distinction.

b. If two or more resolutions are deemed to identify similar problems with differing solutions, they may be deemed as lacking in distinction.

4. Consideration should be given as to where does the base or constituency group of the Democratic Party stand on a particular issue and if the resolution would elicit controversy, both internally and externally.

Suggested Process:

1. A Resolutions Chair be appointed and will collect resolutions in their original, editable format. 2. If needed, members of the committee sort themselves into subcommittees, each subcommittee to have topic(s) of concern. Each subcommittee shall operate under the Standards of Review and each action taken within the Subcommittee shall be by consensus or majority vote, if consensus cannot be reached.

a. Sort resolutions according to subject area and creating a master file for that subcommittee as a working document.

b. Each subcommittee will have a master file of all resolutions under consideration and then a working file with the resolutions moving forward, including resolutions which were edited, combined, or deleted (e.g. unfavorable or duplicated from the past) with subcommittee action noted. Additionally, there will be a file of resolutions which received an unfavorable report in subcommittee. (For resolutions the subcommittee and/or the



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whole committee would like to avoid taking a definitive stand one way or another, a motion to table indefinitely would be in order.)

c. Combine the files of the favorable resolutions recommended by each subcommittee into a draft Resolutions Report.

2. The Committee will meet to review a draft Resolutions Report, including review of resolutions which are receiving an unfavorable report or otherwise being held back. A majority vote of the Committee shall be required to approve the report to its respective convention.

3. Resolutions that were not reported out of the committee, but the committee would like to be studied or further discussed will be mentioned as such in the resolutions report. The committee should agree to a date certain for these further deliberations.

Resolution Formatting:

The Subcommittees shall follow the following formatting as part of their subcommittee report(s):

1. Resolution Title Bold, Times New Roman, 14 pt.
2. Body Font: Times New Roman, 11pt.
3. District/auxiliary of origin

Example:

Declaring the UNC Tar Heels the Official NCDP Men's Basketball Team

4th Congressional District

Whereas, the UNC Tar Heels are a great men's basketball team; and (note semicolon and "and") ...

Whereas, legendary coach Dean Smith was a great, lifelong Democrat; therefore (semicolon and "therefore")

BE IT RESOLVED, that the UNC Tar Heels are now declared the NCDP's official Men's Basketball Team ; and (the "semicolon and" if necessary)

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that...



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