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Resolution 10-07.03
CALIFORNIA DEMOCRATIC PARTY RESOLUTION TO REQUEST THAT USDA RECLASSIFY THE LIGHT BROWN APPLE MOTH AND END QUARANTINES OF CALIFORNIA FARMERS

WHEREAS, in 2007, various Northern California communities were aerially sprayed with a pesticide called Checkmate, a product used by the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) in an attempt to eradicate the Light Brown Apple Moth (LBAM), and the spray product, never approved to be used on any food crops, spurred an enormous public outcry in those counties and since then, public opposition to the entire LBAM eradication program, not just aerial spraying, has continued; the LBAM eradication program is hurting California farmers economically; and

WHEREAS, numerous independent scientific experts including a review by the National Academy of Science challenges both the need for eradication and the ability for eradication to succeed; and

WHEREAS, quarantines, not crop damage due to LBAM, have caused a significant financial and management burden to California farms and nurseries, including some going out of business and addressing the trade aspects of LBAM and reclassifying it to more accurately reflect its status as an insect of minor concern is the only long-term solution for California farmers;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party urges our State Senate and Assembly members, as well as California Congressional members to participate in calling on USDA Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack to reclassify the Light Brown Apple Moth as a non-actionable pest, and replaced with a serious focus on harmonizing trade agreements with other fruit producing, importing and exporting countries.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the California Democratic Party ask our members of Congress to work towards and see to completion, an end to the funding for this program; and as the LBAM program is conducted throughout our state, that this resolution be sent to all Democratic Central Committees in California for their consideration and adoption.

Submitted by Karen Bernal; Sponsor: Sacramento County Democratic Central Committee

Resolution 11-04.05
Title: Resolution in Support of Union Hotels for the DNC 2012 Convention

Whereas, the labor movement has been at the forefront of economic, political and social advances in the United States; and

Whereas, organized labor has been the backbone of the Democratic Party, and helped it materially to craft worker-friendly public policies, win elections and advance the public welfare; and

Whereas, the Democratic Party has a long tradition of honoring labor by respecting the union label in choosing venues for events, printing vendors and other resource purchases;

Therefore, be it resolved that the California Democratic Party rejects, as inappropriate, hosting the national Democratic Party convention in a hotel and convention center where its workers do not have a voice at work and the protections of a collective bargaining agreement;

And be it further resolved that the California Democratic Party requests that in the future, the Democratic National Committee return to the same policy as that of the CDP, of holding events only at facilities where workers have a voice and protections in the form of collective bargaining agreements.

Authors: Mal Burnstein 14; Karen Bernal 05; Cindy Young 08

Resolution 11-04.66
Title: POLITICAL ADVERTISING DISCLOSURE RESOLUTION

WHEREAS the Supreme Court's Citizens United decision has unleashed hundreds of millions of dollars of anonymous corporate spending on political campaigns across California and the nation; and
WHEREAS misleading political advertising by big-money interests hiding behind good-sounding committee names and other organizations deceives voters into supporting candidates and ballot measures that they wouldn't if they knew who was really behind them; and

WHEREAS disclosing the true funders of political ads on the ads themselves would let voters better decide whose messages to believe;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the California Democratic Party supports full disclosure, on the ads themselves, of the largest major funders of all political television, radio, print, slate mailer, and online advertising for ballot measures, independent expenditures, and issue advocacy, in a way that clearly and unambiguously identifies the largest major donors; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be provided to the Governor and to members of the Democratic Caucus of the California Legislature and Congressional Delegation.

Authors: Wendy Block 42; Brad Parker 42

Resolution 11-04.13
Title: Refunding California: Alleviating the Foreclosure Cost to our Communities

WHEREAS, the home foreclosure crisis has rocked our nation with one out of every five U.S. foreclosures located in California with more than 30% of mortgage holders owing more on the mortgage than the house is worth and, between 2009 and 2012, it is projected that almost two million California homes will suffer foreclosure; and,

WHEREAS, this crisis affects our communities as a whole not just those who lose their homes: when banks foreclose on homes, they lower property values and property tax revenues draining public resources at the local level; local government agencies then have to spend time and money covering the increased costs of public safety, inspecting and maintaining blighted properties, trash removal, foreclosure processing, evictions by sheriffs, providing transitional assistance, shelters and other safety net support to the foreclosed families; and,

WHEREAS, banks created this crisis by reckless and predatory loans, which have gone bad and, which they have been slow to modify; while communities suffer, the banks pay nothing - even though the bankers were bailed out by taxpayers and kept their bonuses (last year the top six banks paid $143 billion dollars in bonuses and compensation) ““ fairness dictates that they compensate communities impacted by their greed; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party supports a solution to help California recover from the foreclosure crisis by demanding that banks and mortgage servicers accept accountability and pay a substantial community reimbursement fee (which cannot be passed on to borrowers) before the foreclosure process can be concluded to help offset community costs due to foreclosures. These monies will be distributed to local communities to be used for public education, public safety, redevelopment in distressed neighborhoods, small business loans and to cities and counties to pay for mitigating the effects of foreclosures on the community, core functions and the construction of affordable housing; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party transmit this resolution to Governor Brown and to the democratic members of the California Legislature, Congress and Senate.

Authors: Assemblymember Bob Blumenfield 40
**Resolution 11-04.33**

Title: Resolution Calling on California Representatives to Support Wisconsin Workers

Whereas we, members of the California Democratic Party recognize the importance of protecting the hard-fought rights of workers to collectively bargain and exercise their voice; and

Whereas we, who worked hard for progressive change in America, want our elected representatives to echo our support for the rights of public workers in Wisconsin, Michigan, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Ohio, Indiana, and other states; and

Whereas we, the heart and soul of the Democratic Party, acknowledge the current pernicious threats to our democracy;

Therefore be it resolved that we urge our President, California House and Senate delegation to express, both in word and in deed, their solidarity with Wisconsin, Michigan, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Ohio, and Indiana workers by going to those states to stand alongside our brothers and sisters in this pivotal struggle and watershed moment, when the forces of privatization and unmitigated greed bypass democratic protocols; and

Be It Further Resolved, that copies of this resolution shall be sent to the White House, California Congressional delegation, the Chair of the Democratic National Committee, and the California Democratic Party media list.

Authors: Karen Bernal 05; Cindy Young 08; Mal Burnstein 14

**Resolution 11-04.17**

Title: Protecting the Initiative Process

Whereas, the work of the state legislators to create a budget balancing the needs of the people of California and funds incoming to the state treasury is constricted by the siphoning of much of that income away from the general fund to programs mandated by initiatives and thus the initiative process is being used to hinder our legislators in their attempts to fulfill their responsibility to build a balanced budget by requiring them to finance certain programs off the top, thus reducing the amount of state revenue available for all other needs; and

Whereas, the non-partisan Ballot Initiative Strategy Center issued California an "F" grade for not enacting legislation to properly regulate the initiative system; and

Whereas, the initiative process is being abused by the use of misleading titles and advertisements by unscrupulous signature gathering companies, hired signature collectors, and concealed sponsors so that voters are won over by the persons or groups who purchase the most seductive advertisements to create laws and programs that benefit a very few people at the expense of the many, therefore

Be it resolved, that the California Democratic Party requests the California Secretary of State to provide recommendations for reforms to the initiative process including, but not limited to, a requirement that at the top of each page of the official petition signature collection form in headline type the words PAID or VOLUNTEER indicate whether or not the person gathering signatures is being paid for this work; and

Be it resolved that the California Democratic Party request that the Governor of California and the California Secretary of State take all necessary steps to make information about initiatives more transparent so that voters will receive truthful information about the law proposed and its sponsors.

Submitted by: Dana Runge, Canada Crescenta Democratic Club; Amended by the Resolutions Committee
Resolution 11-04.19
Assault Weapons and Extended Clip Ban

Whereas, the US Constitution guarantees the right to keep and bear arms, at the same time we must develop reasonable laws to insure safety, responsibility, and establish practical limitations as to the availability of assault weapons and large capacity ammunition feeding devices; and

Whereas, recent tragedy in Arizona highlights the devastation of such large capacity devices in the hands of an irresponsible individuals; and

Whereas, the laws prohibiting assault weapons, that existed for ten years have expired,

Therefore be it resolved, that the California Democratic Party urges our California Congressional Delegation to support actions which will prohibit the transfer, possession, or importation of assault weapons and extended clips, and

Therefore be it further resolved, that a copy of this resolution also be forwarded to the Democratic Members of the California State Legislature, Governor and Attorney General so that they are aware of our concerns about assault weapons and large capacity ammunition feeding devices.

Author: Thomas Patrick O’Shaughnessy, 43rd AD-Region 3 Vice Chair, LACDP

Resolution 11-04.21
Title: Resolution to Protect Public Libraries

Whereas, public libraries are vital for a free and open democracy, an educated, literate and informed citizenry, and they promote increased economic activity where they are located and act as a storehouse of our culture, history and politics and as such should not be turned into a for-profit enterprise and,

Whereas, Santa Clarita’s and other California jurisdiction’s libraries have been subject to what amounts to hostile takeovers or attempts of hostile takeovers by a for-profit, out of state corporation, Library Systems & Services LLC(LSSI) despite strong citizens’ objections, and

Whereas, the for-profit library movement (now the nation’s fifth-largest library system) makes its profits by cutting union jobs and pensions, lowering employee incomes and cutting back on patron services, while the costs of running these libraries still comes entirely at the expense of the taxpayers;

Therefore be it resolved, that the California Democratic Party calls on the State Legislature to enact laws that will protect Public Libraries from being taken over by a for-profit corporation, and

Be it further resolved, that the California Democratic Party send a copy of this resolution to the Democratic delegation of the State Legislature.

Author: Carole Lutness, 38th AD; Sponsored by LACDP
Resolution 11-04.24
Title: AGAINST SALE/LEASE-BACK OF STATE-OWNED PROPERTIES

WHEREAS, Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger proposed the sale of allegedly underutilized state landmarks and properties such as the Orange County Fairgrounds, San Quentin State Prison, Del Mar Fairgrounds, Cow Palace, Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum and Sports Arena, to generate revenue to close the State's budget deficit; and

WHEREAS, these properties, along with all other State-owned office buildings, public housing, schools, libraries, parks, beaches, recreation areas, and fairgrounds, are used every day to conduct the business of the people of California, to provide the people of California with business and recreation opportunities, and to maintain their well-being; and

WHEREAS, the long-term interests of the people of California are best served by retaining and maintaining these state landmarks and properties, and it is imprudent to lease-back those same properties since their projected rent would greatly exceed sale proceeds.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Democratic Party of California calls upon the Governor and Legislature of California to end all sale/lease-back of state-owned properties, and stop the sale of libraries, schools and public housing to meet short-term budget gaps, and to pass the necessary legislation needed to rescind any such outstanding sales; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be sent to all elected Democratic members of the California Legislature.

Submitted by: Craig J Beauchamp, Democratic Party of Orange County

Resolution 11-04.27
Title: Resolution in support of Homeless Youth Housing

Whereas, nearly 200,000 people in California under the age of 18 will experience homelessness each year, with roughly 20% to 40% of these youth identifying as LGBTQ and

Whereas the needs of LBGTQ homeless youth differ with the unique discrimination, prejudices and phobias of our society including the rejection by relatives and resources that render them homeless in greater numbers and

Whereas the California Democratic Party has long stood as the champion of the most vulnerable members of society;

Therefore be it resolved that the CDP support a comprehensive plan to create shelter space and supportive housing for homeless youth in California with the acknowledgement of the different needs of the diverse communities impacted and,

Therefore be it further resolved that the California Democratic Party send a copy of this resolution to the Democrats in the CA Assembly, State Senate and Congressional delegations.

Submitted by: Michael Colorge, Stonewall Young Democrats

Resolution 11-04.28
RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF ENACTING HEALTH INSURANCE RATE REGULATION IN CALIFORNIA

WHEREAS Since 1988, insurance companies have been required to get prior approval of rate increases for automobile, home, and property casualty insurance from California’s Insurance Commissioner, but no similar requirement in California exists for prior approval of health insurance rates; and

WHEREAS Unchecked premium increases hit small businesses, the 3 million Californians who in 2009 purchased health insurance on their own, and retirees not yet eligible for Medicare, the hardest.
WHEREAS Since 2008, cumulative premium increases of 60% (or higher) for individual and family coverage have been common; while rate increases of up to 75% were implemented in 2009 in California’s small-group market and untenable rate increases continue; and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the California Democratic Party support the enactment of health insurance rate regulation in California to give the Insurance Commissioner the authority to reject excessive health insurance rates; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be provided to State Officeholders in California and to members of the Democratic Caucus of the California Legislature

Igor Tregub, AD14 DSCC Delegate

Resolution 11-04.42
RESOLUTION CALLING FOR ENDING BRADLEY MANNING’S SOLITARY CONFINEMENT UNDER INHUMANE "PREVENTION OF INJURY" CONDITIONS

WHEREAS, the military has held Pfc. Bradley Manning in solitary confinement since July of 2010, reportedly under severe and inappropriate "Prevention of Injury" conditions constituting an inhumane form of punishment that may result in irreversible psychological and physiological damage, rendering him incapable of meaningfully cooperating with his defense, and thus undermining his right to a fair trial;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the California Democratic Party demands that all branches of our government respect and uphold the principle that a person accused of a crime must be presumed innocent until proven guilty, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the California Democratic Party urges all of our elected Democratic representatives to use all lawful means possible to end these inhumane conditions of confinement, including contacting President Obama and insisting that he immediately end, by executive order, any inappropriate conditions, forms of punishment, or abuse of Bradley Manning while he awaits trial.

Adopted by the Sonoma County Central Committee. Additionally sponsored by the LACDP.

Resolution 11-04.49
Title: Resolution to Secure the Labeling of Genetically Engineered Food

WHEREAS, consumers have a right to know what they are eating under the 1992 U.S. Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act which states labeling is misleading if it fails to reveal "material" facts and

WHEREAS, public health and consumer groups are concerned that genetically engineered crops have contaminated native and related species and that genetically engineered seeds can be spread by wind insects or birds, contaminating conventional and organic food crops and

WHEREAS, surveys of the U.S. public consistently show overwhelming support for labeling genetically engineered food products that may cause allergic reactions, other health problems and potential environmental and ecological disasters and labeling of genetically engineered food in Europe has pretty much eliminated such foods,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party declares support for federal legislation or regulations that require labeling of genetically engineered food including current legislation to label genetically engineered salmon and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party supports labeling of genetically engineered animal feed, such as alfalfa and that this support for the labeling of genetically engineered food be communicated by the California Democratic Party to California Democratic members of the U.S. House of Representatives and the U.S. Senate.

Submitted by: Derek Casady, La Jolla Democratic Club
Resolution 11-04.51
Title: Opposing Methyl Iodide for Licensed Use in California and United States Agriculture

WHEREAS, methyl iodide has been provisionally approved for use as a fumigant pesticide in California’s strawberry fields, as well as in fields where nursery plants and nut trees will be planted, among other crops; and

WHEREAS, methyl iodide is a known carcinogen, a neurotoxin, and a thyroid toxicant that can disrupt fetal development and cause miscarriages, and even with legally required protections, application procedures, and buffer zones, scientists estimate unconscionable risks posed to the health and wellbeing of California residents and the environment; and

WHEREAS, fifty-four scientists, who are members of the National Academy of Sciences, six of them Nobel Laureates, have expressed concerns about the potential and actual health risks associated with exposure to methyl iodide at high and low doses, calling the chemical, “one of the most toxic chemicals on earth,” and have expressed these concerns in letters and expert testimonials to the United States Environmental Protection Agency, the State of California, and the California Department of Pesticide Regulation;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the California Democratic Party urges Governor Brown to reverse the 11th-hour approval of the methyl iodide made by the Schwarzenegger Administration, to prohibit its use in California agriculture into perpetuity, and support the March 31, 2010 petition requesting that all registrations of methyl iodide be suspended and cancelled throughout the United States.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Chair of the California Democratic Party be instructed to send copies of this resolution to the Governor of California, elected Democrats in the California State Legislature, and the United States Congress.

Authors: Ana Mascarenas 45, Karen Bernal 05, Gary Lasky 27

Resolution 11-04.52
School Breakfast and Lunch

WHEREAS, the school breakfasts and lunches being offered to our children fulfill the minimum nutritional requirements but are saturated with cholesterol, sugar and salt which lead to obesity, diabetes and other health risks for children.

AND WHEREAS schools make available low-value, high sugar fruit drinks and caffeinated vitamin-enriched sport drinks which lead to a more difficult learning environment,

AND WHEREAS the children are not aware that the foods they are getting are not conducive to good health,

THEREFORE be it resolved that the California State Democratic Party supports the restructuring of the school foods program to include more fruits and vegetables including vegetarian and vegan alternatives with nutritional information posted daily and instruction in nutrition including understanding food nutrition labeling consistent with FDA labeling requirements

AND THEREFORE be it resolved that this resolution be distributed to the all members of the California Legislature.

Submitted by the Progressive Democrats of the Santa Monica Mountains.

Resolution 11-04.54
Title: Achieving Full Employment

WHEREAS universal employment would help maintain consumer confidence, stabilize financial markets, and facilitate public works projects highly beneficial to the United States in a multitude of ways, thus promoting the general welfare of our citizenry; and

WHEREAS the desirability of universal employment was recognized and advocated by FDR in his 1944 proposal of an Economic Bill of Rights, is included in Article 23.1 of the United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and is further articulated in Article 6 of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, which the United States has signed but not yet ratified; and
WHEREAS government has the unique financial resources and implementary authority to serve as both the consumer and employer of last resort, especially during times of economic downturn, with full employment being achievable partly by way of reformed trade policies which would bring many jobs back to America, and partly by creating new public works jobs paid for largely if not completely by using current unemployment compensation funds, taxes from the incomes of the newly employed, taxes resulting from the economic activity generated by the spending of the newly employed, and revenue gained from corrections to flawed tax policies that would require profitable businesses to start paying their fair share;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Government of the United States should be required to provide and fund programs that would enable every American who cannot find work in the private sector to engage in socially useful work under just and favorable conditions, and in a way that does not undermine the position of other workers.

Authors: Bill James 21; Craig Dunerley 22; Herb Engstrom 22

Resolution 11-04.56
Title: The California Democratic Party Opposes the Mortgage of All Public Property to Banks and Other Financial Institutions

Whereas, our public property, including, but not limited to Public Housing, Parks, Libraries and Schools, are a common good and a treasured asset to our country that must be protected from private encroachment; and

Whereas every mortgage brings with it a risk of foreclosure and subsequent loss of that property to a financial institution, as we have seen in the private mortgage crisis with millions of homes foreclosed upon across the country; and

Whereas, a mortgage on public property relies on taxpayer money being funneled into paying off private interest to banks for decades, leading to a greater chance of foreclosure or sale to private financial interests in the event of budget cuts.

Therefore Be it Resolved that the California Democratic Party opposes the mortgage of our public property, including, but not limited to, Public Housing, Parks, Libraries and Schools; and

Therefore be it resolved that the California Democratic Party send a copy of this resolution to the Democratic Congressional delegation, the U. S. Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, the U.S. Secretary of Education, and the U.S. Secretary of the Interior.

Authors: Susan Shannon 42

Resolution 11-04.57
Title: Made in America

Whereas, we are continuously losing employment opportunities and suffering great financial losses, decreasing employment income and therefore future spending capacity, and we are increasing our individual debt, commercial enterprise debt, and our government debt to other countries at a staggering rate;

Whereas, companies and individuals have given up on even being able to find American made products, such as clothes, accessories, shoes, appliances, furniture, electronics, toys, and medicine, and we therefore purchase foreign goods, causing further loss of funds to our own economy; companies believe erroneously that the short term bottom line improvements they might receive by moving production and service jobs overseas is a feasible option toward their continued viability and our nation’s prosperity as a whole; and product safety is improved by manufacturing in America;

Whereas, doing more manufacturing in America and people buying more America made goods will help bring back jobs and income to this country, will provide our consumers the opportunity to return their spending to strengthen our own economy, will decrease the need of new international loans and stem the staggering debt to our national economy, allowing us more funds to create employment opportunities, rebuild our economy and infrastructure and continue to protect our environment, and return America to a position of strength so that we may prosper and continue to be a world leader;
Therefore, Be It Resolved that the California Democratic Party believes that state and federal governments should sponsor advertisement campaigns to promote that purchasing American made goods are both patriotic and good for business and that it is better for us as consumers to purchase one Made-in-America item and wear it or use it with pride than to purchase and use many foreign produced articles; and

Be It Further Resolved, the California Democratic Party believes that state and federal governments should provide incentives and government assistance to companies that create and bring back manufacturing jobs to this country.

Authors: Dawn A. Mathews 38, Richard M. Mathews 38

Resolution 11-04.61
TO ENSURE THAT VETERAN’S EDUCATIONAL BENEFITS PRODUCE POSITIVE RESULTS

Whereas, educational benefits provided to veterans aid in adjusting to civilian life and increase their opportunity to obtain well-paid and rewarding employment and with the passage for the Post-9/11 GI Bill on June 30, 2008 Congress and the country committed to provide this generation of veterans the same opportunities as previous generations receiving GI Bill benefits, and

Whereas, Senator Tom Harkin’s recent report raises serious questions about the share of the military educational benefit pool going to for-profit schools with manipulative and misleading marketing campaigns, educational programs far more expensive than comparable public or nonprofit programs and questionable outcomes, and

Whereas, between 2006 and 2010, combined VA and DoD education benefits received by 20 for-profit education companies is projected to have increased 683% with several schools having both high student withdrawal rates and low student loan repayment rates,

Therefore Be It Resolved, that the California Democratic Party urges the Department of Veterans Affairs and the Department of Defense to act now to ensure that service members and veterans be informed of the financial risks associated with for-profit education or trade centers and notified of alternative educational opportunities, and

Be it further resolved, that this resolution be forwarded to the California Congressional Delegation urging prompt passage of legislation to ensure that public funds are being spent to produce the intended results.

Authors: Roz Teller 43rd AD and Sheldon Kadish 42nd AD

Resolution 11-04.64
Title: 2011 CA Education Funding Resolution

WHEREAS, public education funding has been severely cut resulting in crucial Head Start and Pre-Kindergarten programs being reduced, our public schools (K-12) are extremely underfunded to the point where class sizes and staff to student ratios are unmanageable, our Community Colleges and Public Universities continue to increase tuition fees to counteract the steady decrease in State funding, all of which has resulted in diminished access and pathways to higher education regardless of socioeconomic standing; and

WHEREAS, California is in a budget crisis and an extension of revenues is vitally needed in order to prevent deeper cuts to school and students; and

WHEREAS, The CDP Platform puts forth that California’s students must have access to a free, fully accessible and equitable world-class public education system, which means that our postsecondary education must be available and affordable to all interested students while our elementary, secondary, and postsecondary institutions must be adequately funded in order to provide a well-rounded, balanced curriculum that will prepare students for success in a globally interconnected world; and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party reaffirms the principle that securing the future and opportunity of our children is a top state priority, and urges all Californians to work towards a constructive solution that supports, instead of hinders, reinvestment in education at all levels from PRE-K to Public Institutions of Higher Learning; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we strongly advocate for and send this resolution to the Governor and
State Legislature, asking them to protect and improve our public education system and programs by making them a top priority and by continuing to work toward a solution that invests in, rather than further decimates an already underfunded public education system.

Authors: Konstantin Hatcher 42

Resolution 11-04.83
Title: Countermanding Citizens United vs Federal Elections Commission
WHEREAS, the protections afforded by the First Amendment to the United States Constitution to the people of our nation are fundamental to our democracy and while corporations make important contributions to our society, corporations, as legally created economic entities, do not share all of the same rights and privileges as natural persons, such as the right to vote and the right to seek public office, and yet they have special advantages not enjoyed by natural persons, such as limited liability, perpetual life, and favorable treatment of assets, that allows them to spend prodigious sums on campaign messages that have little or no correlation with the beliefs held by natural persons; and

WHEREAS, since 1907 Congress has placed special limitations on campaign spending by corporations, the Supreme Court in the 1982 unanimous FEC v. NRWC case wrote that congressional adjustment of federal election laws to account for the unique economic and legal attributes of corporations should be given deference by the courts and that in order to prevent corruption and the appearance of corruption the Court said “there is no reason why it may not …be accomplished by treating…corporations, and similar organizations differently from individuals,” and in a 2002 bi-partisan effort to limit contributions to election campaigns, Congress passed the Campaign Reform Act of 2002; and

WHEREAS, in a radical rejection of well-settled law, the current Supreme Court by a 5-4 decision in the Citizens United v. FEC case, overturned the 2002 Campaign Reform Act and opened the floodgates to a massive spending spree by corporations, necessitating response from Congress, which has a duty to protect democracy and guard against potentially detrimental effects of unbridled corporate spending;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party calls upon the Congress to use all means within its power to reform federal campaign laws so that we have a level playing field with laws that have reasonable spending limits and reporting requirements for small as well as large contributors, and send to the states for ratification a constitutional amendment to restore the power of Congress and state legislatures to safeguard democracy by placing appropriate limits on the ability of corporations to influence the outcome of elections through political contributions and other expenditures; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution be transmitted to all members of the California Democratic Congressional Delegation.

Authors/Sponsors: Resolutions Committee; San Diego County Democratic Party; Los Angeles County Democratic Party

Resolution 11-04.72
EPA Policy and Mountaintop Removal

Whereas, On January 13, 2011 The Environmental Protection Agency vetoed a 2,300 acre mountaintop removal mining project which if allowed would have been the largest mountaintop removal operation in West Virginia’s history, vetoing the permit based on the negative impact on local water supplies and destructive and unsustainable mining practices that jeopardize the health of local communities; and

Whereas, there are currently no federal or state agencies tracking the overall extent or cumulative impacts of mountaintop removal mining, which, if not abolished, has the potential of being used in Western States including California, causing irreperable environmental and economic harm and health hazards to effected communities; and

Whereas, The EPA’s crackdown on mountaintop removal permits is of national importance and enforcing the EPA’s veto of the mine permit in West Virginia will strengthen national environmental policies.

Therefore be it resolved, that the California Democratic Party urges the EPA to continue their crackdown on mountaintop removal permits, and
Therefore be it further resolved, that the California Democratic Party send a copy of this resolution to the California State Legislature, Governor & Lt. Governor, Democratic Congressional delegation, White House and Senators Jay Rockefeller, Joe Manchin, Congressman Nick Rahall.

Author: Thomas Patrick O'Shaughnessy, 43rd AD-Region 3 Vice Chair, LACDP

Resolution 11-04.75
Title: OPPOSING RELIGIOUS INTOLEANCE AGAINST MUSLIMS IN AMERICA

WHEREAS, Muslims have been an integral part of California's diverse cultural, economic and social strength since the latter part of the nineteenth century; and, eight hundred thousand Muslims now live in California, and;

WHEREAS, there have been marked increases in statewide and nationwide discrimination, hostility, vandalism, and violence towards Muslims in America and those who physically appear to be Muslim or espouse tolerance toward and acceptance of Muslims; and

WHEREAS, the rise in anti-Muslim sentiment, known as Islamophobia, has contributed to opposition to the lawful construction of Islamic cultural centers and mosques across the United States, specifically in California, Connecticut, Illinois, New York, Tennessee, and Wisconsin.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party stands unequivocally for the right of free speech and for the free exercise of religion as guaranteed by the First Amendment to the Constitution of the United States, as well as the equal protection of all citizens guaranteed by the Fourteenth Amendment; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the California Democratic Party strongly condemns any and all acts of discrimination, hostility, vandalism, and violence directed at Muslims in America and their institutions as well as those of any other race, religion or nationality.

Authors: Sunny Zia 70

Resolution 11-04.76
Title: Resolution in Support of Democracy in the Middle East

WHEREAS democratic governments tend to champion individual rights and freedoms; and

WHEREAS those individual rights and freedoms include the right to peaceful assembly, the right to free speech, and the right to express themselves without fear of reprisal, rights which should belong not only to the people across the Middle East and North Africa, but to all the people of the world; and

WHEREAS there are widespread, spontaneous, popular movements among these nations of the Middle East and North Africa to replace their dictatorships and absolute monarchies with democracies, many of which have been met with repression and violence;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the California Democratic Party warmly and strongly supports the efforts of the peoples of non-democratic Middle Eastern and North African nations to throw off oppression and join the ranks of the democratic republics which allow their citizens basic human rights such as the right to vote and dissent; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the California Democratic Party urges the Obama Administration and the Congress to support the spread of democracy in these nations of the Middle East and North Africa.

Authors: Andrew Lachman 42; Basim El Karra 09; Paul Kujawsky 42

Resolution 11-04.77
Title: CONGRATULATING THE PROTESTORS AND ACTIVIST OF EGYPT ON THEIR SUCCESSFUL NON-VIOLENT REVOLUTION
WHEREAS, Muhammad Hosni Mubarak was the president of the Arab Republic of Egypt for 30 years after taking over in 1981 where he quickly became an old-style strongman with full control of the government, running uncontested in election after election, refusing to lift the state of emergency imposed after Sadat's assassination and turning Egypt into a near-dictatorship; and

WHEREAS, on January 25, 2011 when -- inspired by the successful revolution in Tunisia -- thousands of courageous young Egyptians (by way of social media) began taking to the streets to protest poverty, rampant unemployment, government corruption and autocratic governance of President Mubarak; and the protestors and activists of all ages, social and religious backgrounds in ever increasing numbers mounting into the hundreds of thousands and in spite of the government and police violence of the first few days, continued their peaceful non-violent protests for 18 days demanding an end to the endemic corruption and calling for basic human dignity and a more representative form of government; and

WHEREAS, on February 11, 2011, Egypt's Hosni Mubarak resigned as president and handed control to the military on Friday, bowing down after a historic 18-day wave of pro-democracy demonstrations by hundreds of thousands of Egyptians protestors, liberating Egypt after decades of repression and giving way to a peaceful transition to a legitimate and representative government before the end of 2011.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party laud and honor the courage of the protestors and the successful non-violent revolution in Egypt; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party will stand and support the efforts of the now liberated Egyptian peoples and provide whatever resources available to assist the Egyptians in their efforts to make the transition a more legitimate and representative government.

Authors: Misha Houser 68, Craig J Beauchamp 68

Resolution 11-04.81
Title: Resolution Against The Closure of the Oxnard Mail Processing Facility

Whereas The Oxnard Mail Processing Facility is one of the most efficient mail processing facilities in the country and centrally located in Ventura County in Oxnard.

Whereas the USPS is proposing to move the sorting of mail to Goleta in Santa Barbara which is not as centrally located or as efficient.

Whereas the economic impact on the City of Oxnard and surrounding communities will be devastating due to the loss of jobs and the impact on approximately 200 families who will have to choose between relocating to keep their jobs, a long daily commute to Goleta or being unemployed.

Therefore Be It Resolved that the California Democratic Party call upon our United States Senators, Barbara Boxer and Dianne Feinstein, and Congressional Representatives Lois Capps, 23rd District and Elton Gallegly, 24th District to actively oppose the USPS plan to close the Oxnard Mail Processing Facility.

Submitted by: Richard Carter, Ventura County Democratic Central Committee

Resolution 11-04.92
NUCLEAR POWER PLANT SAFETY

WHEREAS the massive earthquake and tsunami in Japan caused great damage to its residents and facilities, including the Fukushima Dai-Ichi nuclear power plant, a boiling water reactor with Mark I containment structures particularly susceptible due to its design to accidently releasing radiation when cooling is lost; and these events have had implications for all nuclear facilities, including the need for reevaluating emergency plans, including the need for an expanded zone of warning and potential evacuation, and the risk of failure of back-up generators, cooling pools and storage systems for spent fuel rods, and

WHEREAS the Nuclear Regulatory Commission's Japan Task Force report released in July, 2011 declared that a sequence of events like the Fukushima accident is unlikely to occur in the United States and that plants can be operated safely and that continued operation and continued licensing activities do not pose an imminent risk to the
public health and safety, but it also found that the regulatory process needs to be improved, and made numerous specific recommendations, including upgrading plants design-based seismic and flooding protection of reactor structures and components, strengthen existing reactors abilities to deal with loss of power in the event of earthquake, tsunami, floods and other disasters, require that emergency plans address prolonged blackouts, require additional instrumentation and seismically protected systems to provide additional cooling water to spent fuel rods if necessary, and other recommendations to significantly enhance safety; California law prohibits constructing new nuclear power plants until a federal long-term waste disposal repository is operational and the federal government has refused to proceed with plans for a permanent repository of waste at Yucca Mountain yet has been collecting money from rate payers, and the California Energy Commission recommends the state develop a framework to review the costs, benefits and risks of nuclear plant licensing extensions, the long term implications of the accumulation of spent fuel at operating plants, the adequacy of California's nuclear transport fees and federal funding to cover the costs of fuel shipments, and

WHEREAS, 23 nuclear reactors in the U.S. are boiling water Mark I reactors that may have inherent design flaws and while neither San Onofre nor Diablo Canyon plants are boiling water Mark I reactors, both are located adjacent to known earthquake faults and new technology exists that will assist in the ability to determine if there are additional geologic risks, and this information should be essential for the NRC in assessing geologic risk for any relicensing process,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party calls upon the Nuclear Regulatory Commission to implement the recommendations of its Japan Task Force, that the NRC obtain and evaluate the results of 3D seismic testing before reaching a final decision on any licensing renewals of plants near earthquake faults, that the NRC take additional steps including decommissioning of Mark I boiling water reactors if they are unable to correct safety problems as a result of design flaws and that public and private energy providers work with local, state and federal agencies to provide emergency plans for populations up to 50 miles from nuclear plants, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party asks the Public Utilities Commission to ensure that independently conducted seismic studies are performed on both San Onofre and Diablo Canyon plants and use the PUC authority to require that emergency preparedness plans are modified to reflect the Japanese experience, that we support developing a framework in California for dealing with nuclear power plant accidents and adopt, where feasible, the recommendations of the California Energy Commission as noted above, we reaffirm our support for and encourage the PUC, the CEC and local governments to facilitate and require greater reliance on solar, wind, geothermal, and other non-fossil fuel sources which do not carry the same risks as nuclear power plants, and communicate this resolution to the Governor and Democratic state and federal legislators from California.

Resolution 11-04.20
Calling for the Conversion of All Death Sentences to Terms of Permanent Incarceration

WHEREAS, California currently has the largest and most expensive death row in the United States – with over 700 prisoners costing $126 million per year above the cost of permanent incarceration for the same inmates and a new death row facility set to be constructed at San Quentin costing more than $400 million – the Governor can cut the onerous cost of the death penalty from the state budget by converting all death sentences to permanent incarceration, avoiding the need for a new facility and saving $1 billion in five years, all without releasing a single prisoner; and

WHEREAS, the alternate of permanent incarceration ensures swift and certain justice for victims’ family members and allows for offenders to be held accountable by making them work to pay restitution, while the death penalty is a hollow promise that drags victims’ families through decades of painful court hearings and is ranked last by law enforcement leaders as a way to reduce violent crime, identified by them as the least efficient use of taxpayers’ dollars; while sixteen states have abolished the death penalty, and

WHEREAS, the California Commission on the Fair Administration of Justice, a bi-partisan panel of criminal justice experts named by the Senate, found that California is at risk of executing an innocent person and the Commission recommended several reforms to reduce the risk of wrongful conviction and wrongful execution,
but none of these reforms have been implemented, and the California Democratic Party supports replacement of
capital punishment with permanent incarceration,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party calls for Governor Jerry Brown to
convert all death sentences to terms of permanent incarceration, and a copy of this resolution be sent to him; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be sent to California Attorney General Kamala
Harris, the State Assembly Public Safety Committee, and the State Senate Public Safety Committee.

RESOLUTION 11-07.03
Title: Adopt Single Member District Election in At Large Electoral Districts that Under Represent Latinos

Whereas, California Law since 2001 requires at large electoral districts (including those that have wards or
areas that candidates must reside in but which are elected at large) to conduct a post-census study to determine
whether Latinos, African-Americans and Asian-Americans are underrepresented in the districts and whether
adoption of single member district (where only voters residing in the single member district can vote for that
seat) would enhance the electoral chances of the underrepresented groups, and

Whereas, a significant number of California cities, school districts, community college districts and other
districts have few, if any, Latinos, African-American or Asian-American board or council members and in fact, 175 California school districts whose student population is more than 25% Latino have no Latino board
members, and the Cesar Chavez Institute has documented a correlation being this lack of representation and
poor student performance, and

Whereas, a number of at large electoral districts have not yet undertaken the legally mandated post-census
voting rights analysis to determine whether they need to convert to single member districts,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party strongly urges local districts with at
large voting systems to immediately undertake the legally required post-census voting rights analysis and where
the results of the study indicate that underrepresented groups electoral success would be enhanced by adoption
of single member districts that the districts adopt the single member district system, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic party forward this resolution to Democratic
members of the State Legislature and state congressional delegation and that country committees are requested
to communicate this resolution to local governmental districts in the County Committee's jurisdiction.

Submitted by: Carlos Alcala, Chicano Latino Caucus, CDP

RESOLUTION 11-07.05
In Support of Fair and Timely Collective Bargaining

Whereas, the right for workers to collectively bargain is under attack in many states and now locally, as seen by
actions taken in Cerritos, Costa Mesa and other city councils, and

Whereas, these agencies refuse to work towards a mutually acceptable solution by the use of delay and late
night session, and they refuse to acknowledge that unions come to the bargaining table with concessions based
on the needs of their community and a willingness to be part of the solution, and

Whereas, they have not provided any reasonable evidence that reducing workers’ rights to collectively bargain
either saves taxpayer money or provides more effective or efficient services, and still they work to contract out
these services to private companies.

Therefore be it resolved, that the California Democratic Party acknowledges the valuable work done by public
and private sector workers and reaffirms the right of every worker to collectively bargain in an atmosphere of
mutual respect and a genuine willingness to come to a fair agreement, and

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Be it further resolved, that the California Democratic Party calls upon all elected officials to work towards solutions through collective bargaining for the benefit of their cities, the workers and their constituents and at the same time thanks those officials who have taken a public stand for fair, open and timely negotiations.

Author: LACDP Resolutions Committee

**RESOLUTION 11-07.06**
Title: Wild and Scenic River Designation

WHEREAS, The Mokelumne River, which flows from the high Sierra of Alpine County to the San Joaquin-Sacramento Delta, is a valuable part of California’s natural and human heritage, noted for its high water quality; important wildlife and fish habitat; unique and numerous American Indian sites dating back thousands of years; important historical sites from the Gold Rush, mining, and early hydroelectric development eras; outstanding family, fishing, and whitewater boating recreational opportunities; and great scenic beauty, and

WHEREAS, The Mokelumne River currently provides water and power to millions of Californians for residential, commercial, industrial, and agricultural use through its existing system of dams, reservoirs and diversions, as well as economic benefits to foothill economies from tourism and recreation; and

WHEREAS, To balance the extensive water and hydroelectric development on the Mokelumne River requires protecting its remaining free-flowing sections in perpetuity for their significant and unique social, natural, and economic value;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party hereby supports designation of the Mokelumne River from Salt Springs Dam to Pardee Reservoir as a National Wild and Scenic River, opposes the East Bay Municipal Utility District’s proposed expansion of Pardee Reservoir, urges EBMUD to drop Pardee expansion from all future water planning, and encourages EBMUD to employ less destructive methods of meeting its future water supply demand, including conservation, efficiency, recycling, water-neutral development, tiered pricing, off-stream storage, and conjunctive use; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party will communicate this position to the California Democratic Congressional delegation and EBMUD Directors and request that they create, sponsor or support appropriate legislation to designate the North Fork and main stem of the Mokelumne River from Salt Springs Dam to Pardee Reservoir as a National Wild and Scenic River.

**RESOLUTION 11-07.28**
Resolution to support tax collection by on-line retailers

Whereas, The California Democratic Party on May 1, 2011, voted to support adoption of a state law that would support leveling the playing field between traditional brick and mortar retailers and internet-based retailers by adopting a state law standard of nexus which evaluates the physical presence attributed to a retailer in this state through facilities, personnel, related corporations, marketing affiliates, technological infrastructure, or any combination of these attributes and in fact, California recently passed such a bill, ABX 28, to boost tax collection by requiring on-line retailers to collect sales taxes owed for online sales to California residents and Governor Brown signed the bill into law, and

Whereas, Amazon, the largest on-line retailer who in fact has a nexus presence in California is refusing to collect this tax which would potentially bring in hundreds of millions of dollars essential for funding schools, infrastructure and programs for the poor and disabled, etc. and also has launched an effort to overturn this law via referendum, and

Whereas, Some on-line retailers like Amazon engage in a predatory business model of offering reduced prices by not collecting sales tax, depriving states of this needed revenue and putting California merchants who do collect sales tax at a severe competitive disadvantage resulting in a loss of revenue, employment opportunities and property tax for California,
Therefore be it resolved, That the California Democratic Party reaffirms its support of efforts to level the playing field between brick and mortar retailers and on-line retailers and the law that passed and was signed into law by Governor Brown to compel Amazon and other online retailers doing business in California to collect the state’s sales tax, and continues to supports those businesses that help our state thrive by collecting sales tax, as Californians should support and give business to those companies that support our State, and

Therefore be it further resolved, That the California Democratic Party commends the Governor and State Legislature for passing ABX 28, opposes Amazon’s effort to repeal the law for Amazon’s financial gain ad urges members of the California Democratic Party not to sign any petition or signature form to repeal the law.

Submitted by Carole Lutness, 38th AD, LACDP/CDP E-Board; Pamela Gross; Chairman John Burton

RESOLUTION 11-07.10
Title: Creating New Jobs and Tax Revenue with a Californian Cannabis and Hemp Industry

WHEREAS, the California economy is experiencing a persistent crisis regarding unemployment and tax-revenue shortfalls for state and local government; and opportunity exists to expand the proven jobs- and tax-revenue- generating track-record of California’s legal medical cannabis industry by and through a pragmatic and progressive attitude toward industrial hemp farming and manufacturing and commercialized and industrialized adult-use recreational cannabis creating even more single-earner, made in America middle-class industries that will enable our state to control, tax, regulate, commercialize and industrialize these new and emerging industries; furthering an environment of secure-and-safe access for medical cannabis patients; and regulating use by consenting adults.

WHEREAS, on Nov. 2, 2010, over 4.6 million Californians, fully 46.5% of the electorate, voted for Proposition 19 to control, tax, and regulate adult-use recreational cannabis and set a new record for adult-use recreational cannabis legalization; and being endorsed by Democratic party county committees representing a majority of California Democrats; and receiving no opposition from any county committees; and receiving more votes than Meg Whitman and Carly Fiorina despite not being backed by a multi- million-dollar advertising campaign.

WHEREAS, appropriate- legalized, commercial and industrial controlled, taxed and regulated California hemp and cannabis industries will generate billions of dollars in new, state and local tax revenues to fund our struggling schools, teachers, nurses, firefighters and law enforcement; and opportunity exists to create more than 100,000 new, sustainable, single-earner jobs while freeing up 100’s of millions of dollars and other resources spent annually on law enforcement, adjudication and incarceration to be focused on eliminating criminal drug cartels and violent crime.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the California Democratic Party supports:
• Public and political education and outreach that effectively addresses the economic and job-creation aspects of appropriately controlled, taxed and regulated hemp and cannabis industries in California.
• Maintaining a focus on new jobs and revenue creation; attracting and developing broad-based political, economic and social support for the commercialization and industrialization of hemp and cannabis;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution shall not require expenditures of California Democratic Party funds, nor shall passage of this resolution be construed as support for or against any potential ballot measure covering the subject matter of this resolution and the California Democratic Party will transmit a copy of this resolution to President Barack Obama, the California Democratic Congressional Delegation, the Speaker of the State Assembly, the State Senate President Pro Tem, Democratic Members of the State Legislature, all County Supervisors of California, and Mayors representing populations over 100,000.

Submitted by: Dan Rush, 16th Assembly District, Executive Board Member

RESOLUTION 11-07.29
Stop Deceitful Attack on Labor & Working Families from Qualifying for Ballot

Whereas, study after study has shown that the biggest factor to a thriving middle class is a strong organized labor movement, able to fight for workplace safety, living wages, health-care and other benefits and other
policies that help not only their workers, but every Californian, and

Whereas, the electorate of California has rejected previous attempts at Paycheck Deception, such as Prop 226 in 1998 and Prop 75 in 2005, and the California Democratic Party opposed both of these ballot measures, but at a cost of vital money and other resources that could have instead supported Democratic candidates or other policies, and

Whereas, a new Paycheck Deception effort has been started called the “Stop Special Interest Money Now Act,” deceptively couched to portray itself as a effort to equally rein in corporate and union political contributions, but in reality would only tie the hands of organized labor through restrictions that have never been proposed before, such as a total ban on payroll deductions even if the member gives written consent;

Therefore, Be It Resolved, that the California Democratic Party reaffirms its opposition to Paycheck Deception, whether by ballot or legislation, as it has consistently opposed all attempts to limit the legitimate impact of organized labor and specifically urges all Democrats to reject divisive attacks that would divert our vital resources at this critical election time and stop all efforts to bring such divisive proposals to the ballot, and

Be It Further Resolved, that the California Democratic Party requests its members to not sign any petition or signature gathering form that establishes a plan to attack labor and working families which would interfere with the right of labor unions and their members to determine for themselves how they will participate in the political process.

Sponsored by Chairman John Burton and the California Labor Federation

RESOLUTION 11-07.14
MOVING CALIFORNIA FORWARD

WHEREAS the State of California needs additional revenue to meet its current budget crisis but the Republicans in the Legislature, the minority party of NO, refuse on ideological grounds to allow the State to raise the needed funds;

WHEREAS those additional revenues could come from tax increases on all Californians, but it is much more appropriate to acquire them by first making sure that those who are currently under-taxed, pay their fair share; and

WHEREAS California voters are more likely to approve ballot measures extending or increasing their own taxes if they see that the under-taxed are also being included in the process.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party ask Senate President Pro Tem Darrell Steinberg and Speaker of the Assembly John A. Perez to consider options to open up new revenue streams for our State such as:
1. An oil severance tax
2. Higher State income tax bracket for high income individuals
3. Split role property tax that permits higher taxation of commercial property

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party forward this resolution to Governor Jerry Brown, Senate President Pro Tem Darrell Steinberg and Speaker of the Assembly John A. Perez

Author: Democratic Club of Claremont

RESOLUTION 11-07.16
Title: Extreme Legislation Against Undocumented Residents

WHEREAS, the state of Alabama has passed HR-56, an anti-undocumented person bill, which makes Arizona’s SB-1070 seem absolutely benign by comparison; and

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WHEREAS Alabama HR-56 is a measure that discriminates against undocumented Alabamans in a comprehensive way from housing to contract law; and

WHEREAS it criminalizes knowingly giving an undocumented person a ride to school, a courthouse, a hospital, or a federal immigration office;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT the California Democratic Party opposes all extreme actions against undocumented persons and supports efforts to have state and federal courts declare them unconstitutional; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the California Democratic Party oppose all efforts that single out any class of people and denies that group civil rights and places them outside the protection of the law.

Authors: Craig Athon 49; supported by Region 12 and Region 13 Regional Meetings

RESOLUTION 11-07.17
Title: Stop Exploitation of Undocumented immigrants By Abusive Auto Seizures

Whereas, many drivers and their families are stranded when their vehicles, their private properties, are seized at DUI checkpoints, and

Whereas, DUI checkpoints are increasingly used to seize vehicles, such that auto impoundment has increased a dramatic 53 percent statewide between 2007 and 2009, and such that in many cities, the ratio of impoundments to DUI arrests is 20 to 1, and

Whereas, The Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund, maintains that DUI checkpoints target minorities, minorities communities and the poor, as well as undocumented immigrants who cannot legally obtain driver’s licenses,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party supports efforts to restrict DUI inspections to their original purpose of curtailing drunken driving and promoting safety on our roads, and

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Chair of the California Democratic Party be instructed to send copies of this resolution to elected Democrats in the California State Legislature and The California Congressional delegation

Submitted by: Carlos Alcala, Chicano Latino Caucus CDP

RESOLUTION 11-07.19
INCREASE SUPPORT FOR SUSTAINABLE FARMING, CONSERVATION AND HEALTHY FRUIT, VEGETABLE AND NUT PRODUCTION AND CONSUMPTION

WHEREAS, California leads the country with an agricultural output of about $35 billion a year (12% of total U.S. agricultural revenue), growing roughly half of all the fruits, vegetables and nuts consumed in the U.S. but has finite water, land and soil resources that need to be utilized not only for today's agriculture but protected for future generations, and has a population which consumes alarmingly low rates of fruits and vegetables, resulting in the state and nation incurring billions in added health expenditures related to obesity, diabetes, heart disease and other diet related diseases, and

WHEREAS, in addition to fighting urban land encroachment, drought and restrictions on water deliveries, fruit, vegetable and nut growers representing 50% of California's agricultural output received only indirect support from the federal government, and all federal funding for statewide agricultural conservation programs that help farmers reduce their use of chemicals and protect water, land, soil and wildlife habitat amounted to less than $100 million in 2009, and

WHEREAS, commodity crops, which are an important part of California's agriculture portfolio, receive the bulk of direct federal farm subsidies in California, and it is important to establish that any subsidy is not only necessary to ensure crop production but also be targeted to those farming operations that don’t have other governmental or private resources available to them,
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party urges our state and federal delegations and local officials to promote policies that:

1) Promote conservation of water, land and soil resources,

2) Ensure that California's farms receive a reliable water supply and that farms be protected from encroaching urbanization,

3) Increase fruit, vegetable and nut consumption through larger federal purchases of these products for schools and domestic nutrition programs,

4) Ensure that small and mid-size farmers obtain access to federal and state assistance programs, including federal subsidies,

5) Increase research and extension for organic agriculture,

6) Ensure that fruit, vegetable and nut farms have a greater share of federal farm subsidies.

Submitted in 2011 to California Democratic Party by San Mateo County Democracy for America

RESOLUTION 11-07.22
Title: To Restore Restrictions on Speculative Investment Activities by Banks and Derivatives Markets

WHEREAS, between 1933 and 1999, federal law separated investment banking from retail banking, eliminating a conflict of interest that lead to speculative investment endangering deposits; and

WHEREAS, the repeal of this statute was identified by the Financial Crisis Inquiry Commission chaired by prominent California Democrat Phil Angelides as a major factor leading to the financial collapse of 2007-2008, because banks engaged in speculative investment activities, especially trading of credit default swaps, mortgage-backed securities, and other derivatives; and

WHEREAS, while the California Democratic Party unequivocally disavows association with all organizations that are using advocacy for the restoration of these provisions to promulgate personal attacks on President Obama, the re-enactment of the provisions separating retail and investment banking should help to avert future financial crises stemming from risky investments, and should severely limit the massive derivatives “casino” engaged in speculative gambling,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the California Democratic Party urges that their the California Democratic Congressional delegation seek to adopt measures which will lead to the shutdown of gambling and speculation in the derivatives market, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party send a copy of this resolution to the President of the United States and to California’s Democratic national legislative delegations.

Authors: Cyril Yu 71, Art Hoffman 69, David Sonneborn 71

RESOLUTION 11-07.23
Title: Stop Deportation of Dreamers

Whereas, President Obama spoke in Texas of the necessity for immigration reform and of his support for young undocumented immigrants who have lived in the United States most of their lives and who face deportation to foreign nations to which they have no ties, and these deportations of our children do not protect us and instead terrorizes the immigrant community, and

Whereas, aspects of the Dream Act such as curtailing deportation of our children can be implemented by Executive Order and many Presidents in the past have issued Executive Orders to promote fairness and justice
when Congress failed to act and President Obama has a reservoir of authority to alter administrative and regulatory processes as well as to affect the implementation of law, so

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party urges President Obama to adopt an Executive order to stop the deportation of persons who otherwise qualify for the Dream Act; and

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Chair of the California Democratic Party send copies of this resolution to President Obama and elected Democrats in the California State Legislature and in the California Congressional delegation.

Submitted by: Carlos Alcala, Chicano Latino Caucus CDP

RESOLUTION 11-07.25
NEUTRALIZING OSAMA BIN LADEN

WHEREAS, Osama Bin Laden launched indiscriminate violence against U.S. embassies, U.S. civilians, democracy, and Western civilization which included planned attacks on Los Angeles: and

WHEREAS, Osama bin Laden carried out a war against the United States in which there were no neutral nations and Muslims, people of color, and other non-Americans were blasted to bits on peaceful streets; and

WHEREAS, it took courage, patience, intelligence, and skill to carry out the operation against Osama bin Laden.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party congratulates President Barack Obama, the Navy Seals, the national intelligence agencies, and the Department of Defense for their success in neutralizing Osama bin Laden; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party inform President Barack Obama, Secretary of Defense Robert Gates, and CIA Director Leon Panetta of this resolution.

Author: Democratic Headquarters of the West San Gabriel Valley and Craig Athon

RESOLUTION 11-07.30L
In Support of Grocery Workers

WHEREAS, labor unions have historically been at the forefront of worker's rights, benefiting all workers with stronger health and safety requirements, wage and hour standards, and the protection of fair wages and benefits; and

WHEREAS, the efforts of the right wing politicians and billion dollar corporations to erode the wages and benefits of union workers must be stopped, or the wages and benefits of all workers and the middle class will suffer; and

WHEREAS, labor rights are civil rights; and our family, friends and neighbors in labor unions have stood by our side in the ongoing fights for civil rights, and equality for all;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party extends our strongest support to the California grocery workers, the United Food and Commercial Workers, and the Los Angeles County Federation of Labor in their fight for fair wages and benefits for all California workers, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party urges our elected officials, chartered Democratic organizations and all fellow Democrats to honor the picket lines, and to stand in solidarity with our brothers and sisters in labor by joining the workers side by side in the picket lines.

Author: Robert Olivarez, Supported by Chairman John Burton
RESOLUTION 11-07.31L
OPPOSITION TO RACISM AND HOMOPHOBIA

WHEREAS, the California Democratic Party opposes racist campaign tactics by independent expenditure committees, and racist advertising, campaign literature and mail pieces are often produced and used in campaigns for partisan and non-partisan office, and

WHEREAS, homophobic and hateful speech is often used by high profile people against LGBT Community, and

WHEREAS, speaking out in a unified voice against hatred, sexism, racism and violence directed against any minority or religious group is a fundamental principle of the Democratic Party,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the California Democratic Party reaffirms its commitment to the core value of fighting racism and homophobia and to continue to denounce it in every form, and at every opportunity, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the California Democratic Party asks each of its members to individually speak out, write letters and take actions in support of this resolution.

Passed by LACDP 7/12/11, supported by Stephen Gale, Sonoma County Democratic Party

RESOLUTION 11-07.32L
Oppose Weakening Social Security

WHEREAS, Social Security is the most successful domestic program in American history, having provided a guaranteed retirement safety net for millions of Americans since 1935, insuring that no American worker need retire into poverty, and

WHEREAS, Republicans, Wall Street interests, corporate media reporters and, unfortunately, some Democrats have wildly exaggerated a possible projected shortfall in the ability of Social Security to pay full benefits starting several decades from now by labeling it a “crisis” and falsely implying it contributes to the budget deficit, and

WHEREAS, Social Security is funded 100% by worker and employer contributions, and many options exist to ensure Social Security can pay full benefits indefinitely -- including raising the cap on taxable income -- that have been ignored by policymakers attempting to cut hard-earned benefits for future retirees,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party opposes any legislation, plan, or recommendations, that will in any way harm the benefits, structure, or traditional role of Social Security, including but not limited to privatization of Social Security accounts, means testing of benefits, or indexing benefits to a measure other than wages, and

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party send copies of this resolution to President Obama and the California Congressional delegation.

Passed by LACDP 7/12/11

RESOLUTION 11-07.33 L
Resolution Commemorating the Life of Jean Harris

Whereas, Jean Harris, an Orange County native and lifelong LGBT activist who fought for the rights of domestic partners including helping to pass the domestic partner registration bill AB 25 (Migden) which granted registered domestic partners some of the most basic rights offered to married opposite-sex couples and then organized the first domestic partnership registration event in Orange County, worked to defeat Oregon's Measure 13 which would have banned anti-discrimination laws, was instrumental in the 'Lavender Sweep' of
1990 which elected Carole Migden and Roberta Achtenberg to the San Francisco Board of Supervisors, Tom Ammiano to the San Francisco school board and Donna Hitchens to Superior Court, and founded California Alliance for Pride and Equality (CAPE) which later became Equality, California; and

Whereas, Jean Harris was well known in political circles having worked as a field organizer for George McGovern, for Supervisor Harry Britt, Mayor Frank Jordan, Health Director Dr. Sandra Hernandez in San Francisco, as the West Coast campaign for Governor Howard Dean's presidential campaign, Dean For America, for California Assembly Speaker Emeritus Herb Wesson (D-Los Angeles), and former Speaker Fabian Nunez (D-Los Angeles), principal consultant for former California Senate President Pro Tempore Don Perata (D-Oakland), and worked closely with the LGBT Legislative Caucus; and

Whereas, Jean Harris served in the Democratic Party as a member of Campaign Selection; Legislative, Affirmative Action; and Budget Committees; member of Delegate Selection Committee of California Democratic Party; Assembly District Chair of 16th Assembly; was appointed Delegate by then-Assembly member John Burton; and elected Chair of Lesbian-Gay Caucus of California Democratic Party.

Therefore Be It Resolved that the Democratic Party of California commemorates the life and achievements of Jean Harris in the pursuit of equality for all California residents.

Contact person: Craig J. Beauchamp, DPOC Resolutions Committee 949-689-9709

RESOLUTION 11-07.35L
CDP Statement on July 22nd, 2011 Attacks in Norway

Whereas, The deadly attacks on government offices and a gathering of young political activists in Norway were carried out by an individual associated with the far right who held virulently anti-immigrant and anti-Muslim beliefs, and were aimed at institutions and individuals who, like us, are dedicated to the principles of integration, democracy and respect for differences, and

Whereas, News coverage of the attacks have too often shied away from referring to them as acts of terrorism, reinforcing the erroneous and dangerous notion that violent extremism is the purview solely of Islamic extremists, and

Whereas, Overt appeals to racism, anti-Semitism, homophobia, xenophobia and intolerance have been allowed to enter into the mainstream of political discourse throughout the world, with leading figures on the right in both Europe and the United States going so far as to blame the Norway attacks on Muslim immigration, therefore Be It Resolved, that the California Democratic Party condemns all terrorists attacks that cause horrible suffering in the wake of acts of violence whether it be the killing of young leaders as happened in Norway or the loss of thousands in the World Trade Center attack or the senseless bombing of the Federal Building in Oklahoma or the murdering of innocents in Mumbai, and

Therefore Be It Resolved, that the California Democratic Party extends its deepest and most heartfelt condolences to those most recent victims of terrorism in Norway and affirms that it stands together with the Norwegian Labor Party and its youth organization, AUF, in recommitting ourselves to the fight for multiculturalism, tolerance and equality, precisely these principles which came so brutality under attack on July 22nd, 2011.

Be it Further Resolved, that the California Democratic Party extends its deepest and most heartfelt condolences to those most recent victims of terrorism in Norway and affirms that it stands together with the Norwegian Labor Party and its youth organization, AUF, in recommitting ourselves to the fight for multiculturalism, tolerance and equality, precisely these principles which came so brutality under attack on July 22nd, 2011.

Submitted by Daraka Larimore-Hall, Chair, Santa Barbara County Democratic Central Committee