

**2019 GCDP RESOLUTIONS TO GO BACK TO THE PRECINCTS FOR
CLARIFICATION OR REDRAFTING**

March 30, 2019

1. RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF A BAN ON SINGLE USE PLASTICS (FR2)

WHEREAS, single use plastics do harm to wildlife, and recently, an endangered whale with plastic in its mouth stranded itself on a North Carolina beach and had to be euthanized;

WHEREAS, single use plastics break down into micro plastics and contaminate our water supply, our soil, food chain, and air, and pose a threat to human and animal health by causing organ damage;

WHEREAS, single use plastics leach chemicals into the air, soil, and water that are known to disrupt or impair immune, growth, and reproductive systems;

WHEREAS, Australia has shown that it is possible to reduce plastic bag consumption by 80% in just 3 months; and

WHEREAS, 91% of all plastics are not appropriately recycled and micro plastics can remain in our environment for several hundred years;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Guilford County Democratic Party urges the North Carolina Democratic Party to consult with local, state, and foreign governments, as well as science-based organizations, to understand the issues caused by single use plastics;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Guilford County Democratic Party urges the North Carolina Democratic Party to propose a ban on single use plastics;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that any such ban would not apply to any disabled or special needs person(s) who cannot use a plastic alternative because of physical, mental, or medical limitations; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that banning single use plastic is only the first step in a number of actions that should be undertaken to preserve our natural resources, as we look to reduce the use of single use plastics, strive to improve recycling, and find new technologies, addressing barriers in the process to any of the steps outlined above.

<https://www.scientificamerican.com/article/earth-has-a-hidden-plastic-problem-mdash-scientists-are-hunting-it-down/>

<https://www.nationalgeographic.com/environment/2018/07/ocean-plastic-pollution-solutions/>

<https://news.nationalgeographic.com/2017/07/plastic-produced-recycling-waste-ocean-trash-debris-environment/>

<https://www.wfmynews2.com/article/news/local/endangered-whale-euthanized-after-being-stranded-at-a-nc-beach/83-17792602-3140-4bf0-a063-3603785d775f>

<http://www.ncsl.org/research/environment-and-natural-resources/plastic-bag-legislation.aspx>

<https://www.forbes.com/sites/trevornace/2018/09/20/heres-a-list-of-every-city-in-the-us-to-ban-plastic-bags-will-your-city-be-next/#dffe83243c>

<http://time.com/5335955/plastic-straws-disabled/>

2. RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF CONSIDERING NUCLEAR POWER (G33)

WHEREAS, climate change is recognized by scientists as a constant and continuing threat;

WHEREAS, climate change is caused by the carbonization of earth's atmosphere;

WHEREAS, it is likely the world's population will demand more and more power in coming years;

WHEREAS, nuclear power is the world's most abundant and scalable carbon-free energy source;

WHEREAS, it is our earth's plant life that can naturally take carbon out of our atmosphere;

WHEREAS, there are limits on how much solar and wind energy can be produced (wind is often becalmed and the sun sets and can be clouded over; and wind and solar sprawl over vast acreage, which could be better left for decarbonization through forests);

WHEREAS, nuclear power plants take up very little land compared to wind and solar;

WHEREAS, in 60 years of nuclear power usage there have been very few deaths compared to natural gas which kills 38 times as many people, biomass 63 times, petroleum 243 times, and coal 387 times as many (60 years with nuclear power have seen 38 deaths in the Chernobyl disaster, together with a few thousand early deaths from cancer. Three Mile Island and Fukushima killed no one.);

WHEREAS, engineers have learned from the accidents and near misses, so Generation II nuclear reactors are safer (even extending to radioactivity, which is higher with burning coal due to flue ash and gases);

WHEREAS, Generation III reactors are even safer and more efficient, but have been plagued by financial and construction problems and Generation IV even more so; and

WHEREAS, research and development needs a boost from governments including infrastructure and a regulatory environment that is suited to 21st century challenges rather than 1970s nuclear dread.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Guilford County Democratic Party encourages the North Carolina Democratic Party to take an objective and closer look at this energy option; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that we encourage our government officials to listen to the science on this issue and consider nuclear energy along with other clean and safe energy sources.

3. **A MINIMUM WAGE OF \$15 AN HOUR AND INDEXING IT TO MEDIAN WAGE GROWTH THEREAFTER (SWASH)**
4. **FIX OUR BROKEN CRIMINAL-JUSTICE SYSTEM (SWASH)**
5. **COMPREHENSIVE IMMIGRATION REFORM (SWASH)**
6. **PROGRESSIVE TAX REFORM (SWASH)**
7. **\$1 TRILLION INFRASTRUCTURE PLAN (SWASH)**
8. **LOWER THE PRICE OF PRESCRIPTION DRUGS (SWASH)**
9. **MAKE PUBLIC COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES TUITION-FREE AND SUBSTANTIALLY REDUCE STUDENT DEBT (SWASH)**
10. **EXPAND SOCIAL SECURITY (SWASH)**