

Resolutions Presented from Precincts
in Guilford County
for Consideration at the
Guilford County Democratic Party County Convention

April 10, 2021

As in years past, the resolutions are organized into 3 groups.

Group A (Page 5) are the resolutions that the Committee recommends be adopted.

Group B (Page 21) are the resolutions about which the Committee thought delegates may wish to discuss.

Group C are resolutions that the Committee recommends be sent back to the precinct for clarification or redrafting. **NOTE: There are no resolutions in Group C this year.**

Respectfully submitted:

GUILFORD COUNTY DEMOCRATIC PARTY RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE

Michele Smith

Tom Wright

A. RESOLUTIONS RECOMMENDED FOR ADOPTION BY THE GUILFORD COUNTY DEMOCRATIC PARTY RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE

- A.1. A Resolution Calling for Hearings and Ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment.** (Submitted by H26, CG3B, G05, G19, G23, G24, G49, G52, G61, G63, G67, G71, H06, H08, H11, H15, H18, H19B, H20A, H21, H24, H26, H27B, H29A, JAM2)
- A2. Resolution Declaring the Excessive Traffic Noise From I-840, or Loop Around Greensboro, Should Be Prohibited by Public Ordinance During Night-Time Hours in Residential Areas.** (Submitted by CG1)
- A3. Resolution to Replace the Term “Minimum Wage” with the Term “Living Wage”.** (Submitted by FEN2)
- A4. Resolution to Prevent Voter Suppression.** (Submitted by FEN2)
- A5. Resolution to Expand Medicaid in North Carolina.** (Submitted by FEN2 and G12)
- A6. Resolution in Support of Universal Health Coverage.** (Submitted by G12)
- A7. Resolution to Address Climate Change.** Submitted by FEN2)
- A8. Resolution in Support of Clean Energy.** (Submitted by G12)
- A9. Resolution to Support Comprehensive Immigration Reform.** (Submitted by FEN2)
- A10. Resolution in Support of a Straightforward Path to Citizenship.** (Submitted by G12)
- A11. Resolution to Acknowledge the Existence of Systemic Racism.** (Submitted by FEN2)
- A12. Resolution in Support of Criminal Justice and Policing Reform.** (Submitted by G13)
- A13. Resolution Calling for the North Carolina’s General Assembly to Pass HB740, “Ending North Carolina’s Involvement in Torture”.** (Submitted by H06)
- A14. Resolution Supporting Resolution Priority.** (Submitted by FR2)
- A15. A Resolution Calling For the GCDP to Follow the NCDP Plan of Organization on Resolutions.** (Submitted by G33)
- A16. Resolution Supporting Renewed Priority on Resolutions.** (Submitted by H06)
- A17. Resolution in Support of Reducing Gun Violence.** (Submitted by G12)
- A18. Resolution in Support of Teacher Tenure and an Increase in Teacher Pay.** (Submitted by G12)
- A19. Resolution in Support of Amending the North Carolina State Constitution.** (Submitted by G12)
- A20. Resolution in Support of Fair And Honest Elections.** (Submitted by G12)
- A21. A Resolution Concerning Voter Rights.** (Submitted by G13)
- A22. Resolution in Support of the Adoption of a More Democratic Nomination Process.** (Submitted by G58)

**B. RESOLUTIONS RECOMMENDED FOR FURTHER DISCUSSION BY THE
GUILFORD COUNTY DEMOCRATIC PARTY**

- B1. Resolution to Increase the Living Wage to \$20.00 Per Hour. (Submitted by FEN2)**
- B2. Resolution Calling for Reform of Workers Compensation in North Carolina.
(Submitted by H12)**

A. RESOLUTIONS RECOMMENDED FOR ADOPTION BY THE GUILFORD COUNTY DEMOCRATIC PARTY RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE

April 10, 2021

A.1. A Resolution Calling for Hearings and Ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment.

(Submitted by H26, CG3B, G05, G19, G23, G24, G49, G52, G61, G63, G67, G71, H06, H08, H11, H15, H18, H19B, H20A, H21, H24, H26, H27B, H29A, JAM2)

WHEREAS, women, who constitute over 51% of the population of North Carolina, continue to confront workplace discrimination; health care inequities; disparate rates of poverty; rape and domestic violence assaults and a lack of political parity; and

WHEREAS, in North Carolina, women earn only 80.9 percent of what men are paid and N.C. Hispanic women earn 49 percent, i.e. less than half, of what men are paid; and

WHEREAS, American women are twice as likely as men to retire in poverty because of the wage gap and closing the gender gap is key to helping American families make ends meet; and

WHEREAS, 94 percent of Americans believe men and women are equal and 80 percent incorrectly think that equality is already guaranteed by the U.S. Constitution; and

WHEREAS, the more states that ratify the ERA, the more it shows Congress and the U.S. Supreme Court that citizens nationwide support the ERA and equal rights for every American regardless of sex, which, in turn, bolsters the strength of our Congressional bills and our court cases; and

WHEREAS, North Carolina must show its own citizens that women and their legal equality are valued; and

WHEREAS, our state did not ratify the 19th Amendment for more than 50 years, and it will be another dark stain on North Carolina if the ERA meets a similar fate; and

WHEREAS, Congresswoman Jackie Speier (D-CA), joined by Congressman Tom Reed (R-NY) and 195 cosponsors, reintroduced her House Joint Resolution to facilitate expeditious ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment (ERA); and

WHEREAS, Senator Ben Cardin (D-MD) and Senator Lisa Murkowski (R-AK) also announced their companion joint resolution in the U.S. Senate, which also removes the deadline to ratify the ERA; and

WHEREAS, since our country's founding, women have been left out of the Constitution, intentionally making women second-class citizens deprived of basic rights to vote, enter most jobs, or own property; and

WHEREAS, to this day, women are paid less for their work, are violated with impunity, and have disproportionately suffer the burden of the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, "For survivors of sexual violence, pregnancy discrimination, or unequal pay, the ratification of the ERA will be a critical step towards equal justice," said Rep. Tom Reed. "This isn't an issue of politics – it's an issue of fairness for all Americans. Congress must press forward and end any unnecessary barriers to the ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment;" and

WHEREAS, Women and all marginalized genders need equality under the law and this can only be secured by adding the Equal Rights Amendment to our Constitution. It is long past time to finally cement gender equality in our Nation's most important text, once and for all; and

WHEREAS, the House passed Rep. Speier’s resolution in the 116th Congress, H.J.Res.79, on Feb. 13, 2020, with a bipartisan vote of 232-183; and

WHEREAS, in a time of deep division, here is something we can all agree on: there can be no time limit on equality; and

WHEREAS, the Equal Rights Amendment was first proposed nearly a century ago and has still not been added to the U.S. Constitution; the original Equal Rights Amendment was proposed in 1923 by Alice Paul, a leader of the Woman Suffrage Movement, and was introduced in Congress in the same year; and

WHEREAS, anti-discrimination state laws are not uniform and federal laws are not comprehensive; additionally, these laws can be repealed or reduced; and

WHEREAS, the Equal Rights Amendment (ERA) is needed to help correct systemic sex discrimination, since the US Constitution does not explicitly guarantee that all the rights that it protects are held equally by all citizens without regard to sex; and

WHEREAS, Congress can alter time limits in the proposing clauses of amendments, and the deadline for the ERA appeared only in the Preamble and not in the text of the amendment; and

WHEREAS, sixteen municipalities and/or counties across North Carolina have adopted resolutions of support for the ERA; and

WHEREAS, the ERA was proposed in 1923, passed by Congress in 1972 and ratified by 35 of the 38 states necessary to put it into the Constitution as of a June 30, 1982, time limit; and

WHEREAS, ERA bills were introduced into both chambers of the North Carolina General Assembly in 2015 and 2017; were assigned to Judiciary and/or Rules Committees, but were not considered in hearings; and

WHEREAS, irrespective of a time limit for ratification, the Nevada Legislature ratified the ERA with a bipartisan vote on March 22, 2017, becoming the thirty-sixth state to ratify the amendment; Illinois became the 37th and Virginia became the 38th state to ratify the ERA; and

WHEREAS, North Carolina can be the happy 40th state to ratify the Equal Rights Amendment; and

WHEREAS, the North Carolina Democratic Party Platform calls for a renewed effort to ratify the ERA; therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Guilford County Democratic Party urges the North Carolina Democratic Party to prioritize advocating the North Carolina General Assembly to hold committee hearings upon ratification bills like those introduced in 2015 and 2017, and that all Democrats pursue ratification of the ERA to the US Constitution as proposed by Congress on March 22, 1972.

****Informative Sources:** ERA-NC Alliance era-nc.org; ERA equalrightsamendment.org; US Census Bureau census.gov/quickfacts/NC; ERA Coalition eracoalition.org; NCDP Platform Preamble tinyurl.com/ya3f5rfc.

Wording of the Equal Rights Amendment:

The Equal Rights Amendment

Section 1: Equality of rights under the law shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any state on account of sex.

Section 2: The Congress shall have the power to enforce, by appropriate legislation, the provisions of this article.

Section 3: This amendment shall take effect two years after the date of ratification.

This wording has been the text of the Equal Rights Amendment since it was composed by suffragist leader and women’s rights activist Alice Paul in 1943. The original ERA, written in 1923 by Paul, feminist lawyer/activist Crystal Eastman, and several others was known as the “Lucretia Mott Amendment”: “Men and women shall have equal rights throughout the United States and every place subject to its jurisdiction. Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation.”

A2. Resolution Declaring the Excessive Traffic Noise From I-840, or Loop Around Greensboro, Should Be Prohibited by Public Ordinance During Night-Time Hours in Residential Areas
(Submitted by CG1)

WHEREAS, many Greensboro residents live in close proximity (within forty (40) feet) of the I-840 Loop around Greensboro; and

WHEREAS, the State of North Carolina has failed to provide a noise wall or any other planned protection from the traffic noise associated with said highway; and

WHEREAS, between the Battleground Avenue exit/entrance to I-840 and the Lawndale Avenue exit/entrance to I-840 provide untrammelled access to extremely noisy and racing vehicular traffic between the hours of 9:00 p.m. and 1:00 a.m.; and

WHEREAS, this traffic is made up of “joyriders” and other unnecessary traffic that has been noted by the Greensboro Police Department in response to citizen complaints; and

WHEREAS, a speed limit sign of 65 mph was placed on the highway just west of the Pedestrian Bridge leading to the Military Park and that said speed limit does nothing to affect intentional noise (from noisy mufflers, etc.) from vehicles driven by people who travel the I-840 Loop as a playground; therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Guilford County Democratic Party urges the Greensboro City Council take up this matter at a Council meeting and coordinate with citizens from the affected communities to find an equitable solution to this problem; and

BE IT RESOLVED, that a noise law or ordinance should be adopted/enacted and enforced in the neighborhoods that surround this very busy highway; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a night-time speed limit of no greater than 55 mph or lower should be set on section of I-840 that are located in heavily populated areas, with the daytime speed limit remaining at 65 mph.

A3. Resolution to Replace the Term “Minimum Wage” with the Term “Living Wage”
(Submitted by FEN2)

WHEREAS, a minimum wage is only the legal minimum that is required by law; and

WHEREAS, a living wage represents an income level necessary for individuals to afford food, shelter and other basic necessities for themselves and their families; and

WHEREAS, a minimum wage does not adequately reflect the true needs of individuals and families; therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Guilford County Democratic Party urges our senators and representatives at the state and federal levels to replace the term “minimum wage” with the term “living wage.”

A4. Resolution to Prevent Voter Suppression
(Submitted by FEN2)

WHEREAS, voting is a fundamental right; and

WHEREAS, recent efforts such as curtailing mail-in voting, cancelling same-day registration, and requiring photo identification are attempts to limit that fundamental right; therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Guilford County Democratic Party encourages the North Carolina Democratic Party to actively and publicly resist all attempts at voter suppression through the support of legislation and through legal remedies, as applicable.

A5. Resolution to Expand Medicaid in North Carolina
(Submitted by FEN2 and G12)

WHEREAS, the most economically vulnerable citizens in North Carolina struggle to receive adequate help in meeting their basic medical needs such as routine health care, treatment for chronic conditions and other health issues; and

WHEREAS, federal funding is available to help meet these needs through the expansion of Medicaid; and

WHEREAS, Medicaid expansion would also promote job creation throughout the state and would help keep hospitals and clinics open; therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Guilford County Democratic Party encourages the North Carolina Democratic Party to work towards the expansion of Medicaid in North Carolina; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Guilford County Democratic Party urges its state legislators to support legislation for the expansion of Medicaid in North Carolina.

A6. Resolution in Support of Universal Health Coverage
(Submitted by G12)

WHEREAS, health care is a right of all individuals, in part so that no person ever faces economic ruin along with loss of health due to the absence of health care; therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Guilford County Democratic Party strongly supports expanding national health insurance to include all residents of the United States; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Guilford County Democratic Party urges its Senators and Representatives in the U.S. Congress to support legislation that would expand national health insurance to include all residents of the United States.

A7. Resolution to Address Climate Change
(Submitted by FEN2)

WHEREAS, climate scientists have issued repeated warnings about the dangers stemming from the steady increase of global temperatures; and

WHEREAS, current fossil fuel-based energy sources such as natural gas can be made less environmentally impactful through current technology as alternate forms of energy production are perfected; therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Guilford County Democratic Party encourages its state and federal legislators to support legislation to stop and reverse global climate change.

A8. Resolution in Support of Clean Energy
(Submitted by G12)

WHEREAS, Republicans in the NC Legislature champion the use of fracking and fossil fuels such as coal, and oil; and

WHEREAS, use of the sun is an intelligent, climate-safe way to obtain energy; therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Guilford County Democratic Party supports the use of solar roofing tiles on homes and businesses and solar panels over parking lots and other appropriate places, and encourages the NC Utilities Commission to make the expansion of solar energy a top priority in North Carolina.

A9. Resolution to Support Comprehensive Immigration Reform
(Submitted by FEN2)

WHEREAS, immigrants have provided labor, innovation, and cultural distinctiveness to the United States throughout its history; and

WHEREAS, recent policies have not acknowledged these contributions and have largely failed to treat immigrants humanely; therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Guilford County Democratic Party urges its legislators at the federal level to support comprehensive immigration reform as a major policy objective.

A10. Resolution in Support of a Straightforward Path to Citizenship
(Submitted by G12)

WHEREAS, the North Carolina Democratic Party recognizes the inherent dignity and humanity of North Carolina's immigrant residents, regardless of immigration status, and recognizes the importance of the many contributions made by immigrants and their families to our State's rich and varied economic, cultural, social, political and religious life; therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that Guilford County Democratic Party supports a straightforward path to citizenship for all immigrants, recognizing that they are subject to the same requirements of citizenship as everyone else; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Guilford County Democratic Party urges its legislators at the federal level to eliminate discriminatory practices against immigrants seeking citizenship based on their religion, race, ethnicity or sexual orientation.

A11. Resolution to Acknowledge the Existence of Systemic Racism
(Submitted by FEN2)

WHEREAS, communities of color continue fall behind other groups in areas such employment, health care, and housing; and

WHEREAS, recent events have highlighted unequal treatment by the criminal justice system for members of minorities compared to other groups; and

WHEREAS, restrictions in certain areas such as housing loans and voting rights present evident disadvantages to people of color; therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Guilford County Democratic Party fully acknowledges the existence of systemic racism.

A12. Resolution in Support of Criminal Justice and Policing Reform
(Submitted by G13)

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

WHEREAS, the federal and local justice and policing complex has for many decades deteriorated into 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 someone of 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; therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Guilford County 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, (6) create a reliable system to vet candidates for racial bias, and (7) remove weapons of war as policing equipment; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Guilford County 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.

**A13. Resolution Calling for the North Carolina’s General Assembly to Pass HB740,
“Ending North Carolina’s Involvement in Torture”
(Submitted by H06)**

WHEREAS, there has been no official state effort to acknowledge the illegal actions of the CIA front company AERO contractors 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

WHEREAS, although Governor Cooper, Attorney General Josh Stein and members of the Johnston County City Council have all been called upon to respond to North Carolina Commission of Inquiry on Torture’s report after it was released September 27, 2018; however, none of them has yet responded; therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Guilford County Democrat Party encourages members of the North Carolina General Assembly to read the findings in said Report; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Guilford County Democrat Party urges 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 he Guilford County Democrat Party urges the North Carolina General Assembly to pass HB740, “Ending North Carolina’s Involvement in Torture.”

Source: Citizen Times June 5, 2019; www.ncstn.org

**A14. Resolution Supporting Resolution Priority
(Submitted by FR2)**

WHEREAS, the first sentence on the Democrats.org webpage states that together we fight “for a better, fairer, and brighter future for every American” by “empowering grassroots voters;” and

WHEREAS, grassroots input to the Party Platform and other policymaking is accomplished through the resolution submission process; and

WHEREAS, the North Carolina Democratic Party (NCDP) has failed to complete the SEC agenda, including acceptance of submitted resolutions; and

WHEREAS, a resolution submitted, but not considered, at the recent NCDP SEC meeting was submitted three years ago; therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Guilford County Democratic Party demands that the NCDP consider resolutions in a timely manner at all levels of acceptance, including at SEC meetings.

A15. A Resolution Calling For the GCDP to Follow the NCDP Plan of Organization on Resolutions
(Submitted by G33)

WHEREAS, Methods for Consideration and Adoption of Resolutions at the County Level are spelled out in the NCDP Plan of Organization, Section 2.10;** and

WHEREAS, said plan states, “Resolutions may be proposed, considered, and adopted at the annual meeting of any precinct.” and “forwarded to the county;” and

WHEREAS, it further states, “Resolutions may be addressed either only at the county convention or initially by a special platform and resolution committee appointed by the district chair;” and

WHEREAS, it further states, “Resolutions that are adopted and are of purely local interest shall be recommended for further action on the local level;” and

WHEREAS, there are no further methods of proposal, consideration, or adoption spelled out in “Methods for Consideration and Adoption of Resolutions at the County Level;” therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Guilford County Democratic Party (GCDP) Officers and Auxiliary Presidents may not propose resolutions in the name of the Party without first presenting them at the precinct level or as a special platform and resolution committee appointed by the district chair; and

BE IT RESOLVED, that any resolution proposed in such “a special platform and resolution committee appointed by the district chair” shall be forwarded to the County Executive Committee or the County Convention for “further action on the local level;” and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the GCDP Officers and Auxiliary Presidents may not pass resolutions in the name of the Guilford County Democratic Party.

**** 2.10 METHODS FOR CONSIDERATION AND ADOPTION OF RESOLUTIONS AT THE COUNTY LEVEL**

1. Resolutions may be proposed, considered, and adopted at the annual meeting of any precinct. All resolutions adopted at a precinct meeting shall be forwarded to the county secretary. The county convention shall in even-number years adopt the method for reviewing, editing, consolidating, adopting, and prioritizing resolutions most appropriate for the local party. Resolutions may be addressed either only at the county convention or initially by a special platform and resolution committee appointed by the district chair. Resolutions that are adopted and are of purely local interest shall be recommended for further action on the local level.

A16. Resolution Supporting Renewed Priority on Resolutions
(Submitted by H06)

WHEREAS, the Democratic Party has historically called on all grassroots members of the Party to submit Resolutions at annual precinct meetings that speak to the issues they are concerned about the most; and

WHEREAS, the very first sentence on the Democrats.org webpage includes “empowering grassroots voters”; and

WHEREAS, traditionally precinct-generated Resolutions are voted on at County Conventions, District Conventions and NCDP State Conventions to become part of our state platform and guide our legislators in the will of the people; and

WHEREAS, in the past few years those Resolutions have been ignored, skipped over and relegated to the very last order of business at Democratic meetings; therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Guilford County Democratic Party strongly urges County, District and State Conventions to respectfully present Resolutions in a timely manner.

A17. Resolution in Support of Reducing Gun Violence
(Submitted by G12)

WHEREAS, our children and other innocent people in our Country are being killed in large groups with increasing frequency due to our culture of honoring the selling, buying and use of firearms over the preservation of human life; therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Guilford County Democratic Party urges its Senators and Representatives in the U.S. Congress to support legislation that will reverse the tragic consequences of this indefensible state of affairs; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Guilford County Democratic Party urges its Senators and Representatives in the U.S. Congress to support legislation that would abolish the ownership of weapons of mass murder by civilians consistent with the Gun Violence Protection Act.

A18. Resolution in Support of Teacher Tenure and an Increase in Teacher Pay
(Submitted by G12)

WHEREAS, the law denying tenure to new teachers and denying additional pay for teachers with advanced degrees is resulting in highly effective and educated teachers leaving the teaching profession or moving to other states; therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Guilford County Democratic Party strongly supports reinstating tenure to new teachers and reinstating additional pay for teaches with advanced degrees; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Guilford County Democratic Party urges its legislators in the North Carolina General Assembly to support legislation to reinstate tenure for new teaches and to reinstate additional pay for teaches with advanced degrees.

A19. Resolution in Support of Amending the North Carolina State Constitution
(Submitted by G12)

WHEREAS, Article VI, Section 8 of the Constitution of North Carolina declares that anyone who denies the existence of God or a Creator cannot hold office; therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Guilford County Democratic Party supports the amendment of the North Carolina State Constitution to eliminate this disqualification for office.

A20. Resolution in Support of Fair And Honest Elections
(Submitted by G12)

WHEREAS, gerrymandering creates an artificial advantage for one party, with the loss of the importance of natural geographic shapes, and the loss of city contours as valid political boundaries; therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Guilford County Democratic Party urges its legislators in the North Carolina General Assembly to support legislation creating a professional and politically neutral body to define electoral boundaries.

A21. A Resolution Concerning Voter Rights
(Submitted by G13)

WHEREAS, our democracy is based on the right to vote; and

WHEREAS, there is an insidious effort underway to make voting harder, especially for poor voters or voters of color; and

WHEREAS, voter fraud is mostly a fraudulent smoke screen for voter suppression; therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Guilford County Democratic Party urges our state legislators to protect and support the laws concerning early voting, absentee ballots, and voter identification; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that our state legislators work to make it easier for all citizens to vote, promoting and establishing means of voting online, for example, and making it easier for everyone to register to vote.

A22. Resolution in Support of the Adoption of a More Democratic Nomination Process
(Submitted by G58)

WHEREAS, each individual's vote is an expression of the popular will, and determinations of political issues by the popular will is the essence of a democracy; and

WHEREAS, some people will not go to the polls to vote in primary elections if they know their vote can be discounted or diluted by rules that determine political outcomes in some manner other than each vote being an equal expression of popular will to every other vote; and

WHEREAS, the Democratic Party has in place in the nomination process a bureaucratic layer of super-delegates or "unpledged" delegates who can potentially override the popular will, thus making the process of selecting the Party's nominees less democratic. This is true despite the fact that current rules only give super-delegates a role in the second round of balloting when the first round has not determined a nominee; and

WHEREAS, the use of super-delegates in the nomination process is inherently undemocratic as it may work to discount or dilute the votes of individuals, discourage people from voting in primaries, and potentially override the people's choice for a Democratic Party nominee; therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, the Guilford County Democratic Party urges the North Carolina Democratic Party to eliminate super-delegates in the nomination process and , instead, sufficient rounds of voting by bound delegates who better reflect the popular will should be used as an alternative way of allowing a winning nominee to emerge.

B. RESOLUTIONS RECOMMENDED FOR FURTHER DISCUSSION BY THE GUILFORD COUNTY DEMOCRATIC PARTY

B1. Resolution to Increase the Living Wage to \$20.00 Per Hour (Submitted by FEN2)

WHEREAS, a recent Massachusetts Institute of Technology study determined that a living wage for an adult with no children in North Carolina to be \$38.01 per hour; and

WHEREAS, the current minimum legal wage of \$7.25 does not approach the actual requirements of an individual living in North Carolina to subsist; therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, the Guilford County Democratic Party urges the North Carolina General Assembly to pass legislation raising the living wage to \$20.00 per hour, with increases to be made incrementally by \$2.00 each year for ten years.

B2. Resolution Calling for Reform of Workers Compensation in North Carolina (Submitted by H12)

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; therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Guilford County 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