



NCDP 2021 Winter SEC Meeting | Sat. Feb. 27, 2021

Report from Resolutions Committee - Matt Hughes, Chair

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



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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



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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.



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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



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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 Gullede 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.



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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;



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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



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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.



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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.



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