

VIRTUAL 2021 SUMMER
SEC MEETING
for NORTH CAROLINA DEMOCRATS!



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TABLE OF CONTENTS

LETTER FROM NCDP CHAIR - - - - - 4

MEETING AGENDA - - - - - 5

RULES OF THE DAY - - - - - 6

2021 WINTER SEC MEETING MINUTES - - - - - 8

PoO REVIEW COMMITTEE REPORT - - - - - 16

RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE REPORT - - - - - 28

PARLIMNATERIAN CHEAT SHEET - - - - - 72

OBTAINING RECOGNITION FROM CHAIR - - - - - 74

ZOOM FEATURES - - - - - 75

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LETTER FROM NCDP CHAIR

Dear SEC Members,

Thank you for joining us for the Summer SEC Meeting on August 7, 2021. While we hope to be returning to in-person meetings soon, the virtual world will always be a part of this work as we come together from all parts of North Carolina. It is my hope that this meeting, while virtual, is a meaningful way for us all to stay engaged with each other, keep organized, and cement our values and ideals as a party.

The State Executive Committee is vital to the success of the North Carolina Democratic Party - its input, decisions, and support enable the NCDP to remain strong and well-organized. I am grateful to each and every one of you for either serving as a member or registering for the meeting as an interested and engaged Democrat. Your participation is critical to the success of the party as a whole.

Thank you again for your commitment to electing Democrats in North Carolina. I am so excited for what is to come as we move closer to the 2022 midterm elections and do our part to Build Back Bluer!

Onward,



Dr. Bobbie J. Richardson
Chair, North Carolina Democratic Party

MEETING AGENDA

- 1) Call to Order
- 2) Moment of Silence
- 3) Pledge of Allegiance & Salute to the N.C. Flag
- 4) Declaration of Quorum
- 5) Approval of the Meeting Agenda
- 6) Approval of the Rules of the Day
- 7) Approval of Minutes from 2021 Winter SEC Meeting
- 8) NCDP Chair Report, Dr. Bobbie Richardson
- 9) NCDP State Officers Reports
- 10) Platform & Resolutions Committee Report
- 11) Plan of Organization Review Committee Report
- 12) New Business
- 13) Announcements
- 14) Adjournment



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RULES OF THE DAY

THE NORTH CAROLINA DEMOCRATIC PARTY | 2021 SUMMER SEC MEETING

RULE 1. Chair. The State Chair shall have general direction of the State Executive Committee meeting on the Zoom Application and shall be authorized to take such action as is necessary to maintain order. The Chair, with the guidance of the Parliamentarian designated at the convening of the meeting by the Chair, shall decide all questions of order, subject to an appeal by any member. Priority of meeting rules shall be (a) the Plan of Organization, (b) Special Rules of the Day adopted by the State Executive Committee, (SEC), and (3) Robert's Rules of Order, (Newly Revised, 12th Edition).

RULE 2. Obtaining Recognition. To obtain recognition from the State Chair, a member will use the Zoom Chatbox feature, which will be set up to alert the State Chair and NCDP Staff, by typing, "motion" or "second," or "amendment," or "debate," or "close debate" to obtain recognition. Members using the Zoom platform must use the Chatbox feature to obtain recognition. A member who is not using Zoom and is dialing from their phone, shall dial *9, (star/pound 9) to obtain recognition.

RULE 3. Limitations on Speaking and Debate. All members will be muted until recognized by the State Chair. No member shall speak in debate more than once on the same motion, resolution, or amendment. Debate is limited to two minutes per person on any item, motion, resolution, or amendment before the SEC. Five minutes shall be the total amount of debate on any item, motion, resolution, or amendment.

RULE 4. Privileged Motions. A "Point of Order" should only be made if the Party Plan of Organization, Rules of the Day, or Robert's Rules of Order are being violated by the State Chair or another member. "Point of Order" should be typed out in the Chatbox to alert NCDP Staff and the State Chair. A member must be prepared to state immediately the Point of Order being violated when recognized. A "Question or Point of Personal Privilege" should only be made if it concerns the rights of the assembly or the individual's ability to hear or otherwise participate and is urgent in nature. Neither "Point of Order" or "Question or Point of Personal Privilege" shall be used to debate a matter that is before the body. "Point of Order" and "Question or Point of Personal Privilege", should be typed out in the Chatbox to alert NCDP Staff and the State Chair. Members using Zoom must only use the Chatbox to be recognized.

RULE 5. Meeting Registration and Credentialed Voting. Only SEC members and designated proxies may participate in the SEC meeting. All registrations will be verified prior to the start of the meeting. Only verified members and proxies will be provided access to the 2021 Summer SEC Zoom meeting. Only members or proxies in attendance may vote. Registration and proxies must have been received by Thursday, August 5th, 2021 at 5:00 p.m. Registered Democrats who are not members of the SEC or proxies will be able to watch a live feed of the meeting on the NCDP's YouTube Channel.



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RULE 6. Types of Voting. The State Chair may take voice votes, use Zoom’s “raise hands” feature or “*9” feature, use Zoom polling, Google forms, or other electronic voting methods, unless prohibited by the Party Plan of Organization.

RULE 7. Agenda and Rules Modifications. The agenda, while pending, may be amended by majority vote. After its adoption, the agenda may be amended by two-thirds vote. The Rules of the Day, while pending, may be amended by majority vote. After adoption, the Rules of the Day may be amended by two-thirds vote.

RULE 8. Plan of Organization (“PoO”) Review Committee Report. The Chair of the Plan of Organization Review Committee will report on proposed amendment(s), which will be displayed to the members. For each section of the Party Plan to be amended, debate time shall conform to Rule 3 above. When debate time expires all debate will stop, and the State Chair will move to a vote on the pending amendment(s) without a motion to close debate. All approved amendments to the Party Plan of Organization shall be effective immediately upon the adjournment of the August 7, 2021 meeting, unless otherwise specified, as provided by Section 12.01 of the Plan of Organization.

RULE 9. Resolutions. The Resolutions and Platform (RPC) Committee Chair will report on resolutions which will be displayed to the SEC. Resolutions shall be approved by a majority vote. The Committee Chair may use a “Consent Agenda”. Individual debate limitations shall conform to Section 3 above. When debate time expires, all debate will cease and the State Chair will move to a vote on the pending resolution without a motion to close debate.

Rule 10. Quorum. Section 11.03 of the Plan of Organization establishes quorum as forty percent (40%) of persons constituting the voting membership of the SEC. If a quorum question is raised, the Chair will refer to the total persons present via the Zoom count report at that time. The Chair will note the time a quorum is present and no inquiry as to quorum may be made for a minimum of one (1) hour after that time.

RULE 11. Adjournment. The time set for adjournment is 4:00 p.m.. At 3:50 p.m., or immediately after conclusion of a pending vote, the Chair will make brief announcements. At 4:00 p.m., the Chair shall declare the meeting adjourned.



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2021 WINTER SEC MEETING MINUTES

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2021

In writing these minutes it is assumed that SEC Members have retained the full contents of the SEC Packet which was sent to them. This packet included the Agenda, the Rules of the Day, PoO Review Committee recommendations, Report of the Resolutions and Platform Committee, and many other pages of information.

MEETING BEGINS

- *The meeting was called to order at 1:14PM by State Chair Wayne Goodwin. NCDP Parliamentarian Sybil Mann presented the Statement of Inclusion from the NCDP Plan of Organization.*
- *State Young Democrats President Devonte Wilson led the Pledge of Allegiance.*
- *State Chair Wayne Goodwin led the Salute to North Carolina. After Chair Goodwin reminded everyone that more than 11,000 North Carolinians have died from COVID-19, he called for a Moment of Silence.*
- *Governor Roy Cooper addressed the SEC through a video. He congratulated everyone on their performance in 2020 and called for all of us to work to turn North Carolina Blue in 2022.*
- *Secretary Melvin Williams announced that with 534 SEC Members online, a Quorum had been established.*
- *The Chair asked if anyone objected to the Agenda which had been sent to SEC Members in advance. No one objected. Cliff Moone made a motion to adopt the Agenda. Jesse Goslen seconded the motion which was passed without objection.*
- *Mike Schaul asked if it was too late for him to make some motions. He was told that it was too late.*

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- *The next item was approval of the minutes of the February 29, 2020 SEC meeting. Julia Buckner made a motion to approve the minutes and Scott Huffman seconded it. Bob Hyman called attention to the fact that Jenny Marshall's name is included twice in the list of Chair Goodwin's appointees to the temporary Platform Committee for the 2020 DNC Convention. The Secretary 2 removed her name once. The minutes were then approved by a voice vote.*
- *The SEC then moved to consider approval of the minutes of the June 6, 2020 SEC meeting. Cliff Moone made a motion to amend. The State Chair explained why this motion was out of order. Cliff Moone withdrew the motion to amend.*



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- *The State Chair asked if there was any objection to passing the Minutes of the June 6, 2020 meeting. There was no objection and the Chair declared that the minutes had been adopted.*

STATE CHAIR SPEECH & EVENTS

- *State Chair Wayne Goodwin made his Chair's Report which included an emotional farewell speech. Even though it was difficult to do through Zoom, SEC Members across the state gave Wayne lots of cheers and applause.*

The State Chair then announced the following events in the Party's 2021 calendar:

1. *Precinct Organization, March 6 - March 20, 2021*
 2. *County Conventions, April 10th, 2021*
 3. *Make Up Date - County Conventions, April 17, 2021*
 4. *Congressional District Conventions, May 22, 2021*
 5. *Summer SEC Meeting, August 7, 2021*
- *Retiring Third Vice Chair Nida Allam made a report on her activities and gave a heartwarming farewell speech. She assured everyone that she will still be deeply active in the Party.*

REPORT ON APPROVING CHARTERS & AUXILIARIES

- *DNC Member attorney Shelia Huggins presented a detailed report on approving the charters of NCDP auxiliaries for the next two years. She made it clear that her committee recommended approval of the charters of all our auxiliaries. The approval recommendations were made in three different groups.*

Her report is as follows:

1. *Recommend approval of the following auxiliaries: AAC, AAPI, Coastal, Democratic Women, Interfaith, Labor, LGBTQ, Native American, Progressives, Seniors, Small Business, Transgender, YDNC, Veterans, and Rural Caucus that fully met the requirements*
 2. *Recommend approval of the following auxiliaries (substantially met the 3 requirements, noting that they may want to consider clarification on one requirement): Hispanic, Disability Issues.*
 3. *Recommend approval with the condition that certain changes are made to the bylaws or that approval be granted because the bylaws are in substantial compliance with national requirements and any needed changes be made in accordance with 11:03 of the PoO (if necessary): College Democrats, Teen Democrats*
- *Matt Hughes made a motion to approve the report of Shelia Huggins' committee. Audra Killingsworth seconded his motion. This motion was approved by a voice vote.*

Therefore, the State Chair proclaimed that all auxiliaries are now chartered.

- *Shelia Huggins then presented three new auxiliaries which are ready to be certified for the first time : the Disability Issues Caucus, the Inter-faith Caucus, and the Rural Caucus.*



- *Michael Evola spoke about the Disability Issues Caucus, its goals, its membership, and the reasons why it should be certified.*

The Disability Issues Caucus was then certified by a raised hands vote of 297 to 3.

- *Bryan Jenkins said the SEC need to approve all the auxiliaries which are up for certification as a block instead of one at a time.*
- *Rosanne Griffin said she could not get her Zoom voting device to work. Cynthia Wallace said she couldn't vote. Then she reported her voting device was fixed. Marcus Blankenship questioned the voting system being used at this meeting.*
- *Shelia Huggins recommended approval of the Inter-faith Caucus. Nida Allam, Brenda Pollard, Kennis Wilkins, and Wendy Ella May spoke in favor of this caucus. Larry Cormier spoke against the certification of this caucus.*

The SEC then voted to certify the Inter-Faith Caucus by a vote of 359 - 37. Erica Smith reported that she had voted "For" the Inter-Faith Caucus.

- *Shelia Huggins then recommended certification of the Rural Caucus. Janice Covington spoke against certifying this caucus because the officers can not be from 20 counties which are designated as "urban." Deborah Killingsworth said: "You can be involved without being in charge."*

The SEC then approved certification of the Rural Caucus by a vote of 356-20.

- *Phyllis Russell requested than an autopsy report on the 2020 election be given to every SEC member. Chair Wayne Goodwin and Executive Director Meredith Cuomo explained that many, many autopsy reports had already been delivered. Meredith invited people to email her to receive a copy of an autopsy report.*
- *Roxanne Griffin reported that the Zoom device would not let her vote and that she was in favor of certifying the Rural Caucus.*

NCDP 2021 BUDGET

- *NCDP's 2021 Budget was then brought before the SEC.*
- *Jessica Holmes said that she liked the idea of having a stipend for the State Chair but that the figure of \$25,000 recommended in the Budget "was not where the Party Chair's pay should be."*
- *David Dixon said that SEC Members had not been given a copy of the Budget in time. He said Members need it at least five days in advance.*
- *Phyllis Russell stated that she did not object to the expenditure side of the submitted budget, but she requested that the revenue side of the budget be provided to the SEC for review as well. Chair Goodwin stated that the SEC does not decide how the party raises its money. Meredith Cuomo said that the party "is in a good financial spot" and expects to raise the 2.5 million dollars needed for the budget.*



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- *Dr. Bobbie Richardson said she was recusing herself from the discussion of the Budget. Nazim Uddin asked why there was a large increase of \$500,000 for salaries in the Budget. ED Meredith Cuomo explained that many new positions are going to be added to the NCDP staff. She named each of these positions and explained why each of these positions is needed.*
- *Bob Hyman said there are a lot of contradictions in the Budget as presented.*

The SEC then voted to approve the 2021 Budget.

REPORT FROM PoO REVIEW COMMITTEE

- *Third Congressional District Chair Chris Hardee made a report from the Plan of Organization Review Committee which he chairs.*
- *He first presented Alternate Plans of Organization for Caldwell, Catawba, Cherokee, Wilkes, and Rockingham counties. Kevyn Creech expressed opposition to the Alternate Plan for Rockingham County.*
- *Therefore, Rockingham County's Alternate Plan was pulled away from the plans for the other four counties.*

The Alternate Plans for Caldwell, Catawba, Cherokee, and Wilkes were approved by a vote of 289-16.

- *The SEC then turned to consideration of the Rockingham County Alternate Plan of Organization. Kevyn Creech again expressed her disapproval of this plan.*
- *George Greene made remarks and gave some suggestions about this plan.*
- *Bob Hyman stated that the PoO does not allow the SEC to amend Alternate Plans of Organization. The SEC may approve, disapprove, or refer alternative plans back to a county with recommendations.*

The SEC then approved the Rockingham County Alternate Plan of Organization by a vote of 314-14.

- *Chris Hardee then presented a group of amendments to the PoO which deal with the structure of the PoO itself. Section 2.02 shall be amended by adding these words: "All voting members of the County Executive Committee shall be registered Democrats in the County."*
- *Section 3.02 shall be amended by adding these works: "All voting members of the Congressional District Executive Committee shall be registered Democrats in the Congressional District."*

These two amendments were approved by the SEC.

- *Chris Telesca proposed a change to Section 8.04. His motion was to reduce the number of members of the PoO Review Committee which can be appointed by the State Party Chair from nine to six. Dr. Bobbie Richardson expressed her opposition to this proposal. Nazim Uddin spoke in favor of this proposal.*



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- *This proposal was seconded by a person who did not clearly state their name.*
- *Shauna Williams spoke in favor of keeping the number of appointees to nine as it is now.*

Chris Telesca's motion about Section 8.04 was defeated.

- *Chris Telesca then made a motion to require that the PoO Review Committee must give advance notice of all its meetings to all Democrats. Pauline Lopez of Person County spoke about this motion.*
- *Cliff Moone then made a Point of Order that stated that a different section of the PoO would need to be amended to accomplish Chris Telesca's goal. That section is 14.02 which already requires a 14-day notice of PoO Review Committee meetings.*
- *Jay Calendine stated that 14.02 puts the burden of giving notice on the PoO Review Committee.*
- *Jesse Goslen spoke against Chris Telesca's motion and moved that it be referred back to the PoO Review Committee. Jim Davis seconded this motion. Eva Lee spoke in opposition to this Telesca motion. Scott Huffman expressed support for sending this motion back to the PoO Review Committee.*

Jesse Goslen's motion to refer this Telesca motion back to the PoO Review Committee was passed by a vote of 274 - 102.

- *Michael Evola made a motion to suspend the rules and extend this SEC meeting until 6:00PM. Mark Gibb of Guilford said it should only be extended to 5:30PM. Chris Hardee spoke in favor of extending the meeting until 6:00PM. Cynthia Wallace seconded Michael Evola's motion to extend the meeting until 6:00PM.*

This motion was passed by a vote of 360-30.

- *Senator Don Davis asked why are votes being held by division. Then he made a motion to adopt the PoO Review Committee's changes to section 8.04. Chris Hardee and Paulina Lopez of Person County spoke about this motion.*
- *All of the proposed changes in Section 8.04 can be found on page 39 of the SEC Program.*

The vote to approve Senator Davis' motion to adopt the proposed changes to Section 8.04 as recommended by the PoO Review Committee was approved by a vote of 216 - 84. Therefore, the proposed amendment was adopted.

- *The SEC then moved to the PoO Review Committee's proposal to change Section 6.01 Congressional District Conventions. This change would add this sentence: Elect from among the registered Democrats of the congressional district, one (1) member of the Plan of Organization Review Committee. This proposal is found on page 39 of the SEC packet. This proposal was passed by a vote of 280 - 20.*



AMENDMENTS WITHIN SEC PACKET

- *The SEC then moved to consideration of amendments to Sections 1.03, 1.05, 2.05, 2.11, and 12.07 which can be found on pages 40 - 43 of the SEC packet.*

Cynthia Wallace made a motion to close debate on these amendments and Chris Hardee seconded her motion. This motion was passed by a vote of 306-25.

The SEC then voted to approve these amendments by a vote of 317 - 35.

- *A video tribute to Wayne Goodwin was then played. Some of the Democrats who gave tributes to Wayne in the video were: Governor Roy Cooper, Elaine Marshall, Congresswoman Alma Adams, Senator Dan Blue, Jr., Dr. Bobbie Richardson, Matt Hughes, Nida Allam, Anna Tilghman, Doug Wilson, Chris Hardee, Cliff Moone, DD Adams, Jackson Goodwin and Madison Goodwin.*

STATE PARTY CHAIR NOMINATIONS

- *The floor was then opened for nomination for State Party Chair.*
- *Crystal Morrison, Dr. Cathy Graham, and Raul Carillo nominated Clayton Brooks.*
- *Eva Lee placed her own name in nomination.*
- *Congressman G. K. Butterfield nominated Bobbie Richardson and Mecklenburg County Chair Jane Whitley seconded her nomination. Adrian Domenech-Mercado of Pender County nominated Chris Telesca. Sam Brewer seconded his nomination.*

THESE RESULTS FOR STATE PARTY CHAIR WERE ANNOUNCED

1. *Bobbie Richardson - 394 votes - 80%*
 2. *Clayton Brooks - 63 votes - 12%*
 3. *Eva F. Lee - 21 votes - 4%*
 4. *Chris Telesca - 13 votes - 2%*
- *Chair Goodwin said the meeting will be extended until 7:30PM.*
 - *New NCDP Chair Dr. Bobbie Richardson made an acceptance talk and began to conduct the meeting.*
 - *Wally White nominated Clayton Brooks for First Vice Chair. Floyd McKissick and Wendy Ella May placed their own names into nomination for First Vice Chair.*

THESE RESULTS FOR FIRST VICE CHAIR WERE ANNOUNCED

1. *Floyd McKissick - 352 votes - 74%*
 2. *Clayton Brooks - 98 votes - 20%*
 3. *Wendy May - 27 votes - 5%*
- *At this point Chris Hardee made a motion to extend the meeting until 8:00PM. Julia Buckner seconded his motion.*

The motion passed by a vote of 272 - 32.



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- *The floor was opened for nominations for Second Vice Chair. Marilyn Carter was nominated by Vance County Chair Marcia Allen. Brunswick County Chair Tom Sapp seconded her nomination. Byron Gladden nominated himself. State Rep. Zack Hawkins nominated Matt Hughes. Mecklenburg County Chair Jane Whitley seconded his nomination.*

THESE RESULTS FOR SECOND VICE CHAIR WERE ANNOUNCED

1. *Matt Hughes - 282 votes*
2. *Marilyn Carter - 140 votes*
3. *Byron Gladden - 22 votes*

- *Cumberland County Party Chair Sharon Johnson nominated Valencia Handy for Third Vice Chair. Julia Buckner nominated Shannon Auer and Nervahna Crew seconded her nomination. Congresswoman Alma Adams nominated Drew Kromer.*

ELECTION RESULTS FOR THIRD VICE CHAIR - FIRST ROUND

1. *Shannon Auer - 181 votes - 42%*
2. *Drew Kromer - 143 votes - 34%*
3. *Valencia Handy - 103 votes - 24%*

ELECTION RESULTS FOR THIRD VICE CHAIR - SECOND ROUND

1. *Shannon Auer - 249 votes - 61%*
2. *Drew Kromer - 157 votes - 39%*

- *Maria Cervania nominated Angela Bridgman for Secretary.*
- *Carl Newman nominated Melvin Williams for Secretary.*
- *While the SEC Members were casting their ballots, Matt Hughes said: "It is important for everyone to recognize that we have at least one other thing to consider which is the Resolutions. We have a plethora of honorary resolutions to consider tonight honoring Wayne Goodwin and others and so I would ask for a unanimous consent that those resolutions be approved without objection and then after that if time allows, we do have one resolution that deals with SUPPORTING FAIR PRIMARY ELECTIONS."*
- *State Chair Richardson asked if there was a second to approve the honorary Resolutions unanimously. A Democrat whose name was not announced seconded the motion.*
- *Then when the State Chair asked for unanimous consent, several hands were raised to object to unanimous consent.*

Therefore, these Resolutions were not approved.

THESE RESULTS FOR SECRETARY WERE ANNOUNCED

1. *Melvin Williams - 298 - 77%*
2. *Angela Bridgman - 88 - 23%*

- *Angela Bridgman said: "It was an honor to stand for election and I congratulate Melvin Williams.*
- *Myrna Campbell made a motion to extend the meeting until 9:45PM.*



Cynthia Wallace seconded her motion. This motion was passed.

- *Someone asked if a quorum was still present. Chair Richardson replied that Zoom showed that 420 Members were still in the meeting.*
- *A motion to adjourn was made by a Democrat whose name was not spoken clearly. A second was made by a Democrat whose name was not spoken clearly. A majority voted to adjourn by show of hands.*
- *Chair Richardson stated that it was 9:56PM and that the Resolutions that were not considered at this meeting will be considered as Old Business at the next SEC meeting.*
- *The meeting then adjourned.*

*Respectfully submitted,
Melvin Williams, State Secretary
North Carolina Democratic Party*



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POO REVIEW COMMITTEE REPORT

PORC Recommendation 1 (Local Alternative Plans of Organization)

Due to the hardship in holding a County Executive Committee with several hundred members; the SEC, in 2019, approved lowering the quorum required for the CEC in Mecklenburg County. We recommend renewing that Alternate Plan of Organization from Mecklenburg County.

2.04 COUNTY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

When. The county chair shall issue a call for a meeting of the county executive committee periodically but not less than three (3) times each year.

Called Meetings. Additional meetings may be called in accordance with Section 12.01.

Business Permitted. The county executive committee may conduct any business as is required or necessary insofar as such business is consistent with the Plan of Organization.

Quorum. Thirty-five percent (35%) of the persons constituting the voting membership of the County Executive Committee shall constitute a quorum per section 2.01.

PORC Recommendation 2 (Local Alternative Plans of Organization)

Due to the hardship in holding a County Executive Committee with several hundred members; the SEC, in 2019, approved lowering the quorum required for the CEC in Wake County. We recommend approving this Alternate Plan of Organization for Wake County lowering quorum and including Regional Vice Chair roles.

2.04 COUNTY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

When. The county chair shall issue a call for a meeting of the county executive committee periodically but not less than three (3) times each year.

Called Meetings. Additional meetings may be called in accordance with Section 12.01.

Business Permitted. The county executive committee may conduct any business as is required or necessary insofar as such business is consistent with the Plan of Organization.

Quorum. Thirty-five percent (35%) of the persons constituting the voting membership of the County Executive Committee shall constitute a quorum per section 2.01.

2.03 OFFICERS OF THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Municipal and County Precinct Vice Chairs. Regional Vice Chair. In each county that contains two or more municipalities of a population of more than 60,000 persons each, officers in addition to the ones specified above shall be elected as follows:

1. ~~(a)~~ ~~a~~ vice chair for each such municipality who shall be elected by the precinct chair and vice chair of the precincts with registered voters within that municipality; and (b) a vice chair for those precincts not contained in such municipalities - if those precincts have a total population of more than 60,000 persons - who must be a resident of one (1) of those



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precincts and who shall be elected by the precinct chair and vice chair of those precincts not contained in the said municipalities.

2. If a municipality with less than 60,000 persons is contiguous to another municipality with more than 60,000 persons and a named Regional Vice Chair, and if the smaller municipality shares easily identifiable cultural, demographic, and/or geographic affinity with the larger municipality, the County Party Chair may recommend the smaller municipality fall under the purview of the larger municipality's Regional Vice Chair. Upon such recommendation, the chairs and vice chairs of the precincts with registered voters within each municipality will vote separately as representatives of each municipality on whether to accept the recommendation. If the recommendation passes in both municipalities, the smaller municipality shall remain under the purview and vote for the larger municipality's Regional Vice Chair until the smaller municipality's population exceeds 60,000 persons.

2.05 DUTIES OF COUNTY OFFICERS

<Insert after Treasurer>

Regional Vice Chairs. The duties of the Regional Vice Chairs shall be such as may be assigned by the County Chair or First Vice Chair and shall include the following:

1. Assist the First Vice Chair with planning and organizing county executive committee meetings and county conventions.
2. Provide direct support and guidance to precinct officers under their regional purview in consultation with the county executive officers, county staff, and applicable standing committees.
3. For precincts containing more than one municipal or county region, collaborate and coordinate efforts with the Regional Vice Chair/s who have constituents also in the precinct.
4. Assist the First Vice Chair in coordinating all precinct and party organizing efforts within the county, in consultation with the other officers and consistent with the strategic plan approved by the county executive committee.
5. Liaise with the appropriate Executive Officers regarding specific needs within precincts, subregions, or particular stakeholders within their regional purview.
6. Assist the County Chair with candidate outreach, candidate bench building, and/or party leadership building under their regional purview.
7. Carry out other duties as may be assigned by the county executive committee.
8. Transmit all records pertaining to the office to successor within ten (10) days of vacating office.

PORC Recommendation 3 (DEC Voting In Districts Wholly In A County)

Current voting on any District Exec Committee is weighted with the various County Chair and 1VC from each county carrying a large number of votes calculated based on population. The remaining District Officers and Exec members have one vote each. In Congressional Districts that are wholly in a single district the two county leaders can always outvote other district leaders on any divided issue. The Leadership from the 2nd and 12th have asked for a way to spread out that weighted vote among more people. Representatives from the 2nd & 12th District and Wake & Mecklenburg counties working with us join the PORC is recommending this amendment.

3.01 CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Members. There shall be a congressional district executive committee in each congressional district in North Carolina that shall be composed of:

1. The chair and first vice chair (or elected designee, [see Split Counties under Section 3.07](#)) of each county in the congressional district shall serve as voting representatives of their county, [except that a county's representation within a single county congressional district shall be 2 representatives from each county commission district within the congressional district, as well as the county chair and first vice chair if they reside within the congressional district \(see Single County Districts under Section 3.07\);](#)

Vacancies for Congressional District Executive Committee Members. Vacancies among members of the congressional district executive committee who represent their county on such committee shall be filled at a meeting of the appropriate county executive committee held within thirty (30) days following the creation of the vacancy. [Should a congressional district consist entirely of a county or a portion of that county, each vacancy of a representative from a county commission district shall be filled by a vote of the county executive committee members within the county commission district which has that vacancy.](#)

3.02 VOTING ON THE CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

County Representatives. The representatives of a county (or portion thereof) shall be entitled to cast one (1) vote for each three hundred (300) persons, or major fraction thereof, residing within the county and within the congressional district based upon the last decennial

census for all purposes including when voting for the nominating procedures under North Carolina General Statutes.

In the event that the representatives of a county should disagree on how their county's votes will be cast, then each shall cast exactly one-half (1/2) of the votes that their county is entitled to cast. If only one representative of a county is present at a meeting of the district executive committee and the other representative from that county on the district executive committee has not designated a proxy (see Section 12.05) or such proxy is not present, then such representative shall be entitled to cast all of the votes which the county is entitled to cast.

[Should a congressional district consist entirely of a county or a portion of that county, each representative of the county shall be entitled to cast an equal share of the county's one \(1\) vote for each three hundred \(300\) persons, or major fraction thereof, residing within the county and within the congressional district based upon the last decennial census for all purposes including when voting for the nominating procedures under North Carolina General Statutes.](#)



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All voting members of the Congressional District Executive Committee shall be registered Democrats in the Congressional District.

3.07 SPLIT COUNTIES AND SINGLE COUNTY CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICTS

SPLIT COUNTIES

Should a county be divided between two or more congressional districts, the county shall be entitled to two (2) representatives on the congressional district executive committee of each district in which any portion of the county is located. The county chair and first vice chair shall represent the county on the district executive committee in the district in which they reside. The same county convention at which the county officers are elected shall elect the balance of their entire representation on each such district executive committee. However, such representation on the district executive committee must be by **active registered** Democrats from such county residing in the congressional district to which they shall be elected,

ensuring ~~equal division~~ **representation of between men and women persons of different gender identities**. In voting on the balance of such district executive committee representation, only those Democrats present at the county convention, who reside in the congressional district shall be entitled to vote for and elect their representatives from the county to the congressional district executive committee.

SINGLE COUNTY CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICTS

Should a congressional district consist entirely of a county or a portion of that county, the county shall be entitled to two (2) representatives to the congressional district executive committee from each county commission district that is within the congressional district as well as the county chair and first vice who reside within the district. The same county convention at which the county officers are elected shall elect the representatives to the congressional district executive committee. However, the representatives from each county commission district within the congressional district must be registered Democrats residing in that county commission district and congressional district. The two (2) representatives from each county commission district shall be of different gender identities. Only those Democrats present at the county convention, who reside in the congressional district and within a county commission district shall be entitled to vote for and elect their representatives from that county commission district to the congressional district executive committee.

5.00 COUNTY CONVENTIONS

5.01 MEETING AND FUNCTION

Annual Meeting.

Order of Business – Odd-Numbered Years. The county convention, held in odd- numbered years, shall:

4. Elect, from among the active Democrats of the county, two members of the congressional district executive committee, which members shall be the chair and the first vice chair of the county executive committee, provided that in those counties which are divided between two or more congressional districts, the county's representatives on the congressional district executive committee shall be as set forth in **Split Counties** under Section 3.07. **Should the county or a portion of the county be within a single county congressional district, the convention shall elect two (2) representatives from each county commission district within the single county congressional district as set forth in Single County Districts under Section 3.07;**



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PORC Recommendation 4 (County BOE & Chair Appointments)

Current 2.06 was last amended during the "dark times" (McCrary Administration) when we had a 4 member BOE. It hasn't been updated to reflect the 2019 law that has the Governor appoint the local BOE Chair and the POO does not speak to it. This recommendation codifies what counties did in 2021 and follows the current model of selecting BOE members with confirmation by the County Executive Committee.

2.06 COUNTY BOARDS OF ELECTIONS

Method of Selection:

Members of the County Board of Elections. The county chair shall call a meeting of the county executive committee and, after consultation with the precinct chairs, submit three (3) names of registered Democrats, ranked in order of preference, as his or her recommendations for confirmation by the county executive committee. The county ~~executive committee chair~~ is encouraged to submit names that reflect diversity, including race and gender identity, when possible. Only when such recommendations shall be confirmed by a majority of the county executive committee members present and voting shall the three recommendations be submitted to the state chair. If the county executive committee refuses to confirm a person recommended by the county chair, then the floor shall be open for nominations for that position. Only when a nominee has received a majority vote of the county executive committee members present and voting shall the recommended name be submitted to the state chair. The State Board of Elections,

consistent with General Statutes, will appoint two (2) of the three (3) names submitted as members of the County Board of Elections.

Chair of the County Board of Elections. The county chair shall call a meeting of the county executive committee and, after consultation with the precinct chairs, submit his or her recommendation for confirmation by the county executive committee. Only when such recommendation shall be confirmed by a majority of the county executive committee members present and voting shall the recommendation be submitted to the state chair for appointment by the Governor. If the county executive committee refuses to confirm the person recommended by the county chair, then the floor shall be open for nominations for that position. Only when the nominee has received a majority vote of the county executive committee members present and voting shall the recommended name be submitted to the state chair. Per General Statutes, the selection of Chair of the County Board of Elections is subjective by the Democratic Governor. The Democratic Governor may amend the process of selection of the Chair as deemed necessary.

The time frame for the county executive committee to meet to act on these recommendations, the deadline for submitting recommendations to the state chair, and the manner by which such recommendations shall be submitted to the state chair shall be determined and set forth by the state chair. The process for making all recommendations are subject to automatic amendment to remain consistent with General Statutes.

Vacancies. In the event of a vacancy during the term of a member of the county board of elections, then the county executive committee shall use the same procedure as above but shall only be required to submit two (2) names to the state chair.

In the event of a vacancy during the term of a member of the county board of elections, if it is determined, by a majority of the elected officers of the county executive committee, that sufficient time does not exist

due to the next scheduled meeting of the state board of elections, an election, or pressing vital issues before the county board of elections, to give the required notice of a county executive committee meeting pursuant to the provisions of Section 12.01, the county chair may submit his or her recommendation to the state chair after obtaining confirmation of said recommendations from a majority of the county executive committee without holding a meeting. Attempts must be made to reach all members of the



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20

county executive committee and record of such attempts and the disposition of each attempt must be submitted to the secretary of the county executive committee within ten (10) days.

Qualifications of Members. No person may serve on the county board of elections who does not meet the requirements set forth for such office in the General Statutes of North Carolina.

PORC Recommendation 5 (Appointed Treasurer)

Treasurers have unique statutory requirements unlike any other party office. They are required by law to submit timely reports to the BOE and maintain accounts of the Party. Many counties struggle to find qualified candidates that are willing to stand for election or have folks run who are not qualified to do the job. Currently the State Treasurer is appointed by the State Chair and appears to be a good model. We recommend this amendment.

2.01 COMPOSITION OF COUNTY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Members. There shall be a county executive committee in each county composed of:

1. The chair and vice chair of the several precinct committees in the county;
2. The elected ~~or appointed~~ officers of the county executive committee;

2.03 OFFICERS OF THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Elected Officers. The county executive committee shall have as officers a chair, three (3) vice chairs, ~~and a secretary, and a treasurer.~~ The first vice chair must be of a different gender identity from the chair. Among the chair and three (3) vice chair offices, one (1) of these must be filled by a person of a racial or ethnic minority which constitutes at least twenty percent (20%) of the registered Democrats in that county and one of these offices must be filled by a person thirty-six (36) years of age or younger. Officers of a county executive committee shall be active Democrats residing within the county. No two (2) county

officers may be from the same immediate family residing in the same household. Gender, racial or ethnic, and age requirements need not be followed if filling a vacancy for an unexpired term but shall be adhered to when the office is filled for a full term.

Appointed or Ex-officio Officers. A Treasurer.

2.05 DUTIES OF COUNTY OFFICERS

Chair. The duties of the county chair shall include:

1. Preside at county executive committee meetings and county conventions;
2. Draft, in consultation with the county executive committee, a strategic plan outlining reasonable political goals for the county;
3. Execute the strategic plan approved by the county executive committee;
4. ~~In consultation with the elected officers; Appoint a Treasurer.~~ <renumber remaining section>

3.04 OFFICERS OF THE CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Elected Officers. The congressional district executive committee shall have as officers a chair, three (3) vice chairs, ~~and a secretary and a treasurer~~ elected pursuant to Section 6.01 . The first vice chair must be of a different gender identity from the chair. Where there are sufficient counties in a district, no two (2) ~~elected~~ officers shall live within the same county. Among the chair and three vice chair offices, one of these must be filled by a person of a racial or ethnic minority which constitutes at least twenty percent (20%) of the registered Democrats in that district, and one of these offices must be filled by a person thirty-six (36) years of age or younger. Any office not elected at the convention shall be considered vacant. Officers of a congressional district executive committee shall be registered Democrats residing within the congressional district.



Appointed or Ex-officio Officers. The **Treasurer and the** Congressional District Chair for Minority Affairs shall serve as an appointed officers.

3.05 DUTIES OF CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT OFFICERS

Chair. The duties of the congressional district chair shall include:

1. Preside at district executive committee meetings and district conventions;
2. Draft, in consultation with the district executive committee, a strategic plan outlining reasonable political goals for the district;
3. Execute the strategic plan approved by the district executive committee;
4. **In consultation with the elected officers; Appoint a Treasurer.** <renumber remaining section>

PORC Recommendation 6 (Immediate Past Chair Ex-Officio Officer)

Party Chairs at every level have a significant amount of knowledge and experience after having served. Frequently that knowledge is lost after their term ends. This allows for the Immediate Past Chair to remain on the board and to share their experience. We recommend this amendment.

2.03 OFFICERS OF THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Elected Officers. The county executive committee shall have as officers a chair, three (3) vice chairs, a secretary, and a treasurer. The first vice chair must be of a different gender identity from the chair. Among the chair and three (3) vice chair offices, one (1) of these must be filled by a person of a racial or ethnic minority which constitutes at least twenty percent (20%) of the registered Democrats in that county and one of these offices must be filled by a person thirty-six (36) years of age or younger. Officers of a county executive committee shall be active Democrats residing within the county. No two (2) county officers may be from the same immediate family residing in the same household. Gender, racial or ethnic, and age requirements need not be followed if filling a vacancy for an unexpired term but shall be adhered to when the office is filled for a full term.

Appointed or Ex-officio Officers. The Immediate Past County Chair shall be an ex-officio officer of the County Executive Committee but shall not count when constituting quorum of the County Executive Committee.

3.04 OFFICERS OF THE CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Elected Officers. The congressional district executive committee shall have as officers a chair, three (3) vice chairs, a secretary and a treasurer elected pursuant to Section 6.01. The first vice chair must be of a different gender identity from the chair. Where there are sufficient counties in a district, no two (2) officers shall live within the same county. Among the chair and three vice chair offices, one of these must be filled by a person of a racial or ethnic minority which constitutes at least twenty percent (20%) of the registered Democrats in that district, and one of these offices must be filled by a person thirty-six (36) years of age or younger. Any office not elected at the convention shall be considered vacant. Officers of a congressional district executive committee shall be registered Democrats residing within the congressional district.

Appointed or Ex-Officio Officers. The Congressional District Chair for Minority Affairs shall serve as an appointed officer. **The Immediate Past District Chair shall be an ex-officio officer of the District Executive Committee but shall not count when constituting quorum of the District Executive Committee.**

4.03 APPOINTED AND EX-OFFICIO OFFICERS

The state chair shall appoint a treasurer, a sustaining fund chair or up to three sustaining fund co-chairs, a chair for minority affairs and a state advisor for the Teen Dems, all of whom shall serve at the pleasure of the state chair as appointed officers and all of whom shall be voting members of the State Executive **Council Committee**. The state chair shall appoint up to 5 **additional** persons to serve on the Sustaining Fund Committee. These members shall be non-voting Ex- Officio Members of the State Executive Council. **The Immediate Past State Chair shall be an ex-officio officer of the State Executive Committee but shall not count when constituting quorum of the State Executive Council.**



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The Association of County/District Chairs: There shall be an association of at least the one hundred county chairs and the congressional district chairs. They shall elect from their members a president and other officers as are necessary. The president shall serve as ex-officio voting officer of the North Carolina Democratic Party.

<Editor's Note: this change merely codifies in the Plan language from the Bylaws of this group>

4.06 STATE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

Composition. The members of the state executive council shall be: the state chair, elected officers, appointed officers, ex-officio officers of the State Executive Committee ~~each of the three state vice chairs, the secretary, the treasurer, the chair or co-chairs of the Sustaining Fund, the chair for minority affairs, the advisor to the Teen Dems,~~ the state presidents of all state auxiliary organizations with by-laws approved by the state executive committee, the congressional district chairs, non-voting Ex-Officio Members, the members of the Democratic National Committee from North Carolina, the national committeeman and the national committeewoman of the Young Democrats of North Carolina, and three at-large members appointed by the state chair. These three members appointed by the state chair shall reasonably reflect the geographic, racial, ethnic, and gender makeup of registered Democrats in North Carolina. The state chair shall serve as chair of the state executive council.

<Editor's Note: this change merely cleans up language in the Plan>

PORC Recommendation 7a (NCDP Finance Committee)

In an effort to streamline SEC meetings, a Finance Committee is created as a subset of the Executive Council to draft the State Budget and allow more input in its creation. We recommend this amendment.

8.00 POLICY AND STANDING COMMITTEES 8.05 STATE FINANCE COMMITTEE

Composition. The State Finance Committee shall be composed of the State Treasurer who shall Chair the Committee. The State Chair shall appoint six (6) members of the State Executive Council, and four (4) At-Large members to the State Finance Committee. The Executive Director shall be a non-voting member of the committee.

Meetings. The committee shall meet at the call of the Chair and shall propose a bi-annual budget to the State Executive Council, for its consideration, on or before the tenth (10th) of January of any odd numbered year.

PORC Recommendation 7b (SEC Candidate Filing Period)

In an effort to streamline SEC meetings, Candidates for NCDP State Office will file in advance. This also allows for more transparency by allowing ample time for due diligence of candidates. We recommend this amendment.

4.02 ELECTED OFFICERS

Date of Election. In each odd-numbered year, the state chair shall convene the state executive committee prior to March 1 for the purpose of electing its officers from those duly filed candidates.

Candidate Filing. Candidates for elected Office of the State Executive Committee must file for the office they intend to seek on a form, designated by the Executive Director, online or at State Party Headquarters during the filing period. Filing for office shall be open during a period of 60 days prior to the State Executive Committee meeting convened prior to March 1 of each odd-numbered year and shall close 21 days prior to the same meeting. Candidates may only be nominated from the floor of the State Executive Committee if there are no filed and qualified candidates by the time of the election.



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PORC Recommendation 7c (Streamline SEC Meetings)

The SEC Streamline select committee suggested changes to SEC agenda's to more balance SEC meetings.

- Shift the approval of Affiliated Orgs to the odd numbered Summer SEC.
- Only hear Resolutions from the P&R once per year (during the summer meeting).
- POO Amendments presented to SEC for an up/down/refer back vote.
- Following DNC model, create a Finance Sub-committee of Exec Council to deliberate and modify draft budget from staff. Council still can amend. Present Summary to SEC for an up/down/refer back vote only. No amendments on the floor.
- Create filing period ahead of SEC for officer/DNC elections, prohibit running from the floor. We recommend these amendments.

4.07 STATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Regular Meetings. The state chair shall call a meeting of the state executive committee each year prior to March 1. In addition, the state chair shall call a meeting of the state executive committee at least once more during the calendar year to provide members with an update on party activities and to conduct such other business as may be necessary.

Called Meetings. Upon written receipt of a petition from forty percent (40%) of the state executive committee, the state chair shall call a meeting of the full state executive committee within thirty (30) days.

4.08 ORDER OF BUSINESS OF THE STATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETINGS HELD PRIOR TO MARCH 1

Each year, the state chair shall convene ~~the~~ a state executive committee prior to March 1. At such meeting, it shall be the duty of the state chair to publicly announce and enter into the proceedings of that meeting the following as the first order of business:

- 1) The two-week period of time in which all precinct meetings are to be held in accordance with Section 1.04. Except that in a presidential election year, the state chair shall designate the exact date in which precinct meetings are to be held in accordance with Section 1.04
2. The eight (8) day period in which annual county conventions are to be held in accordance with Section 5.01. Except that in a presidential election year, the state chair shall designate the exact date in which county conventions are to be held in accordance with Section 5.01.
3. The exact date at which congressional district conventions are to be held each year in accordance with Section 6.01.



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4. The exact date, time, and place at which the state convention is to be held each even- numbered year in accordance with Section 6.02.
5. In promulgating the dates for county, district, and state conventions, the state chair shall set the dates for such conventions so as to provide a reasonable time between all such meetings for the resolutions adopted by the various conventions to be presented to and considered by the Resolutions and Platform Committee at the state convention.
6. In each year, the state chair shall announce **or publish** the number of votes to which each county is entitled at the congressional district conventions and at the biennial state convention.
- ~~7. The Chair of the Affiliated Organizations Committee shall present a report of its review of the new applications for recognition as a chartered affiliated organization of the North Carolina Democratic Party and applications for renewal of the charter of affiliated organizations, for consideration and approval of the by-laws of each organization by the State Executive Committee. The constitutions or by-laws of the affiliated organizations are required to meet criteria as outlined in 11.00 AUXILIARIES AND CAUCUSES OF THE NORTH CAROLINA DEMOCRATIC PARTY.~~
- ~~8. Each year, to receive for information the most recent financial statement of the Party and to approve an annual budget prepared and submitted by the state executive council.~~

4.09 OTHER BUSINESS

At the Winter Meeting, held before March 1, in an odd numbered year:

1. The State Chair shall conduct the election of State Officers.
2. Receive for information the most recent financial statement of the Party and vote to approve an annual budget prepared the Finance Committee and submitted by the State Executive Council or refer it back to the Council.

At the Summer Meeting in an odd numbered year:

1. The Chair of the Affiliated Organizations Committee shall present a report of its review of the new applications for recognition as a chartered affiliated organization of the North Carolina Democratic Party and applications for renewal of the charter of affiliated organizations, for consideration and approval of the by-laws of each organization by the State Executive Committee. The constitutions or by-laws of the affiliated organizations are required to meet criteria as outlined in 11.00 AUXILIARIES AND CAUCUSES OF THE NORTH CAROLINA DEMOCRATIC PARTY
2. Receive for information a report from the Resolutions and Platform Committee and consider any Resolutions recommended for adoption.
3. Receive and consider the report of the DNC Delegate Selection Plan. This only applies to the Summer SEC meeting prior to a DNC National Convention.



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At the Winter Meeting, held before March 1, in an even numbered year:

1. The State Chair shall conduct the election of Members of the Democratic National Committee.
2. Receive for information the most recent financial statement of the Party and vote to approve an annual budget prepared the Finance Committee and submitted by the State Executive Council or refer it back to the Council.

At the Summer Meeting in an even numbered year:

1. Receive for information a report from the Resolutions and Platform Committee and consider any Resolutions recommended for adoption.
2. Any other business required by as a part of the DNC Delegate Selection Plan

The State Executive Committee shall receive, at any duly called meeting, any report and vote to approve any amendments referred to it from the Plan of Organization Review Committee or refer them back to committee for further consideration.

The sState eExecutive cCommittee shall, as the need arises and as North Carolina General Statutes direct, create any sectional committee to nominate, replace, or recommend any Democratic candidate, nominee, or elected official.

11.03 PROCESS TO REQUEST AFFILIATION OR REAFFIRM AFFILIATION OR SUBMIT BY-LAWS

2. Each affiliated organization shall re-apply to the committee in writing for recognition by ~~September 1~~ April 1 of each ~~even-odd~~ numbered year.

PORC Recommendation 7d (Clarify PORC process)

This clarifies the process of POO Amendments and only applies if Recommendation 7c passes. We recommend this amendment.

8.04 PLAN OF ORGANIZATION REVIEW COMMITTEE

Matters for Consideration: The Plan of Organization Review Committee shall consider all proposed amendments to the Plan of Organization. For an amendment to be considered by the State Executive

Committee, said amendment must be reviewed and receive a favorable or neutral recommendation from a majority of the members of the Plan of Organization Review Committee present and voting. An amendment not receiving a favorable or neutral recommendation from the Committee may be brought to the floor of a State Executive Committee meeting for consideration only after a motion to consider said amendment is adopted by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of those State Executive Committee members or their proxies present and voting pursuant to Section 4.09.



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13.01 POWER TO AMEND

The state executive committee shall, at any duly called meeting, have the power to amend this Plan of Organization, pursuant to Section 4.09. Pursuant to Section 8.04, all amendments to this Plan of Organization shall be reviewed by the Plan of Organization Review Committee prior to consideration by the State Executive Committee. The title of any proposed amendment must be included in the meeting notice provided for in this Plan of Organization for the meeting at which the proposed amendment will be considered. Any amendment adopted by the state executive committee including those herein contained, unless otherwise specified, shall be effective immediately and remain in effect until and unless the same is repealed or amended. All amendments to this Plan of Organization must be approved by two-thirds (2/3) vote of the members of the state executive committee present and voting. The content of any proposed amendment shall be uploaded on the NCDP website 14 days prior to the SEC meeting and emailed to all SEC members 14 days prior to the meeting.



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PLATFORM & RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE REPORT

Dear Fellow SEC Members & Democrats,

It is my honor to present to the State Executive Committee the Report of the Resolutions and Platform Committee.

The Committee met twice to consider the resolutions that have come from the grassroots of our party beginning at this year's precinct meetings, county conventions, and district conventions. The Committee received several hundred resolutions that were divided up among subcommittees to study, revise, and recommend a favorable report. The resolutions as part of this report received a favorable report by the entire committee and in most cases a favorable report at the subcommittee level.

The Committee considered prior year's resolutions, current Democratic platforms at the state and national level, and pending legislation to determine if a resolution offered a new or different expansion or support of legislation and/or policies that were consistent with Democratic Party principles and would not be overly divisive amongst Democratic membership. The Committee's purpose is to review resolutions passed at the local level, edit, and recommend resolutions that generally fit that criterion and recommend resolutions that the Committee believed most Democrats would agree could be recommended at the State Executive Committee in order to streamline the resolutions process for the convention.

The report you have before you is a comprehensive policy agenda for the Democratic Party focused on protecting democracy, dismantling systemic racial injustice, bolstering healthcare, supporting public education, addressing our global climate emergency. In short this policy agenda if enacted would mean a North Carolina and country that is better educated, healthier, safer, and puts more money in people's pockets.

Over the next year we will be calling upon each of you to help us craft next year's State Party Platform, which will be the first time the State Party has adopted a platform for the midterm elections in several decades. This will be a team effort that will put our party's platform on the side of North Carolinians who want a government that reflects the popular will of the people.

Sincerely,



Commissioner Matt Hughes

Chair, Resolutions and Platform Committee

Second Vice Chair, North Carolina Democratic Party



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PLATFORM & RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE REPORT (continued)

RESOLUTION HONORING THE LIFE AND CONTRIBUTIONS OF SENATOR MARC BASNIGHT

WHEREAS, Marc Basnight, our state's longest serving legislative leader, passed away on December 28, 2020; and

WHEREAS, Senator Marc Basnight, served in the North Carolina Senate from 1985 through 2011, much of that time as the Senate's President Pro-Tempore; and

WHEREAS, Senator Marc Basnight was a champion of our state's public universities, transportation, and the environment during his time as a legislative leader; and

WHEREAS, Senator Marc Basnight helped found the UNC Cancer Hospital after losing his wife to cancer, believing that North Carolinians deserved a world-class hospital for cancer research and treatment and created the University Cancer Research Fund, a \$50 million annual investment for cancer research; and

WHEREAS, Senator Marc Basnight championed a \$3.1 billion higher education bond issue, which was the largest such bond in American history at the time; and

WHEREAS, Senator Marc Basnight focused on helping rural areas and small communities around the state starting with his 1977 appointment to the State Board of Transportation, where he worked to improve roads and bridges in the northeastern part of North Carolina; and

WHEREAS, Senator Marc Basnight always made sure rural communities received their share of state resources, including water-sewer bonds, transportation funding, school funding, and economic development opportunities; and

WHEREAS, Senator Marc Basnight believed historic preservation and cultural arts funding was one way rural areas could grow and thrive as communities that would attract tourists and increase economic growth; and

WHEREAS, during his time as a state senator, Senator Marc Basnight would advocate for state agencies to hire local people for projects in his district and elsewhere; and

WHEREAS, during his time in the North Carolina Senate, Senator Marc Basnight mentored many of the state's Democratic leaders, including former Governor Beverly Perdue, former U.S. Senator Kay Hagan, and former Lieutenant Governor Walter Dalton; and

WHEREAS, Senator Marc Basnight retired from politics in January 2011 and fought ALS for nearly a decade; and

WHEREAS, as the leader of the North Carolina Senate, Senator Marc Basnight left his mark on both the institution itself and North Carolina as a result; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the North Carolina Democratic recognizes the life and contributions of Senator Marc Basnight for the impact he had on North Carolina and will continue to have on our state for generations to come.



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RESOLUTION HONORING THE LIFE AND CONTRIBUTIONS OF REPRESENTATIVE MELANIE WADE GOODWIN

WHEREAS, Melanie Wade Goodwin, a devoted wife, mother, and daughter, passed away on September 1, 2020, after a courageous battle with cancer; and

WHEREAS, Representative Melanie Wade Goodwin attended the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill where she earned a Bachelor of the Arts in English while also being a member of the all-female a capella group the Loreleis; and

WHEREAS, upon graduation Representative Melanie Wade Goodwin worked for the North Carolina Commission on Women, where she helped domestic violence shelters statewide and served as a delegate to the United Nations 4th World Conference on Women in Beijing, China; and

WHEREAS, Representative Melanie Wade Goodwin attended Campbell University where she earned her Juris Doctorate and upon graduation opened her own law firm focusing on family law and representing injured workers in both Hamlet and Rockingham for many years; and

WHEREAS, Representative Melanie Wade Goodwin represented Montgomery and Richmond Counties from 2004 to 2010 in the North Carolina House of Representatives; and

WHEREAS, Representative Melanie Wade Goodwin sponsored legislation that strengthened investments in public education and rural economic development, helped improve public health and the courts system; and she always championed women's rights and women's health; and

WHEREAS, as Chair of the Elections Law Committee, Representative Melanie Wade Goodwin brought about progressive, good government, voter-friendly changes to North Carolina laws, and proved instrumental in passage of laws that improved the integrity of elections and the campaign process; and

WHEREAS, Representative Melanie Wade Goodwin introduced the legislation adopting the Salute to the Flag of North Carolina as the Official Pledge to the State Flag, codifying the Tar Heel version of the Pledge of Allegiance; and

WHEREAS, Representative Melanie Wade Goodwin was the first legislator to give birth while holding office in the North Carolina General Assembly, which prompted then-Speaker of the House Joe Hackney to set aside an additional office in the Legislative Building for Representative Goodwin to nurse and care for her newborn while still serving as a lawmaker; and

WHEREAS, Representative Melanie Wade Goodwin is survived by her loving husband, former State Insurance Commissioner, former State Representative, and NCDP Chairperson Wayne Goodwin, and their children Madison and Jackson; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the North Carolina Democratic Party recognizes and honors former Representative Melanie Wade Goodwin for her tireless efforts on behalf of hardworking North Carolinians and extends our deepest condolences to the Wade and Goodwin families.



RESOLUTION HONORING THE LIFE AND CONTRIBUTIONS OF NANCY GULLEDGE RORIE

WHEREAS, Nancy Gulledge Rorie, a beloved member of and leader in Democratic Party politics in North Carolina passed away on July 10, 2020; and

WHEREAS, Nancy invested so much energy and time into her political work, out of a conviction that it would make her community, state and nation a better place for all, serving as the President of the Democratic Women of North Carolina, Chair of the Union County Democratic Party, President of the Democratic Women of Union County, and through her consistent commitment to increasing the Union County Democratic Party she was instrumental in finding and mentoring local candidates to run for local office, Nancy could provide a roadmap on where the candidate should go, events to attend, list of people to meet and learn the important issues. It was always nice to know Nancy was steering the ship and the knowledge she had would never let you swim alone; and

WHEREAS, Nancy served as a delegate to numerous state and district conventions, a member of the State Executive Committee of the North Carolina Democratic Party, a precinct chair for many years, and organized countless local precincts over many election cycles in Union County; and still found time each Sunday after church to drop off bags of food to the Shelter; and

WHEREAS, Nancy was committed to fostering the next generation of Democrats while preserving and celebrating the achievements of those who came before, Nancy served as the Democratic Women of North Carolina’s historian, provided guidance in starting new Democratic Women chapters, mentored leaders in our Party at all levels, and advised countless candidates for office; and

WHEREAS, Nancy believed strongly in public service, she worked many years as a court reporter for the Superior Court of the State of North Carolina and continued her service to the party and the public through her appointment as a citizen member of the North Carolina Board of Mortuary Science (now known as the North Carolina Board of Funeral Service); and

WHEREAS, in recognition of her many years of public service and contributions to the state and to her community, Nancy was awarded North Carolina’s highest civilian honor, the Order of the Long Leaf Pine in 2012 by Governor Beverly Eaves Perdue, and was named the Democratic Woman of the Year in 2010 by the Democratic Women of North Carolina; and

WHEREAS, Nancy touched countless lives, helped numerous candidates, and made our Party and our State better while inspiring others to do the same. Her tireless dedication to the Democratic Women and to the North Carolina Democratic Party will be missed terribly, and the annual Union County fundraiser has been named the Nancy G. Rorie Get Out the Vote Rally in her honor.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Democratic Women of North Carolina that we honor the life and contributions of Nancy Gulledge Rorie--wife, mother, grandmother, loving friend, colleague, leader and loyal Democrat—she will continue to lift us as we pay forward her steadfast commitment to our Democratic ideals. It is by her example that we will strive to leave all better and stronger than we found it.

A RESOLUTION IN HONOR AND MEMORY OF CHARLES M. JOHNSON, WORLD WAR II VETERAN AND NORTH CAROLINA DEMOCRAT

WHEREAS, Charles Johnson of Nash County was born in Johnston County in 1921 and dedicated himself and his life to freedom and duty. One way he exhibited that dedication was his active commitment and participation in the mission of the North Carolina Democratic Party;

WHEREAS, before then he volunteered for military service in World War 2 in the US Army Air Corps in the field of electronics and radar, and was one of a special group of enlisted chosen to continue their education at the University of Geneva in Switzerland. For over seven decades post-war Charles remained a faithful, lifetime member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW), Disabled American Veterans (DAV), and the American Legion;

WHEREAS, a long-time friend of thousands of Democrats statewide over the years, Charles dutifully served as a member of the NCDP State Executive Committee and NCDP Executive Council, and was elected as a delegate to many county, district, State, and national conventions over the decades. For example, he remained in continuous service on the executive and finance committees of his local and the state Democratic Party since 1978. Further, he was elected a NC delegate to the Democratic National Conventions in 1988, 1992, 1996, 2000, 2004, 2008, and 2012;

WHEREAS, most Democrats remember Charles for two things: His decades of service as Chairman of the Party's Sustaining Fund (and membership on the NCDP Executive Council) and as the World War 2 veteran who regularly led our conventions and State meetings in the Pledge of Allegiance. His patriotism and love of our Country resounded through every word of the Pledge;

WHEREAS, Charles also believed in the power of public education and public investments, as well as the values of hard work, duty, and pursuing opportunities, justice and equality for all. His life was a testament to those goals. For example, Charles served on the Nash County Board of Education in the 1960s and for many years served on the board of trustees for Nash Community College, an institution he helped create and for its students he established multiple scholarships;

WHEREAS, in recognition of his lifetime of unselfish contributions and service - including a 40 year career as a State employee with the NC Department of Environment and Natural Resources - then-Governor Beverly Perdue bestowed upon him the Order of the Longleaf Pine, one of the highest honors the Governor can bestow on a North Carolina resident;

WHEREAS, as he entered his 99th year, his dedication and willingness to continue his active participation in NCDP events inspired us all. Recently Governor Roy Cooper appointed Charles Johnson to the Council on Aging;

WHEREAS, Charles passed away on December 11, 2020; and,

WHEREAS, like all who knew him, the NC Democratic Party will miss Charles Johnson's ever-cheerful smile and great insights and tireless contributions to making our State better for future generations.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the North Carolina Democratic Party Executive Council hereby considers all of the above and unanimously adopts pass a memorial resolution thanking Charles Johnson, and honoring the service and legacy of Charles Johnson.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, and on behalf of the many friends and admirers of this great American, the NC Democratic Party and its officers and Executive Council today joins the family, loved ones, and friends of Charles Johnson in mourning our loss and celebrating his life.



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RESOLUTION HONORING STATE CHAIR WAYNE GOODWIN FOR HIS SERVICE TO THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY AND NORTH CAROLINA

WHEREAS, G. Wayne Goodwin has served the North Carolina Democratic Party for over half his life, including as president of the Young Democrats of North Carolina, county chair, district chair, chair of the Platform and Resolutions Committee, and most recently state party chair; and

WHEREAS, Chair Wayne Goodwin grew up in humble beginnings in his hometown of Hamlet, North Carolina; and

WHEREAS, Chair Wayne Goodwin had the opportunity to attend the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill as a Morehead Scholar, where he received both his undergraduate and juris doctorate degrees; and

WHEREAS, Chair Wayne Goodwin was elected to the North Carolina House of Representatives in 1996 after representing injured workers and families with insurance claims;

WHEREAS, Chair Wayne Goodwin was a champion for public education, economic development, public safety, clean water and clean air, election reform, and a healthcare bill of rights during his eight years serving in the North Carolina House; and

WHEREAS, Chair Wayne Goodwin was appointed by former Insurance Commissioner Jim Long to serve as Assistant General Counsel and Assistant Insurance Commissioner for four years; and

WHEREAS, Chair Wayne Goodwin was elected Insurance Commission by the voters of North Carolina to succeed Commissioner Long in 2008 and was re-elected in 2012; and

WHEREAS, as Insurance Commissioner saved North Carolina consumers over \$4.2 billion, achieved the lowest automobile insurance in the country; and rejected many insurance rate increases during his tenure that were further upheld by the courts; and

WHEREAS, Chair Wayne Goodwin ran for Chair of the North Carolina Democratic Party following the 2016 election as another step in his long public service career to the state and was elected in 2017 and re-elected in 2019; and

WHEREAS, during his time as chairperson, Wayne Goodwin was instrumental in our state party's break the majority efforts, a historic number of Democratic members of the Supreme Court, the re-election of Governor Roy Cooper; and

WHEREAS, Chair Wayne Goodwin traveled to a record number of counties by a state chair in recent years with a particular interest in rural counties to support our rural Democrats; and

WHEREAS, under his tenure as chair the North Carolina Democratic Party, the party had a record amount in coordination in both 2018 and 2020; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the North Carolina Democratic Party thanks Chair Wayne Goodwin for his quarter century of service to our beloved Democratic Party.

RESOLUTION SUPPORTING FAIR PRIMARY ELECTIONS

WHEREAS, the North Carolina Democratic Party is grateful for the help and support in elections over the years from the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee (DCCC) and the Democratic Senatorial Campaign Committee (DSCC); and

WHEREAS, the North Carolina Democratic Party fully supports fair primary elections to nominate its candidates for partisan office; and

WHEREAS, Our Democratic Party is a grassroots organization; and

WHEREAS, the North Carolina Democratic Party supports the right of the Tarheel State's Democrats to democratically choose their candidates without big money influence so that all primary candidates – rich or poor -- have a fair shot at nomination based on their issues advocacy and experience; and

WHEREAS, the North Carolina Democratic Party strongly holds that Tar Heel Democrats are best suited to choose candidates who will win elections in the Tar Heel State; and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the North Carolina Democratic Party strongly urges both the DSCC and DCCC to support Tarheel Democrats and the nation by refraining from donations to candidates in North Carolina Democratic Party primaries; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the North Carolina Democratic Party strongly urges that the DSCC and the DCCC support All of the NCDP's nominees for Congress and the Senate; and finally

BE IT RESOLVED, the NCDP State Executive Committee requests that the Chair of the North Carolina Democratic Party and the North Carolina Democratic Party representatives to the Democratic National Committee convey this resolution to the DCCC and the DSCC.

Agriculture, Environment, and Healthcare

A RESOLUTION TO PAY FAMILY CAREGIVERS WHO PROVIDE HOME HEALTH CARE SERVICES

WHEREAS, 2015 was the first year nationally that more money was spent on home care than nursing home care, a trend that will continue as nursing home care becomes too expensive for many American families; and

WHEREAS, about 41 million Americans provide care without pay to a family member, and do so for an average of 16 hours per week, according to a 2019 study by the AARP Public Policy Institute; and

WHEREAS, family caregivers often are forced to take unpaid leave or quit their jobs to care for a family member, thus losing their paychecks, retirement and pension benefits as well as social security benefits; and

WHEREAS, a few programs exist that give stipends/financial aid to family members who care for US military veterans and eligible Medicaid recipients in some states; however, most Medicaid programs do not permit spouses and parents of minor children to be paid caregivers; and



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WHEREAS, Medicare pays nothing for in-home care provided by family members and only pays professional home health service providers for intermittent skilled nursing, physical and occupational therapy, medical social services, and home health aide services, leaving the bulk of custodial and personal care to be provided by family members; and

WHEREAS, a number of European countries (e.g., Austria, France, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands, and Sweden) incorporate cash-for-care schemes within the framework of their Long Term Care plans to give disabled or elderly people the opportunity to choose among different kinds of care and care providers, and to allow recipients to compensate and employ family members who provide custodial and personal care; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the North Carolina Democratic Party calls on the United States Congress to create a cash-for-care plan for disabled Medicare recipients that allows beneficiaries a certain amount of funds based on their need for care to be spent on securing the necessary care for themselves that is aligned with their medical, financial, and personal circumstances, including the option to employ family members to provide custodial and personal care;

RESOLVED, that the North Carolina Democratic Party urges the North Carolina General Assembly to revise its Medicaid rules to allow spouses and parents of minor children to be paid caregivers and make free caregiver training and certification available through NC's Community Colleges; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the North Carolina Democratic Party calls on the United States Congress to pass a law that guarantees Social Security Credits for workers who have to spend time outside the workforce to care for dependent children or sick or disabled family members to improve the adequacy of Social Security benefits, as well as work toward gender equality as it is generally women whose gaps in workforce participation lead to fewer years of contributions, lower lifetime average earnings, and consequently lower Social Security payments.

A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF ADOPTION OF NC MOMNIBUS BILL

WHEREAS, the mortality rate for Moms is rising; and

WHEREAS, this crisis is most severe for Black Moms, dying 3 to 4 times the rate of other races; and

WHEREAS, we recognize the need for important policies such as 12-month postpartum Medicaid coverage, investments in rural maternal health, the promotion of a diverse perinatal workforce and implementation of implicit bias trainings; and

WHEREAS, the NC Momnibus will help fill the gaps in existing legislation to comprehensively address maternal health with a strong focus on the Black Maternal Health Crisis in state and federal laws; and

WHEREAS, the national and statewide push is to end preventable maternal mortality and close racial and ethnic disparities in outcomes for all women, their children and all of our communities; and

WHEREAS, the pending federal bill directs the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) and other agencies to address maternal health outcomes among



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minority populations. HHS must (1) establish task forces to address social determinants of health, maternal mental and behavioral health, and other topics; and (2) award grants for maternal mortality review committees, innovative maternity care models, and other purposes. The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services must establish a perinatal payment demonstration project. The Department of Housing and Urban Development and the Department of Transportation must report on the impact of housing and transportation during prenatal and postpartum periods, respectively. The Department of Veterans Affairs must submit a plan for maternity care coordination for women veterans, and the Bureau of Prisons must establish programs and award grants to certain prisons and jails to improve maternal health outcomes among incarcerated individuals; and

WHEREAS, the federal bill also (1) expands eligibility for certain nutrition programs by increasing the postpartum and breastfeeding periods, and (2) reduces certain funding to states without laws restricting the use of restraints on pregnant women who are incarcerated; and

WHEREAS, the North Carolina Democratic Party recognizes, as espoused by the Omnibus Act of 2021, the need to address the maternal mortality crisis; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the North Carolina Democratic Party supports prompt legislative action in North Carolina as well as in Congress to advance and pass into law the Omnibus Act and NC Omnibus as proposed; and

BE IT RESOLVED, that the North Carolina Democratic Party requests that the Chair of the North Carolina Democratic Party send copies of this resolution to the North Carolina Legislature, Governor Roy Cooper, and the North Carolina Congressional Delegation.

A RESOLUTION TO ESTABLISH A NORTH CAROLINA HEALTHCARE CONSUMER PROTECTION BUREAU

WHEREAS, healthcare represents nearly 20% of the American economy and a large share of individual households' income; and

WHEREAS, patients lack the power, insider knowledge, and resources necessary to remediate disagreements with large healthcare organizations, navigate difficult care decisions, contest surprise medical bills for unknowingly receiving care from out-of-network providers, or dispute claims from debt collectors; and

WHEREAS, according to a 2016 study by the Kaiser Foundation, 70% of those with medical debt reported that they had to cut spending on basic necessities (food, clothes, etc), 59% reported that they had to use most or all of their savings; 41% reported that they had to take a second job; and 37% reported that they had to borrow money; and

WHEREAS, according to the CFPB, half of all collections tradelines that appear on credit reports are reported by debt collectors seeking to collect on medical bills claimed to be owed to hospitals and other medical providers, affecting the credit score of nearly one-fifth of all consumers in the credit reporting system; and



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WHEREAS, medical bankruptcies represent 62% of all personal bankruptcies, as ordinary families often cannot pay for rapidly rising medical expenses;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the North Carolina Democratic Party calls for the North Carolina General Assembly to create a North Carolina Healthcare Consumer Protection Bureau under the auspices of the State Attorney General's office that provides resources and assistance to North Carolina patient consumers before, during, and after receipt of healthcare services.

A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF A FEDERAL 'GREEN NEW DEAL' AND RESTORING STATE INCENTIVES FOR SUSTAINABLE TECHNOLOGY

WHEREAS, Democrats in the US Congress have proposed federal legislation in support of investment in railways, 'green' energy, and other sustainable practices; and

WHEREAS, the state of North Carolina, under the yoke of the late Republican super-majority in the legislature in Raleigh, backed away from its former progressive support of a sustainable energy future, including tax credits and other incentives for individuals and businesses investing in solar energy, electric vehicles, and other sustainable technologies; and

WHEREAS, catastrophic climate change is the REAL national emergency faced by all life on this planet;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the North Carolina Democratic Party fully supports federal, state, city, and town initiatives that invest in sustainable

infrastructure and that provide tax credits and other incentives for individuals and businesses to invest in renewable energy and other sustainable technologies.

A RESOLUTION FOR THE PROHIBITION OF THE SALE OF NON-NATIVE INVASIVE PLANT AND ANIMAL SPECIES

WHEREAS, the ecological integrity of natural areas within the state of North Carolina is dependent on maintaining native species composition and their populations; and

WHEREAS, the introduction of non-native invasive species causes impacts that alter, degrade, and have the potential to destroy the state's most valued and environmentally sensitive natural areas; and

WHEREAS, the plant nurseries, pet shops, and the exotic animal trade sell and distribute these invasive organisms; and

WHEREAS, environmental managers in the state of North Carolina spend significant resources combatting the impacts of invasive organisms, with taxpayer funds and resources;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the state of North Carolina legislate or rule that in order to protect the state's most sensitive natural resources, the sale of nonnative invasive animal and plant species shall be prohibited.

Civil Rights, Criminal Justice, and Education

RESOLUTION IN REAFFIRMATION OF COMMITMENT TO TRANSGENDER RIGHTS

WHEREAS, Transgender people are, as a community, a valued member of the Democratic Party coalition, and this is affirmed in the Preamble to the NCDP PoO as well as the National Party Platform; and

WHEREAS, transgender people and their rights have historically been sacrificed in the name of political expediency; and

WHEREAS, Senator Joe Manchin has voted for Amendment 952 to the COVID Relief Act, which, if passed, would have created a nationwide ban on transgender participation in school sports in their identified and lived gender; and

WHEREAS, this is a direct attack on the rights of the transgender community that the State and National Party holds to affirm and support;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the North Carolina Democratic Party shall publicly issue a statement strongly urging Senator Joe Manchin to support and affirm the rights of transgender people in the future, and a statement further affirming the Party's support of the rights of transgender people to live their lives without interference or discrimination; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the NC Democratic Party will urge the National Democratic Party to make similar statements.

RESOLUTION CALLING FOR A BAN ON THE PRACTICE OF CONVERSION THERAPY FOR NORTH CAROLINA YOUTH

WHEREAS a national community of professionals (including, but not limited to, the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry, the American Academy of Pediatrics, the American Medical Association, the American Psychological Association, and the American School Counselor Association) has determined that there is no scientifically valid evidence that supports the practice of attempting to prevent a person from being lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, or gender nonconforming; and

WHEREAS such professionals have determined that there is no evidence that conversion therapy is effective or that an individual's sexual orientation or gender identity can be changed by conversion therapy; and

WHEREAS such professionals have also determined that conversion therapy is not only ineffective, but also that it is substantially dangerous to an individual's mental and physical well-being; it has also been shown to contribute to depression, self-harm, low self-esteem, family rejection, drug use, homelessness, and suicide; and

WHEREAS the issue of conversion therapy is not about politics or religious values -- it's about basic human decency; it's about the fact that it's impossible to fix something that was never broken in the first place;



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THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the North Carolina Democratic Party opposes all portrayals of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, or gender nonconforming youth and adults as mentally ill due to their sexual orientation and supports the dissemination of accurate information about sexual orientation, gender identity, and gender expression; mental health; and appropriate interventions in order to counteract bias that is based in ignorance or unfounded beliefs about sexual orientation, gender identity, and gender expression; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that we as citizens pledge to protect the physical and psychological well-being of all people and their families, including lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender or gender nonconforming youth, against exposure to serious harms caused by sexual orientation change efforts; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that it is in the best interest of the state to assure that lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and gender nonconforming youth and their families are not defrauded by persons seeking to profit by offering harmful and wholly ineffective therapy; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that the North Carolina Democratic Party calls on NC Governor Roy Cooper, Speaker of the NC House Tim Moore, and President Pro Tem of the NC Senate Phil Berger to enact legislation banning the practice of conversion therapy, regardless of practitioner or source of funding, for all minor youth in the state of North Carolina.

RESOLUTION SUPPORTING ELIMINATION OF THE DEADLINE TO PASS THE EQUAL RIGHTS AMENDMENT

WHEREAS, women as a group are not protected in the United States Constitution; and

WHEREAS, the Equal Rights Amendment (ERA) - which states "Equality of rights under the law shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or any state on account of sex" - is the remedy for this injustice; and

WHEREAS, there are now the required 38 states who have ratified the amendment;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the North Carolina Democratic Party endorses and actively supports the elimination of the arbitrary deadline for passage of the amendment by the states, thus making way for the Equal Rights Amendment to become the law of the land.

RESOLUTION TO AMEND THE NCDP PLATFORM TO ADDRESS STRUCTURAL RACISM

WHEREAS, systemic, institutional and individual racism has a pervasive impact on the lives of Black, Indigenous and People of Color; and

WHEREAS, people of color experience fundamental disparities in every institution of the United States including, and not limited to, health, education, labor, the environment, the military, political access/power and the justice system; and

WHEREAS, the North Carolina Democratic Party platform acknowledges "structural racism," "race," "racism," "discrimination," and "bias" in numerous, but not all, categories; and



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WHEREAS, on June 19, 2020, the United Nations Human Rights Council resolved that systemic racism is a global human rights issue;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the North Carolina Democrat Party fully acknowledge the existence of individual, structural and systemic racism;

BE IT, THEREFORE, RESOLVED, that the North Carolina Democratic Party, in collaboration with and guided by selected representatives from Black, Indigenous and People of Color communities, amend the North Carolina Democratic Party platform to reflect the party's position on and tangible goals toward eradicating structural racism in every applicable area.

RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF ADOPTION OF THE CROWN ACT OR OTHER LEGISLATION PROHIBITING RACE-BASED HAIR DISCRIMINATION IN THE WORKPLACE

WHEREAS, North Carolinians pride themselves on being composed of people who value the diversity of backgrounds, cultures, beliefs, and experiences; and

WHEREAS, appreciation for diversity in all forms strengthens a community, fosters a welcoming environment, and is a critical component of a thriving, successful state; and

WHEREAS, discrimination based upon natural hair texture and/or styles remains a source of racial bias, impacting employment and educational opportunities; and

WHEREAS, on February 1, 2021, North Carolina Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) practices under the Office of State Human Resources (OSHR) affirmatively prohibited an employer from failing or refusing to hire or discharging any individual, or otherwise discriminating against an individual, based on the individual's hair texture or hairstyle; and

WHEREAS, there continues to be no federal law prohibiting discrimination based on specific hair styles or texture related to race or ethnicity, and changes to EEO practices do not protect all workers in North Carolina; and

WHEREAS, a national movement to address the effects of long-term, insidious race discrimination in reaction to hairstyles and textures commonly associated with communities of color is being spearheaded by the CROWN Coalition, a national alliance founded by Dove, the National Urban League, Color of Change, and the Western Center on Law & Poverty; and

WHEREAS, with the assistance of the Coalition, a wave of legislation has been enacted across the country over the last eighteen months, both at the federal and state level, which specifically adds race-based hair discrimination to the legal definition of race discrimination; and

WHEREAS, beginning in California in July 2019, The CROWN Act ("Creating a Respectful and Open Workplace for Natural Hair") has now been adopted in seven states and legislation is under consideration in more than twenty other states, as well as in Congress; and



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WHEREAS, at the federal level, the “CROWN Act of 2019”, has been introduced by Representative Cedric Richmond (LA-2) in the form of H.R. 5309 in December 2019 and by Senator Cory Booker (NJ) in the form of S. 3167 in January 2020. The “CROWN Act of 2019” would amend a panoply of existing federal civil rights law prohibiting race discrimination in federally assisted programs, housing programs, public accommodations, employment, and access to equal rights under the law. The stated purpose of the identical bills is “to institute definitions of race and national origin for Federal civil rights laws that effectuate the comprehensive scope of protection Congress intended to be afforded by such laws and Congress’ objective to eliminate race and national origin discrimination in the United States”; and

WHEREAS, the pending federal bills include an initial section of Congressional “findings,” providing an eloquent and compelling argument for the necessity of the proposed Act, as follows:

- **throughout United States history, society has used (in conjunction with skin color) hair texture and hairstyle to classify individuals on the basis of race; and**
- **like one’s skin color, one’s hair has served as a basis of race and national origin discrimination; and**
- **racial and national origin discrimination can and do occur because of longstanding racial and national origin biases and stereotypes associated with hair texture and style; and**
- **for example, routinely, people of African descent are deprived of educational and employment opportunities because they are adorned with natural or protective hairstyles in which hair is tightly coiled or tightly curled, or worn in locs, cornrows, twists, braids, Bantu knots, or Afros; and**
- **racial and national origin discrimination is reflected in school and workplace policies and practices that bar natural or protective hairstyles commonly worn by people of African descent; and**
- **for example, as recently as 2018, the United States Armed Forces had grooming policies that barred natural or protective hairstyles that servicewomen of African descent commonly wear and that described these hairstyles as “unkempt”; and**
- **in 2018, the United States Armed Forces rescinded these policies and recognized that this description perpetuated derogatory racial stereotypes; and**
- **the United States Armed Forces also recognized that prohibitions against natural or protective hairstyles that African-American servicewomen are commonly adorned with are racially discriminatory and bear no relationship to African-American servicewomen’s occupational qualifications and their ability to serve and protect the Nation; and**
- **as a type of racial or national origin discrimination, discrimination on the basis of natural or protective hairstyles that people of African descent are commonly adorned with violates existing Federal law, including provisions of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (42 U.S.C. 2000e et seq.), section 1977 of the Revised Statutes (42 U.S.C. 1981), and the Fair Housing Act (42 U.S.C. 3601 et seq.). However, some Federal courts have misinterpreted Federal civil rights law by narrowly interpreting the meaning of race or national origin, and thereby permitting, for example, employers to discriminate against people of African descent who wear natural or protective hairstyles even though the employment policies involved are not related to workers’ ability to perform their jobs; and**
- **applying this narrow interpretation of race or national origin has resulted in a lack of Federal civil rights protection for individuals who are discriminated against on the basis of characteristics that are commonly associated with race and national origin; and**



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- in 2019, State legislatures and municipal bodies throughout the United States have introduced and passed legislation that rejects certain Federal courts' restrictive interpretation of race and national origin, and expressly classifies race and national origin discrimination as inclusive of discrimination on the basis of natural or protective hairstyles commonly associated with race and national origin; and

WHEREAS, It is the responsibility of governing bodies to advocate on behalf of all of their residents to take action as described by the CROWN Act of 2019, which notes that "clear, consistent, and enforceable legal standards must be provided to redress the widespread incidences of race and national origin discrimination based upon hair texture and hairstyle in schools, workplaces, housing...and other contexts" and to "explicitly prohibit the adoption or implementation of grooming requirements that disproportionately impact people of African descent";

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the North Carolina Democratic Party:

- supports legislative action in North Carolina on the CROWN Act with the bill receiving consideration at the committee level and ultimately being passed into law;
- supports legislative action in Congress to advance and pass into law the CROWN Act or other legislation prohibiting race-based hair discrimination in the workplace;
- supports Governor Cooper proclaiming July 3rd as CROWN Day in North Carolina; and
- requests that the Chair of the North Carolina Democratic Party send copies of this resolution to the entire North Carolina Legislature, Governor Roy Cooper, and the entire North Carolina Congressional Delegation.

RESOLUTION CALLING ON LOCAL GOVERNMENTS OF THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA TO ADOPT AN INCLUSIVE NON-DISCRIMINATION ORDINANCE

WHEREAS, the protection of all members of our community is vital for the health and safety of our community; and

WHEREAS, December 1, 2020, was the date of expiration for a prohibition in House Bill 142 (passed March 2017) that prevented local governments from expanding local discrimination protections; and

WHEREAS, House Bill 142 repealed the notorious, discriminatory House Bill 2; and

WHEREAS, on April 18, 2016, the City Council of Winston-Salem passed a resolution condemning the discrimination of House Bill 2 on a nearly unanimous vote; and

WHEREAS, the municipalities of Hillsborough, Carrboro, Chapel Hill, Durham, and Greensboro, as well as Orange County, have all passed local anti-discrimination ordinances; and

WHEREAS, new or expanded non-discrimination ordinances are under consideration in the municipalities of Asheville, Greeneville, Wilmington, Charlotte, and Raleigh; and

WHEREAS, all recently passed non-discrimination ordinances have expanded protections for gender identity and expression, defined as having or being perceived as having gender-related identity, expression, appearance, or behavior, whether or not



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42
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that identity, expression, appearance, or behavior is different from sex assigned at birth; and

WHEREAS, the ordinance enacted by the City and County of Durham adopted the CROWN Act, a model developed by the CROWN Coalition (including the National Urban League, Color of Change, and The Western Center on Law and Poverty), in order to ensure protection against discrimination based on race-based hairstyles, by extending statutory protection to hair texture and protective styles such as braids, locs, twists, knots, tight coils or curls, cornrows, Bantu knots, and afros in the workplace and public schools; and

WHEREAS, Governor Roy Cooper has signaled he will veto any legislation that attacks discrimination protections, and the General Assembly does not hold the veto-proof majority needed to overturn the Governor's veto; and

WHEREAS, a non-discrimination ordinance for all of North Carolina is are important and urgent, and should be inclusive and have an enforcement mechanism;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the North Carolina Democratic Party supports the adoption of inclusive non-discrimination ordinances, with a robust enforcement mechanism, that prohibits discrimination in places of public accommodation and employment on the basis of race, natural hair or hairstyles (as per the CROWN Act), ethnicity, creed, color, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, national origin or ancestry, marital or familial status, pregnancy, military status, religious belief or non-belief, age, and medical condition or disability (defined as any genetic information and ADA supported physiological, mental, or psychological condition or disorder, to include but not limited to visual, speech, or hearing impairments, HIV, multiple sclerosis, cerebral palsy, muscular dystrophy, epilepsy, cancer, emotional or mental illness, and specific learning disabilities); and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the NCDP calls for prompt, decisive action to protect the residents of North Carolina.

RESOLUTION ON HATE CRIMES

WHEREAS, the 2019 Briefing Report of the United States Commission on Civil Rights, "In the Name of Hate: Examining the Federal Government's Role in Responding to Hate Crimes," emphasized that the greatest challenges to understanding the severity and magnitude of hate crimes is the lack of sufficient data and lack of police training to report and identify hate crimes; and

WHEREAS, the 2019 FBI Report shows a 64 percent increase in Hate Crimes in North Carolina between 2013 and 2017, not including the many more unreported; and

WHEREAS, North Carolina's Hate Crimes statute, adopted in 1993, does not require the collection of hate crimes data by law enforcement agencies; and

WHEREAS, in 2019 approximately 65 percent of North Carolina law enforcement agencies voluntarily reported to the FBI Hate Crimes Database; however, of the agencies reporting, only 24 percent reported a hate crime--with 76 percent reporting zero incidences of hate crimes; and



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WHEREAS, the University of North Carolina School of Government reported that, of the 57 hate crimes charged under current NC Hate Crimes statute in 2019, only 9 resulted in conviction; and

WHEREAS, North Carolina's current Hate Crimes statute is one of only 15 in the nation that does not recognize hate crimes based on disability, gender identity or sexual orientation and allows for only a misdemeanor penalty; and

WHEREAS, officials overseeing police training in North Carolina recently reported that their recruits spend about 30 minutes of class time on hate crimes; and

WHEREAS, Governor Roy Cooper's 2020 Racial Equity Task Force Report recommended that law enforcement training "include education on improving interactions with diverse populations, developing emotional intelligence skills, de-escalating tense situations and recognizing and addressing implicit bias;" and

WHEREAS, the tragedy which occurred in Atlanta, Georgia on March 16th was motivated by the suspect's apparent hatred of Asian Americans and of women and reflected a recent national increase in violence against said groups and others;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the North Carolina Democratic Party calls on the North Carolina General Assembly to support the adoption of the Hate Crimes Prevention Act, HB 354, introduced in the NC House of Representatives by Representatives Nasif Majeed, Verla Insko, Pricey Harrison, and Marcia Morey and in the NC Senate by Senators Jay Chaudhuri, Valerie Foushee, and Mujtaba Mohammed.

RESOLUTION CALLING ON CONGRESS TO ESTABLISH COMMISSIONS ON HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS

WHEREAS, in our Declaration of Independence, our founders asserted that "All Men Are Created Equal," and that each had a right to "Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness, and

WHEREAS, in Amendments to our Constitution, our founders and future legislators expanded the Constitutionally guaranteed rights of individuals subject to US governance and jurisdiction, and

WHEREAS, since its founding, the US has become the envy of the world, attracting immigrants from all continents, and

WHEREAS, despite lofty claims to noble enlightenment values, in the period from our founding through the first decade of the twenty-first century, the US committed the following acts in opposition to its professed values:

- **The "ethnic cleansing" and genocide of native Americans,**
- **The African slave trade and slavery itself,**
- **Medical experimentation on black men,**
- **Eugenic laws and compulsory sterilization,**
- **"Jim Crow" violations of citizenship rights,**
- **Limited or denied admission to Jewish refugees seeking asylum from the holocaust,**
- **The confinement of Japanese American citizens in prison camps during WW2, and**



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- **Torture, extraordinary rendition (the usually secret, transfer of a prisoner to another country for illegal harsh interrogation, torture, or disappearance), and indefinite extraterritorial imprisonment (without legal representation or trial) of combatants captured in Afghanistan and Iraq; and**

WHEREAS, these are serious human rights violations, some reaching the level of crimes against humanity with international jurisdiction, and

WHEREAS, since the US has signed but not ratified the UN anti-torture convention it may claim it is not bound by the convention, however, torture is also prohibited by US law, and

WHEREAS, continuing civil rights violations include Police violence against black people, penal codes that discriminate against people of color, economic and educational opportunities that favor whites, and voter suppression efforts directed against BIPOC communities; and

WHEREAS, Trump was responsible for the following crimes and torts:

- **The imprisonment of individuals at our southern border seeking asylum from life-threatening anarchy and criminality in their own countries, and**
- **The forceful separation of young children from their parents, without any record to assure they will ever be reunited with their family, and**
- **The imprisonment of these children in cages at facilities that lack adequate sanitation, privacy, medical care, emotional support, and where children sleep with other children on concrete floors (covered only by emergency mylar-aluminum-film blankets), and**
- **The deportation of parents without their children, making it difficult if not impossible to reunite them, and**
- **The suicide of detained asylum seekers facing seemingly interminable incarceration, and**
- **The detained children who died because of a lack of medical care, and**
- **The delays in implementing court-ordered reunification of children with their parents, often because of the absence of identity and movement records,**
-
- **sometimes because the parent has already been deported, and sometimes because of a disregard for the legal order, and**
- **The emotional suffering and permanent emotional scaring of children and their parents, and**

WHEREAS, the many deeds described above likely planted seeds of resentment and hate that may pose threats to US security, and the safety of Americans in the future, and

WHEREAS, although within his authority, Trump pardoned four military contractors who had been tried, convicted, and imprisoned for murdering 17 unarmed Iraqi civilians (including two children), and injuring 20 more; and

WHEREAS, the contractors had committed war crimes and crimes against humanity (among the atrocities, a portion of a young child's brain was shot out in the presence of his father), and like many of the previously described actions, the pardons may justifiably aggravate grievances, resentment, and hatred that may eventually endanger us;



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NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that North Carolina Democratic Party calls on Congressional Democrats to propose legislation to establish two commissions: the first, to serve as a reconciliation commission to deal with our earlier crimes; and the second, to investigate recent crimes and recommend remedies; and

BE IT RESOLVED, that both commissions shall consist of members of involved minority communities, legislators, legal scholars, Constitutional scholars and ethicists; and

BE IT RESOLVED that Congress shall provide adequate funding, space and staffing to enable the Commissions to carry out their charges, and

BE IT RESOLVED that the Commissions shall be required to submit initial reports to Congress within one year and final recommendations within two years, and

BE IT RESOLVED, that, based on the recommendations of the Commissions, Congress shall prepare legislation clearly defining war crimes, and crimes against humanity covered by the legislation, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that, in this legislation, Congress shall define the penalties for the perpetration of these crimes (with definition of the circumstances that might apply directly to the President), and

BE IT MOREOVER RESOLVED that Congress shall consider measures recommended to foster reconciliation, that may include reparations, tuition free higher education, low interest business loans, free medical care, etc.

RESOLUTION TO ELIMINATE VOTER REGISTRATION LITERACY TESTS FROM THE NORTH CAROLINA CONSTITUTION

WHEREAS, the literacy test, designed in 1899 to disenfranchise Black Americans, still exists in the NC Constitution in Article VI, Section 4, “every person presenting himself for registration shall be able to read and write any section of the Constitution in the English language”; and

WHEREAS, while not enforceable due to Voting Rights Act of 1965, its mere presence in our State’s constitution is an affront to Black Americans and should be to all residents of NC, in many ways more egregious than confederate flags and statues; and

WHEREAS, a number of attempts have been made to eliminate the literacy test, yet, the amendment either died before getting on the ballot or did not get the required majority vote when brought to the people; and

WHEREAS, as recently as 2019, HB 314 passed the NC House with bi-partisan support and was supposed to be on the November 2020 ballot, but never made it out of the NC Senate; and

WHEREAS, given voter suppression efforts from the White House to NC State House in recent years, NC has the opportunity to show that we are making an effort to rise above our history and move towards respecting Voting as a basic human right for all;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the North Carolina Democratic Party shall make it a priority to act to bring to the vote of the people the repeal of the literacy test requirement from the NC Constitution.



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RESOLUTION ON ENDING THE CASH BAIL SYSTEM

WHEREAS, the arcane system of cash bail is discriminatory in that it keeps poor defendants, who have not been tried or convicted, in jail until their case is resolved (which is often several months or even years), while wealthy individuals are able to post bail and go home; and

WHEREAS, the cash bail system deepens economic and racial inequality in that pretrial detention which results in individuals losing their jobs, not being able to take care of their children, and losing contact with loved ones; and

WHEREAS, being held pretrial makes both conviction and incarceration more likely, as defendants held pretrial are pressured to plead guilty with the hopes of returning home; and

WHEREAS, many of the people held pretrial confinement are not a threat to the public, since most pretrial detainees have been charged with misdemeanors or minor felonies such as possession of drugs and property or public order crimes; and

WHEREAS, the for-profit cash bail system strips people of their rights, unduly harms poor people, people of color, their families, and drains money and resources out of their communities; and

WHEREAS, thousands of North Carolinians—a disproportionate number of them black and brown people—are kept in jail not because they are guilty of any crime but because they are poor, unable to pay bail or for-profit bail bonds, which often traps them into years of debt; and

WHEREAS, the cash bail system costs taxpayers since the US spends 38 million dollars a day to detain people pretrial, costs which could be redirected into education, housing, and economic development which would benefit marginalized communities; and

WHEREAS, the US is one of only two countries, the other being the Philippines, to use cash bail;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the North Carolina Democratic Party supports legislation to end the use of cash bail; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the NCDP supports the inclusion of measures such as the following:

- **Use of citations and summons rather than arrests for low-risk defendants;**
- **Participation of defense counsels in initial pretrial proceedings;**
- **Early participation by prosecutors (who often have important information about charges that inform the bail decision);**
- **Prompt judicial review of magistrates' pretrial decisions;**
- **A system to provide the services necessary for defendants to show up for their trials;**
- **Allowance of enough time for judicial officials to evaluate risk of flight, risk of serious crime, and conditions of release.**



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RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF RACIAL EQUITY IN CRIMINAL JUSTICE

WHEREAS, civic protection and care of North Carolina citizens is a public service; and

WHEREAS, the federal and local justice and policing complex since its inception has been an aggressively punitive system that brings undue harm and despair to poor citizens and primarily citizens of color; and

WHEREAS, one in three children of color born today will serve time in prison during their lifetime as compared to one in seventeen white children; and

WHEREAS, North Carolina remains one of only several states that continues to convict and sentence someone to life imprisonment without parole for crimes committed before the age of 18; and

WHEREAS, on any given day approximately one in ten Black men in their thirties are in prison or jail; and

WHEREAS, the vast majority of convictions in North Carolina are drug-related with a disproportionate number of arrests of Black men; and

WHEREAS, the imprisonment rate for Black residents in NC per 100,000 is four times the imprisonment rate of white residents; and

WHEREAS, since 1980, the North Carolina prison population has doubled; and

WHEREAS, in North Carolina, Court-imposed fees have increased by 400% over the past twenty years, impacting the poor and their families with regard to employment, housing opportunities, basic sustenance, as well as disabling otherwise healthy family relationships; and

WHEREAS, between 2013 and 2018, black men in the United States were about 2.5 times more likely than white men to be killed by police; and

WHEREAS, nationally, fatal police violence is the 6th leading cause of death among men ages 25-29 across all racial groups; and

WHEREAS, there is strong evidence of systemic racism within police forces in North Carolina and nationwide; and

WHEREAS, there is evidence of calculated infiltration of white nationalism into police academies and departments with the expressed interest of abusing people of color;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the North Carolina Democratic Party supports and demands wide-ranging justice reform legislation to: (1) reduce harsh drug convictions, by making North Carolina a partner in the wholesale reconsideration of drug policy which comprises half of all federal convictions, (2) remove burdensome fines, bail and other court expenses for low-income citizens, (3) reform and reduce sentences for non-violent offenses, (4) maintain an accurate database of policing procedures and outcomes that is accessible on a national level, (5) reform police training to reflect servant leadership, and (6) remove weapons of war as policing equipment; and



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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the North Carolina Democratic Party encourages its legislators in the North Carolina General Assembly to expeditiously enact justice reform legislation in response to Governor Cooper's Task Force for Racial Equity in Criminal Justice, led by Attorney General Josh Stein and NC Supreme Court Associate Justice Anita Earls.

RESOLUTION CALLING FOR FEDERAL JUDICIAL REFORM

WHEREAS, by its explicit terms, the Code of Conduct for United States Judges does not apply to Justices of the U.S. Supreme Court; and

WHEREAS, deference to and enforcement of the judgments and rulings of courts critically depends on public confidence in the legitimacy, integrity, and independence of judges and justices; and

WHEREAS, courts are in danger of losing legitimacy when the public loses faith that judges and justices are ethical, unbiased, and fair; and

WHEREAS, there is before the United States Congress, sec. 7001 of H.R.1, For the People Act of 2021, which has passed the U.S. House of Representatives, and which would require a Code of Conduct be issued for all federal judges, including U.S. Supreme Court Justices;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the North Carolina Democratic Party (NCDP) supports sec. 7001 of H.R.1 which would require a Code of Conduct be issued for all federal judges, including U.S. Supreme Court Justices; and

BE IT RESOLVED that the NCDP supports extending the Code of Conduct to U.S. Supreme Court Justices, and providing a formal mechanism for review of conflicts by sitting Justices and lower federal court judges; and

BE IT RESOLVED that the NCDP supports strengthening ethical rules in the Code of Conduct for all U.S. Judges and Justices to ensure that judges and justices recuse themselves when they have conflicts of interest, and to ensure accountability for judges who violate these rules; and

BE IT RESOLVED that the NCDP supports transparent review of all federal judicial candidates by legislatively requiring the Judicial Conference of the United States to publicly post judicial nominees' financial reports, recusal decisions, and speeches, and by requiring the IRS to provide retrospective disclosure of five years of federal and state tax returns by all federal judicial candidates; and the extension of this transparency to all appointed candidates while they serve on the bench; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the North Carolina Democratic Party supports strengthening disciplinary actions available to the federal Judicial Conference to prevent judges from escaping misconduct investigations by leaving the court or by elevation to the United States Supreme Court.

RESOLUTION FOR CONSTITUTIONAL & EQUITABLE CRIMINAL COURT FINES, COSTS & FEES IN NORTH CAROLINA

WHEREAS, Chapter 7A, Article 28 of the North Carolina General Statutes stipulates the imposition of monetary sanctions upon defendants in every criminal case, when the



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defendant is convicted, or enters a plea of guilty or nolo contendere, or when costs are assessed against a prosecuting witness; and

WHEREAS, these monetary sanctions are comprised of fines levied as punishment for criminal offenses, plus criminal court costs and fees, assessed on a by-use basis throughout the criminal justice process in accordance with the Criminal Court Costs and Fees Chart; and

WHEREAS, the North Carolina State Constitution delegates authority to the North Carolina General Assembly to define criminal court costs and fees and set corresponding financial obligations, as detailed within the Criminal Court Costs and Fees Chart; and

WHEREAS, the North Carolina State Constitution also delegates authority to the General Assembly to determine how revenue emanating from the collection of criminal court costs and fees is allocated; and

WHEREAS, the largest share of revenue from the collection of criminal court costs and fees is directed to the state General Fund and subsequently allocated to fund a range of government programs unrelated to the court system; and

WHEREAS, criminal court costs and fees have risen exponentially over the past two decades, while the state repealed its estate tax, implemented a modified flat income tax, and reduced the corporate income tax rate; and

WHEREAS, despite state and federal constitutional protections prohibiting punishment of an individual for their poverty, payment of criminal court fines, costs, and fees is enforced through draconian penalties with collateral consequences that trap people in a perpetual cycle of debt, including additional monetary sanctions, probation extensions, exclusion from anti-poverty programs, driver's license revocation, and incarceration; and

WHEREAS, under this economically-skewed system, low-income people routinely receive harsher punishments than high-income people for similar criminal offenses; and

WHEREAS, judges have a constitutional obligation to inquire about an individual's financial status before imposing criminal court fines, costs, and fees, but judges waived criminal court fines, costs, and fees in less than five percent of applicable judgements statewide in 2018; and

WHEREAS, over the past ten years, the state has implemented numerous administrative and procedural requirements to restrict the capacity of judges to waive criminal court fines, costs, and fees; and

WHEREAS, racial disparities exist at every stage of the criminal justice system, including the imposition and collection of criminal court fines, costs, and fees; and

WHEREAS, the financial burden of criminal court fines, costs, and fees is disproportionately felt by low-income people and people of color; and



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WHEREAS, it is estimated that more than 650,000 people held unpaid criminal court debt in North Carolina as of 2020; and

WHEREAS, the N.C. Task Force for Racial Equity in Criminal Justice on December 14, 2020 recommended several policy changes relating to the imposition and collection of criminal court fines, costs, and fees, including: assessing a defendant's ability to pay prior to levying any criminal court fines and fees, reducing use of criminal court fines and fees, eliminating state government reliance on criminal court fines and fees, and developing a process to eliminate criminal justice debt; and

WHEREAS, State reliance on the collection of court costs, fines, and fees is a form of regressive taxation disproportionately imposed upon people of color;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the North Carolina Democratic Party urges the General Assembly, the Office of the Governor, and the state Judicial Branch to consider all avenues to rework the current process of imposing and collecting criminal court fines, costs, and fees, including: uniform assessments of a defendant's ability to pay, expansion of judicial authority to grant waiver, statewide investment in criminal debt relief and restoration clinics, end the suspension and revocation of driver's licenses for failure to pay, and reduction of criminal court fines, costs, and fees generally.

A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF HB 261: RAISE MIN AGE / JUVENILE JURISDICTION

WHEREAS, North Carolina has the lowest minimum age limit in the US that allows for children as young as six to be sent to juvenile court; and

WHEREAS, a 6-year-old was referred to juvenile court in NC in 2021 for picking a flower out of someone's yard while waiting for the school bus and was given crayons and a picture to color because his attention span was so short when he appeared in court; and

WHEREAS, the criminalization of children's behavior reveals a distinct racial and gender bias; for example, Black residents are 22 percent of North Carolina's

population, but nearly half of the juvenile complaints filed against children ages 6 to 11 from 2015 to 2018 were against Black children, overwhelmingly boys; and

WHEREAS, a growing body of longitudinal neuroimaging research demonstrates that the human brain continues to develop well into a person's 20s, and it shows that the frontal lobe, responsible for executive functioning (such as long-term planning, working memory, and impulse control), is among the last areas of the brain to mature (suggesting that it is developmentally inappropriate for a child to be held accountable for misconduct in a criminal legal sense); and

WHEREAS, the National Center for Juvenile Justice recommends that the minimum age at which children should be brought before a judge in juvenile court be raised to age 14, a standard set forth by the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child as the most common minimum age of criminal responsibility internationally; and



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WHEREAS, many children who find themselves in the juvenile legal system for breaking laws and rules often have cognitive-communication disorders (CCDs) that go untreated or unidentified; and

WHEREAS, a 2018 article in the Journal of Gender, Social Policy and the Law on CCDs and the school to prison pipeline, found that more than 80% of young people affected by zero-tolerance policies were found to have a CCD, a learning disability, or some combination; and

WHEREAS, N.C. State Rep. Marcia Morey (D-Durham) filed H.B. 261 on MARCH 11, 2021 to raise the minimum age for juvenile jurisdiction from age 6 to age 10; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the North Carolina Democratic Party supports the efforts of H.B. 261 to raise the age at which a child can be brought before a judge from 6 to 10 as a good first step in dismantling the school-to-prison pipeline; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the North Carolina Democratic Party calls on the North Carolina General Assembly to form a committee to continue investigating ways to further dismantle the school-to-prison pipeline, including:

- **further increasing the minimum age at which a child is brought before a judge on delinquency charges to 14 years old;**
- **allocating resources to close the gap in services that requires parents to seek assistance by bringing their child in front of a judge on undisciplined minor charges; and**
- **having the child's cognitive-communication abilities assessed by a licensed and accredited speech-language pathologist or psychologist before that child is adjudicated to determine the best treatment and dispensation of justice for the child.**

RESOLUTION ON THE SAFE RETURN TO SCHOOL

WHEREAS, the safe return of students to school is essential to the economic recovery of our communities from the COVID-19 pandemic;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the North Carolina Democratic Party urges the North Carolina General Assembly to fund and fully support the Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), physical enhancements and ongoing operational costs required to provide a high level of safety for our students, staff and visitors to

conduct in person learning to those families who want it, and to not require in-person attendance in order to receive an equitable learning experience.

RESOLUTION ON FIGHTING COVID-19 BY FULLY FUNDING SCHOOL INFRASTRUCTURE

WHEREAS, the Covid-19 pandemic has highlighted the need to correct the pre-existing deficit in maintenance and operation funding of county school systems; and



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WHEREAS, the SARS-CoV-2 virus is airborne, and while vaccines offer hope, knowledge is incomplete regarding their efficacy over time, and against current and potential variants; therefore, to keep teachers, students and community members safer, a layered risk reduction approach is critical, and this includes proper ventilation and/or filtration of shared indoor spaces in schools; and

WHEREAS, it can be challenging or impossible to achieve reasonable distancing and air cleanliness in the absence of proper funding; and

WHEREAS, some of the same mitigations that can help keep students and teachers safer from this virus can also help keep them safer from other dangerous indoor pollutants such as volatile organic compounds; and

WHEREAS, the need for appropriate ventilation and filtration of shared indoor spaces will still be critical for health and learning after the threat from Covid-19 may be reduced; and

WHEREAS, NC statute mandates that the state funds school salaries and programs, and the counties fund infrastructure; however, the NC General Assembly has underfunded salaries for school teachers and staff, and this has placed pressure on county budgets to supplement the state's funding resulting in underfunding infrastructure maintenance;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the North Carolina Democratic Party supports the goal of funding the maintenance and operation of school facilities throughout North Carolina at the level of the national industry standard; and

BE IT RESOLVED that the North Carolina Democratic Party urges the North Carolina General Assembly to adequately fund teacher and staff salaries so that North Carolina County Boards of Commissioners can provide steady ongoing funding for infrastructure maintenance; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the North Carolina Democratic Party supports that, if funds may come available from the United States federal government and if those funds could properly be apportioned toward the goal of maintenance and operation of statewide school facilities at the level of the national industry standard, a reasonable amount shall be so apportioned.

RESOLUTION SUPPORTING OUR TEACHERS AS PUBLIC SERVANTS AND HEROES

WHEREAS, our public-school teachers have continued to perform their duties under the extreme adverse conditions of the pandemic; and

WHEREAS, North Carolina teachers' salaries are well below the national average, and our teachers have received little or no raises in the past few years; and

WHEREAS, using tax money for private schools undermines our already underfunded public schools,

Be it therefore resolved, that the New Hanover Democratic Party supports the right of teachers and all public sector workers to organize and bargain for better pay, benefits and safety protections; and

Be it further resolved, that the NC and NHC Democratic Parties will work to raise teacher pay in North Carolina to the national average or above; and

Be it further resolved, that the NC and NHC Democratic Parties will oppose any expansion of the Opportunity Scholarship Program or any other use of tax payer monies for private schools; and



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Be it further resolved, that the NC and NHC Democratic Parties will fight to prioritize the use of pandemic relief funds and NC state rainy day funds to compensate teachers and other school staff for their continuing efforts to provide the best possible education for our children during the pandemic.

Economy and Labor

A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE

WHEREAS, the United States Postal Service provides essential services to residents of the United States of America; and

WHEREAS, the United States Postal Service provides services to low-income and rural areas that otherwise would not receive service from the private sector; and

WHEREAS, the North Carolina Democratic Party supports equal access to public services; and

WHEREAS, the United States Postal Service continues to face concerted efforts to privatize or otherwise hinder its functions and its financial solvency; and

WHEREAS, the Postal Accountability and Enhancement Act, enacted by the 109th U.S. Congress in 2006, has greatly hindered the capacity of the United States Postal Service to execute its core functions through the imposition of unreasonable requirements, including 50+ years pre-funding of retirement benefits; and

WHEREAS, Trump donor and political appointee Postmaster General Louis DeJoy has sabotaged United States Postal Services operations by ordering dismantling of sorting machines and eliminating overtime for postal deliveries; and

WHEREAS, the expansion of internet sales has cut into United States Postal Services profits, and the COVID-19 Pandemic has added to United States Postal Services costs;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the North Carolina Democratic Party stands in support of the United States Postal Service; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the North Carolina Democratic Party supports efforts to unburden the United States Postal Service from the unreasonable retirement funding requirements imposed through the Postal Accountability and Enhancement Act; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the North Carolina Democratic Party calls for the removal of Postmaster General Louis DeJoy; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the North Carolina Democratic Party calls for supplementary funding for the United States Postal Service to restore fast and efficient mail delivery.

A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF IMPROVING STATE ROADS

WHEREAS, infrastructure is important to the vitality of rural communities; and

WHEREAS, safe and drivable roads are necessary for all communities; and

WHEREAS, the painted lines on some roads cannot be seen at night; now, therefore, be it



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RESOLVED that the North Carolina Democratic Party urges the North Carolina General Assembly to provide sufficient funding to repaint and maintain all state roads and roads owned and maintained by Counties and/or municipalities for the sake of public safety.

RESOLUTION CALLING FOR REFORM OF WORKERS COMPENSATION IN NORTH CAROLINA

WHEREAS, North Carolina's Workers Compensation Program is intended to provide critical medical and income support to workers injured or made sick on the job; and

WHEREAS, Workers Compensation Programs across the United States only cover an average of about 21% of the overall financial cost of workplace injuries and illnesses, with remaining costs of workplace injuries borne primarily by the injured workers, their families, and taxpayer-supported components of the social safety net; and

WHEREAS, North Carolina's Workers Compensation Program only provides for a maximum of 2/3 of lost wages, without considering inflation, and reimbursement of medical costs at less than average market rates to provide treatment; and

WHEREAS, injured workers bear all the burden and expenses of filing for compensation and obtaining legal services needed to advocate for all benefits for which they are eligible, without considering reimbursement for those expenses, and instead forcing the deduction of those costs from funds intended for treatment and care of injured workers; and

WHEREAS, only a fraction of injured workers eligible for Workers Compensation ever receive any benefits through Workers Compensation Programs, with studies indicating that less than 40% of eligible workers ever apply for Workers Compensation benefits; and

WHEREAS, North Carolina's Workers Compensation Program has moved from some of the best benefits in the nation to some of the worst benefits over the past eight years; therefore

BE IT RESOLVED that the North Carolina Democratic Party urges our State Legislature to reform our Workers Compensation Program to fully compensate 100% of actual medical costs, lost wages and legal expenses of workers injured in North Carolina; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the North Carolina Democratic Party urges the North Carolina General Assembly to eliminate legal costs for workers who apply for workmen's compensation; and **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the North Carolina Democratic Party urges the North Carolina General Assembly to close loopholes under current legislation that endanger a large number of workers in North Carolina while at

the same time reforming the current law to better accommodate the needs of small businesses operating with three or less employees.

RESOLUTION ON THE CONTINUATION OF COVID RELIEF ACT PAYMENTS

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 pandemic has devastated the national economy and left millions of working families without jobs and adequate resources to pay rent, make car payments, buy prescription drugs, etc.; and



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WHEREAS, millions of Americans have been forced from their jobs due to closures that have lasted for almost a year with little or no savings to rely on for daily expenses; and

WHEREAS, the COVID Relief Plan offers workers a \$300.00 weekly benefit to offset the loss of jobs and mounting expenses with approximately forty (40) percent of the added benefits going to households with income below fifty (50) percent of the federal poverty level and nearly two-thirds of these aforesaid benefits will go to households with children; and

WHEREAS, restaurant workers for example will be forced to go back to work for a wage of \$2.14 per hour plus tips at a time when these same workers are already financially devastated and trying their best to hang on to their homes and/or lodging;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the North Carolina Democratic Party is opposed to any and all austerity minded legislation in the United States Congress and/or North Carolina General Assembly that intentionally or unintentionally shortens the payout timeline of the much-needed benefits provided by the COVID Relief Plan to the people of North Carolina; and

Further be it resolved that the North Carolina Democratic Party is opposed to legislation in the United States Congress and/or North Carolina General Assembly that in effect forces the working people of North Carolina back to work for low paying wages with little to no benefits.

RESOLUTION ON THE CAUSE & EFFECTS OF RUNAWAY INEQUALITY & THE NEED TO STOP IT

WHEREAS, the US emerged from the Great Depression and World War II as the world's greatest superpower because of its roaring economy that was a direct result of a business climate that was dictated by trade unions that forced corporate management to be competitive in acquiring workers by paying them good wages and good benefits; and

WHEREAS, around 1972 the Keynesian Iron Law of Economics was broken when the Republican Party embraced neoliberalism (the idea that getting rid of all the regulations that encumber business) would allow so much money to be made that it would raise all boats and could not help but trickle down; and

WHEREAS, the minimum wage for workers has not seen an increase in over a decade and those working at the stagnated rate of \$7.25 are working at a poverty rate; and

WHEREAS, the Chicago School of Business Model, or Neoliberalism, or Trickle-Down Economics has led to a rigged economic system that benefits those at the top and is crushing the idea of the American Dream for those in the middle and at the bottom of the economic ladder; and

WHEREAS, this has moved the US from a progressive tax system where those at the top pay more because they can easily more afford to pay the lion's share to a regressive system where those at the bottom pay more taxes and those at the top enjoy tax relief; and

WHEREAS, financialization or Corporate Strip Mining is the practice of raiding corporate resources, for example, by borrowing money for stock buybacks to raise stock prices for the benefit of corporate officers paid in stock options, and by



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acquiring corporations using loans repaid by the corporations that are acquired. Corporations do not have to pay taxes on the borrowed funds; and

WHEREAS, financialization or Corporate Strip Mining by corporate raiders is responsible for the stagnation of workers' pay while corporate CEO pay has skyrocketed from the 1947 ratio of 1 to 47 to today's average of worker to CEO at 1 to 847 and stock buybacks have gone from being outlawed as stock manipulation to being a common business tactic used by all major corporations; and

WHEREAS, the US currently has only one public bank, the Bank of North Dakota that serves the state of North Dakota and has served it well by granting low-cost loans and not involving itself in speculation on derivatives;

BE IT RESOLVED that the North Carolina Democratic Party supports any and all legislation to combat the causes and effects of runaway income inequality and

BE IT RESOLVED that the North Carolina Democratic Party admonishes the continued monetary practices of trickle-down economics and advocates for policy to limit runaway inequality; and

BE IT RESOLVED that the North Carolina Democratic Party supports a raise in the minimum wage from the current rate of \$7.25 per hour to \$15.00 per Hour; and

BE IT RESOLVED that the North Carolina Democratic Party advocates a return to a progressive tax plan for both state and federal, where those who have the most can pay the most and those who have the least would also pay the least; and

BE IT RESOLVED for the North Carolina Democratic Party to advocate for legislation at both the federal and state level that would make Corporate Strip Mining or Stock buybacks unlawful again, thereby eliminating the single greatest cause of runaway inequality; and.

BE IT RESOLVED that the North Carolina Democratic Party advocates for legislation to establish a state government-controlled bank modeled after the Bank of North Dakota that would offer services to all NC citizens.

Immigration, Foreign Affairs, and Military Affairs

A RESOLUTION ON FAITH ACTION ID

WHEREAS, the North Carolina Democratic Party believes the immigrant community strengthens our state; and

WHEREAS, the Faith Action ID is an identification card issued by the community, sometimes in concert with law enforcement to provide card holders with a reliable form of good-faith identification that can be used as a tool by law enforcement, city departments, health centers, schools, businesses, and cultural arts organizations to better identify, serve, and protect us; and



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WHEREAS, the Faith Action ID program would build greater understanding, trust, and cooperation between our diverse community and local law enforcement and other public agencies;

WHEREAS, dozens of law enforcement agencies, city and social service agencies, health centers, schools, businesses and cultural arts organizations support the program and participate in Faith Action ID drives with a common goal to create safer, more inclusive, and united communities; and

WHEREAS, the Faith Action ID card is not a state-issued form of identification or a driver's license, it cannot be used to vote and does not entitle card holders to any social welfare benefits, it does not prevent prosecution of those engaged in an illegal activity, and it does not impact an individual's immigration status; and

WHEREAS, many residents of North Carolina, including many citizens, do not possess the necessary resources to obtain state-issued identification; and

WHEREAS, residents of North Carolina without reliable identification may not be able to identify themselves to law enforcement, participate in the cultural and business life of their community, or receive urgent services from schools, health centers, city departments, and social service agencies; and

WHEREAS, the Faith Action ID program benefits a diverse set of residents, including: new immigrants and refugees, homeless and elderly individuals, people recently returning from jail, as well as faith and city leaders, teachers, health and social service workers, and many others; and

WHEREAS, over 15,000 individuals have obtained a Faith Action ID card in either North Carolina, South Carolina, Virginia, or Ohio; and

WHEREAS, participants of the Faith Action ID program must attend an ID drive to participate in an orientation on the benefits and limitations of the card and sign a Memorandum of Understanding, and

WHEREAS, to obtain Faith Action ID, participants must also provide proof of identity from a list of acceptable documentation, including: embassy ID, national ID card, passport, or driver's license, and proof of address from a list of acceptable documentation, including: utility bill, medical record, bank statement, or lease agreement; and

WHEREAS, law enforcement officers attend each Faith Action ID drive to engage with program participants, listen to the needs and concerns of the community members, and educate the community; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the North Carolina Democratic Party urges jurisdictions within the State to recognize the Faith Action ID as a legal form of identification, promote access to the Faith Action ID through publicly-supported community events, and partner with local non-profit organizations to distribute Faith Action ID cards.

A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF DRIVER'S LICENSES FOR UNDOCUMENTED IMMIGRANTS



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WHEREAS, the North Carolina Democratic Party believes that the immigrant community strengthens the state of North Carolina; and

WHEREAS, House Bill 829 of the North Carolina General Assembly 2019-2020 Session was referred to the Committee On Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House, but did not advance any further; and

WHEREAS, House Bill 311 of the North Carolina General Assembly 2021-2022 Session would have permitted undocumented immigrants to obtain a driver's license in North Carolina; and

WHEREAS, expanding eligibility to obtain driver's licenses to undocumented immigrants would help ensure that drivers are properly licensed, informed of traffic laws, and operate registered, inspected, and insured vehicles, thereby improving safety on roads and highways and within communities; and

WHEREAS, expanding eligibility to obtain driver's licenses to undocumented immigrants would strengthen trust between immigrant communities and law enforcement, permitting law enforcement to fulfill their duties more efficiently and effectively; and

WHEREAS, expanding eligibility to obtain driver's licenses to undocumented immigrants would help lower insurance premiums for all drivers; and

WHEREAS, expanding eligibility to obtain driver's licenses to undocumented immigrants would improve overall economic conditions within North Carolina by allowing undocumented immigrants to overcome present barriers to transportation that restrict their options for employment; and

WHEREAS, expanding eligibility to obtain driver's licenses to undocumented immigrants would further integrate immigrant communities and allow undocumented immigrants to participate and contribute more fully to their local community; and, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the State of North Carolina, in order to maintain safe and secure roads and communities, shall authorize the Division of Motor Vehicles to issue restricted Drivers Licenses to any resident of North Carolina regardless of immigration status; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the North Carolina Legislature pass HB 311 - The Safe Roads and Communities Act of 2021.

A RESOLUTION TO BUILD BRIDGES TO AAPI COMMUNITIES SUFFERING FROM COVID-19 AROUND THE WORLD

WHEREAS, The Asian American and Pacific Islanders Caucus of the NCDP (AAPI-NC) is a valued member of the Democratic Coalition in North Carolina and important to the fabric of the American story; and

WHEREAS, AAPI voters in various districts were key to electing the first woman of African American as well as Asian American descent as Vice President of the United States; and



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WHEREAS, The Biden/Harris Administration has proven itself extremely competent in handling the responses to COVID-19 domestically; turning a disastrous response from the previous administration into massive logistical success in the first 100 days in office; and

WHEREAS, President Biden rejoined the World Health Organization (W.H.O.) on January 22, 2021; a move that was widely noted as important for the United States to retain leadership in global health in the world; and

WHEREAS, COVID-19 and medical misinformation spread by various actors is still ravaging nations large and small across the world, including Asia and Pacific Island Nations; and

WHEREAS, COVID-19 will not be the last pandemic to face the international community; and

WHEREAS, It is the platform of the North Carolina Democratic Party to support policies that strengthen our diplomatic bonds and that enhance the lives and health of free and democratic people all across the globe, while still defending our American Interest and Values; and

WHEREAS, It is among the signature initiatives of the AAPI-NC Caucus of the NCDP to be concerned with humanitarian controversies that prevail in all countries, and also to seek freedom from harm within the family, the village, and the country of origin; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the North Carolina Democratic Party value good faith positive engagement and culturally sensitive, educational dialogues that will continue to help communities at home and abroad find good health outcomes to the COVID-19 pandemic; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the North Carolina Democratic Party will urge elected officials at all levels to work appropriately with economic and development partners towards sharing logistical, technological, and pharmacological assistance with Asia and the Pacific Islands as they combat the COVID-19 pandemic.

A RESOLUTION TO OPPOSE ANTI-IMMIGRATION BILLS IN NC HOUSE AND SENATE

WHEREAS, Senate Bill 101 of the North Carolina General Assembly 2021-2022 Session is an anti-immigrant "show me your papers" bill that circumvents the local authority of sheriffs by requiring them to cooperate with U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement and assist in the federal government's deportation pipeline or face criminal charges; and

WHEREAS, House Bill 62 of the North Carolina General Assembly 2021-2022 Session is also an anti-immigrant bill that would further would allow anyone in North Carolina to sue their local government if they believed that it the government was enacting any kind of pro-immigrant "sanctuary" policy; and

WHEREAS, there is no legal definition of "sanctuary" policies, so the intent of these bills is not compliance with the law, but to force punish sheriffs or other local elected officials to cooperate with U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement who choose to put community needs over federal immigration enforcement; and



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WHEREAS, House Bill 62 of the North Carolina General Assembly 2021-2022 Session, driven by racism and xenophobia, would open local governments to an unlimited number of groundless suits from citizens and anti-immigrant groups, draining valuable time and money from the government; and

WHEREAS, members of immigrant communities would be more fearful of government and therefore less likely to trust law enforcement or other local governmental agencies; and

WHEREAS, The Immigrants' Rights Alliance of North Carolina, a coalition of 30 organizations dedicated to protecting and defending the rights of immigrants in North Carolina issued a statement on Senate Bill 101 and House Bill 62 of the North Carolina General Assembly 2021-2022 Session, "We strongly urge the North Carolina General Assembly to reject SB 101 and HB 62. North Carolinians deserve better from their elected officials than these divisive and harmful proposals"; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the North Carolina Democratic Party urges all lawmakers to oppose Senate Bill 101 and House Bill 62 of the North Carolina General Assembly 2021-2022 Session and any similar bills that aim to undermine relationships between local governments and immigrant communities; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the North Carolina Democratic Party urges Governor Roy Cooper to veto Senate Bill 101 and House Bill 62 of the North Carolina General Assembly 2021-2022 Session, should either bill be adopted by the North Carolina General Assembly.

RESOLUTION CALLING FOR THE NORTH CAROLINA'S GENERAL ASSEMBLY TO END NORTH CAROLINA'S INVOLVEMENT IN TORTURE

WHEREAS, there has been no official state effort to acknowledge the illegal actions of the CIA front company Aero Contractors Ltd. for their role in the transport of at least 49 Muslim men and women to overseas torture sites from North Carolina airports in Johnston County and Kinston; and

WHEREAS, North Carolina citizens, people of faith, veterans, elected officials, civic groups, labor, various political parties and members of different racial and ethnic groups have called for investigation of Aero since 2005; and

WHEREAS, for two years a blue ribbon North Carolina Commission of Inquiry on Torture took the challenge of investigating our state's role in hosting "torture taxis"; they collected public records, testimonies and worked with experts at UNC and Duke law schools resulting in an 83 page document entitled, "Torture Flights, North Carolina's Role in CIA Rendition and Torture Program;" and

RESOLVED, that the North Carolina Democratic Party encourage members of the North Carolina General Assembly to read the findings in said Report; and be it further

RESOLVED that the North Carolina Democratic Party urge Governor Cooper and other officials to read and issue public statements regarding the Report and to hold anyone involved in this illegal activity accountable for their wrongdoing; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the North Carolina General Assembly reintroduce and pass similar legislation to House Bill 740 (2019-2020), "Ending North Carolina's Involvement in Torture."



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RESOLUTION TO RESTORE THE FIRST AMENDMENT RIGHT TO BOYCOTT TO SUPPORT PALESTINIAN HUMAN RIGHTS (2021)

WHEREAS, The Supreme Court of the United States in the case of NAACP v. Claiborne Hardware Co. unanimously affirmed that boycotts are protected free speech under the First Amendment; and

WHEREAS, Boycotts were an effective non-violent means of protest in the 1960s to oppose segregation and Jim Crow laws in the US and were an effective non-violent means of protest in the 1980s to pressure South Africa to end apartheid rule; and

WHEREAS, Boycotts are a non-violent means of protest to achieve the North Carolina Democratic Party platform's goal to restore the full human rights of the Palestinian people; and

WHEREAS, Article 6G of Chapter 147 of the N.C.G.S., entitled "*Divestment from Companies Boycotting Israel*," places an undue burden on North Carolina businesses seeking to contract with North Carolina state government and entities that also participate in constitutionally protected free speech to restore full human rights of the Palestinian people; and

WHEREAS, General Statute § 147-86.80(4) calls for the creation of a blacklist of companies as it defines a "*Restricted company*" as "a company that appears on the list of companies that are engaged in a boycott of Israel developed by the State Treasurer under G.S. 147-86.81(a)(1)": **"the State Treasurer shall develop and make publicly available a list of companies it determines to be engaged in a boycott of Israel"**; and

WHEREAS, General Statute § 147-86.81. penalizes companies through divestment of state funds from these companies placed on the blacklist simply for exercising non-violent means of protest to support Palestinian human rights:

- a. ***No more than 30 days after October 1, 2017, the State Treasurer shall adopt a policy prohibiting the North Carolina Retirement Systems or the Department of State Treasurer from investing in any company engaged in a boycott of Israel;*** and

WHEREAS, General Statute § 147-86.82., entitled "*Restrictions on contracts with the State or subdivisions of the State*," specifically bans companies on the blacklist from doing business with the state or local government entities:

- a. ***A company that is identified as a restricted company is ineligible to contract with the State or any political subdivision of the State;***
- b. ***Any contract entered into with a company that is identified as a restricted company at the time of contract is void ab initio;***
- c. ***Upon receiving information that a company that was not identified as a restricted company at the time of contract has later been identified as a restricted company, the State agency shall review the information and offer the company an opportunity to respond. If the company fails to demonstrate that the company should not have been identified as a restricted company within 90 days after notification by the State agency, then the State agency shall take action as may be appropriate and provided for by law, rule, or contract;***



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d. *Contracts in existence on October 1, 2017, with restricted companies shall be allowed to expire in accordance with the terms of the contract; and*

WHEREAS, “State or any political subdivision of the State” include cities, counties, school districts, water and sewer authorities, public works commissions, transit authorities, public housing authorities, public hospitals, sanitary districts, airport authorities, and tourism development authorities (TDA) as well as departments, offices, and other subunits of political subdivisions; and

WHEREAS, Article 6G amounts to state-imposed speech on private companies in favor of a foreign country; and

WHEREAS, Similar laws passed by state governments in Arizona, Arkansas, Georgia, Kansas and Texas have either been found unconstitutional and/or the enforcement of said laws has been blocked by the courts for being in violation of the First Amendment; and

WHEREAS, Media reporting and public statements show that the Israeli government engaged in a campaign to pass these unconstitutional anti-boycott laws across the United States which include:

- a) Israeli Consular Officer Harold Hershberg advised Georgia state legislator Deborah Silcox and the Georgia General Assembly on how to amend their anti-boycott law, a clear example of Israel working to undermine fundamental American values¹.
- b) Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu stated “we have promoted laws in most US states, which determine that strong action is to be taken against whoever tries to boycott Israel.”²
- c) Israeli Ambassador to the US/UN Gilad Erdan stated “Our efforts are producing results. 27 US states now have counter-BDS legislation. Let’s give a hand to all the governors and state legislators who supported this law. They deserve it.”³
- d) Israeli publication Haaretz reported on Israeli government Ministry of Strategic Affairs tasked with opposing the boycott movement by setting up a front company Concert (formerly known as Kela Shlomo) “to conceal the funding [organizations] received from Israel.”⁴
- e) Jewish-American publication The Forward’s investigation uncovered Israeli government funding to various groups to promote these anti-boycott laws with a key concern surrounding disclosure of the lobbying activity for a foreign government under the Foreign Agents Registration Act.⁵
- f) Israel funded an organization through this program that is identified as an anti-Muslim hate-group by the Southern Poverty Law Center and thereby placing Muslim-American lives in danger⁶; and

WHEREAS, Anti-boycott laws are opposed by prominent figures and organizations including Senator Diane Feinstein, Senator Bernie Sanders, J Street, Jewish Voice for Peace, Center for Constitutional Rights, American Civil Liberties Union, National Lawyers Guild and many others; and

WHEREAS, A 2020 University of Maryland Critical Issues Poll showed that anti-boycott laws are opposed by 80% of Democrats, 76% of independents and 72% of Republicans⁷; and

WHEREAS, Israeli human rights organization B’Tselem declared in January 2021 that Israel is engaged in the crime of apartheid⁸; and



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WHEREAS, Nobel Peace Prize winning organization Human Rights Watch declared in April 2021 that Israel is engaged in apartheid and persecution, both crimes against humanity⁹; and

WHEREAS, Former Israeli Ambassadors to South Africa Ilan Baruch and Dr. Alon Liel both affirmed that Israel is engaged in apartheid¹⁰; and

WHEREAS, polling commissioned by the Jewish Electoral Institute in 2021 of the Jewish-American community found that 34% agreed that “Israel’s treatment of Palestinians is similar to racism in the United States,” 25% agreed that “Israel is an apartheid state” and 22% agreed that “Israel is committing genocide against the Palestinians”¹¹; and

WHEREAS, Article 6G is designed to interfere in the business decisions and prevent the free speech of companies seeking to disengage with doing business with a country accused of practicing apartheid and persecution; and

WHEREAS, Repeal of this unconstitutional law will be essential to advocate freely for the restoration of full human rights for the Palestinian people and ending Israel’s practice of apartheid and persecution as the law is inherently anti-Palestinian; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the North Carolina Democratic Party work with the Democratic caucus at the North Carolina General Assembly to explore ways to repeal General Statute, Chapter 147 – Article 6G, Divestment from Companies Boycotting Israel (§ 147-86.80 - § 147-86.84) for being an unconstitutional law infringing on the First Amendment right to free speech.

Democratic Party, Government, & Voting Rights

RESOLUTION IN HONOR OF MAX ADAMS

Whereas Johnnie “Max” Adams was an active and devoted Democrat from 2004 until the time of his death on March 9, 2021; and

Whereas Max was active in Precinct 17-05 from 2004 until the time of his death; and

Whereas Max was an active participant in many campaigns including but not limited to those of John Kerry, John Edwards, Lindy Brown, Bob Etheridge, Abe Jones, Blair Williams, and Deborah Ross; and

Whereas Max served as a member of the NC Democratic Party Executive Committee from 2007 until the time of his death; and

Whereas Max was active in the Wake Democratic Men’s Club for over 10 years, serving on the board, a long-time Treasurer, and President from 2017-2019; and also recipient of the 2021 Trailblazer Award; and

Whereas Max served as Treasurer of the Wake County Democratic Party from 2013-2019, participating in fundraising, compiling financial reports, advising Wake County Democratic Party Chairs and officers as well as local candidates for public office; and also recipient of the 2018 Mentor of the Year Award, and



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Whereas Max further served the community as a state employee for many years and a past President of the Garner Lions Club; and

Whereas Max was a friend and ally to hundreds of people during this time, demonstrating effective leadership, wisdom, kindness and judgment;

Now Therefore Be It Resolved that the North Carolina Democratic Party Convention takes a moment of silence for Johnnie “Max” Adams in recognition of his meritorious service to the Wake Democratic Men’s Club and to the Wake County Democratic Party.

RESOLUTION IN HONOR OF NICK DIVITCI

WHEREAS, Nick Divitci studied the issues and candidates, organized, canvassed door-to-door, made the phone calls, sent the emails, staked signs, donated, and attended the meetings; and

WHEREAS, Nick held leadership positions within the Democratic Party at the Precinct, County, Congressional and State levels; and

WHEREAS, if you were a candidate, shared his values, and were willing to make the sacrifice, then Nick was there to support you; therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that the North Carolina Democratic Party expresses its great appreciation for N.V. “Nick” Divitci’s life-long commitment to Democratic values and service.

RESOLUTION ON LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT AND RECOGNITION

WHEREAS, American Indians, who have inhabited this continent since long before our first contact with English settlers, shared knowledge of our land and its resources, and have continued to play a vital role in the development of the local communities, the State of North Carolina, and the nation; and

WHEREAS the NC American Indian population was vastly reduced through genocide, disease, and environmental disruption brought upon it by settlers; and

WHEREAS, North Carolina is home to more than 122,000 American Indians, and currently has eight state and federal recognized tribes: Cohaire, Eastern Band of Cherokee, Haliwa Saponi, Lumbee, Meherrin, Occaneechi Band of Saponi Nation, Sappony, and Waccamaw-Siouan; in accordance with North Carolina General Statutes Chapters 71 A-3 through 71A-7.2, these tribes are legally recognized by the State of North Carolina;

WHEREAS, the NCDP Headquarters is located on the traditional land of the Tuscarora, Eno and Saponi;

WHEREAS the NCDP Native American Caucus was formed in 2019 by the NC Democratic Party to advocate for local, regional, and national American Indian concerns; and

WHEREAS, NC Democratic Party acknowledges and honors the state and federal tribes and indigenous people of North Carolina as the ongoing caretakers of these lands; and



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WHEREAS NC Democratic Party is an organization that embraces diversity, equity, inclusion, and social justice as vital components of educational quality; and

WHEREAS the preservation of American Indian histories, lands, and cultures contribute to the intellectual, social, and physical development of our state and county headquarters in a manner that contributes to inclusive excellence and the public good; and

WHEREAS, in 2021 the North Carolina Democratic Party Native American Caucus released a Land Acknowledgment statement that encourages other counties, auxiliaries and districts to adopt “acknowledgment statements recognizing the traditional occupants of the land the county and state headquarters are on and incorporating those statements into their formal county, district and state conventions”; and

WHEREAS the Land Acknowledgement statement was accepted by the NCDP Native American Caucus; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the North Carolina Democratic Party adopt the Land Acknowledgment Statement and Guidelines that recognizes the eight North Carolina and Federally recognized tribes as the ongoing caretakes of these lands; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the attached Land Acknowledgment Statement and Guidelines be promulgated ubiquitously through the NC Democratic Party in forms such as but not limited to, oral statements and ceremonial introductions at local, district and state events, written statements on NCDP webpages, written statements on County and District websites, in NCDP program books and handouts, or on commemorative plaques.

A RESOLUTION TO EQUITABLY ALIGN SUSTAINING FUND REQUIREMENTS WITH A PRECINCT’S DEMOCRATIC VOTER DEMOGRAPHIC

WHEREAS, the current formula for determining a precinct’s sustaining fund amount includes all registered voters; and

WHEREAS, a large portion of North Carolina counties have more Republicans than Democrats; and

WHEREAS, most precinct chairs are responsible to raise funds to cover voters who aren’t allowed to attend the precinct meetings; and

WHEREAS, the burden to distribute these costs falls on a smaller number of people;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the North Carolina Democratic Party will administer a formula calculated on the number of votes within a precinct for the Democratic gubernatorial candidate; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a formula of 2 cents per gubernatorial vote is more in line with an appropriate amount of money to collect.



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WHEREAS, the watchdog function of journalists is vital for the healthy functioning of our democracy; and

WHEREAS, the demise of news coverage in our local communities means citizens have little knowledge of their local governments of the significance of those actions; and

WHEREAS, local investigative journalism can uncover corruption and provide overall accountability and keep citizens informed; and

WHEREAS, local independent journalism can reveal to communities how their tax dollars are being spent, and the reasons for tax increases; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the North Carolina Democratic Party supports appropriations on the state and national level to support independent, nonpartisan, in-depth, and investigative local news, as an essential public service; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the North Carolina Democratic Party believes that local news coverage should be treated as an essential public service; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the North Carolina Democratic Party calls upon the North Carolina General Assembly, in cooperation with interested charitable foundations, to establish an independent endowment overseen by the Department of Cultural and Natural Resources to support local news organizations.

A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF RECOGNITION OF THE JUNETEENTH FREEDOM DAY AS AN OFFICIAL HOLIDAY IN NORTH CAROLINA

WHEREAS, Juneteenth is the oldest celebration of the emancipation of enslaved African American people, and is so named for the June 19, 1866 adoption of Black Independence Day in Galveston, Texas on the one year anniversary of Union General Gordon Granger proclaiming emancipation in Texas; and

WHEREAS, Juneteenth celebrates America's commitment to liberty and equality following the issuance of the Emancipation Proclamation by President Abraham Lincoln on January 1, 1863, and the ratification of 13th Amendment to the Constitution of the United States of on December 6, 1865; and

WHEREAS, the history of African American people depicts a story of great resilience in the face of the brutality of slavery; and

WHEREAS, Juneteenth commemorates the day freedom was proclaimed to all enslaved people in the American South by Union General Gordon Granger, on June 19, 1865, in Galveston, Texas, more than two and a half years after the signing of the Emancipation Proclamation by President Abraham Lincoln; and

WHEREAS, the celebration of Juneteenth Freedom Day accentuates the ongoing struggle to recognize the freedom and dignity of every human being; and



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WHEREAS, for the first time, in 2015, Juneteenth was finally officially recognized in the United States of America when a proclamation recognizing Juneteenth by President Barack Obama and further recognition by resolutions of the United States Congress;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED the North Carolina Democratic Party supports recognition of Juneteenth Freedom Day on June 19 of each year and calls upon the North Carolina General Assembly to take legislative action to make Juneteenth an official holiday in North Carolina; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the North Carolina Democratic Party requests that the Chair of the North Carolina Democratic Party send copies of this resolution to Democratic members of the North Carolina General Assembly and Governor Roy Cooper.

FACILITATING EASIER VOTER REGISTRATION AND VOTING BY MAIL

WHEREAS, agencies receiving federal appropriations, such as local Health Departments, Departments of Social Services, libraries, and schools, are required to assist their clients in registering to vote under the National Voter Registration Act; and

WHEREAS, voting by mail for some or all voters has been used by a majority of states for many years, including no-excuse absentee voting in North Carolina; and

WHEREAS, voting by mail facilitates the exercise of voting rights and promotes participation in democracy; and

WHEREAS, the election of 2020 demonstrated that voting by mail can be accomplished safely and securely on a large scale; now, therefore, be it

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the North Carolina Democratic Party urges the United States Department of Justice to prioritize investigations concerning state compliance of the National Voter Registration Act; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the North Carolina Democratic Party urges the North Carolina General Assembly to reduce impediments to voting absentee by-mail, specifically those relating to absentee ballot witness requirements.

RESOLUTION OPPOSING THE EXPANSION OF PENALTIES FOR PROTEST AND ASSEMBLY

WHEREAS the North Carolina House of Representatives recently passed House Bill 805 “Prevent Rioting and Disorder” with the support of 23 Democratic legislators; and,

WHEREAS House Bill 805 and similar bills introduced throughout the nation fail to define riot, using only vague terminology, including permitting law enforcement action based on the perception of an “imminent threat” of disorderly conduct; and,

WHEREAS not using precise language gives too much latitude to law enforcement officers to detain people based on the perception of disorderly behavior prior to it happening and allows for anyone in the vicinity to be detained and charged regardless of that person’s involvement in any criminal activity; and,



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WHEREAS the United States Constitution guarantees the right to free assembly, which already has reasonable limits, including but not limited to the requirement to obtain permits and adhere to municipal rules; and,

WHEREAS assault, disorderly conduct, and vandalism already are crimes for which people can be detained and charged under the law; and,

WHEREAS trends in policing demonstrate that so-called anti-rioting measures are likely to have a disproportionate impact on members of the Black community.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the North Carolina Democratic Party oppose enhanced penalties for assembly, protests, or rioting.

ALSO BE IT RESOLVED, we call on Democratic members of the North Carolina General Assembly as well as Governor Roy Cooper to reject House Bill 805 or any other such “anti-rioting” legislation.

ALSO BE IT RESOLVED that the North Carolina Democratic Party supports the rights of people to exercise their first amendment right to free assembly without fear of law enforcement retaliation.

DECLARING THAT THE NC DEMOCRATIC PARTY OPPOSES THE FILIBUSTER

Whereas the filibuster as exercised in the US Senate frustrates the principles of democracy and is contra the concept of majority rule;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the North Carolina Democratic Party calls for the filibuster rule in the US Senate be completely eliminated or substantially modified to bring it in line with the principles of democracy and the US Constitution.

A RESOLUTION FOR DEMOCRATIC ADVOCACY FOR DC AND PUERTO RICAN STATEHOOD

WHEREAS, Nearly four million people call the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico their homes; and

WHEREAS, People born in the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico are U.S. citizens; and

WHEREAS, Voters in both the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico have backed referenda and other measures showing support for becoming states; and

WHEREAS, By not being states, millions of American citizens are left without voting representation in both the U.S. House and Senate; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Democratic Party of North Carolina and all its elected members back the effort of D.C. and Puerto Rican statehood; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Democratic Party of North Carolina and all its elected members not only back but advocate alongside the people of the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico for their status as full states in the union.



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A RESOLUTION THAT THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS PRIORITIZE AND PASS THE FOR THE PEOPLE ACT OF 2021

WHEREAS, This is an important adjunct to the currently proposed John R. Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act of 2020(S.4263) to restore Federal oversight of proposed laws/practices for states with discrimination history invalidated by Supreme Court in 2013, and

WHEREAS, In recent years we've experienced a barrage of new attempts, from White House to State Houses, to restrict voting access especially for people of color with 165 bills pending in 33 states, 19 bills in Arizona and 11 in Georgia alone, in 2021, and WHEREAS, Called "the most significant democracy reform bill in a generation" when 1st proposed in the House in 2019, the reforms are now running in similar pieces of legislation across both congressional chambers including but not limited to:

- **Expanding voter registration ease/access: same day, online registration/updating, pre-registration for future voters 16 and older, limit purging of eligible voters from rolls**
- **Removing voting barriers: expands voting by mail opportunities, polling places and drop boxes accessible to all, requires states to hold early voting for at least 15 days including weekends, restores votes to felons who've completed prison terms, voter ID requirements eased, eliminating measures making it difficult to vote for students, indigenous people and those with disabilities**
- **Promoting election security: Federal criminal penalties for deceiving/intimidating voters, requires paper ballots to safeguard against hackers, equipment failures, and to provide tangible records, grants to states to upgrade voting systems, safeguards against foreign influence**
- **Providing for states to establish independent, nonpartisan redistricting commissions**
- **Overhauling Federal Campaign Finance Laws: increase transparency, deter corruption, prevent foreign money in U.S. Elections, close loopholes, overturn Citizens United**
- **Strengthening ethics rules for public servants, be it**

RESOLVED, the North Carolina Democratic Party calls upon the Democratic National Committee, U.S. Senators, and Representatives prioritize work to get passage of For the People Act of 2021 (H.R.1 & S.R. 1) in preparation for 2022 elections.

A RESOLUTION URGING THE UNITED STATES SENATE TO PASS THE JOHN R. LEWIS VOTING RIGHTS ADVANCEMENT ACT OF 2020

WHEREAS, The Voting Rights Act (VRA) of 1965 was enacted to ensure the enforcement of the 15th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution that no one, including federal, state or local government could in any way impede people from registering to vote or voting because of their race or ethnicity, and

WHEREAS, Section 5 of the VRA requires states/localities with a history of discriminatory voting barriers obtain advance approval, "preclearance", before enacting any new voting practices/laws, and

WHEREAS, In 2013 the Supreme Court, while not invalidating the principle of preclearance, ruled that Section 4(b), which establishes the formula for deciding which states and localities must comply with preclearance, is outdated thus unconstitutional;



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70

yet made clear that a new, updated preclearance formula should be designed & signed into law by congress, and

WHEREAS, The Supreme Court decision, that no states or localities are required to comply with preclearance, has led to a plethora of discriminatory changes to voting laws and practices especially disenfranchising people of color, low-income, transgender and those with disabilities, and

WHEREAS, Currently 165 voter suppression bills are pending in 33 states; Arizona and Georgia alone with 19 and 11 such bills pending, and

WHEREAS, The John R. Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act restores, repairs and strengthens the the Voting Rights Act of 1965 by:

- **detailing a new preclearance formula so that again states/localities with repeated voting rights violations can't make changes to voting laws and practices unless cleared through federal officials**
- **ensuring that last-minute voting changes don't adversely affect voters by requiring officials to publicly announce all voting changes at least 180 days before an election**
- **expanding the government's authority to send federal observers to any jurisdiction where there may be substantial risk of discrimination at the polls on election day or during an early voting period, and**

WHEREAS, H.R. 4, The Voting Rights Advancement Act, later renamed the John R. Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act, was passed by a vote of 228-187 in the House in December of 2019 and introduced in the Senate (S.4263) in July of 2020, be It

RESOLVED, that the National Democratic Party and U.S. Democratic Senators work to get The John R. Lewis Voter Rights Advancement Act of 2020 passed ASAP to force states with terrible voting records to go through the new preclearance protocol before passing any new voter suppression legislation; and be it further

RESOLVED, that North Carolina's State Legislators, in agreement with provisions in H.R. 4, develop and pass into law bills that will give voting rights and opportunities to all eligible to vote in North Carolina.

A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE ABOLITION OF THE ELECTORAL COLLEGE

WHEREAS, the Electoral College was devised by the founders because of their concern that some voters in the 18th century lacked the resources to be fully informed about the candidates, and

WHEREAS, the voters of the 21st century have easy access to information through mass communications, and

WHEREAS, the formula for selecting Electors favors small or less populous states, effectively making votes from some states count more than others, and

WHEREAS, there have now been five presidential elections in which the candidate with the higher number of popular votes has lost the election;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the North Carolina Democratic Party supports the abolition of the Electoral College.



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PARLIMENTARY PROCEDURE CHEAT SHEET

I WANT TO	I SAY	INTERRUPT SPEAKER?	SECOND?	DEBATABLE?	AMENDABLE?	VOTE TO PASS
Introduce Business or Make a Motion	<i>I move that...</i>	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Majority
Kill the Motion or Avoid Considering It	<i>I move the motion be postponed indefinitely.</i>	No	Yes	Yes	No	Majority
Modify the Wording of the Motion	<i>I move to amend the motion by...</i>	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Majority
Modify the Wording of the Amendment	<i>I move to amend the amendment by...</i>	No	Yes	Yes	NO	Majority
Give a Motion More Study or Revision	<i>I move to refer the matter to a committee, (Existing or Special).</i>	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Majority
Limit or Extend the Debate on a Motion	<i>I move to limit/extend debate to...</i>	No	Yes	No	Yes	Two-Thirds
End the Debate on a Motion	<i>I move the previous question ...</i>	No	Yes	No	No	Two-Thirds
Lay a Motion Aside Temporarily	<i>I move to lay the motion on the table...</i>	No	Yes	No	No	Majority
Take Up Motion Set Aside Temporarily	<i>I move to take the motion from the table...</i>	No	Yes	No	No	Majority
Get a Counted Vote After a Voice Vote	<i>I call division...</i>	Yes	No	No	No	Not Needed
Suspend the Rules	<i>I move to suspend the Rules....</i>	No	Yes	No	No	Two-Thirds
Question the Chair's Ruling or Decision	<i>I appeal from the decision of the Chair</i>	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Majority in Negative to Reverse



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Complain About Noise, Volume	<i>I rise to a question of personal privilege...</i>	Yes	No	No	No	Not Needed
Enforce the Rules	<i>Point of Order!</i>	Yes	No	No	No	Not Needed
Ask a Parliamentary Procedure Question	<i>A Parliamentary Inquiry, please....</i>	Yes	No	No	No	Not Needed
Request Information About Business Before SEC	<i>I have a request for information, please...</i>	Yes	No	No	No	Not Needed
Withdraw or Modify My Motion	<i>As my motion has not been stated by the Chair, I move to ...</i>	Yes	Second May Withdraw	No	No	Not Needed
Reconsider a Motion Previously Voted On During this Meeting	<i>I was on the prevailing side of the vote and move to reconsider...</i>	No	Yes	Varies by Motion	No	Majority
Amend a PPOO Amendment Before the SEC	<i>I move to amend the proposed amendment... (Must be in writing)</i>	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Majority
Nominate Someone for an Office	<i>I move to nominate....</i>	No	No	See Rules of the Day	No	Majority
Close the Nominations	<i>I move nominations be closed....</i>	No	Yes	No	Yes	Two-Thirds

Based on Robert's Rules of Order, 12th Edition, 2021
Parliamentarian

Sybil Mann, JD SEC



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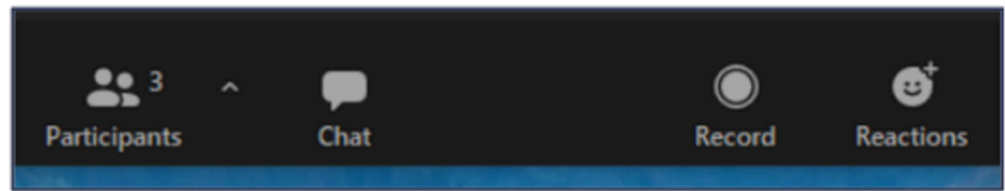
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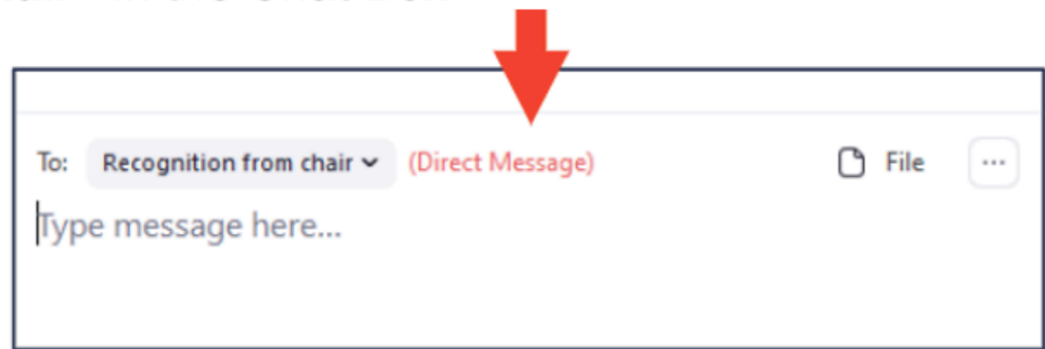
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OBTAINING RECOGNITION FROM CHAIR

STEP 1: Click on the **Chat Box** at the bottom of your Zoom screen



STEP 2: Send a message to “**Recognition from Chair**” in the Chat Box

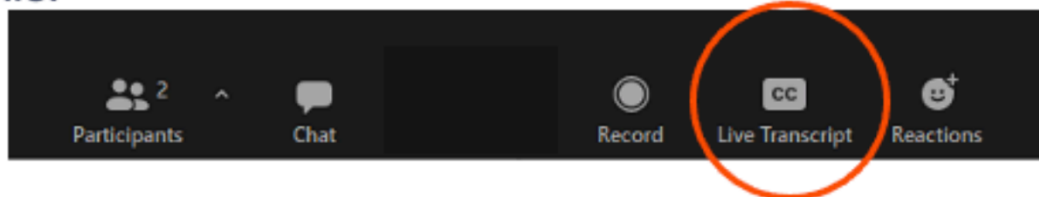


STEP 3: In order to be recognized your message must be one of these phrases

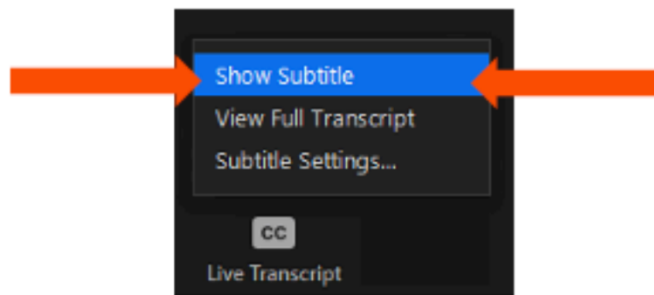
- Motion
- Amendment
- Debate-against
- Second
- Debate-for
- Other

HOW TO TURN ON CLOSED CAPTIONING

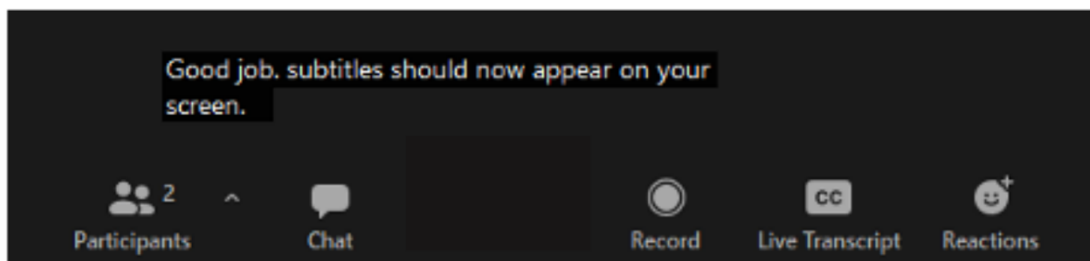
STEP 1: Find the button at the bottom of your zoom screen that says, “**CC Live Transcript.**” It looks like this:



STEP 2: Click on that button. A menu will appear that looks like the below. Click “**Show Subtitle.**”

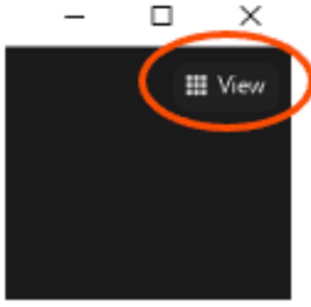


STEP 3: Good job! Subtitles should now appear on your screen!

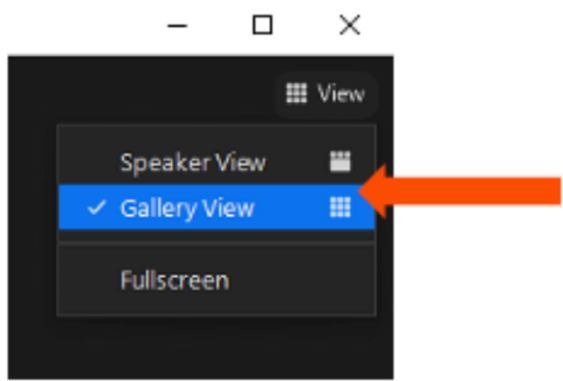


HOW TO CHANGE THE VIEW ON ZOOM

STEP 1: Look in the top right-hand corner of your zoom screen for a button that says, “**View.**”



STEP 2: Click on that button. You should see a menu that looks like the below. Here's where you can pick your view.



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BLUE CREW

BECOME PART OF THE GRASSROOTS TEAM THAT WILL



START A SMALL MONTHLY GIFT AND MAKE SURE THAT
NORTH CAROLINA DEMOCRATS CONSISTENTLY HAVE
A STRONG, UNITED PARTY THAT'S READY
TO TURN NORTH CAROLINA BLUE!



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