

RESOLUTION 15-05.04

Resolution Recognizing Democratic Leadership Through Action

Whereas, California Democrats have led our state through the worst economic crisis in most Californians' lifetime; and
Whereas, since 2010, when Democrats helped elect Jerry Brown governor, and Chairman John Burton helped place the simple majority vote budget on the ballot, California's budget deficit has been erased, cuts to education have ended and more than 1.65 million new jobs have been created; and

Whereas, California's elected Democratic leaders continue to show leadership through action on issues ranging from education, civil rights, infrastructure development, expanding economic opportunity and a myriad of issues that are of great significance to the majority of Californians;

Therefore be it resolved, the California Democratic Party recognizes and applauds the leadership our state's Democratic officials continue to embody; and

Therefore be it resolved, California Democrats will continue leadership through action until we restore fairness to our economy and until all Californians can share in the prosperity that living in the world's seventh largest economy affords.

Sponsored by the CDP Resolutions Committee

RESOLUTION 15-05.10

Two Paid Hours To Vote - It's Already Law, Let's Enforce It

Whereas, the November 2014 general election voter participation in California hit a disturbing all-time low, breaking the previous record set in 2002 of a 36% turnout of eligible voters, young and minority voter percentages were especially alarming, and

Whereas, section 14000(a) of the California Election Code states that "[I]f a voter does not have sufficient time outside of working hours to vote at a statewide election, the voter may, without loss of pay, take off enough working time that, when added to the voting time available outside of working hours, will enable the voter to vote," and

Whereas section 14001 further states that "[N]ot less than 10 days before every statewide election, every employer shall keep posted conspicuously at the place of work, if practicable, or elsewhere where it can be seen as employees come or go to their place of work, a notice setting forth the provisions of Section 14000," and section 14002 mandates that sections 14000 and 14001 apply to all public agencies and the employees thereof, as well as to employers and employees in private industry, and yet, though these provisions of the code could address the Secretary of State's survey findings materially, there is woefully little, if any enforcement of these provisions.

Therefore, be it resolved that the California Democratic Party calls upon the California Legislature and the Secretary of State to develop policies in consultation with the Registrars of Elections to promote, implement and enforce the provisions of sections 14000 through 14002 of the California election code, providing for posting of the law, and

Therefore, be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be sent to Governor Edmund G. Brown, Lieutenant Governor Gavin Newsom, Secretary of State Alex Padilla, Senate President Pro Tem Kevin de Leon, members of the Democratic Delegation of the CA Assembly and State Senate, Speaker of the Assembly Toni Atkins and encourage our Democratic Central Committees to send a copy of this resolution to their county registrars of voters.

Sponsored by Michele Sutter and 25 DSCC members

RESOLUTION 15-05.12

Resolution in Support of Prevention of Sexual Harassment at the Secondary School Level

WHEREAS, public awareness about the prevalence of sexual harassment and sexual violence within and among colleges and universities in the United States is growing, while less attention has been focused on secondary schools where harm is being done every day, primarily to girls and young women, but also to boys, young men and people of different gender identities; and

WHEREAS, under Title IX of the Civil Rights Act of 1972, as amended, schools in receipt of federal funds are responsible for maintaining a safe learning environment for all students, free from discrimination and, further, are obliged to respond to incidents of discrimination including those based on sex, such as sexual harassment and sexual violence, about which they are made aware or that they could be reasonably expected to be aware; and

WHEREAS, school administrations are more likely to take seriously the obligation to address incidents of sexual harassment if they know that they are being monitored for compliance with Title IX, yet a mere 2.2% of California Secondary Schools were monitored in 2013-2014 through the programs of the California Department of Education, and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the California Democratic Party supports increased statewide efforts by the California Department of Education to monitor California's secondary schools annually for sexual harassment and sexual violence;

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the California Democratic Party shall send a copy of this resolution to Governor Brown, Senate President Pro Tempore Kevin De Leon, and Assembly Speaker Toni Atkins to let them know that Democrats are seriously concerned about issues of sex discrimination which include sexual harassment and sexual violence in our secondary schools.

Sponsored by Karen Weinstein and 25 members of the DSCC

RESOLUTION 15-05.13

School Facility Modernization and New Building

WHEREAS, the California Department of Education estimates that about 70% of classrooms in the state are more than 25 years old, about 30% of them are at least 50 years old, and about 10% are at least 70 years old, and the 2015 5-year plan estimates that California's population is expected to grow to 50 million people by 2050; and

WHEREAS, over a million California students predominantly from low-income families and of color attend severely overcrowded schools and many schools still have dial-up and students do not have access to technology such as wifi to help bridge the digital gap; and

WHEREAS, many districts have local bond money to modernize or build new schools but it is not sufficient, and they need help from the state to build more classrooms as identified by a UC Berkeley study which found that \$117 billion is needed over the next decade to deal with the facility infrastructure of schools in California;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the California Democratic Party supports efforts to increase state assistance for construction and modernization to local schools, community colleges, California State Universities, and the University of California; and

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that state assistance for education facilities creates quality construction jobs that pay prevailing wages and that the California Democratic Party encourages the use of Project Labor Agreements to ensure the maximum benefit to taxpayers and the communities where these projects are located.

Sponsored by Women and Seniors Democratic Club

RESOLUTION 15-05.20

Opposing the Formation of a State of Jefferson

Whereas, the formation of the State of Jefferson out of twenty-three counties in Northern California (Placer, Butte, El Dorado, Shasta, Humboldt, Nevada, Sutter, Yuba, Lake, Tehama, Siskiyou, Amador, Lassen, Glenn, Del Norte, Colusa, Plumas, Trinity, Modoc, Sierra, Alpine, Amador, Tuolumne) would lead to endless problems between the two states, especially in regard to water rights, clarity regulations, and cost (State of Jefferson printed information suggests it would assess a water transfer fee), jeopardizing approximately 65% of California's developed water supply (water that is connected to state and federal water projects); and

Whereas, in the twenty counties targeted by the State of Jefferson which contain many gorgeous recreation and retirement locations valued by Californians, the proponents' plans are to re-establish timber and mining as major industries within a "minimally regulated state," thereby causing considerable damage to the desirable environment that now exists; and

Whereas, forming the new State of Jefferson, as proposed, is not economically viable and will likely never be approved by the California Legislature and the United States Congress, and that the financial risks and uncertainties outweigh the possible benefits of moving any further down the path to form a new State of Jefferson;

Therefore be it resolved, that the California Democratic Party opposes the formation of the State of Jefferson and will forward a copy of this resolution to the Governor, the Speaker of the Assembly, and President Pro Tempore of the State Senate.

Sponsored by Sierra County Democratic Central Committee

RESOLUTION 15-05.22

SUPPORTING THE REASONABLE REGULATION AND APPROPRIATE TAXATION OF ELECTRONIC CIGARETTES

WHEREAS, E-cigarettes are devices that use heat to turn liquid nicotine into an aerosol that is then breathed into the lungs, which the California Department of Public Health says "contain harmful chemicals" and "pollute the air with tiny particles that get trapped in the lungs," and

WHEREAS, the California Department of Public Health has also stated that e-cigarettes pose significant hazard of addiction and "come in fruit and candy flavors that appeal to children who may taste or drink" the liquid nicotine, and;

WHEREAS, there are proposals to expand regulation and taxation of e-cigarette manufacturers and retailers to ensure children are kept away from e-cigarettes, that these products are taxed the same as tobacco, and proceeds are used for important public health, early education and local government programs,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party supports the appropriate regulation and taxation of electronic cigarettes, including oversight from the Board of Equalization to ensure retailers are registered and taxes are remitted just like tobacco products, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party communicates this position to the Governor and members of the Legislature.

Sponsored by Fiona Ma and 25 members of the DSCC

RESOLUTION 15-05.23

Fully Accept Sikhs in the U.S. Military

WHEREAS, the Sikh community has been an integral part of the American fabric for over a century and made numerous contributions to the progress and prosperity of our society, including a proud tradition of military service dating back to World War I, but the U.S. military effectively banned devout Sikh soldiers from serving in the 1980's by tightening appearance regulations and continues to severely limit their ability to do so; and

WHEREAS, when the U.S. Army recently made limited progress by granting three Sikh soldiers the opportunity to serve while wearing turbans and maintaining unshorn hair and beards in accordance with their religion, two of these patriotic Americans have served admirably in Afghanistan, one receiving a Bronze Star Medal for his service, and another earning a NATO Commendation Medal; and WHEREAS, America's allies, including Great Britain, Canada, and India, presumptively allow Sikhs to serve in their militaries, and by allowing devout Sikhs to serve with their articles of faith intact, America's military can project core values of pluralism and equal opportunity to the world and expand its pool of qualified soldiers;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party joins with the members of Congress who have called upon the Secretary of Defense to end the presumptive ban on devout Sikh soldiers in the U.S. Armed Forces by modernizing the U.S. Armed Forces' appearance regulations so that patriotic Sikh Americans can serve their country while abiding by their articles of faith, and THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party urges our representatives to support ending this religious discrimination and call for the U.S. Military Administration to give devout Sikh Americans an equal opportunity to serve in the U.S. Armed Forces.

Sponsored by Sonoma County Democratic Central Committee

RESOLUTION 15-05.24

ELIMINATING GERRYMANDERING

WHEREAS, gerrymandering that disenfranchises voters and creates unrepresentative districts is indefensible; and WHEREAS, Republicans openly boasted of aggressively gerrymandering states they controlled in 2010, such as Texas, Florida, Michigan and Ohio, to prevent the election of Democrats to state legislatures and the U.S. House of Representatives; and WHEREAS, the Republican controlled states of Florida, Michigan and Ohio have initiative processes to amend their state constitutions, and Democratic support for initiatives in these states to eliminate gerrymandering will strengthen the Democratic process, and THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party urges the Democratic National Committee to assist the state parties of Texas, Florida, Michigan and Ohio in organizing and funding efforts to eliminate partisan gerrymandering; and THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party will communicate this resolution to the Democratic National Committee.

Sponsored by LACDP

RESOLUTION 15-05.28

Restoring California's Promise of Free Tuition for All Its Residents

WHEREAS, in the past, California provided its residents affordable higher education which established California as the cultural and technological center of excellence for innovation and entrepreneurship, and grew California to the 5th largest economy in the world and provided an affordable path towards upward economic mobility to all state residents, and

WHEREAS, California's skyrocketing college tuition has steadily increased since 1970, exacerbated by a firm decrease of California's state funding of higher education, now placing educational opportunities for residents of average means out of reach unless they are willing to take on an enormous debt that, until it is paid off, hounds them to their grave, and

WHEREAS, the exorbitant cost of higher education has hurt our economy as students struggle to repay college debt has made California less competitive as employers struggle to find qualified and educated workers, has throttled the supply of college graduates to professional and graduate schools such as medical, legal, and science/engineering schools, and has further extended the income inequality divide as lower income families are priced out of a college education and qualification for higher paying jobs.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the California Democratic Party, believing that higher education for California youth is critical for the economic and intellectual vitality of our state, advocates that tuition and fees at the University of California, the California State University and community colleges be rolled back when fiscally possible with the goal of eliminating such tuition and fees in the future for California students.

Sponsored by Placer County Democratic Central Committee

RESOLUTION 15-05.30

Opposing Hydraulic Fracturing in the Los Padres National Forest

WHEREAS, the Los Padres National Forest provides a habitat for over 1,200 plant species and approximately 468 species of fish and wildlife, including 90 species like the iconic California Condor that are at risk of extinction; encompasses 1,134 miles of rivers and streams, providing water for urban and agricultural use; contains an estimated 20,000 Native American cultural sites; and is a tremendous resource to Californians along the central and southern coasts, in the Bay Area, and in the Los Angeles Metropolitan Area; and

WHEREAS, the Los Padres National Forest is the only national forest in California where hydraulic fracturing, commonly referred to as "fracking," is permitted, and the California Department of Conservation has concluded in the environmental impact report mandated by Senate Bill 4 that continued fracking in the Los Padres National Forest poses "significant and unavoidable environmental impacts" related to air pollution, greenhouse gas emissions, endangered species, worker safety, pipeline leaks, and transportation hazards, as well as potential impacts to groundwater, seismic activity, cultural resources, and environmental justice; and

WHEREAS, thousands of people from across Santa Barbara, Ventura, Los Angeles, Kern, San Luis Obispo, Monterey, San Francisco, and Marin Counties have called for a moratorium on fracking in the Sespe Oil Field in the Los Padres National Forest; now THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the California Democratic Party supports an immediate moratorium on fracking in all 2,970 square miles of the Los Padres National Forest, including the Sespe Oil Field, until the U.S Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management prepare an environmental impact statement of the practice and fracking is no longer exempted from key provisions of the federal Clean Air Act, Clean Water Act, Safe Drinking Water Act, National Environmental Policy Act, Resource Conservation and Recovery Act, Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act, and Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party send a copy of this resolution to President Obama, Governor Brown, Senator Feinstein, Senator Boxer, the California Democratic Congressional Delegation and the Democratic Members of the California State Legislature and call on them to take all executive, administrative, regulatory and legislative actions to implement this resolution.

Sponsored by Leif Dautch & 38 members of the DSCC

RESOLUTION 15-05.32

Safe Storage for San Onofre Nuclear Waste

WHEREAS, the Nuclear Regulatory waste rule of August 26, 2014 leaves nuclear waste to be stored at the US reactor's site for 60 to 140 years or indefinitely after the reactor is shut down until the Department of Energy takes the fuel to a final repository and that such site is San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station which was shut down two years ago, and

WHEREAS, the interim storage location for Southern California Edison's (SCE) 1632 tons of spent fuel and nuclear waste is located near known earthquake faults and a tsunami zone that suffers yearly fire and wind storm dangers, and sits in an ocean environment of salt air corrosion surrounded by a dense population of over 8.4 million people within its 50 mile radius,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party strongly urges the Governor and State Legislators to work with the NRC and other agencies, as required, to create a licensed interim storage facility or geological repository for California's high-level spent fuel and nuclear waste from shut down nuclear reactors in the state to a publicly-owned inland and environmentally safe location, with a goal to move all spent fuel and nuclear waste by 2019, or as soon as is reasonably possible.

Sponsored by Democratic Party of Orange County

RESOLUTION 15-05.33

Require Cooling Towers at Diablo Canyon Nuclear Power Plant

WHEREAS, the California State Water Board is required by law to comply with federal Clean Water Act Section 316(b), which states that the location, design, construction and capacity of cooling water intake structures must reflect the best technology available to protect aquatic life, and on May 4, 2010, the Board adopted a policy regulating the use of seawater for cooling purposes at power plants in California entitled The Statewide Policy on the Use of Coastal and Estuarine Waters for Power Plant Cooling; and

WHEREAS, the policy establishes clear standards to implement the Clean Water Act in a consistent manner and thereby reduces the harmful effects associated with the cooling water intakes on life in the ocean and estuaries, and is applicable to all currently operating coastal utilities including Diablo Canyon which was granted a temporary exemption; and

WHEREAS, Diablo Canyon's antiquated, "once-through cooling" system's intake and effluent of 2.5 billion gallons of water a day from the Pacific Ocean amounts to a significant portion of marine damage to the California Coast;

BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party urges the California State Water Resources Control Board, to issue a ruling requiring that cooling towers be built to replace the antiquated and environmentally damaging "once-through cooling" system at PG&E's Diablo Canyon Nuclear Power Plant in order to meet the state's marine protection standards, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party calls upon the Governor, our other state government representatives, and our environmental protection agencies to urge and support such a ruling.

Sponsored by Sonoma County Democratic Central Committee & Marin County Democratic Central Committee

RESOLUTION 15-05.34

Organ Transplant Protection for Medical Marijuana Patients

WHEREAS, in 1996, California voters approved Proposition 215, "Compassionate Use Act of 1996," to ensure that seriously ill Californians have the right to obtain and use marijuana for medical purposes where that medical use is deemed appropriate and has been recommended by a physician who has determined that the person's health would benefit from the use of marijuana in the treatment of cancer, anorexia, AIDS, chronic pain, spasticity, glaucoma, arthritis, migraine, or any other illness for which marijuana provides relief; and

WHEREAS, legal medical cannabis patients in California are routinely denied a place on the national organ transplant list based solely on their doctor-recommended use of medical cannabis, and legal medical cannabis patients have died after being denied an organ transplant solely on their medical cannabis use, and others are in jeopardy right now, and clinical research shows that medical

cannabis and compounds in medical cannabis have beneficial immune-suppressive and anti-inflammatory effects which can prolong graft survival in transplant patients as well as there is no association between cannabis use and lower survival rates; and WHEREAS, in December of 2014 the California Medical Association House of Delegates unanimously adopted Resolution 116-14, opposing blanket restrictions of potential organ transplant donors and recipients based solely on reported or detected cannabis use; THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the California Democratic Party that no person should be removed from the organ transplant process based solely on a patient's legal use of medical cannabis which will reduce unnecessary suffering and preventable death by removing harmful and unscientific barriers to life-saving organ transplants for legal medical cannabis patients in California.
Sponsored by Brownie Mary Democratic Club of Riverside County and Reform California – Coalition for Cannabis Policy Reform

RESOLUTION 15-05.35

Resolution to Reduce Overall Energy Use

WHEREAS, the California Democratic Party already supports the Green Industrial Revolution and the principle of sustainability, and is committed to increasingly shifting a significant portion of California's energy sources to renewables and hydro and hydrogen; and WHEREAS, deep energy-use reductions in existing homes and businesses will be required in order to achieve an ultimate changeover to renewables and hydro and hydrogen, even while technology has made possible new construction designed for extreme efficiency in energy use; and

WHEREAS, California has made exemplary progress in reducing its own per-capita energy consumption and now has the capacity to make truly dramatic progress in this regard;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the California Democratic Party calls upon government agencies to reduce their own overall energy use while striving to become ultimately energy positive; and that the Party call upon individuals and companies to do the same where possible.

Sponsored by Democratic Party of Sacramento County

RESOLUTION 15-05.36

RESOLUTION CALLING ON CALIFORNIA GOVERNOR JERRY BROWN TO IMPLEMENT SENATE BILL 855 (2014)

WHEREAS, the California Democratic Party upholds the right of all workers to be treated with dignity, respect, and equality and to be fairly compensated for their work; and

WHEREAS, in 2014, the California Legislature passed, and Governor Jerry Brown signed into law, Senate Bill 855 - a historic piece of legislation authorizing the right of In-Home Supportive Services homecare workers to earn pay for overtime, time spent traveling between clients, and time spent during medical accompaniment, beginning January 1, 2015; and

WHEREAS, funding to pay IHSS workers for overtime, travel time, and medical accompaniment was appropriated in the FY 2014-2015 state budget;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party thanks Governor Brown for signing Senate Bill 855 into law, allowing IHSS workers to be fairly compensated for their hard work; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party calls on our Governor to immediately implement SB 855 with compensation for overtime, travel time, and medical accompaniment paid retroactive to January 1, 2015.

Sponsored by San Diego County Democratic Central Committee

RESOLUTION 15-05.37A

Resolution calling for the Prohibition of Exploited and Wild Animals in Traveling Circuses and Exhibitions

WHEREAS, the California Democratic Party supports the humane treatment of all animals, and wishes to encourage the prohibition of those traveling exhibits and circuses that exploit and mistreat wild and exotic animals for entertainment; the Party should support the adoption of policies that will advance the humane treatment of animals; and

WHEREAS, animals forced to learn unnatural or dangerous tricks through intentional infliction of pain by the use of tools in an abusive manner can lead the animals to experience health and behavioral problems; and

WHEREAS, while addressing the inhumane practices by some circuses and traveling exhibits, it is important to acknowledge the positive role played by wildlife rescue, rehabilitation and education facilities, organizations that focus on rescuing and protecting wild and exotic animals, organizations that educate the public about wildlife conservation, and other organizations that treat their animals humanely; and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party supports enactment of policies that advance humane treatment of animals by prohibiting the use of wild and exotic animals in traveling circuses and exhibitions, with appropriate exemptions for responsible wildlife organizations that treat their animals humanely, do not use abusive training to force their animals to perform unnatural or dangerous tricks, and comply with all applicable federal, state, and local laws and regulations.

Sponsored by Jess Durfee

RESOLUTION 15-05.38

CALIFORNIA DEMOCRATIC PARTY OPPOSES DISCRIMINATION AGAINST LGBT PEOPLE UNDER THE GUISE OF "RELIGIOUS FREEDOM"

WHEREAS, the recent passage of so-called “religious freedom” legislation in Indiana, Arkansas and several other states is part of a concerted effort by Republican legislatures and Governors to justify discrimination against Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender (“LGBT”) people under the guise of “religious freedom,” leading businesses and organizations to refuse services to members of the LGBT community; and

WHEREAS, no protections exist in a majority of U.S. states or at the federal level against LGBT discrimination and, in fact, more than half of U.S. workers work in a state where it remains perfectly legal under state law to fire someone for being LGBT; and

WHEREAS, the California Democratic Party supports the right of LGBT people to be treated as equal citizens under the law, in every respect;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party, while recognizing the first amendment protects the right to practice one's religion, asserts that it is not a license to discriminate, opposes and condemns the use of “Religious Freedom” as a vehicle for discrimination against the LGBT community, and supports efforts to guarantee LGBT rights, including to guarantee equal protections under the law; and

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the California Democratic Party send a copy of this resolution to the Democratic Congressional Delegation, Senators Boxer and Feinstein, House Democratic Leader Pelosi, Senate Minority Leader Harry Reid, and President Obama.

Sponsored by Susie Shannon and 25 DSCC members

RESOLUTION 15-05.40

Loving Day Resolution

Whereas, Mildred and Richard Loving were unable to marry in the Commonwealth of Virginia due to laws prohibiting interracial marriage and were then arrested and forced out of their home, city and state as a result of wedding in Washington, D.C. where interracial marriage was legal at the time; and

Whereas, the Loving family did not back down but took their case to the Supreme Court and won on June 12, 1967, creating a landmark civil rights victory and paving the way for all consenting adults to marry the one that they love; and

Whereas, we are now moving forward in the 21st century as a multiracial and multicultural society and realize we must find a common vision from our interwoven past to build a society free of racism for the benefit of our collective future;

Therefore be it resolved, that the California Democratic Party recognizes June 12th as Loving Day and calls upon President Obama to recognize the day as a federal holiday in honor of the Loving vs. the Commonwealth of Virginia Supreme Court decision; and

Therefore be it further resolved, that the California Democratic Party will send a formal request to President Obama requesting recognition of Loving Day and that this day will be a celebration of multiculturalism and hope for our future.

Sponsored by CDP Region 5, Democratic Party of Contra Costa County, and 9 DSCC members

RESOLUTION 15-05.51

RESOLUTION TO EXPAND ARTS EDUCATION IN CALIFORNIA PUBLIC SCHOOLS

WHEREAS, arts education in California Public Schools has been cut starting with Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger in 2003 and continuing through the economic downturn to the present, resulting in some schools having little or no arts education; and

WHEREAS, arts education is a core academic subject and an essential element of a complete and balanced education for all students, enabling students to develop critical thinking, imagination and creativity; and

WHEREAS, to prepare our students for success and for professions that are growing and essential, it is imperative that our schools offer an arts education that includes both the fine arts and the commercial arts as a way to introduce students to possible career paths that they may not be aware of and may be of interest to them;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party urges education policymakers to restore and expand fine arts and commercial arts education; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution be communicated to Governor Jerry Brown, and State Superintendent of Public Instruction Tom Torlakson.

Sponsored by LACDP

RESOLUTION 15-05.54

Resolution Supporting Cuba Policy Changes

WHEREAS, on December 17, 2015, President Obama announced historic steps to chart a new course toward normalizing relations with Cuba after more than 50 years of policies that have not improved or advanced our interests; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. and Cuba are separated by 90 miles of water, and the United States is home to some two million Cubans and Americans of Cuban descent, and the President noted in his statement that, “we can do more to support the Cuban people and promote our values through engagement;” and

WHEREAS, other regional and international partners including those in the Western Hemisphere have not shared U.S. policy towards Cuba, and for more than 35 years the United States has had strategic relations with China, and nearly two decades ago re-established

relations with Vietnam, while also expressing grave concerns and consternation for human rights violations and repressing the freedom of their own citizens; and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party commends the President for his leadership in advancing these historic changes toward normalizing relations between the United States and Cuba and;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party supports efforts by the U.S. Congress to end the travel ban and embargo and to fully normalize relations with Cuba.

Sponsored by Congresswoman Barbara Lee and 25 DSCC members

RESOLUTION 15-05.55

Calling on President Obama to withdraw his executive order declaring Venezuela “an unusual and extraordinary threat to U.S. National security and foreign policy”

WHEREAS the Obama Administration issued an executive order (EO 13692) on March 9, 2015, with a declaration, purported to be compliant with the National Emergency Act and the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (IEEPA), that Venezuela poses a national security threat to the United States, justifying the imposition of sanctions against seven Venezuelan officials and the potential of additional sanctions, all without any due process; and

WHEREAS President Obama himself, in a press conference on April 9, 2015, admitted that Venezuela does not in fact present such a threat and his spokespeople have repeatedly admitted that the declaration was “completely pro-forma” -- required in order to impose sanctions that otherwise would violate international and U.S. law; and

WHEREAS a false declaration that a country poses a national security threat to the United States violates domestic and international law and serves only to further isolate the United States in the region;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the California Democratic Party calls on President Obama to withdraw immediately Executive Order 13692, the declaration that Venezuela poses a national security threat to the United States and the sanctions the declaration purports to justify; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be sent to President Barack Obama, Secretary of State John Kerry and Assistant Secretary of State for Western Hemispheric Relations, Roberta Jacobson.

Sponsored by Karen Bernal & 27 DSCC members

RESOLUTION 15-05.57

RESOLUTION URGING THE UNITED NATIONS AND ALL MEMBER STATES TO SUPPORT INFRASTRUCTURES FOR PEACEBUILDING WITHIN AND EXTERNALLY AMONG NATIONS

WHEREAS, the California Democratic Party supports the creation of a Department of Peacebuilding, and adopted language to the 2014 Party Platform to "actively promote national institutions based on the organizing principles of violence prevention and nonviolent conflict resolution, utilizing and developing a network of 'best practice' peacebuilding policies and programs both within United Nation Member States and externally among nations"; and

WHEREAS, delegates from civil society, governments and UN institutions and agencies from more than 50 countries of the Global Alliance for Ministries and Infrastructures for Peace (GAMIP), which include Australia, Brazil, Canada, Japan, New Zealand, the USA, and many countries within Africa, Asia, Europe, and the Middle East, who since 2007, have a United Nations liaison working with NGOs to create a United Nations global resolution to urge the establishment of infrastructures for peace within the governments of the 196 United Nations Member States; and

WHEREAS, nations within the GAMIP coalition have already begun to institute government networks of peacebuilding practices which will address conflicts at home and abroad, saving lives and money, such as Nepal's 2007 Department of Peace and Reconstruction, Costa Rica's 2009 Department of Justice and Peace, and the Canadian Liberal Party, which adopted a resolution in its 2014 Party Platform to establish a government institution dedicated to promoting a culture of peace, with a mandate that includes the creation of a permanent Canadian Civilian Service of professionally trained men and women to work toward violence prevention, peace education and nonviolent conflict resolution at every level of society;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party urges the United Nations and all Member States to promote and support the establishment of peacebuilding infrastructures in order to facilitate the gathering and creation of best practices and policies, improving communication, cooperation and collaboration to save future generations from the atrocities of violent conflict, poverty and human-induced environmental disasters; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party encourages support from the United States Ambassador to the United Nations, Samantha Powers, and all Democratic Party organizations in California.

Sponsored by Sonoma DCC, Lake DCC, Madera DCC, Nevada DCC, Nevada County Democratic Woman's Club, Stonewall Democratic Club of Los Angeles; and 10 DSCC members

RESOLUTION 15-05.61

Resolution Supporting Grocery Workers in Boycott of El Super Grocery Stores

WHEREAS, United Food and Commercial Workers (UFCW), which represents hundreds of employees at El Super stores in Los Angeles County, has called for a consumer boycott of all El Super markets in L.A. County to protest El Super's refusal to negotiate a fair contract for those workers; and

WHEREAS, El Super employs low-wage and predominantly Latino workers from Los Angeles County who have been working without a fair union agreement since September 2013; and El Super workers are fighting for adequate paid sick leave, seniority rights, guaranteed 40-hour workweeks for full-time employees, and a fair wage; and

WHEREAS, El Super implemented its "last, best, and final offer" without fulfilling its bargaining obligations, and after workers told them it was unacceptable by voting overwhelmingly to reject it and authorizing their union to call a strike if necessary; and El Super's "last, best, and final" offer provides for less paid sick leave than is currently mandated by California state law; and on December 12, 2014, El Super workers voted – by a more than 3-1 majority – in favor of continued UFCW representation in the face of an aggressive "Vote No" campaign by the company; and, after the recertification vote, the union promptly sent a letter to the company asking them to return to the bargaining table which El Super rejected outright, refusing to meet its legal bargaining obligations;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party endorses the call for a consumer boycott of El Super markets and calls upon El Super to return to the bargaining table and enter into an agreement that creates good jobs that provide living wages, adequate paid sick leave, seniority protections, and enough guaranteed hours so full-time workers can earn enough to support their families; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party pledges to honor the boycott lines, spread the word about the boycott, and ask our activists and elected officials to support the boycott by joining workers on the picket lines and by writing a letter to company CEO Carlos A. Smith indicating our support of the grocery workers.

Sponsored by LACDP

RESOLUTION 15-05.62

Resolution in Support of Raising the Minimum Wage and Ensuring Worker Protections in Los Angeles

Whereas, at 21%, Los Angeles has the highest poverty rate among major metropolitan areas; ranks as one of the most unaffordable cities for housing, food and transportation; and four-fifths of low wage workers and their families experience wage theft and lack any earned sick leave; and

Whereas, research shows that a single wage earner in Los Angeles needs more than \$15 per hour to meet basic needs; this wage would improve the lives of workers and their families; and their increased spending would stimulate the city's economy and provide employers with a more stable and productive workforce; and

Whereas, the 2014 Platform of the California Democratic Party supports increasing the minimum wage indexed for inflation, including a living wage in areas with a high cost of living and advocates earned sick days for all workers;

Therefore be it resolved, that the California Democratic Party supports raising the minimum wage in Los Angeles to \$15 per hour, indexed to the cost of living, and urges the inclusion of guaranteed earned sick days, as well as a comprehensive enforcement mechanism to end wage theft while protecting workers from retaliation;

Therefore be it further resolved, that the LACDP is encouraged to communicate this resolution to Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti and the Los Angeles City Council.

Sponsored by LACDP

RESOLUTION 15-05.64

A RESOLUTION IN FAVOR OF STARTING A PUBLIC BANK IN MENDOCINO COUNTY

WHEREAS, the California Democratic Party platform encourages the sustainable growth of jobs, promotes low-interest loans for small businesses to expand job-creation, and encourages improved banking services for businesses and consumers; and

WHEREAS, the unethical and fraudulent practices of Wall Street banks caused the housing and market crashes of the previous decade and made the financial stability of the world uncertain; and public banking institutions can resolve the dilemma for states, municipalities and counties about how to pay for stimulus and job programs without incurring new, long-term risky debt; and

WHEREAS, the proposed Mendocino County Public Bank will be the depository for all county revenues, potentially saving money because all debt service on loans will return back to the County instead of Wall Street and will be reinvested with a mission of serving the public good in the form of low-interest loans for economic development, green energy, education, students, businesses, families, affordable housing, senior housing, and infrastructure;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the California Democratic Party is in favor of starting a public bank in Mendocino County. Sponsored by Mendocino County Democratic Central Committee

RESOLUTION 15-05.73L

BRINGING MUSIC JOBS BACK TO CALIFORNIA

Whereas, the State of California has been a magnet for and a source of the world's finest musical talent, drawn to California by the employment in film and television studios as well as in clubs, theaters and music festivals, and teaching, with a cultural legacy that includes soundtracks for films such as the Wizard of Oz, Jaws and Frozen; and

Whereas thousands of professional musicians, many of whom are union members, contribute to our region's cultural richness and desirability as a tourist destination for the world, generating good middle-class jobs for working people and a direct economic impact on the community, as music scoring sessions necessitate employing scoring stages, engineers, electricians, food service workers, guards, professional cartage companies, instrument repair professionals among others; and

Whereas, the professional musicians who represent such a great economic, cultural and educational resource have been savaged by offshoring and runaway scoring, and music scoring tax credits in New York, the United Kingdom and other locations the consequences of which have wreaked havoc on California's musical labor force, as the December 2014 LAANE report "Keeping the Score" documents, and that while other industry employment has been successfully incentivized by California's film and TV tax incentives, music jobs have fallen by the wayside.

Therefore, Be it Resolved that the California Democratic Party supports stronger tax incentives to support the music jobs generated by the Film Industry so that film productions will have greater incentive to choose to do their post-production and score their films in California, preserving the existing film music infrastructure which exists; and

Therefore, Be it Further Resolved that the California Democratic Party send a copy of this resolution to the Democratic members of the California Assembly, State Senate and Governor Jerry Brown, urging them to implement this resolution and broaden and make more generous California's film and television tax incentives to support the music jobs generated by the film industry.

Sponsored by Clifford Tasner and 25 DSCC members

RESOLUTION 14-11.20L

RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF BANNING THE NONTHERAPEUTIC USE OF ANTIBIOTICS IN LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION

WHEREAS, eighty percent of the antibiotics sold in the United States are used in livestock production, and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has reported that most of those antibiotics are used irresponsibly; and, low doses of antibiotics are often fed to livestock for growth promotion and disease prevention to compensate for crowded, unsanitary conditions, in a practice known as "nontherapeutic use"; and nontherapeutic use creates ideal conditions for the development of antibiotic-resistant bacteria; and

WHEREAS, antibiotic-resistant bacteria on livestock operations are known to spread to retail meat, farmers and farmworkers, and rural environments; and antibiotic resistance in pathogens due to nontherapeutic use of antibiotics in livestock production has been a public health concern since the 1960s; and antibiotic-resistant bacteria have been the cause of several foodborne illness outbreaks, including a 2011 outbreak of antibiotic-resistant Salmonella in ground turkey that sickened 136 people, hospitalized 37, and killed one and led to the third largest meat recall in the USDA's records, and a 2013 outbreak of antibiotic-resistant Salmonella in chicken that sickened 416 people and hospitalized 162; and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reported that at least two million Americans suffer from antibiotic resistant bacterial infections each year and twenty-three thousand Americans die from those infections; and the medical and social costs of antibiotic-resistant infections in just one hospital for one year have been estimated to be between \$13 million and \$18 million; and

WHEREAS, the federal government has limited nontherapeutic uses of two classes of antibiotics, but otherwise largely relied on voluntary guidance to attempt to reduce overuse of antibiotics in livestock production, despite regular acknowledgements that nontherapeutic use and the development of antibiotic-resistant bacteria poses a significant public health threat;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party supports a statewide and national moratorium on nontherapeutic uses of antibiotics in livestock production, prevention of importation of meat products where nontherapeutic antibiotics are used, and public hearings to educate the public to the dangers of nontherapeutic use of antibiotics and an opportunity for livestock producers to present any evidence for continued use of nontherapeutic antibiotics;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the California Democratic Party will send a letter to our Democratic state and federal representatives, calling for a moratorium on the nontherapeutic use of antibiotics in livestock production, hearings to examine their use, and absent a compelling public benefit, their ultimate ban for use in livestock production.

Sponsored by CDP Resolutions Committee

RESOLUTION 15-05.43

SUPPORTING DETAILED MEAT AND POULTRY INSPECTIONS TO SAFEGUARD PUBLIC HEALTH

WHEREAS, to determine if meat and poultry are safe for human consumption, the USDA Federal Meat Inspection Act of 1906 (FMIA) and the Poultry Products Inspection Act of 1957 (PPIA), and later updates of these laws, mandate: inspection of livestock before slaughter; detailed postmortem inspection of each carcass to determine health before processing; and submission to ongoing USDA monitoring and inspection; and

WHEREAS, now the USDA Food Safety Inspection Service (FSIS) in partnership with the industry has conducted an experimental Inspection Models Project (HIMP) designed to streamline the inspection process, reduce federal inspection and oversight, and increase the processing line speed (the number of carcasses processed daily); and the HIMP relies *instead* on microbiological sampling rather than detailed manual inspection; and

WHEREAS, three out of five of the meat packing plants where the new HIMP system was used were among the worst violators of meat contamination, sending as much as two million tons of contaminated meat to market each day; a lawsuit by the meat inspectors' union

won a ruling that the privatization of meat inspection was a violation of federal law; and a coalition of civil rights groups have charged that increasing the processing line speed also puts workers at greater risk; THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party opposes the adoption and expansion of the failed HIMP system as provisions of the FDA Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA) of 2010 and the USDA New Poultry Inspection System (NPIS) of 2014 that would dangerously reduce meat and poultry inspection standards and reduce workers' safety; and BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party will communicate this resolution to Congresswoman Nancy Pelosi, Senator Harry Reid and Senator Chuck Schumer, and supports the restoration of federal meat inspector levels and the funding needed to conduct direct observations and manual inspections to ensure that meat and poultry products are safe for human consumption. Sponsored by LACDP

RESOLUTION 15-05.50

Teacher Recruitment and Retention Programs

WHEREAS, according to the California Teachers Association, nearly one third of current teachers are nearing retirement and the state will need an additional 100,000 teachers in the next ten years, and without world-class teachers who are fully prepared and motivated, the success of our students will not reach their full potential; and WHEREAS, most California teacher credentialing programs are separate from undergraduate work, and are therefore an additional financial burden to be added to the already increasing costs of a college education as the average cost per year for a credentialing program at a private university ranges from \$20,000 to over \$40,000 and about \$10,000 at a California State University (CSU); and WHEREAS, in the past, the California Legislature approved of programs to help defer, reduce and forgive the cost of teacher credentialing thereby encouraging prospective teachers, especially in high-need areas such as low-income public schools, special education, and secondary math and science; THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the California Democratic Party urges restoration and reallocation of funds into teacher recruitment and retention programs which help defray the cost of credentialing; and BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party shall communicate this support to State Superintendent of Public Instruction Tom Torlakson and the Members of the California Student Aid Commission. Sponsored by Elizabeth Escalante & 4 DSCC members

RESOLUTION 15-05.58A

Resolution Reaffirming Support for the Two-State Solution & Supporting the President's Actions

Whereas the California Democratic Party seeks nothing less than aggressive forward action that rapidly creates the framework for a viable Two-State solution in Israel and Palestine, wherein each party recognizes the other's right to exist and prosper and eliminates policies that denigrate or harm the Israeli and Palestinian peoples, and Whereas Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has assembled a government and pursued policies inimical to a Two-State solution, despite attempts to distance himself from statements during his re-election campaign precluding an independent Palestinian state and stoking xenophobic fears of "droves" of Arab voters "bused in by the Left," and Whereas a lasting and just solution to the conflict in Palestine/Israel is central to long-term prospects for peace, security and economic development in the Middle East, Be it Resolved that the California Democratic Party supports the Obama Administration's strong reiterations of established U.S. policies regarding a Two-State solution, including the halting of settlement activity beyond the 1967 borders and encourages further discussion of the status of existing settlements and "lands swaps," and Be it further Resolved that the California Democratic Party holds all parties in the conflict to internationally recognized standards of human rights, anti-terrorism, diplomatic engagement, mutual recognition and peaceful conflict resolution that are mutual and equal. Authored and sponsored by Daraka Larimore-Hall and Eric Bauman

RESOLUTION 15-05.67L

Religious Practices at School Board Meetings

Whereas we support the First Amendment of the Constitution, which guarantees the right to free speech and prohibits Government from preferring or elevating one religion over another. We also recognize the recent Supreme Court ruling which supports invocations at some public meetings but which does not sanction prayer or other religious expression at public school board meetings or school gatherings; and Whereas proselytizing on behalf of a specific religion at publicly funded school board meetings may violate constitutional and statutory provisions, and school boards need legal guidance on what actions may lead to such violations and possible sanctions; and Therefore Be it Resolved that we strongly urge our school board officials to refrain from religious proselytizing and request that the California Attorney General's office, working with the State Superintendent of Public Instruction, prepare a publication, which combined with responses to inquiries from California school board members, will assist school board members and County Boards of Education in avoiding violations of state and federal constitutional and statutory provisions designed to prevent religious proselytizing in our schools; and

Therefore Be it Further Resolved that the California Democratic Party inform the California Attorney General and State Superintendent of Public Instruction of this resolution and encourage Democratic County Central Committees to communicate this resolution to Democratic school board members in their counties.

Sponsored by CDP Resolutions Committee

RESOLUTION 15-08.01

CLEAN WATER FOR RESIDENTS OF CALIFORNIA

Whereas the protection of the public is an ongoing concern for the California Democratic Party; and

Whereas numerous studies have shown that California water is being polluted with carcinogens, fluoriscates, and nitrates being consumed at a rate higher than federal safety guidelines; and

Whereas some of these contaminants are not naturally occurring but come from industrial and commercial pollutants of California's clean water usage during drought conditions;

Therefore be it resolved we share the mutual interest and responsibility for public safety and the California Democratic Party expresses concern on any industrial use of California's clean water which adds toxins to the run-off during drought conditions;

Be it further resolved that the Democratic Party opposes any preemption of a citizen's right to apply for injunctive relief or sue for damages caused by such industrial or commercial contamination of California water which directly or indirectly causes harm.

Sponsored by Lenore Albert-Sheridan, Bianca Barrientos, Ronald O'Donnell, and Jerrod Fish

RESOLUTION 15-08.02

SAVE OUR WATER

WHEREAS, water is essential to human life and is entrusted to the State to manage in the public interest and the public trust, and must be used reasonably and beneficially, and

WHEREAS, the current drought and global warming crisis has demonstrated that our waters have been overcommitted to the point there is not enough water in the system to meet existing demands; that existing environmental, agricultural, commercial and individual usage has contributed to the decline of some ecosystems, including some native fish species, abandonment of some agricultural production and resulting economic hardship for many California communities, and

WHEREAS, additional efforts are needed to ensure that more California farmers adopt irrigation and crop selection methods that help conserve water, that cities and towns take responsibility to not only conserve water usage but to clean up the toxic chemicals that are spewed into our water systems, that land use planning focus on making new building projects that have the highest water conservation plans available, that our native fish species be protected from non-native predators and overfishing, that water reservoirs engage in efforts to reduce evaporation, that the use of California's water bond for storage facilities be combined with efforts to restore and support watersheds,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party supports Governor Brown's efforts to ensure California conserves more of our precious water resources, supports best practice efforts to increase agricultural use of irrigation systems that use less water, that groundwater use be regulated to prevent environmental and economic disaster, that watershed protection and, where possible, restoration be a priority for the State, including working with development of above ground storage facilities to ensure a holistic approach to water storage and usage, that continued efforts be made to ensure that cities and towns eliminate any toxic or chemical waste into our waterways, that native fish be protected not only by ensuring adequate water flows where possible but also from non-native predators, that state and local entities fight to prevent deforestation, overgrazing and other results of human activity, that cities and towns adopt best management practices for reclamation, conservation and reuse, and that alternative water delivery sources be evaluated and considered subject to economic and environmental reviews.

Sponsored by Barbara Pyle, James Williams, San Joaquin Valley's Club and the Madera County Central Democratic Committee

RESOLUTION 15-08.03

Resolution Declaring a Tree Mortality Disaster In California

WHEREAS California Democrats believe it is necessary to preserve our forests, conserve our upper watershed areas, promote air quality and carbon sequestration, and encourage the creation of sustainable jobs for all Californians; and

WHEREAS experts believe that due to rising temperatures associated with climate change, four years of inadequate precipitation, and increased insect infestation, tree mortality now ranges between 20 and 85 percent of all trees in several areas of the state encompassing several million acres statewide; and trees are dying on both private and public lands, including in national parks and managed forests; and

WHEREAS this unprecedented tree mortality disaster will adversely affect the watersheds that supply nearly two-thirds of the water used in California, dramatically increase the risk of large wildfires, diminish air quality, disrupt the food web and result in increased mortality rates for wildlife, as well as cause more greenhouse gases to be released; and scientists agree that the best solution is to remove dead and dying trees which, given the scale of the disaster, property owners and local agencies cannot afford, and for which state and federal agencies have not adequately budgeted;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the California Democratic Party calls upon Governor Brown to declare a tree mortality disaster in afflicted areas of the state and calls upon funds to be released to facilitate removal of dead and dying trees in areas which will maintain watersheds and wildlife habitat, promote carbon sequestration, and create jobs in rural communities by restoring forest resiliency; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the California Democratic Party send this resolution to Democratic state legislators and Governor Brown.

Sponsored by Mariposa County DCC & Mariposa Democratic Club, Region 4 and the El Dorado County DCC

RESOLUTION 15-08.04

RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT THE CREATION OF A HEALTHY ENVIRONMENT FOR ALL PEOPLE

WHEREAS, all people have the right to a safe and healthy environment in which to work, play and worship; and

WHEREAS, established California law (commonly known as AB 857) requires the state to develop land use policy consistent with state planning priorities that “promote equity, strengthen the economy, protect the environment, and promote public health in the state,” but not yet address and prevent planning practices that result in the disproportionate exposure of low-income communities to polluting and toxic land uses; and

WHEREAS, these low-income communities, usually people of color, migrants, non-English speakers, tribes and other vulnerable populations, often bear a heavy burden of toxic and polluting land uses in and around their neighborhoods when freeways, landfills, industrial and heavy commercial facilities, hazardous waste facilities and disposal sites are concentrated in the areas in which they live, causing harm to their physical and mental health; then

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the California Democratic Party calls upon the state of California to include in its planning practices and priorities the advancement of the health and safety of the residents of low-income communities while at the same time encouraging the improvement and development of California’s industrial base and infrastructure so as to ensure safe living conditions and good jobs for all California workers.

Sponsored by CDP Region 8; Fresno Stonewall Democrats; Kennedy Club of the San Joaquin Valley; San Joaquin Valley Democratic Club; Kings County Democratic Club, Blue Wave; Democratic Women of Kern; Desert Bones Democratic Club; et al.

RESOLUTION 15-08.07

Unlawful Detainers and Protection of Homeowners During Foreclosure

Whereas access to shelter, clothing, food and water are basic human rights and the protection of the public is an ongoing concern for the Democratic Party; and

Whereas lenders have foreclosed on over 1 million homeowners without judicial oversight; and California summary Unlawful Detainer proceedings were not designed for homeowners, but with no other legislation many homeowners have been evicted under such rubric without preserving their due process rights; and

Whereas the Office of Comptroller of Currency has repeatedly affirmed lenders have illegally foreclosed upon homeowners, yet California continues to allow foreclosures and evictions to occur without any judicial oversight;

Therefore Be It Resolved that the California Democratic Party supports a (1) ban on the use of the Unlawful Detainer procedures against homeowners who were foreclosed on by their lender; and (2) prohibition of any lender, or other private party, or law enforcement officer from using force or the threat of force under color of law to evict an elderly, or disabled person (including those temporarily receiving home medical support or just being released from the hospital) as defined in California Health & Welfare statute section, even if litigation has concluded. Any such Writ of Possession from the court to the contrary, would be void as a matter of law; and

Be It Further Resolved that the California Democratic Party supports a private right of action by any individual to obtain a (1) restraining order and/or injunction prohibiting the ouster or quashing the court order, if any; (2) actual damages for any loss suffered including loss of consortium for family members; and (3) general damages for emotional distress. If no actual damages can be proven, the homeowner will be entitled to \$50,000.00 per violation. If the displacement results in death, or death occurs within 6 months of the displacement of a disabled or elderly person, it shall be presumed that the displacement was a substantial factor in that person’s death and their heirs are entitled to \$125,000.00 for wrongful death.

Sponsored by Bianca Barrientos, Ronald O’Donnell, and Jerrod Fish

RESOLUTION 15-08.12

STOP PRIVATIZING CALIFORNIA’S PUBLIC SCHOOLS – END SCHOOL SEGREGATION

WHEREAS, the school privatization movement has acted as a major tool for the corporate takeover of our public schools in California, the movement has also caused real harm to communities, parents and educators by severely weakening democratic policymaking as some for-profit charter schools have non-elected, often secret school boards, unaccountable to the taxpayers; and

WHEREAS, the privatization movement leads to rejection of students with low test scores, behavior issues, special needs, or who are English language learners, all of which has led to severe segregation of student populations; and

WHEREAS, the billionaires funding EdVoice, the California Charter School Association and Democrats for Education Reform are supporting candidates and local programs that undermine union rights and drain public funds from public school budgets; THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party reaffirms its commitment to free accessible public schools for all that offer a fair, substantive opportunity to learn with educators who have the right to be represented by their union, bargain collectively and have a voice in the policies which affect their schools, classrooms and their students; BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party send this resolution to all elected Democratic leaders in California, publicize the corporate and billionaire funding of these groups and work with the authors of this resolution to end the privatization and segregation of our public schools, and support the real needs of the classroom: trained teachers, adequate funding, safe and clean facilities, diverse and stimulating curriculum and access to an equal, quality public education with school boards elected by the public. Sponsored by the CDP Resolutions Committee

RESOLUTION 15-08.13

BODY CAMERAS

Whereas, the protection of the public is an ongoing concern for the Democratic Party. Whereas, the implementation of body cameras as was accomplished in Rialto by the Rialto Police Department yielded a 59% decrease in misconduct incidents, and an overall 87.5% decrease in citizen complaints. Be it resolved we share the mutual interest and responsibility for public safety and the California Democratic Party supports body cameras and audio to be placed on all law enforcement officers who are on duty in California. Sponsored by Lenore Albert-Sheridan, Ronald O'Donnell, Bianca Barrientos, and Jerrod Fish

RESOLUTION 15-08.15

RURAL COMMUNITY RIGHTS: EQUAL ACCESS TO JUSTICE

WHEREAS all people have the right to equal access to justice, yet low-income communities, migrants, non-English speakers, tribal members, often live in rural communities far from courthouses, thus there exists a resulting unfair deprivation with unequal access to justice by vulnerable populations; and WHEREAS the precedence for maximum distance to testify or be heard for the purpose of a judicial proceeding is set by current code, which limits to 75 miles the distance a witness must travel when called to testify in a deposition; and WHEREAS some rural, low income, California residents are required to travel more than 75 miles to be heard in the nearest court of law, thus unfairly depriving them of equal access to justice and burdening them with the extra cost in terms of time and travel expenses hoisted upon them; THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party supports efforts to cover the cost of travel beyond 75 miles for the purpose of requiring attendance for witnesses at civil and criminal proceedings, including depositions; and BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to Governor Brown, Democratic state constitutional members and Democratic members of the California Legislature. Sponsored by Desert Bones Democratic Club

RESOLUTION 15-08.17

Medicare Part B-Reduce Chances of Penalties

WHEREAS, current regulations for Medicare Part B state that if you choose not to enroll when you are first eligible at the age of 65, you may permanently increase costs if you decide to enroll later with Part B premiums increasing by 10 percent for each 12-month period you delay enrollment in Part B, and WHEREAS, the regulations regarding enrollment in Medicare Part B are very confusing and there are circumstances when one does not need to sign up immediately upon reaching 65, if for instance that person is working and receives health insurance from his/her employer, but these rules depend on the size of the company and are difficult to comprehend leading to many people sincerely believing they do not need to sign up for Medicare Part B and being totally unaware of the stiff financial penalties if they do not, and WHEREAS, many seniors are unaware of these complex rules and make mistaken choices out of ignorance rather than intent and some classes of citizens are even more burdened, such as those who have been incarcerated as different complex rules apply to them often leaving them without access to Medicare when they are released and it was clearly the intent of the authors of Medicare to make it available to all seniors in need; THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the California Democratic Party requests that adequate information be provided to all Americans reaching the age of 65 about Medicare Part B and that they be told clearly that they may suffer huge lifelong financial penalties if they do not enroll at the proper time and that the administration provide assistance for understanding such as requiring a written form showing that eligible enrollees have been informed of and understand the consequences of their choices, and BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that special and adequate relief be available to those citizens who through honest mistakes have missed signing up for Medicare Part B in a timely manner and that these lifetime late penalties be removed from those seniors who are desperately in need of adequate and affordable health care in their sunset years and that notice of this resolution be sent to the

Secretary of Health and Human Services and members of Congress who serve on the committees that oversee the administration of Medicare.

Sponsored by Santa Clara County Democratic Party, Santa Clara County Central Committee, Mono County Democratic Party, Region 6 African American Caucus, Alameda county Castro Valley Democratic Club, CDP Veterans Caucus, Amador County Central Committee, Wellstone Democratic Renewal Club, CDP Region 4, CDP Region 6, et al.

RESOLUTION 15-08.19

RESOLUTION CONCERNING THE DISPLAY OF THE CONFEDERATE FLAG

WHEREAS, the California Democratic Party supports equal justice under the law; and

WHEREAS, many Americans consider the Confederate battle flag to be a symbol of repression and subjugation rivaled only by the Nazi flag; and

WHEREAS, governmental entities should not directly or indirectly support racial hatred and intolerance;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the California Democratic Party commends President Barack H. Obama for his eulogy of South Carolina State Senator Clementa C. Pinckney, where President Obama spoke openly and honestly about the history of the Confederate battle flag and called on the State of South Carolina to take the Confederate battle flag down; and

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the California Democratic Party also commends State Senator Isadore Hall III for being the lead author on Assembly Bill 2444 and Governor Edmund G. Brown, Jr., for signing Assembly Bill 2444 into law in 2014; prohibiting the State of California from selling or displaying “the Battle Flag of the Confederacy, also referred to as the Stars and Bars, or any similar image, or tangible personal property, inscribed with such an image unless the image appears in a book, digital medium, or state museum that serves an education or historical purpose,” and we shall send copies of this resolution to President Obama, Governor Brown, and Senator Hall.

Sponsored by Mister Phillips

RESOLUTION 15-08.20

Resolution in Support of the “Black Lives Matter” Movement

WHEREAS, the California Democratic Party upholds the ideals of equal justice under the law, racial justice, police accountability, and human dignity for all people; and the extrajudicial killing of Black people in this country has deep roots in the dehumanizing system of White supremacy that once defined Black bodies as property and persisted in the form of lynching during the 100+ years of Jim Crow; and

WHEREAS, the recent killings and deaths (while in police custody) of unarmed Black men, women, and children, including Sandy Bland, Freddie Gray, Walter Scott, Eric Garner, Michael Brown, Oscar Grant, Tamir Rice, and too many others compel questioning of whether or not equal justice under the law is possible for African Americans; and these deaths are indicative of a growing racial division that threatens the current and future well-being of our country; and

WHEREAS, there is a “widening gap of trust” between law enforcement and the African American community; and closing this “widening gap of trust” requires that we address the underlying inequities that continue to divide people in this country along racial lines; and while we recognize that there have been some strides made within police departments across the nation to engage in constructive dialogue and good faith efforts to improve relations among police officers and African Americans, we believe that the institutional racism in American society undermines the realization of the concepts of racial justice and equal justice under the law; that problems still exist; and that improvements are needed in order to protect lives;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the California Democratic Party supports the Black Lives Matter movement, community meetings, and peaceful demonstrations; and

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the California Democratic Party calls for the creation and dissemination of a national model for community policing, well-funded and thoughtful programs that will provide marginalized young people access to academic and career programs, and an end to institutionalized racism; a copy of this resolution shall be sent to the Democratic members of the United States Congress and California State Legislature.

Sponsored by Hene Kelly and the CDP African American Caucus

RESOLUTION 15-08.22A

Resolution on the Siting of Solar and Wind Farm

WHEREAS California Democrats, urban, suburban and rural, hold a shared interest in preserving and protecting the environment that sustains us, and we believe that increasing renewable energy production is desirable because renewable energy sources are essential to reducing air pollution, protecting public health, and combating climate change in California while also preserving and promoting job and economic growth; and

WHEREAS renewable energy development provides energy that has fewer environmental and health impacts than fossil fuels, renewable energy projects, such as solar and wind farms, but can have significant impacts on natural landscapes, habitats, wildlife and can require the use of large tracts of land to site solar and wind farms; and

WHEREAS the US Environmental Protection Agency's Brownfields and Revitalization Program and California's Department of Toxic Controls Brownfields Program have identified already-disturbed landscape that have low habitat, wildlife, scenic and agricultural values, which are known as urban brownfields, and are suitable for use for solar and wind farms and, if used, would convert formerly toxic sites into producing clean, renewable energy, would promote local urban job growth and reduce impacts to sensitive landscapes and the requirement for wildlife-threatening transmission lines;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party supports, where practical, the use of brownfields identified by the US Environmental Protection Agency's Brownfields and Revitalization Program and California's Department of Toxic Controls Brownfields Program for the siting of solar and wind farms; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party will send copies of this resolution to the Governor, State Constitutional officers and California Democratic members of the Legislature and Congress.

Sponsored by Lowell Young

RESOLUTION 15-08.23

PROTECT WHALES - BAN DRIFT GILLNET FISHING

Whereas, California's marine mammals, including the humpback and sperm whales, species designated for federal protection, are facing renewed danger of declining numbers by their exposure to now legal drift gillnets in which they become entangled before drowning; and

Whereas, the purpose of drift gillnets, sometimes more than a mile long, is intended for the capture of a single species; such as the thresher shark, leaving all other species of marine life caught in the nets considered "incidental takings" and discarded; and

Whereas, the U.S. Department of Commerce at the behest of the National Marines Fisheries Service has approved a number of "incidental takings" permits allowing fishing companies who employ the use of drift gillnets in the pursuit of a single target species, such as the thresher shark, to operate in an increasingly fragile global marine ecosystem thereby posing a threat to California's dwindling fish and marine mammal populations;

Therefore, be it resolved that the California Democratic Party opposes the use of drift gillnets by fishing companies and will support all means to outlaw such practices within California's 3-mile ocean boundary by appealing to the authorities of the California State Legislature, the California Department of Fish and Game, the Governor of California, and all concerned citizens; and

Therefore, be it further resolved that the California Democratic Party will urge the U.S. Department of Commerce to rescind "incidental take" permits that pose a threat to the health and diversity of California's fragile marine ecosystem and will enlist the support of our Democratic congressional delegation and our membership to bring this serious threat to the attention of the Executive Branch and the President of the United States.

Sponsored by CDP Region 15

RESOLUTION 15-08.24

ANTI-CYBERBULLYING

Whereas, the protection of the public is an ongoing concern for the Democratic Party, and

Whereas, with the increased connectivity of social media and the internet, a new form of harassment called cyberbullying has surfaced which has affected all ages of life in California, and

Whereas, in some cases it has resulted in the loss of employment or business to adults, loss of grades to suicide in children,

Be it resolved, that the Democratic party fully supports efforts to curb and prevent online harassment of both children and adults,

Be it further resolved that the California Democratic Party supports a private right of action wherein the victim may seek injunctive relief, the identity of the individuals who are cyberbullying and damages.

Sponsored by Lenore Albert-Sheridan Ronald O'Donnell, Bianca Barrientos, and Jerrod Fish

RESOLUTION 15-08.25

PROTECTION OF SMALL BUSINESS OWNERS

Whereas the protection of the public and economic growth is an ongoing concern for the California Democratic Party;

Whereas online review services such as Yelp and Rip Off Report do not require the identity of the reviewer to be revealed and the CDA immunizes certain liability for defamation and in some cases do not pay any fees or taxes to do business in California yet have a great economic effect on commerce in this state; ad

Whereas CCP section 425.16 SLAPP statute is being abused against small businesses who offer services, in contrast to goods, resulting in hurting small businesses with false and defamatory reviews by persons who were never actually a client or customer of these services, yet the Act is being used as a shield;

Be it resolved that the California Democratic Party supports the prohibition of the use of the SLAPP statute against business owners who furnish services from obtaining the identity of the people posting negative reviews online and having the ability to sue them if the information being posted was false or the person posting was not a consumer of that small business' services, including competitors.

Sponsored by Lenore Albert-Sheridan ,Ronald ODonnell, Jerrod Fish, and Bianca Barrientos.

RESOLUTION 15-08.33L

Resolution to Reject Republican Attacks on Planned Parenthood and Women's Health Care

WHEREAS, Planned Parenthood has fought for women's reproductive health for nearly 100 years, and one in five American women has received health care from Planned Parenthood;

WHEREAS, women trust Planned Parenthood's national network of health centers to provide them with confidential, nonjudgmental health care to prevent unintended pregnancies through contraception, reduce sexually transmitted disease, provide life-saving cancer screening, and deliver comprehensive sexual health education;

WHEREAS, Republicans in Congress and Republican presidential candidates threaten to defund Planned Parenthood and to shut down the federal government in order to deny reproductive health care to women, including abortion;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party rejects Republicans' war against women's health;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party stands with Planned Parenthood and its mission to offer trustworthy, knowledgeable, high-quality, federally funded family planning, education, and primary health care to American women and girls.

Authored and sponsored by Chairman John Burton

RESOLUTION 15-08.34L

Resolution To Strengthen, Improve, and Expand Social Security during its 80th Year

WHEREAS, August 14, 2015, is the 80th Anniversary of Social Security, and Social Security is the foundation of income for older Americans, families who have lost a spouse and/or parent, veterans, and those with severe work disabilities, and is the single most important source of life insurance protection for children; nearly 168 million workers contribute to Social Security through payroll taxes and 59 million people receive monthly Social Security benefits, including 41.9 million who receive retirement benefits, 6.1 million who receive survivors' benefits, and 10.9 million who receive disability benefits, and for many Social Security is their sole source of money when they retire; and

WHEREAS, Social Security's funding is independent of the rest of the federal government, and has never contributed to, and, by law, can never contribute to the federal deficit, and in fact, the Social Security Trust Fund lends money to the federal government through the purchase of government bonds; and

WHEREAS, Social Security, in fact, has a surplus of \$2.8 trillion dollars today that is expected to grow to \$3.1 trillion dollars by 2020; and there are many policy options available to close any and all shortfalls to Social Security's funding without cutting benefits, including eliminating the cap on earnings subject to the payroll tax, or raising the payroll tax rate from 6.2 to 7.2 percent gradually over 20 years; THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the California Democratic Party celebrates the 80th Anniversary of Social Security by urging the President and the Congress of the United States to exclude Social Security from any cuts, and instead support House and Senate bills to strengthen, improve, and expand Social Security, and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that the California Democratic Party transmits copies of this resolution to the President and Vice President of the United States, and to each Senator and Representative from California in the Congress of the United States.

Authored and Sponsored by Hene Kelly

RESOLUTION 15-08.36L

RESOLUTION REQUESTING CHANGES TO PROMOTE GREATER VOTER PARTICIPATION IN CALIFORNIA

Whereas, the democratic process is based on the need for greater voter participation in order to produce a more effective and responsive government;

Whereas, current participation rates have grown smaller over the years, particularly during mid-term elections;

Whereas, many jurisdictions throughout our nation have considered and/or implemented various methods of expanding voter participation (including those suggested below);

Be it resolved, that the California Democratic Party and the California Secretary of State consider measures that are necessary, reasonable and cost-effective to increase voter participation;

Be it further resolved, in order to increase voter participation, that consideration be given to various steps, including but not limited to, statewide and national elections in every even-numbered year be made a California State holiday; and/or make the weekend days, prior to the scheduled November election date, official voter-participation days (which would be less costly for the State); and increase ballot-drop locations, particularly in neighborhoods where transportation to the polls is problematic.

Sponsored by LACDP