

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

**March 16, 2024**

**Resolutions are organized into 4 groups.**

**Group A:** There are 4 resolutions identified by the Committee as reflecting and/or affirming resolutions that are incorporated into the current NCDP Platform.

**Group B:** There are 6 resolutions that the Committee recommends be adopted.

**Group C :** There are 3 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

Michele Smith

Everett B. Saslow, Jr.

**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. Promoting Policies That Prevent Mass Shootings  
(Submitted by FEN2). Page 5
- A.2. Supporting Peace and Protection  
(Submitted by G11, G33, G34 and G42B). Pages 5-6
- A.3. Resolving Issues of Reproductive Healthcare in North Carolina  
(Submitted by H06, FEN2 and SF2). Page 6
- A.4. Advocating for Increased Funding of Affordable Housing and Support of Homeless Initiatives  
(Submitted by H10). Page 7

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

- B.1. Declaring a Formal Procedure to Enforce the Insurrection Powers Pursuant to the Fourteenth Amendment of the United States  
(Submitted by CG3B, G05, G09, G12, G16, G23, G24, G25, G49, G61, G62, G70).  
Pages 7-8
- B.2. Supporting Gender-Affirming Care for Trans Minors  
(Submitted by FEN2). Pages 8-9
- B.3. Declaring for Environmental Rights to Achieve Equal Standing in Governmental Decision Making  
(Submitted by JAM2). Page 9
- B.4. Advocating for Gun Safety Legislation  
(Submitted by JAM2 and H10). Pages 9-10
- B.5. Calling for Public School Systems to be Eligible for Duke Energy's Green Source Advantage Program  
(Submitted by SF4). Page 10
- B.6. Calling for Full Funding of HBCU's  
(Submitted by H10). Pages 10-11

**C. RESOLUTIONS RECOMMENDED FOR DISCUSSION BY THE  
GUILFORD COUNTY DEMOCRATIC PARTY RESOLUTIONS  
COMMITTEE**

- C.1. Acknowledging and Supporting High Point NAACP, One High Point Commission and City of High Point Policy-Based Reparations Initiative Findings  
(Submitted by JAM2 and H10). Pages 11-12
- C.2. Declaring the Unfair Practice of Cash Bail as Egregious and Needing Reform  
(Submitted by H06). Pages 12-13

**C.3. Ending Jail Fees for Periods of Detention  
(Submitted by JAM1). 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. Promoting Policies That Prevent Mass Shootings**

Whereas, the high number of mass shootings in the United States is a tragic distinction among nations;  
and

Whereas, thoughts and prayers alone are insufficient to lower that number; therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that the passage of legislation that prevents the availability of military-grade  
weaponry among the general population shall be encouraged; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that increased funding and support for mental health programs should be  
made available; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that existing legislation regarding firearm access for minors should be  
strictly enforced.

(Submitted by FEN2)

**See Page 17 of the NCDP Platform at [www.ncdp.org/partyplatform](http://www.ncdp.org/partyplatform)**

**A.2. Supporting Peace and Protection**

Whereas, the events of October 7, 2023, and the resulting conflict between Israel and Hamas has led to a  
humanitarian crisis affecting countless families with tremendous loss of Palestinian and Israeli life; and

Whereas, we agree that all human life is precious, no matter an individual's faith or ethnicity;

Whereas, Guilford County has a diverse population, including many people with social and business ties  
to Israeli and Palestinian citizens, both here and abroad; and

Whereas, many in our community have been deeply impacted by this conflict; and

Whereas, the Guilford County Democratic Party acknowledges the deep personal impact that this conflict  
has had on numerous members of our community and extends its sincere condolences to those who have  
lost loved ones and extended family members in this conflict; and

Whereas, the Guilford County Democratic Party recognizes the importance of peace, safety and the  
protection of all human life for individuals in our city, our state, our nation and the world; and

Whereas, the Guilford County Democratic Party also acknowledges that harassment, discrimination and  
violence toward Muslims, Jews and other minorities are contradictory to the values which define our  
community; therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Guilford County Democratic party urges our national leaders to do everything in their power to end this conflict and to begin the process for a peaceful, sustainable solution; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Guilford County Democratic Party supports and cares for its residents who have been directly impacted by this conflict; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Guilford County Democratic Party condemns any form of harassment, hate speech, Jewish- hate or Islamophobia that may be directed toward anyone who resides in our community.

(Submitted by G11, G33, G 34 and G42B)

**See Page 13 of the NCDP Platform at [www.ncdp.org/partyplatform](http://www.ncdp.org/partyplatform)**

### **A.3. Resolving Issues of Reproductive Healthcare in North Carolina**

Whereas, reproductive freedom and bodily autonomy are essential human rights; and  
Whereas, the Supreme Court of the United States (SCOTUS) has recently overturned fifty years of settled law on a partisan basis in order to return the issue of reproductive rights to the states; and

Whereas, pregnancy and childbirth pose enormous physical, emotional and mental risks to the life, health and mental welfare of pregnant persons; and

Whereas, maternal mortality rates in the United States are worse than in most other industrialized nations in the world; and

Whereas, the total maternal mortality rate in North Carolina was 44 deaths per 100,000 live births in 2023, as opposed to the national rate of 32.9 deaths per 100,000 live births, according to the CDC and National Center for Health Statistics; and

Whereas, data from 2021 indicate that the maternal mortality rate nationwide was 69.9 deaths per 100,000 live births for Black women, compared to a rate of 26.6 per 100,000 live births for white women, according to the CDC and National Center for Health Statistics; and

Whereas, in North Carolina, where 22% of the population is Black, approximately 43% of pregnancy related deaths were among Black women between 2020 and 2021; and

Whereas, the dangers posed by pregnancy and childbirth far outweigh the risks of abortive procedures; and

Whereas, in 2023 the North Carolina Assembly passed legislation restricting reproductive rights; therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that the North Carolina Democratic Party demands that the North Carolina General Assembly rescind SB 20, the ratified bill "Women's Right to Know Act," now Session Law 2023-14; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the North Carolina Assembly should pass new legislation codifying a pregnant person's right to make their own reproductive health care decisions without input of the legislative body.

(Submitted by H06, FEN2 and SF2)

**See Page 12 of the NCDP Platform at [www.ncdp.org/partyplatform](http://www.ncdp.org/partyplatform)**

**A.4. Advocating for Increased Funding of Affordable Housing and Support of Homeless Initiatives**

Whereas, we continue to see the number of individuals and families in Guilford County that are homeless increasing; and

Whereas, the Point In Time count in Guilford County in 2022 revealed 426 individuals and families experiencing homelessness on a given date; and

Whereas, affordable housing is a critical need in our community to address the crisis with un-housed individuals and families; and

Whereas, Veterans who fought for our country are experiencing homelessness at an alarming rate along with mental and physical health problems; therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Guilford County Democratic Party encourages the North Carolina General Assembly to call upon our federal government to:

- Increase funding that will assist with building affordable housing in our communities;
- Provide more funding for mental health needs in our community;
- Insure the well-being of our children by providing safe, decent, and sanitary housing; and
- Reduce and eliminate homelessness in our communities.

(Submitted by H10)

See Page 16 of the NCDP Platform at [www.ncdp.org/partyplatform](http://www.ncdp.org/partyplatform)

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

**B.1. Declaring a Formal Procedure to Enforce the Insurrection Powers Pursuant to the Fourteenth Amendment of the Constitution of the United States**

Whereas, the Confederacy of the United States did wage an insurrectionary war against the United States in protection of the States' Right to keep and maintain the institution of human chattel slavery; and

Whereas, upon failure of this insurrection and the complete defeat and submission of the Confederacy, the United States Constitution was lawfully amended to include the Thirteenth, the Fourteenth, and the Fifteenth Amendments; and

Whereas, the Fourteenth Amendment disqualifies any officer of the United States who has engaged in insurrection against the same; and

Whereas, the Fourteenth Amendment failed to outline a procedure with which to declare any action an insurrection and to disqualify Subject Officers from Office; and

Whereas, Donald J. Trump, while still holding Office as the President of the United States, did summon an armed host of supporters to Washington D.C. on January 6, 2021, to disrupt the official proceedings of the United States Congress from certifying the Presidential electoral counts as prescribed by law; and

Whereas, several states have used judicial processes to enforce the provisions of the Fourteenth Amendment, which preclude former insurrectionary Officers from holding Office once more; and

Whereas, the dangers of subverting the political process with unelected or local judicial officials threatens the long-term stability of the Republican order; and

Whereas, a legitimate, democratic process must be made available to disqualify future candidates who attempt to overthrow the Democratic order of this country and implant themselves as an illegitimate President or other Officer; and

Whereas, Congress was given plenary powers under the Twelfth, Fourteenth and Fifteenth Amendments to redress the past harms of slavery and the fallout from the Civil War; therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, Congress shall make law the following procedure for determining: (1) whether an insurrection has occurred; and (2) whether an Officer is disqualified as a result of the insurrection; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the process to declare an insurrection shall first require 5% of the registered voters of any state to submit by Certified Petition that an Insurrectionary Event has occurred to their Legislature and the same Petition shall contain the names of the Subject Officers alleged to have participated in the insurrection; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that once the Certified Petition of the Insurrectionary Event has been received, each State Legislature shall hold, within seven (7) business days, a Ratification Vote on whether to ratify the Petition; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, if the Ratification Vote is not held within the seven (7) day period of receiving the Certified Petition, whether or not the State Legislature is in session, the Certified Petition shall become law and shall disqualify any Subject Officer of the Certified Petition until such time as the vote is held; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that upon Ratification by a majority of the House and Senate of each State Legislature, or in the event of a unicameral Legislature, the single body of that State, any Subject Officer designated in the Certified Petition shall be permanently disqualified from holding any Office within any government of the United States including Federal, State, County and/or Municipal offices. (Submitted by Precincts CG3B, G05, G16, G12, G61, G23, G49, G24, G09, G62, G25 & G70)

## **B.2. Supporting Gender-Affirming Care for Trans Minors**

Whereas, legislation restricting access to gender-affirming care has been passed in numerous states; and

Whereas, the American Medical Association has recognized the need for gender-affirming care as often necessary to the health and emotional wellbeing of trans minors; and

Whereas, the restrictive legislation curtails the parental rights of trans minors; therefore



BE IT RESOLVED, that appropriate gender-affirming care for trans minors should be made by parents and healthcare providers.

(Submitted by FEN2)

### **B.3. Declaring for Environmental Rights to Achieve Equal Standing in Governmental Decision Making**

Whereas, all people and life forms require a healthy, robust and balanced environment to sustain health and well-being; and

Whereas, local and state governments are empowered to make decisions that critically impact the current and future outcomes of the quality of our air, water delivery systems, rivers, forests, wetlands, riparian areas, human health and building practices; and

Whereas, descriptions of economic development favor emphasis on human-centered activities, traditionally narrowed concepts of human prosperity, and weak descriptions and considerations of nature's life-supporting relevance via networked ecosystems of life; therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that local and state governments in their deliberations and policies regarding Economic Development, Infrastructure, Public Investment and Maintenance and Health and Human Services should recognize and protect and give equal standing to:

- 1) The regenerative life-supporting roles of Natural Environments, Biodiversity and Nature's Sustainable Practices which support overall quality of life;
- 2) The rights of balanced ecosystems to naturally exist, flourish, regenerate, and evolve;
- 3) The right to full restoration, recovery, and preservation;
- 4) The right to abundant, pure, clean, unpolluted water and air;
- 5) The right to a healthy and balanced natural, biodiverse environment;
- 6) The right to carry on all natural functions of a healthy ecosystem;
- 7) The right to be free of activities, practices, and any other manmade obstructions that interfere with or infringe upon the rights set forth here.

(Submitted by JAM2)

### **B.4. Advocating for Gun Safety Legislation**

Whereas, mass shootings seemingly occur on a daily basis leaving citizens traumatized by life-changing injury; and

Whereas, the reign of terror by gun violence cannot continue; and

Whereas, our lawmakers continue in endless debate, to please and appease the NRA while those they swore to protect are slaughtered; and

Whereas, we condemn the act of gun violence and is committed to address this intolerable epidemic starting with the need to:

- Pass common sense gun reform measures at the county, state and federal level;
- Require universal background checks for gun sales and transfers nationwide;

- Repeal state “stand your ground” laws, restoring the use of deadly force as a last resort across the U.S.;
- Ban military-style semi-automatic assault guns and high-capacity ammunition clips;
- Require firearm training for new gun owners; therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Guilford County Democratic Party calls on the North Carolina General Assembly to pass gun safety legislation to stop these senseless massacres and address gun reform while at the same time respecting the rights of law-abiding gun owners.  
(Submitted by JAM2 and H10)

### **B.5. Calling for Public School Systems to be Eligible for Duke Energy's Green Source Advantage Program**

Whereas, in 2022 the North Carolina General Assembly set a legislative goal for carbon neutrality by 2050 in House Bill 951; and

Whereas, Duke Energy's plan to reach carbon neutrality in accordance with House Bill 951 includes reaching Solar – 6,000 megawatts (MW) capacity by 2031; and  
Whereas, Duke Energy's Green Source Advantage (GSA) program is currently designed to help meet this goal by providing the opportunity for military installations, public universities and large businesses to participate in Purchased Power Agreements with Duke Energy; and

Whereas, the participation of public school systems in the GSA program can further help to meet this capacity by adding solar power at existing facilities and encouraging it in new construction; therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Guilford County Democratic Party supports state legislation allowing public school systems to participate in the Duke Energy Green Source Advantage program.  
(Submitted by SF4)

### **B.6. Calling for Full Funding Of HBCU’s**

Whereas, HBCU's in our state continue to be woefully underfunded; and

Whereas, between 2010 and 2012 alone, 61 percent of land-grant HBCUs established through the Morrill Act of 1890 did not receive sufficient funding to meet the one-to-one match of other state land-grant institutions; and

Whereas, between 1987 and 2020, this inequity has resulted in HBCU’s missing out on \$12.8 billion in funding for 18 states. For North Carolina A&T State University, the largest HBCU in the nation, the funding discrepancy has been found in almost every facet of institutional funding, from research allocations to instructional expenses and student services; and

Whereas, North Carolina State University received nearly twice the allocations as North Carolina A&T State University; and

Whereas, rising college costs, student debt, and federal budget cuts are all factors that position higher education finance as a critical issue in the United States. This is especially true for historically underfunded and under-resourced minority serving institutions like HBCUs; and

Whereas, compared to peer institutions, HBCUs operate with fewer resources and much smaller endowments, resulting in HBCUs spending only 57 percent of what other institutions spend on instruction, 63 percent on student services, and 49 percent on academic support functions; and

Whereas, Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) are vital to higher education, yet, many land-grant HBCUs have received lower levels of funding since their inception; therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that the North Carolina General Assembly address the inequities in funding of all HBCU's in our state; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that these inequities in funding be addressed expeditiously to support the education of North Carolina students at all HBCU's.

(Submitted by H10)

**C. RESOLUTIONS RECOMMENDED FOR DISCUSSION BY THE GUILFORD COUNTY DEMOCRATIC PARTY RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE**

**C.1. Acknowledging and Supporting High Point NAACP, One High Point Commission and City of High Point Policy-Based Reparations Initiative Findings**

Whereas, the High Point NAACP, whose fearless advocacy for reparations for Black people led to the consideration and adoption of a Resolution by the High Point City Council to create a One High Point Commission; and

Whereas, members of the One High Point Commission, citizen volunteers and public servants worked for a year and half to wrestle with the painful and distributing contemporary effects of the past; and

Whereas, subject matter experts engaged to conduct research, synthesize data and make policy recommendations to respond to the hard truths that were discovered and confirmed by Dr. Omar Ali, Dr. Paul Ringel, Dr. Stephen Sills and Dr. Virginia Summey; and

Whereas, the High Point City Council showed leadership and courage in approving a process to document past race-based harms and propose policies to end and restore their deleterious effects; therefore BE IT RESOLVED, that the Guilford County Democratic Party acknowledges and supports the quantitative findings of the policy-based reparations initiative to end race-based harms and propose policies to end and restore their deleterious effects and advocate that High Point be a model for other municipalities and localities, to advocate the following:

- (1) Address housing disparities
- (2) Address health disparities
- (3) Address education gap
- (4) Address economic opportunity
- (5) Address transportation access
- (6) Review and revise municipal operations

(Submitted by JAM2 and H10)

## **C.2. Declaring the Unfair Practice of Cash Bail as Egregious and Needing Reform**

Whereas, the United States has the highest rate of incarceration in the world; and

Whereas, African Americans, Latinos, Latinas, and indigenous peoples are disproportionately incarcerated in the United States; and

Whereas, since 2000, the vast majority of the jail population increase has been caused by the detention of individuals prior to trial (pretrial), of which 60% to 70% were classified nonviolent minimum-security; and

Whereas, in 2017, the top 9 insurance companies issued \$14 billion in bail bonds, collecting \$2 billion in fees, with very low losses due to bond forfeiture; and

Whereas, the inability to make cash bail extracts an untold human cost from the accused due to their loss of employment, housing and, often times, family support; and

Whereas, there are proven instances of inadequate health care for incarcerated persons and those held long-term pretrial have a higher incidence of death and personal injury; and

Whereas, persons who cannot make bail are poor and are four times more likely to receive jail time with sentences three times longer than those who do make bail; and

Whereas, bail set for people of color exceeds that for white people by 35%; and

Whereas, three out of four criminal cases in state trial courts are for misdemeanors that would result in fines and/or less than a year in jail; and

Whereas, political contributions made by the Bail Industry from 2002 to 2016 exceeded \$5 million; and

Whereas, in money-based systems, wealthy persons who have high bail amounts by virtue of the seriousness of the crime can still walk free because they are jailed until proven wealthy; and

Whereas, the United States is the only nation besides the Philippines to have a for-profit commercial bail bond industry; and

Whereas, corporate and/or systemic structures, or individuals which derive profit from the imprisonment of human beings perpetuate the legacy of slavery, oppression and heartless greed; therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Guilford County Democratic Party calls for reform of the for-profit cash bail bond system and encourages alternatives to this system; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Guilford County Democratic Party encourages the North Carolina Legislature to pass legislation to address the inherent inequity in our current for-profit cash bail system, including the following bills from the 2023-2024 session:

N.C. House Bill 271, an Act to restrict the imposition of cash bail as a condition of pretrial release when a defendant is charged with only a class 3 (minor) misdemeanor

N.C. House Bill 91, an Act to create a uniform pretrial release procedures study committee, as recommended by the North Carolina Courts Commission.

N.C. House Bill 90, an Act to reinstate the discretion of a judicial official in setting appropriate conditions of pretrial release for a Defendant who has previously failed to appear in court, as recommended by the North Carolina Courts Commission.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Guilford County Democratic Party encourages the Governor and each of its Representatives and Senators to support this legislation.  
(Submitted by H06)

### **C.3. Ending 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, that statutory guidelines governing the imposition of jail fees against defendants who are found criminally liable should be eliminated; and

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

(Submitted by JAM1)