

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

March 19, 2022

Resolutions are organized into 4 groups.

Group A: There are 10 resolutions identified by the Committee as reflecting and/or affirming resolutions that are incorporated into the current NCDP Platform.

Group B: There are 5 resolutions that the Committee recommends be adopted.

Group C : There are no resolutions about which the Committee thought delegates may wish to discuss.

Group D: There are no resolutions that the Committee recommends be sent back to the precinct for clarification or redrafting.

GUILFORD COUNTY DEMOCRATIC PARTY RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE

Krish Parlikad

Michele Smith

Tom Wright

**A. RESOLUTIONS IDENTIFIED BY THE GUILFORD COUNTY
DEMOCRATIC PARTY RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE AS REFLECTING
AND/OR AFFIRMING RESOLUTIONS INCORPORATED INTO THE
CURRENT NCDP PLATFORM**

- A.1. Resolution to Prevent Voter Suppression
(Submitted by FEN2). Page 4**
- A.2. Resolution to Expand Medicaid In North Carolina
(Submitted by FEN2). Page 4**
- A.3. Resolution to Support Basic Education In North Carolina
(Submitted by FEN2). Page 4**
- A4. Resolution Calling for the Reduction of Public Tax Dollars Being Allocated for the
Support of Charter Schools and Elimination of Vouchers for Tuition to Private
Schools
(Submitted by G27). Page 4**
- A5. Resolution to Reauthorize the Expanded Child Tax Credit
(Submitted by FEN2). Page 5**
- A.6. Resolution to Combat Climate Change
(Submitted by FEN2 and G13). Page 6**
- A.7. Resolution in Support of Overturning Citizen’s United
(Submitted by G11). Page 6**
- A.8. Resolution in Support of Legalization of Recreational Marijuana in North Carolina
(Submitted by G13). Page 7**
- A.9. Resolution to Preserve Reproductive Rights
(Submitted by G13). Page 7**
- A.10. Resolution to End Jail Fees for Periods of Detention
(Submitted by JAM1). Page 8**

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

- B.1. Resolution in Support of a National Single-Payer Universal Comprehensive Health
Plan
(Submitted by FR5A). Page 9**
- B.2. Resolution Against Book Banning
(Submitted by FEN2). Page 12**
- B.3. Resolution on Prioritizing Student Loan Forgiveness
(Submitted by FEN2). Page 12**
- B.4. Resolution to Overturn Citizens United By Constitutional Amendment
(Submitted by JAM2). Page 12**
- B.5. Resolution in Support of a Non-Partisan Redistricting Constitutional Amendment
(Submitted by G40A2). Page 13**

A. RESOLUTIONS IDENTIFIED BY THE GUILFORD COUNTY DEMOCRATIC PARTY RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE AS REFLECTING AND/OR AFFIRMING RESOLUTIONS INCORPORATED INTO THE CURRENT NCDP PLATFORM

A.1. Resolution to Prevent Voter Suppression

Whereas, voting is a fundamental right; and

Whereas, access to ballots and polling stations are in effect governmental infrastructure in a democracy; and

Whereas, recent efforts such as curtailing mail-in voting, cancelling same-day registration, and limiting the number of polling stations are attempts to limit the fundamental right to vote; therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that commitment to the right to vote be expressed through legislation and, where needed, legal remedy.

(Submitted by FEN2)

See Pages 3-4 of the NCDP Platform at www.ncdp.org/partyplatform

A.2. Resolution to Expand Medicaid In North Carolina

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

Whereas, federal funding is available to help meet these needs; therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that Medicaid should be expanded in North Carolina.

(Submitted by FEN2)

See Pages 11-12 of the NCDP Platform at www.ncdp.org/partyplatform

A.3. Resolution to Support Basic Education In North Carolina

Whereas, the North Carolina constitution declares that education is a right; and

Whereas, the same document states that the General Assembly “shall provide by taxation and otherwise for a general and uniform system of free public schools;” therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that the state of North Carolina provide proper and equal funding for each student; that the necessary revenue be raised to ensure that education is free and encouraged, and that extra funding be provided to educate poorer children.

(Submitted by FEN2)

See Pages 13-14 of the NCDP Platform at www.ncdp.org/partyplatform

A4. A Resolution Calling for the Reduction of Public Tax Dollars Being Allocated for the Support of Charter Schools and Elimination of Vouchers for Tuition to Private Schools

Whereas, well-funded public school education is essential to our democracy; and

Whereas, the N. C. General Assembly passed legislation in 1996 that allowed tax dollars to be allocated to support a maximum of 100 charter schools; and

Whereas, in 2017 Senate Bill 8 removed all limits on the number of N.C. charter schools; and
Whereas, the state passed legislation allowing tax dollars to be allocated for vouchers for private school tuition; and

Whereas, traditional public schools are thus deprived of money essential for paying teachers, teacher aids, up-to-date technology, teaching materials and supplies as well as valuable enriching experiences for students; and

Whereas, charter and private schools may choose to accept or decline a student; and

Whereas, public schools are required to accept and meet the needs of all students in their respective districts; and

Whereas, charter and private schools are not required to offer free and reduced-price lunches for students; and

Whereas, charter schools and private schools are not required to provide student transportation; and

Whereas, individual charter schools create their own standards and curriculum as part of their autonomy; therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that to preserve tax dollars for traditional public schools, the N.C. General Assembly be called upon to reinstate the cap of 100 charter schools in the state, as well as the original purposes of charter schools: to emphasize expanding learning experiences for students who are at risk of failure or academically talented; to encourage creative teaching methods; to share best practices with traditional public schools; and

BE IT RESOLVED, that the N.C. General Assembly preserve tax dollars for traditional public schools by passing legislation that eliminates the use of tax dollars to fund tuition vouchers to private schools; and

BE IT RESOLVED, that the North Carolina Democratic Party use every avenue available to educate legislators in the General Assembly about the need to reinstate the original 1996 cap of 100 charter schools in North Carolina and eliminate using tax dollars to fund tuition vouchers for private schools; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the State Party will provide information to Democrats across N.C. about the detrimental effect on traditional public schools of giving tax dollars to fund charter schools and vouchers for private school tuition and encourage Democrats to contact their legislators in the General Assembly to pass legislation that will eliminate use of tax dollars to support vouchers for private schools and to reinstate the cap of 100 charter schools in the state.

Information Sources

“Public Schools First NC/The Facts on Charter Schools” (Quick Facts on Charter Schools)

<http://ncpublicschools.org/information/topics?role=parents&&topic=Curriculum>

<http://www.ncpolicywatch.com/2019/001/30/in-some-north-carolina-counties-traditional-schools-are-being-squeezed-by-charters/> (NC Policy Watch)

(Submitted by G27)

See Page 15 of the NCDP Platform at www.ncdp.org/partyplatform

A5. Resolution to Reauthorize the Expanded Child Tax Credit

Whereas, the expanded child tax credit dramatically reduced childhood poverty rates; and

Whereas, that tax credit recently expired; therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that Congress be called upon to reauthorize it.
(Submitted by FEN2)

See Page 5 of the NCDP Platform at www.ncdp.org/partyplatform

A.6. Resolution to Combat Climate Change

Whereas, human activity is driving the global climate into a cycle of radical changes; and

Whereas, this human-caused climate change presents an existential threat to human life and culture on the earth; and

Whereas, human-caused climate change has substantially increased extreme weather events, wildfires, droughts, and other phenomena; and

Whereas, these effects have created massive human suffering, economic damage, and ecological devastation; and

Whereas, failure to act to limit or reverse human-caused climate change will result in continued, accelerating, and irreversible global destruction; therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that all elected leaders and policy groups should place their highest priorities on policies which combat human-caused climate change; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Democratic Party should work to advance leaders and elected officials who will aggressively develop and adopt policies to combat human-caused climate change, including;

- a) Direct support for the adoption and deployment of climate-friendly energy sources;
- b) Funding research for carbon-removal technologies;
- c) Phasing out polluting technologies and energy sources;
- d) Climate-friendly transportation policies;
- e) Cap-and-Trade-and-Retire emissions policies.

(Submitted by FEN2 and G13)

See Page 10 of the NCDP Platform at www.ncdp.org/partyplatform

A.7. Resolution in Support of Overturning Citizens United

Whereas, the Congress is a wholly owned subsidiary of the richest 1% of Americans; and

Whereas, a corporation is not a person; and

Whereas, research shows that legislation adopted is correlated with the will of corporations and has no correlation with voters*; therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that legislation needs to be adopted to overturn Citizens United to make our government of, for, and by the people; to eliminate corporate spending in elections; and to develop a means to track “dark money” in politics.

(Submitted by G11)

See Page 3 of the NCDP Platform at www.ncdp.org/partyplatform

A.8. Resolution in Support of Legalization of Recreational Marijuana in North Carolina

Whereas, the criminalization of cannabis has resulted in the historic disparate application of criminal sanctions on Black and Latino Americans and in recent years, racial disparities in cannabis arrests worsened in 31 states; and

Whereas, in the interest of social justice these laws should be changed; and

Whereas, criminalization of marijuana use and possession in North Carolina has had disproportionate negative effects on the black community in that Black North Carolinians are three time more likely to be arrested for marijuana possession than their white counterparts – even though white and Black North Carolinians use cannabis at equivalent rates; and

Whereas, nationally twenty-one states now have legal recreational marijuana use, thirty-seven states allow some form of cannabis for medical purposes, and several more states are expected to legalize marijuana in 2022; and

Whereas, states that have legalized marijuana are receiving economic benefit and are establishing a legally regulated cannabis industry and distribution networks; and

Whereas, the Majority of North Carolinians support the legalization and regulation of marijuana for adult recreational use; and

Whereas, states that have legalized marijuana for adult recreational use have seen a substantial increase in revenue and have experienced no substantial difference in violent crime rates; therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that recreational marijuana use for adults in North Carolina should be legal.

(Submitted by G13)

See Pages 12-13 of the NCDP Platform at www.ncdp.org/partyplatform

A.9. Resolution to Preserve Reproductive Rights

Whereas, a woman's right to reproductive freedom and bodily autonomy should be considered a basic, constitutional human right; and

Whereas, no form of healthcare, whether birth control, abortions, or vaccines, should ever be politicized; and

Whereas, the current majority of U.S. Supreme Court judges appear to be willing to overturn Roe v Wade and allow each state to determine whether or not its citizens have a right to reproductive freedom; and

Whereas, more than 6 million North Carolinians live in a county with no abortion provider, and more than 30 anti-abortion bills have been introduced by lawmakers in North Carolina since 2010; and

Whereas, a Public Policy Polling survey found that a strong majority of North Carolina voters support reproductive freedom and reject banning abortion; and

Whereas, the impact of abortion restrictions and limited access to family planning facilities falls disproportionately on people experiencing financial hardship; therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that the North Carolina General Assembly should honor the rights of North Carolinians by protecting and improving access to the full range of reproductive care options for women and families.

(Submitted by G13)

See Page 12 of the NCDP Platform at www.ncdp.org/partyplatform

A.10. Resolution to End Jail Fees for Periods of Detention

Whereas, in the State of North Carolina the court system penalizes the underserved, disadvantaged, and poverty-stricken citizen with excessive court costs and fees; and

Whereas, fees are further assessed against individuals who are detained in jail pending a judicial hearing and/or who have been sentenced to probation with an active term of incarceration; and

Whereas, such fees are excessive as imposed against defendants who are economically disenfranchised and typically considered indigent; and

Whereas, citizens who are detained in legal custody for acts deemed as violations against civil, state, or federal laws should not be required to pay a financial penalty merely for being detained in said custody; and

Whereas, detention centers are thus operating as a kind of debtors' prison, a form of social penance found to be unjust and discontinued at the federal level in 1833; and

Whereas, when a defendant is determined to be financially unable to pay jail fees, the court indiscriminately transfers the fees to a civil judgment; and

Whereas, when jail fees are transferred to a civil judgment the defendant is placed in a double-jeopardy situation, subject to the collateral consequence of having their credit score negatively affected and so lose out on opportunities to qualify for financial assistance for student loans, car loans, apartment rental approvals, mortgage loans, etc.; and

Whereas, when citizens are hindered from improving their social-economic situation as a result of such a double-jeopardy situation the citizen, family, and entire community suffer by way of increased taxes to pay for an increasingly overburdened social service safety net; therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, statutory guidelines governing the imposition of jail fees against defendants who are found criminally liable should be eliminated; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the judicial practice of charging defendants jail fees for periods of detention should cease henceforth and forevermore.

(Submitted by JAM1)

See Page 13 of the NCDP Platform at www.ncdp.org/partyplatform

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

**B.1. Resolution in Support of a National Single-Payer Universal
Comprehensive Health Plan**

Whereas, health care is a right of all individuals¹, no person should ever face economic ruin and/or loss of health due to cost; and

Whereas, national single-payer universal comprehensive health care would rein in the ever-rising US Healthcare Expenditure and produce enough cost savings to cover all residents² while upgrading benefits³; and

Whereas, the US Healthcare Expenditure is projected to reach six trillion dollars by 2028⁴ and is already more than twice the national average health spending of the 37 countries comprising the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development⁵; and

Whereas, this high expenditure burdens families (137 million people reported financial hardship)^{6, 7}; and

Whereas, many people deal with that burden by delaying care⁸ and using less than prescribed amounts of medication, at the risk of developing avoidable and expensive complications which can be debilitating and even fatal;^{9 10}and

Whereas, while our high medical prices are currently negotiated privately within the healthcare industry and held as trade secrets, under a single-payer system, the government, using its power as the sole payer of health care bills, would negotiate lower prices for the peoples' benefit¹¹; and

Whereas, COVID19 revealed the inadequacies of our privately insured healthcare system, which fell harder upon marginalized populations, disproportionately employed in essential but low paying positions that provide little or no health care insurance¹²; and

Whereas, this high expenditure places a burden on employers including local, county and state governments (the City of Greensboro projected its employee health benefit costs, for the fiscal year 2020-2021, at forty-five million dollars)¹³; therefore

¹ (Kaufman, 2018)

² (Woolhandler, et al., 2021)⁸ (Kemp, The Case for Medicare for All, 2019)

³ (Sponsor: Rep. Jayapal, 2021)

⁴ 2018 actual expenditure increased at projected 5.4% annual growth through 2028 (Centers for Medicare & Medicaid, 2020)

⁵ (Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), 2019)

⁶ (Kornis, 2019)

⁷ (Yabroff, Zhao, Han, & Zeng, 2019)

⁸ (Kaiser Family Foundation State Indicator, 2019)

⁹ (Caffrey, 2019)

¹⁰ (Khera, Valero-Elizondo, & Das, 2019)

¹¹ (Kemp, The Case for Medicare for All, 2019)

¹² (Kemp, Unprepared for COVID-19, How the Pandemic Makes the Case for Medicare for All, 2021)

¹³ (Greensboro Human Resources Department, 2021)

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Guilford County Democratic Party believes that national single-payer universal coverage is the only way to achieve universal health care; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Guilford County Democratic Party endorses Medicare for All legislation and calls upon our federal representatives to work toward immediate enactment of a national universal single-payer health plan that assures comprehensive and quality healthcare for all residents of the United States, free at the point of care (i.e. without deductibles, co-pays, co-insurance or any other form of out-of-pocket spending;); and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Guilford County Democratic Party calls upon the local municipalities in Guilford County as well as the Guilford County Board of Commissioners to pass resolutions supporting the immediate enactment of a national single-payer health plan as described above and that each of these local governments require their respective Clerks to send copies of their resolution to each US House Representative and US Senator that represents Guilford County; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the North Carolina Democratic Party call upon the North Carolina General Assembly to pass a resolution that calls for the immediate enactment of a national single-payer health plan as described above and that a copy of this resolution be sent to every US House of Representative and US Senator representing North Carolina.

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(Submitted by FR5A)

B.2. Resolution Against Book Banning

Whereas, efforts to ban books from libraries continue to gain strength and frequency; and

Whereas, books are central to any education and crucial to the development of critical thinking skills; therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that all libraries should be encouraged in their efforts to make available books that feature diverse voices, and that school board candidates who recognize the importance of these efforts be supported.

(Submitted by FEN2)

B.3. Resolution on Prioritizing Student Loan Forgiveness

Whereas, high levels of student loan debt can make it impossible for graduates to fully participate in the economy; and

Whereas, the need for loan forgiveness can vary among students; and

Whereas, many students feel compelled to avoid less remunerative, though socially useful, careers, to address their debt; therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that student loan forgiveness be based upon financial need and career path.

(Submitted by FEN2)

B.4. Resolution to Overturn Citizens United By Constitutional Amendment

Whereas, we the people adopted and ratified the United States Constitution to protect the free speech and other rights of individuals, not corporations; and

Whereas, the United States Supreme Court's decision in *Citizens United v. Federal Election Commission* overturned longstanding precedent prohibiting corporations (and unions) from spending general treasury funds in our elections; and

Whereas, *Citizens United v. Federal Election Commission* and related federal court decisions present a serious and direct threat to our nation's republican democracy, while standing in direct contrast to our local Alexandria commitment to good government, civic and civil discourse, and broad

participation in local decision-making; and

Whereas, Article V of the United States Constitution empowers and obligates the people and states of the United States of America to use the constitution amendment process to correct those egregiously wrong decisions of the United States Supreme Court that go to the heart of our democracy and republican self-government; and

Whereas, the people and states of the United States of America have strengthened the nation and preserved liberty and equality for all by using the amendment process throughout our history, including the overturning of erroneous Supreme Court decisions; therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Guilford County Democratic Party calls upon the all candidates running forelection in the November, 2022 election, both City and State-wide, to support an amendment to the U.S. Constitution to reverse Citizens United v. Federal Election Commission and related cases and to restore constitutional rights and fair elections to the people, and (ii) that said constitutional amendment should make clear (a) that corporations are not entitled to the constitutional protections or "rights" of natural persons; (b) that money is not speech; (c) that regulating election-related spending is not the same as limiting political speech; and (d) that Congress and the states may place limits on election contributions and expenditures; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that hat all candidates running for election are strongly urged to sign thefollowing pledge which commits them to limiting the undue influence on money in politics:

I support amending the United States Constitution to: 1) secure fair, free elections by limiting the undue influence of money in politics; 2) protect the rights of all Americans to equal participation and representation, rather than overrepresentation of donors and special interests; and 3) protect the unalienable liberty of people rather than new privileges for the largest corporations, unions, and specialinterests; and

I pledge to use my office to advance such an Amendment in the ways and means available to me as a public official, including, but not limited to: sponsoring or cosponsoring bills, resolutions, or other legislation advancing proposals for ratification of such a 28th Amendment; voting in favor of such bills andresolutions in committee, subcommittee, floor or other votes; working to build cross-partisan support; and publicly advocating for the necessity of such an Amendment."

(Submitted by JAM2)

B.5. Resolution in Support of a Non-Partisan Redistricting Constitutional Amendment

Whereas, the current redistricting process creates a conflict of interest—as state legislators are effectively choosing their own constituents; and

Whereas, the redistricting process should be conducted in an open manner with real opportunities for public dialogue and feedback, not behind closed doors; and

Whereas,, public input and involvement in the redistricting process will empower our communities by allowing them to elect representatives who represent their interests on issues that are important to their lives; and

Whereas, the boundaries of state districts are currently drawn by legislative incumbents, often sacrificing the integrity of neighborhoods and cities; and

Whereas, important principles such as the protections of the federal Voting Rights Act of 1965 and respect for neighborhoods and cities should be clearly listed for a Commission to abide by; and

Whereas, voters are more likely to participate when they feel that their vote will count and that they have a reasonable chance of electing candidates who represent their interests; and

Whereas, elected officials are more responsive to constituents when voters have a choice of candidates, thus increasing accountability and serving the best interests of the voters of Indiana; therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Guilford County Democratic Party urges the North Carolina General Assembly to vote to place on the statewide ballot in November, 2022, a Constitutional Amendment which incorporates the following:

1. The state of North Carolina should establish a citizens led commission composed of North Carolina voters who are representative of the state's diversity, partisan balance, and geography, for all future redistricting. This Commission will oversee the process to draw the lines of the state Senate, state House of Representatives and Congressional districts.
2. District boundaries should be drawn according to clearly described criteria, including respect for:
 - a. The U.S. Constitution's requirement of one person, one vote;
 - b. The Voting Rights Act (VRA);
 - c. Contiguity requirements (to draw districts as one connected area);
 - d. Communities of interest, city and county boundaries;
 - e. Political competition, where this does not conflict with the above criteria
 - f. Compactness, where this does not conflict with the above criteria;
 - g. The addresses of any individual, including an incumbent officeholder or candidate, shall not be considered when any district is drawn.
3. The Commission should conduct a transparent redistricting process with full opportunities for public participation. All redistricting plan information should be available in a timely fashion, free of charge, via a public website and other means. The public should be provided the ability to draw and submit maps for Commission consideration.
4. The public should be given ample notice to participate in any Commission meetings and meetings should be held in at least 3 different geographic regions of the state.
5. Members of the Commission must be prohibited from all off-the-record communications with anyone (including lobbyists, political party officials, elected officeholders and candidates), except staff and legal counsel.
6. Redistricting should occur once every 10 years following the decennial U.S. Census and Congressional Reapportionment.

(Submitted by G40A2)