2000
Resolution Number SFL00.04
Dolores Huerta

WHEREAS, Dolores Huerta has been and continues to be an inspiration to men and women of goodwill everywhere, and continues to be a role model for young people who aspire to improve their community and benefit others; and
WHEREAS, Dolores Huerta has devoted herself and her life to empowering men and women – especially those who are among the most vulnerable in our community – so that they may participate meaningfully in the decisions which affect their lives, and in so doing, championed their voices; and
WHEREAS, Dolores Huerta’s commitment to the health, housing, and full enfranchisement of farmworkers in California’s leading industry has prompted significant public support for those efforts, created a positive history of social justice and laid the groundwork for a better future for all Californians;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party salutes and congratulates Dolores Huerta for her tremendous achievements; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the California Democratic Party calls to the attention of all men and women of goodwill the accomplishments and commitment of Dolores Huerta as a model of California’s spirit; and that we offer our prayers and good wishes for a speedy recovery.

Submitted by Senator Art, Torres (Ret.), Chairman California Democratic Party and Christine Pelosi, Lead Co-Chair, CDP Platform Committee
Adopted December 3, 2000

Resolution Number SFL00.03
Every Vote Counts

WHEREAS, the election for the President of the United States is still undecided in the State of Florida, and the Republican Party is consistently funding the sending of its members to that state to protest the recount and to secure the election for Governor Bush; and
WHEREAS, the California Democratic Party must recognize that African-Americans voted overwhelmingly for Gore/Lieberman in greater numbers proportionally than other ethnicity’s in the State of California and the Nation. In continuation of this strong support by African-Americans of the democratic ticket, on December 11, 2000, there will be a demonstration to support Vice-President Al Gore, and Senator Joe Lieberman by the oldest Civil Rights organization in the country, the NAACP;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party must recognize and battle the public relations blitz by the Republican Party to show its great commitment and support for Vice President Al Gore and Senator Joe Lieberman by the constitutional principle that every vote counts; and by allowing the CDP Chair to work with the DNC to determine the need for any volunteers in any capacity as well as any monetary funding.

Submitted by the African-American Caucus & The Native-American Caucus
Adopted December 3, 2000

Resolution Number SF00.03
Middle East Crisis

WHEREAS, following a long and difficult process with various agreements along the way (Oslo I and II, Sharm-el-Sheik, Wye Plantation), the underlying basis of negotiations between Israel and the Palestinian Authority is the principle of land for peace; and
WHEREAS, President Clinton, whose administration has made extraordinary and courageous efforts to assist the peace process, stated at the conclusion of the recent Camp David conference that Israel made substantial wide-ranging new proposals to an attempt to reach a full settlement with the Palestinians; and
WHEREAS, since September 29 there has been widespread violence which has resulted in over 280 deaths, thousands of injuries and halted further progress toward a settlement;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party expresses its sympathy to all victims of the recent violence and calls upon the White House and the parties involved to take all possible actions to end the violence and further loss of life including the following conduct:

1. Condemning all acts of violence;
2. Refraining from any statements of public incitement that may result in violence;
3. Calling upon both sides to exercise restraint and stop violent conduct;
4. Calling upon the Israelis and the Palestinians to lead their people beyond the violence, pain and anger of recent days, back to the peace table with a commitment to re-engage in the tough conversations and difficult accommodations that will be the prerequisites for a lasting peace;
Urging the White House to utilize our position in the United Nations Security Council to promote fair and balanced international efforts to help Israel and the Palestinian Authority work together to stop the violence and promote a just and lasting peace; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, by the California Democratic Party that copies of this resolution be sent to the President of the United States, the California Democratic Congressional Delegation, the Prime Minister of Israel and the Chairman of the Palestinian Authority.

Submitted by Marilyn Landau, Rima Nashashibi, Fadi Saba and Howard Welinsky

Adopted December 3, 2000

Resolution Number SFL00.05

Military Cemetery

WHEREAS, under State Law, the State Department of Veterans Affairs is required to undertake various duties concerning the burial of Deceased Veterans and Veterans' Widows and Widowers and the care of Veterans' Graves; and

WHEREAS, veterans groups in Monterey County have applied to use part of the land of the former Fort Ord Army Base as a place of interment for Honorary Discharged Deceased Veterans and their spouses and children; and

WHEREAS, there is an increasing need for Veterans Cemeteries to Honor our Honorary Discharged Deceased Veterans and their families; THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party goes on record in support of the development of a U.S. Military Cemetery on the grounds of the former Fort Ord Army Base in Monterey County; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party calls upon local Democratic organizations, Elected Officials and U.S. Congressman Sam Farr to intercede with the California and the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs to establish such Military Cemetery.

Submitted by the Veterans Caucus and Members of the California Democratic Party

Adopted December 3, 2000

Resolution Number SFL00.07

Power Plants

BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party supports full governmental and land-use review of energy-generation development proposals prior to approval, including implementation of California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and other appropriate federal, state and local review processes; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the CDP County Committees and the Assembly District Committees are encouraged to discuss and, if appropriate, adopt similar resolutions and communicate those resolutions to their locally elected representatives.

Submitted by the Environmental Caucus of the California Democratic Party

Adopted December 3, 2000

Resolution Number SFL00.01

Support of Fair Elections (Florida)

WHEREAS, the California Democratic Party strongly affirms its position in support of Fair Elections. The recent national election to elect our 43rd President of the United States has now been tainted by the “sham” count recently certified by Katherine Harris, Florida Secretary of State; Florida Secretary of State Katherine Harris is a well-known supporter of George W. Bush and has refused to recuse herself from the process in hopes of garnering a political appointment in the Bush administration should he be elected our next President of the United States; and

WHEREAS, Miami–Dade County Florida election officials have ruled by “mob intimidation” rather than the rule of law in their refusal to recount known ballots which were either not counted, or wrongfully counted in the most recent presidential election; and

WHEREAS, the California Democratic Party condemns the Republican Party tactics in its spoken mistruths, falsehoods and innuendoes as it relates to the incomplete and erroneous counts they so strongly support; THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party strongly stands with our Vice President Al Gore and Vice President Nominee Senator Joe Lieberman in their petition for election justice in their bid for President and Vice President of the United States of America;

Submitted by Orange County Democratic Party and Ray Cordova, Regional Director – Region 20, California Democratic Party; The Native-American Caucus of the California Democratic Party

Adopted December 3, 2000

Resolution Number UC00.03

Americans With Disabilities (ADA)

WHEREAS, the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) was signed into law on July 26, 1990 to guarantee persons with disabilities equal rights under the Constitution and serves as the crowning achievement of the 20th Century for persons with disabilities. The California Democratic Party adopted platform language to implement and aggressively enforce the Americans with Disabilities and related federal and state laws, guaranteeing persons with disabilities full access to all aspects of the public and private sectors; and
WHEREAS, the ADA is under massive attack, along with its forerunner Section 504 of the 1973 Rehabilitation Act which has been challenged and which will be heard by the Supreme Court on grounds that these laws are unconstitutional under the 11th Amendment. Proponents of the ADA contend that Congress did not exceed its authority in imposing the ADA under Title II states having found evidence to show that the state and local governments had engaged in a historical pattern of discrimination against persons with disabilities; THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party supports the ADA with all its resources, fight all legislative and judicial challenges to all Federal access laws. Send a strong message to the Governor and State and Federal representatives to support and defend all access laws and sign-on to any and all Amicus Briefs to support the ADA and support implementation of a California ADA and urge the Democratic National Party to do the same; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Democratic Party, at both the state and national levels state that it is never all right to charge persons with disabilities for equity and equality.
Submitted by Francie Moeller
Adopted July 9, 2000

Resolution Number UC00.06
Amnesty, Sanctions And Immigration Law Reform
WHEREAS, we support the steps taken by the AFL-CIO this year towards embracing immigrant communities, including its call for a general amnesty, for repealing employer sanctions, and for educating immigrant workers about their rights; and
WHEREAS, United States immigration law, employer sanctions and the enforcement of immigration law at the workplace create a situation where immigrant workers are consistently abused by employers that take advantage of legal loopholes that give them the ability to fire, intimidate and marginalize these workers; and
WHEREAS, a new immigration amnesty will help millions of immigrant workers, their families and their communities to achieve stability and a life free from fear, but only if this new amnesty fixes the problems of the old program;
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that we support a new amnesty, repeal of employer sanctions, and protections for the rights of all workers to organize as resolved by the AFL-CIO; and we pledge to work with the AFL-CIO and its community partners to support the Congress of the United States in enacting a fair and just new amnesty program and other progressive policies to address the inequities faced by immigrant workers in this country; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party forwards this resolution to the Democratic National Party Convention for inclusion in the national party platform and to the California Democratic Congressional Delegation for their serious consideration toward legislating into law.
Submitted by CDP Chicano/Latino Caucus and Steve Preminger, Chair, Santa Clara County Central Committee
Adopted July 9, 2000

Resolution Number UC00L.06
Coastal Wetlands
WHEREAS, the Coastal Commission was established by the Coastal Act of 1976 as a primary safeguard for the coastline for the State of California, including the existing natural wetlands; and
WHEREAS, neither the Department of Fish and Game, nor any other agency, has been entrusted by the voters of the State with the same mandate for protection of the coastland wetlands ecosystem;
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party oppose any legislative measure or ballot initiative which would weaken the protections of California’s natural coastal wetlands provided for by the Coastal Act of 1976; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this position will be communicated to the current Democratic Members of the California State Senate and the California State Assembly and to the Governor of the State of California.
Submitted by Mark Sheldon, Merrit McKeon, Ted Crisell
Adopted July 9, 2000

Resolution Number UC00L.01
Commercial Slate Mailers
WHEREAS, a mission of the California Democratic Party is to promote the election of the democratic nominees, while encouraging the democratic voters of the state to participate in the election process by supporting and voting for our democratic nominees; and
WHEREAS, the continued and ever-increasing use of “commercial slate mailers” that imply they are the democratic slate, while endorsing candidates who are not registered democrats, serves only to confuse and mislead our democratic voters; and
WHEREAS, the purpose of these misleading slates is not to inform the voters but rather to profit financially the producers of the slate;
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party opposes the continued use of these misleading commercial slate mailers. We respectfully ask the democratic voters of this state to disregard any slate mailer that does not clearly state it is an affiliate of the California Democratic Party; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party is committed to the development of true democratic slates by its local affiliates (i.e., Central Committees, Assembly District Committees and Chartered Clubs).

Submitted by the Riverside County Democratic Central Committee

Adopted July 9, 2000

Resolution Number UC00.08

Death Penalty

WHEREAS, it has been demonstrated that the imposition of the death penalty is capricious and frequently imposed on those who, due to means, mental capacity, or race, are the least able to defend themselves in court; and thus may be misapplied against innocent people, causing the Governor of Illinois, a death-penalty proponent, to impose a moratorium on the practice; and

WHEREAS, responsible people from both political parties and the religious community have raised questions about the imposition of the death penalty in the United States;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party calls upon Governor Gray Davis to impose an immediate moratorium on the death penalty in California and appoint a Commission to review the death penalty policies to ensure that they are fairly applied to all those accused and to ensure due process of law and adequate representation of counsel.

Submitted by the Democratic Central Committee of Marin

Adopted July 9, 2000

Resolution Number UC00.01

Dr. Wen Ho Lee

WHEREAS, the news media have reported that numerous federal research facilities, including the Department of Energy’s Los Alamos National Laboratory, suffer from lax security, that China has stolen nuclear secrets for bombs, and that this thief may have been abetted by Chinese-American nuclear scientists and physicists; and since this reporting has, in some instances, led to racial profiling and stereotyping of all Asian Americans, thus creating distrust and suspicion that Asian Americans have divided loyalties, that Asian Americans can’t be trusted, and that Asian Americans are not real Americans; and that similar distrust and suspicion were responsible for the passage of the Chinese Exclusion Act of 1882, the internment of Japanese Americans during World War II and the denial of social and economic opportunity and equity for many Asian Americans; and

WHEREAS, on December 10, 1999, Dr. Wen Ho Lee, a 60-year-old United States citizen and a nuclear physicist who was abruptly fired from his job at the Los Alamos National Laboratory while he was under investigation by the FBI, was arrested and charged with the mishandling of classified information, despite the fact that the FBI has closely scrutinized Dr. Lee for over three years, and has found no evidence of espionage or any evidence that Dr. Lee has ever transmitted any classified information to any third party, and despite the fact that numerous other individuals have committed far more egregious lapses of security than those committed by Dr. Lee and that those individuals have not faced criminal prosecution, and despite the fact that Dr. Lee has cooperated with the government’s investigation at all times and has agreed to an independent polygraph examination, and despite the fact that Dr. Lee is a solid family man with deep roots in his community, and despite the fact that Dr. Lee has surrendered his passport and does not pose a flight risk, nonetheless, Dr. Lee has been arrested, held in custody, unfairly denied bail, and had access to his family severely restricted; and

WHEREAS, the bedrock of democracy and the United States Constitution is the rule of law, whereby all people are endowed with certain inalienable rights including due process, equal protection under the law, the presumption of innocence until proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt, the right to counsel, the right to bail and freedom from cruel and unusual punishment; and moreover, the news media have a moral obligation to fairly present the facts, to not prematurely portray Dr. Lee as a spy for the Chinese government, and to not use racial profiling and stereotyping or exploit alleged incidents of security breaches to create an atmosphere of distrust and suspicion;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party hereby urges the news media to exercise fairness, caution and sensitivity in their coverage of alleged spy activities by the Chinese government and Dr. Wen Ho Lee; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party hereby urges that Dr. Lee be accorded rights guaranteed under the Constitution, that Dr. Lee be released on bail and/or supervised conditions, and that Dr. Lee be given a fair and speedy trial with due process of law. A copy of this resolution is to be sent to President William Clinton, President of the United States; United States Attorney General Janet Reno, Department of Justice; the California’s Congressional delegation including Senators Dianne Feinstein and Barbara Boxer, Congresswoman Nancy Pelosi and Congressman Tom Lantos; representatives in the State Legislature, including State Senators John Burton and Jackie Speier; Assembly Members Kevin Shelley and Carole Migden; and Governor Gray Davis.
Resolution Number UC00L_07
Drug Treatment Diversion Programs
WHEREAS, the California Democratic Party supports the concept of drug treatment diversion programs; THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party calls upon the State Legislature to address this important issue in its next session.
Submitted by Bob Farran
Adopted July 9, 2000

Resolution Number UC00L_07
Executive Clemency For Leonard Peltier
WHEREAS, Leonard Peltier was originally convicted for murder of two FBI agents on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation. However, formerly withheld documents supporting Peltier’s innocence would later force the prosecution to admit that they could not prove who actually killed the agents. Despite this, Peltier has remained in prison for 24 years; and WHEREAS, there is disturbing evidence of FBI misconduct in this case; that falsified affidavits were used to extradite Peltier from Canada; that ballistics tests were falsified and young witnesses were intimidated. Even the U.S. Attorney has admitted that no one knows who pulled the trigger that killed the two FBI agents; and WHEREAS, Peltier, a Native-American activist, has been a model prisoner for over 24 years, with no record of violence and has contributed to many humanitarian efforts from prison. The seriousness of his deteriorating health could result in stroke, heart disease and kidney failure if not properly treated soon. His Parole Board recently denied his request for parole and his next hearing is not scheduled till the year 2008; THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party encourages President William Clinton to grant Leonard Peltier Executive Clemency as soon as possible.
Submitted by the Progressive Democrats of Marin
Adopted July 9, 2000

Resolution Number UCL00L_03
Opposing Mandatory Anthrax Vaccination of U.S. Military Personnel
WHEREAS, there is no scientific evidence that vaccination is effective as an anti-biological strategy when an enemy has a combination of weapons including mutated spores; and WHEREAS, anthrax vaccinations have a suspected relation to some diagnosed cases of thyroid damage, liver damage, external and internal cysts, autoimmune disorders, serve bone/joint pain, seizures, memory loss, vertigo and an inability to concentrate; and WHEREAS, the U.S. government has more than doubled the payments to and profits of Michigan-based BioPort Corporation by doubling the recommended number of anthrax vaccinations inoculations from three to six while indemnifying the manufacturer against damage claims; THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party support suspending the current mandatory anthrax inoculation program for U.S. military personnel pending further investigation by the Food and Drug Administration and the National Institutes of Health as to the safety and effectiveness of the inoculation program; and BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party contact the Secretary of Defense, asking that he expedite consideration of applications for remedies for adverse personnel actions that were a result of the mandatory anthrax inoculation program.
Submitted by Rosemary Riedy and Jeff Schwartz
Adopted July 9, 2000

Resolution Number UC00L_05
Protection of Tribal Sovereignty and Tribal Self-Government
WHEREAS, the Washington State Republican Party, on June 17, 2000, in a reprehensible and racist attack on the American-Indian people, passed a heinous resolution calling for the termination of American Indian tribal governments; and their proponents have called for, in a time of peace and in a new era of tribal self-reliance, the use of military forces against tribal communities that would justify defending their right of self-governance; and the proponents of this outrageous and offensive measure have urged the American government to use “whatever steps necessary to terminate” tribal governments; and WHEREAS, the United States Congress in 1789 pledged to this country’s first Americans that “the utmost good faith shall always be observed towards Indians; their land and property shall never be taken from them without their consent;” and the passage of the Washington State Republican Party resolution blatantly defies the very principles of justice upon which this country was founded and, without regard for the right of Indian people to self-determination, calls for a new slaughter of tribal sovereignty in this new century; and
WHEREAS, the United States' participation in 700 treaties with the indigenous peoples of North America established more than a century of government-to-government relationships under both international and U.S. domestic law; and both the United States Constitution and the Supreme Court upheld tribal governments as “distinct, independent political communities” and as such, are qualified to exercise powers of self-government, not by virtue of any delegation of powers from the federal government, but rather because of their inherent tribal sovereignty; and the action of the Washington State Republican Party is a fundamental violation of the American government’s commitment to tribal sovereignty; THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party denounces the resolution of the Washington State Republican Party. We call upon Democratic and Republican leadership, citizens and elected leaders, in the true spirit of liberty and justice for all, to condemn this resolution and reaffirm the preservation and protection of tribal sovereignty and tribal self-government for America’s 557 federally-recognized Indian nations.

Submitted by the CDP Chairman Art Torres and the CDP Native-American Caucus
Adopted July 9, 2000

Resolution Number UC00L.08
Support Hotel Workers Organizing in Santa Monica and Downtown Los Angeles
WHEREAS, tourism, the third largest industry in Los Angeles, has become enormously successful even though tourism industry workers, who are predominantly Latino, are still among the lowest paid in the city; and unions can and do raise the standard of living for working families in Los Angeles and around the country, especially for the low-wage, immigrant workers on whose labor the tourism industry depends in Los Angeles; and
WHEREAS, the Hotel Employees and Restaurant Employees Union (HERE), Locals 11 and 814, are engaged in a long-term, multi-property organizing campaign at hotels and other tourism industry sites throughout Los Angeles, including the Loews Santa Monica Beach Hotel; and retaliation, intimidation, and harassment against working people who stand up for their basic rights are simply wrong and do not belong in the workplace or anywhere else in a democratic society; and
WHEREAS, the card check process, which has been followed at the Staples Center, Los Angeles International Airport, and the Hollywood Holiday Inn, is a hallmark of good labor relations in the tourism industry, as well as a fast, efficient, and democratic way for workers to choose union representation;
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California State Democratic Party unequivocally supports the right of workers at the Loews Santa Monica Beach Hotel to organize a union and denounces the tactics allegedly used by Loews management, including threats, interrogation, and surveillance, which have undermined the Loews workers’ right to organize a union; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California State Democratic Party calls upon Loews management to agree to a card check process at the Loews Santa Monica Beach Hotel and to remain neutral and not interfere with Loews workers exercising their right to organize a union.
Submitted by Maria Elena Durazo; Hotel Employees & Restaurant Employees, Locals 11 & 814 (H.E.R.E.)
Adopted July 9, 2000

Resolution Number UC00.04
Support for Goals of Million Mom March
WHEREAS, 4,223 young people ages 0-19 were killed by gunfire in the United States in 1997, which is one every two hours, or nearly 12 people every day; and American children under the age of 15 are 12 times more likely to die from gunfire than children in 25 industrialized countries combined, and gun homicide is the fourth leading cause of death for young people 10-14 years of age and the second leading cause of death for young people 15-24 years of age; and
WHEREAS, the Million Mom March, an organization that joined mothers and others from communities across the country to march in Washington, D.C. and other cities, calls on Congress to require all handgun owners to be licensed and to register their weapons with the proper authorities; and
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party urge California’s members of Congress to fully support the goals of the Million Mom March.
Submitted by the Santa Clara County Democratic Party
Adopted July 9, 2000

Resolution Number UC00.09
Support of Human and Civil Rights for Peru
WHEREAS, the United States of America has long subscribed to the principles of Democracy and has also encouraged and fostered Democracy throughout the entire hemisphere. The people of Peru have long sought the establishment of a government of, by and for the people; and
WHEREAS, the people of Peru are truly peace-loving and have a deep passion for family, country and faith. Peruvians are loyal to their government as long as the government is not one of deceit and false promises. Peace and Democracy will prevail in Latin America as long as Peru is held to the same standards as all other democratic nations in South America; and
WHEREAS, the recent election of President Alberto Fujimori has been admonished and called a fraud and invalid by the United States Government, along with France, Argentina and Costa Rica. Other nations have also spoken out in guarded terms regarding the fraudulent election of Alberto Fujimori. The Peruvian government has denied social justice, freedom of education, protection of environment, democratic representation and all other avenues, which lead to government by the people;
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party stands with the people of Peru and admonishes the recent fraudulent election of Alberto Fujimori and calls for a new election to be held with monitors from other Democratic Nations; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the people of Peru are commended for their vigilant posture and commitment to Liberty, Justice and Democracy. The California Democratic Party stands in full support of International Agreements for Democracy in Peru.
Submitted by Raymond L. Cordova, Regional Director, California Democratic Party, in collaboration with Dr. Luis Garcia, Democrat
Adopted July 9, 2000

Resolution Number UCL00.04
Tibet – Dalai Lama
WHEREAS, Tibet has maintained throughout its history a distinctive national, cultural, linguistic and religious identity separate from that of China; and that in 1949-50, the government of the People’s Republic of China launched an armed invasion of Tibet in contravention of international law; and the United States Congress in a Congressional Concurrent Resolution on May 21, 1991, expressed the sense of the Congress that Tibet, including those areas incorporated into the Chinese provinces of Sichuan, Yunnan, Gansu and Qinghai that have historically been a part of Tibet, is an occupied country under established principles of international law whose true representatives are the Dalai Lama and the Tibetan Government in exile as recognized by the Tibetan people; and for the past five decades, repressive actions by the Chinese Government have resulted in the deaths of as many as one million Tibetans, the destruction of a large part of Tibet's unique cultural heritage, the flight of the Dalai Lama and tens of thousands of Tibetans from their homeland and the United Nations General Assembly in three separate Resolutions in 1959 (No. 1353), 1961 (No. 1723) and 1965 (No. 2079) called on the Government of the People's Republic of China to respect the Tibetan peoples’ fundamental human rights, including their right to self-determination; and
WHEREAS, his Holiness the Dalai Lama, the spiritual and temporal leader of the Tibetan people, in conjunction with the 130,000 refugees forced into exile with him, has worked tirelessly for 50 years to secure peace and religious freedom in Tibet, as well as the preservation of the Tibetan culture, through nonviolent means; in addition, the Dalai Lama was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1989 in recognition of his untrrning commitment to nonviolence and compassion in the face of the terrible suffering of the Tibetan people; and
WHEREAS, despite the efforts of the Dalai Lama, the Tibetan people and concerned citizens and governments throughout the world, the Chinese Government continues to perpetrate serious human rights abuses against the Tibetan people, including arrest and detention for peaceful political speech; torture; arbitrary executions; forced and coerced abortions and sterilizations; suppression of the Tibetan language, history and culture; exploitation of natural resources and destruction of the environment; massive resettlement of Chinese into Tibet; and discrimination in education and employment; and the Chinese Government has interfered in the Tibetans' selection of the 11th Panchen Lama, their second highest religious leader, and is now holding incommunicado Gedhun Choekyi Nyima, the Panchen Lama recognized by the Dalai Lama and the Tibetan people, making him the world’s youngest political prisoner;
THEREFORE BE IS RESOLVED, that the Democratic Party of the State of California does hereby –
Express sympathy for those Tibetans who have suffered and died as a result of Chinese Government policies in Tibet over the past five decades;
Concur with the United States Congress Concurrent Resolution dated May 21, 1991;
Urge the People’s Republic of China to respect internationally recognized human rights and end human rights violations in Tibet;
Demand that the Government of China immediately release the 11th Panchen Lama, Gedhun Choekyi Nyima, and his parents, as well as all the other Tibetan political prisoners, into the protection of the Dalai Lama;
Call upon the Chinese Government to end the transfer of Chinese settlers into Tibet;
Support the efforts of the Dalai Lama and the Tibetan Government in Exile as the true representatives of the Tibetan people, with the aid of concerned citizens and governments throughout the world, to resolve peacefully the situation in Tibet and;
Urge all freedom loving people around the world to take all actions within their powers to support the efforts of the Dalai Lama and the Tibetan people to resolve peacefully the current situation in Tibet; and
Call upon the Government of the People's Republic of China to meet with representatives of the Dalai Lama to begin a constructive dialogue to resolve the future status of Tibet in accordance with the Tibetan people's right to self-determination.
Resolution Number UCL00.02
U.S. Navy Out Of Vieques Island

WHEREAS, the U.S. Navy has been using the island of Vieques for over 50 years as a live ammunitions bombing range, despite the island being inhabited by almost 10,000 residents whose health have been adversely effected by bombing residue of lead, copper and other chemicals that have been linked to the high incidents of cancer, and now the Navy has included in its arsenal the well-documented carcinogen, plutonium and napalm; and
WHEREAS, the constant bombardment has resulted in destruction of the fragile coral reefs and in the total ecology in general, and has prevented the development of tourism, fishing and agriculture to where the unemployment is above 50% and the per capita income is one of the lowest in Puerto Rico; and
WHEREAS, the continued bombing for over fifty years indicates a lack of respect and concern by the United States of America for the people of Puerto Rico; and
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California State Democratic Party requests that President William Clinton orders the U.S. Navy to stop all bombing of the Island of Vieques immediately and indefinite, and that a copy of this resolution be sent to all the California Congressional delegation, the two California U.S. Senators and President Bill Clinton.

Submitted by the Progressive Democrats of Marin
Adopted July 9, 2000

2001
Resolution Number SACL01.06
Call For Declaration of State of Emergency Relating to HIV / AIDS Epidemic in Communities of Color

WHEREAS, the spread of HIV/AIDS has had devastating consequences for millions of people around the world. Racial and ethnic minorities have been severely and disproportionately impacted by the HIV/AIDS epidemic in the United States. Although African-Americans represent only 12% of the population, they now account for 47% of new AIDS cases. Furthermore, Hispanics represent only 13% of the population, but they account for 19% of new AIDS cases. Racial minorities now represent a majority of new AIDS cases and a majority of Americans living with AIDS; and
WHEREAS, on May 17, 1998, under the leadership of the then-Chair Congresswoman Maxine Waters, the Congressional Black Caucus (CBC) made a dramatic appeal to Health and Human Services (HHS) Secretary Donna Shalala to declare the AIDS epidemic in the Black community a public health emergency. On October 28, 1999, Congresswoman Waters and Congressman Louis Stokes were joined by President Bill Clinton, Secretary Donna Shalala and Surgeon General Dr. David Satcher to roll out the Minority HIV/AIDS Initiative which was designed to provide funds to community-based organizations to help them address the HIV/AIDS epidemic within minority populations. The Initiative which provides grants for HIV/AIDS prevention, education and treatment programs serving minority communities has been expanded considerably since its inception. It received a total of $156 million in fiscal year 1999, $251 million in fiscal year 2000, and $350 million in fiscal year 2001; and
WHEREAS, on June 28, 2001, Congresswoman Waters called for the declaration of a State of Emergency relating to the HIV/AIDS epidemic in communities of color and urged Congress to provide an appropriation of $540 million in fiscal year 2002 for the Minority AIDS Initiative, and has gained the support of over 70 Members of Congress;
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party support these efforts at the Federal level to declare a national State of Emergency and appropriate the necessary funding to expand the HIV/AIDS prevention and treatment programs that serve minority communities.
Submitted by Congresswoman Maxine Waters; 48th Assembly District Committee
Adopted July 15, 2001

Resolution Number SACL01.04
Congratulate Newly Inaugurated Los Angeles City Mayor Hahn

WHEREAS, on June 5, 2001, James K. Hahn, a lifelong Democrat, was elected the mayor of the City of Los Angeles by winning the support of a broad-section of Los Angeles voters and garnering 293,273 votes (53.5%); and
WHEREAS, on July 2, 2001, James K. Hahn was sworn-in as the 40th mayor of the City of Los Angeles, becoming the mayor of the largest city in the country with the Democratic mayor; and
WHEREAS, James K. Hahn pledged to uphold Democratic traditions and work for the benefit of all Angelenos and all Californians, and to increase the number of after-school programs available to Los Angeles students, work with the school district to build new campuses, address traffic gridlock, reform the business tax code and attract new firms to the city, create a $100-million housing trust fund, support the newly forming neighborhood councils, and improve public safety;
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party congratulates and is looking forward to working cooperatively with James K. Hahn, the new mayor of the City of Los Angeles.
Submitted by Congresswoman Maxine Waters; 48th AD Cmte.
Adopted July 15, 2001

Resolution Number SAC01.08
Cuba Travel Restrictions
WHEREAS, the Constitution of the United States of America guarantees every American citizen certain rights and freedoms; and
WHEREAS, the restrictions on American citizens to travel to Cuba is clearly a violation of said Constitutional rights and freedoms; and
WHEREAS, the travel restrictions limit American citizens of Cuban descent the right to travel to Cuba only once per year regardless of emergencies or unforeseen necessity;
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party requests that the U.S. Congress lift the Cuba travel restrictions currently imposed on all United States citizens; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution be sent to all Democratic members of Congress.
Submitted by the Chicano/Latino Caucus of the CDP
Adopted July 15, 2001

Resolution Number ANA01.04
Democracy in Peru
WHEREAS, for 100 years, the Peruvian people have been struggling for a democratic form of government that insures human dignity, freedom of association and freedom of religion for all Peruvians; and
WHEREAS, Peru has been a loyal and stalwart friend for American interest in the South American region; and
WHEREAS, rocked by scandal and corruption, the government of Peru will have to make profound fundamental political changes to maintain the good faith and support of the Peruvian people and to maintain credibility with world-wide public opinion;
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party urges that such changes include educational reform and judiciary independence; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party urges that the new Peruvian government structure allow for freedom of association, freedom of religion and strict separation of church and state. The Congress and President of the United States should encourage free and fair elections and respect for democracy in Peru.
Submitted by Jeanne Costales; 67th Assembly District Committee; Dr. Luis Garcia
Adopted July 15, 2001

Resolution Number ANA01.07
Disability Caucus
WHEREAS, the California Democratic Party has for decades declared in its Platform that all types of discrimination on the basis of a person’s race, color, creed, sexual orientation, gender, age, or disability are wrong; the CDP needs to strive to be a shining example on inclusion for all; and
the CDP holds itself to the highest possible standard of inclusion; not just on paper; but also in action and deeds; and
WHEREAS, persons with disabilities have the right of inclusion in the California Democratic Party, including such simple things as being given the ability to rent lodging with accessible showers at the State Conventions; and
WHEREAS, discrimination against one group is discrimination against ALL people in the Democratic Party;
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the CDP goes on record for full enforcement of the Americans Disability Act (ADA) and Title 24 Access Codes of the State of California.
Submitted by the Desert Stonewall Democratic Club; Democrats of the Desert Club; Gary Bosworth
Adopted July 15, 2001

Resolution Number ANAL01.13
Disability: Health & Safety in Rolling Blackouts
WHEREAS, the Disability Community has the need for electric and gas services at higher levels than the general population; and
WHEREAS, the Disability Community uses power for essential purposes such as ventilators, respirators, charging wheelchair batteries, electric beds, and other life supporting facilities; and
WHEREAS, the Disability Community cannot be without power or gas for any period of time without prior notification of at least two (2) hours and assistance of emergency response personnel for the starting of generators and opening garage doors, ensuring the proper levels of available alternate power sources;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party supports and endorses any and all efforts, policies and provisions within the State of California to ensure the health, safety and well-being of all persons with disabilities in California and requests that any community within California which does not have such efforts, policies or provisions to ensure the health, safety and well-being of its residents with disabilities, create such policies immediately.

Submitted by Francie Moeller, CDP Disabilities Caucus

Adopted July 15, 2001

Resolution Number SACL01.05

Election Reform

WHEREAS, the November 2000 election revealed substantial problems with our nation’s electoral system, leading to the disenfranchisement of hundreds of thousands of voters and resulting in the selection of George W. Bush as President, even though more people legally cast their ballots for Al Gore; and

WHEREAS, the irregularities in our nation’s electoral process must be addressed in order to restore the confidence of the American people and the integrity of the system and to guarantee every vote will count; and

WHEREAS, the House Democratic Caucus formed a Special Committee on Election Reform to address the concerns of our nation’s voters and to work with other groups with similar mandates, including the United States Commission on Civil Rights and the National Commission on Federal Election Reform, to repair the electoral system;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party fully supports the efforts of the House Democratic Caucus Special Committee on Election Reform, and calls upon the Committee to propose legislation and put forth recommendations on how to correct the failures of the current system; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party urges the United States Congress, as the sole governmental body fortified with the power to regulate federal elections, to heed the calls of the American public and repair the electoral process, thus ensuring that every citizen has the opportunity to exercise his or her right to vote and that every vote legally cast is counted.

Submitted by Congresswoman Maxine Waters, Chair, Democratic Caucus Special Committee on Election Reform; 48th AD Cmte.

Adopted July 15, 2001

Resolution Number SAC01.03B

Energy Crisis

WHEREAS, the State of California is undergoing an unprecedented escalating energy crisis as a result of de-regulation and the lack of building new power plants during the Deukmejian/Wilson Administrations; and

WHEREAS, in the last six months, three new power plants have come on-line due to fast track approvals by the Davis Administration with more power plants under construction; and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party fully supports the actions of Governor Gray Davis in his efforts to resolve the energy crisis through any appropriate means including eminent domain, building new power generating plants and the development of renewable energy resources; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the CDP applauds the Democratic leadership in the Legislature and the Governor in working to resolve the energy crisis for the citizens of California.

Submitted by the Democratic Party or Orange County; 67th AD Cmte.; 68th AD Cmte.; 69th AD Cmte.; 71st AD Cmte.; 72nd AD Cmte; Senator Joe Dunn (edited by Bob Farran)

Adopted July 15, 2001

Resolution Number ANAL01.10

Ensuring Comprehensive Study of Universal Health Care Options

WHEREAS, Governor Gray Davis is to be commended for applying for the Health Care Options Project grant issued by the U.S. Health Resources and Services designed to explore policy options to achieve universal health care coverage; and

WHEREAS, California qualified for this $1.2 million grant because the Governor signed SB 480 which commits California to engage in a public discourse concerning options for achieving universal health coverage which brings together the major stakeholders; and

WHEREAS, health care continues to be in a crisis mode. The U.S. ranks 28th on the list of countries based on the quality of our health care system. Spiraling costs, decreasing benefits, reduced services, patient and physician dissatisfaction, high numbers of those unable to obtain health insurance, afford the insurance or out-of-pocket costs prevents universal coverage limiting a healthy climate in California;
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Health Care Options Project grant provides a valuable opportunity to gather data, utilize it to its fullest to ensure that a comprehensive study is done to compare funding models which require a high-quality standard of care regardless of income; improved standards of care for the disabled; low-administrative costs; and elimination of disincentives that restrict care. This information will be provided in a report to the California Legislature in order to learn how California can move forward for Universal Health Care Coverage. Submitted by the Los Angeles County Central Committee; 54th Assembly District Committee; Palos Verdes Peninsula Democratic Club

Adopted July 15, 2001

Resolution Number ANA01.19
Fair Treatment for Santa Ana Students

WHEREAS, the Department of the Navy will be conveying land of the former Tustin Air Base to the City of Tustin which will be used for business development, new homes, golf courses, parks and schools and the City of Tustin has designated land for the Tustin and Irvine School Districts and the South Orange County Community College but refused to designate any land for the Rancho Santiago Community College and Santa Ana Unified School Districts despite these Districts being impacted by proposed development at the former air base; and

WHEREAS, the Santa Ana Unified School District and the Rancho Santiago community College district suffer severe overcrowding conditions and lack sufficient alternative land in their districts to build additional facilities, and because Rancho Santiago and Santa Ana Districts are predominately Latino in student population, the refusal of the City of Tustin to allow these districts to build facilities on the former base even though they have jurisdiction has resulted in a disparate and discriminatory impact on the Latino community whose children and young men and women continue to study in overcrowded temporary facilities; and

WHEREAS, as a result of the refusal of the City of Tustin to adequately provide for the needs of the students in the Santa Ana and Rancho Santiago Districts, Assemblyman Lou Correa and Senator Joe Dunn have introduced legislation which would require the City of Tustin to reach agreement with the two districts before the case can be developed; THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party urges support of the legislation the principles underlying the legislation to provide for the legitimate needs of the Rancho Santiago Community College and Santa Ana Unified School Districts sponsored by Assemblyman Correa and Senator Dunn and urges the California Democratic legislative delegation and Governor Davis to support this important civil rights bill and issue.

Submitted by Frank Barbara and John Hanna; Orange County Central Committee; Democratic Party of Orange County; and many others

Adopted July 15, 2001

Resolution Number ANA01.08
Funding for Permanent Democratic Party Offices

WHEREAS, promoting the candidates and issues of the California Democratic Party is accomplished to a great extent by unpaid volunteer workers, commonly called “Grassroots Support;” and

WHEREAS, the Grassroots Support is an ongoing effort, month-by-month, of registering new voters, organizing Democratic Party efforts by precinct, educating voters on recurring and changing issues, and supporting the needs of elected officials and candidates; and

WHEREAS, the success of the State and National Democratic Party Campaign is expedited and enhanced by having in place a permanent Democratic party address, telephone, and work facilities in advance of statewide elections; THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party acknowledges the contributions of locally funded permanent Democratic headquarters offices located in various California counties.

Submitted by Fresno County Democratic Women’s Club; Ms. Billie MacDougall

Adopted July 15, 2001

Resolution Number ANA01.21
Hepatitis A

WHEREAS, the National Center for Disease Control has determined, Viral Hepatitis A as an infectious disease affecting between 125,000-200,000 people nationwide each year, that 33% of Americans have evidence of past infection, that costs resulting from Hepatitis A are more than $200 million per year, that large nationwide outbreaks occur every decade, that minorities and children are at higher risk of contracting the disease, that more than 100 people die each year as a result of fulminate hepatitis brought on by Hepatitis A, that the incidence in California is twice the national average and that Hepatitis A is one of the most prevalent vaccine preventable diseases; and

WHEREAS, the American Academy of Family Physicians and the American Academy of Pediatrics recommend routine vaccinations for Hepatitis A in California; THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party asks our state Democratic Legislators and the Governor to enact legislation requiring vaccinations for the prevention of Viral Hepatitis A.
Resolution Number ANA01.36
Lift Economic Sanctions on Iraq
WHEREAS, the United Nations, as a result of action by Saddam Hussein, has enforced economic sanctions on Iraq for more than ten years, which may have contributed to the deaths of more than 500,000 children under the age of five due to inadequate water, food, and medicine (according to the latest UNICEF report published 8/12/99); and
WHEREAS, these sanctions, first imposed to force the Iraq army out of Kuwait, and continued to eliminate a weapons threat and encourage democratic leadership, have instead strengthened Saddam Hussein’s dictatorship, created deep-seated resentment, and divided the international community, so as to effectively end weapons monitoring; and
WHEREAS, the United States Catholic Conference, the National Council of Churches and other religious organizations, Denis Halliday and Hans von Sponeck (former and successive Chiefs of the Oil-for-Food program), Jutta Burghardt (former head of the World Food Program in Iraq), and many concerned citizens all urge lifting these sanctions;
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party urges the easing of the economic sanctions on Iraq, including the rebuilding of the water purification and sewage treatment facilities while continuing our condemnation of Saddam Hussein and his repressive regime; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution be forwarded to President George W. Bush, Secretary of State, United States Ambassador to the United Nations and the California Congressional Delegation.

Submitted by El Cerrito Democratic Club; 14th Assembly District Committee
Adopted July 15, 2001

Resolution Number ANA01.12
Liveable Wage Ordinance
WHEREAS, American workers over the past decade have worked harder and smarter and as a result of their productivity, American enjoys the world’s strongest economy with a budget surplus of $3 trillion dollars on the national level and $10 billion on the state level. This surplus should be used to build an even stronger and better America by lifting the liveable standards of all working families, particularly those who have only recently benefited from the best economy in 30 years; and
WHEREAS, many municipalities provide grants, loans, tax incentives, contracts and other forms of assistance to businesses which result in a wide variety of jobs that promote the goals established by local governments. These businesses have contracted to receive public funds to assist local governments to promote the public good; and
WHEREAS, cities like Los Angeles, San Jose, Oakland and Hayward have all passed liveable wage ordinances, and many more are organizing to propose them;
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party endorses the concept of a liveable wage; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party will forward this resolution to the ongoing California liveable wage campaigns and that this resolution be forwarded to the Democratic officials of the 10 largest California cities that do not have liveable wage ordinances.

Submitted by Walter Rice; Sacramento County Central Committee; Marianna Bauske; many others
Adopted by July 15, 2001

Resolution Number ANA01.07
Permanent Absentee Voter Status
WHEREAS, the California overall voter turnout rate was approximately 51% in the Fall 2000 General Election; the Washington State turnout, a permanent absentee voter state, was approximately 76%. Washington State sent two Democrat senators to Washington and carried Gore. In Oregon, an all mail-in state, the overall turnout was approximately 80%. Oregon carried Gore as well. The Democratic turnout in Oregon was approximately 86%; and since 1978, when the California Legislature liberalized the absentee voter framework to enable every voter to request an absentee ballot every election, regardless of disability, the absentee ballot turn-out increased from 4.4% to 24.5% statewide in the Fall 2000 General Election. County election officials predict that if nothing more is done to liberalize absentee voting, this figure will go even higher, but will likely reflect more Republicans voting as most Registered Republicans receive a free absentee ballot request from their County Central Committees; and
WHEREAS, there are thousands more Registered Democrats than there are Registered Republicans in California but Democrats do not vote with the same regularity as Republicans because of difficulty finding the means and time to vote. Registered Democrats are more likely to take public transportation to and from work, have child care issues to address before and after work when weighing the value of voting, and are more
likely to share the distinction that English is not their first language, and may find the ballot and/or polling station intimidating, and thus refrain from voting, if voting at home is not made more accessible; and

WHEREAS, in the jurisdictions that have adopted permanent absentee ballot status and/or gone to an all mail-in election, the turnout rate for all voters is significantly increased. Democratic candidates on the entire slate have an increased chance of securing victory because a voter, with more time to study the ballot, is more likely to vote the entire ballot; allegations of fraud have been show in Contra Costa county (only one allegation in 28 years) and in Oregon to be virtually unfounded with increased absentee ballot use. With meaningful educational reforms, the number of late and rejected ballots for cause can be significantly diminished, so that even a 1.29% rejection rate, as was experienced in Contra Costa county in the Fall 2000 General Election, is a number that can be justified with an anticipated increase in Democratic turn-out by, as was experienced in Oregon and Washington, of up to 5-15% over four years after the institution of permanent absentee and/or all mail-in status, and meaningful educational reforms;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that it shall be the law in the State of California that any voter who is not otherwise disqualified shall be entitled to receive an absentee ballot on a permanent basis; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the State of California shall cause every County elections official to undertake meaningful educational programs to decrease the number of late and rejected absentee ballots, and that significant penalties shall exist for any individual who fraudulently votes another individual’s absentee ballot.

Submitted by Contra Costa County Central Committee

Adopted July 15, 2001

Resolution Number SAC01.05
Promoting Respect and Understanding

WHEREAS, since the establishment of the Jewish State in Israel, there have been wars and conflicts amongst Israel, homeland Palestinians and Arab neighbors; and

WHEREAS, the animosity amongst the various cultures has continued and all people have a right to live in peace in the same geographic area; and

WHEREAS, the Democratic Party has a proud and long-tradition of speaking out against violence throughout the world; THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party calls on all sides of this conflict to stop the violence, break the cycle of hate, and to start teaching adults and their children to understand the religion, beliefs and cultures of the parties involved and to teach them tolerance, respect and to value the differences in each other; and calls upon the leaders to seek an immediate negotiated settlement to the long-standing issues.

Submitted by 47th AD Committee; Culver City Demo Club; Terrence Montgomery

Adopted July 15, 2001

Resolution Number ANA01.18
Re-Regulation of Electricity

WHEREAS, the State of California is currently experiencing an energy crisis due to the de-regulation of our electric utility industry, with some consumers paying 300% increases in their electric bills; and

WHEREAS, while no one objects to businesses earning a reasonable profit, what consumers are experiencing with de-regulation is extreme hardship; and

WHEREAS, the various proposals to resolve the crisis by increasing costs and/or delaying payments while leaving de-regulations intact does not address the fundamental issue of how to provide electricity for all consumers at a lower cost; THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party supports the Governor and the Legislature’s plan to assure adequate electric supplies at reasonable costs to consumers and investigate any possible overcharging or price fixing with resultant excessive profits by power generators and take all appropriate legal actions as necessary; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the CDP supports conservation efforts recommended by the Governor during the months ahead.

Submitted by Maureen Calney, 44th AD

Adopted July 15, 2001

Resolution Number SAC01.07
Reaffirmation of Democratic (Little D) Principles

WHEREAS, the United States of America is considered the greatest democracy in the world and should be the primary advocate for reassuring that the elections in the United States are free and fair, without doubt of integrity and that every vote counts; and

WHEREAS, past actions in our own elections and interference in other countries elections have cast a shadow of corruption on our democracy and have cost our country prestige as the worlds’ number one advocate; and

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WHEREAS, the California Democratic Party’s Platform specifically states that the CDP “…stands in the forefront of ensuring effective and fair political reform” and that we “support democracies worldwide;”

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that California Democratic Party sends a message to all our elected officials that:

(1) Election and campaign reforms be legislated such as (reviewing the Electoral College, support public financing of campaigns, guaranteeing one person-one vote; assuring that all citizens have the right to vote, provide criminal penalties for voter intimidation, etc.);

(2) That the United States will respect the sovereignty of other nations and support governments that are democratically elected in a free and fair election by the majorities of their citizens; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be sent to all Democratic Senators, Representatives and Appointed George W. Bush.

Submitted by Progressive Democrats of Marin

Adopted July 15, 2001

Resolution Number ANAL01.09

Reform of Forestry Clear-Cutting Policies

WHEREAS, extensive clear-cutting in California’s forested watersheds threatens the state’s water supply and essential wildlife habitat; and threatens the economic viability of communities that depend on forests for jobs and income from tourism, logging, fishing and recreation; and

WHEREAS, other timber-harvest methods, including selective logging, can produce timber products for California consumers with less harm to the state’s forests, community economies, natural beauty, wildlife habitats and water supply; and

WHEREAS, current California law and regulation do not adequately protect our forest watersheds, water quality, wildlife habitat, community economies and natural beauty;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party supports immediate reform of state forestry law and regulation in order to protect the state’s forests watersheds, communities, natural beauty and water supply from the destructive effects of extensive clear cutting.

Submitted by Sally Trestall, Amador County Central Committee; Calaveras and Tuolumne Counties, Democratic Club of Amador; Democratic Club of Tuolumne; 4th Assembly District

Adopted July 15, 2001

Resolution Number ANA01.23B

Reforming the Electoral College

WHEREAS, the United States Constitution and supporting documents to not recognize the right of the American people to elect the President of the United States; and

WHEREAS, the voting rules for the President vary from state-to-state, county-to-county, and precinct-to-precinct; and

WHEREAS, the recent presidential election in Florida has made the United States an object of ridicule to the entire world;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party request that the California Congressional delegation work towards setting up a Congressional investigation to investigate ways to reform American election procedures so that they clearly establish an effective right of the American People to elect their President.

Submitted by the Los Angeles County Democratic Party

Adopted July 15, 2001

Resolution Number ANA01.31

Refute U.S. Supreme Court’s Deplorable Dismantling of ADA

WHEREAS, on February 21, 2001 the United States Supreme Court, by yet another 5-4 decision, ruled that state employees cannot sue for damages for violations of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), as the first step in a case-by-case dismantling of Title 2 by Justice Rehnquist and the conservative majority as evidenced by Justice Rehnquist saying, “…it would be entirely rational and therefore constitutional for a state employer to conserve scarce financial resources by hiring employees who are able to use existing facilities…” without the accommodations that the disabilities act requires for those who need them; and

WHEREAS, this action represents a usurpation by the Court of the constitutional prerogative of the United States to pass laws; and

WHEREAS, this action also repeats the effect of other Court decisions in recent years expanding the sphere of state immunity to a degree unmatched in the modern era;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party calls upon the Democratic Congressional delegation to take appropriate action to refute this deplorable action of the U.S. Supreme Court to systematically dismantle the Americans with Disabilities Act; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this action by the California Democratic Party be widely publicized as possible and transmitted to all other states for their similar action.
Resolution Number ANA01.30A
Social Security Trust Fund Protections
WHEREAS, the Social Security Trust Fund is considered solvent until the year 2038, nonetheless, over $850 billion has been borrowed from the Fund and needs to be repaid. Amounts from the Trust Fund have been used to balance the budget, with minimal attempts made to repay the Fund. Moreover, President Bush’s $1.6 trillion dollar tax cut over the next decades slated to borrow another $2 billion from the Fund; and WHEREAS, the Republican majority continues to annually sponsor legislation to “privatize” Social Security and thus reduce revenues needed by the Fund to ensure its solvency, such legislation undermines the Fund’s fiduciary strength which could result in premature depletion of the Fund, causing its collapse to year 2038; and WHEREAS, the British attempted privatizing their national retirement fund (comparable to our Social Security Program) with devastating consequences which required British taxpayers to spend additional billions to repair damages to their retirement fund’s solvency; THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party leaders urgently demand that the highest priority with regards to projected federal surpluses be directed to reimbursing the Social Security Trust Fund the $850+ billion owed to it; and BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party notify federal legislators and President Bush how imperative it is that the Social Security Trust Fund needs to be further protected by not diverting essential FICA tax revenues into other forms of personal retirement accounts.

Submitted by C.L. Bell; Orange County Central Committee
Adopted July 15, 2001

Resolution Number ANA01.11
Support Full Funding of Existing Affordable Child Care Programs
WHEREAS, the California Democratic Party supports the needs of working poor- and low-income families and these low-income families need affordable and high-quality child care to allow children to develop in a positive environment while parents are at work; and WHEREAS, the tens of thousands of poor California families currently qualify for low-income child care eligibility through current low-income child care programs provided by the California Department of Education and these current State program funding levels are so inadequate that tens of thousands of eligible families remain on perpetual wait lists for affordable child care; and WHEREAS, these families demonstrate a clear financial need for affordable child care, under current funding they will never receive this important services yet providing affordable child care would improve the development of children in these families, allow these families to achieve a higher degree of economic self-sufficiency, and improve the quality of life for these families and their communities; THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party supports full funding of existing affordable child care programs to allow all eligible families to receive childcare services.

Submitted by 14th Assembly District Committee and Young Democrats
Adopted July 15, 2001

Resolution Number SACL01.08
Support Unemployment Insurance Increase
WHEREAS, California’s unemployment benefits rank last in the nation. In 1999, the average benefit was $155 per week, replacing only 23% of California’s average weekly wage, leaving California with the worst replacement rate in the nation! And California’s maximum weekly benefit of $230 has not increased since Republican Governor Deukmejian signed a bill to raise benefit levels in 1989. MIT and Princeton economists have concluded that state UI systems that support workers in finding the right job helps push the state’s economy toward peak efficiency. Low Unemployment Insurance benefits force workers to find a job too quickly, rather than supporting a quality job search that takes advantage of workers’ skills and trainings; and WHEREAS, the poverty level for a family of three is $281 per week; California’s maximum UI benefit level is $230 per week; and WHEREAS, the California Labor Federation has been hard at work for the past three years to bring California’s Unemployment Insurance to the national average; THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party supports bringing California’s Unemployment Insurance to the national average; and BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party urges the State Legislature and Governor Gray Davis to work together to improve California’s Unemployment Insurance.

Submitted by Congresswoman Maxine Waters; 48th Assembly District Committee
Adopted July 15, 2001
Resolution Number ANA01.33
Supporting Anti-Ballistic Missile Treaty
WHEREAS, the end of the Cold War has greatly reduced the threat of a missile-based nuclear war; and
WHEREAS, the United States has pledged to abide by the terms of the 1972 Anti-Ballistic Missile Treaty prohibiting the deployment of an anti-ballistic missile system; and
WHEREAS, the feasibility of such a system has been called highly questionable by many authoritative technical experts;
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party strongly opposes the initiatives by George W. Bush and Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld to develop and deploy nuclear-missile defense system; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party urges the support of the California Congressional Delegation in opposing a nuclear-missile defense system.
Submitted by the Santa Clara County Central Committee, Herb Engstrom
Adopted July 15, 2001

Resolution Number ANA01.28
Union Activity
WHEREAS, the President of the United States, George W. Bush, has taken a position in opposition to American Union members by issuing an Executive Order limiting dues utilization by unions; and
WHEREAS, American Trade Labor Unions depend upon the solidarity of members for concerted action against greed and arbitrary management of Organized Labor; and
WHEREAS, union members have greatly increased the productivity of American industry and have historically improved the quality of life of all Americans including non-union members;
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party goes on record condemning President George W. Bush for his unfair and damaging actions to repeal the Executive Order which protects union members, union solidarity and the American people.
Submitted by the 67th Assembly District Committee; Orange County Central Committee; Democratic Party of Orange County
Adopted July 15, 2001

Resolution Number ANA01.05
Urge Comprehensive Statewide & Regional Land Use Planning; Support for Future Legislation to Limit Urban Sprawl & Protect Open Space & Farmland
WHEREAS, the Department of Conservation’s Biennial Farm conservation Report dated October 12, 2000 reported that over 70,000 acres of California open space, 2/3 of that farmland, was lost to urban development between 1996 and 1998, which was a 25% increase over the previous report period; and
WHEREAS, accelerated urban sprawl, as California’s population continues to grow, will increase travel distances and traffic congestion, resulting in increase energy consumption and air pollution, will cost Californians countless dollars to expand transportation infrastructure, utilities and other services already in place in existing urban centers; and will threaten remaining open space and farmland resulting in negative impacts on the state’s economy, natural resources, environment and general quality of life; and
WHEREAS, other states, such as Oregon have successfully implemented statewide and regional land use planning legislation that, among other things, establishes urban grown boundaries, which have successfully protected recreational and open space, farmland, wildlife habitats, water recharge areas, etc. by directing new growth to appropriate existing urban areas; and at least 19 jurisdictions in the 9 county San Francisco Bay Region have established growth boundaries and/or other types of open space protection indicating there is growing public support for containment of urban sprawl;
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party supports statewide and regional land use planning policies, such as establishment of urban growth boundaries, and urges our state Democratic lawmakers to take a leadership role in this regard; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party forwards a copy of this resolution to Governor Gray Davis, State Senators Jackie Speier and John Burton, Assemblymembers Kevin Shelley and Carole Migden and the Smart Growth Caucus of the State Legislature.
Submitted by the San Francisco Democratic Central County Committee
Adopted July 15, 2001

Resolution Number ANAL01.15
Veterans’ Homes
WHEREAS, California Governor Gray Davis, a decorated Vietnam Veteran, demonstrated great leadership by appointing a State Commission to select locations for new state-operated veteran homes; and

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WHEREAS, there are three state-operated veteran homes now in Chula Vista, Barstow and Yountville and the Commission has selected Lancaster and Ventura as new locations; and
WHEREAS, the Commission is studying Fresno, Long Beach and Los Angeles as new locations;
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party salutes Governor Davis for his foresight to establish this Commission; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party support the establishment of veteran homes where they are needed most and will do everything that it can to support the Governor and the Democratic leadership in the State Legislature to accomplish this worthy and most-needed project.
Submitted by CDP Veterans’ Caucus, Tom Swann, Chair
Adopted July 15, 2001

Resolution Number SAC01.06
Voluntary System of Public Funding of Elections
WHEREAS, the current system of privately financed campaigns for elections undermines democracy in the United States, because it violates the democratic principle of “one person, one vote” and diminishes the meaning of the right-to-vote by allowing large contributions to have a deleterious influence on the political process; and
WHEREAS, the current system of privately financed campaigns for election violates the right of all citizens to equal and meaningful participation in the democratic process, and diminishes the free-speech rights of non-wealthy voters and candidates whose voices are drowned out by those who can afford to monopolize the arena of paid political communications; and
WHEREAS, the current system of privately financed campaigns for elections fuels the public perception of corruption and undermines public confidence in the democratic process and democratic institutions, diminishes elected officials’ accountability to their constituents by compelling them to be disproportional accountable to the major contributors who finance their election campaigns, and burdens candidates with the incessant rigors of fundraising and thus decreases the time available to carry out their public responsibilities;
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party supports a voluntary system of public financing of elections.
Submitted by the Progressive Democrats of Marin
Adopted July 15, 2001

Resolution Number SAC01.01
Women and Equity in the Professions
BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party Business and Professional Caucus reaffirms its commitment to comparable pay for comparable work and its application to industry; and that the California Democratic Party and our State Elected Constitutional Officers and Legislators will continue to pursue and promote comparable pay for comparable work.
Submitted by the CDP Business & Professional Caucus
Adopted July 15, 2001

Resolution Number ANAL01.12
AIDS In Africa
WHEREAS, the effect of the Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome (AIDS) epidemic on the citizens of the continent of Africa has been devastating; and
WHEREAS, the United States of America with and through its pharmaceutical companies has taken the lead in the development and distribution of effective medication to slow down and in some cases stop the effects of this deadly virus;
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the United States Government in conjunction with the pharmaceutical companies provide all immediate aid and service to those victims of A.I.D.S. in Africa with deliberate speed.
Submitted by the 47th Assembly District Committee, Terence Montgomery, Chair
Adopted April 1, 2001

Resolution Number ANAL01.08
Against Offshore Oil Drilling and in Support of Renewable Energy
WHEREAS, the federal government is once again considering opening offshore oil lease tracts for development, and drilling for oil off the California coast would harm and despoil valuable and irreplaceable natural coastal resources and contribute to global warming without addressing the long-term energy needs of this country; and
WHEREAS, Californians have a long history of opposition to offshore oil drilling, a position expressly stated in the California Democratic Party platform; and
WHEREAS, the solution to our country’s energy needs now and in the future lies in renewable energy sources such as solar, hydrogen, and wind, which are abundant and not harmful to the environment;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the California Democratic Party that all Democratic elected representatives and all Democratic candidates are urged to strongly support the Party’s position: to oppose offshore oil drilling and to support development and use of renewable energy, energy efficiency, and conservation; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party calls on the Bush Administration to honor commitments made by both Democratic and Republican Administrations by protecting the nation’s fragile and irreplaceable coastal territories, and forsaking the short-term fix of drilling for oil for the long-term solution of the development of alternative, sustainable and renewable energy technologies.

Submitted by Mendocino County Democratic Central Committee and the California Democratic Party Environmental Caucus
Adopted April 1, 2001

Resolution Number ANA01.32
Armenian Genocide

WHEREAS, in 1915, the Ottoman Turkish government initiated a prolonged and brutal campaign of terror and mass execution that caused the deaths of more than 1.5 million men, women, and children of Armenian heritage from 1915 to 1923, and the forced deportation of hundreds of thousands of survivors, many of whom settled in California; and

WHEREAS, despite the overwhelming proof that this attempted annihilation of the Armenian people was the result of governmental policy and genocidal intent, the Republic of Turkey has persisted to this day in denying that the Armenian Genocide occurred, thereby encouraging the commission of genocide and "ethnic cleansing" by others throughout the 20th Century; and

WHEREAS, the Democratic Party has a proud and long tradition of fighting for human rights and justice, and of speaking out against bigotry, racism and inhumanity throughout the world;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party joins Armenian-Americans, the international community and all people who care about justice in their remembrance of the Armenian Genocide and their desire to ensure that the crime of genocide must never be legitimized or forgotten, wherever and whenever it occurs; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party calls upon the United States Congress and the President of the United States to recognize that the horrific crimes against humanity committed by the Ottoman government from 1915 to 1923 must accurately and unequivocally be characterized as genocide.

Submitted by the 43rd Assembly District; Armenian National Committee; Congressman Brad Sherman; Former Assembly Speaker Antonio Villaraigosa; Assemblyman Dario Frommer, et al.
Adopted April 1, 2001

Resolution Number ANA01.27
Cesar E. Chavez National Holiday

WHEREAS, Cesar E. Chavez was a prominent labor leader who fought tirelessly on behalf of working people, including his support of community coalitions for all public employees; and

WHEREAS, Cesar E. Chavez led efforts that improved living standards for many low wage immigrant workers in both rural and urban Californian communities; and

WHEREAS, many labor groups, including the Central Labor Council of Alameda County, have gone on record in support of legislation to make Cesar E. Chavez’s birthday, March 31st, a national holiday in remembrance of his accomplishments and commitments to all people of goodwill;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party hereby supports all legislative efforts to make March 31st a national holiday to recognize Cesar E. Chavez’s outstanding achievements; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party goes on record in support of legislative efforts to create the Cesar E. Chavez National Holiday on March 31st.

Submitted by Castro Valley Democratic Club and Democratic Club of Hayward
Adopted April 1, 2001

Resolution Number ANA01.38
Challenging The Bush Presidency

WHEREAS, the first 70 days of the Bush presidency have served to roll back long-standing protections for workers, women, the disabled, children and the civil rights of all Americans; and

WHEREAS, the Bush presidency has jeopardized our international relations by breaking our word on the environment and by lack of viable leadership to effectively resolve and mediate issues in Asia, Europe and the Middle East; and
WHEREAS, the Bush presidency has served to pay back his supporters allowing unchecked pollution; tax cuts for the wealthy; denial of worker rights and wasting of our surplus rather than investing in America’s children, public schools, seniors and workers through programs that uplift our people by providing real opportunities and economic advantage for all Americans;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party expresses our grave concerns about the President living up to his stated campaign promises. After only 70 days, his actions have served to undermine the economic and social successes of the past eight years; and BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party calls upon all Democrats, especially our elected U.S. Senators and Representatives, and fair-minded Americans to speak out against the President’s policies and to work to take control of Congress in 2002 and the presidency in 2004.

Submitted by Bob Farran, John Hanna, Inola Henry
Adopted April 1, 2001

Resolution Number ANAL01.01
Cross-Border Trucking

WHEREAS, the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) undermines labor rights and environmental standards as it overrides the democratic rights of citizens and their elected national, state and local representatives; and NAFTA cross-border trucking had been barred by the actions of the U.S. President with bi-partisan support from members of Congress; and

WHEREAS, NAFTA cross-border trucking poses a threat to the safety of the U.S. public on our roads and highways due to the disparity in standards and regulation for equipment and licensing between the U.S. and Mexico, and health of the U.S. public due to increased opportunities for the importation to the U.S. of illegal drugs and/or foodstuffs polluted by harmful pesticides or contaminated by unsanitary harvesting conditions which cannot be adequately monitored by the U.S. or Mexican border agencies; and

WHEREAS, the Mexican workers’ rights to organize, join and participate in labor unions are not yet fully realized in practice; NAFTA’s labor side-agreements have failed to protect the rights of workers so the quality and/or quantity of work on both sides of the border has been damaged; and implementation of the NAFTA cross-border trucking will tend to pit workers against each other across borders only to the benefit of multi-national corporations;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the NAFTA dispute tribunal ruling against the U.S. to allow cross-border trucking from Mexico should be opposed with the message immediately passed on to Congress and the President: keep U.S. roads off-limits to trucks from Mexico until all cross-border trucking standards and effective monitoring for safety, wages and working conditions for all truckers can be harmonized upwards to the highest level; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party forwards this resolution to the Democratic National Party and to California Congressional members for their serious consideration.

Submitted by California Teamsters and the CDP Labor Caucus
Adopted April 1, 2001

Resolution Number ANA01.02
Honoring the Life and Career of Alan Cranston

WHEREAS, Alan Cranston dedicated his life to public service including 24 years as a United States Senator, working to create a fairer, safer, more serene world, and was a fierce crusader for nuclear arms control; and

WHEREAS, Alan Cranston advocated civil rights and liberties for all, supported a woman’s right to choose, fought discrimination against homosexuals in immigration laws and succeeded in passing the Equal Rights Amendment in Congress; and Alan Cranston united Democrats in the state of California, founded the California Democratic Council in the 1950s -- leading to getting Pat Brown elected governor, gaining the majority in the State Legislature in 1958 and ultimately creating the modern and successful California Democratic Party of today; and

WHEREAS, Alan Cranston was committed to protecting the environment and sponsored legislation for creation of the Golden Gate National Recreation Area, the Santa Monica National Recreation Area, the Channel Islands National Park, expansion of the Redwoods National Park, and inclusion of the Mineral King into the Sequoia National Park;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party honors the life and career of Alan Cranston, and commit itself to his life’s work of improving the lives of all people.

Submitted by Senator Art Torres (Ret.), Chairman, California Democratic Party and the California Members of the Democratic National Committee
Adopted April 1, 2001

Resolution Number ANA01.01
Honoring the Life and Career of James C. Corman
WHEREAS, James Corman dedicated his life to public service, first serving as a Los Angeles City Councilman for three years and later representing the San Fernando Valley’s 21st Congressional District for 20 years from 1961-1981; and James Corman advocated supporting the underprivileged, always concerned about senior citizens and making sure that the poor citizens had a real safety net; and

WHEREAS, James Corman was one of ten people named by President Lyndon B. Johnson to the historic National Advisory Commission on Civil Disorders to investigate the causes of multi-city rioting in the incendiary summer of 1967; and James Corman was instrumental in passing the 1964 Civil Rights Act, which he considered that the greatest accomplishment of his career; and

WHEREAS, James Corman is survived by his wife, Breetwor-Malone; his daughter, Mary Anne; two sons, Adam and Brian; and one grandchild; THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that Democrats in California and across the nation mourn the passing of James Corman for his work in public service and his commitment to making our nation a better place to live.

Submitted by Senator Art Torres (Ret.), Chairman, California Democratic Party and the California Members of the Democratic National Committee (DNC)
Adopted April 1, 2001

Resolution Number ANA01.03
Honoring the Life and Career of Julian Dixon

WHEREAS, Julian Dixon dedicated his career to public service and championed causes, ranging from the City of Los Angeles' subway project to civil rights and was an influential lawmaker on national and security issues; and

WHEREAS, Julian Dixon as Chairman of the Congressional Black Caucus led the efforts to impose economic sanctions against South Africa because of its racial segregation's policy; and Julian Dixon successfully fought for federal funding of the $3.8 billion Los Angeles Metro Rail subway project; and he obtained a "dire emergency" supplemental appropriations bill after the Los Angeles riots to meet emergency needs in his district and other affected area; and Julian Dixon also sought funding for Los Angeles for projects important to the community including monies for the County Museum of Natural History, reimbursement for state jails and secured federal aid for Los Angeles after the 1994 earthquake; and

WHEREAS, Julian Dixon is survived by his loving wife, Betty; and his supportive son, Cary; THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that Democrats nationwide remember Julian Dixon's legacy of fairness and civility and accomplishments for his district and community.

Submitted by Senator Art Torres (Ret.), Chairman, California Democratic Party and the California Members of the Democratic National Committee
Adopted April 1, 2001

Resolution Number ANA01.10
Increasing Workers’ Compensation Benefits

WHEREAS, workers’ compensation benefits are the exclusive remedy for employees who suffer job-related injuries in California, and the majority of injured workers in California receive permanent disability benefits which have been frozen for the last eighteen years at just $140.00 a week which is less than half of the federal poverty level for a family of four and ranks a shameful 49th out of 50 states in our nation, and California is only one of seven states which have failed to adopt the recommendations of a 1972 federal commission on the adequacy of temporary disability benefits; and

WHEREAS, Governor Gray Davis has twice vetoed legislation to restore adequate benefits to injured workers in the mistaken belief that benefit increases would adversely impact the state's economy even though workers’ compensation costs to employers are less than two percent of payroll, and statutory changes in California law which were enacted in 1993 and 1994 have further reduced those costs by more than 33 percent a year resulting in employers realizing nearly $4 billion a year in savings, with continued substantial savings projected throughout the foreseeable future; and

WHEREAS, legislation providing long overdue benefit increases for injured working men and women in our great state, the likely impact of which is less than 0.3% of payroll, an imperceptible amount in contrast to California's $640 billion annual payroll and $1.3 trillion economy; THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party urges both the Legislature and the Governor to avoid any "reforms" which, in reality, would harm injured workers by reducing or eliminating some of their already meager benefits, restrict their legal rights, or impede their ability to establish their claims and receive benefit payments in a timely manner; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that as a matter of fundamental fairness and decency to California's working men, women and families, the California Democratic Party urges the Legislature to pass, and Governor Davis to sign legislation to provide benefit increases for eligible injured working men and women without succumbing to further false and groundless assertions that benefit increases are unaffordable, and that copies of this resolution will be forwarded to Governor Gray Davis, Senate President pro Tempore John Burton and Assembly Speaker Bob Hertzberg.

Submitted by the San Francisco Democratic Party
Adopted April 1, 2001
Resolution Number ANA01.14
Moratorium on the Death Penalty
WHEREAS, the United States is alone among Western countries in continuing to have a death penalty; and
WHEREAS, there have been so many cases of people on death row being found innocent that it raises the question of how many innocent people have been executed; and
WHEREAS, the death penalty has not been shown to be applied fairly across demographic groups nor to have any measurable deterrent effects;
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party calls upon Governor Gray Davis to impose an immediate moratorium on the death penalty in California and appoint a Commission to review the death penalty policies to ensure that they are fairly applied to all those accused and to ensure due process of law and adequate representation of counsel.
Submitted by Santa Clara County Committee
Adopted April 1, 2001

Resolution Number ANA01.35
Support Of De-Alerting Nuclear Status
WHEREAS, accidental or mistaken launch of a nuclear missile could devastate a city, and launch of a nuclear force would wreak worldwide destruction and today both the United States and Russia currently maintain thousands of nuclear weapons on “hair-trigger” alert, such that they can be fired within minutes; and
WHEREAS, in several incidents, false signals of missile attacks have triggered a process in which national leaders had to decide in only a few minutes whether to fire nuclear weapons; and
WHEREAS, Russian monitoring and control systems are deteriorating, increasing the chances of a mistaken launch;
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the United States and Russia be encouraged to negotiate an agreement to take all of their nuclear weapons off hair-trigger status; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party call on U.S. Senators Feinstein and Boxer and the Democratic members of the California Congressional Delegation to work for such an agreement that would take the United States and Russia immediately off hair-trigger nuclear alert.
Submitted by the Tim Carpenter and David Levy; Orange County Central Committee
Adopted April 1, 2001

Resolution Number ANAL01.05
Support UFW Boycott of “Pictsweet” Label Mushrooms and Frozen Vegetables
WHEREAS, the UFW has been negotiating with Pictsweet Mushroom Farms in Ventura, California since December 1999 without making any progress on a wage increase, a pension plan, or a decent medical plan; and
WHEREAS, the UFW in September 1999, declared a boycott of Pictsweet Mushroom and Frozen Vegetables. On October 19, 1999 the Agricultural Labor Relations Board issued a complaint against Pictsweet for unlawfully promoting a decertification petition, unlawfully threatening workers with a plant closure, and unlawfully offering benefits in exchange for signing the decertification petition; and
WHEREAS, Ralph’s, Vons, and Stater Brothers supermarkets have removed Pictsweet mushrooms from their stores and the National AFL-CIO has placed at the UFW’s request Pictsweet on their national boycott list;
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party join the UFW and the AFL-CIO and endorse the UFW’s boycott of Pictsweet mushroom and frozen vegetables.
Submitted by 25+ Democratic State Central Committee members
Adopted April 1, 2001

Resolution Number ANA01.04
Support the Right of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual & Transgender People to Enter into Civil Unions
WHEREAS, the “Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender People” section of the “Equality of Opportunity Plank” of the California Democratic Party Platform for the year 2000 reads as follows: Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender People. Affirm the right of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender people to equal, dignified, respectful treatment and privacy; and to freedom from laws that criminalize private sexual conduct between consenting adults. Enact legislation prohibiting education, employment and housing discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation or gender identity. Ensure the rights of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender people to serve in the armed forces without restriction and the right to equal legal recognition of their committed relationships. Affirm their right to become adoptive parents and to protection of their family entities; and
WHEREAS, it is this body’s belief that Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender people should be treated as equal citizens under the law, in every respect;
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party affirms the right of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender people to enter into civil unions which are recognized under the law as conveying all the benefits and responsibilities of marriage.
Submitted by San Francisco Democratic County Central Committee
Adopted April 1, 2001

2002
Resolution Number MAN02.09
End The Nuclear Danger
WHEREAS: The danger of nuclear destruction has increased with the acceleration of the development of the “Missile Defense” program, the development and proposed use of battlefield nuclear weapons and the Bush Administration policy of preemptive attacks other nations; and
WHEREAS: Diplomatic measures are required to reduce nuclear arsenals and ease international tensions
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the California Democratic Party supports the call to end the nuclear danger, including the meaningful reduction of nuclear warheads, the re-alerting of nuclear weapons, the adherence to non-proliferation treaties and the use of diplomatic means to resolve these issues.
Submitted by Jim Clarke and the California Democratic Council
Adopted December 7, 2002

Resolution Number MANL02.05
Equal And Fair Treatment Of All Immigrants
WHEREAS: The history of immigration into the United States has indicated that our laws have a pattern of preferences and discrimination based on the particular mood in the country; and
WHEREAS: The California Democratic Party has always stood for equality and fairness; and
WHEREAS: The 9/11 tragedy has targeted all people of Middle Eastern background for additional discrimination, and the recent incident with Haitian immigrants in Florida and the inhumane treatment that Latino immigrants are subjected to throughout the Southwest and California NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the California Democratic Party recommends that the Congress and President of the United States of America pass immigration reform laws that provide equal and fair treatment for all immigrants in the United States of America regardless of national origin, race, gender or religion
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That this resolution be forwarded to the newly elected Democratic Leader, the Honorable Nancy Pelosi, and Senators Barbara Boxer and Dianne Feinstein.
Submitted by Placido Salazar, Chair Chicano/Latino caucus
Adopted December 7, 2002

Resolution Number MAN02.02
Establish Holiday To Honor President John F. Kennedy
WHEREAS: The San Francisco Irish-American Democratic Club approved a proposal that we honor the birthday of the late President John Fitzgerald Kennedy by making it an unpaid memorial Holiday, which would be a day to honor the memory of President Kennedy as the first Catholic Irish-American President of the United States, whose election broke the long-standing discrimination against Catholics in high office; and;
WHEREAS: President Kennedy’s compassion for the disabled, his setting of the United States space program into action, his deep respect for education, his principled stand on civil rights, and other hallmarks of his tragically shortened administration were admirable and he did make a unique contribution, and;
WHEREAS: President Kennedy inspired young people to get involved in government, notably through such programs as the Peace Corps
NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: By creating a special day in his memory, we will hear again President Kennedy’s inspirational words, be reminded of his compassion, and help spread his message to the young people of today and to future generations
NOW, THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That the California Democratic Party hereby endorses the action of the Irish-American Democratic Club of San Francisco and voices its support for this Resolution, and will seek to enlist the support of other organizations to spread this movement throughout the United States and bring about this day to honor the birthday of President John Fitzgerald Kennedy.
Submitted by Jim Clarke, Jim Wachob/Irish-American Democratic Club of SF
Resolution Number MAN02.06
Indian Sacred Sites

WHEREAS: As the goals and values of the California Democratic Party include the upholding of freedom of religion and the preservation of cultural values for all communities including Native American citizens, and President Clinton, in 1996, issued an executive order directing government to make the protection of Indian sacred sites a national priority; and

WHEREAS: With the support of more than 60 environmental and labor groups as well as 23 tribal governments, the California State legislature overwhelmingly passed, with a bi-partisan vote, SB 1828, a bill to protect and preserve Indian sacred places; and whereas this bill provided for a fair and equitable process for full public participation in identifying and protecting Indian sacred sites; and

WHEREAS: Governor Gray Davis disregarded extensive information provided by California tribal leaders and environmentalist; failed to acknowledge the imminent peril of sacred sites currently without protection from pending development, and vetoed this urgently needed legislation that would have established unprecedented preservation of rapidly vanishing sacred sites and preserved California’s first citizens’ ability and right to practice their religion

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the California Democratic Party expresses disappointment and register our profound opposition to the veto action taken by Governor Davis on SB 1828. The resolution also urges the Davis administration to reconsider its actions and take new steps in the coming legislative year to work with Native American leadership to finally pass a law that will truly and permanently protect Indian sacred sites in California.

Submitted by Mary Ann Andreas and the Native-American Caucus
Adopted December 7, 2002

Resolution Number MAN02.01
Internet Advisory Group

WHEREAS: The National Charter of the Democratic Party commits the Democratic Party to “encourage full participation by all Democrats... in all party affairs” and to “listen to those who it would lead”; and

WHEREAS: In contrast to media that are controlled by elites, the internet and related technologies offer an open medium in which all Democrats can fully participate; and

WHEREAS: The leaders and staff of the Democratic National Committee have pioneered such innovations as on-line registration, the extensive use of Spanish, coordination with state party websites and have recognized the need constantly to renew the vision, technical design and content of national and state party technology

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the California Democratic Party and affiliates commit themselves to using technology for public outreach including identifying, recruiting and supporting experts in effective business models and advanced technical designs who are capable of ensuring that the internet-related activities of the Democratic Party at all levels remains at the leading edge of technologically assisted political activism

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That the California Democratic Party urges the members and officers of the Democratic National Committee to solicit and include the assistance provided by the California Democratic Party and other state parties, and that these experts serve as official advisers to the Chair with a mandate to promote a shared vision that uses technology to define and support the common purpose and principles that have historically sustained our Party.

Submitted by the Emily Thurber and the Santa Clara County Democratic Central Committee Executive Board
Adopted December 7, 2002

Resolution Number MAN02.07
Loss Of Civil Liberties

WHEREAS: The Bush administration has promoted a welter of national security proposals, including legislation which invades the privacy and civil rights of millions of Americans under the guise of fighting terrorism; and

WHEREAS: The Administration has jailed several American citizens who are being held without the constitutionally guaranteed right to counsel, is holding other individuals in secret with no charges and no information as to whom is being held and has caused the deportation of individuals without public hearings; and

WHEREAS: The Administration, under a program known as Total Information Awareness, intends to create a grand database of public and private information on all Americans, which would allow the government to analyze billions of records, ranging from credit card purchases to Internet surfing habits, travel documents, e-mails and personal medical files without any knowledge of the individuals concerned or adequate Congressional oversight
NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the California Democratic Party urges the Congress of the United States to undertake a far-reaching debate on the erosion of civil rights in this country and that the Congress question the need for the Total Information Awareness Program and take all steps necessary to ensure that all of our citizens are afforded the privacy and personal liberties guaranteed by our Constitution.

Submitted by Emily Thurber and the Santa Clara County Democratic Central Committee Executive Board
Adopted December 7, 2002

Resolution Number MAN02.04
Praising President Jimmy Carter
WHEREAS: Jimmy Carter has served the public all his life starting, as a young man as an Engineering Officer on a nuclear sub in the Navy, to a Georgia State Senator, then their Governor, then President of the United States 1977-1981; and
WHEREAS: Jimmy Carter, as President, spoke on behalf of human rights all over the world, and worked hard on peaceful resolutions including achieving “the impossible” of the Camp David accords – a peace agreement between Egypt and Israel; and
WHEREAS: For all his work, Jimmy Carter has now been awarded the Nobel Peace Price, which he will officially receive on December 10, 2002
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: The California Democratic Party officially recognizes and congratulates Jimmy Carter for his life’s work leading to the Nobel Peace Prize.

Submitted by Senator Art Torres (Ret.), Chairman of the Democratic Party
Adopted December 7, 2002

Resolution Number MAN02.08
Resolution On Iraq
WHEREAS: It is vitally important for the United States to protect itself from terrorism by increasing our capabilities in intelligence-gathering, public health, coordination between agencies concerned with our national security, and furthering cooperation with friends and allies who also are fighting terrorists; and
WHEREAS: President Bush, instead of concentrating on destroying Al Qaeda and other terrorist networks, has selected the government of Iraq as his number one target and is mobilizing American armed forces and public opinion to support a pre-emptive strike against Iraq without regard for the consequences of a war in the Middle East which could be destabilizing to that region, result in thousands of civilian casualties as well as many American lives lost, and, in addition, cause increased anger and violence in the Muslim world against the United States; and
WHEREAS: It is a violation of international law for one country to wage offensive war against another for the sake of changing the political regime of the country, and an attack on Iraq, unless it can be conclusively shown to be an imminent threat to the United States, would distract our government further from the global threat of terrorism
NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the California Democratic Party urges President Bush to focus attention and national resources on improving America’s ability to counter future direct terrorist threats, and to work through the United Nations by supporting its weapons inspectors as they seek to find and destroy any weapons of mass destruction which might be possessed by Iraq, and to initiate military action only with the approval of the United Nations Security Council
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That the California Democratic Party commends its elected representatives who have spoken out eloquently against the President’s rush to war against Iraq and urges them to continue to seek a peaceful international solution to the current Iraqi crisis and not to perpetuate the prior Bush’s Administration disregard for the well-being of American soldiers and battle area civilians as evidenced by the concerns of the American Gulf War Veterans’ Association.

Submitted by Emily Thurber, Santa Clara County Democratic Central Committee Executive Board, Jim Clarke and the California Democratic Council
Adopted December 7, 2002

Resolution Number MANL02.03
Save The Clean Air Act
WHEREAS: The Bush Administration has unveiled its proposed regulatory changes to a key clean air program, which will gut the “New Source Review” program, allowing older power plants, refineries and other facilities in California and the nation to operate without modern pollution controls, even when they are making significant modifications to the facilities, triggering thousands of premature deaths and hundreds of thousands of asthma attacks annually; and
WHEREAS: Once again, the Administration is giving a massive gift to the energy companies that contributed heavily to the Bush campaign, despite comments from 130,000 concerned citizens opposing any move to weaken clean air rules; and
WHEREAS: It is difficult to imagine a more aggressive assault on our clean air protections, and while we hope and expect that many of these changes will be found to be illegal, a lot of people will suffer unnecessarily from heart and lung disease, and a lot of environmental damage will already be done

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the California Democratic Party urges the California Congressional Delegation to fight against the Administration’s proposal to gut key provisions of the Clean Air Act and instead work to expand it to include protections from old and dirty power plants and provide incentives for the use of cleaner fuels with a goal of developing sustainable, less-polluting methods of producing electricity.

Submitted by Luke Breit, Chair of the Environmental Caucus

Adopted December 7, 2002

Resolution Number MAN02.05
Universal Health Care

BE IT RESOLVED: That the California Democratic Party supports Universal Health Care for ALL Californians

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That the California Democratic Party urges the California Senate and Assembly to enact legislation providing for a Single Payer Health Care Initiative to be placed on the ballot for the Presidential Election of 2004 and urge that the Governor of California approve that this matter be placed on said ballot.

Submitted by Jim Clarke and the California Democratic Council

Adopted December 7, 2002

Resolution Number SAC02.05
Corporate Scandals - Bush & Cheney: Release Details Of Dealings

WHEREAS: The nation’s economy has been rocked by the emergence of corporate scandal after corporate scandal, shaking the faith of the American people in our economic system with each tale of insider trading, inflation of earnings, accounting fraud, obstruction of justice, and outrageous and greedy behavior on the part of countless corporate executives; and

WHEREAS: Tens of thousands of hard-working Americans have watched their pension funds and retirement savings disappear overnight while their companies’ executives have walked off with multi-millions; and

WHEREAS: The Bush Administration has failed to demonstrate leadership on the issue of corporate responsibility by disclosing the details of President Bush’s dealings with “Harkengate” and Vice President Cheney’s involvement in the accounting scandals of Halliburton

NOW THERE BE IT RESOLVED: That the California Democratic Party fully supports the continuing efforts of our national Democratic leaders to crack down on corporate fraud and to protect the American people from the greed of irresponsible corporate executives and corrupt accounting firms

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That the California Democratic Party calls upon the Bush Administration to release all of the details of the President’s and the Vice President’s dealings with Harken, Enron and Halliburton to the American people, including but not limited to the deliverance of documents and the reporting of related events both prior and since the inauguration of the President and the Vice President.

Submitted by Senator Art Torres (Ret.), Chair, California Democratic Party

Adopted August 3, 2002

Resolution Number SAC02.02
Equity Of Costs Of Medical Care

WHEREAS: Kaiser Permanente has merged its Northern California and Southern California regions into a single statewide organization; and

WHEREAS: The stated purpose of the merger was to establish a more efficient, economical, coordinated program for attending the needs of seniors, and to provide them with more affordable quality healthcare; and

WHEREAS: The costs of benefits of the Senior Advantage Program in Northern California remains significantly higher than in Southern California, despite Kaiser’s merger of the two regions

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the California Democratic Party urges Kaiser Permanente in Northern California to take action to establish equity of members’ costs with the costs for Senior Advantage members in Southern California by reducing the current $80 monthly premium in Northern California to $57 per month, and increasing the annual cap on prescription drugs from the current $1,000 to $2,000

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That copies of this resolution be sent to the Federation of Retired Union Members (FORUM), the Senior Action Network, Congress of California Seniors, other senior organizations such as AARP, as well as to the State Assembly and State Senate members and the CEO of Kaiser, urging their support for equity of costs of medical care for all senior Kaiser members throughout California.

Submitted by the Sonoma County Democratic Central Committee (Contact: Anne Devereaux)

Adopted August 3, 2002
Resolution Number SAC02.04
Global Warming: Reducing Carbon Dioxide Emissions
WHEREAS: Global Warming, one of the most serious environmental problems facing our world today, could lead to a significant rise in the sea level, flooding coastal areas, changes in rainfall patterns that could adversely affect agricultural production, a reduction of California’s water supplies, increased incidences of diseases caused by increases in air pollution, and more wildfires; and
WHEREAS: California, though home to only 0.5% of the world’s population, creates nearly 7% of the global carbon dioxide emissions, and motor vehicles emits 57% of the carbon dioxide the State produces; and
WHEREAS: California, as the only state under federal law that can pass its own motor vehicle pollution standards, has long been the leader in air quality issues, setting standards that have cut smog-forming pollutants by 90%, pioneering the use of such critical air pollution control technologies as the three-way catalyst and unleaded gasoline, and pushing automobile manufacturers to offer zero-emissions vehicles to consumers
NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the California Democratic Party, recognizing the failed leadership of the Bush Administration and the Republicans on the issue of global warming and the leadership role that California is playing in reducing national carbon dioxide emissions, gives its full support to the new California law, the Global Warming Act, signed by Governor Gray Davis on July 22, 2002.
Submitted by Bob Mulholland, DNC Member
Adopted August 3, 2002

Resolution Number SAC02.01
Justin Dart, Jr.
WHEREAS: The California Democratic Party marks with sadness the recent passing of Justin Dart, Jr., outstanding human rights advocate and pioneer of the disability rights movement; and,
WHEREAS: Justin Dart’s efforts over many years culminated with the passage and enactment of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) in 1990 and, in 1998, he was awarded the Medal of Freedom, this country's highest civilian decoration by President Bill Clinton; and
WHEREAS: The life and work of Justin Dart, Jr. has inspired the work of the California Democratic Party Disability Caucus and thousands of disability advocates across the country
NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the California Democratic Party honors the memory of Justin Dart, Jr. by reaffirming its dedication to the proposition that all Californians with disabilities shall enjoy full, fair and equitable access to employment, education health care without fear of discrimination on the basis of a disability.
Submitted by Francie Moeller, Chair, Disabilities Caucus
Adopted August 3, 2002

Resolution Number SAC02.06
Oppose Creation Of National Association Health Plan
WHEREAS: The creation of a national Association Health Plan (AHP) would leave many working families without access to important health care facilities and services, including emergency rooms, mental health care, dental care, substance abuse therapy, hospice care, chiropractic care, cancer screenings, and maternity care; and
WHEREAS: The creation of a national AHP would, according to the Congressional Budget Office, result in higher premiums for 20 million Americans; and
WHEREAS: There are many well-publicized instances of fraud and financial insolvency associated with AHP-style plans, resulting in thousands of unpaid claims and members left uninsured
NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the California Democratic Party joins the AFL-CIO, the Consumers Union, the American Nurses Association, the Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees, the Service Employees International Union, the United Cerebral Palsy Association, the National Association for the Mentally Ill, the Consumer Federation of America, and many other organizations in opposing the creation of a National Association Health Plan
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That the California Democratic Party calls upon Congress to protect the right of working families to access vital health care services.
Submitted by Senator Art Torres (Ret.), CDP Chair
Adopted August 3, 2002

Resolution Number SACL02.02
Opposing The Appointment Of Priscilla Owen To The U.S. Court Of Appeals For The Fifth Circuit
WHEREAS: The American people have never endorsed George W. Bush’s right-wing agenda and in view of the fact that his extreme right-wing lifetime appointments to the federal judiciary have the potential to deeply influence and change life in America far beyond Bush’s stay in the White House; and
WHEREAS: Priscilla Owen, a right-wing activist, who is far out of the mainstream and who has used the Texas judiciary to try to Lochner or legislate her right-wing agenda, has been nominated to a lifetime appointment on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit, a court to which other circuits occasionally look in areas of unsettled law, and, if approved, will be in a position to be appointed to the U.S. Supreme Court, where we will all be subjected to her extreme viewpoints, and
WHEREAS: Priscilla Owen has a history of judicial activism, dissents and opinions restricting women’s reproductive freedom, the right of workers to sue for discrimination or for workers compensation benefits and the right of environmentalists to clean water
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the California Democratic Party strongly urges U.S. Senator Dianne Feinstein to use all means necessary to oppose the nomination of Priscilla Owen to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit.
Submitted by Mark Hull-Richter, Natasha Hull-Richter, Alexander Hull-Richter, Demo Party of Orange County
Adopted August 3, 2002

Resolution Number SAC02.03
Steelworker Legacy Legislation
WHEREAS: The steel industry and its workers have been a mainstay in the U.S. economy for decades; and
WHEREAS: There is a movement to reduce the protection for the retirements and medical benefit of the workers; and
WHEREAS: This is an urgency situation that may affect not only the security but also the good health and standing for over 600,000 United Steelworkers of America (USWA) retirees and their families
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the California Democratic Party strongly opposes any efforts that would deny any reduction in retirements and medical benefits for these 600,000 steelworkers and their families
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That this resolution be submitted to the California U.S. Senators and the California Members of Congress urging them to fully support any legislation that would stop the diminution of the retirement and medical benefits of the retired steelworkers.
Submitted by Inola Henry and Bob “Big Red” Rankin
Adopted August 3, 2002

Resolution Number SAC02.01
Support Of California’s Wilderness Heritage
WHEREAS: Over the past 20 years, 675,000 acres of California's wild areas have been degraded, roughly equivalent to the size of Yosemite National Park, impacting both California's heritage and its economy, especially effecting travel and tourism, California's biggest industry, employing more than one million people; and
WHEREAS: The California Wild Heritage Wilderness Act of 2002 will protect 2.5 million acres of existing federal land by designating such areas as wilderness and giving wild and scenic status to free flowing portions of 22 rivers, protecting many animal and plant species from the threat of development and protect the drinking water of millions of Californians, and would additionally provide funding to establish a program to provide economic development grants to communities, and to promote tourism near the new wilderness areas; and,
WHEREAS: The act will protect areas which are already owned by the American people without impacting the property rights of private land owners within the wilderness or activities necessary to protect public health and safety, such as firefighting, and that uses by Native American Tribes for spiritual, cultural, or subsistence practices are permitted to continue; now, therefore,
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the California Democratic Party strongly supports protection and establishment of wilderness areas consistent with the concepts of the California Wild Heritage Act of 2002 and commends California's great Senator Barbara Boxer for her continued championship of measures to protect and enhance the environment and to promote all Californians’ rightful heritage.
Submitted by Steve Preminger, Chair, Santa Clara CCC & Luke Breit, Chair, Environmental Caucus
Adopted August 3, 2002

2003
Resolution Number SAC03.15
Broadcast Media in the U.S.A. & Federal Communications Commission (FCC)
WHEREAS: A strong American democracy requires an informed electorate, which depends for news and information upon a fair, honest, accessible, genuinely competitive and accountable broadcast media, and in awareness that said media has a uniquely crucial constitutional role as a “fourth estate” in American society, and
WHEREAS: A robust American broadcast media emerges from a reasonable regulatory structure which promotes: 1) a diverse and distributed ownership, which is competitive, creative and innovative in its pursuit of markets for news and entertainment, as well as being locally responsible; 2) the active encouragement of minority voices, representing the vital diversity of the American public; 3) the implementation of “Fairness” policies which guarantee representative citizen media access to present alternative and opposing points of view whenever partisan political opinions or content is presented, and
WHEREAS: American broadcast media has, in the last twenty years, undergone an unprecedented consolidation of ownership to the point now that a few virtual monopolies have a potentially dangerous de facto control over what the American people see and hear, a situation made worse by the recent FCC vote for further deregulation, which was a grave disservice to the public whose interests (expressed by hundreds of thousands of citizen emails, letters and telegrams which were 97% in opposition to further deregulation) have not at all been served by the Commissioners in their rush to deregulate,
NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the California Democratic Party calls upon the California Democratic delegation to the U.S. House of Representatives and the state’s two Democratic Senators to contact the Federal Communications Commission, chaired by Mr. Michael Powell, and urge them to rescind their vote to further deregulate FCC restrictions which limit ownership and that the California Democratic delegation to the House and Senate vote to overturn the FCC’s recent decision
THEREFORE BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED: That the California Democratic Party urges the Democratic National Committee to, as a matter of long-term policy in Platform and legislative actions, take all steps to nurture a deep American democracy with a revitalized media licensing and regulatory structure which will take all reasonable measures to reinstate restrictions in media ownership, prevent conflicts of interest between corporate ownership and news reporting, reinstate a strong workable Fairness Doctrine and, in addition, take all steps to promote a strong alternative independent non-commercial media to help provide counterpoint and balance for the citizens of the United States of America.
Written by Louis Vandenberg (Nominee for U.S. Congress, 44th CD, Member Riverside and Orange County Democratic Central Committees, Founder/Acting President Riverside Democratic Club)
Sponsored by the Riverside Democratic Central Committee
Adopted June 28, 2003

Resolution Number OAK03.07
Califonia State Employees Fairness Resolution
WHEREAS: The California Democratic Party has consistently taken a stand for all workers supporting fairness, equality and justice, and
WHEREAS: The California State Employees have for far too long suffered the brunt when our state legislators have not been able to deliver the annual budget to our governor for signature; and
WHEREAS: The California State Employees and many other state, local and educational employees are annually subjected to not receiving payment of wages once budget impasse has begun
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the California Democratic Party be on record in full support of our legislators taking action to ensure all state, county, educational and municipal employees continue to receive their full payment of wages, regardless of budget status
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That the California Democratic Party unites with the California State Employees Association (CSEA), Local 1000, SEIU, AFL-CIO, CLC and all other organizations who subscribe to fairness, equity and social justice in supporting full payment for all California State Employees, regardless of budget status.
Submitted by: Perry Kenny, CSEA President; Steven Alari, CSEA Executive Vice President; Raymond Cordova, Regional Director, Region 18
Adopted June 28, 2003

Resolution Number OAK03.05
Cross-Border Trucking
WHEREAS: The introduction of Mexican Domiciled trucks under the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) into the United States has been temporarily stayed by the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals; and
WHEREAS: The introduction of such trucks will lead to the loss of hundreds of thousands of jobs in the State of California, and will have an adverse environmental impact on California; and
WHEREAS: The wages, benefits, hours of work and working conditions of the drivers of such trucks will undermine the standards established by the trucking industry and the California Vehicle Laws, such introduction is adverse to the safety and health of the citizens of California
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the California Democratic Party opposes the introduction of cross-border trucking until the above-concerns are addressed and the Mexican Trade Unions are allowed to freely and completely organize.
Submitted by Al Ybarra, Central Committee Member; Sponsored by Orange County Democratic Party, DNC and CDP Labor Caucus
Adopted June 28, 2003

Resolution Number SACL03.32
End Budget Gridlock
WHEREAS: The California Constitution contains provisions, requiring a two-thirds vote of the Legislature for passage of the State budget and for any increase in revenues, that are undemocratic and obstructionist; denying the voters to decide whether or not such budgets or revenue increases were justifiable; and
WHEREAS: There is a long history of overdue budgets and the recent budget crisis has made more apparent the inefficiency and impropriety of these provisions; and
WHEREAS: The Legislature is currently considering a number of drafts and plans for an amendment with regard to the State budget procedure
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the California Democratic Party recommends that any budget amendment be created meeting the following parameters:
That no more than an absolute majority vote of each house of the Legislature be required for passage of the budget;
That the Legislature be given the option to pass either an annual or biennial budget;
That the Governor and the Legislators have their salaries and compensation for travel expenses suspended, per diem, from the period after June 30, of each year in which budget enactment is overdue and until such enactment; and
That it addresses the required super majority for the increase of revenues setting the required majority to no more than 60% of the membership of each house.
Submitted by Isaac Kight, Santa Cruz County Democratic Central Committee 5th District
Adopted June 28, 2003

Resolution Number OAK03.11
End Unilateral Intervention
WHEREAS: In reports such as “Rebuilding America’s Defenses: Strategy, Forces and Resources for a New Century” from The Project for the New American Century, members of the Bush Administration in and out of government for the past 10 years have promoted various plans for increasing our unilateral authority around the world by military increases; and
WHEREAS: Such an aggressive policy alienates people and nations around the world from the United States, cripples the structures for assuring international peace and damages our economy; and
WHEREAS: Such an approach is contrary to the principles on which this republic was founded; and
NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the California Democratic Party opposes the concepts in the “Rebuilding America’s Defenses” report by the Project for the New American Century and seeks alternative policies that restores America’s historic role in the world community.
Sponsored by the Ventura County Democratic Central Committee, March 25, 2003; Amended and Sponsored by the 35th Assembly District Committee and The Democratic Club of Ventura, April 16, 2003
Adopted June 28, 2003

Resolution Number OAK03.14
Funding Civil Rights Enforcement In California
WHEREAS: The Department of Fair Employment and Housing (DFEH) provides a core function in our society – the ability to live and work free from discrimination – by protecting Californians from unlawful discrimination in employment, housing and public accommodation, and from acts of hate violence, and by providing broader protection from employment and housing discrimination than the United States government does when the federal government excludes the disabled, elderly, gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender Californians, or those entitled to paid medical or family leave from protection through the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC); and
WHEREAS: The State Legislature plans to cut $3 million from the current DFEH budget, which suffered extensive cuts in the last three years, and which will result in closing two major offices, increasing DFEH investigators’ caseloads to 114 cases (triple EEOC investigators’ caseloads), and severely impacting the DFEH’s ability to prevent discrimination and hate crimes; and
WHEREAS: The California Democratic Party, along with other progressive Democrats and Democratic organizations, has fought to eradicate discrimination in housing and employment since the early 1950s – a fight that helped lead to the formation of the DFEH in 1959 – and it knows that hard-won rights in the past can be undone by not keeping in place the governmental structures designed to protect those rights
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the California Democratic Party communicates to the California State Legislature the significance of restoring the $3 million it is trying to cut from the current DFEH budget, the devastating impact of the drastic cuts planned for future DFEH budgets, and the need to make eradication of housing and employment discrimination a priority by continuing to fund the DFEH at its current level or a greater level
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That the California Democratic Party informs each California legislator and statewide Constitutional officeholders of its support for the DFEH, and its expectation that the Governor and Legislature will restore and if possible increase DFEH funding and that eradication of housing and employment discrimination will remain a state priority.

CADEM
www.cadem.org
**Resolution Number OAK03.12**

**Genuine Measures To Support Our Troops & Veterans**

WHEREAS: The California Democratic Party gives 100% support to the men and women in our Armed Forces, salutes them for their sacrifice on behalf of our nation and gratefully thanks them for their willingness to risk their lives for us and our democratic institutions; and

WHEREAS: We were surprised to learn that the House Budget Committee’s Republican majority, while professing to support our soldiers, sailors, marines and air force, instead voted to cut the Department of Veterans Affairs’ budget by $25 billion over the next ten years to reduce the Impact Aid program which supports the education of our soldiers’ children by $204 million; and

WHEREAS: The Bush Administration has ordered the Department of Veterans Affairs to limit veterans’ access to health care and benefits by ordering the VA to stop publicizing the availability of such benefits, and even knowing that in the last Gulf War the health of our troops was compromised by exposure to destroyed chemical weapons, oil fires, depleted uranium and experimental drugs resulting in the possible disabling of more than 163,000 veterans, and despite the requirement of the 1997 Force Health Protection Law (Public Law 1-5-85), the Administration is failing to identify those military personnel whose health may be at risk due to similar environmental factors, all of which demonstrates that the President and the Republican members of Congress are not in fact providing true support of our veterans, active duty troops and reservists and their families.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the California Democratic Party calls for an increase in government spending for veterans, including special attention to health problems, and we support higher pay and benefits for all service members and their families, and that this resolution be sent to members of Congress and the Senate from the State of California.

Submitted by Steve Preminger, Chair, on behalf of SCCDCC; Sponsored by CDP Veterans Caucus & Federation of Retired Union Workers

Adopted June 28, 2003

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**Resolution Number SACL03.17**

**Guaranteed Access To Discount Prescription Drugs In The United States And Canada**

WHEREAS: The cost efficiencies of bulk purchases are salient business practices sought and enjoyed by all corporations because they offer a cost-cutting benefit to the buyer; and

WHEREAS: No corporation would consent to and offer such size-dependent discounts for their products unless it profited on increased sales, it is evident that GlazoSmithKline Pharmaceutical Corporation is engaged in unfair practice by refusing to sell prescription drugs to Canadian pharmacies that sell such medications at the discounted price to United States citizens; and

WHEREAS: Such refusal to deal is detrimental to the health of more than two million Americans who rely on Canadian pharmacies to provide prescription drugs at a fair price

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the California Democratic Party calls upon the U.S. House and Senate to support the free market system and guarantee access to discount prescription medications in Canada and the United States by refusing federal funds to any company, whether domestic or international, engaged in such unfair pricing strategies.

Submitted by 70th ADDC

Adopted June 28, 2003

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**Resolution Number SAC03.10**

**Health Care for All**

WHEREAS: Nearly seven million Californians have no health insurance despite the fact that we spend more per person on health care than any other industrialized country and Californians with insurance now experience increased premiums, co-pays and deductibles, and decreased benefits with less choice of providers; and

WHEREAS: Health outcomes in the United States and California rank below those in every other industrialized country – IN 1999, the California Legislature and the Governor, called for a study of options to expand health care coverage; and

WHEREAS: The California Health and Human Services Agency performed a study of nine health reform proposals and compared their costs, coverage and quality (the Health Care Options Project), the HCOP study showed that three of the reform plans could provide all Californians with high quality coverage for less than we now spend on health care

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the California Democratic Party now reaffirms its support for a health system reform that provides health coverage to all Californians

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: The California Democratic Party recognizes the urgency of seeking solutions to one of America’s greatest problems, and calls on our elected officials from all levels of government, and those seeking office, to work with consumers, businesses, and health care providers to ensure that:
Everyone, including the self-employed, unemployed, uninsured and underinsured and small business owners, has access to a plan similar to what federal employees receive;

Everyone, including employers, consumers, and the state, local and federal government makes a responsible fair contribution to finance the health care system; and

Everyone receives high quality health care that is cost-efficient and medically effective.

Sponsored by the California Democratic Council, February 8, 2003, Jim B. Clarke, CDC President

Adopted June 28, 2003

Resolution Number SACL03.03
Heritage Trees
WHEREAS: Heritage Trees, defined as trees older than the state of California, are a precious resource to all, including future generations; and
WHEREAS: Property, harvest, and construction rights can be exercised in such a way that home construction and harvest can be done around Heritage Trees
NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That Heritage Trees shall no longer be logged, cut, or otherwise clearly destroyed, and natural habitat and ecosystems shall be preserved wherever and whenever possible
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That a review board be established to enforce these rules, any disputes being settled by arbitration.

Submitted by Joey Racano
Adopted June 28, 2003

Resolution Number OAKL03.05
Message To Republican Legislators: Pass A Budget Or Resign
WHEREAS: The State of California is currently operating a budget due to the requirement of a 2/3 vote and the refusal of Republican legislators to agree to vote for a balanced budget; and
WHEREAS: Controller Steve Westly has announced that if a state budget is not passed, payments to community colleges and other education entities, nursing homes, vendors and many other payments will not be made and that further inaction will lead to a possible shutdown of state operations; and
WHEREAS: The Republican legislators refusal to do their job is based on their desire to support a recall of Governor Gray Davis and assume no responsibility for any of California's budget problems
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT: The California Democratic Party (CDP) calls upon the voters of California to demand that Republican legislators fulfill their responsibility to the people of California by responsibly participating in our legislative process and immediately pass a budget or resign
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT: The members of the CDP join with Assembly Speaker Herb Wesson and the members of the Assembly by putting pressure on key members of the legislature to obtain votes for passing the budget.

Submitted by the Resolutions Committee
Adopted June 28, 2003

Resolution Number SACL03.27 Reaffirmation
(ANA01.14 was adopted at CDP’s 2001 State Convention)
Moratorium On The Death Penalty
WHEREAS: The United States is alone among Western countries in continuing to have a death penalty; and
WHEREAS: There have been so many cases of people on death row being found innocent that it raises the question of how many innocent people have been executed; and
WHEREAS: The death penalty has not been shown to be applied fairly across demographic groups nor to have any measurable deterrent effects
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the California Democratic Party calls upon Governor Gray Davis to impose an immediate moratorium on the death penalty in California and appoint a Commission to review the death penalty policies to ensure that they are fairly applied to all those accused and to ensure due process of law and adequate representation of counsel.
Submitted by Santa Clara County Committee; Sponsored by Metropolitan Greater Oakland Demo Club; Alameda County Demo Lawyers, etc.
Adopted June 28, 2003

Resolution Number SAC03.25
Oil And A National Energy Policy
WHEREAS: The world’s political stability is dependent upon the world’s satisfaction with the fair and equitable exploitation of its petroleum resources; and
WHEREAS: The United States is a net importer of petroleum form OPEC and other petroleum producing nations; and
WHEREAS: The United States’ dependence upon OPEC petroleum places the United States in a precarious position regarding insured petroleum availability at moderate prices

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the California Democratic Party urges the 2004 Democratic Presidential candidates, President George W. Bush and the Congress to formulate a new energy policy to decrease our reliance upon OPEC petroleum substantially over the coming years, toward the objective of decreasing the United States’ need for OPEC oil to such a degree as to weaken OPEC nations’ political advantage regarding petroleum resources.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That this proposed American energy policy involve the formation of a broadly-constituted body, working under public and congressional oversight, to design a paradigm shift to design an economy which would be far less reliant upon foreign as well as domestic petroleum and which would encourage the development and use of clean-burning alternative fuels.

Submitted by the Riverside County Democratic Party Central Committee
Adopted June 28, 2003

Resolution Number SAC03.16
Old-Growth Forest Preservation
WHEREAS: During the past 150 years, California has lost as much as 95% of its original old-growth forests which are crucial for sustaining life, ensuring clean water, purifying the air, protecting fish and wildlife, regulating climate, stabilizing soil, and preventing landslides, and restraining the effects of global warming and climate change by ridding the air of carbon dioxide, which is released when coal, oil and other fossil fuels are burned; and
WHEREAS: Through the introduction of a “wildlife prevention” program that would do little to fight actual wildfires while doing much to increase the timber industry’s access to old-growth trees, the Bush Administration is acting to undermine protection of the national forests, owned by the people, which under current law are supposed to be managed for wildlife and recreation, with timber only if not in conflict with the first two; and
WHEREAS: Two-thirds of California’s urban water supply comes from and is dependent upon forested watersheds

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the California Democratic Party urges the California Congressional Delegation to actively oppose the Bush Administration’s policy of decimating our national forestlands.

Submitted by CDP Environmental Caucus (Luke Breit, Chair & Barbara Graves, Sec)
Adopted June 28, 2003

Resolution Number OAK03.16
Oppose Bush Administration’s Plan To Contract-Out National Park Functions
WHEREAS: The National Park Director has said that plans to contract-out key National Park functions will devastate our National Park system; and
WHEREAS: The jobs that the Bush Administration wishes to contract-out include historians, naturalists, archeologists and other scientists whose jobs are highly technical and who are not easily replaced

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the California Democratic Council opposes proposals by Bush aids to contract-out key National Park functions.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That the California Democratic Council informs U.S. Senators Barbara Boxer and Dianne Feinstein and Democratic members of Congress from California, of this position.

Submitted by the Alhambra Democratic Club and the California Democratic Council
Adopted June 28, 2003

Resolution Number OAK03.01A Reaffirmation
(Resolution SAC03.13 was adopted at CDP’s 2003 State Convention)
Oppose The Recall Of California Governor Gray Davis
WHEREAS: The Republican Party could not defeat Governor Gray Davis fair and square, so now they are trying an expensive trick of qualifying a recall effort triggering a special election that will cost California taxpayers $40 million dollars; and
WHEREAS: The Republican recall effort is a waste of taxpayers’ hard earned money at a time when California, along with almost every other state, is facing a budget deficit due to a failing national economy and exacerbated by a Republican driven federal fiscal plan which cuts education, healthcare and public safety assistance to states and produces a $38 billion deficit, the largest in the country’s history; and
WHEREAS: The Republicans and their recall allies are attempting to divert attention away from their own failures and dismal leadership within the state, especially now that for the first time since 1882, California Democrats hold every statewide office

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the California Democratic Party opposes the Republican right-wing recall effort of Governor Gray Davis as a cynical, arrogant grab for power and an abuse of our constitutional process, thereby thwarting the will of the people and voter of California.
Submitted by Senator Art Torres (Ret.), Chair, California Democratic Party, Assembly Speaker Herb Wesson, San Francisco Mayor Willie Brown, Alice Huffman, DNC, Thomas Romero, CDP Dir., Region 1, California Democratic Council, Alhambra Democratic Club
Adopted June 28, 2003

Resolution Number OAKL03.01
Opposition To The FTAA (Free Trade Area Of The Americas)
WHEREAS: NAFTA (North American Free Trade Agreement), The model for the FTAA, has been a failure. The United States has lost approximately 750,000 good-paying jobs as companies have pulled up stakes and moved to Mexico. The Mexican jobs lack Safety and Environmental Standards. The workers are paid so poorly that thousands of Mexican Nationals brave death by crossing the Southwest Dessert almost daily to try to get a better life in the United States; and
WHEREAS: The FTAA is a 34-country expansion of NAFTA, that will erode environmental, consumer and labor laws throughout North and South America as well as forcing the privatization of water, health care, education and culture; the FTAA would grant corporations the right to sue countries for financial compensation when public interest laws cut into profit margins thus undermining each nation’s sovereignty; and
WHEREAS: When the FTAA Ministerial meeting was held in Quito, Ecuador last October, thousands of protesters from all over the Americas including Local Indigenous leaders, campesinos (Latin-American Indian farmers and peasants), students, trade unionists, environmental activists, women’s groups and others traveled to Quito by bus and foot to demand that the Ministers from the 34 countries reject the FTAA
THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED: That the California Democratic Party oppose the FTAA and urge that the Ministers from all 34 countries reject the FTAA at the next Ministerial meeting which will be held in Miami, Florida on November 21-22, 2003.
THEREFORE LET IT BE FURTHER RESOLVED: That a copy of this resolution be sent to all of our elected Senators and Members of the House of Representatives and urge them to also openly oppose the FTAA at the Ministerial meeting in Miami in November 21-22, 2003.

Submitted by Robert “Big Red” Rankin, DNC Member
Adopted June 28, 2003

Resolution Number OAK03.15
Opposition To Using Seniors As 65% Of Normal People
WHEREAS: The Bush Administration has used cost-benefit analysis studies for air pollution which count Seniors as only 65% of the typical person and plans to force the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to use a life expectancy factor in its studies; and
WHEREAS: Everyone has the absolute right to expect that the government will strive to maximize air purity; and
WHEREAS: Everyone has a moral right to equal government protection
THERFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the California Democratic Party opposes the use of “cost benefit” analysis which values (or devalues) people by age
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That the California Democratic Party informs U.S. Senators Boxer and Feinstein and the Democratic members of Congress from California of this position.
Submitted by the Alhambra Democratic Club and the California Democratic Council
Adopted June 28, 2003

Resolution Number OAK03.13
Protecting Constitutional Rights
WHEREAS: Efforts to protect the country against terrorism are best served by legislation directly focused on effective anti-terrorism measures, not legislation such as the proposed Domestic Security Enhancement Act (DSEA) that sacrifices two centuries of constitutional liberties in exchange for no increase in domestic security; and
WHEREAS: The proposed DSEA contains new and sweeping law enforcement and intelligence gathering powers not related to terrorism that severely undermine many basic constitutional rights by:
Removing important checks on government surveillance, thereby diminishing the constitutional right to personal privacy;
Reducing the accountability of the federal government to the public by hiding government actions affecting civil liberties and rights;
Expanding the definition of “terrorism” in a manner that undermines the constitutionally protected rights to freedom of speech, religion, association and the press; and
Eroding the rights of all persons to due process of law; and
WHEREAS: The proposed DSEA removes the 2006 expiration date of the original USA Patriot Act, making the USA PATRIOT Act’s nullification of certain provisions of the Bill of Rights permanent, and the DSEA includes further permanent restrictions on the remaining rights
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the California Democratic Party (CDP) opposes any legislation similar to the proposed Domestic Security Enhancement Act (DSEA), sometimes called PATRIOT II, which would trade the protections of the Bill of Rights for no increase in
domestic security, and calls on Congress to oppose any such legislation and to monitor if not rescind the powers already granted in the USA PATRIOT Act.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the California Congressional delegation conveying the CDP's concern that the passage of such legislation surrenders to terrorism because it denies that terrorism can be fought and defeated with the constitutional exercise of power and the traditional respect for basic rights.

Submitted by the El Cerrito Democratic Club and the California Democratic Council
Adopted June 28, 2003

Resolution Number SAC03.20
Reproductive Rights & Biological Research
WHEREAS: The California Democratic Party has advocated positions that maximize the freedoms of all Americans; and
WHEREAS: The California Democratic Party has supported the Roe v. Wade 1973 Supreme Court decision which defended a woman’s right to decide to carry a pregnancy to birth; and
WHEREAS: The Democratic Party has opposed President George Bush’s policies to restrict advances in biological research concerning human reproduction and the availability of family planning services in government hospitals
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: The California Democratic Party reaffirm its adherence to the principle that a pluralistic and secular society ultimately serves all Americans best by leaving the matters of reproduction and family planning to the American family rather than the government.
THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That the California Democratic Party urges the President and Congress to make family planning services available to all Americans in all federally-supported installations, to which all Americans are entitled under law.
Submitted by Riverside County Central Committee
Adopted June 28, 2003

Resolution Number SACL03.34
Request The Resignation Of Rep. Howard Coble (R-NC) As Chair Of The House Judiciary Subcommittee On Crime, Terrorism & Homeland Security
WHEREAS: The communities of 290,000 Japanese-Americans in California is one of the largest in the nation and has been characterized through a long history of adversity, hard work, community initiative, heartache, triumphs, indomitable spirits and hope for the future. Of the 120,000 Japanese American men, women, and children interned during World War II under Executive Order 9066, the majority of them citizens of this country, close to 93,000 of these internees were Californians, in one of the most reprehensible and tragic moments in American history; and
WHEREAS: Asian-Americans across the nation have been outraged by remarks made by Representative Howard Coble (R-NC) on radio call-in show on WKZL-FM in North Carolina on Tuesday, February 5, 2003 supporting the internment of over 120,000 Japanese-Americans in World War II; and
WHEREAS: Representative Coble’s remarks supporting the internment of Japanese-Americans during World War II is a shameless attempt to rewrite history and to ignore its painful lessons and in these critical and difficult times it is important that our political leaders remember to uphold the values of the Constitution to ensure that everyone is protected. As Chair of the House Judiciary Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism and Homeland Security, Representative Coble should have displayed more leadership in understanding the need to protect civil liberties of all Americas -- the Congressman’s remarks clearly illustrate his inability to fulfill this responsibility.
NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the California Democratic Party joins national Asian-American and Pacific Islander organizations to condemn Congressman Howard Coble for remarks he made in supporting the internment of over 120,000 Japanese-Americans in World War II.
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the California Democratic Party joins national Asian-American and Pacific Islander organizations to call for Congressman Howard Coble to not only issue an apology for his callous remarks but to also step down from his current post as chair of the House Judiciary Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism and Homeland Security.
Submitted by Robert Dhondrup, 16th AD Committee
Adopted June 28, 2003

Resolution Number SACL03.14
Save All California Environmental & Land-Use Laws
WHEREAS: The Bush Administration is suing Los Angeles County in Federal Court, seeking to overturn the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA); the Surface and Mining Reclamation Act (SMARA) and other laws protecting clean water, clean air, fish and game, local land-use authority and environmental protection; and
WHEREAS: The Bush Federal lawsuit seeks to pre-empt all local laws to reverse the denial of permits for the CEMEX Sand and Gravel Mine, the largest sand and gravel mine ever proposed by the Bureau of Land Management in the United States history, which is opposed by over 105 elected public officials and an unprecedented coalition of labor, business, government, media, environmental, political leaders and groups as well as the Democratic Party of Los Angeles County, the San Fernando Valley and five other Democratic Clubs; and
WHEREAS: California environmental- and land-use laws are vital to the health, safety, environmental and economic well-being of all Californians
NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the California Democratic Party urges California state and federal elected officials to seek all administrative, legal and legislative means to preserve and protect California law and authority
THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That the California Democratic Party asks our State to seek intervention in the federal cases that undermine California’s environmental laws and land-use authority; and that copies of this resolution be forwarded to the Democratic National Party and our state and federal legislators.
Submitted by: Ron Gillis, CDP Region 11 Director Trustee College of the Canyons, and Roberta Gillis, President on behalf of the Democratic Club of Santa Clarita Valley; Sponsored by CDP Environmental Caucus
Adopted June 28, 2003

Resolution Number SACL03.37
Seeking To Increase Youth Voter Registration
WHEREAS: Voter registration is lowest for 18-21 year olds not only in California, but nationwide; and
WHEREAS: Current law requires a voter to be 18 years of age by the next election regardless whether it be a primary or general election, discouraging many young people from participating in the political process as a voter while they still have ties to their community and denies them a say in picking their party nominee who will be on the ballot in November; and
WHEREAS: Many of these 17-year-olds are active politically either by volunteering on local campaigns for community service credit or are taking government classes in high school, yet are not allowed to take ownership in the political process by voting until they are away at college; and
WHEREAS: Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, Kentucky and West Virginia understand the need to better involve young people in the voting process and have permitted young people at least 17 and who will turn 18 by the next general election to vote in interceding primaries and special elections since 1972
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: The California Democratic Party supports California citizens who turn 18 years of age by the general election to vote in any interceding primary or special election.
Submitted by Andrew Lachman, 42nd AD Committee
Adopted June 28, 2003

Resolution Number SAC03.22
Special Education: Federal Funding
WHEREAS: Congress enacted the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) to ensure that all children with disabilities in America have a free and appropriate public education, and California is committed to assuring such protections in order to meet the unique needs of these children; and
WHEREAS: Since 1975 when the legislation was first enacted as well as in the current reauthorization of IDEA, federal law authorized appropriation levels for grants to states at 40% of the average per-pupil expenditure in public K-12 schools, but with the federal contribution currently only at approximately the 17% level and not the 40% level that would result in an additional $1 billion annually for California schools; and
WHEREAS: California requires school districts to make up the shortfall between costs of special education and the level of funding provided by the State and Federal governments by allocating local general funds for this purpose, thus creating a burden on local school districts
NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the California Democratic Party calls upon the President and Congress to provide the full 40% federal share of funding for special education programs so that California and other states will not be forced to take funding away from other vital state and local programs in order to fund these underfunded mandates
THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That the California Congressional delegation and the California Legislature work collaboratively to assure that new federal IDEA funds be allocated this session and be used to increase funding to local school districts for these important special education programs.
Submitted by 45th Assembly District Committee; Bob Farran, Executive Board Representative
 Adopted June 28, 2003
Support Of Licensing Naturopathic Physicians Of California

WHEREAS: The State of California has a critical unmet need for trained medical professions capable of providing family practice care to state residents; and a majority of California consumers currently use complementary and alternative medicine, but are unable to easily identify physician-level trained natural health practitioners; and, a recent UCSF study identified naturopathic high standards based in the safety and efficacy of natural therapies in a progressive, collaborative research environment using rigorous scientific methods; and
WHEREAS: Usage of complementary and alternative medicine by Californians will promote overall wellness by increasing awareness and access to the benefits of a collaborative health care approach, which combines the best of both allopathic and natural healthcare; and, 12 other states currently license naturopathic physicians as primary care providers and enjoy the benefits and security of defined standards of care; and
WHEREAS: There is a significant threat to public health and safety of seeking medical care from under-trained or non-physician level trained health providers, as is evidenced by the recent death of a California consumer under the care of a self-proclaimed physician

BE IT RESOLVED: That the State should provide a structure for professional licensing and oversight of naturopathic physicians who are graduates of four-year accredited colleges.

Submitted by: Senator Art Torres (Ret.), Chair/CDP
Adopted June 28, 2003

Resolution Number OAK03.08
Support Of Repeal Of Deregulation

WHEREAS: Electricity is a unique commodity unlike any other, and reliable, clean and affordable electricity is essential to the California economy and the health, safety and welfare of its citizens and environment; and
WHEREAS: The State’s attempt to deregulate the electricity industry was an unmitigated failure and has proven to be the most expensive fraud ever perpetuated on consumers, costing Californians billions of dollars as a result of fraud, mismanagement and unethical, illegal and corrupt business practices, and resulted in a breach of the public trust; and
WHEREAS: Creating a “competitive” electricity market is not possible, given that a deregulated electricity market will always be subject to manipulation, the exercise of market power, and other market forces that serve to prioritize profit for private companies over the welfare of the state, its citizens and the environment

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the State of California must take immediate steps to repeal all past legislation, regulatory decisions, measures and acts that deregulated the electricity industry
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That the State of California, in the interest of all Californians, must adequately regulate the production, transmission and delivery of electricity to ensure a reliable, clean and affordable supply of this critical commodity.

Submitted by State Senator Joe Dunn
Adopted June 28, 2003

Resolution Number OAKL03.03
Support Of Workers At The Claremont Resort & Spa

WHEREAS: 140 spa workers employed by the Claremont Resort and Spa in Berkeley, California, wish to unionize with the Hotel Employees and Restaurant Employees (HERE) Local 2850 and have asked to employ card a check/neutrality process and enter into a Right To Organize agreement with the Claremont’s owners, KSL Recreation, who refuse this request; and
WHEREAS: KSL/Claremont management will not agree to a fair and reasonable raise and maintenance of employer-paid health insurance for an additional 160unionized food and beverage employees at the Claremont who are seeking a union contract; and
WHEREAS: KSL/Claremont management has suspended and fired Claremont employees from their jobs and interfered with their employees’ right to organize a union and these workers deserve secure and decent health benefits, wages, and respect on the job to benefit themselves and their families

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That the California Democratic Party endorses the right of the Claremont spa workers to unionize under the card check/neutrality process and encourage KSL/Claremont management to support their employees’ right to choose a union without fear or intimidation and support the right of their food and beverage workers to negotiate for and obtain a fair and adequate wage and benefit package
BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED: That the California Democratic Party opposes KSL/Claremont management’s “union busting” tactics and disciplining of employees for legal union activity and call for the reinstatement of all Claremont employees who have been suspended or fired for engaging in legal union organizing activities that are protected by law; and until such time that KSL/Claremont management respects their employees wishes, the California Democratic Party will refrain from doing business at the Claremont Resort and Spa and will encourage Democratic elected officials to do so as well.
Introduced by AS16 CA Democratic Party Delegate, API Caucus member, and Labor Caucus member Robert Dhondrup (IAM 1546, CWA 39521)

Adopted June 28, 2003

Resolution Number OAKL03.04
Support Qualified Filipino-American Democratic Candidates For State-Level Offices
WHEREAS: The Filipino-American community is the largest Asian-Paciﬁc/Islander (API) community in the state of California, and one of the longest existing API communities in California since the Spanish-American War; and
WHEREAS: The Filipino-American community has always loyally supported Democratic candidates for statewide and legislative ofﬁces; and
WHEREAS: There has never been a Filipino-American elected to the state legislature
THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That the California Democratic Party provides good-faith return to the Filipino-American community for their loyal support given to the Party
THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That the Filipino-American and Asian-Paciﬁc Islander Caucuses call on the California Democratic Party to afﬁrm its afﬁrmative action principles by supporting qualiﬁed Filipino-American and other minority Democratic candidates in state level ofﬁces.
Sponsored by the Filipino-American Caucus-CDP (Robert Dawa, Chair) and the Asian-Paciﬁc Islander Caucus-CDP (G. Nanjudappa, Chair)
Adopted June 28, 2003

Resolution Number SAC03.18
Supporting Funding of Public Schools
WHEREAS: For a number of years the Republican Party has advocated the use of public funds to support private and church-sponsored schools; and
WHEREAS: The Republican Party has adopted the language of capitalism to advocate accountability in the public schools, whose consequence include the closing of some public schools and the voiding of teachers’ union contracts in these schools; and
WHEREAS: The public schools continue to trail in the nation’s priorities as seen in the states’ per-capita expenditures per student
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the California Democratic Party oppose any plan to subsidize private or church-sponsored schools from public tax funds
FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED: That the California Democratic Party urge the Governor of the State of California and the State Legislature and the State Senate to find a stable and dependable means to fund the public schools.
Submitted by the Riverside County Democratic Party Central Committee
Adopted June 28, 2003

Resolution Number SAC03.19
Supporting Medicare And Prescription Drug Coverage
WHEREAS: Expenses continue to place the availability of health care and pharmaceutical drugs out of reach of many Americans; and
WHEREAS: Government-supervised administration of health care beneﬁt provision is far less costly than systems run on a for-proﬁt basis; and
WHEREAS: For-proﬁt medical care delivery systems must make proﬁts at the expense essential patient care
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the California Democratic Party opposes a proposal that would coerce seniors away from the traditional Medicare program and into a privatized system and support a drug delivery programs in the Medicare law that guarantees speciﬁc beneﬁts and deﬁned coverage for the seven out of eight seniors in America who are in the traditional Medicare program today
Submitted by the Riverside County Democratic Party Central Committee
Adopted June 28, 2003

Resolution Number SACL03.13
To Protect Voting Rights and Ensure Accuracy Of Results
WHEREAS: The only real way of checking the accuracy of voting machines is through a paper trail; and
WHEREAS: Without an express right of public inspection and testing of the source code for voting machine software, the public will have no assurance as to the accuracy of the results; and
WHEREAS: Private ownership of source code (software) used in public elections poses a threat to the integrity of the democratic process, and since allowance of last-minute voting machine modiﬁcations could create doubts as to the reliability of results from machines which receive the modifications
NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the California Democratic Party, in order to protect voting rights in California, recommends legislation requiring that all voting machines have a paper audit trail, that all voting software is the property of the people of California and open to public inspections and testing, and that no modifications to voting computers be allowed without public inspection of all the specifications of the modification, verification of the individuals seeking to apply the modification, and no modifications are to be allowed close to the election without judicial approval.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the California Democratic Party recommends criminal penalties and high civil fines for each violation of the recommended legislation.

Submitted by Alexander & Natasha Hull-Richter; Ruth & Mark Hull-Richter; Sponsored by Democratic Club of Central Orange County; Santa Cruz DCCC
Adopted June 28, 2003

Resolution Number SACL03.19
Veterans Benefits To World War II Filipino Veterans & To Honor All Veterans With Their Deserved Benefits
WHEREAS: Approximately 200,000 Filipino soldiers, called by their patriotic duty and sense of loyalty to the United States as U.S. nationals, defended the freedom and liberty of the United States against the Japanese invasion of the Philippine Islands, which at that time was a U.S. territory; and
WHEREAS: A majority of the United States forces that delayed the Japanese domination of the Pacific were Filipino Soldiers who sacrificed their lives and played a significant role in the Pacific Theater of operations under the command of the U.S. Armed Forces of the Far East; and
WHEREAS: After World War II the United States Congress passed the Rescission Act of 1946 on February 18 which unilaterally denied Filipino soldiers their rights to the GI Bill, military and veterans pensions and medical benefits, and since that date Filipino veterans have been fighting for their deserved recognition, respect and equity in benefits as honored to all U.S. veterans.
NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the California Democratic Party calls on all members of Congress to pass H.R. 491 and S.B. 1042 this legislative session, which would address the restitution of veterans’ benefits to Filipino veterans denied by the Rescission Act of 1946.
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the California Democratic Party additionally calls on Congress to confer all deserved military benefits to all veterans regardless of race, sex, class, geography, national origin, and religion.
Submitted by Asian Pacific Islander Democrats of San Diego County
Adopted June 28, 2003

Resolution Number OAK03.03
Voting Technology
WHEREAS: The Help America Vote Act (HAVA) requires voting systems to permit the voter to verify his or her vote privately before it is cast, requires that voting systems produce a record with an audit capacity and requires notice of overvoting (voting for more than one candidate for the same office); and
WHEREAS: The only way of achieving the above named requirements in a way that insures privacy and independence to voters with disabilities, including voters with vision impairments, is through the use of Digitally Recorded Electronic Systems; and
WHEREAS: Concerns have been raised about the possibility of error with vote tabulating after an election has been conducted, yet to add extra verification and audit capabilities by introducing additional paper ballots could require the necessity of poll worker involvement in the private voting process;
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the California Democratic Party urges Secretary of State Kevin Shelley to conduct a study that explores all reasonable and effective voting systems that protect voters’ privacy while casting votes, as well as preserving the security and accuracy of the vote counting process; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That the California Democratic Party asks the Secretary of State to report the findings of the study at the earliest possibility.
Submitted by Steve Preminger, Chair, Santa Clara County Central Cmte.
Adopted June 28, 2003

Resolution Number SAC03.06
Empowerment Zones
WHEREAS: African-Americans have been long and consistent supporters of the Democratic Party in the State of California, voting eighty (80%) to ninety (90%) percent for Democratic candidates; and
WHEREAS: Urban area neighborhoods with high crime rates and poverty often have significant African-American populations as well as other minority communities
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the California Democratic Party calls upon the California Legislature to seek the assistance of the Federal government in conjunction with state legislation to provide economic and social empowerment zones in economically distressed urban areas that address the following:
Implement targeted educational reform to assure full access to educational opportunities for African-American and other youth in public schools toward significant increases in graduate rates and college enrollment with support for tuition and text books;
Implement financial incentives for business development especially small business entrepreneurship within these empowerment zones within the state, and implement a security fund to offset the cost of high insurance rates for business and consumers within these zones;
Work to improve property values by implementing improved public services such as street lights and improved streetscapes;
Improve law enforcement activities based on creative and new programs implemented by police agencies that have empowerment zones in their communities;
Implement a program with private landowners of vacant property to create recreational parks in a public/private partnership by providing financial incentives to develop and/or upgrade parks within these empowerment zones.
Submitted by 47th Assembly District Committee and Theodore J. Smith III, Esq., Acting Chair of the African-American Caucus
Adopted March 16, 2003

Resolution Number SAC03.02
Honoring The Life Of Robert M. Holstein
WHEREAS: The life of Robert “Bob” Holstein is an example of the values and principles of the California Democratic Party put into concrete action; and
WHEREAS: Robert “Bob” Holstein was a steadfast supporter of California working families and their right to organize in order to ensure a living wage, safe working conditions and the dignity of all California workers; and
WHEREAS: Robert “Bob” Holstein was extremely generous with his time, talents and treasures in support of the national, state and local Democratic Party
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the California Democratic Party do honor the life of an exemplary Democrat and life-long friend of the labor movement, Robert “Bob” Holstein.
Submitted by the Riverside County Central Committee, San Bernardino and Riverside counties Central Labor Council and Congressman Joe Baca
Adopted March 16, 2003

Resolution Number SAC03.03
Honoring The Lives Of The Crew Of The Nasa Space Shuttle Columbia
WHEREAS: The seven individuals who perished on the Columbia – Mission Commander Rick Husband, Pilot William McCool, Payload Commander Michael Anderson, Mission Specialist Kalpana Chawla, Mission Specialist David M. Brown, Mission Specialist Laurel Blair Salton Clark and Payload Specialist Ilan Ramon —represented the spirit and diversity that makes this nation great; and
WHEREAS: These individuals (several of whom had California connections) dedicated their lives to science and exploration and made the ultimate sacrifice to their country; and
WHEREAS: That the California Democratic Party recognizes the great sacrifice the Columbia astronauts made in the pursuit of knowledge and we send our thoughts and condolences to their friends and families
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the California Democratic Party is committed to seeing the continuation of manned space exploration.
Submitted by Senator Art Torres (Ret.), Chairman, California Democratic Party
Adopted March 16, 2003

Resolution Number SAC03.05
Improve Public Safety For All Californians
WHEREAS: Every Californian has a stake in ensuring that our highways are as safe as possible and that California law enhances safety on our roads. The primary method by which we ensure that California drivers know the rules of the road and are properly trained is through the issuance of drivers’ licenses; and
WHEREAS: State law currently prevents millions of Californian residents from legally obtaining a driver’s license because of their immigration status; and
WHEREAS: Since Californians cannot purchase auto insurance without a license, current policy guarantees that many state residents drive without auto insurance, contributing to the current climate in which approximately 5.3 million out of 24 million drivers are uninsured
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the State Democratic Party endorse public policy measures to improve highway safety by ensuring that millions of additional California motorists are licensed, properly trained, and fully insured
FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED: That the State Democratic Party use its influence to help build support for such public policy measures by encouraging its members and other organizations to advocate in favor of these reforms and join the coalition supporting passage.

Submitted by Senator Martha Escutia, Senator Gilbert Cedillo, Assemblyman Marco Antonio Firebaugh, Assemblyman Rudy Bermudez, Assemblyman Fabian Nunez, Ronnie Lawrence and the 56th A.D. Committee

Adopted March 16, 2003

Resolution Number SACL03.26
International Trade Agreement “Necessity Clause”
WHEREAS: Article VI.4 of the General Agreement on Trade in Services (GATS), known as the “Necessity Test,” and a similar provision in the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA), provide that it is unlawful for any restriction, however lawful, to be enacted that creates a “barrier” to trade between signatories of these treaties; and
WHEREAS: The application of these provisions has resulted in challenges to necessary and appropriate regulatory and statutory provisions enacted by local, state and federal government officials, such as California’s ban on the gasoline additive MTBE, which was found to pollute drinking water; and these challenges are adjudicated by a Disputes Panel comprised of non-elected representatives, such as officials from the World Trade Organization, the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund, and this appeal board conducts its business in secret, in non-public forums and without public accountability; and
WHEREAS: These challenges represent the dismantling of democratic institutions and compromises the integrity of the constitutional authorities of the legislative, executive and judicial branches of government by undermining regulations that include collective bargaining standards, the ability to organize labor, civilized working conditions and environmental protections
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the California Democratic Party condemns the practical effect of these clauses, in stripping local-, state- and nationally-elected bodies from passing effective regulatory measures to ensure the health, safety and welfare of their constituencies
FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED: That the California Democratic Party urges the United States Congress to act swiftly to amend and clarify the “necessity clause” of these treaties and to re-examine its role as a signatory to these treaties unless the profound negative consequences of these provisions are addressed.

Submitted by State Senator Joe Dunn and 69th AD Committee

Adopted March 16, 2003

Resolution Number SACL03.28
Oppose Drilling In The Alaska National Wildlife Refuge
WHEREAS: Before oil and gas companies claimed the core of Alaska’s North Slope wilderness, Republican President Dwight Eisenhower set aside the Arctic National Wildlife refuge as a lone haven for vast herds of caribou, polar bears, Arctic wolves, and million of migratory birds; and
WHEREAS: The Bush Administration wants to hand over this last pristine fragment of Alaska’s arctic to its friends in the oil and gas industry, converting the refuge into an industrial complex of roads, drill pads, pipelines, production facilities, ports, and gravel mines, destroying crucial wildlife habitat forever – for what is likely to be a mere six-month supply of oil; and
WHEREAS: We could save 15 times more oil than the refuge is likely to produce just by raising the average gas mileage of U.S. vehicles to 40 mpg by the year 2012
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the California Democratic Party strongly opposes any and all drilling in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge and urges the United States Senate to separate the drilling revenue provision from the 2004 budget plan so that all Senators are free to vote their conscience on the preservation or destruction of one of the last pristine wilderness areas in the nation
FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED: That this Resolution be immediately transmitted to California’s two U.S. Senators.

Submitted by Luke Breit, Chair, Environmental Caucus

Adopted March 16, 2003

Resolution Number SACL03.10
Protect Smaller Class Sizes For California Students
WHEREAS: The state’s budget deficit is being used as an excuse to roll back California’s successful class-size reduction program; and
WHEREAS: Research proves, and parents and teachers know, that smaller classes improve student learning; according to June 2002 study by the Public Policy Institute of California, five of the state’s largest school districts reported significant test score gains since the class-size reduction program began; and
WHEREAS: Smaller classes are especially vital for “high-need” students; according to an April 2001 study by Vital Research, class-size reduction in the Los Angeles Unified School District increased reading scores by 9.5%, math scores by 13.9%, and language scores by 14.5%
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the California Democratic Party joins with the California Teachers Association, other organizations, and concerned parties in support of smaller class size for California’s students
FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED: That the California Democratic Party, which has consistently supported and worked for smaller class sizes, opposes any legislation that would increase class sizes in California’s classrooms.

Submitted by Aleita Huguenin, California Teachers Association and 25 DSCC Members

Adopted March 16, 2003

Resolution Number SAC03.23FM

Resolution On Iraq

WHEREAS: In November, under the strong urging of Democratic leadership, the Bush Administration went to the United Nations and won unanimous agreement from the Security Council, as expressed in Resolution 1441, that Saddam Hussein, the leader of Iraq, who has wreaked suffering on the Iraqi people through torture and deprivation, has defied and not fully complied with the terms that he agreed to for ending the Gulf War and now must immediately disarm and destroy all weapons of mass destruction; and

WHEREAS: President Bush and his advisors have created a precedent-setting doctrine with dangerous future consequences which gives the United States the right to wage a pre-emptive attack on Iraq without clear and convincing evidence of an imminent threat to the United States and have with high-handed and bullying language managed to alienate our traditional allies, to divide the Security Council and NATO, those institutions created for our mutual defense, and by their actions have created waves of anti-American feelings throughout the world with the potential of spawning a new generation of terrorists; and further, this Administration has engendered criticism from the press, legislators, religious leaders of all denominations (including the Pope), and by ignoring pleas for patience, has ignored the time-honored dire consequences of taking a country to war without the full support of its people with a war resulting in less federal funding for education, health care, job training and housing at a time of increasing need for all Americans; and

WHEREAS: The United Nations arms inspectors have reported that there is no evidence that Iraq is trying to re-start a nuclear weapons program and report further that Iraq is finally beginning to cooperate with U.N. inspectors and have requested more time for inspections, understanding the consequences of a credible force that will be utilized if he ultimately fails to comply with U.N. resolutions, and that more time is needed for inspections and at the same time this Administration has not offered the American people and the world a clear, concise evidentiary case for immediate conflict

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the California Democratic Party urges the President of the United States to “take his father’s advice” and refrain from unilaterally attacking Iraq and instead develop a multilateral approach to effect complete disarmament of weapons of mass destruction. This includes a vigorous and rigorous inspection program; and with the support of the United Nations’ and our allies’ solutions to disarmament that serve to meet our objectives for security in the region while not undermining our obligations to the needs of Americans, with any determined use of force backed by the armed forces and financial support of our allies and other concerned nations

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That the California Democratic Party commends the men and women of our combined Armed Forces who serve in defense of our country without regard for the adequacy of public policy, as we also commend our elected representatives and potential presidential candidates in support of our free democracy who continue to speak out against the “rush to war” and in support of a multilateral, internationally agreed-upon resolution to the current crisis in Iraq.

Submitted by: 45th AD; Riverside DCCC; SF DCCC; Tehama DCCC; Ventura DCCC; Santa Barbara DCCC; Veterans Caucus; Santa Barbara Demo League; South County Demo Club; 16th AD; Mendocino DCCC; Placido Salazar, Demo Central Cmte. Of Marin, 42nd AD

Adopted March 16, 2003

Resolution Number SAC03.07

Support California’s Community Colleges

WHEREAS: California’s 108 community colleges serve over 2.5 million Californians in vocational, transfer, basic skills and continuing education each year, serving as a gateway to both higher education and the workforce; and

WHEREAS: The community colleges are key to California’s workforce by training the majority of nurses, firefighters and police officers and employing over 88,000 employees in nearly every part of California; and

WHEREAS: Community colleges are disproportionately impacted by budget cuts and fee increases, and/or exacerbated by the state’s deficit and the federal government’s reductions in the funding of all levels of education

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the California Democratic Party urges the Governor and legislators to take every step possible to ensure that community colleges are not cut disproportionately to other segments of education

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED: That any fee increase required of community college students be fair, moderate and predictable and that access to an affordable quality higher education be protected by any means possible.

Submitted by Jennifer Baker and Scott Lay, Katie Villegas, Oscar Villegas, Amy Blumberg, Lisa Chin, Ed Espinoza, Alicia Berhow, Crystal Smith, Robert Dawa, Owen Jackman, Bruce Pomer, Brian Cooley, Clark Lee, Silissa Uriarte-Smith, Christopher Cabaldon, Steve Hardy, Mariko
Resolution Number SACL03.07
Support For California State University And The University Of California Systems

WHEREAS: The California State University (CSU) provides working families, including many historically disadvantaged student groups, access to an affordable, high quality postsecondary public education, and the CSU makes a significant contribution to the state’s economy by conferring one-half of the bachelor’s degrees awarded in California each year and by providing adult learners with an opportunity to update their skills; and

WHEREAS: The CSU and the University of California System (UCS) prepares its graduates to make meaningful contributions to the political, economic and social well-being of our state and, at the same time, instructs students to successfully compete in today’s knowledge driven labor market; and

WHEREAS: The CSU, which educated approximately two-thirds of the state’s newly credentialed K-12 teachers each year, will be looked upon to play a major role in solving California’s teacher shortage

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the California Democratic Party reaffirms its long-standing commitment to public higher education and the students, faculty, and staff of both the CSU and the UCS, and further encourages the CSU to work collaboratively with students, faculty and staff to develop a solution to the budget crisis that protects funding for instruction and student service programs; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED: That the California Democratic encourage the California State Legislature, the Governor, CSU Board of Trustees and the UC Board of Regents to work collaboratively with students, faculty and staff to seek alternative funding sources to mitigate the need for student fee increases which could deny education opportunities to thousands of students.

Submitted by 33 Democratic State Central Committee Members
Adopted March 16, 2003

Resolution Number SACL03.11
Support For Living Wage Ordinances

WHEREAS: Working families in California must earn at least a living wage in order to pay their housing costs and take care of their families so that they can participate in the civic affairs of their communities; and

WHEREAS: Local governments and those employers who have received a subsidy or financial benefit of at least $100,000.00 from a local government such as a city, or those employers who provide non-construction services to the city, or those employers who lease city-owned property should pay at least $10.00 per hour plus employer-paid family health benefits; and

WHEREAS: Those employers who provide public services or receive public subsidies or benefits should be required to sign “Labor Peace” agreements which insure those employers will not interfere with workers who organize unions;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the California Democratic Party calls for the successful promotion of the living wage ordinances in every local government in California as has been done in 21 local governments already.

Sponsored by Bill Camp and the Sacramento County Central Committee
Adopted March 16, 2003

Resolution Number SACL03.21
Support Immigration Workers Freedom Ride

WHEREAS: The AFL-CIO has officially embraced the cause of immigrant workers in the United States; and actively campaigns for legislative reform to benefit immigrant workers and their families; and expects that legislation to reform immigration law will be a matter of increasing congressional and executive activity beginning in 2003; and

WHEREAS: The AFL-CIO believes that such legislative reform must include, at a minimum: (1) legislation, including the right of immigrant workers in the United States that live and work in this country and become citizens; and (2) the right of immigrant workers to unite their families in the United States if they wish; and

WHEREAS: The AFL-CIO understands that a national mobilization of individuals and organizations from all sectors -- including labor, business, religious community, immigrant, civil rights and others -- is necessary to demonstrate to Congress and the President that there is widespread support in the United States for meaningful legislative reform and for the recognition of the contributions of immigrant workers to the quality of social, cultural, political and economic life in the United States; and believes that an Immigration Workers Freedom Ride -- which will culminate in a mass demonstration of support in the United States for meaningful legislative reform in Washington D.C., in mid-September 2003 will be a powerful vehicle for mobilizing the national constituency

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the California Democratic Party hereby support the “Immigration Workers Freedom Ride” in mid-September 2003 and all legislative efforts to create meaningful legislative reform for immigrant workers and their families

Yamada, Marthann Lowrie, Rick Wathen, Donald Douglas, Charlie Gaston, Greg Larkins, Joan King, Virginia Moose, Harold Fong, Alberta Wiedner and Bob Bockwinkle
Adopted March 16, 2003

Resolution Number SACL03.07
Support For California State University And The University Of California Systems

Resolution Number SACL03.11
Support For Living Wage Ordinances

Resolution Number SACL03.21
Support Immigration Workers Freedom Ride
FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED: That the California Democratic Party goes on record in support of the “Immigration Workers Freedom Ride” to create meaningful legislative reform for immigrant workers and their families.

Submitted by: John Hanna, Eric Bradley, Roberta Holloway, Rima Nashashibi and other DSCC members

Adopted March 16, 2003

Resolution Number SACL03.20
Support Livable Wage For Long Term Care Workers

WHEREAS: Six out of every ten Americans who reach age 65 need long-term care services, and by 2040, the number of individuals aged 65 or older will more than double from current levels in the US; and, the state of California currently has the largest older adult population in the nation, with over 3.5 million people over the age of 65; and

WHEREAS: 1.5 million Californians need of long-term care services, of these, 440,000 in California, rely on paid direct care workers for various forms of daily assistance; and, recruitment and retention of long-term care workers is a growing challenge; and, in California, 30% of nursing home aids and 50% of In-Home Supportive Services workers that comprise the bulk of the State’s long-term care workforce live in poverty; and one half of homecare workers and one-fourth of nursing home workers in California lack health insurance, compared to 16% of the nation’s general population and poverty-level wages and uneven health benefits, along with inadequate training, lead to annual turnover rates between 50-100% that jeopardize both the quality and continuity of care for seniors and people with disabilities; and

WHEREAS: Families still pay out-of-pocket and account for 23% (about $31 billion) of long-term care expenditures; and the proposed state budget “realignment” will not meet long-term care program obligations causing California to forgo approximately $380 million in federal Medicaid matching funds, lose nearly $2 billion in business activity, eliminate nearly 20,000 jobs and lose over $270 million in corresponding salary and wages if the state reduces its spending on Medi-Cal outlined in the proposed budget;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the California Democratic Party affirms that all California residents should have affordable access to long-term care services; and, that seniors and people with disabilities must have access to and be afforded the maximum number of care setting choices through a continuum of care; and, that fiscal and program responsibility for long-term care, including homecare and skilled nursing care, should rest with the State of California not through a patchwork of 58 counties; and, that increasing the federal Medicaid reimbursement rate, and not block grants, will help stabilize mounting demands on states to meet the growing needs for quality long-term care; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED: That the California Democratic support a livable wage for long-term care workers enough to lift them and their families out of poverty and receive paid health benefits; and, that all long-term care workers must be provided adequate training opportunities for career advancement in the long-term care industry in order to improve continuity of patient care with a stable cadre of trained caregivers; and, that the quality of long-term care provided to seniors and people with disabilities would be enhanced by establishing and supporting collaborative working partnerships among providers, seniors and people with disabilities and workers to support a stable, qualified and valued direct care workforce.

Submitted by Tyrone Freeman and other Democratic State Central Committee Members

Adopted March 16, 2003

Resolution Number SACL03.22
Support Of Title IX

WHEREAS: Title IX was passed into law in 1972 to prohibit gender discrimination in any education program or activity, including school-based athletics, at any educational institution that is a recipient of federal funds, and Title IX requires educational institutions to provide equitable athletic opportunities for all students in terms of participation, treatment of athletic programs for the underrepresented gender, and availability of athletic scholarships; and

WHEREAS: Women and girls have made great strides toward achieving educational equality, as well as parity in school-based athletics since the enactment of Title IX, and Title IX has provided women and girls with numerous opportunities to engage in college and high school athletics – opportunities that were not available to them prior to Title IX’s enactment; and

WHEREAS: The Bush Administration has recently come out in favor of weakening Title IX especially when it comes to athletic opportunities for women and girls

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the California Democratic Party strongly urges the Bush Administration and the U.S. Congress to oppose any and all efforts to weaken Title IX, and to support strong enforcement of all existing anti-discrimination laws with particular attention to college and high school athletic opportunities for women and girls

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED: That the California Democratic Party calls on all elected officials to publicly reaffirm their support of Title IX and their opposition to gender discrimination; and that this Resolution be sent to President George W. Bush, the U.S. Secretary of Education, all Democratic members of Congress from California, all Democratic Presidential candidates, Governor Gray Davis and the President of the U.C. Board of Regents.
Resolved by: The Honorable Nancy Pelosi, Congresswoman and the San Francisco Democratic County Central Committee
Adopted March 16, 2003

Resolution Number SACL03.29
Support The Civil Rights Of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual & Transgender (LGBT) People Of California

WHEREAS: The civil liberties of the American people are threatened by the enactment and implementation of portions of the U.S.A. Patriot Act(s) and Orders and other proposed legislation and administrative regulations including but not limited to secret trials, withholding of the lawful rights of prisoners, exemptions from the Freedom of Information Act, infringement on privacy and discrimination based on race, religion, national

WHEREAS: The USA Patriot Act(s) and Other Infringements On The Liberties Of The American People

Resolution Number SAC03.28
The Bush Economy Or “Are You Better Off Than You Were Two Years Ago?”

WHEREAS: Under the Clinton Administration the economy thrived, millions of new jobs were created and the Federal Budget was in surplus for the first time in many years; and

WHEREAS: Under the Bush Administration, in two short years, over 1,800,000 jobs have been lost (308,000 in February alone), the Federal Budget is projected to have a 10-year deficit of at least $1.8 trillion, the states are in the worst shape financially since the Great Depression with no projected financial help from the federal government, median income for working families dropped by approximately 2.2% in 2001 and 42 million Americans still lack health insurance, over 32 million Americans still live in poverty, nearly 12 million of whom are children, over 3 million people experience homelessness each year; and

WHEREAS: The falling stock market, collapsing dollar, rising trade deficit and huge federal budget deficit are certain to lead to rising interest rates which will hurt working families even more and slow the economy even further, and the cost of the proposed war with Iraq is considered to be up to $200 billion with over $20 billion a year additional to reconstruct Iraq, and the President’s main response is to propose even further tax cuts which will give 38% of the tax cuts to the top 1% of the population and will do nothing to stimulate the stalling economy but will instead damage it for years to come, according to 400 economists, including 10 Nobel Prize winners

Therefore be it resolved: That the California Democratic Party believes that our national security is as dependent on a strong, growing economy as on bullets and bombs, and therefore calls upon the President and Congress to enact immediate short investments to jump start the economy in ways that would not result in the long-term chronic deficits that would be caused by the Bush tax cuts, and to make needed investments in education, healthcare, infrastructure rebuilding, retaining of displaced workers, to resist putting the timber industry in charge of our forest areas thereby resulting in poor forest management practices further negatively impacting the economy, and finally, to always ensure the solvency of Social Security and Medicare for the future of all Americans.

Submitted by: Alice Toklas Lesbian Gay Bisexual Transgender Democratic Club and Stonewall Democratic Club of Greater Sacramento
Adopted March 16, 2003

Resolution Number SAC03.14D
The USA Patriot Act(s) And Other Infringements On The Liberties Of The American People

WHEREAS: The cataclysmic events of September 11, 2001 that resulted in the deaths of over 3,000 people (American and others) have wrought a paradigm shift in the body politic of our nation’s psyche and indeed the world’s; and

WHEREAS: At this critical time in our history, our government faces the delicate balance of protecting life, property and national security while respecting fundamental constitutional rights and procedural due process that are essential to the preservation of a just and democratic society and now as in no other time, it is incumbent on our leaders to strike that balance because their actions, if not well-conceived, may result in measures that hinder or are ineffective in our struggle; and

WHEREAS: The civil liberties of the American people are threatened by the enactment and implementation of portions of the U.S.A. Patriot Act(s) and Orders and other proposed legislation and administrative regulations including but not limited to secret trials, withholding of the lawful rights of prisoners, exemptions from the Freedom of Information Act, infringement on privacy and discrimination based on race, religion, national
WHEREAS, in February, 2004, the media reported credible eyewitness accounts of gas chambers in North Korean prison camps that were used to kill political prisoners, including entire families; and

WHEREAS, North Korea has long been engaged in other serious and systematic violations of human rights, including, as stated in the Congressional findings of H.R. 4011, the North Korean Human Rights Act of 2004:

1. The Government of North Korea attempts to control all information, artistic expression, academic works, and media activity inside North Korea and strictly curtails freedom of speech and access to foreign broadcasts.

2. The Government of North Korea attempts to control all information, artistic expression, academic works, and media activity inside North Korea and strictly curtails freedom of speech and access to foreign broadcasts.

3. The Government of North Korea subjects all its citizens to systematic, intensive political and ideological indoctrination in support of the cult of personality glorifying Kim Jong II and the late Kim Il Sung that approaches the level of a state religion.

4. The Government of North Korea divides its population into categories, based on perceived loyalty to the leadership, which determines access to food, employment, higher education, place of residence, medical facilities, and other resources.

5. According to the Department of State, ‘the [North Korean] Penal Code is draconian, stipulating capital punishment and confiscation of assets for a wide variety of “crimes against the revolution,” including defection, attempted defection, slander of the policies of the Party or State, listening to foreign broadcasts, writing “reactionary” letters, and possessing reactionary printed matter.’

6. The Government of North Korea executes political prisoners, opponents of the regime, some repatriated defectors, some members of underground churches, and others, sometimes at public meetings attended by workers, students, and schoolchildren.

7. The Government of North Korea holds an estimated 200,000 political prisoners in camps that its State Security Agency manages through the use of forced labor, beatings, torture, and executions, and in which many prisoners also die from disease, starvation, and exposure.

8. According to eyewitness testimony provided to the United States Congress by North Korean camp survivors, camp inmates have been used as sources of slave labor for the production of export goods, as targets for martial arts practice, and as experimental victims in the testing of chemical and biological poisons.

9. According to credible reports, including eyewitness testimony provided to the United States Congress, North Korean Government officials prohibit live births in prison camps, and forced abortion and the killing of newborn babies are standard prison practices;”

AND THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That the California State Democratic Party urges Governor Gray Davis and California legislators to require that local and state law enforcement periodically report to the Attorney General of the State of California regarding all investigations in question undertaken under the aegis of the U.S.A Patriot Act(s) and Orders in California; and that the Attorney General subsequently report to the California legislature regarding these findings, and that this resolution be sent to all members of the State Legislature, and to the Attorney General and Governor of the State of California.

Submitted by: 47th AD; Culver City Demo Club; CDC; 12th AD; Roberta Hollowell; Agar Jaicks; Sen. John Burton; BOE Carole Migden; SFDCCC; Jane Morrison; Assm. Mark Leno; 42nd AD Cmte. + various DSCC members; Ventura DCCC; Santa Barbara DCCC; Veterans Caucus; Santa Barbara Democratic League

Adopted March 16, 2003

Resolution Number OAK04.02

Condemning the Human Rights Violations Of the Government of North Korea

WHEREAS, the California Democratic Party supports an American foreign policy that champions human rights for all; THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party condemns the government of North Korea as one of the worst abusers of human rights in the world today, and criticizes the Bush Administration for ignoring this issue; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party urges California’s Democratic Congressional delegation to support U.S. efforts to end human rights abuses in North Korea.

Sponsored by Democrats for Israel, Los Angeles; Paul Kujawsky, President (California Democratic Party Executive Board member); Bob Handy, CDP Region 10 Director; Jim Hilfenhaus, CDP Region 13 Director; G. Nanjundappa, Chair, Asian-Pacific Caucus

Adopted September 11, 2004
Resolution Number OAKL04.01 A
Purple Heart

WHEREAS, the Purple Heart is an American decoration—the oldest military decoration in the world in present use and the first American award made available to the common soldier, and is awarded to members of the armed forces of the U.S. who are wounded by an instrument of war during combat with an enemy, and posthumously to the next of kin in the name of those who are killed in action or die of wounds received in action; and

WHEREAS, Army regulations defined the conditions of the award as: "A wound which necessitates treatment by a medical officer and which is received in action with an enemy, may in the judgment of the commander authorized to make the award be construed as resulting from a singularly meritorious act of essential service." President John F. Kennedy extended eligibility on April 25, 1962, to "any civilian national of the United States who, while serving under competent authority in any capacity with an armed force..., has been, or may hereafter be, wounded." President Ronald Reagan, on February 23, 1984, amended President Kennedy's order, to include those wounded or killed as a result of "an international terrorist attack." Further, Purple Heart Medals were awarded to military members or next of kin who were wounded or killed in the terrorist acts of September 11, 2001; and

WHEREAS, members of the Republican Convention held in New York City, chose by their actions to denigrate not only the Purple Heart, but all of our men in uniform, by affixing to themselves band-aids with purple hearts imprinted thereon, and those in attendance who chose to wear the band-aids showed total disrespect to American warriors past and present, some of whom gave all, and instead chose to salute those who gave nothing;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party, calls on the President and the leadership of the Republican Party to repudiate the actions of its membership and apologize to those warriors past and present who have won the Purple Heart while defending the Constitution and the freedom we all enjoy; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution be sent to the President of the United States, all members of the California Congressional Delegation, the Chair of the Democratic and Republican National Committees, and the Chair of the California Republican Party, Submitted by Bob Handy, Dir., Region 10; Senator Art Torres, Chair, CA Democratic Party; Christine Pelosi, Chair, Platform Committee; Santa Barbara Central Committee; Ventura County Central Committee; 33rd Assembly District; 35th Assembly District; 37th Assembly District; Santa Barbara Democratic League; Sandy Cook, Chair, 33rd Assembly District; Eric Bauman, Chair, Los Angeles Central Committee; Vince Falcone, Chair, Santa Barbara Central Committee; Santa Barbara Democratic League Director Region 6; Sharon Hillbrant. Chair, Ventura County Central Committee; Art Hicks, USAF Ret. Tuskegee Air Man; Past Chair Santa Barbara Central Committee; Sandi Gummerman, Ventura County Central Committee; Ferial Masry, Ventura County Central Committee; Russ Weed, Santa Barbara Central Committee; Henry McCarty, Veterans Caucus; Art Hallebeck, Platform Committee Ventura CC; John Ashbaugh, SLO Central Committee; Ralph Erickson, Chair, Malibu Democratic Club

Adopted September 11, 2004

Resolution Number SD04.07
9/11 Commission

WHEREAS: After mounting pressure from the families of 9/11 victims, the Bush Administration acceded to establishing the 9/11 Commission to investigate the attack on September 11, 2001, with an arbitrary short deadline of July 2004; and

WHEREAS: The Republicans in Congress and the Bush Administration have delayed in providing the evidence requested by the Commission, and

WHEREAS: Death threats and other attempts at intimidation have been made against members of the Commission, in particular former Clinton Administration Deputy Attorney General Jamie Gorelick

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the California Democratic Party deplores the death threats and other attempts to intimidate Commission members and calls upon other State Democratic Parties, the DNC, the House and Senate Democratic Caucuses and the appropriate State Attorney Generals to work with us to ensure that the work of the Commission is sustained to its conclusion so that the truth regarding the September 11, 2001 attacks can be disseminated to the victims’ families, and to the public.

Submitted by the Ventura Democratic Club, Adopted by the Ventura Democratic Central Committee

Adopted May 2, 2004

Resolution Number SDL04.3A
Blanket Primary Is Unconstitutional

WHEREAS: In 1996, the California Democratic Party voted to oppose a blanket Primary Proposition; and

WHEREAS: Unfortunately, it was passed by the California voters but the California Democratic Party took it all the way to the U.S. Supreme Court which ruled (June 2000) by a 7 - 2 vote, that it was unconstitutional; and
WHEREAS: A new proposal called the Top Two (only two candidates go to the General Election ballot) is really just the “Son of the Blanket Primary.”
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the California Democratic Party restate its opposition to these Blanket primary proposals, which is an attack on political parties’ rights of determination that our Founding Fathers encouraged or helped to create to build democracy in America.
Submitted by Senator Art Torres (Ret.), Chairman of the CA Democratic Party and Rebecca Silverberg, Chair 12th AD Dem. Caucus
Adopted May 2, 2004
Resolution Number SD04.01
Clean Water Infrastructure
WHEREAS: California has three remaining Waivers to Section §301 (h) of the 1972 Clean Water Act, all based on the premise that the ocean can be used as a cheap effluent dumping ground; and
WHEREAS: The use of ocean outfall sewer pipes ignores the fact that properly treated effluent can reclaim limited water resources for beneficial uses such as:
Aquifer recharge
Salt-water intrusion prevention
Power plant cooling
Drinking water alternatives
Wildlife refuge creation and replenishment
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT: The California Democratic Party encourages tertiary treatment of sewage and supports work to end publicly owned treatment waivers that weaken the Clean Water Act
THEREFORE BE IT ALSO RESOLVED THAT: Copies of this resolution will be sent to the Chairs of California’s Regional Water Quality Control Boards, the State Water Board and the Governor.
Submitted by the CDP Environmental Caucus
Adopted May 2, 2004
Resolution Number SDL04.10
Health Care - Affordable & Accessible
WHEREAS: Democrats nationwide (i.e., President Harry Truman, President Johnson creating Medicare, etc.) and in California for decades have advocated that healthcare be more affordable and available; and
WHEREAS: Democrats advocate for the unrestricted access to healthcare for all in our Party Platforms; and
WHEREAS: Democrats in the California State Legislature passed legislation (SB 2 President pro Tempore John Burton) that was signed into law by Governor Davis which will provide more healthcare for working Californians but it was referendum by special interests
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT: The California Democratic Party restates its support for expanded and affordable healthcare for Californians
THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT: The California Democratic Party urges a yes vote on our efforts to achieve these ends.
Submitted by Senator Art Torres (Ret.), Chairman of the California Democratic Party
Adopted May 2, 2004
Resolution Number SD04.09
Honor Our Nation’s Veterans
WHEREAS: The Democratic members of the United States House of Representatives have introduced legislation to Salute Veterans and the Armed Forces; and
WHEREAS: This same body proposes legislation to honor the service of our military and to enact the following provisions into laws to recognize and reward this service during the 108th Congress:
1) Address the needs of retired and disabled members of the military
   - End disabled veterans’ tax; give full retirement benefits to disabled veterans;
   - Establish performance standards and fund efforts to meet requirements for expedited treatment of remanded VA disability claims;
2) Improve access to veterans’ health care
   - Funds to reduce waiting times for veterans medical care;
   - Oppose increases in prescription drug co-payments and enrollment fees for veterans;
   - Provide health care for national guard and reserves and their families while on active duty;
3) Improve educational opportunities
   - Enhance selected reserve education bill for reservists and protect schools for children of troops;
Honor the families of those who made the ultimate sacrifice;
Improve survivor benefits (SBP) for the spouses and families of military retirees and those who died in the line-of-duty;
Bonus for a job well-done;
$1,000 bonus for those who served in imminent danger status in Operation Iraqi Freedom and Afghanistan;
4) Veterans’ right-to-know
Expand outreach to veterans to make sure they know of their benefits and rights by the military and the veterans’ administration;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT: The California Democratic Party commend The California Democratic Congressional Delegation for introducing this legislation, the Democratic salute to veterans and the armed forces;
FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT: The California Democratic Party supports the principles of this legislation and urges Congress to approve this important legislation to honor and support our veterans for their service and devotion to our nation, and hereby directs the Secretary of the California Democratic Party to transmit a copy of this resolution to the members of the California Congressional Delegation.

Submitted by Veterans Caucus, Clark McCartney, Chair
Adopted May 2, 2004

Resolution Number SD04.04
Moratorium On The Death Penalty
WHEREAS: To date 113 men and women who had been sentenced to death row have been exonerated since the death penalty was reinstated in 1976 and in view of the fact that a June 2000 Columbia University study entitled “A Broken System” found that reversible error had occurred in 68% of reviewed cases of those on death row, the fact that the American Bar Association has concluded that capital punishment is a “maze of unfair practices with no internal consistency” and the fact that California has the largest death row population in the United States with over 622 women and men awaiting execution, 1/3 of whom have no legal representation, and many of whom may be innocent, and
WHEREAS: A disproportionate number of minorities are awaiting execution in California and 98% of those on death row are from such poor backgrounds that they could not even afford their own attorney; and
WHEREAS: Once an innocent person has been executed, there is no way to correct the mistake
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT: The California Democratic Party encourages the California State Legislature to enact legislation calling for a moratorium on the death penalty until it can be conclusively determined that no individual on death row, or likely to be sent to death row, is innocent and until we can ensure that, no one will receive a death sentence as a result of his/her race, socio-economic status or geographic location.

Sponsored by Natasha Hull-Richter, Ruth Hull-Richter, Mark Hull-Richter and Bea Foster and Mike Farrell
Adopted May 2, 2004

Resolution Number SDL04.07
Opposition To U.S. Constitutional Amendment Abolishing States’ Autonomy and Banning Gay & Lesbian Marriages
WHEREAS: The Bush Administration is using gay and lesbian civil rights as a divisive campaign tactic by seeking to amend the U.S. Constitution to define marriage between a man and a woman, denying gay and lesbian families fundamental protections such as hospital visitation rights, inheritance rights and health care benefits among many other benefits; and
WHEREAS: Throughout American history, the Constitution has been amended to protect rights and liberties of Americans such as abolishing slavery; promoting due process and equal protection; giving women and young people the right to vote and defining America as the champion for individual human rights and liberties; but now would be used via this amendment to set historical precedent to single out a specific group of individuals for discrimination; and
WHEREAS: The Republican vehicle for promoting this discrimination is via a Constitutional amendment that also abolishes States’ autonomy by taking traditional rights to define marriage away from them and seek to overturn de facto relationships established in many states such as civil unions and domestic partnerships
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT: The California Democratic Party does hereby oppose attempts to amend the U.S. Constitution that would deprive the States of their ability to legislate on issues pertaining to marriage and civil unions; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That the California Democratic Party opposes any amendment to the U.S. Constitution that would serve to discriminate against and prevent gay and lesbian couples who have made life-long commitments to each other from having basic rights and protections under the law, such as the right to visit a partner in the hospital or the right to share health and social Security benefits.
Submitted by the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender Caucus of the California Democratic Party, Gloria Johnson, Co-Chair
Adopted May 2, 2004

Resolution Number SD04.02
Protect California's Environmental Laws

WHEREAS: California has strong environmental laws to protect our state's water and air quality, coastal access, forests, endangered species and many other environmental concerns that depend on state action; and
WHEREAS: The success of those laws and policies depends on good enforcement and agency administration, as well as committed defense by the Attorney General; and
WHEREAS: The state budget provides the means for this protection

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT: The California Democratic Party urges all state legislators and statewide officials to work diligently to protect environmental concerns in the state budget deliberations
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT: This resolution be sent to California legislators as they consider budget appropriations and to the Attorney General to urge defense of California's environmental laws.

Submitted by CDP Environmental Caucus
Adopted May 2, 2004

Resolution Number SD04.08
Reform & Strengthening Of The United Nations

WHEREAS: The Democratic Party has always been a strong supporter of the United Nations since that organization was founded at the end of World War II; and it rejects the contention of the Bush Administration that the United Nations is ineffective and irrelevant; and
WHEREAS: The Democratic Party believes that the United Nations, along with every organization, needs to renew and reinvigorate itself from time-to-time to meet the challenges of a new and dynamic world; and believes that it would be appropriate to establish a Presidential Commission to consider and recommend various measures for the reform and strengthening of the United Nations; and
WHEREAS: The California Charter Coalition has presented a resolution to help reform, reinvigorate and renew the United Nations; and the San Diego County Central Committee has unanimously passed the resolution noted below as endorsed by Representative Robert Filner

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT: The California Democratic Party supports the creation of a Presidential Commission to develop a program for the reform and strengthening of the United Nations, designed to make it a more effective and representative organization, and that that Commission shall be charged with the submission of its report to an International Conference on the reform of the United Nations.

Submitted by San Diego County Central Committee; Kennan Kaeder, Chair, Jess Durfee, 76th AD Rep.
Adopted May 2, 2004

Resolution Number SD04.03
Support "Polluter Pays" Appropriation

WHEREAS: The State of California is experiencing an unprecedented budget crisis that is affecting all levels of government and interfering with the State's ability to adequately protect the health, safety and welfare of the citizenry, resulting in severe funding cuts or elimination of critical programs and causing devastating staffing reductions across the State; and
WHEREAS: Legislation authorizing the collection of appropriate user fees designed to cover the administrative costs of critical environmental programs and shift the fiscal responsibility for such programs from the public to the industries and individuals generating the need for regulation have been authorized under State law; and
WHEREAS: These critical cost recovery and user fees mechanisms allowed by State law have not been fully implemented resulting in delays in critical programs and undue costs to the general fund

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT: The California Democratic Party supports the immediate and full implementation of user fee programs and that such fees should be appropriated by the Legislature to the agencies which levied them, and that these fees be made available for hiring staff where needed (exempt from the State hiring freeze).

Submitted by the Environmental Caucus of the California Democratic Party
Adopted May 2, 2004

Resolution Number SDL04.02
Support Of Affordable Prescription Drugs

WHEREAS: There are six million Californians without health insurance and another six million who do not have coverage to cover their medication costs, such as people with disabilities, low-income working adults, children, farmers, seniors and families; and
WHEREAS: Americans pay at least 50 percent more for their prescription drugs than anywhere else in the industrialized world and America is the only industrialized nation without a universal health care plan, and America was recently ranked 37th among the most efficient health care systems in the world by the World Health Organization; and
WHEREAS: Americans who buy their prescription drugs in Canada receive a savings of up to 45 percent, and affordable accessible health care is an inalienable right and a bipartisan issue, and American-made drugs manufactured for the Canadian market are produced in the same facilities as those destined for the U.S. market; there is no verifiable danger in importing FDA-approved drugs from licensed Canadian pharmacies, and for the 30 percent of American Seniors who do not fill their prescriptions because they cannot afford it, the true safety issue is the inaccessibility of acquiring needed medications

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT: The California Democratic Party supports allowing the California Department of General Services (DGS) to contract with Canadian sources to purchase drugs for Corrections, State Hospitals and other State Agencies which would require the Board of Pharmacy to establish a website with links or certified Canadian pharmacies so individual Californians could safely purchase drugs

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT: This resolution be forwarded to legislators in the California Assembly and State Senate.

Submitted by California Democratic Council, Chris Stampolis, CDC Secretary
Adopted May 2, 2004

Resolution Number SDL04.11
Support Reduction Of Retirement Age For All Reservists From 60 To 55
WHEREAS, because of our country’s commitment to the War on Terrorism in places such as Afghanistan, Iraq and other potential areas of conflict such as Korea, the American Military Reservists, both women and men, having worn the dual hats of citizen-soldier, have been required due to force reduction to serve our country more than the usual two weekends a month, the length of service having been increased from three months to six months, and again to eighteen months; and
WHEREAS, the families of our Reservists have been devastated because of the risk of loss of the normal employment of the Reservist, along with the consequential loss of income and health benefits for the Reservists’ families; and
WHEREAS, our Reservists’ and Veterans’ service to our country has been delivered at great personal sacrifice, without regard to their own loss of life and limb, placing our country and flag first;
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party supports lowering the retirement age of America Military Reservists from 60 to 55; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party affirms its support for Veterans and Reservists by drafting a letter to the California Democratic Congressional delegation in support of any bill that will so reduce this retirement age.

Sponsored by Colonel Jim Cook, UUSMCR (retired), CDP E-Board Representative, 10th Assembly District Co-Chair, Veterans Plank, CDP Platform Committee; Bob Handy, Reg. Director, Reg. 10 CDP Co-Chair, Veterans Plank, CDP Platform Committee; Robert Dawa, Chair, Filipino-Amer. Caucus, CDP; Tom Santos, Past Vice Chair, Veterans Caucus, CDP, Vice Chair, Central Valley, Filipino-Amer. Caucus, CDP
Adopted May 2, 2004

Resolution Number SDL04.04
Support The University Of California
WHEREAS: The University of California is a leading educational institution with an international reputation as one of the best public universities in the United States; and
WHEREAS: The California Master Plan for Higher Education, adopted by the state in 1960, committed the University of California to admit students from the top one-eighth of each high school graduating class, and UC has sustained California’s economy for more than a century, and California’s future economic success is being supported at UC campuses where new innovations are being discovered and the next generation of business, science, and community leaders are being trained; and
WHEREAS: Over the last four years the state has reduced its financial support for the UC system by 16% while student enrollments have increased by 16%; UC has absorbed dramatic cuts to research and development programs; students and families have been forced to handle significant fee increases; the Governor has proposed increasing Graduate Student tuition by 40%; and the University’s ability to continue delivering on its promises for California is increasingly at risk because of deep, continuing state budget cuts
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT: The California Democratic Party urge the Governor and Legislature to find solutions to the state budget crisis that do not jeopardize the University of California’s ability to provide access for eligible students, adequate financial aid for those in need, and continued programs in K-12 schools to help students prepare for college
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT: The California Democratic Party urges the Governor and the Legislature to continue to support UC Research and Development programs by continuing to fund the hiring of world-class faculty and attraction of the most talented graduate students.

Submitted by Santa Clara Democratic Party, Steve Preminger, Chair
Adopted May 2, 2004
Resolution Number SDL04.09
Tell the Truth About Bush
WHEREAS: The Bush Administration is spending $1 billion dollars every two days for their war in Iraq where to date 740 of our bravest young men and women have died, often due to poor equipment and lack of planning, for a cause that lacks reason and international support by some of our closest allies; and
WHEREAS: The Bush Administration has given over $100 million dollars in tax cuts to the wealthiest while dismantling public services, exporting American jobs and selling off our future to private corporations that often do not pay taxes, leaving Americans with fewer jobs and lower wages; and
WHEREAS: The Bush Administration is little more than slogans, lies, distortions and false patriotism designed to mask the attacks on civil liberties, free speech, the environment, public education and international rule of law rather than upholding America’s Constitution and historic values as the land of the free and harbor of hope for people around the world,
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT: The California Democratic Party via all arms of the Party including Central Committees, Assembly District Committees, Clubs, caucus membership and elected officials and leaders work tirelessly to “tell the truth” about the Bush Administration and their attack on our great American institutions, values and historic role in international affairs, and to expose the lies, distortions and attacks on our Party, our candidates and the Constitution of the United States.
Submitted by the Resolutions Committee, Co-Chairs and Members of the California Democratic Party
Adopted May 2, 2004

2005
Resolution Number MAN05.09
Calling On George W. Bush To Meet With Cindy Sheehan
WHEREAS: Cindy Sheehan has lost her son, who died fighting as an American serviceman in Iraq, and other Gold Star Families for Peace have lost children serving in the U.S. military in Iraq; and
WHEREAS: False statements made by the Bush Administration resulted in American troops going into war in Iraq and resulted in Cindy Sheehan’s son being sent to die in Iraq; and
WHEREAS: A person’s life has an infinite value, and no other President in recent history has used false statements to send Americans to their deaths in foreign lands
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the California Democratic Party calls on George W. Bush to meet with Cindy Sheehan and the members of the Gold Star Families for Peace to explain why he and members of his Administration made false statements that resulted in a long-term war in Iraq and the deaths of their loved ones; and to tell the truth about the real reasons that he sent Casey Sheehan and other servicemen and women to their deaths in Iraq.
Submitted by Mark Hull-Richter, Patrick Henry Democratic Club
Adopted October 02, 2005

Resolution Number MAN05.08
Fiscal Integrity Of U.S. Government
WHEREAS: The relentless assault on the fiscal integrity of the United States by the Republican dominated Congress has created unsustainable deficits and a crippling public debt that will burden generations to come and drastically weaken the nation in a time when public resources are urgently needed; and
WHEREAS: This Congress has created these massive debts through flagrant revenue giveaways to big corporations and by authorizing out-of-control military spending in an unjustifiable and illegal war executed with war profiteers and incomprehensible ineptitude; and
WHEREAS: Our nation must now provide for physical reconstruction and social healing after the Katrina and Rita natural disasters as well as the means to responsibly extricate itself from the carnage of Iraq and to fuel a flagging economy through wise public investment
THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That the California Democratic Party calls upon all responsible members of Congress, regardless of party, to restore our fiscal integrity and the means for effective governance by appropriate revenue measures starting with a rollback of all the Bush Administration tax giveaways that have been lavished upon the wealthiest Americans and favored corporations
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That the revenues -- thus restored by these enactments and further protected from erosion by rejection of new raids on the treasury such as the stealth campaign to end estate taxation -- shall be dedicated to meet the Constitutional mandate to provide for the General Welfare, by fully funding a vigorous reconstruction program in the battered Gulf region, by increasing public investment in the social and physical infrastructure of the nation whose neglect puts the wealth and industry of America at hazard, and by making the measure of our public economy the democratic moral standard of economic justice for all people, not spoils for the few.
Resolution Number MAN05.12
Misplaced Priorities
WHEREAS: President Bush initiated a pre-emptive war against Iraq based on faulty and manipulated intelligence resulting in the death of over 1,900 young Americans and thousands of Iraqis, the mutilation of thousands more on both sides, the expenditure of over $200 billion to fight a war that has been badly mismanaged and has created ill-will towards the United States throughout the world; and
WHEREAS: President Bush has focused so much attention and money on Iraq and the so-called "war on terror" that he has left this country virtually defenseless against natural disasters such as floods, hurricanes, tornados and earthquakes, and even the gigantic centralized bureaucracy know as the Homeland Security Agency was unable to mount a rapid and appropriate response when challenged by the awesome Hurricane Katrina, thus calling into question our ability to respond to a sudden massive attack by terrorists; and
WHEREAS: This Administration's sluggish and inadequate response to the ravages of Hurricane Katrina exposed a surprising inability to protect our citizens in time of crisis and calls into question President Bush's priorities to concentrate all efforts on waging war abroad and terrorist attacks at home rather than a broader-based investment to strengthen our society
NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT: The California Democratic Party calls upon the President and Congress to join House Democratic Leader Nancy Pelosi's efforts to call for an immediate strategy to bring our troops home, so that our government can concentrate its energies and treasury on rebuilding the areas damaged by the hurricane and once again invest in our national infrastructure and strengthen our public education system so that there will be opportunities for the many poor Americans -- exposed so graphically during the evacuation of New Orleans and other areas hit by hurricanes -- to recover from the effects of generations of deprivation and racism and to at last really have a chance to partake of the American Dream.
Submitted by the Santa Clara County Central Committee
Adopted October 02, 2005

Resolution Number MANL05.03
Offshore Oil
WHEREAS: The Minerals Management Service of the U.S. Department of Interior has requested formal comments from local jurisdictions and other interested parties on its Proposed Five-Year Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) Leasing Program for 2007-2012; and
WHEREAS: The U.S. Congress is currently considering a revised energy bill intended to undermine or rescind a 25-year-long legislative OCS moratorium for California north coast and other coastal areas; and
WHEREAS: Separate authorizing legislation has also been recently introduced which would enact permanent protection from offshore drilling for the coast of Sonoma County through expansion of the existing boundaries of the present Gulf of the Farallones and Cordell Banks National Marine Sanctuaries
NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the California Democratic Party hereby expresses its support for permanent protection from new offshore drilling for the whole coast of California; re-confirms its opposition to oil or gas exploitation, and development off and on California's coastline; requests that the U.S. Department of Interior refrain from the inclusion of any OCS lease tracts offshore the California coastline in its Proposed Five-Year Outer Continental Shelf Leasing Program for 2007-2012
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That this resolution be transmitted in a timely manner to each member of the California Congressional Delegation, to Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger, and to the Minerals Management Service of the U.S. Department of Interior, c/o Ms. Renee Orr, 5-Year Program Manager, Minerals Management Service (MS-4010), Room 3120, 381 Eilden Street, Herndon, VA 20170, in an envelope marked on the exterior: "Comments on Preparation of the 5-Year Program for 2007-2012," to arrive prior to October 11, 2005.
Submitted by Luke Breit, Chair, Environmental Caucus & Rachel Binah, Member, DNC
Adopted October 02, 2005

Resolution Number MAN05.05
President's Failure to Protect The American People
WHEREAS: The informed citizenry of the United States, through various weather services, television and radio, knew that a major hurricane of unprecedented proportions was heading for the Gulf shoreline and might hit New Orleans head-on; President Bush, while vacationing at his ranch, was apparently unaware of any hurricane or else was in denial; and
WHEREAS: It was several days after the storm had passed by New Orleans, leaving havoc and death in its wake, that the President and his Administration woke up to the enormous disaster perpetrated on the Gulf Coast cities and ordered FEMA and later the DOD to provide relief; and
WHEREAS: The Bush administration demonstrated that it was clearly unprepared and lacked the requisite leadership to aid state and local governments in mitigating the human suffering despite their repeated promises after 9/11 to bring emergency preparedness to an acceptable level.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the California Democratic Party strongly admonishes the President of the United States for his failure to move quickly and in a timely fashion to help survivors of Katrina.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That the California Democratic Party urges Congressional leaders to establish an independent panel to investigate this appalling lack of responsibility by President Bush and his Administration to protect the American people and take the necessary steps to see that such failures do not occur in the future.

Approved by Santa Clara County Central Committee
Adopted October 02, 2005

Resolution Number MAN05.03
Proactive Energy Legislation

WHEREAS: Hurricane Katrina, through its damage to petroleum pumping, refining and distribution infrastructure, has amplified once again our dangerous dependence on petroleum products; and

WHEREAS: In the face of rising worldwide demand for petroleum products, in light of the damage that dependence on those products does to our ecology and economy, and understanding the threat that the concentration of petroleum in a few regions of the world poses to our vital national interest, and recognizing that nevertheless, this Republican President and Republican Congress, have failed to further any policy to resolve this dangerous dependence; and

WHEREAS: Hurricane Katrina made it clear again that our dependence on petroleum is so extreme that any shocks to our oil supply will be to the manifest injury of the United States, with the weakest among us bearing the greatest brunt as seen, for example, in escalating gasoline prices.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That we call on the President and the Congress to repeal the dangerous provisions of the recently passed Energy Bill and enact proactive energy legislation and regulations (including the promotion of conservation and alternative fuels) which will protect our environment, support economic growth, distribute the economic burdens equitably, and protect our vital national interests.

Approved by the Santa Clara County Central Committee
Adopted October 02, 2005

Resolution Number MAN05.02
Rebuilding Gulf Coast After Hurricane Katrina & The Democratic Promise

WHEREAS: Hurricane Katrina and the subsequent flood of New Orleans laid bare the unjust struggles that the poorest and weakest among us endure daily, and have endured and are enduring following the hurricane and the flood in measures that are abhorrent to a just and compassionate society; and

WHEREAS: The damage to life and property in the Gulf Coast exposed the wretched poverty, joblessness; lack of education, economic opportunity and hope for a better tomorrow (the "American Dream") that affect mostly African-Americans and other citizens of this country living below the federally established poverty line; and

WHEREAS: The Republican President and the Republican Congress have shown themselves to be unwilling and incapable of resolving these issues of ever-widening inequality, and even when promising to deal with such concerns in his address to the nation following Hurricane Katrina, the Republican President referred to these issues as "regional" and provided solutions that were highly inadequate.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the California Democratic Party demands from Congress, both Democrats and Republicans, and the President of the United States that: the jobs for rebuilding the Gulf Coast states go to displaced residents of those states first; that everyone willing to work is found a job and paid a prevailing wage for that work; that training for jobs, displaced industries and new industries that are willing to locate in the Gulf States are provided to the displaced residents first before importing workers from other locations; that the rebuilding effort ensure quality educational facilities from pre-school to college in these new communities and quality affordable housing in consideration of the varying incomes in the area; entrepreneurship opportunities through small business loans and other incentives for those displaced from the Gulf States area first over non-residents of the area; and; homeownership opportunities through government-insured loans and other incentives first to those displaced residents of the Gulf Coast states over any non-residents seeking to reside in the area.

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED: That the California Democratic Party demands of all Congressional Democrats that they ensure those who reside below the poverty line, particularly African-Americans, who have been overwhelmingly loyal to the Democratic Party, that our measures and goals are one to uplift people from the senselessness of poverty and to empower people to obtain the American Dream of opportunity in this country, and call upon the Party to continue its historic role to eliminate the gap's social and racial inequality.

Submitted by Ted Smith, Chair/ African-American Caucus & Santa Clara County Central Committee
Adopted October 02, 2005

Resolution Number MANL05.04

Restore Wage Protection & Affirmative Action Requirements For Hurricane Relief Efforts
WHEREAS: President Bush has used his emergency authority to suspend Davis-Bacon requirements to pay prevailing wages under federal contracts for hurricane relief and recovery; and
WHEREAS: The Department of Labor’s Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs has suspended vitally important requirements regarding written affirmative action plans for federal contracts; and
WHEREAS: Gulf Coast residents have been physically, emotionally and financially devastated by this series of disasters, and the workers most affected by these catastrophes are disproportionately poor and people of color, and who should have every reason to expect to be given access to recovery-generated work, and to be paid fairly for that work
NOW BE IT RESOLVED: That the California Democratic Party calls upon our members of Congress to urge immediate reinstitution of Davis-Bacon requirements and reintroduction of written affirmative action plans for federal contractors.
Submitted by the CDP Labor Caucus

Adopted October 02, 2005

Resolution Number MAN05.06

Restoring Sound Fiscal Policies In Washington
WHEREAS: Hurricane Katrina not only took a devastating toll on human life in the Gulf Coast region, but also has created tremendous financial hardship on its survivors; and
WHEREAS: The Republican Administration and Congress have chosen to prioritize tax cuts for wealthy Americans over investing in domestic infrastructure and support programs; and
WHEREAS: The Republicans catered to large banks by passing a bankruptcy bill that makes it more difficult for average Americans to file for bankruptcy protection in their time of need, and the bill takes effect in October 2005
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the California Democratic Party urges Congress and the President to provide families and small businesses facing bankruptcy because of Hurricane Katrina with relief from requirements of the new bankruptcy law that may impose adverse consequences, and to ultimately change the law so that average Americans will have the ability to recover from financial disasters
THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That the California Democratic Party supports Democrats in Congress who are fighting against further tax cuts, such as the repeal of the Estate Tax, and will work to elect a Democratic Congress in 2006 that will restore sound and responsible fiscal and monetary policies in Washington.
Approved by the Santa Clara County Central Committee

Adopted October 02, 2005

Resolution Number MAN05.04

Strategy To Oppose Republicans For Their Failure To Invest In America
WHEREAS: The recent devastation of New Orleans was not only predictable but was predicted by many experts who warned repeatedly that the levees protecting the city would not withstand a category 4 or larger hurricane that was certain to strike the city at some point; and
WHEREAS: Despite these warnings the Bush Administration had drastically cut funding for flood control projects in southern Louisiana; and
WHEREAS: Such funding cuts are merely symptomatic of the Republican ideology of promoting tax reduction with the consequent failure to invest not only in infrastructure - flood control in Louisiana being only the most egregious example - but in education, health care, conservation, environment, renewable energy, and many other areas; That is, Republicans are ideologically committed to failure to invest in America
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the California Democratic Party seizes upon the example of the inundation of New Orleans to call on all Democratic Party organizations - local, state, and national - to make the Republican failure to invest in America the key component of a grand electoral strategy to remove Republicans from all levels of government.
Approved by the Santa Clara County Central Committee

Adopted October 02, 2005

Resolution Number LA05.32

Supporting Optional Instant Runoff Voting
WHEREAS: The California Democratic Party Platform calls for exploring alternative election systems, such as instant runoff voting (IRV), and Democratic National Committee Chair Howard Dean has and continues to publicly state his support of the use of IRV; and
WHEREAS: The use of IRV in San Francisco’s Board of Supervisors elections in November 2004 was a resounding success according to practically all observers; and
Whereas: The use of IRV by each state (in particular, by either New Hampshire or Florida) in the November 2000 Presidential election would have prevented the stealing of the election of Al Gore by George W. Bush, as IRV eliminates vote splitting and spoiler effects.

Therefore, be it resolved: That the California Democratic Party supports allowing the option of using IRV in single-winner local elections, including elections in general law cities and counties.

Sponsored by 14th Assembly District Committee; San Mateo County Democracy for America; Santa Clara County Democratic Party; 69th AD; Patrick Henry Democratic Club

Adopted October 02, 2005

Resolution Number MAN05.14

Thanking Senators Dianne Feinstein and Barbara Boxer for Their Votes Against Confirmation of Judge John Roberts.

Whereas: The Senate Judiciary Committee recently held confirmation hearings on Judge John Roberts as the next Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, where California's U.S. Senator Dianne Feinstein was the only female committee member; and

Whereas: Senator Feinstein spoke eloquently in her opening remarks, which included her promise that she could not vote in the affirmative if Judge Roberts did not give his assurance that he would uphold privacy rights, especially the right for a woman to choose an abortion, guaranteed by Roe v. Wade; and

Whereas: Senator Feinstein kept her promise to Californians, especially women, and voted against the confirmation of Judge John Roberts.

Therefore, be it resolved: That the California Democratic Party gives its heartfelt thanks to Senator Dianne Feinstein for taking this important stand on behalf of women and all who believe in a woman's right to choose.

Therefore, be it further resolved: That the California Democratic Party also acknowledges and thanks California's U.S. Senator Barbara Boxer for keeping her promise to only support a nominee she believed would protect the rights and freedoms of the people she serves in California, and as such voted against John Roberts on the Senate floor.

Submitted by Senator Art Torres (Ret.), Chairman of the California Democratic Party

Adopted October 02, 2005

Resolution Number SAC05.40


Whereas: The Bush Administration has used inflammatory rhetoric to speak out against the country of Venezuela, a neighbor to America in the Western hemisphere with ties to American interests; and

Whereas: The California Democratic Party supports the sovereignty of nations and the use of negotiations and arbitration bodies such as the World Court or the United Nations, to resolve differences between nations, including issues such as worker rights, rather than push America into yet another international conflict due to the lack of leadership by the Bush Administration; and

Whereas: The Bush Administration gave opportunity to inappropriate comments by Pat Robertson that only serves to disgrace the role of America in international affairs.

Now, therefore, be it resolved: That the California Democratic Party denounces the Bush Administration's lack of ability to achieve a foreign policy that serves to protect the interests of America and workers' rights, here and abroad, with such actions by the President being outside established international norms for the rule of law and the sovereignty of nations.

Submitted by Mark Hull-Richter and Patrick Henry Demo Club

Adopted October 02, 2005

Resolution Number SAC05.34

Withdrawal from the WTO and Cancellation of NAFTA.

Whereas: The United States' participation in the World Trade Organization (WTO) and the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) is responsible for the loss of a great many American jobs to foreign laborers, who earn significantly less for their work than U.S. minimum wage laws would allow U.S. workers to earn and who are not protected by the higher labor standards present in the United States; and

Whereas: Countries are prevented from and can be sued for enforcing their own environmental laws under the terms of NAFTA and the WTO; and

Whereas: NAFTA and the WTO both place the profits of corporations above the rights of governments and their people.

Therefore, be it resolved: That the California Democratic Party calls upon all members of Congress to create and pass all legislation necessary to provide for cancellation of NAFTA and for withdrawal from the agreement establishing the WTO.

Submitted by Mark Hull-Richter and Patrick Henry Demo Club

Adopted October 02, 2005

Resolution Number LA05.20 b

Accurate, Honest, and Verifiable Elections.
WHEREAS:
The right to vote is fundamental to our democracy;
The Democratic Party has a long history of fighting for everyone to have an opportunity to vote;
Accurate, honest, and verifiable elections are the only way that all franchised citizens can be sure that their vote has been counted

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That a top priority of all elected officials should be to insure our right to vote and have that vote counted by insuring that all machines used to collect and count votes shall have a verifiable paper trail. Also, that all franchised voters have an equal opportunity to vote by insuring that adequate voting places will be available to everyone.
Submitted by 74th Assembly District Committee; Rio Vista Democratic Club; Northern Solano Democratic
Adopted July 31, 2005
Resolution Number SAC05.36

Afghan & Iraqi Children's War Memorial
WHEREAS: It is the duty of a society to try and protect children from harm, destruction and death; and
WHEREAS: While children should have the right to live in health and grow into adulthood, a great many children have been injured and/or killed in Afghanistan and Iraq, during the wars and internal repression that have occurred over the past 30 years; and
WHEREAS: Americans have a special duty to honor and remember the Afghan and Iraq children who were and continue to be victims of the fighting in those countries

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the California Democratic Party calls upon the United States to contribute to the erection of children's war memorials in Afghanistan and Iraq to honor those children killed or wounded during the wars and internal repression that have occurred over the past 30 years.
Submitted by Resolutions Committee; 69th Assembly District Committee; Natasha Hull-Richter
Adopted July 31, 2005
Resolution Number LA05.14

Amend Voting Age In California To 17 Years
WHEREAS: The current California voting age is 18 and state law requires first graders be 6 by the December 2 cut-off date, and this does not allow the many young people to vote who are 17 and who serve our country in the military and have recently graduated from high school completing civics and government classes that give them more than enough information to make mature decisions in elections; and
WHEREAS: As a result of that action, many young people are not inclined to ever register to vote because they may have lost interest in the process; and
WHEREAS: In 13 other states (Arizona, Maryland, Virginia, etc.) that have lowered the voting age to 17, the youth voter turnout has greatly increased

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the California Democratic Party declares that it supports lowering the voting age to 17
THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That the California Democratic Party urges the California Assembly and Senate to immediately amend the Constitution to lower the voting age to 17 in California, and to encourage full youth participation in conventions, caucuses, committees and other meetings and events in our Party.
Submitted by Natasha and Alexandar Hull-Richter; 68th Assembly District Committee; West Orange County Demo Club
Adopted July 31, 2005
Resolution Number LAL05.09

Assist And Support Local Communities In Their Efforts To Plan For Sustainability And Post-Petroleum Self Reliance
WHEREAS: Our increasingly global economy depends upon fossil fuels, which are known to be finite resources with all-time world peak oil production estimated to have already occurred, resulting in an unsustainable situation that is well documented; and
WHEREAS: Local communities, such as Willits in Mendocino County, California, have begun to plan for a post-petroleum (a.k.a. "post-carbon") economy, so as to be prepared for the drastic changes that the coming decline of oil supplies will bring about, with the goal of greater self sufficiency by providing for local needs with small-scale decentralized cooperative methods, including increased use of renewable energy, local food production, the avoidance of unnecessary transportation and reduced consumption of resources; and
WHEREAS: Rewarding such efforts would help to implement California's energy policy of 20 percent renewables by the year 2010 and other policies to the benefit of many, while furthering the overall goal of reducing dependence upon fossil fuels because of accelerated global warming and climate change now occurring, national security issues, environmental issues, health impacts and other reasons
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the California Democratic Party encourages Democratic elected representatives and policy-makers to assist and support local communities engaged in efforts to plan for sustainability and post-petroleum self reliance through policies, legislation, incentives, rewards and all available means.

Submitted by Mendocino County Central Committee

Adopted July 31, 2005

Resolution Number SACL05.01

Campaign Finance And Disclosure Loopholes
WHEREAS: It has been widely reported in state and national newspapers that Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger and U.S. Representatives Randy "Duke" Cunningham (RCA) and Tom DeLay (R-TX), have schemed with special interests to circumvent laws regulating the acceptance or reporting of gifts by exploiting loopholes in campaign finance and disclosure laws to funnel money from said special interests into their campaigns, pockets and/or elected officials; and
WHEREAS: The California Democratic Party believes it is the height of hypocrisy for Republicans to lay claim to serving as a moral compass for the nation while at the same time continuing to find new, unethical and immoral ways to bend the rules to their ends; and
WHEREAS: The California Democratic Party finds it equally disturbing that California and national Republicans have chosen to either defend such unethical behavior or remain unknowingly silent

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the California Democratic Party strongly condemns the recent, and well-documented, efforts of Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger, U.S. Representative Randy "Duke" Cunningham, and U.S. Representative Tom DeLay to circumvent campaign finance and disclosure laws and spirit of the laws.

Submitted by California Young Democrats

Adopted July 31, 2005

Resolution Number LAL05.11

Condemning Gallo Wine
WHEREAS: Gallo Wine has refused to re-negotiate a fair agreement with the United Farm Workers, AFL-CIO at its Gallo of Sonoma Vineyards since November 2003, over 17 months; and
WHEREAS: Gallo was found guilty in December 2003 by an Administrative Law Judge of illegally trying to decertify the UFW and their ruling was upheld by the California Agricultural Labor Relations board on November 5, 2004; and
WHEREAS: The California Democratic Party, joining hundreds of organizations and over 30,000 people who contacted Gallo, was rejected in their request that the farm workers be treated with respect and dignity

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the California Democratic Party will contact Joseph Gallo, President of Gallo Wine and demand that he settle the dispute with the UFW

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That the California Democratic Party will publicly condemn Gallo and support the UFW’s campaign to win a fair contract for the vineyard workers at Gallo of Sonoma.

Submitted by 25+ DSCC Members

Adopted July 31, 2005

Resolution Number SAC05.19

Death With Dignity
WHEREAS: The end-of-life rights guaranteeing individual liberty and personal privacy which have come to be known as Death with Dignity, which permit terminally ill, mentally capable adults to request and receive a prescription they may self-administer to hasten their own death, are founded upon the most basic human freedom of personal choice, because these rights ensure that a mentally competent terminally ill person has control over his or her end-of-life decisions; the Death with Dignity Act of Oregon has eased pain and provided dignity, comfort and peace of mind to patients and their families since 1997, and where there has been no evidence that patients have been coerced by families or by insurers to accept death, and where a third of those who requested such a prescription never took them, but instead had the comfort of knowing they were in control of the final days of their lives - and knowing they would not have to resort to violent means to end their suffering; and
WHEREAS: Death with Dignity approaches the subject of hastening one’s death with the care and rigor it deserves, and is not designed to encourage physician-assisted suicide, but instead replaces the unspoken interaction between doctors and patients with a clear process that encourages open communication and serious deliberation; and
WHEREAS: California Democratic Party platform provides for special consideration for the needs of people with disabilities, especially those in institutions, and special care must be taken to protect their rights and ensure they fully understand the medical decision they are making and that all members of society, regardless of income level, insurance coverage or lack thereof, receive equal palliative care.
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the California Democratic Party stands in strong support of efforts to ensure Death with Dignity for all Californians, thereby providing mentally competent terminally ill adult Californians with the legal protections which ensure that any decision to hasten impending death is made in consultation with families and doctors, with proper restraint and reflection, but ultimately free of coercion from any party, because the decision by a dying patient to hasten one's death should be a matter of individual choice, and not the government's. 

Sponsored by Catherine Dodd, Assemblyman Lloyd Levine, San Francisco Democratic County Central Committee; California Young Democrats; Senior Caucus of the California Democratic Party

Adopted July 31, 2005

Demanding That President Bush File A Budget Containing The Costs Of The Iraq War And The Projected Costs To Revamp Social Security

WHEREAS: The United States is amassing record deficits requiring concerted bipartisan efforts to balance the budget and return our great country to the path of fiscal responsibility; and

WHEREAS: The Democratic Party stands for fiscal responsibility, socially responsible values, and prudent and honest budgeting practices that require a complete and realistic estimate of all expenses; and

WHEREAS: President George Bush’s $2.5 trillion budget fails to include the costs of the Iraq war or the President’s estimated costs to revamp social security

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the California Democratic Party calls on President Bush to submit an amended budget that sets forth the complete, forthright, and realistic estimate of all expenses for the government, including the expenses to carry on the Iraq war and the projected costs of President Bush’s proposals to revamp Social Security.

Submitted by 14th Assembly District Committee; 70th Assembly District Committee; Madera County Central Committee

Adopted July 31, 2005

Resolution Number LA05.43

Encouraging Fuel Efficient Vehicles

WHEREAS: The technology exists to produce vehicles with increased fuel efficiency which will reduce our dependence on foreign oil; Increased fuel efficiency will eliminate the need to destroy places of beauty and habitats for other creatures and will lead to better air quality and less environmental pollution

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the fuel efficiency requirements for all vehicles shall be increased; this will include minimum standards for trucks, buses, and passenger vehicles.

Submitted by Rio Vista Democratic Club; Northern Solano Democratic Club

Adopted July 31, 2005

Resolution Number SAC05.39

Extradition Of Posada

WHEREAS: The United States Government claims to oppose terrorism and has asked other countries to turn over terror suspects, linked to crimes committed within or against the United States, to the United States Government despite the use of the death penalty by the United States Government; and

WHEREAS: An official Venezuelan investigation determined that a plan, hatched in Caracas, Venezuela, under the direction of Luis Posada Carriles (a Cuban-Venezuelan) and Orlando Bosch, was successful when, on October 6, 1976, a Cubana de Avacion airplane exploded in mid-air, killing 73 passengers, including 27 Cuban Nationals who had just won the Fencing Championship in Caracas, Venezuela, 11 Guyanese students and 4 Korean students, and in view of the fact that Luis Posada Carriles escaped prison in Venezuela after conviction for his certain of his crimes; and

WHEREAS: American authorities, who have Luis Posada Carriles in custody, have failed and continue to fail to turn Posada over to Venezuelan authorities, even though Venezuela has jurisdiction over the crimes committed in Venezuela and even though Venezuela abolished the death penalty long ago

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the California Democratic Party calls on the United States government to take all action necessary to ensure and to expedite the extradition of Luis Posada Carriles to Venezuela.

Submitted by 69th Assembly District Committee; Mark Hull-Richter

Adopted July 31, 2005

Resolution Number LA05.31

For A Voter Bill Of Rights
WHEREAS: We strive toward a more perfect union where we clearly communicate our democratic will through free, fair, transparent, secure, accurate and accountable elections; and
WHEREAS: Substantive debate and doubt continue to call into question the integrity and accountability of Voting Systems and Procedures in California and other of our United States; and
WHEREAS: We believe that quality of Voting Systems and Procedures should rise above reasonable doubt, and California voters should lead the world with confidence in their Voting Systems and Procedures.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the California Democratic Party does hereby call for creation of a Voter Bill of Rights, which calls upon maximizing accuracy of vote countings, including the use of accessible voter verified paper ballots, defined as the ballot of record; requiring the use of open source software; increasing voter participation; transparent, independent, non-partisan oversight; notification of voters' options to request a paper ballot; maximized voter access and enfranchisement; procedures to count every vote; and Election Day as a National Holiday.

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

Submitted by 6th Assembly District Committee; 14th Assembly District Committee; 14th Assembly District Steering Cmte; 16th Assembly District Committee; Humboldt County Central Committee; City of Alameda Democratic Club; Asian-Pacific Caucus of the Democratic Party of Alameda County; John George Democratic Club; Dean Democratic Club of Silicon Valley; Rio Vista Democratic Club; Wellstone Democratic Renewal Club.

Adopted July 31, 2005

Resolution Number LA05.06

Governor Caving Into Special Interests

WHEREAS: Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger:
Promised in the November 2003 recall election to oppose special interests and not take special interest money;
Has not only broken his campaign pledge not to accept special interest money, but has, in fact, taken more than $14 million in special interest contributions including real estate developers, insurance companies, medical and financial institutions;
Has appointed special interest industry representatives to regulatory and top advisory positions (including a timber industry executive as Environmental Protection Agency undersecretary, an HMO executive as Chief of Staff, and former representative of big agricultural interests to oversee agricultural safety and environmental standards as Food and Agriculture Secretary), putting public safety at risk;
In a plan inspired by House Republican Tom Delay, has proposed bypassing our lawfully elected legislators in order to place an initiative on the ballot to gerrymander California by redrawing districts prior to the 2010 census in order to minimize Democratic representation in congress and in the state legislature;
Appointed a Republican Secretary of State to oversee California elections, ignoring the will of the people, who had elected a Democrat;
Has failed to live up to his promises to balance California’s budget or to attract new businesses to the state to generate revenues;
Has received an “F” from the League of Conservation Voters for failing to protect our environment;
Has sought to roll back safety rules that assure adequate nursing staffing in hospitals and has vetoed bills to stop hospital closures and expand health care coverage, jeopardizing patients’ safety;
Has proposed a budget that threatens devastating cuts to education and health care, and that harms working families while protecting millionaires and special interests;
Has broken his promise to adequately fund public schools, has proposed fee increases and deep cuts for our state colleges and universities; and has reneged on promises to protect teachers' pensions;
Has vetoed an increase in the minimum wage and a bill to help Californians acquire affordable prescription drugs from Canada;
Has imposed secrecy in government by locking citizens out of the Performance Review Task Force, while powerful special interests were given seats at the table; and
WHEREAS: The Governor has proven that he cannot be trusted to protect California’s citizens and environment over the demands of corporate special interests.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the California Democratic Party deplores Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger’s caving in to special interests and calls upon all Californians to reject his special interest policies.

Submitted by: 45th and 77th Assembly District Committees

Adopted July 31, 2005

Resolution Number LA05.27

Green Team
WHEREAS: Over the last century concrete evidence has been recorded of global warming, with the current scientific consensus being that most of the warming observed over the last 50 years is attributable to human activities; and
WHEREAS: The nations of the world in concert in December 1997 drafted the Kyoto Protocol to deal with the largest sources of pollution among developed nations, with the United States being the largest contributor by far to that pollution; and
WHEREAS: The United States has refused to ratify the Kyoto Protocol which went into effect in February 2005, even though 141 other nations have done so
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the members of the California Democratic Party and as concerned citizens of the planet, strongly recommend that all communities, cities, counties and the state adopt the intent of the accords.

Submitted by Bob Handy, Director Region 10, 35th AD; Sandy Cook, Past Chair 33rd AD; Marty Blum, Mayor of Santa Barbara, 35th AD; Murray Rosenbluth, Mayor Port Hueneme, 41st AD; Rebecca Carey Chair, 33rd AD; Tom Parker, Chair, 37th AD; Sharon L. Hillbrant, Chair Ventura Central Committee, 37th AD; Yvette Andrade, Chair Latino Caucus, 33rd AD; Jim Miller, Vice Chair 37th AD; Sandy Emberland, 37th AD; Beth Fambach, 37th AD; Ferial Masry, 37th AD; Don Katz 37th, AD; Renee Lancon, 37th AD; Paul Markowitz, 37th AD; Tom Mullens, Pres Conejo Valley Club, 37th AD; Chris Robson, 37th AD; Russ Weed, SBCC, 33rd AD; Art Hallenbeck, 35th AD; Art Hicks, SBCC, 33rd AD; Steve Weiner, SBCC, 35th AD; Betty Weiner, SBCC, 35th AD; Dan Ancona, SBCC, 35th AD; Larry Miller, VCCC, 37th AD; Carol Kesselman, VCCC, 37th AD; Robert Cuthbert, SBCC, 33rd AD; Harlan Hobgood, SLO, CC 33rd AD; Mel L Lowry, 37th AD
Adopted July 31, 2005

Resolution Number LA05.18
Improve Public Education For All Californians
WHEREAS: Governor Schwarzenegger proposes to cut spending on public education by $2.2 billion in the coming budget year at the expense of California’s six million school children and other students; and
WHEREAS: He has refused to honor his solemn promise given last year to protect schools from such cuts and to pay back $2 billion dollars in school reductions in 2004 to help balance the current year budget; and
WHEREAS: Millions of California voters approved Proposition 98 to protect our schools from budget fluctuations, yet he now proposes to suspend Proposition 98 and resolve the state’s latest fiscal troubles on the backs of teachers, community college students, parents and schoolchildren
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the California Democratic Party urges the Governor, Board of Education and state legislators to take every step possible to meet the requirements of Proposition 98 and develop a solution to the budget crisis that protects funding for California schools, increases revenues and does not eliminate teaching jobs, reduce classroom teacher salaries or eliminate school books.

Submitted by the San Mateo County Central Committee
Adopted July 31, 2005

Resolution Number LA05.49
Military Use Of Depleted Uranium Weapons
WHEREAS: The United States military is using bunker busting and armor piercing weapons that are using depleted uranium; Depleted uranium is widely spread, remains in the soil, and does serious harm to the health of all living creatures; Persistent exposure to depleted uranium in the environment, especially by our troops in the field, can cause disease, mutation, and death
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: The United States government will stop using depleted uranium in weapons and will clean up the contamination that remains in the countries where these weapons have been used.

Submitted by Rio Vista Democratic Club; the Northern Solano Democratic Club
Adopted July 31, 2005

Resolution Number LAL05.15
Oppose Deregulation Of Electric And Telecommunications Service
WHEREAS: Electric service and telecommunications service regulated in the public interest, including protections for consumers as well as support for capital investment, have formed essential parts of the infrastructure of the California economy, permitting California’s robust economic development and job growth; and
WHEREAS: Deregulation of electric service led to an economic and fiscal disaster for California and for the energy industry, including degradation of service and blackouts, high rates and consumer rip-offs, job losses, economic destabilization, industry financial destabilization and consolidation through deceptive financial and accounting practices such as those exhibited by Enron; and
WHEREAS: The deregulation of telecommunications service, including cellular telephone service, can lead to a similar array of problems, including degradation of service quality; consumer rip-offs from misleading and fraudulent practices; job losses as work is eliminated,
consolidated in other states, or outsourced to other countries; accounting fraud such as exhibited by Global Crossing, Worldcom and Adelphia; while weakening the ability of elected policy-makers to ensure the advancement of communications services, including wireless and broadband

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the California Democratic Party opposes any further deregulation of electric service and telecommunications service in California

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That the California Democratic Party communicates this position to the California Public Utilities Commission, State Senate President pro Tempore Don Perata and Assembly Speaker Fabian Nunez.

Submitted by Alex Rooker, Jim Gordon, Labor Caucus of the California Democratic Party, and 25+ DSCC Members

Adopted July 31, 2005

Resolution Number SAC05.03
Opposing Efforts To Eliminate Necessary Support To Injured Persons During Their Time Of Greatest Need

WHEREAS: Insurance companies, pharmaceutical companies and other large companies treat seriously injured persons unfairly to avoid their responsibility for injuries; and

WHEREAS: Seriously injured persons are usually in dire economic straits so they are unable to pay for medical expenses, court costs, or the rates that hourly-based attorneys charge; and

WHEREAS: Moves are afoot to adopt laws that will, if adopted, make it more difficult for injured people to obtain medical services and legal assistance

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the California Democratic Party opposes any attempts to eliminate assistance to injured persons trying to obtain just compensation for their injuries that will:
a) prevent medical providers from providing services to injured persons on a "lien" basis by which the providers agree to waive payment until the claim is settled or tried, b) prevent attorneys from advancing court costs and related expenses for clients, c) place limits on the amount an attorney can earn as a contingent fee to make most cases unprofitable for a contingent fee attorney to handle, and d) make it more difficult for injured people to obtain medical services and legal assistance.

Submitted by 70th Assembly District Committee
Adopted July 31, 2005

Resolution Number LAL05.07
Opposing The Proposed “Mileage Tax”

WHEREAS: Governor Schwarzenegger’s "California Performance Review Commission" has proposed raising over $300 million annually from a new tax on motor vehicle mileage (miles driven); and

WHEREAS: Under the Governor’s proposed mileage tax, owners of fuel-efficient vehicles would be penalized for choosing transportation options that reduce our nation’s dependence on foreign sources of energy; and

WHEREAS: The Governor’s proposed mileage tax would be monitored by installing tracking devices such as a Global Position System on every vehicle, providing a further governmental assault on citizens’ privacy

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the California Democratic Party strongly opposes consideration of such a regressive mileage tax to finance our transportation infrastructure

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That the California Democratic Party condemns Governor Schwarzenegger for hypocrisy by eliminating the car tax (vehicle license fee) and thereby favoring gas-guzzling vehicles, only to now propose a mileage tax that penalizes Californians who choose vehicles with lower fuel consumption.

Submitted by San Luis Obispo County Central Committee
Adopted July 31, 2005

Resolution Number LA05.13 b
Opposition To The Republican Governor’s Attacks On Pension Funds

WHEREAS: The governor has proposed a cut in the state’s budget that will increase what state workers and public school teachers pay into their pension funds and eliminate the state’s obligation to contribute to public pension funds; and

WHEREAS: The Republican governor has proposed to require local school districts to pay more into the pension fund, and to use local Prop. 98 funds to cover the state’s failure to support their employees and thereby reduce the available funds for classrooms, instructional materials and other vital school programs; and

WHEREAS: This proposal by the Republican governor goes against the long standing support of the California Public Employees Retirement System (CalPERS) and the California State Teachers Retirement System (CalSTRS) that has served poorly paid state workers and underpaid public school teachers for years, with some of the new proposals designed to turn the system into private accounts similar to the President’s risky plan to privatize social security
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the California Democratic Party opposes changing the Public Pension fund systems of CalPERS and CalSTRS as proposed by the Republican governor that shifts the financial burden to public schools and thus harming local educational programs for California's students and families.

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That the attack on state workers and public school teachers is part of the Republicans' plan to dismantle programs for middle class and working families while increasing profit margins for big business and wealthy Americans and Republican special interest groups.

Submitted by 45th Assembly District Committee; Sacramento County Central Committee
Adopted July 31, 2005

Resolution Number SAC05.17
Protect Local Government Agencies

WHEREAS: It is the Local Agency Formation Commission, LAFCO, mandate to (1) encourage the orderly formation of local government agencies, (2) preserve agricultural land resources and open space, and (3) discourage urban sprawl; and
WHEREAS: There is an appearance of conflict of interest when LAFCO staff are paid consultants to developers in districts where developers' interests are challenging the positions of publicly elected boards and commissions that support orderly growth; and
WHEREAS: Developer interests have attempted to circumvent existing laws requiring that all new development have documented existing water sources by demanding dissolution of one or more boards

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the California Democratic Party opposes any attempts by developers' interests to corrupt the LAFCO mandates

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That the California Democratic Party encourages the California Attorney General to take steps necessary to ensure that LAFCOs are following the laws as mandated by the State Legislature.

Submitted by 38th Assembly District Committee; Democratic Alliance for Action; Democratic Women of the San Fernando Valley
Adopted July 31, 2005

Resolution Number LA05.50
Protect Low-Income Families Who Receive CalWORKS Cash Aid

WHEREAS: Over 1.2 million very low-income individuals (over three percent of the State’s population) in California rely on CalWORKs to pay for all or part of their family income; and
WHEREAS: Two-thirds of these individuals are children whose parent or parents must work in order for them to receive this payment, but still grow up in a family whose typical total family incomes is less than $15,600 per year for a single parent caring for two children; and
WHEREAS: The Republican Governor of California has proposed both reducing the CalWORKs grant levels and permanently eliminating inflation adjustments, which could reduce the grant by as much as 11 percent on July 1, 2005 and then permanently freezing the grant at that level

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the California Democratic Party opposes reducing grants for CalWORKs families
THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That the California Democratic Party opposes permanently suspending cost-of-living inflation adjustments for CalWORKs grants.

Submitted by 9th Assembly District Committee
Adopted July 31, 2005

Resolution Number SAC05.21
Protect Student Rights And Privacy

WHEREAS: High school student records are now accessible to the U.S. military's recruiting efforts through the military's new "open door" access to student names, addresses and telephone listings based on Section §9528 of the 2001 No Child Left Behind law and through private marketers consigned by the Department of Defense; and
WHEREAS: It is essential that parents and high school students be well informed of their rights to privacy from military recruiters, in addition to information about the practices of military recruiters and student alternatives to military service; and
WHEREAS: Military recruiters often choose to recruit from less affluent public high schools, which creates racial and income-based inequality in recruitment efforts

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the California Democratic Party supports the notification of parents and students of their right to request that the individual student's name, address and telephone listing not be released to military recruiters by their school without prior written parental consent
THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That the California Democratic Party supports student privacy rights protected by the Family Educational Right and Privacy Act (FERPA), is opposed if there is parental objection to the collection of student data by private marketers employed by the Department of Defense and supports additional legislative efforts to clarify and strengthen student privacy rights in this regard.
Submitted by 14th Assembly District Committee Executive Committee; Steve Preminger; Emy Thurber; Sandra Lowe; Karen Weinstein Mal Burnstein; Bobbie Steinhardt; Wellstone Democratic Renewal Club
Adopted July 31, 2005

Resolution Number SAC05.16

Protect Women's Legal Rights

WHEREAS: Arnold Schwarzenegger admitted wrongdoing to the nation's citizens before the 2003 recall election, saying that he would arrange for his own investigation into his own conduct relating to his alleged inappropriate physical conduct towards 16 women, but then dismissed the subject as “old news” after the recall election was over, even though the Los Angeles Times and Premiere magazine had written authoritatively on the subject; and
WHEREAS: Such conduct, which is a criminal offense, warranting jail time for each such charge, has not been tolerated, nor should it be tolerated of any citizen, especially the governor of a state; and
WHEREAS: The women of this State and the nation deserve better than to be treated as second class citizens in the eyes of the law
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the California Democratic Party goes on record asking the Governor to “keep his campaign promise” to call for a full investigation of all of the complaints of his alleged inappropriate conduct.
Submitted by Ann West, Women's Caucus of the California Democratic Party
Adopted July 31, 2005

Resolution Number LA05.24

Quality Preschool

WHEREAS: By partnering with parents, quality preschool programs prepare children to do their best by nurturing their social, cognitive, linguistic and physical development; enhancing their self confidence; and paving the way for a lifetime of learning; and during their K-12 years and beyond, children who attend preschool perform better on achievement tests in reading and math; exhibit more positive behaviors in the classroom; are more likely to graduate from high school, continue their education and be more prosperous as adults; and
WHEREAS: Ensuring access to preschool for all 4-year-olds whose parents choose to send them has proven to be one of the soundest educational and financial investments the public can make, providing demonstrated, significant, long-term savings on the costs of special education, grade retention, welfare and crime; and
WHEREAS: Preschool programs should be funded adequately in order to assure adherence to established standards of quality, and to attract and keep professionals; be inclusive of children with special needs; be offered in culturally, ethnically and linguistically appropriate settings; be clearly articulated with the K-12 system and programs serving younger children; and be linked to full-day, affordable early care and education programs to meet the needs of working families
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the California State Democratic Party urges the State of California to invest in voluntary, quality preschool for all 4-year-olds
THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That the California State Democratic Party will work with a broad spectrum of community members and state policy-makers to increase voluntary access to quality preschool for all 4-year-olds through both public and private providers in a variety of settings, including schools, child care centers, Head Start programs and family child care homes.
Submitted by 14th AD Steering Committee; 16th Assembly District Committee; City of Alameda Democratic Club
Adopted July 31, 2005

Resolution Number LA05.17

Republican “Birth Taxes”

WHEREAS: Republican administrations in Sacramento and Washington DC have once again produced the largest state and national deficits in history; and
WHEREAS: Any American family knows that a runaway credit card debt ultimately ends up in higher costs due to interest rates and the long term disastrous impact of deficit spending, ultimately requiring repayment at higher costs; and
WHEREAS: The Republican deficit spending is akin to a “back door tax” requiring both Americans today and future generations to pay the bill, thus making this a “birth tax,” rather than providing leadership and responsible budget planning that resulted balanced budgets as produced by the Clinton administration
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the California Democratic Party exposes Republican lawmakers’ run-away deficit policies, including the blank check given to the president for his war in Iraq by educating the public on the impact of these irresponsible policies on health care; social security; public education; national security; veterans’ benefits and the environment

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That all Democrats reach out to working families across the state and nation to build an understanding of the impact of deficit spending and the need to build budgets based on programs for people that are based on economic development and a tax base that addresses the nation’s needs.

Submitted by the Northeast Democratic Club
Adopted July 31, 2005

Resolution Number LA05.22
Save Our Public Libraries
WHEREAS: The City of Salinas will have to close all of its public libraries, making it the largest city in the nation being forced to do so; and
WHEREAS: Libraries are the cornerstone of an informed citizenry and as such a vital component of a democracy; and
WHEREAS: The increased transfer of property tax revenues from cities, counties, and local districts to State funds has eroded local governments ability to fund their public libraries
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the California Democratic Party works towards a State budget that reverses the property tax shift to allow cities, counties, and special districts to restore funding to vital services, including their libraries
THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That this resolution be transmitted to all members of the California Legislature and the Governor.
Submitted by 27th Assembly District Committee; 28th Assembly District Committee; Monterey County Central Committee; Salinas Valley Democratic Club
Adopted July 31, 2005

Resolution Number SAC05.38
Stopping The Use Of Forms Of Sonar That Harm Whales, Dolphins And Other Marine Life
WHEREAS: Several mass strandings of whales have been linked directly to joint NATO exercises, including strandings in the Canary Islands and along the coast of Greece. There is no dispute that intense bursts of high-powered sonar can and do kill whales. The scientists of the International Whaling Commission have stated that the evidence linking such naval sonar to whale strandings appears "overwhelming"
The scientific journal "Nature" has reported that intense, active sonar may kill marine mammals by causing their internal organs to hemorrhage.
In the face of this alarming evidence, it's simply cruel and wrong to use high-powered sonar in routine training exercises without taking common-sense steps to protect whales, dolphins and other marine life
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the California Democratic Party urges Congress to ensure that the United States will immediately stop the testing of forms of sonar devices, which do irreparable harm to whales, dolphins, and other marine life and will urge our NATO allies to do the same.
Submitted by the Rio Vista Democratic Club
Adopted July 31, 2005

Resolution Number LAL05.04
Support A Community-Based Biomonitoring Program
WHEREAS: Biomonitoring ("biological monitoring") is the actual measurement of chemicals in the human body, and existing studies, such as the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's National Reports on Human Exposure to Environmental Chemicals, have scientifically demonstrated widespread and ongoing human exposure at the national level to many toxic chemicals in the environment; and
WHEREAS: Biomonitoring data helps determine trends in chemical exposure, identify populations with high exposures, and inform decision-making for legislative and regulatory solutions to chemicals management; and
WHEREAS: Californians are exposed daily to multiple chemicals in consumer goods, cleaning products, cosmetics, personal care products, pesticides, and fuels, many of which are persistent in the environment, build up in human tissue, have known toxic effects on people, and may be linked to chronic health outcomes affecting thousands of Californians
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the California Democratic Party supports the need for comprehensive information about environmental chemical exposure to Californians as a high priority for the promotion of public health
THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That the California Democratic Party supports the establishment of a community-based biomonitoring program in California that will produce California-specific data measuring the levels of chemicals of concern in members of California’s diverse communities and populations, and urges all Democratic officials to so support.
Submitted by the San Francisco County Central Committee; Congresswoman Nancy Pelosi and State Senator Deborah Ortiz
Adopted July 31, 2005

Resolution Number SAC05.01
Support DNC Chair Howard Dean

WHEREAS: Grassroots Democrats from across the United States campaigned for Governor Howard Dean to be the chair of the Democratic National Committee because they believed that he was a straight shooter, told the truth and was not afraid to attack mistaken right-wing Republican policies; and

WHEREAS: Governor Howard Dean was overwhelmingly elected national chair of the Democratic National Committee and has since taking office visited numerous states, worked hard to reinvigorate grassroots operations and has vowed to contest every election in every state wherever possible; and

WHEREAS: The Democratic Party is crying out for bold vision and straightforward leadership and Howard Dean is not afraid to attack the Republican Party for its profligate economic policies, its destructive plans for Social Security, and its attempts to politicize religion in the United States for its own advantage

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the California Democratic Party commends Howard Dean for his courage in speaking out boldly against divisive Republican tactics and policies and commends his energetic attempts to reach out to American citizens of all parties and religions

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That we urge all Democrats to wage a similar offensive against the Republican Party’s disregard for America’s economic stability, its lack of concern for our fading international reputation for justice and fair play, its manipulation of religion for the sake of political gain, and its disregard for civil rights and women’s rights, including reproductive rights.

Submitted by Emy Thurber, Steve Chessin and the California Democratic Party

Adopted July 31, 2005

Resolution Number LA05.42
Support For Continued Amtrak Subsidy And Further High-Speed Rail Systems

WHEREAS:
A national railroad system is energy efficient and environmentally friendly and is an important means of transportation for the nation and as such, the subsidy of Amtrak should be continued;
A national railroad system is an important part of homeland security by providing alternative means of moving people and goods and would attract travelers as an alternative to cross-country plane travel;
A high-speed rail system would eliminate much of the cross-country truck traffic on our highways which causes a large amount of the wear and tear on the roads and would be much safer than cross-country truck traffic which represents an out-of-proportion number of traffic fatalities

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the California Democratic Party recommends that Congress continue the federal subsidy of Amtrak

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That a high-speed rail system should be built in the United States going east and west, and north and south with hubs for local truck pick up and connections with local trains.

Submitted by Rio Vista Democratic Club; North Solano Democrat Club

Adopted July 31, 2005

Resolution Number LA05.25
Support For Mental Health Services For School Age Children

WHEREAS: In the mid-1980’s, then-Speaker of the Assembly Willie Brown assured passage of legislation calling for state and local interagency agreements between county mental health and local school districts in an effort to coordinate services for school age students with serious mental illness and emotional disturbances that impact the education for these students and their families; and

WHEREAS: The result of this legislation has allowed thousands of students with emotional disturbances and their families to receive outpatient mental health counseling; day treatment services coordinating therapy with the educational program and residential treatment programs for our most involved students, with funding for the therapies paid for with state and county mental health funds with schools remaining responsible for the cost of the educational programs; and

WHEREAS: The Governor is in support of defunding the mental health program, repealing the interagency collaboration mandate in law and dumping the full responsibility on local school districts including the cost of and responsibility for the psychotherapy, medication management, residential treatment contracts and services and all other aspects currently funded and provided by county mental health systems, the experts in this area

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the California Democratic Party goes on record in opposition to the proposed changes to the current mental health system and interagency agreements with local school district that take local Proposition 98 dollars to implement a mental health system within the schools without regard for the students and families that depend on these services and the crisis that will occur if the contracts and money stop.
THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That we call upon the legislature to forward fund the current system in support of the students and families who depend on these services; and maintain the mental health professionals within the mental health system as the lead agency for contracting and oversight of these services.
Submitted by 45th Assembly District Committee
Adopted July 31, 2005

Resolution Number LAL05.03
Support The Appointment Of A Special Prosecutor To Investigate Election Fraud
WHEREAS: There have been numerous complaints of election fraud in the past general election; and
WHEREAS: The best way to determine the questions that have arisen as a result of this past general election is to conduct a nationwide, thorough, and non-partisan investigation; and
WHEREAS: The new computer-based election machines with their new technologies must be secure from unauthorized penetration, there is a need to learn from each act of penetration, or attempted penetration of these machines, so that we can make them secure from future attempts to change the vote count
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: The California Democratic Party takes a stand with the National Democratic Party to demand that the appropriate legislation be passed authorizing the appointment of a Special Prosecutor to investigate and prosecute any acts of wrongdoing found to have occurred during the 2004 presidential election.
Submitted by San Diego County Central Committee
Adopted July 31, 2005

Resolution Number LAL05.05
Supporting Non-Discrimination In Health Care
WHEREAS: Transgender people are continually denied coverage by insurance companies and experience discrimination by insurance companies and health care service plans despite the existence of anti-discrimination laws; this unlawful discrimination has forced people who otherwise would purchase private insurance to use county health clinics at taxpayers’ expense; and
WHEREAS: Transgender people are denied coverage for medically necessary procedures under contracts they are able to secure, like gynecological exams or prostrate exams, simply because they are transgender, these patients are forced either to defer care or to pay “out of pocket” for care that already should be covered by their monthly premiums; this discrimination leads to many severe, negative consequences; and
WHEREAS: Transgender people need but are unable to get culturally sensitive and culturally appropriate treatment from health care providers
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the California Democratic Party supports efforts to prohibit such denials of coverage when they are based solely on a person’s transgender status
THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That the California Democratic Party supports ensuring that insurance companies and health care service plans understand their legal obligation to refrain from discriminating against transgender people in the creation and maintenance of contracts and the provision of services and benefits, and goes on record against discrimination by insurance companies and health care service plans based on gender identity.
Submitted by the San Francisco Democratic County Central Committee
Adopted July 31, 2005

Resolution Number LA05.34 b
Universal Health Care
WHEREAS: The number of uninsured Californians has grown even during times of strong economic growth, and the burden of rising health care costs falls disproportionately on working families -- a trend bound to continue without systemic changes in health care funding; and
WHEREAS: California's present health care system creates insecurity for everyone, even Californians with health insurance, who suffer unpredictable coverage, cancellations, little choice of providers, decreased benefits and increased premiums, co-pays, and deductibles; and
WHEREAS: A universal, single-payer health insurance system, with consolidated financing and with an accountable public structure, has been predicted in numerous American studies and demonstrated in other countries to result in greater efficiency, lower costs to businesses, individuals, and government
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the California State Democratic Party supports universal access to health care through a single-payer health insurance system
THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That a copy of this Resolution be provided to members of the Democratic Caucus of the California Legislature.
Submitted by Assembly District Committees – 5th, 6th, 14th, 27th, 28th, 33rd, 35th, 53rd, 54th, 55th; Asian-Pacific Caucus of the Democratic Party of Alameda County; City of Alameda Democratic Club; County Central Committees – Los Angeles, Monterey, San Benito, San Francisco, San Luis Obispo, Santa Cruz, Sonoma; Wellstone Democratic Renewal Club
Adopted July 31, 2005

Resolution Number LA05.21
Urging The State Democratic Party, State, County And Local Officials To Work To Draft A Better Budget
WHEREAS: We find it morally reprehensible in the wealthiest state in the wealthiest nation in the world to bridge the state budget deficit on the backs of the working poor, children, seniors and the disabled; and the governor’s proposed budget cuts 2.8 billion from the state’s K-12 education funding while California has already fallen to 48th in per pupil spending nationwide; $650 million from the CalWORKS program; $136 million in property tax assistance for senior citizens; eliminates $259 million in COLAs from the SSI/SSP programs; reduces IHSS provider payments to the state minimum wage; and increases student fees at both CSUs and UCs; and
WHEREAS: The budget continues to cut transportation funding, taking an additional $1.3 billion from Prop. 42 money on top of the previous $2.1 billion already borrowed, and transfers an additional $216 million in sales tax from the Public Transportation Account to the general fund at a time when the condition of state highways and public transportation pose a risk to public safety, and greatly reduces the quality of life for most Californians
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the California Democratic Party and all public officials work to draft a budget that better serves the social and economic wellbeing of the state and better reflects the values and principals of the people of California.
Submitted by Marin Demo Club; Sonoma County Central Committee
Adopted July 31, 2005

Resolution Number LA05.10b
Clean Money for Statewide & Legislative Campaigns
WHEREAS: The amount of money needed in order to run for public office and to compete against big-monied interests and PACs has grown phenomenally in politics at the local, state, and national levels in the past several years; and
WHEREAS: This pay-to-play system hinders the average citizen lacking great wealth from participating effectively in the political arena, thus undermining the democratic process; and
WHEREAS: Public financing of political campaigns will both improve voters’ access to their elected officials and keep elected officials from spending inordinate amounts of their time fundraising
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the California Democratic Party supports a clean money system for elected statewide and legislative offices and looks to systems working successfully in Arizona and Maine for patterns that could be adopted for California’s unique electoral circumstances
THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That a copy of this Resolution be provided to members of the Democratic Caucus of the California Legislature and Congressional Delegation.
Submitted by Rachel Binah; 14th AD Steering Committee; 16th AD Committee; City of Alameda Demo Club; Gardena Valley Democratic Club; Santa Clara County Central Committee; Torrance Democratic Club
Adopted April 17, 2005

Resolution Number LA05.29
Fighting for the Promise and Protection of Social Security
WHEREAS: The Democratic Party under President Franklin Delano Roosevelt led the fight to establish Social Security as a fully guaranteed United States government insurance benefit that serves as an insurance supplement to private pension plans; a survivor benefit for spouses and minor children; a sole source of income for many seniors; and a protection for individuals with disability and workers disabled on the job; and
WHEREAS: President George W. Bush has embarked on a “privatization” plan that is really a smokescreen to subsidize the stock market and Republican interests with full knowledge that privatization will not increase the longevity or solvency of Social Security and will result in trillions of dollars of debt and interest payments to be paid by future generations who will be left with only risky, unsecured stock market investments; and Bush has used his Social Security political appointees to direct agency employees and resources to promote his plan
WHEREAS: Democrats in Congress know that by raising the $90,000 income cap we will increase the longevity of Social Security far beyond the Congressional Budget Office’s projected date of solvency of 2052, thus maintaining the “promise and protection” of Social Security for generations of future Americans living in uncertain times
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the California Democratic Party opposes the Bush plan to privatize Social Security via crisis politics and scare tactics, and supports the raising of the income cap and other adjustments to address the issue of solvency and longevity for this vital and uniquely American program.

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That all Democrats and fair-minded Americans whose grandparents worked to establish and maintain the promise and protection of Social Security stand up and be counted in opposition to the “gambling and game-playing” of privatization.

Submitted by City of Alameda Demo Club; Lake County Central Committee.; Madera CCC.; Mendocino CCC.; Sacramento CCC.; San Benito CCC.; San Diego CCC; San Luis Obispo; 1st Assembly District Committee.; 5th AD Cmte.; 6th AD Cmte.; 13th AD Cmte.; 14th AD Cmte.; 16th AD Cmte.; 19th AD Cmte.; 33th AD Cmte.; 38th AD Cmte.; Democratic Club of Central Orange Co.; Democratic Club of Coarsegold; Democratic Club of Oakhurst; Democratic Club of San Fernando Valley; Democrats of North Orange Co.; Northern Solano Democratic Club; Lake Co. Democratic Club; Rio Vista Democratic Club; San Mateo Co Democracy for America; Ukiah Valley Democratic Club; Wellstone Democratic Club
Adopted April 17, 2005

Resolution Number LA05.45a

Iraq

WHEREAS: The Bush Administration, using false intelligence estimates, misled the country into an illegal, unnecessary and unwise invasion and occupation of Iraq, against a country that had neither attacked nor posed an immediate threat to the United States, thus jeopardizing our national security; and

WHEREAS: As a result of that action, more than 1,500 American troops have been killed and more than 10,000 other brave Americans have been maimed or injured, and tens of thousands of Iraqis, including many innocent civilians, have also lost their lives, been injured, and seen their property and country’s infrastructure destroyed; and

WHEREAS: The invasion and occupation have created a severe burden on our economy, stretched the capacity of our armed forces including Reserve and National Guard troops who are serving unexpectedly long and difficult tours in Iraq, and continues to cause deep concern at home and abroad about the policies and intentions of the United States to the point where the United States is widely regarded with suspicion, hostility and distrust, and elections in Iraq confirmed that Iraqis wish the United States to withdraw

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the California Democratic Party calls for termination of the occupation at the earliest possible time with the withdrawal of American troops, coupled with the creation of an international body that can assist the Iraqi people in freely and peacefully determining their own future, and that we participate in multi-lateral reconstruction.

Submitted by 3rd AD Comm.; 5th AD Comm.; 13th AD Comm.; 16th AD Comm.; 18th AD Comm.; 21st AD Comm.; 27th AD Comm.; 28th AD Comm.; 33rd AD Comm.; 35th AD Comm.; 38th AD Comm.; 41st AD Comm.; 42nd AD Comm.; 45th AD Comm.; 68th AD Comm.; 69th AD Comm.; 4th AD Steering Comm.; City of Alameda Demo Club; Marin CCC; San Benito CCC; San Mateo CCC; Malibu Demo Club; West Orange Demo Club; Valley Dems United; Dem Club of Conejo Valley; Progressive Dems of America & LA; DSCC members, Ruth Group; Patrick Henry Demo Club; Progressive Demo; Congresswoman Maxine Waters
Adopted April 17, 2005

Resolution Number LA05.55

National Guard and Reserve

WHEREAS: In March 2003 President George W. Bush, without meeting the conditions imposed by Congress in the Joint Resolution to Authorize the Use of United States Armed Forces Against Iraq, took the nation to war without sufficient resources or plans to conduct such a war, drawing many Californians in all branches and components of the service into indefinite service and endless conflict, yet requiring no sacrifice from any citizens not called to service; and

WHEREAS: The legislative initiatives and federal policies designed to support our California troops and their families have consistently fallen short, by failing to provide quick and complete pay services, medical care, job protection, pre-deployment training, and post-deployment rehabilitation follow-up services; and

WHEREAS: The Governor of the State of California is both the elected leader of all Californians in uniform, regardless of service or component, and is the Commander-in-Chief of the California National Guard, and in that position owes due faith and service to all California service persons

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the California Democratic Party calls on all Californians, the Governor, and the State Legislature to support our California troops, regardless of cost, by immediately providing all services that the federal government has failed to provide, including pay support, immediate medical services to service persons and their families, firm job guarantees, post-deployment training, including tuition waivers and other assistance outside Prop. 98, and rehabilitation.
THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That the California Democratic Party requests an end to this particular discrimination in services experienced by the Reserve and National Guard.
Submitted by Sandy Cook, 33rd AD; Art Hicks, 33rd AD; Russ Weed, 33rd AD; Bob Handy, Region 10 Director; Clark McCartney, Veterans Caucus Chair; 25 DSCC Members
Adopted April 17, 2005

Resolution Number LA05.54
Oppose Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger’s Proposed Special Election
WHEREAS: Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger ran for office on a promise to not raise campaign contributions from special interests; and, the Governor has broken that promise not to take special interest money and has been criss-crossing the country raising more money than any Governor in the history of California; and
WHEREAS: The Governor has reneged on his agreement to: restore education funding; vetoed consumer protection laws and opposed lowering the cost of prescription drugs, and providing a minimal increase in the minimum wage; and
WHEREAS: Such an election would be held without the voter-verified paper trail that goes into effect in 2006, at a cost of $70 million in taxpayer money the Governor is planning to spend on a special election that should be used for vital public services
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the California Democratic Party opposes the Governor's proposed special election for his corporate special interest friends.
Submitted by Senator Art Torres (Ret.), Chairman of the California Democratic Party; 13th Assembly District; 14th Assembly District
Adopted April 17, 2005

Resolution Number LA05.40
Opposing DR-CAFTA
WHEREAS: The North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA), the blueprint for subsequent U.S. trade agreements, has negatively impacted both workers and the environment in the United States, Mexico and Canada; and
WHEREAS: NAFTA’s Chapter 11 on Investor Protections has been used to challenge legitimate labor, environmental and public health laws in all three member countries and the Bush Administration has included nearly identical provisions in the Dominican Republic-Central American Free Trade Agreement (DR-CAFTA), despite a clear, bipartisan mandate in Trade Promotion Authority (TPA) of 2002 to revise investor rules; and
WHEREAS: Bush’s DR-CAFTA, despite claims that the agreement constitutes a development strategy, contains provisions on investment, services, and government procurement that would make it virtually impossible for local governments to respond to democratic initiatives to design and implement sustainable and equitable development programs
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the California Democratic Party calls on Democratic members of Congress to develop a forward-looking, pro-democracy trade policy that distinguishes our approach to international trade from that of the GOP, as one that contains the Democratic Party’s core values of a strong economy, strong environment, and strong sense of community, as well as individual freedom in the framework of a just society, and political freedom in the framework of meaningful participation by all citizens.
Submitted by Santa Clara County Central Committee
Adopted April 17, 2005

Resolution Number LA05.37
Reaffirmation of Woman’s Right to Choose
WHEREAS: Personal, private childbearing decisions belong to a woman and whomever she chooses to consult - her family, her doctor, and her God - no one else, especially not with politicians - it is her life, her body, her choice; and, since anti-choice politicians have firmly taken control of both houses of Congress, the White House and a majority of state houses are at work to pass legislation to restrict or even take away a woman's right to choose and to turn back the clock on reproductive freedom; and
WHEREAS: Anti-choice politicians and judges do not believe that patients have a fundamental right to privacy and frequently seek the private medical records of women’s sexual, contraceptive and abortion histories; and
WHEREAS: The anti-choice movement's attack on a woman's right to choose is to stack the federal judiciary with ardent anti-choice jurists, which could result in restrictions to reproductive freedom for generations and to build a legal precedent for the overturn of Roe v. Wade
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the California Democratic Party reaffirm its longstanding position that the right to choose is a right of personal privacy - one that must be forever free from government intrusion; and
THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That the California Democratic Party vigorously defends a woman's right to choose by sending this resolution to Governor Howard Dean, the Democratic National Committee and to the Democratic members of the California Congressional and Senate delegations and the California Legislature.
Submitted by the Democratic Women of the San Fernando Valley
Adopted April 17, 2005

Resolution Number LA05.39
Reject Bolton & Negroponte Nominations
WHEREAS: President Bush's nominee for Ambassador to the United Nations, John Bolton, has shown nothing but contempt for the United Nations throughout his entire career and has demonstrated a disturbing propensity to politicize the intelligence-gathering process by making false claims about weapons programs in Cuba and then trying to have an intelligence analyst punished for disagreeing with his incorrect views; and
WHEREAS: President Bush's nominee for Director of National Intelligence John Negroponte had close ties with Honduran strongman General Gustavo Alvarez who was directly linked to the infamous death squads which killed thousands of people in Central America in the 1980's. Negroponte also encouraged illegal, covert activity and was engaged in a policy of deception as to his activities in Central America and the extent of the death squads and their support by the United States; and
WHEREAS: Both Bolton and Negroponte represent the worst possible choices for the United States as we work to repair our relationships with our allies and rebuild our image around the world and also work to clean up and repair the credibility of our intelligence agencies.
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the California Democratic Party calls upon U.S. Senators to do their duty and oppose the nominations of Bolton and Negroponte
THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That a copy of this resolution be sent to every Democratic U.S. Senator.
Submitted by Patrick Henry Demo Club
Adopted April 17, 2005

Resolution Number LA05.13 Late
Restoring the Value of the State Minimum Wage
WHEREAS: At $6.75 per hour, the current minimum wage punishes hard work and it is so low that it prevents families on welfare from becoming independent and self-sufficient, and increasing the minimum wage will reward work by making it pay more than welfare; and
WHEREAS: The majority of the nearly 3 million minimum wage workers are adult primary breadwinners in their families and many are immigrants; and the typical worker at or near the minimum wage is an adult who is permanently attached to the labor force, and 85% of these workers are age 20 or older, and 63% are full-time workers, and women and immigrants make up the bulk of minimum wage workers in our state, and according to a 2002 report by the California Department of Industrial Relations, "though 28 percent of California's labor force is Hispanic, 55 percent of affected workers claim Hispanic origin," and similarly, 45 percent of California's labor force is female, while 53 percent of the population affected by the 2001 minimum wage increase is female, and minimum wage workers perform some of the most important jobs in our society, including adding to our economy as homecare workers, nursing home workers, childcare workers, farm workers, restaurant workers, recycling center workers, salespersons, cooks, and many other professions; and
WHEREAS: Executive CEO pay increases while the minimum wage continues to fall, and for the minimum wage to match the purchasing power it had in 1968, it would have to be $9.00 per hour, and if it had kept up with productivity gains, it would be over $25.00 today, and, according to Business Week, the average CEO of a major corporation made 42 times the average hourly worker's pay in 1980, 85 times in 1990 and a staggering 531 times in 2000; and this stagnation in the purchasing power of the California minimum wage has made it very difficult for workers to afford basic necessities such as housing and health care, and the California minimum wage of $6.75 only covers 34% of the cost of a two-bedroom apartment, while Oregon's wage of $7.25 covers 51%, Washington's wage of $7.35 covers 51%, and Alaska's wage of $7.15 covers 42%
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the California Democratic Party reaffirms its long-standing commitment to ensuring that hard-working Californians are paid a fair minimum wage with regular increases to offset the growing cost-of-living
THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That the California Democratic Party supports raising the state minimum wage and indexing it to the national inflation rate.
Submitted by 25 DSCC Members
Adopted April 17, 2005
Resolution Number LAL05.56
Steroids
WHEREAS: Steroids and other performance-enhancing substances used by students and professional athletes have been medically linked to teenage suicides, premature death, cancer and severe respiratory ailments; and
WHEREAS: Over 20,000 of California’s 700,000 student athletes have used steroids and many more have used dietary supplements; and
WHEREAS: Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger vetoed legislation in 2004 to set up programs to train high school coaches on how to stop student athletes from relying on use of dangerous steroids and other performance enhancing substances
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the California Democratic Party fully supports, for the health and safety of all students, the continued ban on steroids without a prescription and the imposition of a ban on the use of ephedra, bitter orange, and DHEA, except when prescribed by California-licensed practitioners of Oriental or traditional medicine
THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That the California Democratic Party calls upon the Governor to support with his pen, his signature on legislation to help school coaches protect the athletes who depend on them; and, furthermore, to support with his personal participation in a campaign against the use of steroids and dangerous performance-enhancing substances.
Submitted by State Senator Jackie Speier
Adopted April 17, 2005

Resolution Number LA05.53
Stop Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger's Special Interest Agenda; Support Alliance for a Better California
WHEREAS: Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger has declared war on nurses, teachers, firefighters, peace officers, public employees and working families - the people who care for, educate, protect and move California forward with their dedication and hard work; and
WHEREAS: The Governor has spent more time raising money from his own special interests than addressing the real issues that people in our state care about like funding education and health care and fixing our congested roads; and
WHEREAS: Thousands of Californians in towns and cities across our state have protested against the Governor's failed agenda
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the California Democratic Party supports every effort to stop Schwarzenegger’s special interest agenda
THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That the California Democratic Party supports the Alliance for a Better California as they work for policies (i.e., Cheaper Prescription Drug Act; Car Buyer's Bill of Rights; the Equal Voting Requirements and the Repeal of Electricity Deregulation and Black-out Prevention Act) that will benefit the ALL Californians.
Submitted by Senator Art Torres (Ret.), Chairman of the California Democratic Party
Adopted April 17, 2005

Resolution Number LAL05.10 Late
Support the Demands of Caregivers at Sutter Health Hospitals
WHEREAS: In recent months, many of California's hospital systems have embarked on a new direction, in conjunction with hands-on patient caregivers, to serve the best interests of patients, health care employees, and the community-at-large by agreeing to new system-wide contracts with the members of United Health Care Workers that establish a core set of community standards, most significantly: a real voice for caregivers to ensure safe staffing, with third-party resolution of staffing disputes; a training and upgrading fund to address workforce shortages, improve quality, and meet our communities changing health care needs; pension improvements and retiree health benefits to retain career caregivers; and the right to choose a union and seek a voice at work without employer interference; and
WHEREAS: There is one glaring exception to the constructive social compact that has been achieved between hospitals, patients, caregivers, and the community; Sutter Health; and which alone has rejected these basic community standards and continued to put profits before patients; and
WHEREAS: By imposing substandard working conditions at the expense of quality patient care, shirking its charity care obligations, price-gouging the uninsured, and exercising its enormous market power to drive up costs for all of us, Sutter Health has aggressively led our health care system in the wrong direction.
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the California Democratic Party stands together with Sutter Health's dedicated caregivers - the members of United Health Care Workers - at all Sutter facilities across California, as they fight for a contract that would hold Sutter Health to community standards and reverse Sutter's corporate agenda by putting patients first.

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That the California Democratic Party calls on Sutter to resume good faith negotiations without delay toward a collective bargaining agreement that encompasses the industry-wide workforce standards critical to ensure quality patient care, and encourages the State Democratic Party to take all necessary steps to support all Democratic elected officials who stand with United Health Care Workers in their fight to hold Sutter to community standards.

Submitted by the San Francisco County Central Committee
Adopted April 17, 2005

Resolution Number LA05.26b
Supporting Civil Marriage and Religious Freedom
WHEREAS: Civil marriage is a legal institution recognized by the state in order to promote stable relationships and to protect individuals who are in those relationships; to provide important protections for the families of those who are married; but the gender-specific definition of marriage that the Legislature previously adopted specifically discriminates in favor of different-sex couples and, consequently, discriminates against same-sex couples; and
WHEREAS: The California Democratic Party supports equality under the law regardless of the gender or sexual orientation of the partners; our Party must recognize that benefits that accrue to marriage accrue regardless of the gender or sexual orientation of the partners; and our Party must support efforts to end the pernicious practice of marriage discrimination in California while upholding guarantees of the First Amendment to the United States Constitution and of Section 4 of Article I of the California Constitution to free exercise of religion and enjoyment of religion without discrimination or preference; and
WHEREAS: Throughout American history, California Democrats have been early at the lead against discrimination and for the protection of the rights and liberties of the American people, and our State Democratic Party most recently took a strong position against amending the Constitution of the United States to single out groups of Americans for discrimination.
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the California Democratic Party stands against discrimination in any form and in support of equal rights for all families; and
THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That the California Democratic Party supports public policies guaranteeing civil marriage equality for all people who choose to make a marriage commitment as a couple with full rights, responsibilities, privileges and protections that are conveyed by full legal marital status within the marriage license requirements.
Submitted by the LGBT Caucus; State Senator Joseph Dunn; Desert Stonewall Democrats; Riverside County Central Committee; San Diego Democratic Club; Stonewall Democratic Club of Greater Sacramento; 13th Assembly District Committee; 16th Assembly District Committee; 14th Assembly District Steering Committee
Adopted April 17, 2005

Resolution Number LA05.19
Supporting In-Home Supportive Services Providers ... And Opposing Proposed State Funding Reductions
WHEREAS: In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS) workers perform a critical public service to the frail elderly and persons with disabilities, and more than 10,000 seniors and persons with disabilities in California, and more than 350,000 people statewide rely on the IHSS program to continue living safely in their own homes instead of facing institutionalization; and
WHEREAS: One of the greatest causes of unnecessary institutionalization statewide is the continued homecare provider labor shortage caused by the low wages (often minimum wage in many counties), and the IHSS program has saved the State of California billions of dollars since the early 1970s by enabling people to avoid more costly institutional-based care (estimated to average $48,000 per year per person.); and
WHEREAS: That labor shortage has been somewhat abated in California as a result of more recent improvements in caregiver compensation and benefits approved by County Board of Supervisors and funded by a combination of federal, state and local money; however, the Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger's administration has proposed to take a step backwards by removing state cost sharing for IHSS wages above the minimum wage and for health benefits that will create a crisis in homecare provider availability and place IHSS consumers at-risk of institutionalization.
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the California Democratic Party supports continued and increased state support of this essential service and opposes the proposed cuts to the IHSS program, and applauds the members of the Legislature who have supported health benefits and a living wage for homecare workers and who further support continued and increased state support for the IHSS program, and oppose the proposed cuts to wages and benefits.
 resolutions

Resolution Number LA05.02
Supporting Local Democratic Party Building Efforts
WHEREAS: It is very important that local party organizations need to continually, on a year-round basis, recruit and train Democrats to register voters, campaign for candidates and legislation; and
WHEREAS: New technological methods such as email and consumer-friendly party building software make it possible to communicate with and organize, thousands of local Democrats with efficiency and very little capital investment, thereby also significantly increasing their ability to fundraise; and
WHEREAS: Most of campaign resources now go to advertising through corporate media outlets which are generally less than friendly to the goals and aspirations of the Democratic Party and they are spent, almost entirely, hoping to target and persuade cavalier swing voters
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the California Democratic Party will develop a plan to broadly nurture and support local Democratic Party organizations at many levels by providing funding and resources for their activities to provide tools in a timely manner for local grassroots organizing, local party building with a priority placed on year-round local online organizing, voter registration and personal contact through home visits and other similar activities; and
Submitted by Rachel Binah, DNC Member; the Mendocino County Democratic Central Committee; DNC Members: Garry S. Shay, Robert "Big Red" Rankin & John A. Perez; San Benito CCC; 27th AD Committee; 28th AD Committee; Humboldt CCC; 33rd AD Committee; Mendocino CCC; Del Norte CCC; San Luis Obispo CCC
Adopted April 17, 2005

Resolution Number LA05.08b
Thanks and Support for U.S. Senator Barbara Boxer
WHEREAS: United States Senator Barbara Boxer stood up for us and for all who believed in the right of all voters in the United States of America when she challenged the results of the 2004 presidential election in the State of Ohio; and
WHEREAS: Senator Barbara Boxer stood up for all of us when she challenged the credentials and credibility of Condoleezza Rice based on substantive issues during the Secretary of State confirmation hearings and opposed the nomination of White House Counsel Alberto Gonzales as Attorney General; and
WHEREAS: Senator Boxer has an exemplary record of defending the environment and protecting the health of humans and other living creatures.
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the California Democratic Party thanks Senator Boxer for her courage and values and asks her to continue standing up for us, and representing the needs of all her constituents and other living creatures.
Submitted by the 14th AD Committee; 24th AD Committee; 42nd AD Committee; Democratic Central Committee of Marin County; Northern Solano Democratic Club; Rio Vista Democratic Club
Adopted April 17, 2005

2006
Resolution Number ANA06.02
Applaud and Commend Representative Nancy Pelosi
WHEREAS, Representative Nancy Pelosi has represented San Francisco in the United States House of Representatives for nearly two decades; and
WHEREAS, Representative Pelosi has fought for core American values, including support for working people, access to health care, protection of the environment, advancement of civil rights, and opposition to Republican corruption; and
WHEREAS, Representative Pelosi has ably led the Democratic opposition since 2003 and has now, after twelve long years in the minority, finally won control of the House of Representatives for the Democrats, thereby ensuring her election as Speaker of the House - the first female Speaker, the first California Speaker, and the first Italian-American Speaker
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party applauds and thanks Representative Pelosi for her leadership, vision, and passion in advancing the progressive values that have made this country great.
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party congratulates Representative Pelosi on her upcoming election as Speaker of the House of Representatives and expresses its pride at this achievement.
Recognizing The New Democratic Congress & Senate and Giving Heartfelt Praise to the Leadership of Nancy Pelosi, Harry Reid, Rahm Emanuel and Charles Schumer

WHEREAS, for the last 12 years, our country has had to put up with a Republican-led U.S. House and Senate that has been chipping away at individual civil rights, rolling back environmental protections, leaving our children behind and ignoring the needs of middle-class Americans while bestowing tax cuts and making legislation to benefit the wealthiest one percent; and WHEREAS, the Bush Administration and this Republican Congress have been operating under a culture of corruption, evidenced by their misleading and self-serving actions which led America into an irresponsible war of choice in Iraq and put our country at risk; and
WHEREAS, hundreds of thousands of grassroots Democrats across America -- including tens of thousands here in California -- campaigned for a new direction in Iraq and America: making our country safer, our economy fairer, our health care more affordable and our retirement more secure; and on November 7, 2006, the American people sent a message that it was time for a new direction by electing a majority of Democrats to both the House and the Senate
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party proudly commends the leadership of Speaker-Elect Nancy Pelosi, Senate Leader-Elect Harry Reid, DCCC Chair Congressmember Rahm Emanuel and DSCC Chair Senator Charles Schumer, who have worked tirelessly over the years and who were instrumental in the success of our Party in winning back the House and Senate; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party also recognizes and gives thanks to both the new and returning Democratic members of the House and Senate as they take control and do the work on behalf of ALL Americans, and finally - after 12 years -- move our country forward and bring our troops home safely and soon, beginning with the First 100 Hours agenda to clean up Congress, breaking the link between lobbyists and legislation and commit to pay-as-you-go, no new deficit spending; make our nation safer and begin by implementing the recommendations of the independent, bipartisan 9/11 Commission; make our economy fairer, and begin by raising the minimum wage; make health care more affordable for all Americans, and begin by negotiating lower drug prices and promoting stem cell research; broaden college opportunity, and begin by cutting interest rates for student loans in half; energize America by achieving energy independence, and begin by cutting Big Oil subsidies; and guarantee a dignified retirement, and begin by protecting Social Security.

Support Of Public Law Enforcement Accountability For The Use Of Lethal Or Excessive Force

WHEREAS, our government and law is constitutionally founded "by the people and for the people," and the power and authority of each branch of government emanates directly from its citizens and for its citizens' benefit; and
WHEREAS, law enforcement personnel in the furtherance of their duties utilize deadly force which many times raises concerns in the communities in which this deadly force is used; and
WHEREAS, to provide transparency and integrity in law enforcement in these communities and to determine whether the use of such deadly force was justified
BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party calls for the establishment of a citizens' review board open to public participation and with full public transparency for the investigation of all incidents of law enforcement use of lethal or excessive force, and to ensure public confidence in law enforcement.

Support of the Democratic National Committee's (DNC) 50-State Strategy

WHEREAS, the 2006 midterm election was an overwhelming success for Democrats across the Country, with Democrats regaining control of both the House and Senate in Congress, capturing 6 additional governorships from Republicans, while retaining all 14 of their contested governorships, and gaining majorities in seven additional state legislatures; and
WHEREAS, The DNC and Chairman Howard Dean delivered on their promise to invest in rebuilding the party in every state in the country, including Red states, and has hired, trained, and deployed seasoned organizers and communications specialists to every state well in advance of the mid-term elections, and also delivered on their promise to rebuild Democratic voter files and get-out-the-vote infrastructure, and that these party-building efforts enabled Democrats to take advantage of the wave of public sentiment against Republican rule in Congress even in states and districts that were not originally thought to be competitive

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party supports the Democratic National Committee's 50-State Strategy, and expresses its appreciation to DNC Chairman Howard Dean for his persistence and leadership in executing this program, and for his ongoing commitment to revitalizing the Democratic Party throughout the entire United States, and urges the California Democratic Party to concur in this position and forward its position on to the Democratic National Committee.

Sponsored by the San Mateo County Democratic Central Committee
Adopted December 9, 2006

Resolution Number BRGL06.02
Cost Of War And Tax Cuts For Rich's Impact On Domestic Programs
WHEREAS: The cost of the President's war in Iraq has reached a staggering $4 billion each week, with growing concerns about the viability of the Bush-Rumsfeld war strategies, a plan that is not supported by several highly decorated and respected retired Generals who express concerns over the safety of our men and women in uniform; and
WHEREAS: The President has yet again manipulated the numbers behind the deficit, attempting to fool the public by excluding the cost of the war in the budget or the deficit calculations, while still amassing the largest deficit since the 80's; and
WHEREAS: The ability of Americans including working class families, seniors, the disabled and the working poor to access adequate housing, healthcare, job training and higher paying jobs goes unrecognized, and funding for programs such as No Child Left Behind, the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, hurricane relief and homeland security go severely under-funded thus passing the costs onto states, cities, school boards and individuals, while the President gives money back to the richest Americans in the form of needless tax cuts

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the California Democratic Party goes on record asking the voting public to recognize that if the money spent on the war or returned to the rich in tax cuts was reinvested in domestic programs it would significantly change America forever by rebuilding our cities, providing affordable healthcare, funding public education mandates thus improving our schools, creating new jobs and job training and securing our ports and airports against terrorists
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That the California Democratic Congressional Delegation continue to push for fiscal accountability by the President and the Republican-led Congress, including a full discussion of our goals, strategies and timetables to resolve the war in Iraq.
Submitted by Northeast Democratic Club; Bill Rumble, President
Adopted August 5, 2006

Resolution Number BRG06.11
Eliminate Poverty and Raise the Minimum Wage
WHEREAS: The Democratic Party has traditionally championed rights of the working class, including both blue-collar and white-collar workers, those underpaid for their labor, those seeking work, and those unable to work; and
WHEREAS: The 2006 Platform of the California Democratic Party contains a comprehensive set of objectives for poverty elimination including support for a living wage (enabling workers to afford life's basic necessities of food, shelter, clothing, health care, and education), public assistance programs, cost-of-living adjustments, food-stamp programs, emergency food networks, payment of prevailing wages, etc.; and
WHEREAS: The current Federal minimum wage provides American workers neither income above the poverty level, nor a living wage which would allow these workers the basic human rights of all individuals

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That we call upon the United States Congress to make the elimination of poverty in every region of the United States one of its highest priorities
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That the California Democratic Party calls upon Congress and the California Legislature to immediately raise the federal and state minimum wage with indexing which will lift all workers above the poverty level.
Submitted by Tony Green, Vice President, Democrats United For Progress, May 2006; Democrats United For Progress, Gualala, California; Mendocino County Democratic Central Committee; Trinity County Democratic Central Committee; Lake
Resolution Number BRG06.12
Failure of the Bush Foreign Policy in the Middle East
WHEREAS: The current crisis in Lebanon and Israel demonstrates the lack of an effective U.S. strategy for stabilizing the region and resolving the issues dividing the Israeli and Palestinian peoples which has led to the continuing instability in Lebanon, all of which has been exacerbated by the failed American policies in Iraq and the daily carnage occurring in that country; and
WHEREAS: The lack of an effective U.S. strategy for stabilizing the region, securing Israel and resolving the war in Iraq, including a failed diplomatic solution by the Secretary of State, rests at the feet of the failed Bush Middle East and foreign affairs policies including the inability of the President to develop a unified approach with our traditional allies; and
WHEREAS: The tragic loss of life, be it civilians in Lebanon and Israel, Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza, American troops and the civilians in Iraq, unites our Democratic Party to seek an end to the violence and killing, a timetable to resolve the war in Iraq and lasting security for Israel as well as the other countries in the Middle East
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That preparatory to a long-term solution, the United States immediately call for a ceasefire that will be enforced by a robust international armed force to secure both Lebanon's border and the security of Israel from attacks
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That the California Democratic Party expresses its deepest sympathy to those peoples caught in the midst of conflict which is a direct result of the failed Bush-Rumsfeld foreign policies that have served to increase destabilization of the entire Middle Eastern region and calls for a return to our historic role as a collaborative leader of both the international community and international bodies such as the United Nations and NATO as we and they seek a permanent peace that guarantees the security of Israel as well as satisfactory solution to the issues concerning the Palestinian people, including statehood.
Submitted by Resolutions Co-Chair Subcommittee - Consensus Resolution; Patrick Henry Democratic Club; 69th Assembly District Committee
Adopted August 5, 2006

Resolution Number BRG06.05
Protect The Freedom Of American Workers To Form Unions And Bargain Collectively
WHEREAS: Despite the protections for workers established by U.S. law in 1935 and the U.N. Universal Declaration of Human Rights in 1948, employers routinely use illegal tactics against workers who organize, including firing or discriminating against more than 20,000 U.S. workers in organizing drives in 2004, simply for exercising their freedom to form unions, according to National Labor Relations Board annual reports; in fact, in nearly half of private-sector union representation elections when workers overcome these obstacles and vote to form a union, employers still refuse to agree to collective bargaining contracts two years after the election; and
WHEREAS: Our community benefits because workers who have a union not only gain a voice on the job, but earn 28 percent more than workers without a union and are much more likely to have health and pension benefits, according to the U.S. Department of Labor; and because for fifty years the labor movement, working closely with the Democratic Party, has led the fight for every single legal and social reform that has strengthened the economic, health and retirement security of America's workers and their families, with the result that union members tend to be politically engaged, educated about issues that matter to working families, and motivated to vote - leading to policies that serve the needs of working Americans; and
WHEREAS: We are faced with the most anti-worker, anti-union Administration the nation has seen, our commitment to the values we share with the labor movement and to the freedom of workers to form unions is as strong as ever
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the California Democratic Party reaffirms its support of working people and the fundamental commitment to workers' rights by supporting the labor movement's national and local campaigns to protect the freedom of American workers to form unions and bargain collectively
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That the California Democratic Party endorses the concepts of the Employee Free Choice Act which would authorize the National Labor Relations Board to certify a union as the bargaining representative when a majority of employees voluntarily sign authorizations designating that union to represent them, to provide for first contract mediation and arbitration, and to establish meaningful penalties for violations of a worker's freedom to choose a union.
Resolution Number MAN06.15
Support Of Nondiscrimination In Enlistment In The Armed Services
WHEREAS: Readiness has become a recurring problem for the United States Armed Forces due to difficulties in acquiring enlistees; and
WHEREAS: The United States by its Constitution, legislation, and policies, stands for equality in civil liberties and rights for all Americans; and
WHEREAS: The current policy of "Don't Ask Don't Tell" has eliminated a definable group of Americans from eligibility for enlistment in violation of their civil liberties, and has caused the termination of enlistment for service members skilled in necessary job specialties
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the California Democratic Party supports "The Military Readiness Enhancement Act of 2005," which is designed to establish a policy of nondiscrimination based on sexual orientation and will permit the re-accession of qualified personnel previously separated from the Armed Services on the basis of sexual orientation, or will provide honorable discharges to those personnel to replace prior less-than-honorable discharges
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That the California Congressional Delegation be petitioned formally by the California Democratic Party to unanimously support "The Military Readiness Enhancement Act of 2005."

Submitted by Bob Handy; Sandy Cook 33rd AD
Adopted August 5, 2006

Resolution Number BRG06.10
U. S. - Iraq Joint Decision On Ending Occupation And Continued Recovery
WHEREAS: Our California Democratic Party is united in calling for the United States to turn Iraq over to the Iraqis, starting immediately; and
WHEREAS: In spite of the invasion, continued occupation, and violence in Iraq, the Iraqi people have taken further steps toward representative government and now have a fledgling sovereign government
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That we call upon United States government, together with the government of Iraq, to immediately and jointly decide how and when to turn Iraq over to the Iraqis, so that it is a joint decision and not one dictated to Iraq by the United States
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That we urge the United States Congress to appropriate funding in support of this joint decision.

Submitted by Tony Green, Vice President, Democrats United For Progress, May 2006; Democrats United For Progress, Gualala, California; Mendocino County Democratic Central Committee; Trinity County Democratic Central Committee; Lake County Democratic Central Committee; Sonoma County Democratic Central Committee; Burky Worel, Director, Region 2
Adopted August 5, 2006

Resolution Number MAN06.12
California Eminent Domain Limitation
WHEREAS: Californians and Americans believe we possess the right to enjoy the fruits of our hard labor, we also accept the necessity that legitimate public uses may occasionally take precedence over our private property, but our homes, businesses, and places of worship should not be taken from us by government force for another's private profit; and
WHEREAS: The definition of "public use" has been distorted and eminent domain powers have been widely abused in California to transfer property from ordinary people to large corporations, and seniors, working class families, people of color, and recent immigrants are most vulnerable to economic exploitation through the abuse of eminent domain powers and the United States Supreme Court in Kelo v. City of New London has held that the United States Constitution will not prevent the transfer of property seized through eminent domain from one owner to benefit another private owner; and
WHEREAS: The theme of the 2005 State Democratic Convention was "Democrats Protect Real People," and Democrats must take a courageous stand to clearly define the values of our Party to protect the homes, livelihoods, and places of worship of all Californians, and most particularly "real people" like Suzette Kelo and the working class families that are the core Democratic constituency
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the California Democratic Party shall join with such California Democratic leaders as U.S. Representatives Maxine Waters, Mike Honda, Barbara Lee, Tom Lantos, and Anna Eshoo; Senator Barbara Boxer and
many other Democrats; advocacy groups such as the AARP, ACLU, NAACP; and the majority of all Californians by making a public commitment to support the concept and implementation of measures limiting the use of eminent domain to reasonable public uses (such as publicly owned facilities, public right-of-way for public utilities and roads, or to remove immediate threats to public safety), and that the power of eminent domain shall not be used for economic development (the taking of private property without the consent of the owner and conveying it from one private person to another private person for their economic benefit, or to increase tax revenue or for any economic purpose).

Submitted by Judith Christensen, Annette Hipona, and Dana Smith, elected members of the Democratic Central Committee of San Mateo County
Adopted January 28, 2006

Resolution Number MAN06.25
Calling For Full Investigation Into Possible Abuses Of Power By President George W. Bush And Calling For Appropriate Remedies For Such Abuse

WHEREAS: President George W. Bush took an oath of office in which he swore to take care that the laws of the United States would be faithfully executed by him; and there is mounting evidence that President George W. Bush and his Administration are recklessly expanding presidential powers which threaten the constitutionally mandated system of checks and balances; and

WHEREAS: It has been alleged that since September 11, 2001, several actions have been taken by President George W. Bush that call into question whether he has followed that oath to the letter of the law, and therefore may be guilty of abuse of power, such as: 1) using information he reasonably knew to be false as justification for the U.S. invasion of Iraq; 2) failure to provide appropriate equipment for U.S. troops engaged in battle in Iraq and Afghanistan; 3) having no exit plan for the U.S. troops in Iraq or aftermath plan for the citizens of Iraq; 4) condoning and authorizing the torture of prisoners of war; and 5) authorizing wiretaps on U.S. citizens without obtaining a warrant, which Robert Reinstein, the Dean of the Law School at Temple University has classified as "domestic surveillance over American citizens for whom there is no evidence or proof that they are involved in any illegal activity, and [which] is in contravention of a statute of Congress specifically designed to prevent this;" and furthermore which is in clear violation of long-standing Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act (FISA) laws and 6) has seemingly disclosed the name of an undercover CIA operative contrary to law in order to harm her for her husband's opposition to the Iraq war; and

WHEREAS: To date, President George W. Bush has offered no reasonable explanation for any of these actions that would render such actions acceptable, and indeed in some cases has made statements in direct contradiction to his actions, which further calls into question his abilities and intent

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the California Democratic Party calls for whatever steps must be taken by Congress and others to ensure a full and complete investigation into possible abuses of power by President George W. Bush; and especially calls for the appropriate remedy and punishment, including impeachment, to be identified and followed to its conclusion

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That we call upon every fair-minded American to step forward to call for an end to the secret spying of our citizens and the disregard of our Constitution by the Administration and demand respect for the Constitution, for justice in America and for an end to the campaign of lies by the president.

Submitted by Senator Art Torres (Ret.), Chairman of the California Democratic Party; Emily Thurber; Bob Farran; Patrick Henry Demo Club; 69th AD Cmte.; The Hull-Richters: Alexander, Mark and Natasha
Adopted January 28, 2006

Resolution Number MANL06.03
Candidate Election Concession

WHEREAS: The California Democratic Party is proud of its long and distinguished tradition of fighting for, protecting and preserving the right-to-vote, which is essential to the welfare and security of a democratic society; and

WHEREAS: Voting in the United States is overseen by approximately 13,000 different local election administrations; which are separate and unequal through a wide variety of voting and counting standards, thus causing voters to be disenfranchised in past elections, particularly in minority communities, by creating disparity in an individual's right-to-vote and for that vote to be counted; and

WHEREAS: Candidates in close elections have a history of conceding elections before all votes have been counted
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the California Democratic Party will reaffirm its long and distinguished tradition of fighting for, protecting and preserving the right to vote.

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED: That the California Democratic Party will fight for all candidates to not concede elections until at a minimum the polls have closed and in close races when all the votes are counted.

Sponsored by Deana Igelrsud, 47th Assembly District delegate, CDP African-American Caucus, CDP Women’s Caucus, 47th Assembly District Committee, Kevin Biggers, Region 17 Director, CDP, John Heeaner, Region 13 Director, CDP, Bob Manley, Region 14 Director, CDP, Chris Stampolis, Chair, California Democratic Council, Sandra Mendoza, 46th AD E-Board, Gregory Valtierra, III, 47th AD E-Board Alt., Shirin Buckman, 45th AD Delegate, Beatrice Collins, 47th AD Delegate, Daniel Licht, 42nd AD Delegate, Teresa "Jodi" Owen, 43rd AD Delegate, David Scholnick, 45th AD Delegate, Stan West, 47th AD Delegate, Benton Jew, 47th AD Member, Susie Shannon, 42nd AD Member, SoCal Grassroots - Hollywood Region

Adopted January 28, 2006

Resolution Number MAN06.19

Condemning Iranian President Ahmadinejad’s Pledge To "Wipe Israel Off The Map"

WHEREAS: President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad has made statements in the past year: 1) denying the actual occurrence of the Holocaust, referring to the event that destroyed six million Jewish lives (and millions of Catholics, homosexuals, and disabled persons) as a "myth;" and 2) that Israel should be "wiped off the map," also saying: "This regime that is occupying Jerusalem must be eliminated from the pages of history [quoting Ayatollah Khomeini].” . . . . The issue of Palestine is not an issue on which we can compromise. . . . Very soon, this stain of disgrace [i.e., Israel] will be purged . . . .” (October 26, 2005); and

WHEREAS: President Ahmadinejad's astonishing statements have been condemned by, among others, the United Nations Security Council, the European Union Parliament, Great Britain, Russia, Germany, Canada, France, Australia, the Vatican, Romania, Poland, Turkey, Japan, the United States Congress and numerous leaders of the Democratic Party ranging from former President Bill Clinton and Senators Hillary Clinton, Dianne Feinstein, Ben Nelson (NE), Bill Nelson (FL), Evan Bayh and John Kerry, to many other Democratic members of Congress in both houses; and

WHEREAS: The California Democratic Party supports a two-state solution for the Israel-Palestinian conflict, including the right of Israel, like all other nations, to exist in peace and security

THEREFORE IT IS RESOLVED: That the California Democratic Party joins in condemning the above statements of Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad calling for the destruction of Israel and denying the Holocaust, and condemns Iran's denial of the right of a United Nations member nation to exist.

Sponsored by Andrew Lachman, Howard Welinsky, Eddie Tabash and Paul Kujawsky of the Democrats for Israel-Los Angeles Democratic Club

Adopted January 28, 2006

Resolution Number MANL06.04

Defeat The Confirmation Of Samuel Alito To The U.S. Supreme Court

WHEREAS: Judge Samuel Alito is a vociferous promoter of the "unitary executive" theory, which is a radical concept which gives unrestrained power to the President, in violation of the system of "checks and balances" specified in the U.S. Constitution. This being exemplified by the practice - promoted by Judge Alito-of the "signing statement," by which the President's "interpretation" of legislation overrides the language and intent of the Congress, as in the recent example of the McCain anti-torture amendment, which was rejected by President Bush in his signing statement; and

WHEREAS: Alito’s commitment to these, and other such notions, would greatly increase the President's power beyond Constitutional constraints; Bush and Cheney have cited these unconstitutional theories to justify torture, spy on Americans, hold prisoners indefinitely as "enemy combatants," hand out no-bid contracts to cronies, wage war, etc.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the California Democratic Party urges Democratic members of the U.S. Senate to demonstrate their patriotic support for the U.S. Constitution by rejecting the confirmation of Alito.

Submitted by Quincy O’Neal, member of the African-American Caucus of the California Democratic Party

Adopted January 28, 2006

Resolution Number MAN06.09

Demanding That Schwarzenegger Fully Fund Proposition 98 Money Owed To California Schools

WHEREAS: In 2003, California teachers and Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger agreed to lend $2 billion in Proposition 98-dedicated education funds to close a state budget shortfall, based on his solemn promise to repay the borrowed funds; and
WHEREAS: Governor Schwarzenegger reneged on that promise in 2004, and despite promising additional education funding, he continues to shortchange California school children in education funding that Californians originally voted for in passing Proposition 98, and in November 2005 voted to preserve by rejecting by a 62 to 38 percent margin his Proposition 76 that would have repealed Propositions 98’s school funding guarantees; and
WHEREAS: California’s education funding has sunk under Governor Schwarzenegger to 43rd in the nation in per pupil spending levels which has resulted in a higher failure rate in the high school exit exam, after having risen under the prior Democratic Administration
NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That California Democratic Party calls on Governor Schwarzenegger to restore immediately, the $2 billion in school funding to the state budget as promised
THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That the California Democratic Party calls on the Governor and Legislature to raise per pupil education funding in California from 43rd in the U.S. to at least the national average.
Sponsored by the 16th AD Democratic Committee and MGO Demo Club
Adopted January 28, 2006

Resolution Number MAN06.08
Protect Defined Benefit Retirement In The Public Sector
WHEREAS: Defined benefit pensions provided to public sector employees in the State of California offer those workers security and dignity after retirement for their dedicated years of public service with a guaranteed pension for life, and additional guaranteed benefits, including disability, death, and basic cost-of-living adjustments, as well as supplemental benefits, including health, Medicare Part B and supplemental cost-of-living adjustments, and defined contribution plans, such as 401(k)s, provide no such benefits; and
WHEREAS: Efforts are underway to prohibit all newly hired public employees from enrolling in a defined benefit pension plan and instead mandate their enrollment in a third-party administered defined contribution plan, or some other kind of mandated hybrid plan, and the implementation of a defined contribution plan in California would harm the local and state governments' efforts to recruit and retain qualified employees, and these defined contribution plans unnecessarily expose workers to investment and interest rate risks, putting all of their retirement savings at risk, and studies performed by the Nebraska Retirement Systems and the Colorado Public Employees Retirement Association, as well as other studies performed by academic experts, have concluded after due examination that defined contribution plans cannot be expected to provide adequate retirement benefits, and that participants will not benefit from the introduction of defined contribution plans; and
WHEREAS: The effort to convert defined benefit pensions to defined contribution plans is part of a concerted national attack on retirement security and the Social Security safety net, including efforts to privatize Social Security
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the California Democratic Party is opposed in principle to the replacement of defined benefit plans with defined contribution plans as the core retirement benefit of its employees, whether that replacement takes the form of mandatory or optional conversion, and will take all appropriate action with the legislature, other local governments, appropriate associations and coalitions and the general public to actively oppose such conversion efforts.
Sponsored by 16th AD Democratic Committee
Adopted January 28, 2006

Resolution Number MAN06.05
Protecting Election Integrity
WHEREAS: There are serious questions about the security of electronic voting machines, and insecure and untested electronic voting equipment endangers the integrity of our democracy; and
WHEREAS: Absentee voters record their votes on paper ballots and have a higher likelihood of casting their ballots; and
WHEREAS: Paper balloting provides a well-tried and well-accepted methodology which helps to secure victory with integrity for candidates
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the California Democratic Party will commit to a concerted campaign to: (a) increase the public's use of paper balloting and permanent absenteees in the 2006 election cycle and until such time as e-voting can be sufficiently secured to guarantee every vote is counted accurately, and (b) prepare county election officials for this increased level of paper balloting so that they will ensure timely availability and accurate processing of those ballots
THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That the California Democratic Party supports urgent efforts to force transparency in voting system software (including open-sourced software); construct national standards for electronic voting machine certification; create external, non-partisan certifying groups who publicly disclose testing results; develop reliable
voter verified paper trail systems; adopt robust auditing procedures that include absentee ballots; and update recount procedures.

Submitted by the Santa Clara County Democratic Party
Adopted January 28, 2006

Resolution Number MAN06.13
Support Introduction And Passage Of The Citizen-Initiated World Service Corps (WSC)
WHEREAS: The World Service Corps (WSC) cost-effectively involves more than a million skilled, can-do Americans aged 18-60+ in working on world and domestic problems, and thereby gives them a deeper understanding, concern for and ability to practically address domestic and international policy needs, while raising America’s political IQ; and WHEREAS: The WSC invests in America’s education, health and economy through tuition, medical savings or IRA account investments, (which at $15,000 is one-sixth of the recruitment bonus presently offered to military recruits) to those who complete WSC service and thereby helps strengthen our knowledge of world and domestic needs, educational and economic competitiveness and our citizenry’s understanding of and voting on public policy needs at home and in the world; and WHEREAS: A one-million strong WSC offers a cost-effective, robust, peaceful army to augment our courageous 1.4 million military personnel; and thereby productively answers the increasingly alarming and costly spread of the critically dangerous “Ugly American” image, terrorist recruitment, poverty, environmental degradation and misunderstandings that inspire hatred, by involving many more of America’s best assets, its concerned, patriotic citizens, in addressing worldwide needs THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the California Democratic Party proclaims our support for the introduction and passage into legislation, which encompasses the goal espoused by President Kennedy's words: "And so, my fellow Americans: ask not what your country can do for you--ask what you can do for your country. My fellow citizens of the world: ask not what America will do for you, but what together we can do for the freedom of man.” The California Democratic Party supports the citizen-initiated World Service Corps proposals which by the seventh year after its enactment will add one million additional American volunteers into serving the country and world through such organizations as the Peace Corps, AmeriCorps, Habitat for Humanity, Head Start, Doctors Without Borders, Red Cross, International Rescue Committee, Oxfam, Mercy Corps, and State Conservation Corps THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That a copy of this Resolution be provided to: members of the California Democratic Congressional Delegation; the Democratic Caucus of the California Legislature; all members of the California Democratic Party Central Committee; leaders of member organizations in the California Democratic Council; Chairs of the Assembly District committees; local elected Democratic officials and County Registrars to be introduced and approved at the California Democratic Party Executive Board and the 2006 California Democratic Party Convention.

Submitted by 6th Assembly District Committee; Dwayne Hunn, Executive Director, People’s Lobby
Adopted January 28, 2006

Resolution Number MAN06.24
Supporting Attorney General Bill Lockyer’s Lawsuits To Ensure Access To Voting Places For Disabled Californians
WHEREAS: The presidential elections in 2000 and 2004 clearly demonstrated that voting rights in our country are not always secure for every American and the letter of the law that "every vote counts and every vote be counted" is not always followed; and surveys conducted during the March and November 2002 statewide elections by the office of the Attorney General, with the assistance of the Independent Living Centers, revealed that Kern and Santa Cruz Counties appeared to have exceptionally large numbers of disability access violations at their polling places as well as polling places that were altogether inaccessible to disabled voters; and WHEREAS: Attorney General Bill Lockyer recently brought lawsuits against Kern County and Santa Cruz County only after three years of unsuccessful negotiations aimed at convincing the two counties to voluntarily comply with existing state and federal Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) laws for future elections; and WHEREAS: A successful outcome in these cases will greatly increase the likelihood that every California county will move quickly to provide accessible polling places for every California voter; and the Attorney General’s efforts come at a time when the fundamental right to enforce the ADA is increasingly under attack by interests opposed to ADA compliance in the private sector THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the California Democratic Party fully supports these lawsuits by Attorney General Bill Lockyer, reiterates its strong support for existing state and federal ADA statutes, and will continue the fight to keep the ADA effective and enforceable.

CADEM
- CALIFORNIA DEMOCRATIC PARTY -
www.cadem.org
Submitted by Senator Art Torres (Ret.), Chairman of the California Democratic Party
Adopted January 28, 2006

Resolution Number MAN06.07a
Supporting California’s Impact On The Democratic Presidential Nomination Process
WHEREAS: California’s impact in determining the presidential nominee of the Democratic Party for the last several elections has decreased; and
WHEREAS: The current front-loaded primary system often results in fewer than 200,000 Iowans and 300,000 New Hampshire voters in the first weeks of January in effect choosing the Party’s nominee before being tested in larger states like California; and
WHEREAS: California, as the highest populated state in the nation, deserves greater influence in determining the party’s nominee than simply serving as the fundraising capital for national candidates and their campaigns
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the California Democratic Party (CDP) encourages presidential primary reform efforts that will:
• Allow a greater number of campaigns to begin at the grassroots level and build momentum;
• Provide a nominating process that remains competitive for a longer period of time in order to give the public a greater opportunity to engage the campaign and become informed about the candidates and their issues; and
• Create a system that increases the likelihood that Democrats in all states will have an effective voice in the selection of nominees, and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That the CDP supports the American (or Graduated Random System) Plan which features 10 multi-state primaries evenly spaced over twenty weeks, the approximate length of the traditional presidential primary schedule. The first primary would take place in a randomly selected group of states whose Congressional Districts total exactly 8 with succeeding primaries growing progressively larger - 16, 24, 56, etc. - up to the 10th primary, which would cover 80 CDs. This base schedule is altered slightly to accommodate larger states like California.
Action Clause: That the CDP calls on Chairman Dean to empanel a new commission, and require it to hold a series of regional hearings/meetings throughout the country and to hear testimony on all substantive, systematic reform proposals, including the American Plan, for implementation in 2012, and distribute copies of this resolution to all CDP chartered clubs and the DNC Commission on Presidential Nomination Timing and Scheduling for consideration and support.
Supporters: Democratic Central Committees - Contra Costa County, Fresno County, Los Angeles County, Madera County, Marin County, Orange County, Placer County, San Joaquin County, Sonoma County, Ventura County, 6th AD Committee, 18th AD Committee, 33rd AD Committee, 40th AD Committee, Young Democrats of America, California Young Democrats, Democracy for America - Sonoma County, Democratic Party of the San Fernando Valley, The Center for Voting and Democracy, Rep. Lynn Woolsey [By David Phelps / LACCC 40th AD Delegate]
Adopted January 28, 2006

Resolution Number MAN06.02
Supporting Clean, Renewable Energy
WHEREAS: Backed by overwhelming voter support, California has provided internationally-recognized leadership in shifting to renewable energy, energy efficiency, demand response, distributed generation, and conservation while recognizing the security and economic development value of doing so; and
WHEREAS: Clean, renewable energy can now be produced in significant quantities and with attractive economics, facilitating a shift to renewable energy sources in accordance with the state’s energy needs and assuring, when combined with energy efficiency, demand response, distributed generation, and conservation measures, no net loss or shortage in meeting the state’s energy requirements as we transition from traditional to alternative energy generation; and
WHEREAS: The combination of rapidly growing market demand, technological innovation, and the long-term global economic importance yet early stage of the renewable energy industry offer California a chance to cultivate a new source of high-paying jobs, small-business opportunities, and profitable business activity in this emerging sector just as the State has done with the media and entertainment, information technology, biotechnology, and now nanotechnology industries
THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That the California Democratic Party shall prevail upon the State Legislature to draft and enact legislation accelerating and expanding the state’s Renewable Portfolio Standard (RPS) as outlined in the Integrated Energy Policy Report of November 2005 (CEC-100-2005-007-CMF), such that 1) all California investor and publicly owned utilities, other California energy service companies, and any energy providers providing energy to California, are required to
consistently participate in the RPS, including with regard to energy produced outside California but used within the state; 2) the state shall support the research, development, and incentives necessary to integrate renewable resources into the power grid, including through voter-approved financing mechanisms; 3) the state shall streamline RPS processes and provide necessary incentives in order to meet the state’s current energy policy goal of 20 percent renewable energy by 2010; 4) the state shall increase the longer term energy policy goal to 40 percent (from 33 percent) renewable energy by 2020; 5) the state shall increase the long term goal to 40 percent (from 30 percent) of the state’s transportation fuels to come from non-petroleum sources by 2030; and 6) the California Energy Commission will set forth a clearly-defined strategy and timeline for ultimately achieving statewide independence from fossil fuels and nuclear power, including through the use of energy efficiency measures, demand response, distributed generation, and conservation incentives.

Sponsored by Gautam Barua and Frances Cleveland, Woody Clark and Art Halenbeck
Adopted January 28, 2006

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**2007**

*Resolution Number ANA07.27*

**Bring California National Guard Home From Iraq**

WHEREAS, the California Democratic Party, in April 2005, passed Resolution LA05.45A, which addressed the U.S. occupation of Iraq and called for “termination of the occupation at the earliest possible time,” and in August 2007, the CDP passed Resolution SD07.34 A, which urged Governor Schwarzenegger to request the return of the California National Guard, a request which remains unfulfilled by the governor; and

WHEREAS, the United States’ invasion of Iraq was engendered with what have proven to be false claims about both weapons of mass destruction and links to Al Qaeda, and the United States’ own National Intelligence Estimate of April, 2006 stated, “The Iraq conflict has become the ‘cause célèbre’ for jihadists, breeding a deep resentment of US involvement in the Muslim world and cultivating supporters for the global jihadist movement,” with the result that every additional day of the occupation makes us less safe, by further eroding our nation’s reputation and encouraging terrorists; and

WHEREAS, California’s vulnerabilities to earthquakes, fire or failure of our vast levee system are greatly multiplied by having much of its National Guard away in Iraq;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party hereby calls upon the Democratic members of the California legislature to introduce and pass a resolution calling on the governor to request President George W. Bush immediately begin the return of California’s National Guard members from the illegal and immoral occupation of Iraq.

Submitted by Michael Jay Miltenberg, aka Michael Jay, DSCC Member, 42nd AD; Susie Shannon, Executive Board Representative, 42nd AD; Progressive Democrats of Los Angeles, Progressive Democrats of the Santa Monica Mountains and DSCC Members, 42nd AD

Adopted November 18, 2007

*Resolution Number ANA07.04*

**Commending Heroic Efforts Of CA Firefighters In Battling The San Diego & So. CA Wildfires**

WHEREAS, seven counties in the San Diego and Southern California area, covering 515,000 acres, were recently ravaged by a series of the most devastating wildfires in California history, where more than one million people had to be evacuated, hundreds of thousands were displaced for longer periods of time, nearly 2,200 homes were destroyed, and 14 Californians lost their lives; and

WHEREAS, once more firefighting professionals from across the state answered the call and fought tirelessly to bring these devastating fires under control, to save homes and ultimately save lives, despite the adversity of the fierce Santa Ana winds; and

WHEREAS, a total of 108 firefighters suffered injuries as a result of the fires, and many were away from their own families for weeks while battling the fires, and all worked tirelessly under enormous pressure to protect and serve these communities;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party commends the California firefighters and all other emergency crews who battled these devastating wildfires, and is mindful that their lives are on the line each and every day they are on the job; and

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party gives thanks to these brave men and women and acknowledges the personal sacrifices they make in serving their communities.
Resolution Number ANA07.38
Expediting The Issuance Of Visas To Iraqi Refugees
WHEREAS, Iraq has become one of the world's most dangerous places during the period since the U.S.-led Coalition deposed the regime of Saddam Hussein; notwithstanding this lack of personal security, courageous Iraqi citizens, heeding the U.S. call to establish a modern democratic state in their homeland, have bravely performed their responsibilities in forging a modern state; and
WHEREAS, numerous Iraqis have endured exceptional risk due to their service as translators and support staff for the Coalition Provisional Authority or the ongoing American military and diplomatic presence; other Iraqis have been subjected to well-founded danger in Iraqi civil society by virtue of their role as judicial officers, journalists, educators, and other dissident professions during both the pre-Hussein and post-Hussein governments; it stands beneath the dignity and decency of the American people to idly witness a free people endure greater danger once liberated than during the preceding period of tyrannical repression; and
WHEREAS, the United States has issued unconscionably few visas to Iraqi refugees facing clear and imminent danger in their home country, many of whom only became subject to especially grave risk as a result of service to the Coalition effort; America’s failure to accept responsibility for the humanitarian consequences of military action may have long-lasting consequences on U.S. credibility with future populations seeking U.S. assistance to escape tyranny and repression; THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party calls upon the current administration to expedite the acceptance and security review of refugee requests from Iraqis known to have honorably assisted Coalition-led efforts and that Congress promptly allocate all necessary budgetary resources to fulfill this basic commitment; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party asks Congress to honor the finest historical traditions of our nation by treating all refugee applicants with the level of dignity and diligent attention befitting a great and compassionate people by providing legislation to adequately fund the immigration of Iraqi refugees to the United States and friendly nations; this resolution shall be forwarded to Speaker Pelosi, the California Democratic Congressional Delegation, Senator Feinstein, and Senator Boxer.

Submitted by Los Angeles County Democratic Party and Peter Rudinskas, DSCC Member, 48th AD
Adopted November 18, 2007

Resolution Number ANAL07.03
Full Equality For Transgender Americans
WHEREAS, the California Democratic Party has long stood by the principle of justice and equality for all people, regardless of gender, gender expression or sexual orientation; and
WHEREAS, Congressional leaders have expressed their intent to remove non-discrimination provisions covering transgender persons from the federal Employment Non-Discrimination Act (ENDA), and the new version will mean that “you can’t be fired for being lesbian, gay or bisexual but you can be fired if your boss thinks you fit a stereotype of one;” and
WHEREAS, transgender people are among the most marginalized and vulnerable groups within the LGBT community, with a 2006 survey of transgender people conducted by the Transgender Law Center finding that 57 percent reported being discriminated against in employment and 60 percent earned less than $15,300 a year;
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party reaffirms its support for full legal equality, including anti-discrimination protection at all levels for transgender people and other members of the LGBT community who express their gender in non-normative ways;
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party calls upon all clubs, County Central Committees, elected officials and activists as well as our friends and allies in labor and the broad progressive community to make public their support for full equality and justice.

Submitted by the Santa Barbara County Central Committee; Daraka Larimore-Hall, Chair, Santa Barbara CCC
Adopted November 18, 2007

Resolution Number ANA07.33
Housing Crisis
WHEREAS, keeping people in their homes and preventing predatory lending practices are values long supported by the
Democratic Party, and are present in the rights established in the general welfare clause in the Preamble of our Constitution; and
WHEREAS, the projected number of foreclosures in 2007 is up to two million homes (John Burns Real Estate Consulting, May 22, 2007), many due to unethical lending practices; and
WHEREAS, the collapse of hedge funds, e.g. Bear Stearns, heavily invested in sub prime mortgages, threatens to set off a chain reaction collapse of the Mortgage Backed Securities (MBS) and Collateralized Debt Obligations (CDO) markets, jeopardizing many national programs such as student loans and pensions, ultimately causing the blow out of the global monetary and financial system;
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party asks the California Congressional delegation to lead the way in creating governmental institutions whose purpose is to direct credit and other lending organizations to keep people in their homes, in a manner similar to Franklin D. Roosevelt’s Home Owners Loan Corporation; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party urges the California Congressional delegation to introduce legislation that would prevent and/or mitigate a global financial crisis.
Submitted by Los Angeles County Democratic Party
Adopted November 18, 2007

Resolution Number ANA07.23
In Recognition Of Claudette Colvin
WHEREAS, Claudette Colvin (a 15 year old African-American girl), who was arrested on March 2, 1955 for refusing to give up her seat on a bus to a white man and who was later a plaintiff in Browder v. Gayle (the Supreme Court case that ended bus segregation), is not the person most associated with the civil rights movement resulting in African-Americans having to wait nine months for another role model (Claudette’s mentor and friend, Rosa Parks) to get on the bus at the same location Claudette had entered the bus, to follow the same route as Claudette had done and to get arrested as Claudette had been arrested before the bus strike and desegregation of the buses took place; and
WHEREAS, Claudette changed the face of the nation without credit or glory or fame and, like Claudette, millions of American youth, responsible for many of the fundamental improvements in American society, have had their contributions completely ignored;
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the CDP goes on record in recognition of the historic contribution of this brave young person, Claudette Colvin, in the struggle to end segregation in America.
Submitted by Mark Hull-Richter; Patrick Henry Democratic Club; Natasha and Alexandar Hull-Richter
Adopted November 18, 2007

Resolution Number ANA07.09
In Support Of HPV Vaccination
WHEREAS, the high incidence of unprotected intercourse with multiple partners in our population increases the incidence of Human Papiloma Virus (HPV) infection in women; and
WHEREAS, untreated HPV infection can lead to pelvic inflammatory disease and cervical cancer which causes the death of over 200,000 women worldwide each year; and
WHEREAS, a significant number of men, women and children are infected with the HPV which has led to the introduction of the HPV vaccine;
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party favors worldwide promotion of the administration of the HPV vaccine; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that California Democratic Party urges California legislators to pass legislation requiring health plans to pay for voluntary HPV vaccinations.
Submitted by Los Angeles County Democratic Party; David Weissman, LACDP Resolutions Committee
Adopted November 18, 2007

Resolution Number ANA07.06
In Support Of LED Lighting
WHEREAS, CO2 is a major cause of global climate change and 25 percent of household electrical use is for general incandescent lighting, which produces CO2s, and only 5 percent of electricity used to power incandescent light bulbs produces light, with the other 95 percent generated as heat which increases the temperature in interior areas so that air conditioning is needed to cool the heated air, thereby expending an additional 15 percent electric usage; and
WHEREAS, compact fluorescent lights are more energy efficient than incandescent lighting, but they are extremely toxic on disposal or accidental breakage because they contain mercury; and although there are rules for safe disposal of CFLs, it can be assumed that many will end up in landfills, polluting the land with mercury; and
WHEREAS, LED lighting is the most energy efficient because it uses between three to five watts of electricity to produce the same lumens as a 60-watt incandescent light bulb and half the electricity of a 13-watt CFL bulb and LEDs contain no toxic materials, do not require precious metals in the manufacturing processes, and after a 50,000 hour life span, can be disposed of in landfills without danger or pollution;
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party endorses and encourages use of LED lighting in governmental, commercial and domestic applications as is feasible; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Legislature be encouraged to promote LED lighting in current and future state energy decisions.
Submitted by Rachel Binah, CDP Environmental Caucus; Sheri Hanson, Mendocino County; Mendocino County Democratic Central Committee; California Democratic Party Environmental Caucus
Adopted November 18, 2007

Resolution Number ANA07.05
In Support Of The State Building & Construction Trades Council Of California, AFL-CIO
WHEREAS, the California Democratic Party contracted in good faith with the Anaheim Hilton Hotel, a longtime union hotel, to hold its November Executive Board meeting, at which time there were no labor disputes against the hotel; and
WHEREAS, less than three weeks before its Executive Board meeting, the California Democratic Party was informed by the State Building & Construction Trades Council that the local Los Angeles/Orange County Trades Council was involved in a serious labor dispute pertaining to the contractors hired and managed by the new owner of the Anaheim Hilton Hotel; and that due to the new owners’ refusal to hire union labor and to pay prevailing wages and benefits, the LA/OC Building Trades has and will continue to maintain a picket line in front of the hotel to protest said sub-standard wages on the $100 million hotel renovation project; and
WHEREAS, the California Democratic Party has a longstanding partnership with our brothers and sisters in labor and an unbreakable policy to never cross picket lines;
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party stands in solidarity with its labor partners in the building and construction trades and commends their efforts to bring prevailing wages and benefits to the men and women who work in the construction industry.
Submitted by Senator Art Torres (Ret.), Chairman of the California Democratic Party
Adopted November 18, 2007

Resolution Number ANAL07.10
In Support Of Writers Guild Of America
WHEREAS, the Association of Motion Picture and Television Producers (AMPTP) has refused to recognize the legitimate claims of the approximately 12,000 members of the Writers Guild of America (WGA) to fair remuneration through residuals on the distribution of its members’ creative endeavors on any current distribution platforms and those yet to be developed, including the monitoring and enforcement thereof; and
WHEREAS, the AMPTP has had sufficient experience in new media to make confident, public revenue projections to its shareholders, but nevertheless insists that it must study new media for another three years before it can bargain a residuals formula; and
WHEREAS, the AMPTP has thus far been unwilling to recognize that the wages, working conditions and residuals provided in the basic WGA contract should govern work created for any platform, new or old; and has thus far been unwilling to bargain in good faith with the WGA; and is unwilling to offer a reasonable compensation proposal on new media, the home video market formula, DVD sales, mobile phone and iPod transmissions; nor to counteroffer WGA payment proposals for Internet streaming and instead calls such use “promotional” even when whole pictures are shown and new revenue is generated;
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party fully supports the strike action and the fight for a fair agreement by the Writers Guild of America as a job action necessary to furthering resolution of the issues between it and its
Resolution Number ANA07.02
INCREASING TRANSPARENCY OF CAMPAIGN AND NON-PROFIT EXPENDITURES
WHEREAS, in recent years candidates at the federal and state levels have been accused of not fully disclosing how they raise and spend funds; and
WHEREAS, in recent years some officeholders have paid for expenses through the use of non-profit organizations, eliminating virtually all disclosure of which individuals and interest groups are actually paying for the expenses of the officeholders; and
WHEREAS, California and federal finance rules require that expenses paid with campaign funds have a campaign, governmental, or political purpose;
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party, in the interests of accountability, transparency, and good governance, supports modifications in state and federal law that would require non-profit organizations who pay for officeholder expenses to fully disclose the sources and amount of funds the organization has obtained and the purpose behind all activity paid for by the organizations in a manner similar to that required for campaign committees; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party supports state and federal legislative and regulatory changes to facilitate and require that candidates and officeholders fully disclose in a transparent manner the campaign, governmental or political purpose behind all activity.
Submitted by: Dante Atkins, DSCC Member, 42nd AD; California Democratic Party Resolutions Committee; John Heaner, Region 13 Director, Executive Board Member; Jo Olson, MD, DSCC Member, 42nd AD; Helen Hartman, DSCC Member, 42nd AD; Joye Swan, DSCC Member, 42nd AD; Susie Shannon, Executive Board Member, 42nd AD; Carl Manaster, DSCC Member, 75th AD; Mal Burnstein, Executive Board Member, 14th AD
Adopted November 18, 2007

Resolution Number ANA07.45
Justice In Jena
WHEREAS, Jena, Louisiana, appears to have one form of justice for African-American children and another for white children with the perception that threats and blatant racial taunting are allowed by white children while African-American youth reacting to such hostility are arrested and charged with serious offenses; and
WHEREAS, the implication of a “noose” hanging from a tree is a well-documented racist action with long-standing historical significance, given the hanging of Blacks throughout the region during the pre-civil rights era in America where African-Americans were denied justice, basic human rights and the right to live safely as members of a community; and
WHEREAS, while local authorities in Jena appear to base their actions on the narrow circumstances presented in the student-on-student altercation rather than view the case in the historical context of racism in America and the inflammatory actions that served as a trigger against the African-American youth and the African-American community in Jena, in Louisiana and in America;
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party goes on record condemning the racist action of taunting the African-American community with the display of a “noose in a tree,” and calls for a full federal investigation of this case, dropping the charges against these youths and overturning any convictions unless these youths are charged as juveniles, provided competent legal counsel and are tried in a jurisdiction outside of the greater Jena area; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party calls upon our Democratic leadership to use Jena as a vehicle to open up the dialogue about race in America and in the justice system with a goal toward improved racial understanding and tolerance.
**Resolution Number ANA07.37**

No Military Action Against Iran

WHEREAS, a majority of Americans now realize that President George W. Bush’s war against Iraq was a disastrous mistake; and

WHEREAS, the armed forces of the United States are bogged down and are stretched nearly to the breaking point and Americans now realize that robust diplomacy rather than military force is needed to resolve disputes with countries like Iran; and

WHEREAS, as President Bush and members of his administration are beating the drums of war against Iran and appear to be preparing the American people for a new military engagement;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party strongly reaffirms its opposition to any attack against Iran and asserts that any such action without the full assent of Congress would be illegal and unconstitutional.

Submitted by: Marcy Winograd, Executive Board Member, 41st AD; Karen Bernal, Executive Board Member, 5th AD; Maureen Cruise, DSCC Member, 41st AD; Dave Dayen, DSCC Member, 41st AD; Doug Dilg, DSCC Member, 41st AD; Matt Gerbasi, DSCC Member, 45th AD; Leah K. Herzberg, DSCC Member, 41st AD; Kevin Lynn, DSCC Member, 46th AD; Thom O'Shaughnessy, Executive Board Member, LACDP; Brad Parker, DSCC Member, 42nd AD; Susie Shannon, Executive Board Member, 42nd AD; Wayne Williams, DSCC Member, 41st AD

Adopted November 18, 2007

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**Resolution Number ANA07.08c**

Not For Profit Ownership Of Water

WHEREAS, water is essential to all life and is unique in the realm of products in that water consumers have no choice, but must have it or die; and recent scientific reports on global climate change indicate great uncertainty about changes in precipitation patterns and areas of drought or flood as warming continues; and

WHEREAS, many communities have experienced higher prices for water, poorer quality of water, and poorer quality of service after their water systems were sold to for-profit corporations; and

WHEREAS, thinking of water as a commodity to generate profit is contrary to our country’s values and morals, but for-profit companies, both domestic and foreign, now own 14 percent of the United States water supplies and seek to acquire more, potentially endangering the public health and safety and national security;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party will do everything in its power to achieve legislation at all levels of government requiring that all water supplies and water districts be owned by local government entities and will urge Democratic legislators in California to support such effort; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party send this resolution to the California Democratic Congressional and California Legislative delegations.

Submitted by: Becky Curry, Chair, Lake County Central Committee (CCC); Linda Reynolds, President, Democratic Club of West Orange County; Lake County CCC; Butte CCC; Democratic Club of West Orange County; Nick Caston, Representative for Assemblywoman Noreen Evans; Thomas Gangale, Chair, Sonoma CCC Issues and Legislation Committee

Adopted November 18, 2007

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**Resolution Number ANAL07.15**

Pre-Existing Mental Condition

WHEREAS, numerous cases of denial of claims of mental disability by virtue of combat injury are being classified as “pre-existing mental conditions” by the Military Departments and the Department of Veterans Affairs, and that by accepting the judgment of “pre-existing mental condition” the service member is forgoing future benefits often not understanding the extent to which such benefits will be denied; and

WHEREAS, at the time of enlistment the same service members were judged fit for service by the recruiting agency of the parent service; and

WHEREAS, the people of the United States desire that all returning service members be afforded all of the treatment and benefits they have justly earned;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party calls upon the Congress of the United States to
establish by law, under its authority in Article 1, Section 8 of the United States Constitution, that acceptance for service of any recruit by the Military Department renders such future judgments of “pre-existing mental condition” moot, and that treatment and other benefits shall not be denied to those returning service members on that basis; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party forwards this resolution to the California Democratic members of Congress with a demand that they immediately sponsor legislation to this end, and that they pledge to shepherd it through Congress at the earliest possible opportunity.

Submitted by California Democratic Party Veterans Caucus
Adopted November 18, 2007

Resolution Number ANA07.15
Promote Universal Single-Payer Health Care
WHEREAS, California is facing a major public health crisis due to the skyrocketing costs and diminishing benefits of the current health care system resulting in 7 million uninsured and countless underinsured Californians; and
WHEREAS, the 25 percent or greater cost that the private health insurance system spends on the administration of health plans makes apparent the inefficiency of this system in contrast to the less than 3 percent it would cost to administer a "single-payer" "Medicare-type" insurance system; and
WHEREAS, the California Democratic Party is already on record as endorsing the move toward a "single-payer system" as stated in the 2006 CDP Platform, as well as being on record as endorsing a universal health care proposal that covers all state residents through a non-profit, single payer, comprehensive health plan;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the CDP recognizes that the health and well-being of Californians is not a commodity to be subjected to the demands of the free market, and the profiteering of stockholders and CEOs; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the CDP strongly supports the drafting and passage of legislation that creates and enacts a single-payer health care program which provides comprehensive, secure, high quality, efficient and sustainable access to health care for all Californians.

Submitted by: Johanna Olson, MD, So. California Chair, California Democratic Party Progressive Caucus, DSCC Member, 42nd AD; Susie Shannon, Executive Board Member, 42nd AD; Ahjamu Makalani, DSCC Member, 61st AD; Helen Hartman, DSCC Member, 42nd AD; Brad Parker, DSCC Member, 42nd AD; John Heaner, Region 13 Director; Dante Atkins, DSCC Member, 42nd AD; Marilyn Grunwald, DSCC Member, 42nd AD; Dan Licht, DSCC Member, 42nd AD; Michael Jay Miltenberg, DSCC Member, 42nd AD
Adopted November 18, 2007

Resolution Number ANAL07.19
Provide Tuition Assistance For The California National Guard
WHEREAS, the California National Guard, whose volunteers provide essential emergency service response to the state, has approximately 2,000 of those members currently deployed in support of operations in Iraq and Afghanistan, 22 of whom have been killed to date; and
WHEREAS, California ranks last in the nation in providing education financial assistance to its National Guard members, and is the only state that fails even to provide a tuition assistance program; and
WHEREAS, the State Legislature has stripped funding for tuition assistance during past budget negotiations, the governor of California has publicly acknowledged the need to provide college tuition assistance to the National Guard, and we believe that “support the troops” includes supporting their educational needs;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party recognizes the need to support our service members and calls upon the legislature to provide fully-funded, 100 percent tuition assistance at public institutions to the California National Guard veterans of the Iraq and Afghanistan theatres.

Submitted by: Tim Goodrich, DSCC Member; West Los Angeles Democratic Club
Adopted November 18, 2007

Resolution Number ANAL07.11
Public Hearings On The Safety And Economic Impact Of Mexican Cargo Trucks On U.S. Public Roadways
WHEREAS, the Department of Justice under the Bush Administration is launching a “Demonstration” program allowing 100 Mexican trucking companies to carry goods in the United States for the first time since 1982 (in a provision from the 1994
NAFTA agreement opening roads to Mexican long haul truck drivers) despite resistance and legal battles from the Congress, labor, environmental and safety groups; and
WHEREAS, previously Mexican trucks off-loaded goods at the border to American truck drivers, this current program will allow cheap labor (Mexican drivers are paid 30 – 40 percent less than American drivers), and will result in a loss of American jobs, a greater possibility of illegal cargo (drugs, guns, humans) and goods to be smuggled across state lines as well as vast amounts of new pollution to American lands and skies; and
WHEREAS, the American taxpayers pay for the roads, bridges and transportations systems in the United States, and are therefore entitled to full open debate and hearings on Mexican cargo trucks, which has been denied by calling the program “Demonstration” over “Pilot” and thereby negating the possibility of public hearings;
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party join with the Sierra Club, Teamsters, and other labor and citizens groups to halt the program until public hearings are conducted, which will address all economic implications, public safety issues, security/smuggling concerns, environmental enforcement procedures and other concerns; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party send a copy of this resolution to the California Congressional delegation, to the Labor and Environmental caucus and to the media to demand open and public hearings.

Sponsored by Margie Murray, DSCC member 41st AD; Brad Parker, President, Valley Democrats United, Officer, Progressive Caucus; Valley Democrats United; Los Angeles County Democratic Party
Adopted November 18, 2007

Resolution Number ANAL07.02
Regarding Age Discrimination Against U.S. Commercial Pilots
WHEREAS, current FAA rules require experienced airline pilots, who remain capable of flying safely, to retire at age 60 based on a 50-year old standard put in place to solve a labor dispute and not to enhance flight safety; and
WHEREAS, the international air transport community, represented by the International Civil Aviation Organization of which the United States is a founding member, with the support of most nations, adopted a new world standard in 2006 permitting commercial pilots to continue service until age 65, including foreign pilots who command and fly commercial aircraft within the United States for foreign airlines; and
WHEREAS, this difference in rules represents age discrimination without valid cause against U.S. commercial pilots, aggravates the current acute shortage of commercial pilots, and encourages the lowering of standards for new pilots to meet that shortage;
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party join AARP, EEOC, Veterans United For Truth, Inc., Vietnam Veterans of America, The Seniors Coalition, Airline Pilots Association, International (ALPA), Southwest Airlines, Southwest Airlines Pilots Association (SWAPA), Airline Pilots Against Age Discrimination (APAAD), JetBlue Airlines, and thousands of pilots and their families, to support an immediate change in FAA rules to permit commercial pilots who otherwise remain qualified to continue to serve until age 65; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party convey this resolution to U.S. Representative James Oberstar (D-MN), the Chairman of the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, post haste.
Submitted by Bob Handy, Region 10 Director, Chair of the CDP Veterans Caucus
Adopted November 18, 2007

Resolution Number ANAL07.16
Restricting Corporate Charters For Private Military Contractors
WHEREAS, the Constitution of the State of California, under the Declaration of Rights, Article 1, Section 5 reads: “The military is subordinate to civil power. A standing army may not be maintained in peacetime;” and
WHEREAS, private military contractors (a.k.a. mercenaries or private armies) operating in California that are not under civil control or not under military chain-of-command can be looked upon as a standing “private” army maintained in peacetime; and
WHEREAS, private military contractors using military weapons were deployed in New Orleans following hurricane Katrina to keep peace and order and were actively disarming law-abiding citizens of their lawfully owned weapons, and were outside of civil control;
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party supports the urgent need for legislation stating that no
private military contractor, mercenary corporation acting as a paramilitary or private military entity, or any subsidiary of same, be granted a corporate charter to operate in the State of California unless fully and completely under civil control and within the civil or military chain-of-command, subject to civil control and that there be a prohibition against any and all private corporate armies being formed; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Posse Comitatus Act be enforced within the State of California and that it be amended so that no private military contractor may be employed against the civilian population in times of civil unrest.

Submitted by Thomas Stevan, DSCC Member and Candidate for Assembly, 15th AD; East Bay Young Democrats Club; Shasta County Democratic Central Committee; Diablo Valley Democratic Club

Adopted November 18, 2007

Resolution Number ANA07.17
Stop California Law Enforcement Complicity In Federal Medical Marijuana Raids

WHEREAS, law enforcement departments in California often assist the federal drug enforcement agency in conducting raids and arrests at medical marijuana pharmacies and seizing the assets of hospice-care medical marijuana pharmacies and continue to participate in such federal medical marijuana raids, thus targeting and instilling fear especially in the disabled and gay communities; and

WHEREAS, local law enforcement agencies work, first and foremost, for their communities, not the federal DEA, and could better serve their communities by focusing on violent crimes, such as drive-by shootings, armed robberies and rapes;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party urges the mayors and law enforcement officials in California cities and counties to respect California law legalizing the sale and use of medical marijuana by refusing to take part in federal raids involving the sale and distribution of medical marijuana at facilities licensed under California law; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party sends copies of this resolution to the mayors of major California cities with a request that this resolution be distributed to city council members and law enforcement agencies.

Submitted by Los Angeles County Democratic Party; Marcy Winograd, Executive Board Member, 41st AD; Margie Murray, DSCC Member 41st AD

Adopted November 18, 2007

Resolution Number ANA07.22
Stop The Power Grab

WHEREAS, every Californian knows that the “winner takes all” be it football, baseball or a national election for President and the people of California deserve having their voices and votes heard loudly, fairly and accurately; and

WHEREAS, California with its open initiative process and large electoral votes has been selected by the Republican Party in a desperate effort to hold the White House at any cost, and in a naked power grab, the Republican Party intends to distort the electoral process in just this one state only, via the initiative process that would “change the rules” in midstream; and

WHEREAS, the proposal to go against majority rule elections would be eroded under a split of electoral votes making only California required to go against the will of the voters;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party stop the Republican back-door attempt at a power grab to subvert the will of Californians voting in the Presidential election by stopping the attempts to place on the ballot an initiative to change the rules in favor of the loser; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party calls upon all fair-minded Californians to not sign these petitions currently being circulated.

Submitted by Mark Hull-Richter, DSCC Member; Patrick Henry Democratic Club; California Democratic Party Resolutions Committee; Natasha and Alexandar Hull-Richter; CDP Resolutions Committee

Adopted November 18, 2007

Resolution Number ANAL07.12
Striking Workers At Valley Power Systems North, Inc.

WHEREAS, some businesses purchase other companies and then fail to honor prior agreements, such as at Valley Power Systems North, Inc. in San Leandro, California, where employees have had a union contract with Operating Engineers Local Union No. 3 for 45 years and have now been on strike since July 10, 2007 protesting the company’s refusal to honor the union
wage and benefit package that was in place when Valley Power bought the heavy equipment repair facility in August 2005 from Stewart and Stevenson; and
WHEREAS, some companies, such as Valley Power Systems, Inc., have blocked employees’ access to medical and pension benefits they earned under the union contract, and Valley Power has continued to violate federal labor laws; and
WHEREAS, some companies have refused to negotiate with their employees’ union; as Valley Power has refused to negotiate with the union and their employees to restore the wages and benefits that were in place when Valley Power bought the company two years ago;
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the California Democratic Party condemns anti-union activities of certain businesses, such as Valley Power Systems North, Inc., and pledges its support for striking workers, in their efforts to secure justice in their workplace; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party calls on employers who have walked away from the bargaining table, such as Valley Power Systems North, Inc., to return to the bargaining table and reach a fair and equitable contract.
Submitted by Tom Aja, Labor Caucus Treasurer; Jim Gordon, Labor Caucus Chair
Adopted November 18, 2007

Resolution Number ANAL07.08
Support Gov’t Adherence To Contractual Obligations To U.S. Soldiers And End “Stop Loss” Procedures
WHEREAS, the California Democratic Party has supported veterans in their fight for government adherence to contractual obligations, including a date certain for leaving military service, and adequate funding of veterans’ benefits, and access to quality medical services; and
WHEREAS, U.S. troops returning from Iraq suffer from severe health problems including major injuries, exposure to depleted uranium, and post traumatic stress disorder and many veterans have difficulty obtaining health care for these health problems from the Veterans Administration; and
WHEREAS, U.S. troops are being subjected to the unfair practice of “stop loss” policies, in which military personnel are kept on active duty past their contracted date for leaving military service;
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party supports adequate funding of veterans’ benefits and delivery of quality health care by the Veterans Administration while opposing “stop loss” procedures; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party inform Democratic members of the California Congressional Delegation of this position.
Sponsored by Los Angeles County Democratic Party
Adopted November 18, 2007

Resolution Number ANA07.32
Support Of Workers Who Have Been Victims Of Wage Discrimination
WHEREAS, the Supreme Court has ruled that by statute employees have only 180 days from the initial discriminatory paycheck to file suit against employers for wage discrimination; and
WHEREAS, wage disparities are kept confidential by most employers, preventing employees from knowing for months or years that they are victims of wage discrimination; and
WHEREAS, wage discrimination remains a significant problem and the Democratic Party is on record supporting equal pay for equal work;
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party urges Congress to correct this faulty interpretation of statute by extending and clarifying the time limit for filing wage discrimination cases to include each discriminatory paycheck as a separate instance of discrimination, which will allow time for the disparity to become known to the employee; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party will inform its Senators, Congressmembers, and House Speaker Nancy Pelosi and ask for their support.
Submitted by Los Angeles County Democratic Party; Roz Teller, DSCC Member, 43rd AD
Adopted November 18, 2007

Resolution Number ANAL07.43
Support Organizations’ Right To Free Speech

WHEREAS, the First Amendment of the Constitution states “Congress shall make no law […] abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances;” and

WHEREAS, amendments passed during “Constitution Week” in September 2007 by members of both the U.S. House and Senate were in response to a newspaper advertisement published by the organization, MoveOn.org;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party supports the rights of organizations to publish advertisements exercising their free speech to redress grievances, without attacks or injuries.

Sponsored by Susanne Savage, DSCC Member, 42nd AD; Susie Shannon, Executive Board Member, 42nd AD; Johanna Olson, MD, DSCC Member, 42nd AD; Ahjamu Makalani, DSCC Member, 61st AD; Helen Hartman, DSCC Member, 42nd AD; Marilyn Grunwald, DSCC Member, 40th AD; Dan Licht, DSCC Member, 42nd AD; Brad Parker, DSCC Member, 42nd AD

Adopted November 18, 2007

Resolution Number ANAL07.07
Supporting California Clean Car Discount Programs

WHEREAS, global warming, left unchecked, can lead to coastal flooding, increases in wildfires and in the number of poor air-quality days, and decreased snow-pack runoff and water supplies, thereby increasing agricultural and business costs, leading to economic and job losses which could decrease the State’s competitiveness; and

WHEREAS, creating a system of “Clean Car Discount” consumer rebates on new cleaner, low-emission vehicles funded by one-time surcharges on new gas-guzzling, high-emission vehicles, thereby creating an economic incentive that will decrease sales of high polluting vehicles while increasing sales of cleaner, low emission vehicles, leading to reductions in global warming pollution from cars and light trucks;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party calls upon the Speaker of the Assembly to support legislation that enacts “Clean Car Discount” programs, and encourage his fellow Assemblymembers to pass such legislation, to reduce vehicle-produced pollution and thereby improve public health, increase the state’s energy independence, reduce its emissions of global warming pollution and ultimately enhance business opportunities and job growth for the world’s 8th largest economy while maintaining California’s role as the nation’s leader in environmental protection; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party will transmit a copy of this resolution to the Speaker of the State Assembly, the State Senate President Pro Tem, Democratic Members of the State Legislature, the Chairperson of the California Air Resources Board (CARB).

Submitted by Los Angeles County Democratic Party; Stephen M. Hubbard, Member, LACDP/ Democratic Club of Pasadena Foothills

Adopted November 18, 2007

Resolution Number ANA07.03
Supporting Sec. of State Debra Bowen’s Efforts to Strengthen Voter Confidence in Electronic Voting

WHEREAS, Secretary of State Debra Bowen has been at the forefront of strengthening voter confidence and fighting to ensure that California’s voting systems are secure, reliable, accurate, and accessible; and

WHEREAS, Secretary of State Debra Bowen has contracted with the University of California to conduct an unprecedented top-to-bottom review of the voting systems in California, detailing a number of security vulnerabilities in all of the voting systems tested; and

WHEREAS, the top-to-bottom review led to the de-certification of voting systems (including Diebold, Hart InterCivic, Sequoia and ES&S), requiring these systems to comply with security procedures prior to re-certification, and Secretary of State Debra Bowen further announced new statewide conditions to enhance the reliability and security of the voting systems for re-certification;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party fully supports California Secretary of State Debra Bowen in her efforts to make voting in California more secure, reliable, and accessible and commends Secretary of State Bowen in her fight to make sure that every vote is counted; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be transmitted to Secretary of State Bowen.
Resolution Number ANA07.10
Supporting Shared Governance Of The University Of California Retirement Plan
WHEREAS, the University of California is one of the largest public sector employers in the state, with 122,000 employees and 37,000 retirees who are members of the University of California Retirement Plan (UCRP); and
WHEREAS, the UCRP is unilaterally managed by the Regents of the University of California with no shared governance with plan participants; and pension plans with shared governance provide better benefits for workers, are generally financially healthier, and have proven to be far more secure than unilaterally managed plans; and
WHEREAS, the UCRP is required to remain financially strong so that the University of California may recruit and retain employees who make the University of California a world-class institution and so that employees may retire with dignity and with the benefits they were promised;
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party urges the Regents of the University of California to provide for shared governance of the University of California Retirement Plan, exercising its authority under Section 9 of Article IX of the California Constitution, by including an equal number of trustees representing the employer, faculty and staff plan participants, similar to the Public Employees’ Retirement System and the State Teachers’ Retirement System; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party supports current efforts in the Legislature to encourage the Regents to achieve this end and will send copies of this resolution to the U.C. Regents, and members of the Senate and Assembly Education Committees.

Submitted by Los Angeles County Democratic Party; Chad Jones, Executive Board Member, 38th AD
Adopted November 18, 2007

Resolution Number ANAL07.14
Valid Claims
WHEREAS, numerous cases have been reported of serving military and veterans having to prove their physical and mental difficulties resulting from service in the Iraq and Afghanistan wars to their military organization, and without such proof, being denied the help and the benefits that they have been promised and deserve; and
WHEREAS, even if veterans of the current and previous conflicts prove their need, once their cases are referred to the Department of Veterans Affairs they must once again prove the service-connected relationship of their illness or trauma often under different rules of evidence and requiring different records; and
WHEREAS, the result of these conditions is that thousands of individual service members and veterans have had to face two of the largest bureaucracies in the United States government alone, and often without requisite records or guidance to prove their cases, almost guaranteeing certain failure;
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party calls urgently upon the Congress of the United States to establish by law, under the authority provided in Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution, the following:
1) That when a soldier or veteran makes a claim for benefits based on a service-related injury or disability, either to the claimant or to eligible dependents, his or her parent service and the Veterans Administration must, in all cases, presume that the claim is truthful and accurate and such assistance or treatment must be provided immediately; and
2) That when such assistance or treatment is initiated, it will be continued as long as needed, until and unless clear and incontestable proof of the invalidity of the claim is established through investigation, the results of which are certified as valid by no less than two qualified reviewing authorities – at least one from the parent service and one from the Department of Veterans Affairs; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party forwards this resolution to the California Democratic members of Congress with a demand that they immediately sponsor legislation to this end, and that they pledge to shepherd it through Congress at the earliest possible opportunity.

Submitted by California Democratic Party Veterans Caucus
Adopted November 18, 2007

Resolution Number SD07.29
Adequate Funding, Policies and Standards for California Transportation

WHEREAS, Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger’s Climate Action Team says we need to slow the effects of human-induced climate change by reducing millions of tons of carbon dioxide emissions through increased transportation efficiencies, a goal which became law as the California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006, which sets targets for the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions in California; and

WHEREAS, making the most efficient use of urban land and transportation infrastructure and shifting the transportation mode-share from single passenger cars, 41% of those trips being two miles or less, to public transit, bicycling, and walking should be a significant part of short- and long-term planning goals if the State is to achieve the reduction in the number of vehicle miles traveled and in greenhouse gas emissions; and

WHEREAS, the Governor’s 2007-2008 proposed budget raids the Public Transportation Account funds of $1.11 billion (cutting operations funding by $411 million and capital investments by $700 million), and also permanently shifts another $80 million to fund highway projects, which will devastate public transit funds that keep trains, buses, and ferries running, and will force more people to drive;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party stands strongly opposed to the Governor’s transportation budget cuts and funding shifts, and encourages the Governor to financially commit to his priority to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in California; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that to help California cities reduce greenhouse gas emissions and ease transportation congestion in the long term, all cities and counties should be encouraged to modify the circulation element of their general plan to provide policies and standards for routine accommodation of all users including motorists, users of public transportation, and non-motorized travelers in the planning, design, construction, and operation of roadways and transportation infrastructure.

Submitted by Dan Wood and 25+ DSCC members

Adopted July 15, 2007

Resolution Number SD07.27

Allow Counties and General Law Cities Public Campaign Finance Option (Clean Money)

WHEREAS, public campaign financing (clean money) has been shown to be an effective way to make elected officials accountable to voters; allow elections to be decided by ideas not by which candidate raises the most money; give citizens with good ideas an opportunity to be elected to a fair shot at winning office; save taxpayer money by reducing the influence of lobbyists and special interests who promote unnecessary government spending; and

WHEREAS, current California law permits only Chartered Cities in the State to provide for full public funding of election campaigns, should they wish to do so, but does not allow for such self-determination on the part of General Law Cities and Counties because of Proposition 73; and

WHEREAS, this disparate treatment is undemocratic and denies residents of General Law Cities and Counties the ability to adopt this proven method of lessening the untoward influence of special interest money on public policy, should they choose to do so;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party supports the concept of local government self-determination, particularly as it would function to allow the people and their local representatives to provide for full public funding of their municipal and county elections should they choose to do so and goes on record in opposition to the concepts in Proposition 73, particularly those related to the prohibition of General Law Cities and Counties from enacting public campaign finances (clean money) laws and ordinances; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party sends copies of this resolution to every Democratic legislator and add it to other clean money resolutions.

Submitted by: The Democratic Alliance for Action (DAA); The DP/SFV; Los Angeles County Democratic Party Resolutions Committee; Los Angeles County Democratic Party Legislative Committee; the Los Angeles County Democratic Party; the Sherman Oaks Democratic Club; the Democratic Women of the San Fernando Valley; North Valley Democrats; Valley Democrats United; Valley Grassroots for Democracy PAC

Adopted July 15, 2007
Resolution Number SD07.98
Apology from the Government of Japan for Wartime "Comfort Women"

WHEREAS, the Government of Japan, during its colonial and wartime occupation of Asia and the Pacific Islands from the 1930s through the duration of World War II, officially commissioned the acquisition of young women for the sole purpose of sexual servitude to its Imperial Armed Forces, who became known to the world as ianfu or "comfort women;" and
WHEREAS, the Government of Japan did sign the 1921 International Convention for the Suppression of the Traffic in Women and Children and supported the 2000 United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325 on Women, Peace, and Security which recognized the unique impact of armed conflict on women; and
WHEREAS, Japanese public and private officials have recently expressed a desire to dilute or rescind the 1993 statement by Chief Cabinet Secretary Yohei Kono on the "comfort women", which expressed the Government's sincere apologies and remorse for their ordeal;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party calls upon the Government of Japan to formally acknowledge, apologize, and accept historical responsibility in a clear and unequivocal manner for its Imperial Armed Force's coercion of young women into sexual slavery, known to the world as "comfort women," during its colonial and wartime occupation of Asia and the Pacific Islands from the 1930s through the duration of World War II; have this official apology given as a public statement presented by the Prime Minister of Japan in his official capacity; clearly and publicly refute any claims that the sexual enslavement and trafficking of the "comfort women" for the Japanese Imperial Armed Forces never occurred; and educate current and future generations about these wartime atrocities.

Sponsored by the 16th AD Democrats
Adopted July 15, 2007

Resolution Number SD07.73
Assure That Parents Know Their Right to Opt-Out Of the Military Recruitment Requirement of the No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB)

WHEREAS, the NCLB requirement that schools provide private, student information to military recruiters, and the Bush Administration's recently stated objective to increase the size of the Army and Marine Corps will result in continued aggressive recruitment tactics targeting low-income and minority students; and
WHEREAS, Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger vetoed AB 1778, which would have required all California public high schools to inform parents of their rights to deny military recruiter access to students' contact information by placing a required opt-out statement on each student's Emergency Notification Form (Emergency Card); and,
WHEREAS, the effectiveness of notifying parents through school Emergency Cards of their right to opt-out of NCLB's military recruitment requirement has been demonstrated by dramatic increases in the number of parents who have chosen to opt-out in school districts that have adopted this form of notification;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party urges members of the California Assembly and Senate to once again pass, and the Governor to sign, legislation requiring that notification of parental rights regarding a military recruitment "opt-out" statement be placed prominently on each high school's Emergency Notification Form.

Submitted by: Pajaro Valley Cesar Chavez Democratic Club; Sandra Nichols, Delegate; Elsa Gonzalez, Co-Chair;
Pajaro Valley Cesar Chavez Democratic Club
Adopted July 15, 2007

Resolution Number SD07.34 A
Bring Home and Support the California National Guard

WHEREAS, the California Democratic Party sitting in Convention in 2005 chastised President George W. Bush for taking the nation to war in March, 2003, without sufficient resources or plans to conduct such a war which has drawn many Californians in all branches and components of the services into indefinite service and endless conflict; and
WHEREAS, these long periods of overseas duty create significant economic hardships for returning National Guard troops who experience difficulty repositioning themselves economically, and California is one of the few states that does not, for instance, provide tuition waivers within our college and university system for returning California National Guard troops; and
WHEREAS, the California National Guard has served courageously and honorably in Iraq for periods far beyond what most
expected their duties and time commitments to entail and their extended absence from the state has left Californians vulnerable to possible catastrophes such as earthquakes, fires or the failure of our vast levee system;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party reiterates its earlier stated position that the Governor and State Legislature show its appreciation for the sacrifices made by the Californians serving in the California National Guard by providing such benefits as tuition waivers, tax credits for hardships stemming from overseas duties, rehabilitation services, job assistance and proper medical care;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we urge Governor Schwarzenegger to request the return of California National Guard troops at the earliest possible time so as to assure the state’s readiness to handle emergencies that might arise.

Submitted by Michael Jay Miltenberg, aka Michael Jay, 42nd AD and Susie Shannon, Executive Board Representative, 42nd AD; Marcy Winograd; Santa Monica Democratic Club; East Lake Bonita Democratic Club; Progressive Democrats of Los Angeles; Progressive Democrats of the Santa Monica Mountains; 42nd AD Delegates: Susie Shannon; Michael Jay Miltenberg; Ralph Fertig; Joye Swan; Ricco Ross; Jo Olson; Dan Licht; Dante Atkins; Brad Parker; Wendy Block

Adopted July 15, 2007

Resolution Number SD07.19
Bringing Diversity Back to the Universities Of California
WHEREAS, the U.S. constitution states that all citizens are entitled to the pursuit of happiness, and that pursuit has a great deal to do with financial security, and the ability to attain financial security has a great deal to do with education, as college graduates are estimated to earn an average of $1,000,000.00 more during a lifetime than those without college degrees; and

WHEREAS, since the restrictions imposed by Prop. 209, enrollment of African-American, Latino- and Native-American students across the UC system in 2005 was under 19%, and enrollment of African-Americans has dropped each year at our most renowned University of California, (UCLA) turning the clock back and effectively forcing UCLA, to be complicit in the decline of its freshman minority enrollment which has now reached the lowest level since 1973; and

WHEREAS, African-Americans are nearly 12 % of the population, UCLA’s Chancellor Norman Abrams said figures released in June 2006 which showed that only 2% of African-Americans were likely to enroll while the African-American population of prisons is over 40%, and that since the restrictions imposed by Proposition 209 the divide between the "have" and "have nots" has widened and the drop in African-American, Latino- and Native-American enrollment in Universities of California will only add to an even further future divide;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party calls upon the Democratic members of the California legislature to introduce and pass legislation which would immediately address and take action that would reverse the decline of African-American, Latino-, and Native-American student enrollment in the Universities of California, as it would be beneficial financially, socially, and culturally to the whole of the student body's experience of our educational process, as well as to the population of California, being the most diverse in the country; and distribute copies of this resolution to both California Senators Feinstein and Boxer, all California Representatives, and such media outlets as the CDP may deem appropriate.

Sponsored by: Ricco Ross, MFA from UCLA, Beneficiary of Affirmative Action and now Delegate of the 42nd AD; 42nd AD Delegates: Michael Jay; Susie Anne Shannon; Joye Swan; Susan Lerner; Daniel Licht; Brad Parker; Maria Mancini; Wendy Block; Ralph D. Fertig; Dante Atkins; Jo Olson; Susanne Savage; 41st AD Delegates: Dorothy Reik; Marcy Winograd; Maureen Cruise; Alice Lynn; Susan Haskell; Mary Pallant; Linda Sutton; Dave Dayen; Doug Dilg; William Floyd; Ellis Perlman; Jonathan Troen; Wayne Williams; 45th AD Delegates: Shirin Buckman; Colleen J. Colson; Erika Gallo; Mary Jacobs

Adopted July 15, 2007

Resolution Number SAC07.30
Calling For the Closing of the Prison Facility at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba
WHEREAS, January 11, 2007 marks the fifth anniversary of political prisoners being sent to Guantanamo Bay, Cuba and classified by the Bush Administration as "enemy combatants" in the so-called "War on Terror" in the hopes of not having to follow basic Constitutional guarantees afforded all accused of crimes in due process of law and protections under international laws such as the Geneva Conventions for prisoners of war; and

WHEREAS, there have been numerous accusations of prisoner abuse at Guantanamo Bay of these political prisoners by
international human rights organizations such as the U.N. Commission on Human Rights, Human Rights First, and Amnesty International; and

WHEREAS, our nation's standing on the world stage has been damaged by human rights abuses that have been perpetrated in our name and on our government's behalf against our real or perceived political enemies;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party renews its call that the United States government end the immoral, illegal, inhumane, unethical, and unconstitutional treatment of suspects in the "War on Terror" by U.S. forces, U.S. intelligence officers, military subcontractors, and by foreign countries that have had suspects sent to them for questioning, and we specifically call for the closing of the prison at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party distribute copies of this resolution to U.S. Senators Feinstein and Boxer, Representatives Woolsey and Thompson, and such media outlets as the California Democratic Party may deem appropriate; and to all other California county Democratic central committees and to the California Democratic Party for consideration and support.

Sponsored by Linda C. McCabe, Member 4th District and the Sonoma County Democratic Central Committee

Adopted July 15, 2007

Resolution SAC07.16 C
Calling For the Immediate Resignation of United States Attorney General Alberto Gonzales

WHEREAS, under the tenure of Attorney General Alberto Gonzales, the Department of Justice has been subjected to numerous high-profile scandals, including the dismissal of United States Attorneys for partisan purposes, and the appointment of unqualified political operatives to immigration judgeships; and official statements, including prepared testimony, made by U.S. Attorney General Alberto Gonzales over the course of multiple sworn Congressional hearing dates have the appearance of being factually irreconcilable, in stark contrast with the level of candor and integrity that is expected of the nation's highest-ranking law enforcement officer; and

WHEREAS, the managerial competence of Attorney General Alberto Gonzales has been further undermined by his inability or unwillingness to fulfill basic Congressional information requests, contrary to specific commitments he made to the Congress under oath; additionally, non-availability of public records stored on outside electronic servers would appear to violate the Federal Records Act; and Attorney General Alberto Gonzales has deceived and withheld information from Congressional investigators concerning the scope, history, and background of the dismissal of the aforementioned United States Attorneys, as well as his personal involvement in the scandal in question; and

WHEREAS, these actions, in addition to being possibly illegal, have tarnished the Department of Justice, and eliminated the public trust in the capabilities of Alberto Gonzales to perform his duties as Attorney General in a competent and non-partisan fashion; and this recurring pattern of official malfeasance, among other unresolved questions of illegal conduct by Departmental leadership, is incompatible with the high office of trust and responsibility the Senate has confirmed Attorney General Alberto Gonzales;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party calls upon the membership in the United States Senate and United States House of Representatives to call for the immediate resignation of United States Attorney General Alberto Gonzales.

Submitted by: Raymond L. Cordova, for the California Democratic Party Resolutions Committee; Peter Rudinskas, 48th AD; Agi Kessler; Passed: LACDP Resolution Committee, 6/5/07 and LACDP, 06/12/07; Author: Dante Atkins, DSCC Member, AD-42 and Platform Committee member; Co-Sponsors: Delegates from AD-42: Wendy Block; Ricco Ross; Joyce Swan, Legislative Action Committee member; Susie Shannon, Executive Board Member; Norman Chramoff, Platform Committee Co-Chair; Andrew Lachman, Credentials Committee Co-Chair; Garry Shay, Rules Committee Chair; Daniel Licht; Johanna Olson, Platform Committee member; Michael Jay Miltenberg; Mark Kleiman; Delegates from AD-41: David Dayen; Wayne Williams; Marcy Winograd, Executive Board Member; EllisPerlman; Jonathan Troen; Delegates from AD-40: Rosalyn Kahn; David Hyman; Jonathan Kraut, AD-38; Andrew Davey, AD-69; Desiree Funch, AD-68; Carl Manaster, AD-75; Paula Villescaz, AD-05; Voter Services Committee member; Gila Jones, AD-73; Voter Services Committee member; Judy Hotchkiss, Rules Committee Member; John G. Vigna, Organizational Development Committee Co-Chair; John Heaner, Region 13 Director

Adopted July 15, 2007
Resolution Number SACL07.02
Censure of the Commander-In-Chief for Dereliction of Duty

WHEREAS, the United States Congress is empowered by our Constitution to declare war, to raise and support Armies and a Navy, and to "make Rules for the Government and Regulation of the land and naval forces," and the President is likewise made responsible in the Constitution to serve as "Commander-in-Chief of the Army and Navy of the United States and of the Militia of the several states when called" into service, and to carry out in that office the rules established by Congress; and

WHEREAS, the performance of George W. Bush acting as the Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces has been derelict in the extreme, endangering the lives of our soldiers through a reckless and militaristic foreign policy; through inattention to training; by not providing adequate material and supplies; by engaging an invented enemy with insufficient force and without a policy to complete the task; and, through failing to use diplomatic means to lessen the plight of the Armed Forces; and

WHEREAS, the Armed Forces are now weakened, under-equipped, deployed in grave danger without sufficient support, held to an objective and task that is impossible to complete, and are being held there without relief;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party petitions our Senators and the California Democratic Caucus in the House to submit a resolution of censure against George W. Bush, President of the United States and Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces, based on his dereliction of duty in enforcing the long-standing rules established by Congress for the raising, maintenance, and employment of the Armed Forces, and that the text and intent of such resolution of censure be largely as stated here:

“RESOLVED, that the United States Congress does hereby censure George W. Bush, President of the United States, and does condemn his improper decisions to wage an unending war on an indefinable enemy and without a military objective; to send the Armed Forces into harm’s way in insufficient numbers and with deficient and inadequate defensive material; to hold those forces in battle posture at the heart of a foreign nation’s civil war; to return exhausted soldiers and units to the battle with insufficient rest, retraining, and rearming; to allow the physically and mentally wounded to languish with insufficient benefits and services; and to allow the families, widows, widowers and orphans of those Armed Forces to go without adequate support; thus constituting a gross dereliction of his Constitutional duty, presenting a right subject for condemnation by all Americans, and for censure by the Congress of the United States.”

Sponsored by Bob Handy, Director Region 10 and Sandy Cook, 33rd AD and 150 California Democratic Central Committee Members

Adopted July 15, 2007

Resolution Number SAC07.03
Chartered, Open Membership Democratic Clubs

WHEREAS, the Democratic State Central Committee and Democratic County Committees serve as the representative governing bodies for Democrats in California; and

WHEREAS, Democrats in thousands of neighborhoods across the state have the need for year-round Democratic communication targeted to their community experience, encompassing concerns from the neighborhood, city, county, state and national levels; and

WHEREAS, Democratic clubs in California provide the only open membership-based organizations that elect all levels of their leaders by and from their club’s entire membership and that are formally chartered by a Democratic Party committee to serve a particular geography or an affinity purpose

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic State Central Committee encourages all Democrats throughout California to join, support and participate with a chartered, open membership, locally-focused Democratic club that serves their home community; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic State Central Committee encourages all Democrats to work with their County Committee to ensure every address in each county is served by a locally-focused, open membership Democratic club that holds regular well-publicized full membership meetings, seeks broad, demographically-representative membership from its constituents and implements effective year-round outreach to the Democrats the club is chartered to serve.
Resolution Number SAC07.04  
Commending California Firefighters  
WHEREAS, California Firefighters have a long tradition of being among the finest trained in the nation, and as a testament to their professionalism and sense of duty, have been called upon and volunteered to fight fires in other states; and WHEREAS, on June 24, 2007, a fire started in the Tahoe National Forest, west of South Lake Tahoe, which was to be known as the "Angora Fire" and which was soon called the biggest natural disaster in Tahoe history, ultimately burning more than 3,100 acres, destroying 242 residences and 67 commercial structures, and causing damage to an additional 35 homes; and WHEREAS, the firefighting professionals fought tirelessly to bring this devastating fire under control, and these brave men and women reached their goal of 100 percent containment on July 2, 2007 and, most importantly, did so without the loss of life, a further testament to the excellence of their skills and dedication and because this latest fire is a reminder of the danger they face year in and year out all over California. 
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party wholeheartedly commends the California firefighters who put their lives on the line each and every day they are on the job, and in so many other ways contribute to their communities and give of themselves through their service and their sacrifice.  
Submitted by Chris Stampolis, President, California Democratic Council and Member, Democratic National Committee  
Adopted July 15, 2007

Resolution Number SDL07.07  
Custodial Pay Equity  
WHEREAS, the University of California, was established as a great institution of higher education to provide opportunities for thousands of people every year; and WHEREAS, since November of 2005 the custodians at UC Berkeley, UC Santa Cruz, and UC Santa Barbara have been struggling to urge the University to address the pay inequities between themselves and the area community colleges and groundskeepers at UCI have been struggling to have their jobs in-sourced; and WHEREAS, Congresswoman Barbara Lee, Vice-President Al Gore, Senator John Edwards, Senator Barack Obama, Speaker Fabian Nuñez, Governor Howard Dean, Assemblymember Carol Liu, Senator Liz Figueroa, Mayor Gavin Newsom, Assemblymember Nicole Parra, Senator Leland Yee, and have all supported the ongoing boycott against UC Berkeley, Irvine, Santa Barbara and Santa Cruz and have urged the University of California to solve this inequity problem immediately; THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party supports the 1,000 custodians and their families in their struggle to receive pay equity with the area community colleges and allows them to support their families; THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that until the University addresses the issue, the California Democratic Party endorses the on-going boycott of the Universities of California: Berkeley, Santa Cruz, Irvine and Santa Barbara.  
Submitted by the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees Local 3299; William Schlitz, Political & Communications Director, AFSCME Local 3299; April 2007

Resolution Number SAC07.06  
Development of a Long-Term Policy for Post-Secondary Educational Fees  
WHEREAS, access to post-secondary education is essential for a strong economy, an educated workforce, a stable society, and an educated citizenry in California and such access is directly affected by the cost of post-secondary education; and WHEREAS, in recent years, student fees in the University of California, California State University, and California Community College systems have risen unpredictably as the Governor, the Legislature, and such systems have engaged in annual budget conflicts, resulting in erratic fee increases; and
WHEREAS, the Governor has entered into a compact with the University of California and California State University systems effective through the 2010-2011 school year to raise fees higher than the amount allocated to the systems through the state's general fund;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party supports post-secondary students and California's future economy and as such, strongly encourages the development and implementation of a coherent and predictable long-term policy for post-secondary education systems, and that such a policy would create a lasting partnership between the state and students, with increases never higher than the state's increase in general fund support; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that any such policy must include the possibility of a reduction of fees, and begin with a rollback of fees to the pre-compact level.

Submitted by Natalie E. Rojas, fourth year University of California, Santa Cruz student and member of the Santa Cruz County Democratic Central Committee on behalf of the Santa Cruz County Democratic Central Committee and the San Francisco State College Democrats

Adopted July 15, 2007

Resolution Number SAC07.32

End the War, Stop Funding Military Operations in Iraq, Revoke the Original Authorization and Assert the War Powers Act

WHEREAS, the American people gave a clear and unambiguous mandate to the 110th Congress to end the war in Iraq which was started under false pretenses by the Bush Administration and many members of Congress now say they would not have voted to authorize the use of force in Iraq if they had known that the information provided was based on selective and sometimes inaccurate intelligence; and

WHEREAS, the war has claimed the lives of over 3,600 American military personnel, has wounded many thousands more, and has resulted in the death, wounding, or dislocation of a significant number of Iraqis, has cost in excess of $442 billion, tarnished our reputation in the international community, resulted in regional instability and has significantly hampered the fight against Al Qaeda by sapping our military, economic and political resources and provided a propaganda-recruiting bonanza for Al Qaeda; and

WHEREAS, Congress has the ultimate power to declare war under the Constitution and the War Powers Act and in addition can exercise the "power of the purse" to withdraw funding from any activity it feels is not in the best interest of the United States and this power to appropriate is the most powerful tool it has to control policies in the Executive branch to which it objects;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party reaffirms its position calling for an end to the war and joins over 70 percent of the American people as well as over 70 percent of the Iraqi people in demanding an end to the occupation quickly and to reject so-called benchmarks and distant deadlines and urges Congress to vote against all further appropriations for military operations in Iraq except for the explicit purpose of bringing all combat troops and private contractors home safely and without delay; and that no additional funds be authorized or appropriated except to provide safety for U.S. infrastructure and personnel and for rebuilding the Iraqi infrastructure and providing for security as part of a United Nations effort; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party calls upon Congress to revoke the original authorization given to President Bush on October 16, 2002 to use military force in Iraq, thus unifying our country in its absolute desire to see an immediate end to the Iraq war and sending the strongest message to President Bush and, in addition, that Congress reaffirm its commitment to exercise the powers given to it in the Constitution and under the War Powers Act to declare war so that the United States of America does not go to war again without explicit, constitutionally mandated authorization by Congress; that where Congress has withdrawn its authorization for the use of force, that the President should comply with the Constitution and the War Powers Act and seek either a formal declaration of war or a new authorization for the use of force.

Respectfully submitted; Emily Thurber & Bob Farran for the California Democratic Party Resolutions Committee; Karen Bernal; Mark Hull-Richter; Thomas Gangale; Tony Green; Mendocino CCC; South Sonoma CCC

Adopted July 15, 2007

Resolution Number SD07.17

Funding California Education

WHEREAS, since the 1960 Master Plan for College Education, California has guaranteed college opportunity to all qualified students, making California a national center for emerging industries and the world’s sixth largest economy; and
WHEREAS, over the last ten years, college costs have increased 26% nationally and 72% at the University of California and 82% at California's Community Colleges, while the percentage of college-bound high school graduates has declined and college graduates now carry an average of $19,000 in debt; and
WHEREAS, on January 17, 2007, under the leadership of Speaker Nancy Pelosi and Education and Labor Committee Chairman George Miller, the House of Representatives passed the College Student Relief Act of 2007 to cut the student loan rate on subsidized loans in half and eliminated the tuition sensitivity provision of the Pell Grant Program which unfairly prevented the 260,000 California community college students who receive Pell grants from obtaining the maximum grant;
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party supports efforts in the United States Senate and the House by Senator Edward Kennedy, Representative George Miller and others to improve national competitiveness by drastically cutting federally subsidized student loan rates and increasing Pell Grants and eliminating tuition sensitivity provisions which discriminate against Californian Pell Grant recipients, making loan debt manageable by limiting loan payments to a reasonable percentage of income and allowing payment over a longer period of time; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party supports efforts to provide the necessary funding to buy out the proposed fee increase at California State Universities and also at the Universities of California and California's Community Colleges, and implement the Legislative Analyst's Office recommendation to support students at private universities by increasing Cal Grants.
Submitted by Charlie Carnow, 40th AD; Valley Grassroots for Democracy
Approved July 15, 2007

Resolution Number SD07.33
Further Reduce Teen Pregnancy in California
WHEREAS, California has long been a leader in the effort to reduce teen pregnancy and sexually transmitted diseases and as a result of commonsense policies increasing access to contraception and comprehensive, medically-accurate sex education including abstinence and birth control, teen pregnancy has dropped nearly 50% over the past ten years; and
WHEREAS, Californians rejected Propositions 73 and 85 because of their anti-choice agenda, but agree that increased family communication is an important component of reducing teen pregnancy; Californians want families to receive tools and strategies they need to talk with their teens about, sex, sexuality and responsible behavior; and
WHEREAS, currently, some California families lack the tools needed to open the lines of communication and underestimate their influence on their teens' decision-making, even though teens cite their parents as the biggest influence in whether or not to become sexually active;
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that California continue its tradition of leadership by moving forward with bold new programs aimed at strengthening family communication and eliminating teen pregnancy and sexually transmitted diseases; and
THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Democratic Party calls on the state legislature to develop statewide programs to increase family communication, especially in communities where teen pregnancy rates and sexually transmitted diseases remain high; create a model for national family communication legislation with broad, bi-partisan support, thus decreasing state taxpayer expenses related to teen pregnancy and teen births; and to continue California's tradition as a pro-choice leader.
Submitted by Lyn Shaw Hilfenhaus, Chair, CDP Women's Caucus and LACDP
Approved July 15, 2007

Resolution Number SD07.100
Genuine Diplomacy with Iran
WHEREAS, a democratic Iran is in the best interest of its people as well as a safer and more stable Middle East; and that the engine of the nascent Iranian democratic movement is its struggling middle class and the vast population of youth; and
WHEREAS, either comprehensive sanctions used as a tool of escalation or unprovoked military action against Iran would move it farther away from democracy, weaken its middle class and help the anti-democratic forces in Iran to maintain and solidify their grip on power; and
WHEREAS, absence of diplomacy and direct talks consistent with the recommendations of the Baker-Hamilton study group will likely lead to further escalation and instability in Iraq and in the region;
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party calls on Congress to oppose unprovoked military action against Iran and the use of sanctions as a "tool of escalation" - as opposed to "tool of genuine diplomacy" - and instead support direct talks between the United States and Iran without preconditions; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party supports the International Atomic Energy Agency's efforts to enforce its inspection regime and perform its role in preventing the proliferation of nuclear weapons, as mandated by the United Nations.
Submitted by: Mehrdad Moayedzadeh, Bay Area Iranian-American Democrats (BAIAD), chartered with the Santa Clara County Democratic Central Committee and the Alameda County Democratic Central Committee; Bay Area Iranian-American Democrats; Alameda County Democratic Central Committee; Santa Clara County Democratic Central Committee; Wellstone Democratic Renewal Club; Patrick Henry Democratic Club

Adopted July 15, 2007

Resolution Number SD07.79

Gulf Coast Civic Works Project
WHEREAS, Hurricane Katrina destroyed over 200,000 Gulf Coast homes and many schools, hospitals, roads, community centers, bridges, parks, and forest lands; and
WHEREAS, the disparate impact of Hurricane Katrina’s devastation on people of color, low-income, and working class families gives dramatic evidence of the continuing inequities of race and economic status as shown through the failure to maintain critical infrastructure needs prior to Katrina, the evacuation process, and the number of deaths, injuries and displacements; and
WHEREAS, the failure of the Bush administration and federal agencies to provide timely, effective and substantial aid continues to compound a national tragedy that has now become a national disgrace as exhibited by large areas of the Gulf Coast region remaining in need of reconstruction and the fact that over 100,000 Louisianans have applied for aid yet only 2,000 people have received grants;
NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party calls upon the Bush Administration and Congress to urgently prioritize the rebuilding of homes, schools, hospitals, transportation infrastructure, community resources; and the provision of immediate economic assistance to present and displaced Gulf Coast residents; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party urges the Democratic National Committee and our congressional leaders to introduce and fight for passage of federal legislation based on the Gulf Coast Civic Works Project, a national effort to create 100,000 jobs for Gulf Coast residents to rebuild their communities and lives.
Submitted by the Santa Clara County Democratic Party Executive Board
Adopted July 15, 2007

Resolution Number SD07.31

Hiring Seniors for Employment
WHEREAS, the large number of baby boomers are approaching their senior years yet desire to continue being productive members of the California workforce; and
WHEREAS, baby boomers looking for employment in their areas of expertise or in new areas of interest often face discouragement and have a difficult time getting job offers; encounter age discrimination and fear of disability lawsuits by prospective employers; typically earn significantly less when reemployed; and have difficulty finding jobs, including part-time, that provide more flexible work arrangements and health and pension benefits; and
WHEREAS, the State of California, which would benefit economically with an experienced workforce and at the same time would address the drop in numbers of younger workers entering the workforce, should facilitate and encourage employment for its senior citizens who want to continue working;
THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the California Democratic Party calls upon the State of California to develop a plan to provide employment opportunities, including within the State Government, for senior citizens looking for work.
Sponsored by the 16th AD Democrats
Adopted July 15, 2007

Resolution Number SAC07.01

Honoring Madale Long Watson
WHEREAS, Madale Long Watson, born and raised in Covina, California, was an institution in grassroots activism, having
served on both the California Democratic Party's State Central Committee and Executive Board from 1950 through 2001, and
was the Treasurer of the California Democratic Party's Southern Division from 1971 to 1977; and
WHEREAS, during her more than 50 years in politics, Madale Watson nurtured and mentored many Democratic activists,
party leaders, candidates and elected officials (including her close association with Jesse Unruh), earning her the affectionate
nickname, “Mother;” and
WHEREAS, Madale Long Watson did go peacefully into the night on June 24, 2007 at the age of 95, leaving behind a legacy
that will forever be remembered among Democrats - both state and national;
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party pays loving tribute to Madale Long Watson in honor
and recognition of her more than 50 years of devotion and service to Democrats; and
THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this Resolution shall remain on the Party's website in perpetuity,
in remembrance of, and in reverence to Mother Madale Watson, may she rest in peace.
Submitted by Senator Art Torres (Ret.), Chairman of the California Democratic Party
Adopted July 15, 2007

Resolution Number SAC07.09
Local Planning to End Global Warming
WHEREAS, the California Legislature has proven its leadership through landmark environmental legislation such as AB 32
(the nation's first statewide cap on global warming pollution) and CEQA (the California Environmental Quality Act), fostering
consensus and compromise between building and environmental constituencies by enacting “smart growth” policies effecting
healthier, less-polluting, more walkable / livable communities through multimodal transit villages and preservation of open
space; and
WHEREAS, the way we plan the physical layout of our local communities (called “Land Use” by urban experts, part of
worldwide sustainability endeavors) is fundamental to securing the physical, economic and social efficiency, health and well-
being of urban and rural communities through elimination of two main negative features of poor land use practices over the
past several decades; and
• Urban sprawl resulting from short-sighted zoning ordinances that isolate employment locations, shopping, services, and
housing locations from each other; and
• Air pollution and global warming emissions resulting from low-density growth planning which fosters automobile access to
increasing expanses of land; and
WHEREAS, urban sprawl and poor land use planning contribute to air quality decline reported by the California Air Resources
Board, including the annual health impacts of exceeding state health-based standards for smog and soot resulting in 8,800
premature deaths, 10,200 hospital admissions for lung and heart disease, 340,000 asthma attacks with 3,000 asthma-related
emergency room visits, and 4.7 million school absences due to respiratory conditions;
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party supports sustainable smart growth and energy-efficient
land-use planning through ordinances, legislation, and General Plans as a means for local communities to combat global
warming.
Submitted by Luke Breit, Chair, CDP Environmental Caucus; Rebecca Carey, Secretary, CDP Environmental Caucus
Adopted July 15, 2007

Resolution Number SD07.78
Oppose Human Trafficking
WHEREAS, the California Democratic Party is proud of its support of the right of all men, women and children to be free from
being forced into slavery; and
WHEREAS, slavery today is represented in the human-trafficking industry, which has reached epic proportions and has
become the fastest growing form of international crime, generating $7 billion per year worldwide, superseding the illegal drug
industry in criminal proceeds generated and being surpassed only by arms trafficking; and
WHEREAS, the slave industry's victims are sold into military service, prostitution, forced labor, begging, domestic service,
forced illegal adoption and forced marriages, and among its victims includes men, women and approximately 1.2 million
children;
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party reaffirms its long-standing commitment against slavery
and the trafficking of men, women and children around the world; and
THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party calls upon its officials and representatives to introduce and enact legislation to protect the victims of human trafficking and prevent the sale of people and the use of trafficked persons.

Submitted by Maria Mancini and Michael Jay Miltenberg, AD-42; AD-38 Delegates: Peter Rothenberg; Lyn Shaw; AD-41 Delegates: Marcy Winograd, Executive Board Member; Maureen Cruise; Leah Herzberg; Linda "Lyn" Klein; Alice Lynn; Mary Pallant; Ellis Perman; Dorothy Reik; Jonathan Troen; Wayne Williams; AD-42 Delegates: Susie Shannon, Executive Board Member; Cindy Asner; Ralph D. Fertig; Andrew Lachman; Daniel Licht; Brad Parker; Ricco Ross; Joye Swan; Jo Olson; Thom O'Shaughnessy, AD-43; Sherry Healy, AD-6; and John Heaner, Region 13 Director, CDP

Adopted July 15, 2007

Resolution Number SDL07.10
Opposing Blackwater West and Mercenary Training in California

WHEREAS, Blackwater USA, a North Carolina-based private security firm under contract to the Pentagon to supply armed personnel for duties in the Iraq War, proposes to build a large mercenary and paramilitary compound called Blackwater West near Potrero, in San Diego County, on an 824-acre parcel that includes Cleveland National Forest acreage, borders a proposed wilderness area adjacent to the Hauser Wilderness, and is both an important watershed and an environmentally sensitive habitat for wildlife; said mercenary and paramilitary activities are inherently dangerous and pose serious risks - including severe fire danger - to surrounding communities and wilderness areas, will deplete groundwater, substantially increase traffic, increase noise from shooting ranges, driving track, and helicopter activities, among many other environmental concerns; and

WHEREAS, Blackwater USA and other private contractors are not subject to an effective system of oversight and accountability with respect to their operations and government contracting activities, and are the subject of ongoing hearings before the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee regarding allegations of waste, fraud, and abuse; Blackwater USA has resisted attempts to subject its private soldiers to the Pentagon's Uniform Code of Military Justice, claiming they are civilians, and has simultaneously claimed immunity from litigation under civil law in the United States, asserting its forces are part of the Pentagon's "Total Force;" and

WHEREAS, the "John Warner National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2007" (H.R. 5122), which was signed into law by President Bush in October 2006, seriously weakens two bulwarks of liberty - the Posse Comitatus Act and the Insurrection Act of 1807 - by expanding the power of the president to declare martial law and use troops as a domestic police force in response to a "public emergency" or any "other condition;" and Blackwater troops (which were deployed domestically in New Orleans after Hurricane Katrina) or other private mercenary and paramilitary forces pose a severe threat to the civil liberties of the American people and now could be deployed to quell public dissent, put down popular uprisings, or even to stop opposing points of view through intimidation or outright force

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party opposes the Blackwater West Project; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that all military, paramilitary, or related security/law enforcement training operations in California, whether private, governmental, or some combination of the two, should be conducted on, and only on, secured U.S. military bases or other established government-regulated facilities designed for that purpose.

Respectfully submitted, Raymond Lutz, AD-77 Delegate and President, East County Democratic Club

Adopted July 15, 2007

References:

Resolution Number SAC07.17
Opposing Coal Liquefaction

WHEREAS, the Environmental Protection Agency has determined that even should carbon sequestration technology not currently in existence be developed for fuel production by coal liquefaction, conversion to fuel derived from liquid coal would still increase the emissions of greenhouse gases that contribute to global climate change; and

WHEREAS, a recent study by MIT concluded that building coal-to-liquid fuel plants would be expensive and inefficient, with each plant costing nearly four times as much as would an oil refinery with equivalent capacity; and
WHEREAS, certain methods of coal production, such as mountaintop removal, cause severe environmental damage and blighted landscapes;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party opposes taxpayer subsidies for the construction of coal-to-liquid fuel plants; government guarantees of minimum purchase of coal-derived liquid fuel; as well as any minimum price guarantees or purchase requirements for liquid fuel derived from coal.

Sponsored by: Dante Atkins, DSCC Member, AD-42, and Platform Committee Member; Wendy Block, AD-42; Ricco Ross, AD-42; Joye Swan, Legislative Action Committee Member, AD-42; Carl Manaster, AD-75; Susie Shannon, E-Board Member, AD-42; David Hyman, AD-40; Rosalyn Kahn, AD-40; Michael Jay Millerberg, AD-42; Johanna Olson, Platform Committee Member, AD-42; Daniel Licht, AD-42; John Heaner, Region 13 Director; Jim Hilfenhaus, E-Board Member, Resolutions Committee Co-Chair, AD-38; Lyn Shaw Hilfenhaus, Platform Committee Member, AD-38; Diana Shaw, AD-38; Mark Kleiman, AD-42; Andrew Davey, AD-69; Paula Villescaz, Voter Services Committee Member, AD-05; David Dayen, AD-41; Wayne Williams, AD-41; Marcy Winograd, E-Board Member, AD-41; Ellis Perlman, AD-41; Jonathan Troen, AD-41; Desiree Funch, AD-68; Gila Jones, Voter Services Committee Member, AD-73; John G. Vigna, Organizational Development Committee Co-Chair

Adopted July 15, 2007

Resolution Number SD07.80
Recognition of Armenian Genocide
WHEREAS, over one and a half million Armenian men, women and children were killed in Turkey in the first genocide of the 20th Century; and

WHEREAS, California Congressman Adam Schiff has introduced legislation which calls upon the President to ensure that U.S. foreign policy reflects appropriate understanding and sensitivity concerning issues related to said genocide and to accurately characterize the systematic and deliberate annihilation of 1,500,000 Armenians as genocide; and

WHEREAS, a just resolution is an appropriate and just action that will help to prevent future genocides;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party urges support of the efforts of Congressman Schiff and others to acknowledge on the floor of the House of Representative the Armenian genocide; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be transmitted to Speaker Pelosi and the Democratic members of the House representing Los Angeles County.

Submitted by Ken Silk 42nd AD; Los Angeles County Democratic Party

Adopted July 15, 2007

Resolution Number SAC07.15
Regional Blueprint Planning
WHEREAS, California has picked up the mantle that the nation has dropped and taken major steps to combat global warming and greenhouse gasses through measures such as AB 32; and

WHEREAS, the Sacramento region, through the Sacramento Area Council of Governments, has in bipartisan cooperation, developed a planning blueprint through which each local government determines where its share of housing will go, in concert with protecting watersheds and valuable farmland and designing a workable transportation system; and

WHEREAS, it is critical for the future of California to utilize a planning process for each region of the state to determine where needed housing will go and to coordinate such housing plans with the need to protect our air, water, open space, agricultural land, transportation systems and other benefits to enhance every Californian's quality of life

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party urges the State Legislature to establish local government planning requirements to aid regions in developing specific guidelines, taking into account, unique local characteristics for transportation plans by regional transportation planning agencies to ensure minimal environmental impacts and to help make the state's metro areas more attractive and livable, allowing them to grow and attract jobs in a cleaner, healthier setting and to limit the growth of greenhouse emissions from vehicles and trucks; and be it further

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party prepare and submit copies of this Resolution to the Democratic members of the State Legislature.

Submitted by Luke Breit, Chair, Environmental Caucus of the CDP

Adopted July 15, 2007

Resolution Number SD07.59
Restoration of the Fairness Doctrine and the Reestablishment of Equal Access to the Public Airwaves
WHEREAS, the public airwaves and the public's access to fair, honest and diversified journalism has been limited, controlled and generally subordinated to interests of corporate media behemoths since the termination of the Fairness Doctrine in 1987; and

WHEREAS, government mandates ensure protections for similar public assets such as clean air, water, and the national lands -- so too shall the public airwaves require regulations guaranteeing access for diverse voices engaged in public discourse at the local, regional and national level; where the broadcasting standards commission will continue to provide a forum for public concerns regarding standards of decency and the portrayal of sex and violence; and

WHEREAS, station licenses do not imbue their holders with the privilege or the right-limit access, defame opposing ideas, or consider the airwaves their private property or exclusive corporate interest; and the termination, by the FCC of the Fairness Doctrine, precipitated the consolidation of media power into fewer and fewer corporate hands to the detriment of a well-informed and educated populace;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party knowingly sets out to limit and ultimately reverse the consolidation of media outlets, and to eliminate corporate practices which place the interests of shareholders above the responsibility to inform the public; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party commits to the reestablishment of the Fairness Doctrine; and the requirement that licensees act as trustees of the public airwaves; and who, as a condition of their license, shall provide open and fair access to opposing views on public issues and an open forum for voices who represent a diverse local, regional, and national public body.

Submitted by Tara Marchant Wilson, 16th AD; 25+ DSCC members
Adopted July 15, 2007

Resolution Number SD07.82
Social Security Fairness Act

WHEREAS, the Social Security Act includes two offsets, the Government Pension Offset (GPO) and the Windfall Elimination Provision (WEP), that reduce the social security benefits payable to educators entitled to benefits under the California Teachers Retirement System, Federal employees entitled to benefits under the Civil Service Retirement System; certain members of the California Public Employees Retirement System; and members of the County Employees Retirement Law of 1937; and

WHEREAS, these provisions place an undue financial burden on certain public sector employees and their families and penalize individuals who earned social security benefits through employment outside the state of California or private sector employment; and

WHEREAS, California has a significant teacher shortage and the public sector faces difficulty in the recruitment and retention of educators, peace officers, firefighters, letter carriers, other public employees from other states and the private sector, and the GPO/WEP severely hinders recruitment and retentions efforts because of the significant loss of social security benefits; THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party encourages the Congress to pass the Social Security Fairness Act which would repeal the GPO/WEP, and further requests President George W. Bush to sign that legislation.

Submitted by Gary Alford, AD-29; Richard Blackston, AD-10; Kathleen Crummey, AD-18; Bill Collins, AD-76; Becky Curry, AD-01; Poppy Dennis, AD-74; Brenda Emerson, AD-29; Arlyne Faulks, AD-9; Mark Galipeau, AD-6; Aleita Huguenin, AD-10; Owen Jackman, AD-5; Kenny Jowers, AD-1; Hene Kelly, AD-12; Sandra Lowe, AD-6; Sam Lucero, AD-79; Jim Mastin, AD-1; Rich Meagher, AD-4; Mike Patterson, AD-4; Tim Paulson, AD-19; Cynthia Pena, AD-28; Patrick Riggs, AD-1; Steve Savage, AD-1; Susan Savage, AD-4; Bonnie Shatun, AD-42; Sal Zendejas, AD-26; 6th AD Democratic Club
Adopted July 15, 2007

Resolution Number SAC07.14
Stand Firm for Persons With Disabilities

WHEREAS, California has had access laws on the books since the early 1980s; and

WHEREAS, the Americans with Disabilities Act was passed in 1990 and started taking effect in 1991 providing equal opportunity for Americans with Disabilities to take part in all aspects of our society; and

WHEREAS, in California we also have protections for People with Disabilities from discrimination through the Unruh Act and California Civil Code Section §54 through 55.2 and all of these laws provide for protections to be granted through the use of the filing of lawsuits by the discriminated party;
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party urges our legislators to stand firm for the rights of the disabled to participate in all aspects of life and not require them to have any additional burdens in filing lawsuits than any other party trying to resolve discrimination issues.
Submitted by FDR Democratic Club for Persons with Disabilities & Seniors, San Francisco, CA
Adopted July 15, 2007

Resolution Number SD07.81
Stem Cell Update
WHEREAS, President George Bush, balancing his ethical and political instincts and the cell lines then available, issued a presidential order on the 201st day of his first term, forbidding federal money being used to fund embryonic stem cell research, and the cell lines fundable under that order have deteriorated to the point of being only a small fraction of the useful cell lines globally; and
WHEREAS, a simple one number change in that order's dating (from 2001 to 2005 or 2006) could free up federal funding for most of the useful cell lines, while having a minuscule effect on the incentives to process those embryos with a realistic chance of being carried to term; and
WHEREAS, such a change should present minimal ethical problems to that small minority (including the President) who are trying to minimize what they see as the destruction of potential life, since all the cell line founding or sourcing would have been accomplished previously as under the prevailing order;
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party supports a law changing the cutoff date in the embryonic stem cell order from August 9, 2001, to some convenient date in the recent past without prejudice to the possibility of opening up all stem cell lines to federal research funding in the near future.
Submitted by David L. Weissman, 47th AD; LACDP
Adopted July 15, 2007

Resolution Number SAC07.07
Support A Senior Citizens' Rent Increase Exemption Program (SCRIE) In The State Of California
WHEREAS, seniors on a limited fixed income who live in rent-stabilized apartments are facing a desperate and hopeless situation and cannot survive due to the yearly 5% rent increase and capital improvement costs, and are being forced to move out of their apartments because of this inability to pay the 1/3 or more of their income on said yearly 5% increase in rent, which is not commensurate with the 3.3% annual social security cost-of-living increase and does not meet the rising cost of living; and
WHEREAS, their only alternative would be HUD housing and Section 8 which is unrealistic because there is a 3-to-6 year waiting list, and it is also unacceptable because most of HUD and Section 8 housing are in unsafe neighborhoods for seniors and
WHEREAS, the (SCRIE) program initiated in New York City for senior citizens 62 years of age or older who currently reside in a rent-controlled unit has been successful in maintaining affordable housing for this population while concurrently providing just compensation to landlords to maintain their property,
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party supports the concept of a California senior citizens' rent increase exemption program similar to the SCRIE housing program in New York State.
Submitted by Annette St. John Lawrence - 42nd AD Democrat; Beverlee Stone-Goodman - 42nd AD Democrat; Ricco Ross - 42nd AD Delegate; Susie Shannon - 42nd AD E-Board Member; Wendy Block - 42nd AD Delegate; Leah Herzberg, 41st A.D. Delegate; Brad Parker, 42nd AD Delegate; Margie Murray, 41st A.D. Delegates; Wanda Hargrove, 40th A.D. E-Board; Norman Chramoff, 42nd A.D. Delegate; Andrew Lachman, 42nd AD Delegate; Michael Jay Miltenberg, 42nd A.D. Delegate; Johanna Olson, 42nd A.D. Delegate; Diana Shaw, 38 A.D. Delegate; Jim Hilfenhaus, 38th A.D. Delegate; Jacqueline Alikhaani, 39th A.D. Delegate; Bizhan Alikhaani, 39th AD Delegate; Ralph Fertig, 42nd AD Delegate; Joye Swan, 42nd AD Delegate; Marcy Winograd, 42nd AD Delegate; Cara Robin, 51st AD Delegate; Karen Bernal, 5th AD E-Board Member; Matthew Gerbasi, 45th AD Delegate; Carly Miller, 45th AD Delegate; Dan Licht, 42nd AD Delegate; Alice Lynn, 41st AD Delegate; Dante Atkins, 42nd AD Delegate; Thom O Shaughnessey, 42nd AD Delegate; Chair, Irish Caucus; Valley Democrats United
Adopted July 15, 2007

Resolution Number SDL07.04
SUPPORT CLEAN ENERGY
WHEREAS, the continued burning of fossil fuels for energy harms our environment and likely contributes significantly toward global climate change;  
WHEREAS, the continued dependence of the United States on fossil fuels from the Middle East and elsewhere supports regimes whose intentions may be hostile to the United States and her regional allies;  
WHEREAS, the development and widespread use of new energy technologies would be of substantial economic assistance to the United States in terms of trade deficit reduction and in the creation of new industries and technologies;  
BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED, by the California Democratic Party affirms the need for any reasonable measures designed to promote energy efficiency, invest in, and expand the use of renewable energy technologies, and reduce the consumption of fossil fuels, especially those from foreign sources.

Sponsored by Dante Atkins, delegate, 42nd Assembly District, Andrew Lachman; Democrats for Israel Los Angeles  
Adopted July 15, 2007  
Resolution Number SD07.84  
Support Government Adherence To Contractual Obligations To U.S. Soldiers And End "Stop Loss"  
WHEREAS, the California Democratic Party has historically supported veterans in their fight for government adherence to contractual obligations, including a date certain for leaving military service, and adequate funding of Veterans' benefits, and access to the delivery of health care services; and  
WHEREAS, U.S. troops returning from Iraq suffer from tremendous health problems including severe physical injuries, exposure to depleted uranium and post-traumatic stress disorder, and many soldiers have difficulty accessing health care for such injuries through the Veterans' Administration; and  
WHEREAS, U.S. troops are being subjected to the practice of "stop loss", in which military personnel are kept on active duty past their contracted date for leaving military service;  
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party opposes the practice of "stop loss" in which military personnel are kept on active duty past their contracted date for leaving military service; and  
THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party supports adequate funding of Veterans' benefits, and access to the delivery of health care services for all veterans.

Submitted by Susie Shannon, Delegate 42nd AD; Edgar Cueves, Iraq War Veteran; Anitra Wetzel, Democracy Matters, L.A. Valley College; Betty D. McMillion, E-Board Rep. 65th Assembly District; Joyce Swan, 42nd AD Delegate; Bill Rumble, 42nd AD Delegate; Wendy Block, 42nd AD Delegate; Roz Teller, 43rd AD Delegate; Tom Mullens, 37th AD E-Board Rep.; Thom O'Shaunessey, 43rd AD Delegate from L.A. County Committee; Deana Igelesrud, 47th AD E-Board Rep.; Marcy Winograd, 41st AD Delegate; Michael Jay, 42nd AD Delegate; Ralph Fertig, 42nd AD Delegate; Brad Parker, 42nd AD Delegate; Ricco Ross, 42nd AD Delegate; Dante Atkins, 42nd AD Delegate; Ahjamu Makalani, 61st AD Delegate; Garland Byram, 59th AD Delegate; Dan Licht, 42nd AD Delegate; Carl Manaster, 75th AD Delegate; Judith Hess, 78th AD Delegate; Lynn Sandoval, 76th AD Delegate; Jacqueline Alikhaani, 39th AD Delegate; Charles Carnow, 40th AD Delegate; Karen Wingard, 44th AD Delegate; Carly Miller, 45th AD Delegate; Teresa Jodi Owen, 43rd AD Delegate  
Adopted July 15, 2007  
Resolution Number SAC07.08  
Support Parole And Sentencing Reform To Address Overcrowded Prisons  
WHEREAS, Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger and California legislators decided to build 53,000 new prison and jail beds at a 25-year cost of $15-billion dollars in construction and debt service funds; and  
WHEREAS, this legislative decision was made without a single public hearing in a state that, according to the California Legislative Analyst, currently incarcerates 240,000 inmates in prisons and jails, almost 70% of whom are people of color, 29% African-American, even though African-Americans constitute only 6% of the adult population; and  
WHEREAS, the current plan to build new prison and jail beds ignores the Governor's Independent Review Panel and the Little Hoover Commission recommendations for parole and sentencing reform that would immediately and drastically reduce California's prison population and address the problem of overcrowding in a state that, according to the California Legislative Analyst, spends $43,000 each year to incarcerate but only $8,000 to educate a student in our public schools;  
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party supports implementation of the state's Independent Review Panel and the Little Hoover Commission's parole and sentencing reforms: releasing selected and low-risk non-violent offenders without parole; moving parolees off parole automatically after 12 clean months; providing community alternatives,
not prison, for technical violations of parole; creating a sentencing commission that would recommend changes to penalties; and

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party, recognizing a disproportionate percentage of minorities is behind bars, supports implementation of these reforms to address overcrowding in prisons and jails.

Submitted by Progressive Democrats of Los Angeles; Progressive Democrats of the Santa Monica Mountains; Marcy Winograd, 41st AD Elected CDP Executive Board Delegate; Cindy Asner - 42nd AD Delegate; Karen Bernal - 5th AD Elected CDP Executive Board Delegate; Maureen Cruise, 41st AD Delegate; Dave Dayen, 41st AD Delegate; Doug Dilge - 41st AD Delegate; Matt Gerbasi - 45th AD Delegate; Kathy Green - 40th AD Delegate; Susan Haskell - 41st AD Delegate; Leah Herzberg, 41st AD Delegate, LACDP; Michael Jay, 42nd AD Delegate; Julie Lopez Dad, 41st AD Delegate, LACDP, Pres., Santa Monica Democratic Club; Alice Lynn - 41st AD Delegate; Kevin Lynn - 46th AD Delegate; Ruby Medrano - 45th AD Delegate; Carly Miller - 45th AD Delegate; Margie Murray, 41st AD Delegate, LACDP; Thom O'Shaughnessy, 43rd - CDP Executive Board Delegate; Ellis Perlman, 41st AD Delegate; Mary Pallant, 41st AD Delegate; Brad Parker, 42nd AD Delegate, Officer, Progressive Caucus, CDP; Dorothy Reik - 41st AD Delegate; Cara Robbins - 51st AD Delegate; Ricco Ross - 42nd AD Delegate; Pat Washington - 78th AD, CDP Exec Board; Wayne Williams, 41st AD Delegate

Adopted July 15, 2007

Resolution Number SD07.20

SUPPORT THE CALIFORNIA UNIVERSAL HEALTHCARE ACT

WHEREAS, the number of Californians without health insurance has risen to more than six million people while the cost of health care for those who are insured has spiraled out of control; and

WHEREAS, the platform of the California Democratic Party affirms that health care is a fundamental right and calls for transitioning to a single-payer public healthcare system; and

WHEREAS, the California Health Insurance Reliability Act, which was passed by the state Legislature in 2006 but vetoed by the Governor, would reduce costs by establishing a nonprofit system to fully insure all California residents;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party supports the California Universal Healthcare Act and urges the Legislature and Governor to enact the legislation in 2007; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party supports the San Diego County Democratic Party, as a member of the Alliance for a Better San Diego, which will conduct education, advocacy, and grassroots organizing to build public support for the California Health Insurance Reliability Act and work toward a health-focused vision of universal coverage.

Submitted by Nancy Miller (76 AD); San Diego County Democratic Central Committee

Adopted July 15, 2007

Resolution Number SD07.83 A

Support A Comprehensive Immigration Plan

WHEREAS, there is a need for realistic and comprehensive approach to immigration reform that provides for secure borders and control of immigration, a path to citizenship for law abiding residents based on a reasonable number of immigrants; addresses the immigration backlog to unify families; and provides a safe, legal and orderly avenue for migrant workers to enter the U.S. temporarily and not in a matter that would disrupt our existing labor force; and

WHEREAS, there is a need to provide a legal way for this temporary work force population to safely migrate to the U.S. and benefit from worker protections and the rights of labor; and

WHEREAS, our national security should provide that sufficient resources are provided to the U.S. border patrol and the immigration and naturalization service to prevent all illegal immigration, including potential terrorists and drug smugglers, and, if possible, without the need for additional fencing, which the GAO has found to be ineffective;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that California Democratic Party urges the President and Congress to create a fair and humane immigration reform that includes effective enforcement against all illegal entries into the United States, a limited increase in visas for migrant workers wanting to enter this country to work providing there is not an adverse impact on our local work forces and a path to citizenship for law-abiding workers and families already in this country and contributing by their labor to this country provided that those who entered the United States without lawful documents or whom overstayed their lawful entry not be given priority over those immigrants who have fully complied with the immigration laws of the United States; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party supports stricter enforcement or strengthening of current laws prohibiting employers from hiring undocumented workers.
Sponsored by Valley Grassroots for Democracy
Adopted July 15, 2007

Resolution Number SDL07.05
Support For Speaker Of The House Nancy Pelosi Concerning The Middle East
WHEREAS, Congresswoman and Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi has been the target of vilification from Republican Party leaders and right-wing media for her recent diplomatic efforts in the Middle East; and
WHEREAS, her bold initiatives to facilitate constructive dialogue between the governments of Syria and Israel are strong representations of the peaceful and democratic values for which the Democratic Party should stand; and
WHEREAS, Congressman Pelosi’s stated willingness to explore possibilities for negotiations with Iran could open up important avenues for a peaceful process of resolving dangerous tensions in the Middle East;
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party hereby honors Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi for her efforts since the 2006 election to show that dialogue and diplomacy are viable alternatives to the reckless and deadly approaches of the current administration; and
THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Party supports the leadership of Congresswoman Pelosi and believes it can be instrumental in holding the current Administration accountable for its crimes against our democracy and bringing an end to the cycle of bellicose rhetoric and war that has enveloped much of the world.
Sponsored by Tim Carpenter; South Lake County Democrats
Adopted July 15, 2007

Resolution Number SAC07.18 C
Support Of Affordable High-Speed Internet For America And Internet Neutrality
WHEREAS, to secure the rights of assembly, and free speech online, which are guaranteed by the Constitution and encourage new innovative American businesses to flourish, Americans are entitled to and require, open, equal and impartial Internet access; we need high-speed internet for our homes, schools, hospitals and workplaces to grow jobs and our economy; enable innovations in telemedicine, education, public safety and government services; foster independence for people with disabilities and strengthen democratic discourse and civic participation; and
WHEREAS, the United States - the country that invented the Internet - has fallen from 1st to 16th in Internet adoption; U.S. consumers pay more for slower speeds than people in other advanced nations; millions of Americans, especially in rural and low-income areas do not have access to affordable, high-speed broadband; the United States alone among the advanced nations has no national Internet policy; the U.S. definition of "high-speed" at 200 kilobytes per second (kbps) is too slow and has not changed in nine years; the U.S. and California collection of broadband data does not tell us what we need to know about broadband deployment, adoption, speeds, and prices and consumer and worker protections must be safeguarded on high-speed networks; and
WHEREAS, the growth of a free and open Internet has provided historic advances in the realms of democracy, free speech, communication, research, and economic development; California and U.S. consumers are entitled to and require open, unfettered access to the lawful Internet content of their choice without interference by any entity, public or private; build-out of universal high-speed, high-capacity networks will promote an open Internet by eliminating bandwidth scarcity;
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party endorses national, state, and local policies to promote affordable, high-speed broadband for all with strong protections for consumers and the workers who build, maintain, and service those networks; and a national goal for universal access and deployment of networks capable of delivering 10 megabits per second downstream and 1 megabit per second upstream by the year 2010; and the California Democratic Party supports federal and state initiatives to improve data collection on high-speed broadband deployment, adoption, speed and prices as a necessary first step; upgrading the current definition of high-speed to 2 megabits per second downstream, 1 megabit per second upstream and policies that promote public programs to stimulate build-out of high-speed networks to all homes and businesses in the nation;
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party in order to promote vigorous free speech, a vibrant business community, and unfettered access to all information on the Internet, supports policies to preserve an open, neutral, and interconnected Internet; protect against any degradation or blocking of access to any websites or content on the Internet and ensure consumers have the right to free e-mail; encourages build-out of high-speed networks to all homes and businesses in the nation;
businesses so that everyone can go where they want and upload or download what they want on the Internet as a public utility maintained by union workers.

Sponsored by Jim Gordon, Labor Caucus of the California Democratic Party and Brad Parker, Progressive Caucus of the California Democratic Party

Adopted July 15, 2007

Resolution Number SDL07.08
Support of California Congresswomen

WHEREAS, the conflict in Iraq has gone on for too long and the American electorate in November of 2006 mandated that the best way to support our troops was to bring them home sooner rather than later because we have already lost more than 3,600 of our finest young men and women and thousands are coming home with injuries that they will have to endure for the rest of their lives; and

WHEREAS, Congresswomen Lynn Woolsey, Barbara Lee, Maxine Waters and Diane Watson have shown the tenacity, and the commitment to our troops and to their constituents, by taking the leadership on bringing the troops home sooner; and

WHEREAS, Speaker Nancy Pelosi was able to craft legislation that would begin the withdrawal of our troops in a timely manner and that she was able to garner the votes to pass the legislation in the Congress;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California State Democratic Party acknowledges and appreciates the bold initiatives taken and leadership shown by the Congresswomen of the State of California and that copies of this Resolution be sent to the above mentioned congresswomen.

Submitted by Bobbie and Placido Salazar; Brad Parker; Ahjamu Makalani; Progressive Caucus; Sonoma Latino Democratic Club

Adopted July 15, 2007

Resolution Number SD07.25
Support of Clean Money

WHEREAS, candidates for public office in California are unduly burdened by the incessant rigors of fundraising, thus undermining the democratic process and discouraging the participation of ordinary citizens in their government; and

WHEREAS, the 2006 Platform of the California Democratic Party states that California Democrats will "support and implement clean money legislation;" and

WHEREAS, public confidence in the impartiality of all elected officials would benefit from a voluntary system of full public funding of election campaigns and adoption of such a system would allow the average citizen lacking great wealth to participate more effectively in the political arena;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party reaffirms its support for the concept of public financing, calling upon all elected officials to make establishment of a workable clean money system one of their highest priorities; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party shall prevail upon all elected officials to work to establish a public campaign financing system which (a) benefits from the models provided by other states, including Arizona, Connecticut and New Mexico that could be adopted for California's unique electoral circumstances; (b) sets the scope of the clean money system established thereby to address concerns about practicality and cost; (c) includes a provision for evaluating its success, with the intent of fine-tuning and expanding the scope of public financing in California if proven feasible; and (d) the California Democratic Party shall send this resolution to all Democratic members of the California State Legislature.

Submitted by Danielle James, 21; Randal Okamura, 23; Lorri Holzberg, 21; Todd Fitch, 21; Andrew Byrnes, 21; Paul Fong, 22; Brandon Sulser, 22; Carole Dorshkind, 21; Elizabeth Lasensky, 21; John Comiskey, 24; Adrienne Grey, 24; Spandan Chakrabarti, 23; Carolyn Curtis, 21; Stephanie Grossman, 21; Wanda Bryan, 24; Chi-Yun Lian, 24; David Joki, 21; Marcene Van Dierendonck, 21; Karen Porter, 21; Joseph Rolfe, 21; Diane Rolfe, 21; Marie Chadderdon; R.M. "Auros" Haman, 21; Emily Thurber, 21; Jacque Heffner, 24; Hope Cahan, 24; Ralph Wheeler, 21; Jim Thurber, 21; Alicia Crank, 22; Jeannie Conner, 21; Susan Lernerer, 42nd AD Elected Delegate; Susie Shannon, 42nd AD E-Board Representative; Ralph Fertig, 42nd AD Elected Delegate; Jo Olson, 42nd AD Elected Delegate; Michael Jay Miltenberg, 42nd AD Elected Delegate; Brad Parker, 42nd AD Elected Delegate; Joyce Swan, 42nd AD Elected Delegate; Dan Licht, 42nd AD Elected Delegate; Wendy Block, 42nd AD Elected Delegate; Ricco Ross, 42nd AD Elected Delegate; Dante Atkins, 42nd AD Elected Delegate; Ann Hiller, 41st Assembly District Delegate; Thaddeus Lengyl, 58th Assembly District Delegate; Bruce McFarland, 38th Assembly District Delegate; Katherine Green, 40th Assembly District Delegate; Linda Doran, 44th Assembly District Delegate; Rosemary Jenkins, 38th Assembly District Delegate; Abby Reeve, 40th AD Delegate; Carole Lutness, 38th AD Delegate; Mary Jacobs,
Resolution Number SD07.30
Support of Customer Service at State Agencies
WHEREAS, many, if not all Californians make telephone calls to various state agencies to seek assistance to their problems for their businesses, families and themselves; and
WHEREAS, when these individuals who are taxpayers make these telephone calls to obtain the needed information and service, they instead receive a maze of telephone prompts by computer along with confusing and often unnecessary information thereby adding to the requestor's frustration with state agencies and aiding in the belief that government is non-responsive;
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party supports the priority that each state agency have an attendant(s) answer personally each incoming call(s) on all public lines during business hours to ensure the calling party's needs are responded to and forwarded to the proper person or section of the called state agency.
Submitted By: the 48th Assembly District and Assemblyman Mike Davis
Adopted July 15, 2007

Resolution Number SACL07.03
Support of Fixing Medicare Prescription Plan
WHEREAS, Medicare was created to provide quality, affordable and accessible health care for seniors and has done an excellent job of delivering that care; and
WHEREAS, the stated goal of Medicare Part D was to provide affordable prescription coverage for Medicare beneficiaries; and
WHEREAS, Medicare Part D has proven to be the exact opposite of its advertised purpose by being expensive, hard to understand and complicated for seniors while giving the pharmaceutical companies a windfall of $150 billion;
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party asks Congress to provide real, affordable prescription coverage;
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party asks Congress to revise Part D to allow Medicare to competitively bid for pharmaceuticals similar to the Veterans' Administration.
Submitted by B. F. "Kess" Kessler, 41st AD; the Senior Caucus
Adopted July 15, 2007

Resolution Number SD07.05
Support of the 50-State Strategy and Suggestions for Helping Candidates
WHEREAS, Governor Dean's 50-State Strategy and his commitment to make the party competitive throughout the country has been very successful and the Democratic Party supports this effective approach; and
WHEREAS, this strategy attracts excellent new Democratic candidates into the races where incumbent Republican Congressmen and Senators may hold seats that are considered "safe;"
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that we urge the Democratic National Committee, the Democratic Senatorial Campaign Committee, and the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee to recruit a candidate for every race in 2008, and to provide each Democratic nominee with the information, support, and access to resources necessary to launch a competitive campaign; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we further urge the Democratic National Party to develop a fund-raising system usable by every Democratic nominee that will enable them to compete on a level playing field with Republican incumbents.
Submitted by Don Lowrie and Marlene Sarnat; Rio Vista Democratic Club; North Solano Democratic Club; Solano County Democratic Central Committee
Adopted July 15, 2007
Resolution Number SD07.06
Support of the Democratic National Committee’s 50-State Strategy
WHEREAS, the 2006 midterm election was an overwhelming success for Democrats across the Country, with Democrats regaining control of both the House and Senate in Congress, capturing 6 additional governorships from Republicans, while retaining all 14 of their contested governorships, and gaining majorities in seven additional state legislatures; and WHEREAS, Chairman Howard Dean and the DNC delivered on their promise to invest in rebuilding the party in every state in the country, including Red states, and has hired, trained, and deployed seasoned organizers and communications specialists to every state well in advance of the midterm elections, and also delivered on their promise to rebuild Democratic voter files and get-out-the-vote infrastructure, and that these party-building efforts enabled Democrats to take advantage of the wave of public sentiment against Republican rule in Congress even in states and districts that were not originally thought to be competitive;
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party supports the continuation of the Democratic National Committee’s 50-State Strategy, and expresses its appreciation to DNC Chairman Howard Dean for his persistence and leadership in executing this program, and for his ongoing commitment to revitalizing the Democratic Party throughout the entire United States, and forwards its position to the Democratic National Committee.
Submitted by Valley Grassroots for Democracy
Adopted July 15, 2007

Resolution Number SD07.18
Support of the Education and Treatment of Diabetes and Hypertension in African-Americans and Other People of Color
WHEREAS, there have been numerous reputed medical studies proving that hypertension, diabetes and other cardiovascular diseases effect African-Americans, people of color and low-income persons to a higher degree than the overall population of the State of California; and WHEREAS, African-Americans, people of color and low-income persons have higher health care costs borne by themselves or the taxpayers due to the lack of health insurance and death due to a disproportional percentage in the diseases of hypertension, diabetes and other cardiovascular problems due to lifestyle and a lack of information on nutrition and related health care prevention in relation to the overall population in the State of California; THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party supports immediate action to address this health disparity in African-Americans, people of color and low-income persons, emphasizing informational outreach, incentives to medical providers to test, provide prevention programs and treatment and the appropriate public health care agencies and providers to do the same, to thereby lower this overall cost of health care and the rate of death from these diseases.
Submitted By: the 48th Assembly District and Assemblyman Mike Davis
Adopted July 15, 2007

Resolution Number SAC07.12
Supporting Open Source Software for Electronic Voting Machines
WHEREAS, public confidence in the integrity of the election system in the United States is declining; and voting machines and the computers that add vote totals are being run with computer programs or software that can substantially change vote totals in subtle ways that are difficult to detect; and WHEREAS, we the people have the right to know exactly how votes are processed, to have transparent elections, and to have computer scientists analyze open source code for malicious code which could be used to manipulate elections; and WHEREAS, proprietary computer software denies us this right to know, inner workings of the computerized vote counting hardware are secret; THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party calls upon the California Secretary of State, and all California state legislators to support, pass, and implement legislation requiring that all technology used in processing our votes shall be publicly disclosed; and that such technology shall end secrecy in vote tabulation, produce a paper ballot as the official record of the vote, be scientifically verifiable, multi-lingual, and handicapped-accessible, and be designed to accommodate non-traditional voting schemata when required by county registrars; and BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution should be distributed to the California Democratic State and Federal delegation as well as the State’s Democratic State Constitutional Officers.
Submitted by Thomas Gangale, Chair, Issues and Legislation Committee, Sonoma County Democratic Party
Resolution Number SAC07.25
Supporting Prepaid Postage on Absentee Ballots
WHEREAS, the Constitution of the United States, Amendment XXIV, Section §1, States, "The right of citizens of the United States to vote in any primary or other election for President or Vice President, for electors for President or Vice President, or for Senator or Representative in Congress, shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or any state by reason of failure to pay any poll tax or other tax;" and
WHEREAS, in the November 2006 general election, in several jurisdictions voters were not aware that the weight of absentee vote-by-mail ballots exceeded one ounce; and
WHEREAS, absentee vote-by-mail ballots reduce the expense to county registrars of voters of conducting elections by reducing the need for polling stations, and as a matter of equity such savings should be passed on to absentee voters; THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party supports the concept of and calls upon the California Legislature and Congress to provide funds to the counties' registrars to pre-pay the postage on all absentee ballots in all future elections; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution should be distributed to the California Democratic State and Federal delegation as well as and the State's Democratic State Constitutional officers.
Submitted by Thomas Gangale, Chair, Issues and Legislation Committee, Sonoma County Democratic Party
Adopted July 15, 2007

Resolution Number SAC07.10
Supporting Workers of Providence Saint Joseph's Medical Center
WHEREAS, the caregivers of Providence Saint Joseph Medical Center of Burbank (hereafter "Providence Saint Joseph's") have been working without a contract after months of attempted "good faith" negotiation; and
WHEREAS, the workers at Providence Saint Joseph's deserve a real voice for caregivers to ensure safe staffing, independent third party resolution of staffing disputes, a training fund to address workforce shortages, improve the quality of service of patient care, and meet our community's changing healthcare needs with competitive wages and benefits to attract and retain experienced caregivers; and
WHEREAS, the caregivers at Providence Saint Joseph's preserve the right to maintain a union and seek a voice at work without employer interference, harassment, or other "union busting" tactics, including lockouts and/or threatened lockouts by Management;
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party supports the caregivers of Providence Saint Joseph's in their fight for a fair contract; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party supports SEIU-UHW and SEIU 121RN in their 'Open Letter to Providence Saint Joseph Medical Center', and send a copy of this resolution to the City Councils of Burbank, Glendale and Los Angeles.
Submitted by LACDP Resolution Committee
Adopted July 15, 2007

Resolution Number SAC07.27
Supporting an Agreement Among the States to Elect the President by National Popular Vote
WHEREAS, voters in two-thirds of the states are effectively disenfranchised from the Presidential election process if they don't live in a "battleground" state, with two-thirds of all campaign visits and advertising spending being concentrated on only five states; and seven of the nation's 11 most populous states (California, Texas, New York, Illinois, New Jersey, Georgia and North Carolina), 12 of the 13 least populous states; and the vast majority of medium-sized states all being largely ignored by the campaigns; and
WHEREAS, the current system for electing the president does not reliably reflect the national popular vote, allowing for a candidate to win the Presidency without winning the most popular votes nationwide; and where a shift of a relatively small number of votes in one or two states would have elected the second-place candidate in 5 of the last 12 elections; and the consequences of the current system on the health of our democracy are extremely serious, including discouraging voter turnout and participation in non-competitive states, marginalizing the policy consideration given to the needs of the non-competitive states, and creating a two-tiered system of participant states and spectator states; and the American public has consistently supported by over 65% a national popular election of the president; and a national popular election of the
president would make all states competitive and all voters important and all votes equal; and a national popular election of the president would likely lead to presidential campaign activity in every region of the country and invigorate our democracy; and WHEREAS, the Constitution gives exclusive and plenary rights to the states to determine how to award their electors; and the Constitution provides the states with the interstate compact as a means of addressing shared needs and concerns; and National Popular Vote's proposal for an "Agreement Among the States to Elect the President by National Popular Vote" is a practical, constitutionally-protected means of achieving a national popular election of the president based on the rights of all states to determine how they award their electors and to enter into interstate compacts; and in 2006 both the California Assembly and the Senate passed Assembly Bill 2948, which Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger vetoed; and State Senator Carole Migden has introduced Senate Bill 37 in the 2007 session; THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party supports the concept of electing a President and Vice President by a national popular vote; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution should be distributed to the California Democratic State and Federal delegation as well as the State’s Democratic State Constitutional Officers.
Submitted by Thomas Gangale, Chair, Issues and Legislation Committee, Sonoma County Democratic Party
Adapted from National Popular Vote
Adopted July 15, 2007
Resolution Number SAC07.20
Supporting the Repeal of the Military's "Don't Ask Don't Tell" and Elimination of Sexual Orientation Discrimination
WHEREAS, since 1993, the U.S. military has officially pursued a "Don't Ask Don't Tell" policy but in reality has continued its policy against homosexual and bisexual members of the U.S. Armed Forces resulting in the expulsion of over 11,000 active duty members during a time when the military is under strain from lack of resources due to the war in Iraq; and WHEREAS, as a result of this policy, the Government Accountability Office estimates that over 800 members of the U.S. Armed Forces with "critical skills," such as translators, linguists, doctors, nurses, mechanics, infantrymen, and intelligence analysts have been discharged from the armed forces for no other reason than the unfounded concern that homosexual behavior will undermine the cohesion of military units; and WHEREAS, polls indicate that 75% of the American public favors the repeal of "Don't Ask Don't Tell" and the GAO estimates that the repeal of this policy, which has already cost the government over $200 million in personnel replacement costs and would enable nearly 65,000 additional members of the armed forces to stop living in the shadows; BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party supports the banning of sexual orientation discrimination in the U.S. Armed Forces and the general repeal of the "Don't Ask Don't Tell" policy so that members of the U.S. Armed Forces, like the armed forces of many other countries such as Israel, the United Kingdom, Australia and Netherlands, can serve and defend their country regardless of their sexual orientation, thus enhancing and strengthening our reserves of capable and competent personnel for the current and future military operations; and permit the re-accession of qualified personnel previously separated from the Armed Services on the basis of sexual orientation, or provide honorable discharges to those personnel to replace prior less-than-honorable discharges; and BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party send a copy of this resolution to all Democratic Members of Congress from California and urge each of them to join as a co-sponsor of any legislation supporting the banning of sexual orientation discrimination in the U.S. Armed Forces and repealing the current "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy.
Sponsors: Stonewall Democratic Club and Democratic Party of the San Fernando Valley; LACDP
Adopted July 15, 2007
Resolution Number SD07.38 (formerly ANAL06.02)
Take Down the Four Major Klamath River Dams
WHEREAS, historically the Klamath River was the third most productive watershed on the West Coast for anadromous fish, with the salmon of the Klamath watershed being the focal point for the spiritual, cultural, and nutritional traditions of the three largest Indian tribes in California, the Hupa, the Karuk, and the Yurok, plus the Klamath watershed provided lots of native fish to the ocean to support once-thriving coastal fishing communities; and WHEREAS, PacifiCorp operates four major dams on the Klamath River for flood control and for irrigation, and provide only a miniscule amount of power which led the California Energy Commission to call for the simultaneous removal of all four of the dams to maximize efficiency, while native fish have not inhabited the upper Klamath since the first dam was built in 1918, and there have been critical problems plaguing the Klamath River in terms of excessive water allotments in the Upper Klamath
Basin which in 2002 resulted in tens of thousands of adult salmon going belly-up on the banks of the Klamath River, as well as the Klamath sometimes having too high a temperature to support salmonids but having an ideal temperature to help the toxic algae microcystis aeruginosa thrive in the cesspools behind the dams; and

WHEREAS, a comment period ended on December 1, 2006, in which input was given to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) regarding their decision about whether to renew a decades-long license to continue to operate the dams of the Klamath Hydroelectric Project, yet FERC refused to offer a "remove four dams" alternative in the Draft E.I.S. despite a mandate under the National Environmental Policy Act to offer a full range of alternatives and despite the National Marine Fisheries Service, the Pacific Fisheries Management Council, and all the legislators representing the North Coast area urging that "remove four dams" be offered and chosen by FERC as the "preferred alternative" in order to alleviate the crisis facing native and fishing communities since the small salmon runs in the Klamath resulted in a shutdown of fishing along 700 miles of California and Oregon coastline in 2006 in order to not jeopardize the survival of the "evolutionarily significant" yet dwindling native fish of the Klamath River;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party calls on the Speaker of the House of Representatives Nancy Pelosi, U.S. Senators Dianne Feinstein and Barbara Boxer, and our Democratic Congressional delegation from California to adopt a resolution calling on the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission to fully review and study the pending proposal to remove the four major dams on the Klamath River; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party calls on the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, following study and review, to order removal of the four major dams on the Klamath River.

Submitted by Bruce Campbell & the CDP Environmental Caucus
Adopted July 15, 2007

Resolution Number Now SD07.53 A (formerly MAN06.25)
Calling For Full Investigation Into Abuses Of Power By President George W. Bush And Vice President Richard B. Cheney

WHEREAS, George W. Bush and Richard B. Cheney have acted in a manner contrary to their trust as President and Vice President, subversive of the Constitution, to the great prejudice of the cause of law and justice, and to the manifest injury of the people of California and the United States of America, by intentionally disseminating and propagating knowingly false and fabricated "evidence" regarding the threat from Iraq in order to wage a tragic, bloody war with the loss of thousands of brave American troops and Iraqi civilians, and

WHEREAS, it is clear that since September 11, 2001, President George W. Bush and Vice President Dick Cheney have abused their powers of office by: 1) using information they knew to be false as justification for the U.S. invasion of Iraq; 2) condoning and authorizing the torture of prisoners of war; 3) authorizing wiretaps on U.S. citizens without obtaining a warrant; 4) disclosing the name of an undercover CIA operative contrary to law in order to harm her for her husband's opposition to the Iraq War; 5) having suspended and denied the historic Writ of Habeus Corpus by ordering the indefinite detention of so-called enemy combatants without charge and without access to legal counsel; and 6) overstepping Presidential authority by signing statements used to ignore or circumvent portions of over 750 Congressional statutes he brought into law; and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party supports vigorous investigation of these charges by the Congress of the United States, including the full use of Congressional subpoena power authority to completely disclose the actions of the Administration to the American people and to take necessary action to call the Administration to account with appropriate remedies and punishment, including impeachment.

Submitted by Senator Art Torres (Ret.), Chairman of the California Democratic Party; CDP Resolutions Co-Chairs; Emily Thurber; Bob Farran; Michael Barnett; Tim Carpenter; Joye Swan; Patrick Henry Demo Club; 69th AD Cmte.; The Hull-Richters: Alexandar, Mark and Natasha
Adopted April 29, 2007

Resolution Number SD07.07
Democrats Working Together To Win In '08 And Beyond

WHEREAS, in our effort to win races at the national, state and local levels, inclusive of the 2008 general election and beyond, it is critical that Democrats stay focused, promote unity, and work collaboratively to achieve our goals; and

WHEREAS, whether we call ourselves Centrists, Progressives, Liberals, Moderates, or another label, we are all Democrats, and as members of this big-tent-party deserve to be treated with respect and allegiance, whatever our differences; and
WHEREAS, rude and intolerant behavior, name-calling and divisive tactics among Democrats do nothing to promote the ideals and successes of our Party or to further the cause of small "d" democracy;
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party expects all Democrats to uphold the highest standards of decorum at Party meetings, elections, and events, which includes acting respectfully and courteously to each other at all times; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party encourages Democratic activists to constructively address intra-party differences through vigorous debate, while staying focused on our mission of electing Democrats and ensuring a government of which we can be proud.
Sponsored by LACDP Resolutions Committee; Valley Grassroots for Democracy
Adopted April 29, 2007

Resolution Number SD07.71 A
Erase, Rewrite And Reauthorize "No Child Left Behind" (The Elementary And Secondary Education Act)
WHEREAS, the National Education Association and the American Federation of Teachers, along with School Board members, administrators and parent groups, all agree that the federal education policy, known as "No Child Left Behind" (NCLB), needs to be reformed by erasing the portions of the law which are not working and are hurting our students, teachers and education support professionals; and
WHEREAS, the education community supports rewriting "NCLB" to include: multiple measures for student progress, funding to assist the schools and students of greatest need, an accountability model that looks at growth for improvement (as opposed to a snapshot based on one standardized test) and proven successful programs such as class-size reduction and quality teacher training; and
WHEREAS, the new Democratic majority in Congress was elected in no small part due to the voters' belief that Democrats have the right agenda for our public schools, therefore Congress should reauthorize this law as rewritten and fully funded to focus more on targeting resources to help schools succeed and provide real reforms not just slogans;
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party supports the Erase, Rewrite, Reauthorize plan to reform NCLB to reflect increased funding, fair measures of improvement, replacement of the single measure testing with a multiple measure approach, assessments that include appropriate time and assistance for English Language Learners and Special Education students and proven programs such as small class sizes and teacher training; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party communicate this position to the California Delegation in Congress.
Submitted by Bill Rumble, Northeast Demo Club; Gary Alford AD 29; Richard Blackston AD10; Kathleen Crummey AD18; Bill Collins AD76; Becky Curry AD01; Poppy Dennis AD74; Brenda Emerson AD29; Arlynne Faulks AD09; Mark Galipeau AD06; Aleita Huguenin AD10; Owen Jackman AD05; Kenny Jowers AD01; Hene Kelly AD12; Sandra Lowe AD06; Sam Lucero AD79; Jim Mastin AD01; Rich Meagher AD04; Mike Patterson AD04; Tim Paulson AD19; Cynthia Pena AD28; Patrick Riggs AD01; Steve Savage AD01; Susan Savage AD04; Bonnie Shatun AD42; Sal Zendejas AD26; Northeast Democratic Club; California Teachers' Association; Susan Savage, CTA
Adopted April 29, 2007

Resolution Number SD07.40
Global Warming As A Presidential And A Local Priority
WHEREAS, global climate change, due in large part to human-generated emissions of greenhouse gases, is increasingly harmful to the environment, the economy, and the future well-being of the people of the United States and the world; and
WHEREAS, the scientific community has reached the consensus that we must take significant action within the next decade in order to prevent the worst effects of global climate change, making it critical that the next President of the United States provide strong, decisive leadership and a workable plan to curb global warming; and
WHEREAS, California's leadership in passing laws such as the Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006, authored by former Assemblymember Fran Pavley and Assembly Speaker Fabian Núñez, is highly significant, vital, and commendable, but represents only one step by one state to solve a problem that requires concerted worldwide action;
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party urges all Democratic presidential candidates to pledge to establish a national program requiring reductions of U.S. greenhouse gas emissions; to create a major national research initiative to foster rapid development of sustainable energy technologies, thereby stimulating new jobs and investment; and to provide leadership in multi-national efforts to reduce atmospheric levels of greenhouse gases, including programs requiring
reductions of greenhouse gas emissions from China and other countries which contribute greatly to worldwide greenhouse gas emissions; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party encourages all Californians to work within their communities to recommend and implement local steps to save energy and to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

Submitted by the 16th AD Democrats

Adopted April 29, 2007

Resolution Number SDL07.06
Guarantee Freedom Of Choice

WHEREAS, a woman's right to choose hangs by a thread in the Supreme Court, and President Bush has appointed two anti-choice justices to the highest court in the land; and,

WHEREAS, in the closely divided decisions in Gonzales v. Carhart and Gonzales v. Planned Parenthood Federation of America, the newly reconfigured court, with Bush's appointees Roberts and Alito casting decisive votes, upheld the first-ever federal ban on abortion with criminal penalties for doctors, and even more troubling, effectively reversed Supreme Court precedent and rolled back key protections for women's health guaranteed by Roe v. Wade; and

WHEREAS, since Roe v. Wade, a woman's right to choose has been systematically eroded by anti-choice legislators in many states with more than 500 anti-choice measures enacted since 1995, rolling back this fundamental right for many women; and, with the court's decisions in Federal Abortion Ban cases, the situation has become even more dangerous as women's health is no longer constitutionally protected nor considered paramount, and the Federal Abortion Ban trumps California's greater protections for a woman's health and the right to choose;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party reaffirm its longstanding position that the right to choose is a right of personal privacy by calling on Congress to secure freedom of choice by establishing a federal law that will codify Roe v. Wade and guarantee reproductive freedom for future generations of American women; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party send this resolution to Governor Howard Dean, the Democratic National Committee, the Democratic members of the California Congressional and Senate delegations; and the Democratic candidates for President.

Submitted by Lyn Shaw Hilfenhaus, Chair of the CDP Women's Caucus; Lyn Shaw Hilfenhaus 38th AD; Jim Hilfenhaus 38th AD; Lois Williams 38th AD; Sharon Molander 43rd AD; Norman Chramoff 42nd AD; Elena Ong 42nd AD; Adam Seiden 40th AD; Susan Shannon 42nd AD; Pamela Cooke 42nd AD; Marilyn Grunwald 40th AD; David Grunwald 40th AD; Shirin Buckman 45th AD; Eric Bauman 43rd AD; Chris Boutelle 43rd AD; John Cleary 45th AD; Garry S. Shay 42nd AD; Ralph Erickson 41st AD; Wayne Williams 41st AD; Leah K. Herzberg 41st AD; Lyn Klein 41st AD; Lysa Simon 38th AD; Sillissa Uriarte Smith 54th AD; Karen Weinstein 14th AD; Roberta Lewis 40th AD; Carole Lutness 38th AD; Bruce McFarland 38th AD; Stonewall Democratic Club

Adopted April 29, 2007

Resolution Number SD07.35
Housing As A Basic Human Right

WHEREAS, every night, a quarter of a million men, women and children, some elderly, many people with disabilities, including physically or mentally ill, numerous working people, tens of thousands of veterans of our armed forces, emancipated foster youth, runaway and throwaway teens, countless victims of domestic abuse, some drug dependent, socially isolated, and disproportionately minority people in California are homeless and sleep on our streets, under bridges, in abandoned buildings and other places unfit for human habitation; and

WHEREAS, the cities and counties of the state of California, blocked by both the proliferation of "NIMBY" (Not In My Backyard) ordinances, insufficient public and private investment in affordable housing, and a failure to campaign sufficiently for bond fund measures, have neither provided adequate affordable housing for vulnerable and at-risk populations (including families with children, the elderly, and people with special needs), nor adequately regulated the private development of residential structures to include affordable units of permanent housing, including housing supported by appropriate social services, and access to the resources that assure the personal fulfillment of each individual; and

WHEREAS, the protection of the poor, the vulnerable, the disenfranchised and those discriminated against is a core commitment of the Democratic Party and essential to the maintenance of a democratic society; and we are committed to the progressive realization of the human right to adequate housing, including but not limited to the overriding of NIMBY
ordinances, siting of such housing on land and in any zone unless compelling cause be shown to defer such development for vital ecological or social purposes, we support local city and county measurers that encourage private, non-profit organizations to construct such housing, and local action which provides private developers with incentives, density bonuses, and, wherever possible, subsidies or tax deferrals for the integration of affordable housing units in market-rate and non-profit residential developments;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party supports the recognition of permanent, adequate housing as a basic human right of all Californians, that it supports legislation that compels each city and county to include in the housing element of its master plan a survey of the homeless and those at risk of homelessness in its jurisdiction, and plans to meet the temporary and permanent housing needs of these populations, and private sector commitments; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party will send a copy of this resolution to all state, county, and local legislators throughout the state of California and to our representatives in the Congress of the United States; to all members of the California State Democratic Party Convention; and that it shall also be distributed broadly to the media.

Submitted by Ralph Fertig, 42nd AD; North East Democratic Club; Progressive Democrats of the Santa Monica Mountains; Progressive Democrats of Los Angeles; Dan Licht, 42nd AD Delegate; Michael Jay Miltenberg, 42nd AD Delegate; Susie Shannon, 42nd AD Delegate; Joye Swan, 42nd AD; Wendy Block, 42nd AD Delegate; Bruce McFarland, 42nd AD Delegate; Susan Lerner, 42nd AD Delegate; Ricco Ross, 42nd AD Delegate; Jo Olson, 42nd AD Delegate; Dante Atkins, 42nd AD Delegate; Brad Parker, 42nd AD Delegate; Norman Chramong, 42nd AD Delegate; Amanda Rafit, 43rd AD Delegate; Carly Miller, 45th AD Delegate; Gail Burns, 44th AD Delegate; Linda Doran, 44th AD Delegate; Rosemary Jenkins, 38th AD Delegate; Michael Lee, 44th AD Delegate; Bill Rumble, 45th AD Delegate; Charles Lutness, 38th Ad Delegate; Abby Reeve, 40th AD Delegate; David Lutness, 38th AD Delegate; Mary Jacobs, 45th AD Delegate; Christopher Boutelle, 43rd AD Delegate; Rosemary Reedy, 49th AD Delegate; Roz Teller, 43rd AD Delegate; John Heaner, 13th Regional Director; Lyn Klein, 41st AD Delegate; Ahjamu Makalani, 61st AD Delegate; Jacqueline Alikhaani, 39th AD Delegate; Charles Coleman Jr., 39th AD Delegate; Ann Hiller, 41st AD Delegate; Carl Manaster, 75th AD Delegate; Lynne Sandoval, 76th AD Delegate; Matthew Gerbasi, 45th AD Delegate; Charles Carnow, 40th AD Delegate

Adopted April 29, 2007

Resolution Number SD07.32

Oppose Gov. Schwarzenegger's Cuts To CalWorks Program In The 2007-2008 California State Budget

WHEREAS, Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger's proposed State Budget for 2007-2008 includes cuts of $496 million in the state's welfare budget to the CalWorks program, eliminating approximately 50,000 families from the program, detrimentally affecting approximately 480,000 Cal Works families through cuts in general assistance to the state’s most impoverished children and, in many cases, the adults who care for them; and suspending the 2007-2008 CalWorks Cost of Living Increase; and

WHEREAS, the 2006 California Democratic Party Platform supports a "guaranteed cost of living increase for CalWorks" and pledges to "fight for public assistance programs which allow individuals to support themselves and their families;"

WHEREAS, the California Democratic Party has historically supported programs which provide for the basic human needs of all Californians and recognizes cuts to the state's CalWorks program as a cruel attempt to balance the state budget on the backs of the poor;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party expresses very strong opposition to the Governor's proposed cuts to the CalWorks program in the 2007-2008 state budget; 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.

Submitted by Susie Shannon, 42nd AD Executive Board; Ralph Fertig, 42nd AD Delegate; Jo Olson, 42nd AD Delegate; Brad Parker, 42nd AD Delegate; Michael Jay Miltenberg, 42nd AD Delegate; Ricco Ross, 42nd AD Delegate; Joye Swan, 42nd AD Delegate; Susan Lerner, 42nd AD Delegate; Dante Atkins, 42nd AD Delegate; Dan Licht, 42nd AD Delegate; Judith Hess, 40th AD Delegate; Matthew Gerbasi, 45th AD Delegate; Charles Coleman, 39th AD Delegate; Charles Carnow, 40th AD Delegate; Ann Hiller, 41st AD Delegate; Carl Manaster, 75th AD Delegate; Lynne Sandoval, 76th AD Delegate; Lyn Klein, 41st AD Delegate; Norman Chramong, 42nd AD Delegate; Jeff Prang, 42nd AD Delegate; Jeff Schwartz, 49th AD Delegate; Mike
WHEREAS, the California High Speed Rail Authority has made significant progress since it was established in 1996 to create fast rail service between Southern California and San Francisco, San Jose, Sacramento and the Central Valley to give the public a travel choice between HSR, automobiles and airplanes -- thus relieving the growing highway and airport congestion in a state in which the population is expected to grow by 12 million to a total of 50 million by 2025; and
WHEREAS, high speed rail is already successful in Japan, Great Britain, France, Spain, Italy, Sweden, Australia, China, Taiwan and South Korea, and construction is underway in North Africa, Turkey, Mexico, and South America -- setting a standard for California, where HSR could carry passengers between downtown San Francisco and Los Angeles in about two and a half hours in more comfort and safety and in less time than it takes to travel to and from and check in and out at airports, thus enabling airlines to better serve long-distance travelers; and
WHEREAS, high speed rail will be a significant weapon against air pollution and global warming as it uses much less energy per passenger than cars and airplanes - and HSR will be even more essential if, as expected, petroleum supplies diminish in the future;
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party asks that all California elected officials give full support to establishing High Speed Rail in California at the earliest possible date.

Submitted by Region 4 Delegates; San Francisco Democratic Party; AD 13 Committee; August Longo
Adopted April 29, 2007

Resolution Number SD07.37 A  
Support Park Integrity
WHEREAS, the Orange County Transportation Authority supports the Foothill Transportation Corridor South Toll Road Extension (241), hereinafter referred to as Foothill-South, as an important regional facility that would help reduce future congestion on the San Diego Freeway (I-5) in South Orange County; and
WHEREAS, the current proposed Foothill South extension is planned to connect to the I-5 just across the San Diego county line. The proposed alignment would split the 2,100 acre San Onofre State Park, eliminating 320 acres of the park and having potentially significant impact on local flora and fauna. It would also cut through the Donna O'Neill Conservancy, a sensitive environmental area and building the proposed alignment would set a troubling precedent for paving over state parkland; and
WHEREAS, a legitimate disagreement has occurred between two important sections of the California Democratic Party on this issue. On one hand, the state and local Building Trades Councils strongly advocate the construction of the Foothill-South extension as a way to reduce existing and future traffic congestion and create good, prevailing wage jobs for local workers. On the other hand, many California environmentalists and organizations oppose the Foothill-South extension because of the significant negative environmental consequences that a six-lane freeway would present, as well as the precedent it would set that could put other parks at risk;
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party opposes the current proposed alignment of the Foothill-South extension through San Onofre State Park; that the California Democratic Party opposes any roadway through San Onofre State park unless there is significant enough mitigation that a consensus of support for the project would exist with local elected officials, the State Coastal Commission and local environmental groups; and that we urge the Democratic members of our State Legislature and Congress to protect our state and national parks from unnecessary development; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party urges the Orange County Transportation Authority, the Transportation Corridor Agency and the Southern California Association of Governments to work with California's
Resolutions Committee Substitute
Adopted April 29, 2007

**Resolution Number SD07.97 A**

Support The Opportunity To Vote The U.S. Out Of Iraq

WHEREAS, the Iraq War has now entered its fifth year, more than 3,300 Americans killed, thousands wounded, and tens of thousands of families forever changed by the hardships and financial strain of repeated and increased tours of duty; and
WHEREAS, President Bush continues to ignore military experts, the recommendations of the bipartisan Iraq Study Group, and public opinion, instead calling for an increased surge of money and troops, and also threatens to veto any legislation containing a timetable for U.S. withdrawal; and
WHEREAS, Californians should be given the opportunity to vote on this as soon as possible, thereby increasing California's prominence in selecting our next President and setting the national agenda, which includes a unified voice showing our support for the immediate safe return of our troops;
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party wholeheartedly supports the following statement: "The people of California, in support of the men and women serving in the Armed Forces of the United States, urge President Bush to end the U.S. occupation of Iraq and immediately begin the safe and orderly withdrawal of all United States combat forces; and further urge President Bush and the United States Congress to provide the necessary diplomatic and non-military assistance to promote peace and stability in Iraq and the Middle East;" and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party urges other states to follow suit unifying our country in its absolute desire to see an immediate end to the Iraq War and sending the strongest possible message to President Bush and the presidential candidates.
Submitted by Senator Art Torres (Ret.), Chairman of the California Democratic Party and Senator Don Perata, President pro Tempore, California State Senate
Adopted April 29, 2007

**Resolution Number SD07.77**

Supporting A Balanced Global Economy . . . From Free To Fair Trade

WHEREAS, a Nixon Administration relic known as Fast Track, a.k.a. Trade Promotion Authority (TPA), has enabled the crafting of such destructive "free trade" agreements as the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA), the Central America Free Trade Agreement (CAFTA), and the World Trade Organization (WTO), which have lead to massive job loss in the U.S., destabilized family farms, increased migration pressures in foreign nations, been used to challenge reasonable, non-discriminatory environmental, public health and labor laws, and is largely responsible for the ballooning U.S. trade deficit; and
WHEREAS, Fast Track, the blueprint for building U.S. trade policies, has enabled corporate-dominated globalization to flourish by literally locking labor unions, environmental interests, immigrants’ rights advocates, family farmers, and even Congress out of the negotiating room, creating a virtual "back room" where the White House and corporate trade advisors chart the course of U.S. trade policies, and the trajectory of globalization in general; and
WHEREAS, trade agreements and global economic policies dictated by a narrow set of interests has created an unbalanced global economy that threatens core Democratic Party values such as preserving a secure middle class, ensuring affordable health care and quality public education, promoting conservation, a secure homeland, and supporting respect for internationally recognized worker and human rights;
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the California Democratic Party, while deeply committed to expanding trade and deepening our engagement in the global economy, calls on our Democratic Representatives and Senators to reject the Bush Administration’s request for Fast Track reauthorization, and to take advantage of the opportunity to correct the course of globalization and implement deep reforms to U.S. trade policy, including:
1. a transparent process that includes direct, meaningful participation from our base constituencies and opportunities for public comment;
2. ensuring reasonable power-sharing between Congressional Representatives and the Executive Branch as outlined in the U.S. Constitution;
3. protecting local and state rules or regulations from challenge under any provision of U.S. trade agreements (i.e., zoning regulations, prevailing wage laws, public health and environmental protections and procurement policies);
4. International Labor Organization (ILO) and Multilateral Environmental Agreement (MEA) standards that are enforced equally with commercial provisions; and
5. allowing Congress to certify by vote that an agreement has met all mandatory objectives before negotiations can be officially closed.

Submitted by the Santa Clara County Democratic Party Executive Board
Adopted April 29, 2007

Resolution Number SD07.21
Supporting Healthcare Reform
WHEREAS, having a job and working hard no longer guarantee that we will have the health care we need when we need it; and
WHEREAS, too many insurance and drug companies are boosting their profits while Californians are paying more for their healthcare and getting less benefits, and six million Californians have no healthcare coverage at all; and
WHEREAS, it is our healthcare and it is up to us to take charge of it, we remain committed to a Universal Single Payer Health Insurance System in California and passing the reforms immediately that move us closer to that goal;
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that now is the time to make our healthcare work for us; and
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party will support and prioritize comprehensive healthcare reforms this year that will:
• Allow all of us to get the healthcare, including oral healthcare, we need when we need it;
• Ensure that employers and government share responsibility as well as the risk with consumers;
• Establish meaningful standards for coverage so that we can all get the care we need when we need it, not just when there is a catastrophic illness;
• Limit the risk and burdens placed on individual consumers and families to protect us from being forced to buy coverage we can't afford that doesn't cover the healthcare we need;
• Control costs, while protecting benefits;
• Provide stable funding so that all of us can get the healthcare we need now and into the future;
• Support insurance reforms to control costs and allow everyone access to quality healthcare and coverage; and
• Preserve and strengthen our public hospitals, emergency services and trauma centers that we all rely upon.

Submitted by Santa Clara County Central Committee; San Francisco Democratic Party
Adopted April 29, 2007

2008
Resolution Number ANA08.02
Commending Legislative Leaders, Public and Private Entities, and Other Individuals and Organizations For Continuing The Fight Against Proposition 8
WHEREAS, the California Democratic Party, which has a long and proud history of standing up for the rights of all people, took an official stand against Proposition 8, a ballot measure banning gay marriage; and
WHEREAS, despite a hard fought campaign against it, Proposition 8 was passed on November 4, 2008, taking away the rights of gay and lesbian people to get married; and
WHEREAS, forty-four members of the California Legislature, public and private entities and other individuals and organizations subsequently filed an amicus brief with the California Supreme Court to continue the fight for equal rights for all Californians, as the passage of Proposition 8 allowed a bare majority of voters to eliminate a fundamental right of a constitutionally-protected minority group and also violates the fundamental rights of Californians to equal protection under the Constitution;
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party commends these individuals, entities and organizations for their commitment to justice; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party stands alongside them in their efforts in the ongoing struggle for equality for all.

Submitted by Senator Art Torres (Ret.), Chairman of the California Democratic Party
Adopted November 16, 2008
Resolution Number ANA08.01
In Support of Trade Reforms
WHEREAS, Democratic Members of the United States Senate have proposed a review of all trade agreements including GATT, WTO, and NAFTA and a re-negotiation of existing agreements based on the review, and desire to set terms for future trade agreements, as well as strengthen the role of Congress in trade policymaking; and
WHEREAS, the current trade agreements do not contain a unified policy to ensure the health and welfare of all parties to such agreements;
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party supports legislation that would provide trade reforms including labor standards, environmental and public safety standards, food product health and safety standards, agricultural standards, intellectual property requirements, balance of trade remedies as well as exceptions for National Security; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be sent to the California Congressional Delegation asking them to work toward these goals on a priority basis.
Sponsored by B. F. "Kess" Kessler, Valley Grassroots for Democracy, LACDP Resolutions Committee
Adopted November 16, 2008

Resolution Number SAC07.31
International Criminal Court
WHEREAS, the International Criminal Court through the Rome Treaty which came into existence in 2002 provides an important component of a stable international order; and
WHEREAS, the United States has not ratified the treaty and the election of Barack Obama presents an opportunity for the United States to re-evaluate its current position; and
WHEREAS, President-elect Barack Obama has supported the concept of the International Criminal Court but has wanted to ensure maximum protection for our servicemen and women. He has therefore said that "I will consult thoroughly with our military commanders and also examine the track record of the court before reaching a decision on whether the U.S. should become a state party;"
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California State Democratic Party commends President-elect Obama's pledge to re-evaluate our country's position on the International Criminal Court and expresses its hope that President Obama can negotiate any changes or understandings necessary to protect Americans and allow participation by the United States in the International Criminal Court; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party send a copy of this resolution to President-elect Obama, Senators Feinstein and Boxer, and members of the Democratic Congressional delegation.
Resolutions Committee substitute on a resolution originally sponsored by Thomas Gangale, Chair, Issues and Legislation Committee, Sonoma County Democratic Party
November 16, 2008

Resolution Number ANAL08.03
Supporting Congress in its Oversight of the "Bank Bailout" Act
WHEREAS, the United States Congress passed the Emergency Economic Stabilization Act of 2008 with the intent to free up money to consumer markets, and;
WHEREAS, the Bush Administration has failed to enforce the oversight provisions of the Emergency Economic Stabilization Act of 2008 by allowing banks to circumvent the Act by distributing funds for purposes other than making money available to consumer markets; and
WHEREAS, the California Democratic Party has historically been a champion for the needs of average citizens over corporate self-interest;
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party supports greater oversight over further distribution of funds and enforcement of terms per the Emergency Economic Stabilization Act of 2008; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party supports the formation of an ad-hoc subcommittee of the Governmental Oversight Committee, currently chaired by Representative Henry Waxman, for the purpose of providing greater guidelines, oversight, restrictions, enforcement of terms, and accounting for the remaining funds as designated by the Emergency Economic Stabilization Act of 2008.
Resolution Number SAC07.24
Supporting Efforts to Protect Our Food and Farms

WHEREAS, California recently enacted a law that took important but unfortunately limited steps to address the issue of damages caused to farmers and property owners from genetically-engineered (GE) crop contamination; and

WHEREAS, in addition to the current law, a comprehensive approach to address this problem should include 1) compensation to farmers and property owners for economic losses due to genetic contamination of their non-GE crops; 2) legal protections for farmers whose crops are unwillingly contaminated; 3) establishment of a county-level GE crop notification process to document and have traceability to where GE crops are planted; and penalties for violating these required notification procedures; and 4) prohibition of the production of open field pharmaceutical crops if such crops are of a plant species that is commonly produced for use as food for humans or animals; and

WHEREAS, passage of such legislation should not only protect farmers and property owners, but also set safety measures for consumers, the environment and our California agricultural economy; and would be in the best interest of the State of California to ensure the best protection for one of our most viable resources, that being our farmers, who provide not only California but other states and countries with many agricultural foods and this would be the precautionary step for California to prevent financial losses, environmental disruption and potential public health issues;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party commends the legislature for enacting last year’s bill to protect our food and farms and urges California lawmakers to further review this issue with the expectation that further steps will be taken to protect our food and our farms from the effects of genetically modified crop contamination; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party distribute copies of this resolution to members of the California Senate and Assembly for strong consideration and support and as well to all other California County Democratic Central Committees and work to ensure that existing law to protect against this contamination is strengthened.

Submitted by Yannick A. Phillips and Linda C. McCabe, Sonoma County Democratic Party; South Lake County Democratic Club
Adopted November 16, 2008

Resolution Number ANAL08.02
Urging Support for the Ratification of the Rights of the Child

WHEREAS, children are our most vital resource and our future -- it is the duty of the government to ensure that all children are given their inalienable human rights, and receive the level of support necessary for the realization of their human potential; and

WHEREAS, children have the right to develop in a safe environment free from discrimination, abuse, neglect, and exploitation that impedes their proper development, and

WHEREAS, the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child specifies the civil and political rights of children, as well as their social, economic and cultural rights;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party affirms its support for the Convention on the Rights of the Child and asks President-elect Barack Obama to sign and the Senate to ratify the Convention and its Protocols and to support the continuing goals of these international agreements; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party distribute copies of this resolution to members of the
California Democratic congressional delegation, and transmit such correspondence as may advance the principles of this resolution.

Submitted by the Children's Caucus of the California Democratic Party

Adopted November 16, 2008

Resolution Number SFL08.02

Beef Recall

WHEREAS, children are our nation’s most precious and valuable resource, and
WHEREAS, “downer” cows are a high potential source for Mad Cow Disease, which is an incurable disease with a prolonged incubation period that can go undetected in human beings for many years or even decades, and
WHEREAS, meat products from “downer” cows from the Hallmark/Westland Slaughterhouse in Chino found their way into school lunch and other food subsidy programs for low income children and adults, without being completely tested for foodborne illnesses, including Mad Cow Disease, and because of the many shortcomings of the USDA testing program,
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party and the Children’s Caucus of the California Democratic Party call upon the California Congressional Delegation Leaders and other appropriate state and federal authorities to ensure that all recalled meat not yet destroyed be tested for Mad Cow Disease; and
THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that said tests and their results be shared with the public immediately.

Submitted by the Children’s Caucus

Adopted June 15, 2008

Resolution Number SDL07.02

California State University Governance And Compensation Reform

WHEREAS, California State University (CSU) faculty salaries range up to 35 percent less than counterparts in other states; and
WHEREAS, the California State University Faculty (CFA) has voted overwhelmingly to strike in response to the CSU Administration's refusal to negotiate a fair contract;
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party urges the CSU Administration to negotiate fairly with the CFA to bring salaries and benefits for university faculty in California in alignment with fair and competitive compensation levels of their peers.

Submitted by Richard Gillock; Adopted by the Democratic Club of West Orange County (DCWOC - Chartered by the Democratic Party of Orange County)

Adopted June 15, 2008

Resolution Number SF08.21

Defining “Waterboarding” As Torture And Eliminating Its Practice By The United States Government

WHEREAS, “Waterboarding” is a torture technique whereby a person has water poured over his or her face to simulate drowning, has been classified as torture under the Geneva Conventions, and has not previously been allowed in U.S. military army interrogations, and is antithetical to every moral principle that America stands for; and
WHEREAS, the eighth amendment to the United States Constitution bans the use of cruel and unusual punishment, and on September 6, 2006, the United States Department of Defense released a revised Army Field Manual entitled Human Intelligence Collector Operations that prohibits the use of waterboarding by U.S. military personnel, and further that the United States is a ratifying member of the UN Convention Against Torture which prohibits the use of waterboarding; and
WHEREAS, this form of torture has been used during the Spanish Inquisition, by the Japanese and the German Secret Police during World War II, and by the North Vietnamese against American POWs in North Vietnam, and that the majority of Americans abhor and do not want this form of violence and torture committed in their names by the U.S. Government and its acting agents;
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party is committed to ending the illegal and immoral act of torture “Waterboarding” done to any prisoners and further that we unequivocally support the Geneva Conventions definition of torture; and
THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party send a copy of this resolution to the California Congressional delegation.

Submitted by Margie Murray (41st AD), Valley Democrats United, Progressive Democrats of Los Angeles; Brad Parker, President, Valley Democrats United, Progressive Democrats of LA; Valley Democrats United; Los Angeles County Democratic
Party Resolutions Committee  
Adopted June 15, 2008  

**Resolution Number SFL08.01**  
**Enforce & Reinstate Vital Environmental Protections Enacted Late In The Clinton Administration**  

WHEREAS, the "Roadless Area Conservation Rule" protecting 58.5 million acres of wild roadless areas in our national forests was signed in the final days of the Clinton Administration, and it was based on sound science as well as on 600 public hearings and 1.6 million comments with over 90 percent of those comments favoring protecting these forest areas which are the source of most of America's water supply, as well as being vital for wildlife, recreation, and agriculture; and WHEREAS, President Clinton signed Proclamations in 2000 and in 2001 establishing some national monuments, among them the Giant Sequoia National Monument and Cascade-Siskiyou National Monument, while in the waning days of the Clinton Administration, Interior Secretary Babbitt "withdrew from mineral entry" over a million acres of southwestern Oregon and northwestern California to prevent new mineral patents as a prelude to examining this area for further environmental protection; and WHEREAS, the George W. Bush Administration has been trying to negate the environmental protections of the former Clinton Administration by successfully overturning Secretary Babbitt's "withdrawal from mineral entry" for that biologically diverse region of Oregon and California, by approving management plans for national monuments which do not abide by the letter or the spirit of the Presidential Proclamations signed to establish them, and has been working hard to overturn the "Roadless Area Conservation Rule," but the most recent court decision upheld this "roadless rule" though Bush succeeded in exempting Alaska's Tongass National Forest from the protections, and is seeking to dismember the protections state-by-state most recently in Idaho, Colorado, and southern California;  

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party calls for the forthcoming federal administration and the California Congressional delegation to work to ensure that the "Roadless Area Conservation Rule" protecting roadless areas in our national forests is fully reinstated and enforced, calls for management plans for national monuments established by President Clinton to abide by the letter and the spirit of the Presidential Proclamations signed to establish them, and calls for reinstitution of the "withdrawal from mineral entry" for the more than one million acres of southwestern Oregon and northwestern California forestland as a prelude to hearings and study regarding further protection for this Siskiyou wild rivers region; and  

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party shall send this resolution to Presidential nominee Barack Obama, to U.S. Senators Dianne Feinstein, Barbara Boxer, Ron Wyden, and Hillary Clinton, and to the Democratic Congressional delegation from California.  

Submitted by Bruce Campbell & Luke Breit, Chair, Environmental Caucus  
Adopted June 15, 2008  

**Resolution Number SFL08.03**  
**Regarding Heat-Related Deaths Of Farmworkers**  

WHEREAS, migrant farmworkers make many significant and valuable contributions to the State of California and endure arduous conditions while working in the California agricultural fields; and WHEREAS, Maria Isabel Vasquez Jimenez, age 17, came from Oaxaca, Mexico to the United States to work in the grape vineyards in the area of Stockton, California; and on May 15, 2008, Maria Isabel, who was two months pregnant, was working for Merced Farm Labor in a vineyard owned by West Coast Grape Farming when she collapsed; and her body temperature was 108.4 degrees when she was finally taken to a hospital nearly two hours later; and tragically she passed away as a result of heat stroke after not receiving adequate medical attention while working under temperatures of 100 degrees; and to date no one from the companies involved has had the decency to express condolences to Maria Isabel's family; and WHEREAS, on June 1 to June 4, 2008, the United Farm Workers held a pilgrimage from Lodi to Sacramento to bring national attention to the tragic death of Maria Isabel and other farmworkers, including approximately 10 other heat related deaths of farmworkers working in temperature above 100 degrees in the last four years in California; and as a result of these tragic deaths, the State of California approved regulations to provide greater protection to farmworkers working under high temperatures; yet there continues to be insufficient enforcement of these regulations to provide the needed protection for farmworkers like Maria Isabel;  

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party calls on the Governor and Legislature of the State of
California to provide additional resources for necessary enforcement of regulations to protect farmworkers from heat related injuries and deaths; and to provide additional protections to help ensure that there will be no other tragic deaths of farmworkers working under high temperatures in California agricultural fields.

In Memory of Maria Isabel Vasquez Jimenez

Submitted by the Chicano Latino Caucus of the California Democratic Party, Mickie Soloria Luna, Chair; Luis Alejo, Vice Chair, Region 2, (CDP 2008 JFK Honoree) and the Board of the Chicano Latino Caucus

Adopted June 15, 2008

Resolution Number SF08.14
Support Of Incentives For Voluntary Universal National Service

WHEREAS, public service has been consistently identified among the highest responsibilities of a citizen in a republic by two millennia of philosophers, historians, and political theorists; both Cicero and Thomas Jefferson defined the universal investiture in service to the commonwealth as desirable and necessary for the preservation of a just union; and

WHEREAS, voluntary national service may take varied forms, including the provision of needed social services to the local community at home (as with AmeriCorps or educational/medical assistance to underserved areas) or the advancement of the national interest abroad (as with the Foreign Service, Peace Corps, or Armed Forces); and

WHEREAS, the fashioning of a modern social contract to promote voluntary national service for all Americans must accommodate competing economic, educational, and social demands inherent in contemporary life; so therefore

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party calls upon the United States Congress to reauthorize the Corporation for National and Community Service, authorize new national service programs, and appropriate sufficient resources to support the efforts of Americans seeking to serve the public interest; and

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party shall communicate the passage of this resolution to the California Democratic Congressional Delegation; both U.S. Senators from California; the Chair of the House Education and Labor Committee; the Chair of the House Appropriations Committee (Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies); and the Government Relations Office of the Corporation for National and Community Service.

Submitted by Steve Krantz (41st AD), Valley Grassroots for Democracy; Roz Teller (43rd AD); and Peter Rudinskas (48th AD); Los Angeles County Democratic Party

Adopted June 15, 2008

Resolution Number SF08.15
Support Of Overturning The EPA's Rejection Of California's Emission Standards

WHEREAS, California has the right to have more stringent auto emissions than those of the federal government if it gets a waiver from the EPA; and

WHEREAS, Steve Johnson, the EPA administrator, rejected California's standards which were intended to lessen global warming without any legal or scientific grounds; and

WHEREAS, California Attorney General Jerry Brown, joined by Attorneys General of many other states, has sued the EPA to allow the proposed emissions standards to go into effect

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party supports the California law suit against the EPA; and

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party inform the California Congressional delegation, Governor Schwarzenegger, California Attorney General Jerry Brown, the Los Angeles Times and the media of this position.

Submitted by Craig Athon (49th AD); Margie Murray (41st AD); and Sean Murray (Political Science Student, University of California, Santa Barbara); Los Angeles County Democratic Party

Adopted June 15, 2008

Resolution Number SF08.09
Support Of The National Voter Registration Act—Veterans Administration And Other Public Agency Registration

WHEREAS, a provision of the National Voter Registration Act (NVRA) mandates that voter registration be offered to public
benefit applicants and clients at Medi-Cal, WIC, Food Stamps, Welfare or other public assistance offices as well as all Veterans Administration facilities in California, based on a request by Secretary of State Bowen, and that these agencies be designated as voter registration offices to provide voter registration assistance that will increase voter registration rates among low income and disabled eligible voters; and

WHEREAS, California public assistance agencies provide services to millions of adults annually, their compliance with the NVRA is one of the lowest in the nation with only 20,355 clients registered from November 2004 to November 2006, and County level data for the same period indicates that Los Angeles County registered only 72 clients while Alameda, Orange, San Bernardino, Stanislaus, Merced, Madera, Napa and Sacramento counties reported zero (0) clients registered; and

WHEREAS, the California Democratic Party is committed to ensure that all Californians, including the economically disadvantaged, are able to exercise their right to vote and that public benefit clients have legal rights under the NVRA to register to vote when accessing public services and that California’s public assistance agencies have fallen short of the NVRA mandate;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party advocates full compliance of the National Voter Registration Act and requests that California’s Secretary of State and the Office of the Attorney General review and take all corrective measures within their respective capacities to assure that California’s public assistance agencies gain full compliance with the NVRA; and

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party will transmit a copy of this resolution to the Speaker of the State Assembly, the State Senate President Pro Tem and Democratic Members of the State Legislature.

Submitted by Mickie Solorio Luna, Chair of the Chicano Latino Caucus; Ray Gonzalez, Chief of Staff, Chicano Latino Caucus of the CA Democratic Party

Adopted June 15, 2008

Resolution Number SF08.11
Supporting California Clean Car Discount Programs
WHEREAS, global warming, left unchecked, can lead to coastal flooding, increases in wildfires and the number of poor air-quality days, decreased snow-pack runoff and water supplies, thereby increasing agricultural and business costs, leading to economic and job losses which could decrease the State’s competitiveness; and

WHEREAS, creating a system of “Clean Car Discount” consumer rebates on new cleaner, low-emission vehicles funded by one-time surcharges on new gas-guzzling, high-emission vehicles, would create an economic incentive that will decrease sales of high polluting vehicles while increasing sales of cleaner, low emission vehicles, leading to reductions in global warming pollution from cars and light trucks;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party calls upon the Speaker of the State Assembly to support legislation that enacts “Clean Car Discount” programs, and encourage her fellow Assembly Members to pass such legislation, to reduce vehicle produced pollution and thereby improve public health, increase the state’s energy independence, reduce its emissions of global warming pollution and ultimately enhance business opportunities and job growth for the world’s 8th largest economy while maintaining California’s role as the nation’s leader in environmental protection; and

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party will transmit a copy of this resolution to the Speaker of the State Assembly, the State Senate President Pro Tem, Democratic Members of the State Legislature, Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger, and the Chairperson of the California Air Resources Board (CARB).

Submitted by Stephen M. Hubbard, Democratic Club of Pasadena Foothills; Los Angeles County Democratic Party Resolutions Committee

Adopted June 15, 2008

Resolution Number SD07.63
Supporting Federal Forest Reserve Funds For Rural Schools
WHEREAS, the Secure Rural Schools and Communities Self Determination Act of 2000 has been a primary funding mechanism to provide rural schools’ students with educational opportunities comparable to suburban and urban students, as well as providing funds for search and rescue work on federal lands and developing community wildfire protection plans in these rural areas; and

WHEREAS, prior to September of 2007, federal law provided a primary finding mechanism to provide rural schools’ students with educational opportunities comparable to suburban and urban students, as well as providing funds for search and rescue work on federal lands and developing community wildfire protection plans in rural areas, promoting projects for fuel reduction,
habitat improvement, watershed restoration, road maintenance and rehabilitation, and also allowing rural county road districts and county road departments to address severe maintenance backlog; and

WHEREAS, the federal law that provides for the above has expired and without the funds many rural school districts face massive layoffs and several counties have indicated they will hand over control of their schools to the state; 

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party supports reauthorizing the federal program that provides the funding mechanism for rural schools and ASKS that the state of California provide temporary funding to rural school districts until the federal funding is restored; and

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be distributed to California’s Democratic congressional and state legislative delegations. 

Submitted by Thomas Gangale, Chair, Issues and Legislation Committee, Sonoma County Democratic Party; Adapted from Mary Walker, Chair, Alpine County Democratic Central Committee; 6th AD Demo Club

Adopted June 15, 2008

Resolution Number SF08.12 
Supporting Older Women & Men In Prison

WHEREAS, the population of older prisoners in the United States is increasing rapidly so that by 2030 one-third of the U.S. prison population will be geriatric, and California has the largest prison system, and this aging crisis is due to longer sentences, mandatory minimum sentencing laws and tighter parole policies; and

WHEREAS, studies have shown prisoners are physiologically 10 years older than their chronological age, causing older inmates to have costlier requirements, and producing ballooning hidden costs, with the average cost being two to three times that of younger prisoners, while prison regulations traditionally do not consider aging in the management of daily activities and assignments, thus increasing the vulnerabilities of older inmates; and

WHEREAS, women and men reaching social security age are denied their benefits while incarcerated and face impediments to apply and receive financial support for themselves and their families; 

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party calls on the California State Legislature to urgently study the problem of imprisoned older women and men in California and advocate for improving prison regulations, medical and monetary benefits as well as conditions of parole and release, receiving benefits like Social Security and SSDI or SSI while in prison; and

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party forward this resolution to the Democratic members of the State Assembly and Senate.

Submitted by Floyd Allen 56th AD; Maureen Allen 56th AD; Los Angeles County Democratic Party

Adopted June 15, 2008

Resolution Number SF08.22 
Supporting U.S. Ratification Of The Optional Protocol To The Convention Against Torture

WHEREAS, the existence of state-sponsored torture and other cruel, inhuman, or degrading treatment or punishment has been documented in many nations around the world; and

WHEREAS, torture violates the U.S. Constitution, statutes, and core American beliefs in the dignity and integrity of each person that have been essential to our system of government and way of life; and torture also violates a fundamental prohibition of current international law and specifically the Geneva Conventions, and its breach is considered a crime of universal jurisdiction;

WHEREAS, rejecting torture re-affirms fundamental American beliefs in the essential dignity of each human being, provides common ground with current and aspiring democracies around the world, and undercuts terrorist recruitment by reaffirming American commitment to human rights; and a failure to take a stand against torture and its practice by any agent or agency of our United States of America can be seen to jeopardize our system of values and governance; 

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party urges the United States to reaffirm the importance of making human rights and the rule of law guiding forces for conduct by all agents and agencies of the government of the United States, and exorts the President to sign and the Senate to ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment and support the Protocol's continuing goals; and

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party distribute copies of this resolution to Senators Feinstein and Boxer, such media outlets as the California Democratic Party may deem appropriate; and to all other
California county Democratic central committees for consideration and support; and that the California Democratic Party transmit such correspondence as may advance the principles of this resolution. 
Sponsored by Thomas Gangale, Chair, Issues and Legislation Committee, Sonoma County Democratic Party; Adapted from Michael A. Ceuvorst, Chair, Democrats Abroad; American Psychological Association
Adopted June 15, 2008

**Resolution Number SF08.19**

**United Nations Convention On The Rights Of Persons With Disabilities**
WHEREAS, history was made on March 30, 2007, when over eighty countries signed the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities at the UN signing ceremony. The fastest negotiated international human rights treaty ever, the Convention has enjoyed unprecedented international support and record-setting numbers of signatures. The Convention not only articulates basic rights of persons with disabilities but focuses on the actions necessary to ensure that these basic rights are more than hollow declarations; and
WHEREAS, the Americans with Disabilities Act was signed on July 26, 1990, which established the U.S. as a world leader in the global fight for the rights of people with disabilities; and
WHEREAS, as a result of leadership by the ADA, that wall has been crumbling, bit by bit, and the landscape for people with disabilities has experienced radical transformation here in America. Yet, for most of the more than 650 million people with disabilities worldwide, that wall is as strong as ever. Eighty percent of the world’s disabled live in developing countries, many in destitute circumstances, and they demand the liberation of a transformative law that can point the way toward true equality and full participation in society. The UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities provides an opportunity for those tides of change;
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party urges all of our Elected Senators and Congressmembers to use their influence in Washington to encourage President Bush to sign the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities on behalf of the United States.
Submitted by the CDP Disability Caucus
Adopted June 15, 2008

**Resolution Number SF08.08**

**We Need Real Solutions, Not Cuts To Vital Services**
WHEREAS, the people of California are entitled to vital services such as education, fire protection, public safety, health care, parks and environmental protection; and
WHEREAS, the proposed state budget calls for a 10 percent across-the-board cut in all services, rather than calling for revenue increases and tax loophole closures; and
WHEREAS, the state budget proposal would amount to 107,000 teachers losing their jobs, 680,000 people losing their health care, tens of thousands of inmates released, state parks closed, college students facing tuition hikes, and 400,000 vulnerable seniors and people with disabilities losing home care services;
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party will not support these cuts to vital services and asks every Democratic legislator to oppose them; and
THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party believes that increasing state revenues and closing tax loopholes are the right solutions to the current budget deficit.
Submitted by 45 DSCC members
Adopted June 15, 2008

2009

**Resolution Number SD09.25**

**Analyzing Cost Savings To Communities By Providing Health Care For All**
WHEREAS, a declared position of the California Democratic Party in the current national debate on health care reform is support for universal single-payer health care, with everyone in and no one left out, but in the national debate single-payer is being neglected and there has been no exploration of the significant fiscal benefits it might offer during this worst recession since the Great Depression; and
WHEREAS, the national debate on health care reform may be but a precursor to a more productive debate within California on the passage of universal single-payer health care for our state, if the national government fails to adopt single-payer, with the relative cost to taxpayers being a likely point of public concern; and
WHEREAS, the finance departments of many counties, cities, and school districts throughout California have executed cost/benefit analysis and calculated the savings to their respective budgets, should universal single-payer be adopted, i.e. the City of Santa Monica would realize a six million dollar savings per year, and the County of Santa Clara reports savings of $190 million;
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party, both as a matter of principle and as sound fiscal policy, supports universal single-payer health care and encourages local cities, school districts and counties to pursue cost/benefit analysis of potential savings from single-payer health care for all.
Submitted by Leah Herzberg, AD 41 (Endorsed by Los Angeles County Democratic Party; Valley Democrats United; Progressive Democrats Los Angeles (PDLA); Progressive Democrats Santa Monica Mountains (PDSMM); Julie Lopez Dad, Chair, AD 41 Committee; CDC; CDP Region 10 
Adopted November 15, 2009

Resolution Number SD09.08
Command Challenge of Governor’s Line Item Veto
WHEREAS, Governor Schwarzenegger's use of a "line item veto" on state parks and other budget items appears to violate the California Constitution (Cal Const. Art. IV, Section 10 (e) and California court decisions; and
WHEREAS, these cuts will close approximately 100 state parks (including Los Encinos State Historical Park, Point Dume State Beach, Pio Pico State Historical Park, Rio de Los Angeles State Park, and Santa Susana Pass State Historical Park in Los Angeles County) exposing these parks to an extended period of abandonment, rain, rodent infestation, termites, vandalism, and water damage; and
WHEREAS, Senator Darrell Steinberg and Assemblymember John Perez have taken legal action to invalidate the Governor's July 29, 2009 cuts;
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party commends both Senate President pro tem Darrell Steinberg and Assemblymember John Perez for taking this action to stand up for California.
Submitted by Craig Athon, AD 49; Los Angeles County Democratic Party; California Democratic Party Regions 12, 13 and 14; 47th AD Democratic Club; and Terrence Montgomery, CDP Reg. 14 Director 
Adopted November 15, 2009

Resolution Number SD09.22
Command President Obama’s Commitment to Battery-Electric, Light-Duty Vehicles
WHEREAS, light-duty battery-electric vehicles (BEV) are a key “zero emission” vehicle technology for meeting California’s goals for reducing greenhouse gas emissions, improving air quality and ending dependence on petroleum; and
WHEREAS, on August 5, 2009, President Barack Obama announced $2.4 billion in grants going to nearly 50 new advanced battery and electric drive components manufacturing and electric drive vehicle projects in the U.S., including in California, in order to accelerate and improve the cost and performance of battery technology; and
WHEREAS, battery powered vehicles appear on the verge of commercialization by several manufacturers; policies are being established internationally to develop millions of battery-electric vehicles over the next decade and California must continue to be a leader in advocating for the use of this technology;
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party commends President Barack Obama and his administration for providing the resources to support the large-scale adoption of battery-electric light-duty vehicles and the installation of charging infrastructure; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party urges the state to implement regulations to encourage this technology by promoting the large-scale adoption of battery-electric light-duty vehicles and to the installation of charging infrastructure.
Submitted by Michael Bullock, AD 73 
Adopted November 15, 2009

Resolution Number SD09.02
Congratulating President Obama on His Award of the 2009 Nobel Peace Prize
WHEREAS, on October 9, 2009 it was announced that President Barack Obama was to be awarded the 2009 Nobel Peace
Prize for "his extraordinary efforts to strengthen international diplomacy and cooperation between peoples;" and WHEREAS, President Obama has improved the United State's global standing and increased opportunities for peaceful resolution of conflict by rejoining the effort to combat climate change, rid the world of nuclear weapons and stop nuclear proliferation, renouncing torture and pledging to close the Guantanamo prison camp, recommitting the United States to end the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, canceling plans to deploy missile systems in Eastern Europe and offering to engage Iran while insisting it abandon its nuclear weapons program; and WHEREAS, President Obama acknowledged that the efforts for which he was honored are only beginning and that the award was really for all the American people for their leadership on behalf of aspirations held by people in all nations; THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party congratulates President Obama on the 2009 Nobel Peace Prize and that Chairman Burton extend the Party's congratulations and support for his efforts to promote peace in the world.

Submitted by CDP Resolutions Committee
Adopted November 15, 2009

Resolution Number SD09.27
Democracy Restoration Act
WHEREAS, 5.3 million American citizens are currently denied the right to vote because they have a criminal conviction in their past and 4 million of these people are out of prison, living in the community, paying taxes and raising families, yet many remain disenfranchised; and WHEREAS, the United States is one of the few Western democratic nations to exclude such large numbers of people from the democratic process; and WHEREAS, the current patchwork of laws that disenfranchise people with convictions has created an inconsistent and unfair federal electoral process, perpetuating entrenched racial discrimination; THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party Committee urges every member of the U.S. Congress to support efforts to restore voting rights in federal elections to people not in prison or on parole for a felony, as California law so provides.

Submitted by Fresno County Democratic Central Committee, Gary L. Alford, Chair
Adopted November 15, 2009

Resolution Number SD09.33
End the U.S. Occupation & Air War in Afghanistan
WHEREAS, the California Democratic Party, concerned citizens and lawmakers are calling for a U.S. exit strategy from Afghanistan that will end the occupation and air war while ensuring the safety and security of our troops, our nation, and the region; while even the U.S. Ambassador General Karl Eikenberry expresses concern about corruption in the Afghan government and our inability to stabilize the situation; and WHEREAS, the plight of women in Afghanistan is such that they continue to bear an especially heavy price under an eight-year occupation, and that far from eradicating the Taliban and other insurgencies, the presence of foreign troops has instead strengthened them, creating greater insecurity, death and impoverishment of the Afghan people; and WHEREAS, a majority of Americans are increasingly disturbed about the toll the U.S. occupation of Afghanistan is taking on the honorable young men and women who have been killed and wounded and on their families as our involvement there continues to cost billions each month while the United States and particularly the State of California are in an economic crisis without money to fund domestic needs;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party, in addition to reiterating its support for a timetable for withdrawal of our military personnel, calls for an end to the use of mercenary contractors, as well as an end to air strikes that cause heavy civilian casualties, and urges our President to oversee a redirection of our funding and resources to include an increase in humanitarian and developmental aid, multi-party talks aimed at ensuring a democratic and legitimate representation of the people of Afghanistan, as well as multi-party regional diplomacy for the safety and stability of neighboring countries; and BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution shall be sent to the California Democratic Congressional delegation, as well as to President Obama.
Resolution Number SD09.01
Honoring Inola Frances Henry

WHEREAS, Inola Frances Henry was born on November 15, 1942, in Henderson, Texas and moved to Lawton, Oklahoma, where she attended school and received her teaching credential, and settled in Los Angeles, California, in 1965, and in 1969 became a member of the Los Angeles Unified School District, beginning her remarkable 40-year commitment to teaching and mentoring; and
WHEREAS, in the late 1960’s Inola Henry became politically active with the California Democratic Party as well as the Los Angeles County Democratic Party; and in 1978 Inola Henry became a member of the California Democratic State Central Committee (DSCC) where she served with distinction for decades as Lead Chair of the CDP Resolutions Committee; and in 1978 Inola Henry was elected as a delegate to the Midterm National Convention, and in 2000 was elected to the Democratic National Committee (DNC) and was re-elected in 2004 and 2008; and
WHEREAS, Inola Henry passed away on July 26, 2009;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party proudly honors Inola Frances Henry for her lifelong dedication to teaching, promoting positive race and human relations, and for being an integral part of the California Democratic Party’s resolutions process for many decades.

Submitted by California DNC Members, Los Angeles County Democratic Party and the CDP Resolutions Committee
Adopted November 15, 2009

Resolution Number SD09.30
Honoring the Contributions of Immigrants

WHEREAS, since its founding, the United States of America has been a destination for immigrants seeking to achieve the American Dream; and
WHEREAS, for centuries immigrants have established their family roots in America, choosing to have their children born and raised in a country that provides the opportunity to succeed, and freedoms that are protected and guaranteed under the Constitution; and
WHEREAS, the contributions of immigrants to America are significant and can be seen in the various sectors of our economy, from agriculture to technology and medicine to law enforcement, and where one in five public venture-backed public companies have been created by immigrants, and more than 65,000 of our service men and women are foreign born, choosing to serve in active duty to protect the people of the United States;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party urges elected officials at every level of government, as well as other community and national leaders, to recognize and honor all immigrants for their contributions to America; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party advocates for this position in our state and throughout our nation.

Submitted by the Silicon Valley Latino Democratic Forum and the Santa Clara County Democratic Party, Steve Preminger, Chair
Adopted November 15, 2009

Resolution Number SD09.34
June 28, 2009 Military Coup in Honduras

WHEREAS, the AFL-CIO has expressed solidarity with union federations of Honduras in condemning the military coup that resulted in the illegal ouster of democratically elected President Manuel Zelaya as an attack on the fundamental rights and liberties of the Honduran people, and has called upon the U.S. government to help achieve restitution of constitutional order and reinstatement of the democratically elected President; and
WHEREAS, the de facto government of Honduras has resisted international calls for such order, refuses to honor the San Jose Accord on national reconciliation, and continues to repress those who speak out against the coup, resulting in grave human and civil rights violations, including extrajudicial killings, in turn forcing the U.S. to suspend military and direct government aid to Honduras; and
WHEREAS, the harm suffered by trade unionists, human rights activists, journalists, community leaders and ordinary citizens as a result of severe political unrest and the violent dissolution of democracy is recognized as a condition that also harms neighboring countries in the form of mass migrations to alleviate human suffering, hate speech, and aggression at the hands of organized forces directed at specific groups of people because of race, class, social status, ethnicity, ethnic identity, national origin, language, culture or religion whether they exist internally in a state or are the result of foreign presence, should not be tolerated;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that in addition to current restrictions imposed on the illegitimate government of Roberto Micheletti, that the California Democratic Party, acting in solidarity with the AFL-CIO and the California Labor Federation, urges the Obama administration to remove its current ambassador to Honduras, revoke the U.S. visas for all of those responsible for the coup, freeze all accounts and assets of those individuals and organizations involved, and suspend trade with Honduras until President Zelaya is restored to his democratically elected office for the remainder of his term and human and trade union rights have been restored; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party commend President Obama for his insistence on the rule of law, restoration of constitutional government and support of the San Jose Accord as a roadmap for peace, and urges its Congressional delegation to call on the Obama administration to support trade policies that discourage predatory interests, to prevent harm to our brothers and sisters in Latin America and in turn, all Americans, and further, calls for the restoration of unbiased media sources.

Submitted by Karen Bernal and Bill Camp; Sacramento County Democratic Central Committee

Adopted November 15, 2009

Resolution Number SD09.20
Meeting 2010 Renewable Energy Goals

WHEREAS, it is important for the California State Senate and Assembly to follow up with policies that enable the State of California to meet its legislated 20 percent renewable energy goals by 2010 and 30 percent by 2020; and

WHEREAS, it is vital that any policy be easy to implement and contain rules and formulas that are cost effective and not difficult to enforce; and

WHEREAS, proposed policies should be careful to include levels of incentives that have proved effective in Europe and other states such as feed-in-tariffs and net excess metering and includes incentives for utility companies to meet the deadlines and penalties for them if they do not;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Democratic Party of California believes it is a priority in 2010 to encourage and support policies which help the rapid expansion of renewable power generation throughout the state which should include power from small scale providers such as individual homeowners, apartment and condominium complexes, businesses and public buildings; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party supports the development of renewable energy in a variety of ways, which includes locally generated power that can be fed into the existing grid.

Submitted by Rebecca Leo, AD 74; Revised by Emy Thurber; Approved by Progressive Democrats of America North San Diego County

Adopted November 15, 2009

Resolution Number SD09.19
Oppose New Offshore and Onshore Oil Drilling in California

WHEREAS, the California Assembly, in a laudatory move, recently voted against new offshore oil drilling, resulting in the Governor signing a budget that did not subject our state to the environmental hazards of new oil drilling; and

WHEREAS, the California Lands Commission on August 11, 2009, held an informational hearing on the advantages and disadvantages of offshore vs. onshore oil drilling, suggesting new oil drilling off the California coast is still under consideration to generate a new revenue stream; and

WHEREAS, both offshore and onshore drilling jeopardize our precious coastline, the first by potentially polluting marine life and shoreline, the second by subjecting Californians to toxicity from accidents;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party reaffirms its long-standing opposition to new offshore oil drilling and any new onshore oil drilling that may adversely affect the California coast or ocean and urges the Legislature to reject any Gubernatorial appointment for Lt. Governor who would vote to overturn this longstanding commitment; and

WHEREAS, the harm suffered by trade unionists, human rights activists, journalists, community leaders and ordinary citizens as a result of severe political unrest and the violent dissolution of democracy is recognized as a condition that also harms neighboring countries in the form of mass migrations to alleviate human suffering, hate speech, and aggression at the hands of organized forces directed at specific groups of people because of race, class, social status, ethnicity, ethnic identity, national origin, language, culture or religion whether they exist internally in a state or are the result of foreign presence, should not be tolerated;
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that state Democratic leaders continue their commitment to renewable energy sources that unlike the burning of fossil fuels will not pollute our land, sea, and air, as set forth in the CDP Platform.
Submitted by Marcy Winograd, AD 53 and Rachel Binah, AD 1; Los Angeles County Democratic Party
Adopted November 15, 2009

Resolution Number SD09.18
Restore California’s Master Plan Commitment to Fully Fund Higher Education & Fight Privatization
WHEREAS, California has the largest system of public-supported higher education in the world and the state’s 1960 Master Plan for Higher Education guarantees every California student a quality, affordable education and clearly establishes higher education as a public good provided by the state for its citizens with significant benefits accruing to the entire state, and few institutions play a more critical role in propelling economic development on both a local and statewide basis and providing good jobs with health care benefits and a living wage for Californians; and
WHEREAS, in the last decade, the Master Plan has been undercut by huge budget cuts at the California State University, University of California and California Community Colleges and a huge increase in tuition and student fees at CSUs. UCs and community colleges, and efforts to create a privatized model by contracting out jobs of college and university employees, at a time when the state’s share of investment in higher education has plummeted as some have advocated that the state abandon its commitment to be the primary source of basic programs in an attempt to shift more funding responsibility to students and private donors, the latter whose funds historically went for scholarships and additional initiatives; and
WHEREAS, abandoning the commitment of the state to be the primary funding source for basic higher education programs and contracting out jobs will lead to continuing declines in the quality, accessibility, and affordability of higher education, meaning rising tuition and decreasing access, and it would take only a small fraction of the state budget to restore higher education to 2001 levels of per-student funding and student fees;
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party calls for the restoration of the 1960 Higher Education Master Plan and urges all Democratic lawmakers and higher education leaders to fight efforts to abandon the state’s commitment that public funds be the primary source of support for basic programs, that the lawmakers and officials ensure that tuition and per-student funding be restored to 2001 levels, and work to ensure that private donations be used for their historical mission of funding scholarships and additional initiatives for higher education; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party send a copy of this resolution to all Democratic state legislators, the UC Board of Regents, the CSU Board of Trustees, and the Chancellor for the California Community Colleges.
Amended by resolution committee chairs
Submitted by Karen Bernal, AD5, Chair, Progressive Caucus; Sacramento County DCC; Laurence Zakson, AD 42; Deana Igelrud, AD 47; Rose Roach, AD 26; and San Joaquin County DCC
Adopted November 15, 2009

Resolution Number BRGL09.06
Restore The Economic Safety-Net
WHEREAS, the American people have been told for years that the terrible days of the Great Depression could not be repeated because President Franklin D. Roosevelt had created a safety net by regulating banks, credit, and investments; and
WHEREAS, the recent Bush administration and Republicans in Congress allowed the banks, credit, investments, non-bank financial institutions, Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac to operate unregulated and unchecked, and they avoided regulating new financial instruments such as credit default swaps; and
WHEREAS, this lack of regulation led to an economy without legs, that collapsed with numerous failures of financial institutions, a near total credit freeze, de facto nationalization of major financial institutions, the loss of trillions of dollars in investments, bankruptcies and high unemployment, and a world-wide economic crisis;
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party supports the Obama administration and the Democrats in Congress to enhance and expand regulations for the banking industry, Wall Street, Fannie Mae, Freddie Mac and financial institutions such as AIG that have heretofore never been regulated (or were weakly regulated), and set standards for financial derivatives such as credit default swaps; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party is in full support of the Administration’s and Congressional Leadership’s efforts to cut executive salaries and bonuses for those businesses that benefited from the government’s bailout.
Submitted by Craig Athon, AD 49; Los Angeles County Democratic Party
Adopted November 15, 2009

Resolution Number SD09.26
Senate Rule 22
WHEREAS, Universal Health Care is just one of many progressive proposals President Obama has had a mandate to deliver on since last November, and one of countless progressive proposals (namely civil rights) that reactionary minorities have used Senate Rule 22 to filibuster to death in the last century; and
WHEREAS, it is needlessly defeatist to throw up our hands and give up on any legislation for which we can't count 60 senate votes, and a waste of time to fight as if we need to get to that number, when all it takes is 51 votes to change Senate Rule 22 and get rid of the filibuster altogether; and
WHEREAS, Democrats have consistently failed to use the filibuster to block even some of the most outrageously right-wing policies, thus destroying the arguments some people are bound to make about how we must preserve the filibuster for when we are in the minority;
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party adopt the position that gathering the 51 votes to change Senate Rule 22 must be the first priority of any legislative agenda pursued by the Democratic Majority, and that this is the change that makes the entire rest of the President's agenda possible; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party write to all Democratic Senators imploring them to initiate such action immediately.

Submitted by Mark Bowen; Progressive Democratic Club; a majority of the DSCC members present at the CDP Region 17 meeting, October 3, 2009.
Adopted November 15, 2009

Resolution Number SD09.03
Support Clean Campaign Pledge in 2010 Governor’s Race
WHEREAS, California will suffer irreparable harm to our economy, education, and health care systems, environment, infrastructure and more, unless we elect a Democratic governor in 2010; and
WHEREAS, the Republicans are on track to nominate a candidate for governor who is independently wealthy and who will invest tens of millions of dollars in negative attacks on the Democratic nominee; and Democrats cannot afford a negative, bruising primary that leaves our nominee weakened and damaged going into the general election; and
WHEREAS, Chairman John Burton has sent letters to Gubernatorial candidates and will send the same letter to any late entries, asking that they avoid dividing the Party and draining Party resources during the Primary season;
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party urges Democrats to work together in a way that guarantees a Democratic victory in November by campaigning in an open and fair manner, without resorting to defamatory attacks or unwarranted invasions of personal privacy issues.

Submitted by Eric C. Bauman, Chair, LACDP; Aaron Peskin, Chair, SF Democratic Party; Los Angeles County Democratic Party
Adopted November 15, 2009

Resolution Number SD09.28
Support National Interest Rate Caps
WHEREAS, many financial institutions levy usurious fees and engage in harmful lending practices, with interest rates on tax refund loans ranging from 20-50 percent; and on “overdraft loans” as high as 25 percent; and
WHEREAS, banks’ usurious interest fees are generating, $327-billion in overdraft revenue (NY Times, 9-08-09), and $600 million in tax refund loans (MSNBC, 1/09/2009) all of which disproportionately hurt the working poor; and
WHEREAS, consumers who rely on tax refund loans and overdraft loans, are usually in desperate debt, falling victim to high interest rates that make it difficult for borrowers to repay the loan, thus putting consumers on a perpetual debt treadmill;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party supports imposing a national cap on interest rates not to exceed 10 percent on overdraft and tax refund loans; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be sent to all members of the California congressional delegation, as well as the CEO’s of Bank of America, Wells Fargo and other large financial institutions imposing usurious fees.
Resolution Number SD09.24
Support Public Option as an Essential Element of Health Care Reform
WHEREAS, the health care system of the United States is in a crisis, with almost fifty million Americans lacking any health insurance, tens of millions more lacking adequate coverage, and millions more who do have private coverage paying increasingly unaffordable premiums, resulting in inadequate access to care and premature death, illness, or financial ruin for millions of Americans; and
WHEREAS, public polls show that an overwhelming majority of Americans want health care reform to offer the choice of a robust public option similar to Medicare in order to, in the words of President Obama, "keep the insurance companies honest," while co-ops or so-called "triggers" are inadequate in and of themselves to address the health care crisis by creating significant competition for the medical insurance industry; and
WHEREAS, Republicans and their allies in the health insurance industry have organized and funded groups of people to disrupt efforts on the part of the Democratic majority and administration to reasonably discuss the issue with the American people, and have demonstrated and utter unwillingness to compromise in any way to pass meaningful health care reform;
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party urges Democratic members of Congress to vote for only such health care reform proposals that contain at least a robust public option at all stages of the legislative process including conference and reconciliation, as well as a provision to allow states to implement a single-payer plan, and encourages Democratic legislators to use any available parliamentary means to pass such reform; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party shall send a copy of this resolution to all California Democratic members of Congress.
Submitted by the Santa Clara County Democratic Party, Steve Preminger, Chair
Adopted November 15, 2009

Resolution Number BRGL09.07
Alzheimer’s Disease And Related Disorders Research Fund Extension Of The Sunset Date From 2010 To 2015
WHEREAS, the sunset date for the Alzheimer’s Disease check-off on California income tax form 540 is January 1, 2010, and a recent report based on California Department of Finance demographic projections shows Californians living with the disease will double by 2030, and that one in eight California baby boomers who reach age 55 will develop Alzheimer’s Disease; thereby being a major contributor to Medi-Cal costs; and
WHEREAS, especially hard-hit will be many of California’s ethnic populations, because of late diagnosis and underreporting, which predicts Alzheimer’s Disease will double among African Americans, and triple among those of Hispanic and Asian descent; and
WHEREAS, scientists are on the brink of amazing discoveries. and research that discovers a way to delay the debilitating symptoms Alzheimer’s Disease by just five years could cut prevalence rates in half;
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party supports extension of the sunset date for the Alzheimer’s disease income tax check-off from January 1, 2010 to January 1, 2015, allowing the check-off to remain on California state income tax form 540 for five additional years, provided it receives at least $250,000 in check-off contributions annually; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party pledges to work to increase the public awareness and education of Alzheimer’s Disease and advocate the cure of and eradication of Alzheimer’s Disease within our lifetimes.
Author: Robert A. Levine DSSC Member, 38th Assembly District
Submitted by Shanna Ingalsbee, Valley Grassroots for Democracy
Sponsored by the CDP Senior Caucus
Adopted July 19, 2009

Resolution Number BRG09.12
Another Step For Healing Our Foreclosure Crisis
WHEREAS, the current housing and financial crisis requires that current policies be amended to help level the foreclosure crisis, and the Democratic Party has supported such policy changes; however, as the foreclosure crisis continues, we must
aim for stricter regulations governing lenders’ and servicers’ time frame, so that homeowners can stay in their homes; and
WHEREAS, realtors report numerous problems such as not executing buyers’ offers timely, closing files without due processing, and not communicating; and
WHEREAS, we must continue to find a solution and evaluate the processing of modifications and short-sales, to decrease existing short-sales and foreclosure inventory, with the goal toward decreasing overall inventory;
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party supports policies to penalize lenders and servicers in the event that short-sales go into a foreclosures, and require lenders and servicers to provide 120-day certificates directly to the borrowers who need loan modifications, made payable to the lender, through Hope for Homeowners; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party shall transmit copies of this resolution to the Speaker of the House of Representatives, to each California Democratic Senator and Representative in the Congress of the United States.
Sponsored by Helena Straughter (AD 25); Calaveras County Democratic Central Committee
Adopted July 19, 2009

Resolutions Number SAC09.76
California’s Foreclosure Crisis
WHEREAS, California is ground-zero for home foreclosures, accounting for approximately one-third of the entire nation’s foreclosures. In February 2009, California saw 80,775 foreclosure filings, the most of any state and a 5% increase from the prior month, amounting to one foreclosure filing every 30 seconds. Six of the ten cities in the United States with the highest foreclosure rates are in California, including Stockton, Modesto, Merced, Riverside-San Bernardino, Bakersfield and Vallejo-Fairfield; and
WHEREAS, the continuing financial implosion and foreclosure crisis shaking America has at its core the making and selling of unsuitable home loans during the mortgage frenzy that resulted in a massive wave of foreclosures, and the collapse of financial giants Lehman Brothers, Merrill Lynch, Indy Mac, Washington Mutual, and Wachovia; the taxpayer bailouts of Bear Stearns, Fannie Mae, Freddie Mac, CitiGroup, Bank of America, and AIG, and the bailout by taxpayers of hundreds of billions of dollars in troubled assets from numerous other lenders would not have happened if more effective laws and regulations were in place to prevent predatory and unsuitable home loan practices; and
WHEREAS, the solution to this national foreclosure crisis requires a multi-pronged approach based on federal and state efforts, including federal policies that help distressed homeowners avoid foreclosure through refinancing or a loan modification program and substantive state reforms, including a ban on steering consumers to higher priced loans, a ban on negative amortization loans, enacting a strong fiduciary responsibility for mortgage brokers, and the establishment of strong penalties to prevent future abusive sub-prime lending;
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party commend President Barack Obama’s leadership to solve this national foreclosure crisis. The incentives his administration is creating to get lenders to bring relief to millions of families who are struggling to stay in their home is a critical part of the solution to stabilize the housing market and to keep Californians in their homes; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party supports state and federal efforts to expand existing federal refinancing programs so even more Californians can qualify and encourages the enactment of substantive state reforms, including a ban on steering consumers to higher priced loans, a ban on negative amortization loans, enacting a strong fiduciary responsibility for mortgage brokers, and the establishment of strong penalties to ensure a foreclosure crisis of this scale will never happen again.
Submitted by Assemblymember Ted Lieu; Adam Gray & Merced Democratic Central Committee
Adopted July 19, 2009

Resolutions Number SACL09.05
Calling For Renewable Energy Reform
WHEREAS, climate change, increased by the use of non-renewable energy sources, is one of the most vital problems facing our state, nation and planet today; and
WHEREAS, the State of California, a leader in reducing pollution and greenhouse gases, can do more to encourage the use of renewable energy resources in concert with President Obama’s declaration, “We can no longer delay putting a framework for a clean energy economy in place;” and
WHEREAS, in California, electricity distribution utilities benefit from but are not required to pay small renewable energy
suppliers connected to the grid for the electricity they generate in excess of their own usage (net zero metering), nor are they required to accept any more than 2.5% of their peak demand for electricity from customer generators;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party supports legislative and regulatory reforms that require electricity distribution utilities to implement a “net excess generation metering” system which provides that electricity generated in excess of that used by each customer will be paid for at an equitable rate determined by the California Public Utilities Commission; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the limit of 2.5% of each electricity distribution utility’s peak demand be removed and replaced with no limit in order to further encourage consumers to invest in renewable energy generators.

Sponsored by: Rebecca Leo, AD 74; Janet Cox, AD 14; Nanci Oechslie, AD 74; Chris Finnie, AD 27; Susan Rowe, Chair, Madera Co. Dem. Party; Myrna Baker, AD 74; Phil Hanneman, Director, Region 20; Jess Durfee, AD 76; Michael McQuary, AD 76; Rachel Rott, AD 74; Janet Stromberg, AD 14; Judy Ki, SDCDP Central Cmte.; Betty Ball, AD 74; Kim Piker, AD 74; Anne Zerrien-Lee, AD 44; Michael Edward Lee, AD 44; Vickie Butcher, AD 77; Scott Svonkin, AD 49; Paul Feldman, AD 64; Martha Sullivan, AD 74; Eleanor Mang, AD 76; Marilyn Armstrong, AD 33; Nancy Casady, AD 75; Gloria Jalisa, AD 76; Derek Casady, AD 75; Steve Young, AD 68

Adopted July 19, 2009

Resolution Number SAC09.72A
Commend And Support House Speaker Nancy Pelosi’s Call To Establish Legislative Commission To Investigate Wall Street

WHEREAS, the current systemic financial collapse created by the Bush economic policies is threatening the livelihood and economic prosperity of all American citizens, as well as forcing federal, state, and local governments to suffer an immense, and unexpected, budget crisis that threatens the very institutions of public service and the banking system they depend upon; and

WHEREAS, President Obama and the Democrats in Congress have been working tirelessly to reverse the severe damage that has resulted and have made great strides; however, the American people have made it clear that they demand accountability and investigation into the causes and to make sure that anyone directly responsible for the economic crisis is brought before the necessary judicial recourse to answer for their crimes; and

WHEREAS, House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, acknowledging that the financial collapse continues to be issue number one for citizens all across the country, has vowed to establish a legislative commission with broad oversight, to investigate any and all crimes and wrongdoing associated with this current financial collapse, with a goal toward preventing such a thing from ever happening again;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party commends and supports Speaker Pelosi for her pro-action in calling for such a committee, as well as her upcoming legislation on financial institution regulation and reform; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this Resolution shall be forwarded to the President of the United States, to House Speaker Nancy Pelosi and to the members of the California Congressional Delegation.

Sponsored by Los Angeles Democratic Party; Mark Hull-Richter; Michael Aguirre; Derek Casady (AD 75), Nancy Casady (AD 75), Michael Russell; La Jolla Democratic Club, Dr. Michael McQuary, President

Adopted July 19, 2009

Resolution Number BRG09.03
Commending California Democratic Party Chairman John Burton

WHEREAS, the John Burton Foundation for Children Without Homes was founded in 2004 by retired President Pro Tem of the California State Senate John Burton; and

WHEREAS, the John Burton Foundation for Children Without Homes is a non-profit organization based in San Francisco, California, dedicated to improving the quality of life for California’s homeless children and developing policy solutions to prevent homelessness; and

WHEREAS, through the Foundation, Senator Burton promotes the values of nurturing children and youth who are less fortunate in life than most, and is vigorously working to help the most vulnerable among us – the 100,000 homeless children living in California;
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Children's Caucus commends both Senator Burton and the John Burton Foundation for Children Without Homes for their work for homeless children; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Children's Caucus congratulates Senator John Burton on his election as Chair of the California Democratic Party.
Submitted by the CDP Children's Caucus; Judith Jacobs
Adopted July 19, 2009

Resolution Number SAC09.04A
Common Sense In Building For Victory In 2010
WHEREAS, the California Democratic Party's top priority in 2010 will be our successful campaign to elect a new Governor and dozens of Democratic legislators and members of Congress, including the re-election of U.S. Senator Barbara Boxer, as well as supporting or opposing a host of statewide propositions; and
WHEREAS, the goal of the California Democratic Party is to build upon the momentum gained in President Barack Obama's inspiring 2008 election victory; and
WHEREAS, all arms of our Party will need to stay focused on assuring that we use common sense approaches to reach our goals and to be victorious in winning elections, successfully defending our issues and building our Party;
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party supports common sense approaches that will build the foundation for Victory in 2010 through strong leadership and unified actions by all party organizations, with trust and confidence in our approach and campaigns; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party reaffirms its position that the hard-earned Party monies and resources should be used on Party-building activities necessary to win in 2010 and beyond.
Sponsored by Hector De La Torre, Assemblymember, 50th AD; Alex Gallardo-Rooker, CDP Vice Chair; Eric Bradley, Former CDP Controller; Sergio Carrillo, CDP Region 17 Director (PARTIAL LIST)
Adopted July 19, 2009

Resolution Number SAC09.65
Congressional Oversight Of San Onofre
WHEREAS, the San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station has been found by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission as well as its own internal investigations to have a history of safety, maintenance and training concerns that bring into question the safe operation of the plant and a degraded safety culture, i.e. delayed preventive maintenance, endangered safety employees by careless plant operations, unreliable equipment, insufficient training for its workforce and a history of poor performance over several evaluation cycles;
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party requests our local Democratic Congressional members to call for Congressional oversight to investigate the outstanding safety issues at the plant and to assure that the problems identified by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission and the Institute of Nuclear Power Operations be addressed.
Sponsored by Nancy Casady (AD 75); Derek Casady (AD 75) and the La Jolla Democratic Club's Focus For Change San Onofre Shut Down Issue Group; La Jolla Democratic Club, Dr. Michael McQuary, President
Adopted July 19, 2009

Resolution Number SAC09.07
Contesting Elections
WHEREAS, State Senator Abel Maldonado, the leading hold-out in the budget impasse, was reelected without a Democratic opponent in 2008, and his seat was one of six Congressional, State Senate and Assembly district seats that were uncontested by Democratic candidates; and
WHEREAS, the California Democratic Party and local Democratic party organizations and clubs are committed to field qualified candidates to run in every seat, thus assuring that our Party’s message will be articulated to the local voters supporting our positions as well as statewide and national candidates; and
WHEREAS, even with this priority to run a candidate in every election, both major political parties often fall short of identifying qualified candidates;
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party strongly supports an aggressive push to assure that we have a qualified Democratic candidate in every Congressional, Assembly and State Senate race to maintain our voice and identity in every district and race throughout the state.
Resolution Number SAC09.81  
Federal Poverty Guidelines  
WHEREAS, it is widely recognized that the Federal Poverty Guidelines, a formula created in the early 1960s and based on the cost of food for a family multiplied by three, are hopelessly out-of-date because the Federal Poverty Guidelines fail to account for the 21st century budget, where food is no longer one third of a family’s budget; rather, with the increased costs of housing, health care and child care, food is now roughly one-sixth of a family budget; and  
WHEREAS, the Federal Poverty Guidelines also do not take into account regional cost of living differences; instead they use a “one-size-fits-all” method of measuring poverty, rendering the current guidelines meaningless in terms of actually measuring the number of people and families in the United States who are in poverty, especially undercounting areas with high costs of living, such as the state of California; and  
WHEREAS, there is a nationwide movement to update the Federal Poverty Guidelines to reflect the needs of families in the United States;  
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party supports an update of the Federal Poverty Guidelines to a formula that better reflects the realities a family faces in making ends meet, and reflects specific local and regional factors that incorporate the current percentage of income that families spend on transportation, health care, housing, food, child care and other basic necessities; and  
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party be instructed to send copies of this resolution to elected Democrats from the state of California in the United States Senate and the United States House of Representatives.  
Sponsored by Becca Doten, CDP Executive Board Member, AD 46; Ackley Padilla, AD 39; LA County Democratic Party (LACDP); Joseph Legaspi, Regional Director, Region 15; Susie Shannon, CDP Executive Board Member, AD 42; Nikki Noushkam, CDP Executive Board Member, AD 56  
Adopted July 19, 2009

Resolution Number BRG09.17  
Fully Funding the 2010 Census  
WHEREAS, an accurate Census count is vital to our community and residents’ well-being by helping planners determine where to locate schools, day-care centers, roads and public transportation, hospitals and other facilities, and is used to make decisions concerning federal formula grant applications, state redistricting, and state funding to local governments; and  
WHEREAS, in 1999 the State of California invested $27 million in statewide Census outreach, which translated into $3 billion for the state over the last decade; however, despite that significant effort the Census Monitoring Board estimated that California’s population was still undercounted by well over 520,000 people in 2000, and the undercount cost the state an estimated $1.5 billion in federal funding as a result; and  
WHEREAS, the 2010 Census marks an opportunity for California to accurately account for its population and demand its fair share of federal funding and representation, which can only happen if the State of California fully and expediently funds a statewide census outreach effort;  
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that by adoption of this resolution the California Democratic Party does hereby recognize the need for a fully funded statewide Census outreach program in 2009; and strongly urges the Governor and the Legislature to identify and allocate financial resources in the May revise of the Budget.  
Sponsored by Los Angeles County Democratic Party  
Adopted July 19, 2009

Resolution Number SAC09.99  
Genocide And Divestment Of Public Funds  
WHEREAS, of the Ten United Nations Covenants on Human Rights, the Convention Against Genocide bans acts committed with the intent to destroy, in whole or in part, a national, ethnic, racial or religious group; declares genocide a crime under international law whether committed during war or peacetime; and binds all signatories of the convention to take measures to prevent and punish any acts of genocide committed within their jurisdiction; and  
WHEREAS, in the past the California Democratic Party and the State Legislature had adopted both the Sullivan Principles regarding South Africa, and the MacBride Principles regarding Northern Ireland and have condemned the Armenian Genocide of 1915; and
WHEREAS, the list of genocidal actions includes but is not limited to Rwanda, Darfur, Somalia, Liberia, the killing fields of Cambodia, and Bosnia since there is no arbitrary number of deaths that must occur before a threshold is achieved to trigger the recognition of genocide anywhere in the world;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party urge both the State Legislature and the California congressional delegations to divest all investments in any business that materially supports regimes or governments determined by a court of competent jurisdiction, the United Nations Security Council, or any body of the United States government, to have supported acts of genocide; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the California State legislature, the California congressional delegation, and the U.S. State Department.

Sponsored by Thomas Patrick O'Shaughnessy, 43rd AD; Richard M. Mathews (AD 38); David Dobson (AD 43); Blanca M. Figueroa, Mayor, South El Monte (AD 49); Los Angeles County Democratic Party

Adopted July 19, 2009

Resolution Number ANAL08.04

Green Collar Jobs – A Pathway Out Of Poverty

WHEREAS, the emerging green economy in California is being driven by billions of dollars of investments in clean and renewable technologies, resulting in a high demand for skilled workers to meet the growth and success of green businesses statewide; and the State of California in conjunction with cities, universities and colleges, school districts and utility companies is initiating renewable and energy efficient programs that are generating thousands of green collar jobs; and

WHEREAS, a new industrial revolution in clean and green technologies provides a historic opportunity to lift economically disadvantaged populations out of poverty by providing entry-level green collar jobs to those facing significant barriers to employment; jobs that pay livable wages, provide financial security and contribute to climate stability, creating family-supporting jobs; and

WHEREAS, workforce development and training programs in solar, wind, geothermal, energy efficiency and biofuel technologies are essential for minority and underserved populations to enter the green workforce, providing a career pathway out of poverty for poor communities that have endured decades of pollution and environmental injustice;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party supports the vision and policies of President Barack Obama to invest in the green economy to fuel job creation, expand workforce training programs in green technologies and create energy sector jobs for disadvantaged youth; and that the California Democratic Party also supports:

• An equitable green economy that benefits all segments of society;
• A green collar workforce that reflects California’s diverse population;
• Expansion of green workforce and training programs in underserved communities;
• Local hiring/training programs on all public-funded renewable and energy efficiency projects including projects under the “American Recovery and Reinvestment Act;” and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that 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 Mickie Solorio Luna, Chair of the Chicano Latino Caucus; Ray Gonzalez, Chief of Staff, Chicano Latino Caucus California Democratic Party; David Greene, President; Carrie Scoville; LACDP; San Pedro Democratic Club

Adopted July 19, 2009

Resolution Number BRG09.01

Honoring The Life And Career Of Richard J. O'Neill

WHEREAS, Richard (Dick) O'Neill was a prominent Orange County landowner and Democratic Party activist who contributed to many Democratic candidates and organized many fundraisers for Democrats and philanthropic causes, including South Coast Repertory Theater in Costa Mesa, the Heart of Jesus Retreat Center in Santa Ana and Cal Poly San Luis Obispo; and

WHEREAS, Mr. O'Neill worked diligently at the grassroots level, registering voters and walking precincts to get out the vote, and in 1964 became a member of the California Democratic Party’s (CDP) Orange County Central Committee and in 1974 was elected Southern Chairman of the CDP and subsequently served as State Party Chairman from 1979 to 1981, and also served as a delegate to several Democratic National Conventions; and

WHEREAS, on April 4, 2009, Richard O'Neill passed away at the age of 85;
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party honor Richard O’Neill for his dedication and service to his country, his state and to the Democratic Party.

Submitted by Senator John Burton (Ret.), Chairman of the California Democratic Party
Adopted July 19, 2009

Resolution Number BRG09.22
Honoring The Life And Career of Jerome (Jerry) Waldie
WHEREAS, Jerome (Jerry) Waldie was born in Antioch, California, in 1925 and served in the U.S. Army for three years before earning a B.A. degree and a law degree from the University of California at Berkeley; and he was elected to the California Assembly in 1958 and became Majority Leader of the Assembly in 1961; and
WHEREAS, in 1966 Mr. Waldie won a special election to fill a vacant seat in the U.S. Congress, where he was an early critic of the Vietnam War and in 1973 changed history by introducing the Articles of Impeachment against President Richard Nixon, then in 1974 he returned to his law practice in California and also served on a number of commissions and boards, including the Agricultural Labor Relations Board, where he was a strong voice for farm workers’ rights; and
WHEREAS, on April 3, 2009, Jerry Waldie passed away at his home in Placerville, California, at the age of 84;
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party honor Jerry Waldie for his dedication and service to his country, his state and to the Democratic Party.

Submitted by Senator John Burton (Ret.), Chairman of the California Democratic Party
Adopted July 19, 2009

Resolution Number SAC09.57
Improving Higher Education Accreditation Practices
WHEREAS, under the previous administration, the U.S. Department of Education has asserted that the accrediting agencies for higher education have failed in their duties and has consequently demanded that accrediting agencies assert themselves and take action against our community colleges; and
WHEREAS, notwithstanding the fact that real and important issues do exist for our community colleges and those issues need to be resolved, it is a fact that the accrediting agency in California has acted capriciously and has issued negative findings that too often are not related to educational issues but to trivial matters that lack sufficient import to be cited as reasons for withdrawing accreditation; and
WHEREAS, the negative findings of the accreditation agency in California seem to follow a pattern that gives the appearance of selective findings repeatedly invoked in support of a predetermined outcome, rather than the findings of an honest inquiry;
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party proposes that the accreditation agencies for higher education be instructed that the time frame for compliance, currently set at two years, be defined as commencing when the educational institution receives a set of clearly stated accreditation issues to be resolved along with clearly defined criteria for the resolution of those issues; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party calls upon the California Democratic Delegations to the United States Senate and House of Representatives to bring their combined influence to bear on the higher education accreditation process so that it might function in a proper manner.

Submitted by Tom Olson, President, Northern Solano Democratic Club
Adopted July 19, 2009

Resolution Number BRG09.08
Majority Vote
WHEREAS, the California Constitution requires certain bills making appropriations from the General Fund, for changes in state taxes for the purpose of raising revenue, to be passed in each house of the Legislature by a two-third vote; and
WHEREAS, this requirement amounts to minority rule by one-third, plus one, and has brought the State of California to a revenue crisis and a situation of paralysis because of a vocal minority of conservative Republicans; and
WHEREAS, the people of California deserve urgently to have a functional, effective and balanced government, able to respond and adjust to economic downturns and upswings for the benefit of the majority of its citizens, rather than be held hostage by the ideologies of the few;
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party supports a change to only require a simple majority
(like the U.S. Congress and 80% of states) for revenue bills, thus restoring majority rule and representative democracy to California’s government.
Submitted by Region 10 Delegates: Susan Broidy; Cheryl Conway; Stew Jenkins; Gabriel Zacarias; Hilda Zacarias; Chris Lanier; Maureen Cruise; David Atkins; Leah Herzberg; Pam Reinking; Linda Sutton; Dorothy Reik; Joseph O’Neill; Cleofas Navarro; Sylvia Navarro; Penny Strowger; Sandy Emberland; Sally Sweetser (AD 11), Diablo Valley Democratic Club; Ellis Goldberg, (AD 15), President, TriValley Dem. Club; Democratic Neighbors of the 38th AD
Adopted July 19, 2009

**Resolution Number SAC09.84**

**Media Diversification**

WHEREAS, the quality of American journalism across all media has substantially declined over the past several years, particularly since the media deregulation of 1996; and
WHEREAS, the number of companies that own and control the mass media decreased from about 81 companies in 1981 to 6 monolithic conglomerates in 1996. Local broadcast journalism and media production have steadily vanished from the airwaves, resulting in a less informed electorate to the detriment of the public interest and our democratic model; and
WHEREAS, less than 8% of radio stations and 3% of television stations are owned by traditionally under-represented interests;
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party favors diverse media ownership as well as improved and increased journalism by encouraging media reform and promoting activism in furtherance of this position; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party supports all efforts to repair the damage that resulted from the unprecedented concentration of mass media ownership in the U.S., which may involve, but is not limited to, exploring the application of antitrust laws, proscriptions against restraint of trade, and the protections of 'free press' contained within the First Amendment.
Sponsored by Mike Thaller (AD 78); San Diego County Democratic Party; La Mesa-Foothills Democratic Club
Adopted July 19, 2009

**Resolution Number BRG09.09**

**Opposing Massive Tuition Increase On Community College Students**

WHEREAS, California’s Master Plan for higher education contemplated that community colleges would offer a free education for Californians from Kindergarten through community college in order to provide an educated workforce and that while straying from that goal (tuition is now $20 a unit), community colleges provide the most cost-effective opportunity for Californians to achieve higher education goals, even while having to withstand huge funding cuts this year and last, making it more difficult to provide access for all Californians; and
WHEREAS, community college students have been hit particularly hard with the current economic crisis and in addition to the tuition are hard pressed to pay for books, transportation, lodging and food while enrolled in classes and previous large increases in tuition have resulted in hundreds of thousands of students being priced out of college; and
WHEREAS, some Republicans in the California legislature have been advocating that community college students be hit with a 200% increase in tuition, to $60 a unit, balancing the budget on the backs of poor and middle class community college students, while at the same time opposing even minor increases in revenue from large corporations;
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party opposes the massive tuition increase plan pushed by some Republican legislators and urges that any increase in tuition be modest and in no event more than the 3% increase; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party communicates this resolution to all Democratic members of the state legislators and constitutional officers, the Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges, and urges each Democratic County Central Committee to communicate this resolution to both the Democratic trustees and the student body presidents of the local community college districts.
Submitted by John Hanna (AD 71)
Adopted July 19, 2009

**Resolution Number BRGL09.01**

**Opposing the Closing of California State Parks**

WHEREAS, the governor has proposed cutting funding for 220 California state parks, resulting in the relatively small savings of $149 million from the state’s tax-based General Fund, which represents slightly more than one-tenth of one percent of the
state’s total General Fund budget, and eliminating the Department of Parks and Recreation and closing all 279 state parks would fill less than one percent of the budget shortfall; and
WHEREAS, state parks are a critical piece of California’s travel and tourism industry serving more than 75 million visitors every year, generating more than $6.5 billion (based on a 2002 study) in total output and new sales for private businesses from visitor spending, the tax revenue from that spending generates $2.34 in General Fund revenue for the state for every dollar of General Fund monies received by state parks to operate, will cost the General Fund more than $350 million in lost revenue, and have dire and devastating effects on local economies dependent on tourism around state parks; and
WHEREAS, the governor then proposes to reopen the parks after three years, meaning that the state would have to hire and train new rangers, maintenance staff, environmental scientists, etc., and then carry the enormous costs associated with the repair of broken water lines, windows, holes in roofs, fallen trees, overgrown roads and trails, etc., and the costs become astronomical;
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party opposes closing California state parks and strongly urges California legislators and the governor of California to pursue increasing revenues rather than cutting funding to the California state parks; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party will forward this resolution to Speaker Karen Bass, Pro Tem Darrell Steinberg and all California Democratic state legislators.
Submitted by Sonoma County Democratic Party, Stephen Gale, Chair
Adopted July 19, 2009

Resolution Number SAC09.61
Project Labor Agreements
WHEREAS, The California Democratic Party supports the California Labor Federation, AFL-CIO, and the California Building and Construction Trades Council, AFL-CIO, and both California District Councils of Carpenters, in promoting (1) a local skilled workforce; (2) economic prosperity and a safe workplace for local workers; (3) the economic base of the communities where government-funded projects are undertaken, thereby ensuring that government is not lowering the standard of living; and (4) accountability for construction contractors in paying livable wages, providing health care and retirement benefits, and hiring local workers; and
WHEREAS, Project Labor Agreements have proven to be the most effective and only legal method for (1) requiring contractors to provide health care to construction workers on a public works project such as a school bond-funded capital improvement project, and (2) requiring that workers from local communities or from impoverished neighborhoods be employed on public works projects; and
WHEREAS, President Barack Obama, on February 6, 2009, signed an executive order encouraging all federal agencies to consider Project Labor Agreements for facility, highway, or other construction projects of significant value—stating that they would establish clear workplace rights, safety procedures on large construction projects, and taxpayer protections;
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party applauds and supports decisions by (1) San Diego Unified School District and other local public entities to negotiate with local building and construction trades council, AFL-CIO and Carpenters Union Locals in Project Labor Agreements like Proposition S and other public and private entities that have entered into Project Labor Agreements; and (2) other agencies and developers who decide in the future to negotiate Project Labor Agreements in order to improve the standard of living for local construction workers and to create accountability standards for contractors; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party continues to (1) express its public support of agencies and developers that negotiate Project Labor Agreements; and (2) to educate and ask that candidates for elected office who seek the endorsement of the California Democratic Party also support Project Labor Agreements.
Submitted by Albert Velasquez, AD 79; San Diego County Democratic Party, Jess Durfee, Chair
Adopted July 19, 2009

Resolution Number ANAL08.01
Protect A National Sacred Trust
WHEREAS, the property on which the Los Angeles National Veterans Home is located was irrevocably deeded to the nation 120 years ago by John P. Jones and Arcadia de Baker as a place dedicated for the "sole purpose of providing veterans a place to heal from war;" and
WHEREAS, the Department of Veteran Affairs has awarded a contract for a 16-acre portion of that land to the Veterans Park
Conservancy, not a veterans organization but a local community organization, for use to develop a memorial park, in the Conservancy’s words, "for the enjoyment and education of the entire community;" and

WHEREAS, a public park, despite its value to the whole community, is inconsistent with the exclusive use for veterans envisioned by the donors, and the trust conveyed in their deed to the United States;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party joins The American Legion, Veterans United for Truth, Inc., the National Veterans Coalition, the Gathering of Eagles, We the Veterans, the American GI Forum, Military Spouses For Change and Veterans For Common Sense, among others, along with hundreds of thousands of veterans and their families, to support an immediate halt to any giveaway of any of the Los Angeles National Veterans Home property, either to a non-veterans organization or for any non-veteran-related purpose; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party convey this resolution to the California Democratic Congressional Delegation, including U.S. Representative Henry Waxman (D CA-30), in whose district the property falls, and Representative Bob Filner (D CA-51), the Chairman of the House Veterans Affairs Committee, and U.S. Senators Dianne Feinstein and Barbara Boxer.

Sponsored by Sanford Cook LTCOL US Army Ret, AD 33; Bob Handy HMC USN Ret, Chair, CDP Veterans Caucus; Senator Art Torres (Ret.), former CDP Chair; Los Angeles Democratic Party (PARTIAL LIST)

Adopted July 19, 2009

Resolution Number SAC09.32
Providing Financial Assistance To Farmers Who Wish To Transition Their Farms From Conventional To Certified Organic

WHEREAS, a number of farmers in California want to transition their farms from conventional farming to certified organic farming, but have not done so because of the initial costs associated with making the transition; and

WHEREAS, if financial assistance to help cover some of these initial costs were available to California farmers, a number of California farmers would then choose to transition their farms to certified organic; and

WHEREAS, providing financial assistance to California farmers who wish to transition from conventional to certified organic farming would thus assist California farmers and promote a progressive result;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party supports providing financial assistance to California farmers transitioning their farms from conventional to certified organic, thereby, facilitating more California farmers making this transition and promoting a progressive result; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party transmit copies of this resolution to the Speaker of the Assembly, the Senate President pro Tem, and each California Democratic Assemblymember and Senator.

Submitted by: Yannick A. Phillips, Ex-officio Alternate, Sonoma County Democratic Party; Paul Apffel, Executive Board Member, Marin County Democratic Party; Maria Peluso, Chair, Sonoma County DCC Issues & Legislation Committee; Stephen Gale, Chair, Sonoma County Democratic Party; San Benito County Central Committee; Los Angeles County Democratic Party

Adopted July 19, 2009

Resolution Number SAC09.27
Recognizing Equine Therapy As A Legitimate Medical Service

WHEREAS, equine therapy has been proven to provide effective treatment for individuals with muscular dystrophy, cerebral palsy, post-traumatic stress disorder, eating disorders, depression, autism, stroke and many other conditions; and

WHEREAS, equine therapy is currently not covered as a codable, billable expense in medical health plans as physical therapy, occupational therapy, or mental health treatment; and

WHEREAS, this denies effective medical equine therapy treatment to persons with disabilities who cannot afford to pay for these treatments with their own money, creating a class of underserved individuals unable to get the health services they need;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party supports a requirement that medical insurance companies add equine therapy to their billable expense in the areas of physical therapy, occupational therapy, and mental health; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party urges Legislators to actively work to have equine therapy
included as billable medical expenses through inclusion in proposals for health care reform, or through other means, in cooperation with representatives of the disabled community.
Submitted by the CDP Disabilities Caucus, August J.P. Longo, Chair
Adopted July 19, 2009

Resolution Number SAC109.01
Reform Of The National Labor Relations Act
WHEREAS, "agricultural laborers" and "domestics" were specifically excluded in 1935 when Congress passed the Wagner Act; and
WHEREAS, the Obama administration will be looking to reform the National Labor Relations Act; THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party supports the efforts of the Obama Administration to include farmworkers and domestics in the reform of the National Labor Relations Act.
Sponsored by Palm Desert Greens Democratic Club, Charlie Ara, President
Adopted July 19, 2009

Resolution Number SAC09.58A
Relief From No Child Left Behind Expenditures
WHEREAS, over the past two years the California state budget cut education funding by more than 11 billion dollars and the federal stimulus money is only a temporary one-time solution to ease these budget cuts; and
WHEREAS, No Child Left Behind (NCLB) has produced many unintended and unfavorable consequences for students, parents and educators across the country; and
WHEREAS, NCLB imposes requirements on school districts and demands actions from those districts while providing inadequate funding for those mandates, and there has been little public focus on the fact that the cost to implement programs designed to meet NCLB compliance standards would take thousands of dollars per student more than currently funded; THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that in these financially difficult times, with our public schools in dreadful financial straits, the California Democratic Party recognizes that it is unconscionable to require our schools to continue funding NCLB compliance activities, and that any reauthorization of NCLB should require Congress to listen to the voice of educators in developing legislative proposals, and that for this reason, the California Democratic Party proposes that public school educators be given the opportunity to provide meaningful input to NCLB reauthorization including advocating for adequate resources so as to not encroach on local school funding; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party calls upon the California Democratic Delegation to the United States Senate and House of Representatives to insist that passage of education policies at the federal level be fully funded.
Submitted by Tom Olson, President, Northern Solano Democratic Club
Adopted July 19, 2009

Resolution Number SAC09.68
Secure The Labeling Of Genetically Engineered Food
WHEREAS, people have the right and need to be aware of the contents of their food, just as they have the right and need to be aware of the risks, benefits and alternatives to medical treatment which is recognized and provided for by the doctrine of informed consent; and
WHEREAS, public health and consumer groups are concerned that genetically engineered crops have already contaminated native and related species and that genetically engineered seeds can be spread nationwide, 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 potential health hazards, and potential environmental and ecological disasters;
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party declare support for federal regulations requiring labeling of all foods that include genetically engineered ingredients in their manufacture; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party go on record as supporting mandatory labeling of food for human consumption, which has genetically engineered ingredients in its manufacture.
Resolution Number BRG09.13
Single-Payer Health Care Reform
WHEREAS, President Barack Obama has affirmed again and again that he wishes to enact health care reform that includes a public government-run insurance plan, and having a window of opportunity now where dramatic change is possible with the majority of Americans, doctors and nurses supporting a single-payer healthcare system; and
WHEREAS, Congress is being presented with new, competing and conflicting reform ideas, with private insurance companies wanting health-care reform to earn them maximum profits if they start covering millions of uninsured Americans, but are not willing to abide by the fair rules, oversight and cost containment that Americans deserve; and
WHEREAS, Congress is beginning to debate legislation to restructure the nation’s health-care system, with the aim of delivering a bill to President Obama by mid-October;
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party reaffirms the principle of single-payer health care as an attainable goal, and urges the California Democratic Congressional Delegation to take the lead in supporting the single payer model and to work to bring about permanent cost reduction and universal, affordable and excellent health care for all; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that if Congress does not pass single-payer health care, that instead, at a minimum, the law will include a provision ensuring that states maintain the ability to enact truly universal health care through a state-based, single-payer health plan, specifically with an amendment that authorizes state waivers to the Employment Retirement Income Security Act (ERISA), in order to enable single-payer states to collect funds directly from employers and continue to collect funds from the appropriate federal programs.
Sponsored by: Region 10 Delegates: Susan Broidy; Cheryl Conway; Stew Jenkins; Gabriel Zacaria; Hilda Zacarias; Chris Lanier; Sylvia Navarro; Cleo Navarro; Dorothy Reik; Joseph O’Neill; Cleofas Navarro; Sylvia Navarro; Penny Strowger; Sandy Emberland
Adopted July 19, 2009
Resolution Number SAC09.53
Spending Of Federal Economic Renewal Grants To California
WHEREAS, Congress has approved and President Obama has signed into law a taxpayer-sponsored economic recovery package that will provide billions of dollars to help economically devastated cities and states immediately provide jobs to millions of out-of-work Americans through considerable infrastructure rebuilding, green energy projects and other projects that will require manufactured components; and
WHEREAS, any domestically produced products that are purchased with economic recovery plan monies will immediately help struggling American families and will help stabilize our greater economy; and
WHEREAS, any economic recovery plan spending should – to every extent possible – include a commitment from the State of California to buy materials, goods and services for projects from companies that are produced within the United States, thus employing the very workers that pay taxes for the economic recovery in the first place;
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that California will work to maximize the creation of American jobs and restore economic growth and opportunity by spending economic recovery plan funds, to every extent possible, on products and services that both create jobs and help keep Americans employed; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that California commits to purchasing only products and services that are made or performed in the United States of America whenever and wherever possible with any economic monies provided to the State of California by the American taxpayers, and also commits to publish any requests to waive these procurement priorities so as to give the American workers and producers the opportunity to identify and provide the American goods and services that will maximize the success of our nation’s economic recovery program.
Sponsored by Robert “Big Red” Rankin; Bobbie Thompson; Hector De La Torre; Los Angeles County Democratic Party (PARTIAL LIST)
Adopted July 19, 2009
Resolution Number BRGL09.13
Support A Public Option In Health Care Reform
WHEREAS, President Obama’s call for Congress to pass a health care reform package represents the best chance of
improving our health care system in a generation; and
WHEREAS, the goal of health care reform should be expanding health coverage to every American, ensuring the long-term fiscal solvency of Medicare and Medicaid, preventing rising health care costs from crippling our government and economy, and improving health care outcomes across the board; and
WHEREAS, short of the best solution -- creating a single-payer plan -- no health care reform can be successful in these goals without the creation of a true public option, similar to Medicare, open to all Americans, that competes with private insurance and utilizes low administrative costs, rate bargaining with providers and pharmaceutical companies, and technological cost-savings measures to improve efficiency;
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party supports a Medicare-style single payer health care system; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that should the Congress move forward with a non-single payer health care system, the California Democratic Party strongly supports the inclusion of a government run, Medicare-style, public option health insurance plan that permits the federal government to negotiate reduced prices for medical care and prescription products and the California Democratic Party will forward this resolution to our California U.S. Senators, California Democratic Congressional Delegation, the Secretary of Health and Human Services and President Barack Obama.
Sponsored by Los Angeles County Democratic Party; Democratic Party of the San Fernando Valley
Adopted July 19, 2009

Resolution Number SACL09.06
Support California Gray Whale Study And Protection
WHEREAS, the California Gray Whale is a specialist feeder and highly vulnerable to climate change and resultant impacts to the species’ primary arctic feeding grounds – critical habitats now covered by oil and gas leases; and
WHEREAS, there have been inconsistencies in population estimates and a failure of the Bush Administration to adequately fund comprehensive California Gray Whale studies and counts over the past eight years;
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party supports the Appropriations Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice Science and Related Agencies’ direction to the National Marine and Fisheries Service to contract with the National Academy of Sciences to conduct a study to determine if the California Gray Whale should be determined under the Endangered Species Act of 1973 to be an endangered or threatened species.
Sponsored by Gail Slocum, Delegate, AD 21; CDP Environmental Caucus
Adopted July 19, 2009

Resolution Number SACL09.03
Support Encasing The New River
WHEREAS, the Democratic Party consistently champions the well-being of all citizens by seeking to build healthy, livable and sustainable communities;
WHEREAS, the New River that transverses the international border between Mexicali, Mexico and Imperial County has been declared the most polluted river in the United States; this denies the citizens of Imperial County a healthy and environmentally livable condition; and
WHEREAS, per the existing treaty between the United States and Mexico to improve the health of both communities, it is the responsibility of the United States government to encase the New River at the border for approximately three miles to the north, and as Mexico has already encased the New River on its side of the border, it is time for the United States Government to do the same for Imperial County residents;
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party supports this resolution to improve the quality of life for the Citizens of Imperial County; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution be circulated to Democratic state legislators in the region.
Submitted by Imperial County Democratic Central Committee, Antonio P. Tirado, Chair
Adopted July 19, 2009

Resolution Number BRGL09.04
Support Inclusion Of Sexual Orientation and LGBT Couples In The Federal Census
WHEREAS, the 2010 United States Census will not ask respondents about their sexual orientation or count same-sex marriages, but rather will ask all same-sex couples to list their status as “unmarried partners;” and
WHEREAS, the U.S. Census serves as a record of our American population in all its permutations, provides visibility for
underrepresented minority groups, and has profound policy implications in areas including healthcare and federal funding decisions; and

WHEREAS, the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender community represents an important segment of American society, with a unique set of political needs, and thus should not be relegated to invisible status in the most comprehensive accounting of the American public;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party calls on the Congress to pass, and the President to sign, an act adding a question to the U.S. Census form identifying “sexual orientation,” and allowing committed LGBT couples to categorize their relationship as marriage or life partnerships for the 2010 census and for every census thereafter; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution shall be relayed to the California Congressional Delegation, Senators Boxer and Feinstein, House Speaker Pelosi, and Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid.

Sponsored by Los Angeles County Democratic Party; Democratic Party San Fernando Valley

Adopted July 19, 2009

Resolution Number BRG09.10
Support Local Control of Mobile Home Park Rent and Vacancy Ordinances

WHEREAS, mobile homes constitute an important housing resource for an estimated 700,000 low-income and elderly residents of California; and

WHEREAS, under existing California law, local municipalities may develop mobile home space rent and vacancy stabilization laws where such ordinances are deemed by the municipality to be in the best interest of their communities, and to maintain the affordability of mobile home space rentals while assuring park owners of a just and reasonable rate of return; and

WHEREAS, depriving cities and counties of the right to enact mobile home space rent and vacancy control ordinances will negatively impact the value of existing mobile homes; will cause numerous low-income and senior mobile home owners to lose significant equity in their single greatest asset; and may destabilize the mobile home mortgage portfolios of lending institutions, making it difficult for them to continue to offer affordable mobile home mortgages in California;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party supports local control of mobile home rent and vacancy stabilization ordinances and actively opposes any legislation that would deprive California municipalities of this authority; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party will communicate this position to each individual Democratic member of the state Senate and Assembly, and will strongly encourage them to oppose any legislation to deprive California’s cities and counties of the power to enact mobile home rent and vacancy stabilization laws.

Sponsored by Gila Jones, 73rd AD; Richard Blackstone, Central Vice Chair, CDP Rural Caucus; Chuck Carpenter, Chair, Contra Costa Democratic Party; Barbie Deutsch, Western Vice Chair, CDP Rural Caucus; Lucy Sells, Vice Chair, CDP Senior Caucus; Lori Vandermeir, Southern Vice Chair, CDP Rural Caucus; DSCC members and E-Board representatives of CDP Region 20

Adopted July 19, 2009

Resolution Number BRG09.14
Support National Wild and Scenic River Designation for the Mokelumne River and Oppose Expansion of Pardee Reservoir

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, hard-rock 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, 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.
Sponsored by Tillman Sherman, Chairman, Calaveras County Central Committee; Randy Bayne, Chairman, Amador County Central Committee; Sally Trestrail, Amador County Central Committee; Katherine K. Evatt, Foothill Conservancy
Adopted by the Executive Board
Of the California Democratic Party
At its Executive Board Meeting
Crowne Plaza Hotel, Burlingame
July 19, 2009

Resolution Number SAC09.22A
Support Property Tax Fairness
WHEREAS, the assessment system for non-residential commercial property in California represents a huge failing in our tax system, costing local governments and schools billion of dollars annually and allowing corporations and other non-residential commercial property owners to avoid realistic reassessment until their property changes hands; and
WHEREAS, the under-assessment of large commercial properties for property tax purposes encourages cities and towns to rely instead on sales taxes which leads to big-box retailing projects and sprawl and because commercial property tax assessment is constrained by law, homeowners are paying an increased share of the property tax burden, which is estimated to be as much as 25% higher for homeowners and raising their share of property taxes from 32 to 40%, while large commercial properties benefit from under-assessment; and
WHEREAS, it is grossly unfair for homeowners and small business owners to pay such an increasingly larger share of California’s property taxes while large commercial properties go virtually untouched by regular assessments when a fair system of assessment for such properties could provide billions in additional revenue for California’s under-funded cities, counties, schools, hospitals, police, firefighters, community colleges, universities, libraries, public transit and other local government services;
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party supports a property tax system within California that would make large corporations and big businesses pay their fair share of property taxes while assuring that small businesses and farms are not overburdened and that residential properties and homeowners maintain their current legal assessment protection of no more than a 2% rise annually.
Submitted by the Resolutions Committee
Adopted July 19, 2009

Resolution Number BRG09.16
Support U.S. Service Members and Oppose Mercenaries in Combat
WHEREAS, private military contractors (mercenaries such as Blackwater/Xe Corporation) involved in combat have less training, are less accountable, and cost more than U.S. service members; and
WHEREAS, service members and veterans deserve to receive adequate financial compensation, educational assistance, re-entry counseling, health and disability benefits; and
WHEREAS, the California Democratic Party can bring a policy perspective that has not been heard from the Republican Party and demonstrate true advocacy for our military service members and families;
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that private military contractors, who are involved in combat, be banned from serving in U.S. military operations by the end of 2010; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the money saved by ending military contracts with private companies, who are involved in combat, shall be spent on increasing pay to U.S. service members, training service members in applicable job skills, providing complete G.I. Bill educational benefits, helping new veterans reintegrate into civilian life, improving the care provided in V.A. hospitals, and streamlining the V.A. application process.
Sponsored by Beth and Navid Ehsan, Mickey and Holly Foster, Sal Magallanez, Mike Copass, and Dr. Michael McQuary; San Diego Progressive Democrats of America-Metro Chapter and the La Jolla Democratic Club
Adopted July 19, 2009
**Resolution Number BRGL09.11**

**Support Victims of Age Discrimination**

WHEREAS, in difficult economic times, companies have financial incentives to discriminate against older, higher-paid employees when making employment decisions concerning promotions, demotions, layoffs and the like; and

WHEREAS, the Age Discrimination in Employment Act of 1967 (ADEA) makes it unlawful for an employer to take adverse action against an employee “because of such individual's age,” and when the exception of “a reasonable factor other than age” is raised against an individual claim of discriminatory treatment, the employer bears the burden of showing that the “reasonable factor other than age” exists factually; and

WHEREAS, the Supreme Court has recently limited the ability of older Americans to claim discrimination based on age by putting the burden of proof on employees to show, by a preponderance of the evidence, that age was the "but-for" cause of the challenged adverse employment action, even when there is evidence that age was a motivating factor;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party urge Congress to take action to remedy the actions of the Court and make it clear that discrimination based on age is unacceptable and where there is evidence of such discrimination the burden of proof is on the employer to show that it would have taken the action regardless of age; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution be forwarded to the California Congressional Delegation and Senators Boxer and Feinstein.

Sponsored by Roz Teller (AD43) and Craig Athon (AD49); Los Angeles County Democratic Party

Adopted July 19, 2009

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**Resolution Number BRG09.56**

**Support Workers’ Compensation Death Benefit Claim**

WHEREAS, there has been a situation where a workers’ compensation death benefit claim was unfairly denied to a family because it was alleged that the deceased “had a previous relationship” with her attacker because she was African-American and the attacker had indicated earlier in the day of the attack that he would kill the first black person he saw; and

WHEREAS, the victim had no previous relationship with her assailant, did not know the killer and was attacked only because she was African-American; and

WHEREAS, such an egregious reason for denying a workers’ compensation benefit should never happen again;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party fully endorses the concept that no workers’ compensation shall be denied solely because the motivation behind what caused the employee’s death was related to an immutable personal characteristic of that employee; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party transmits a copy of the approved resolution with a letter of support to every Democratic legislator in the State.

Submitted by Bob Schelen, Chair, Yolo County Democratic Central Committee

Adopted July 19, 2009

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**Resolution Number BRGL09.08**

**Support for Irish Unification**

WHEREAS, the logic of history, international law, human rights and peace dictate the reunification of the island of Ireland [Eire], and the reality of the moment -- the Good Friday Agreement and the development of the All-Ireland institutions of governance -- attest to this momentum; and

WHEREAS, in the past the California Democratic Party and the State Legislature adopted the MacBride Principles for Northern Ireland and strongly endorsed passage of the Good Friday Agreement among the previously warring parties, in part because of the dedication of President William Jefferson Clinton, his administration, and Senator George Mitchell in seeing it to fruition; and

WHEREAS, the contribution of the Irish-born, and Irish Americans to this state, nation, and the Democratic Party are legion;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party strongly supports Irish Reunification and urges both the State Legislature and the California Democratic Congressional delegation to support all peaceful actions that support the final reunification of the island of Ireland by all electoral and diplomatic means necessary; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Democratic members of the California Congressional Delegation, the Democratic members of the State Legislature, the President and Vice President of the United States and the U.S. Secretary of State.
Resolution Number SAC09.82
Support the Expansion of Medicaid Family Planning Services
WHEREAS, during these difficult economic times, states are being forced to cut their safety net health care programs just as more and more families need access to quality, affordable health care and allowing states to provide primary care and family planning services to women under Medicaid without having to obtain a federal waiver is a proven-effective approach to expanding coverage for basic, primary health care services, while at the same time generating significant cost savings for states and the federal government and would give states the option to establish parity between eligibility for pregnancy-related care and eligibility for family planning services under Medicaid; and
WHEREAS, allowing states to provide primary care and family planning services to women under Medicaid without having to obtain a federal waiver would simply allow states to expand their Medicaid family planning services, including cancer screenings and other preventive care, to more women in need, without having to go through the burdensome Medicaid waiver process and despite the proven success of Medicaid family planning expansions, the cumbersome waiver application and renewal process (running on average 22 months) delays implementation and wastes state resources; and
WHEREAS, under current law, women of child-bearing age are not eligible for Medicaid coverage until after they become pregnant, unless they are disabled or they have children who are enrolled in Temporary Assistance for Needy Families. However, because most low income women cannot enroll in Medicaid until they become pregnant, states, including California, have had to obtain waivers from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services to provide primary care and family planning services to low income women of child bearing age before they become pregnant;
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party calls on the California Congressional Delegation and President Obama to respond to this crisis by allowing states to provide primary care and family planning services to women under Medicaid without having to obtain a federal waiver, and extend basic health care to millions more women.
Submitted by Lyn Shaw-Hilfenhaus, Chair, CDP Women’s Caucus and Democratic Women of the San Fernando Valley
Adopted July 19, 2009

Resolution Number SAC09.02
WHEREAS, during a Texas State House Elections Committee hearing on voter identification held on April 7, 2009, Republican State Representative Betty Brown remarked that voters of Asian-descent should adopt names that are easier to deal with for Americans, stating: “Rather than everyone here having to learn Chinese...Do you think that it would behoove... you and your citizens to adopt a name that we could deal with more readily here;” and
WHEREAS, Representative Brown’s statement that Asian-Americans should deny their heritage in order to participate in the American electoral process is both racially insensitive and intolerant and reflects a total disregard and lack of understanding for the fundamental American tenet of equal rights and treatment under the law for all Americans; and
WHEREAS, America, as a nation of immigrants, has always celebrated its diversity as its greatest strength, thus making our country a beacon of democracy across the globe, and statements by elected officials such as Representative Brown’s serve to undermine our nation’s leadership and standing in the eyes people around the world;
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party uphold the principles of equality and nondiscrimination and demand a full apology from Texas State Representative Betty Brown for her racially insensitive and intolerant remarks and that the Texas State House censure State Representative Betty Brown; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution be transmitted to Texas State Representative Betty Brown, the Texas State Legislative Leadership, the Texas Democratic Party, the media, and other interested parties.
Sponsored by Clark Tien Jan Lee; (AD 60); Mike Fong (AD 45); Arnold Tai Jan Lee (AD 60); Eric Bauman, LACDP Chair (AD 43); Adam Seiden, LACDP Executive Director (AD 40); Assemblymember Mike Eng (AD 49); Hon. Henry Pei Ting Lo (AD 49); Masato Muso (AD 38); Vannarith Tamom (AD 60); Los Angeles County Democratic Party
Adopted July 19, 2009

Resolution Number BRG09.06A
The California State Budget

WHEREAS, California faces a budget shortfall that today exceeds $24 billion and may yet grow larger and these deep cuts will have potentially devastating effects on real Californians who depend on the state for public safety, education, healthcare and social services and may also undermine our economic recovery and President Obama's investment in economic stimulus; and

WHEREAS, the Democratic Party and Democratic elected officials are committed to protecting those who are at greatest risk and most dependent on the state for essential government services, and Democrats have always stood up for the people of California, fighting to guarantee funding for critical services and programs; and

WHEREAS, the tyranny of the Republican legislative minority and the political weakness of California’s lame duck Governor have time and again conspired to block adoption of reasonable budgets and sources of new revenue and are holding the state hostage to advance their partisan and individual political agendas without regard for those most vulnerable and impacted by their actions and, in addition, falsely claim that the people of California rejected the raising of new revenues by defeating the initiatives in May whereas polls show this was not the case;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party calls on all Democratic legislators to stand firmly united to uphold the values of the Democratic Party and resist an all-cuts budget, to reject those compromises that would cause long term injury to our state and its people, to speak out for fair ways of raising revenue, to call attention to those in the legislature who would decimate these programs and to just say “NO” to the Governor and Republicans in the State Legislature when asked to cut critical programs for children, the elderly and the disabled; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party pledges to provide the strength needed by our leaders in Sacramento by helping to mobilize support for a sensible budget solution and that this resolution be sent to all Democratic members of the California Legislature.

Sponsored by Santa Clara County Democratic Century Committee; Los Angeles Democratic Party; Region 10 Delegates: Susan Broidy; Cheryl Conway; Stew Jenkins; Gabriel Zacarias; Hilda Zacarias; Chris Lanier; Maureen Cruis; David Atkins; Leah Herzberg; Pam Reinking; Linda Sutton

Adopted July 19, 2009

Resolution Number SAC 09.18A

A Call for Hearings & Reaffirmation of the Party’s Support of a Moratorium on the Death Penalty

WHEREAS, the California Commission on the Fair Administration of Justice was established in 2004 and has undertaken a thorough review and analysis of the death penalty in California; and

WHEREAS, the Commission determined that California's death penalty system, instituted by a 72% yes vote of the California electorate in 1978, is plagued with excessive delays in the appointment of qualified counsel and review of habeas petitions and a high rate of granting of new penalty hearings. The Commission found that failures in the administration of California's death penalty law create cynicism and disrespect for the rule of law, increase the duration and costs for confining death row inmates, weaken any possible deterrent benefits of capital punishment, increase the emotional trauma experienced by murder victims, and delay the resolution of meritorious capital appeals; and

WHEREAS, the Commission recommended the California legislature address the unavailability of qualified attorneys by increasing funding for the Office of the State Public Defender, the California Habeas Corpus Resource Center and Office of the Attorney General; adequately compensate private counsel assigned to these cases and fully reimburse counties for defense services; further, the Commission did not recommend retention or abolition of the death penalty but did offer two alternatives available to California to reduce the costs imposed by California’s death penalty laws; reducing the number of death penalty cases by narrowing the list of special circumstances that make one eligible for the death penalty and second, replacing the death penalty with a maximum penalty of lifetime incarceration without the possibility of parole; THE THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party supports the recommendations of the Commission as noted above and also urges that hearings be conducted to address the two alternatives the Commission put forth to reduce the costs of California’s death penalty system; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party reaffirms its support for a moratorium on the death penalty in California.

Submitted by the Resolutions Committee

Adopted April 26, 2009

Resolution Number SAC09.88
Calling for the Investigation of Judge Jay Bybee and Others for Their Role in Allowing Torture as Part of “Enhanced Interrogation”

WHEREAS, former Assistant Attorney General and current Federal Judge of the Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit Jay Bybee, signed the “Bybee Memo” or “Torture Memo” of August 1, 2002, which advised the C.I.A. that “cruel, inhuman or degrading” treatment was at times allowable under U.S. law, and authored, co-authored and signed other memos on “extraordinary rendition” and “enhanced interrogation,” more of which are being currently revealed to the American public as the new administration brings them to light; and

WHEREAS, the Convention Against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman, or Degrading Treatment, ratified by the U.S. Senate in 1994 and as such considered the supreme law of the land under Article VI of our Constitution, requires the prosecution of those who authorize torture, and it has been established that waterboarding is torture; and

WHEREAS, on January 15, 2009 before leaving office, President George W. Bush, in an effort to cover his culpability, and the culpability of others, had his Office of Legal Counsel in the Department of Justice issue a memo stating that certain opinions issued in 2001–2003 with respect to “the allocation of authorities between President and Congress in matters of war and national security do not reflect the current view of this Office;”

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party supports resolution of inquiry and vigorous investigation of these and related actions by the Congress of the United States, including the full use of Congressional subpoena power authority and all appropriate remedies, to disclose completely the possible criminal actions of Judge Jay Bybee and others to the American people and to take necessary and available action with appropriate remedies and punishment allowed by law; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be sent to the Office of the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, the Chair of the House Judiciary Committee, and the Majority Leader of the United States Senate, and that copies of the resolution be sent to each Democratic member of the California delegation to the United States Senate and House of Representatives.

Submitted by John Heaner, Agi Kessler, Thom O'Shaughnessy, Russell Lynn, Wanda Hargrove, Karen Bernal; Los Angeles County Democratic Party (Partial List)

Adopted April 26, 2009

Resolution Number SAC09.46C
Credit Card Regulation and Interest Rate Capping

WHEREAS, California lacks regulations governing credit card billing cycles, timely notification of changes in credit card terms, and permissible fees and penalties; and is one of only 29 states that does not cap credit card interest rates; and

WHEREAS, changing California’s credit card usury laws to cap interest rates and set payment and fee guidelines may increase the use of California banks and lending institutions by consumers; and

WHEREAS, unregulated credit card usury provides the greatest hardships to working families and other vulnerable citizens;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party supports the establishment of an 18% interest rate cap for credit cards issued by California banks and lending institutions; regulatory statutes to set reasonable limits on fees and penalties; guidelines for billing cycles; and requirements for timely notification of changes to interest rates, minimum payments and billing cycles; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party will communicate this position to all Democratic State Legislators and request that they create or sponsor appropriate legislation to revise the California usury laws.

Submitted by Craig J. Beauchamp (Author); Democratic Party of Orange County, Central Committee; 68 AD PAC, Harvey Milk Stonewall Democrats of Orange County, Patrick Henry Democratic Club (Partial List)

Adopted April 26, 2009

Resolution Number SAC09.02
Designating May 22 as “Harvey Milk Day”

WHEREAS, Harvey Milk was born on May 22, 1930 and settled in the Castro District of San Francisco, California in 1972, and was a community leader and an early advocate of equal rights for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people (LGBT), and in 1977 was elected as the District 5 Supervisor for the City and County of San Francisco, becoming the first openly gay elected official of any large U.S. city; and

WHEREAS, Harvey Milk, during his term as Supervisor, successfully passed an important gay rights ordinance and was instrumental in defeating Proposition 6, which would have banned gays and lesbians from teaching in California public
WHEREAS, Harvey Milk was assassinated in 1978, cutting short a life that would have been devoted to the ongoing fight for
gay rights and denying the people of California and the nation the benefits of his passion and vigorous advocacy on behalf of
the LGBT community;
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party strongly supports designating May 22 as “Harvey Milk
Day” and we encourage all Californians to support meaningful discussion and dialogue about the accomplishments of Harvey
Milk and the contributions he made to the State of California, and to advance tolerance, acceptance, and equal rights for all.
Submitted by Bob Muholland; California DNC Members (Partial List)
Adopted April 26, 2009

Resolution Number SAC09.03
Expressing Thanks to President Obama for His Review of Bush Policies
WHEREAS, liberals, progressives, radicals, moderates and many conservatives have been worried that the recent Bush
Administration was taking this country in the wrong direction and that we have been occupying the moral low ground; and
WHEREAS, many Democratic organizations have asked President Barack Obama to revoke many of President George W.
Bush’s regulations and abandon many of his policies which have harmed American science, the economy, the environment,
wildlife and our nation’s reputation; and
WHEREAS, the Obama Administration has taken swift action to suspend the Bush Administration’s “midnight regulations,”
revoke the Mexico City policy, and take enlightened positions on conflict of interest, energy policy, environmental policy, ethics
standards, freedom of information policy, labor policy and torture;
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party send a letter of appreciation to President Barack
Obama encouraging him to continue his good work; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that members of the Democratic State Central Committee be encouraged to send individual
letters of appreciation and encouragement.
Submitted by Craig Athon (Author); Los Angeles County Democratic Party
Adopted April 26, 2009

Resolution Number SAC09.29
Health Care Reform
WHEREAS, access to quality health care is essential for the good health and productivity of every American citizen and
qualifies as a human right, not a privilege; and
WHEREAS, the steadily increasing cost of accessing health care is causing financial individual hardships, bankruptcy, and
mortgage foreclosures, causing business to be uncompetitive in the world market and making it difficult to decrease the
national deficit; and while the U.S. spends more than any other industrialized country for health care, the U.S. has
demonstrably inferior outcomes, even for the insured; and
WHEREAS, the current commercial market model mediated by private health insurance corporations must function to create
profits for the companies, their administrators and shareholders, creating an unavoidable conflict-of-interest between
promoting quality health care and maximizing their profits and currently diverts up to 25% of the insurance premium dollar
from medical services and leaves 46 million people uninsured;
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party supports the establishment of a universal, single-payer,
national health care system in the United States; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that such a system be publicly financed and privately delivered with automatic enrollment of all
residents (regardless of age, status of employment, pre-existing condition, or income level) allowing people to choose from
any licensed health care provider, providing all appropriate medical services including preventive education, dental care,
mental health care, long-term in-home care, and affordable prescription medications.
Sponsored by Margaret Budd, Dr. Michael McQuary, Mike Copass, Jerry Malamud, Ethan James Soutar-Rau, Anita Simons,
Jeffrey B. Gordon, MD MPH, and the La Jolla Democratic Club’s Focus For Change Health Care Issue Group; Los Angeles
County Democratic Party; (Partial List)
Adopted April 26, 2009

Resolution Number SAC09.01
Honoring Senator Art Torres (Ret.) for 13 Years as CDP Chair
WHEREAS, in February 1996, Senator Art Torres (Ret.) began serving as the Chairman of the California Democratic Party
and was subsequently elected as Chair in 1996, 1997, 2001 and 2005, resulting in an unmatched tenure of 13 years, which included presiding over countless county and local events, 15 state conventions, 26 executive board meetings, the largest and most diverse state delegation at four national conventions and an astonishing nine election cycles where Democrats maintained and increased a Democratic majority in the State Legislature, the Congressional Delegation and the majority of all statewide offices; and

WHEREAS, prior to becoming Chairman of the California Democratic Party, Art Torres served with distinction for twenty years in the California State Legislature, eight as an Assemblymember and twelve as a State Senator, sponsoring “Universal Health Care” and creating the most successful high school anti-dropout law in California’s history, as well as the legislation creating the Museum of Tolerance in Los Angeles, and Proposition 65, the historic California Clean Drinking Water Act, and has been a longtime leader in the Latino community, fighting for better representation and more rights for the state’s large and important Latino population; and

WHEREAS, Senator Torres was unanimously voted in March 2009 by the 29-member board of the California Institute for Regenerative Medicine (CIRM), the state stem cell agency, to serve as Statutory Vice-Chair of the Independent Citizens’ Oversight Committee (ICOC), where he will continue his patients’ rights advocacy on behalf of all citizens;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic State Central Committee Members (2009-2011) sincerely honor and thank Chairman Torres for serving with grace, humor, and dedication these past 13 years and wish him all the best in his future endeavors.

Submitted by the 2,900 Members of the Democratic State Central Committee (2009-2011)
Adopted April 26, 2009

Resolution Number SAC09.37
In Support of a Majority Vote State Budget

WHEREAS, the California Constitution contains provisions requiring a two-thirds vote of the Legislature for passage of the State budget that are undemocratic and obstructionist; and

WHEREAS, there is a long history of overdue budgets and the recent budget crisis has made more apparent the inefficiency and impropriety of these provisions; and

WHEREAS, late budget passage can have a sudden and devastating effect on individuals and families who are deprived of essential governmental services;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party reconfirms its support for a simple majority vote of the legislature to send a state budget to the Governor; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party takes action to help this measure get the approval of the voters as soon as possible.

Submitted by: John Burton; Shawnda Westly; Tim Blood; Christine Spagnoli; Larry Strick; Lea-Ann Tratten; Steve Preminger; Los Angeles County Democratic Party (Partial List)
Adopted April 26, 2009

Resolution Number SAC 09.13
Military and Veterans Outreach

WHEREAS, Democrats have been at the forefront of supporting our troops and veterans, believing that to be consistent with opposition to certain military actions such as the 2003 invasion of Iraq; and

WHEREAS, the President and the First Lady have declared Troops, Military Families and Veterans as top priorities; the United States Congress has declared 2009 the “Year of the Military Family” and the California Democratic Party shows support of our President, the First Lady, and the United States Congress in this effort by extending its support to military and veteran outreach and service projects within our communities;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party supports the President, First Lady, and the United States Congress by calling on all Democrats and Democratic Party organizations to reach out to the serving military, military families, and veterans by (1) adopting and supporting a local or national military or veterans agency or nonprofit, and (2) hosting local service days and events to let all military, veterans, and their families know that Democrats honor them, their service and their sacrifice; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party goes on record in support of the “Year of the Military Family 2009” and calls upon all California Democrats and Democratic organizations to create seats at the policy table for
them, and to take active measures to inform the military and veteran communities that the Democratic Party honors their service to our nation and welcomes their active participation.

Submitted by Carla Mays, Benjamin Bates, Dr. Michael McQuary, and the La Jolla Democratic Club’s Focus For Change Military Families and Veterans Issue Group; (Partial List)

Adopted April 26, 2009

Resolution Number SAC09.25

Oil Severance

WHEREAS, California's higher education system, once the gold standard for public universities and colleges, is now straining to maintain academic excellence and commitment to California’s students following years of diminishing financial resources resulting in decreased enrollment, increased student fees, fewer classes, and increased faculty layoffs; and recent budgetary decisions have jeopardized the enrollment of 10,000 students into the California State University system and 2,300 students into the University of California system; and the state can no longer continue to divest in higher education and continually allow for increased student fees, cuts to student services, and denial of access to California’s most qualified and eligible young people; and continuing cuts are predicted that will have California spending more money on prisons than on higher education in the next two years; and

WHEREAS, our community colleges, colleges and universities are vital to our economic engine and have traditionally provided the human infrastructure needed for innovation and creativity making us a global leader in technology, entertainment, health care and other industries; our recent problems have made California fall from 4th to 5th in the number of high school graduates who enter college; and while our commitment to higher education has lagged, concurrently, the need for a college-educated workforce continues to grow, now outpacing the state’s ability to produce such a workforce, a gap projected to widen in the future as 41% of California workers will need a bachelor’s degree to meet economic demand by 2025; and

WHEREAS, California is the only oil-producing state in the union that does not levy a tax on the extraction of oil and natural gas; the state of Texas, which does levy this tax and dedicates the revenue to public higher education, has the largest non-private university fund in the country and has maintained stable funding for Texas public universities for more than a century; and this tax, if levied in California and dedicated to public higher education would provide over $1 billion annually for the CSU, UC and Community College System;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party believes the state should levy an extraction tax on oil and natural gas to directly fund all three segments of public higher education in California and provide educational opportunities to qualified students; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution be sent to all Democratic state legislators asking them to urgently work toward these goals.

Submitted by Assemblymember Alberto Torrico; Assemblymember Fiona Ma; Charu Khopkar; Nick Hardeman; Catalina Hayes-Bautista; Michael Swords; (Partial List)

Adopted April 26, 2009

Resolution Number SAC09.15

Oppose A Top-Two Blanket Primary Proposal

WHEREAS, existing law and the California Democratic Party already allow for Decline-to-State voters to participate in Democratic primaries, including the presidential primary, and this has worked well, leading to several hundred thousand Decline-to-State voters participating in its February 2008 presidential primary and also to a statewide turnout of 57.7% in the February 5, 2008 presidential primary (vs. the Blanket Primary in 2000 when the turnout was only 53.9%), which is the highest since 1980; and

WHEREAS, creating a Top-Two “Louisiana-style” blanket primary, which was rejected by the voters in November 2004 with Proposition 62, will reduce the choice of candidates to just two in the General Election (and in many races just two Democrats), eliminate mandatory party designation on the ballot, force all third-party candidates off the ballot, substantially drive up campaign costs in primaries (further benefitting very wealthy candidates), hurt campaign reform and divert resources away from swing districts and Red counties in the General Elections; and

WHEREAS, the Top-Two blanket primary calls into question local Democratic parties’ rights to support Democrats in local non-partisan races and build farm teams for the future;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party and all its local affiliated Democratic organizations continue to oppose any effort to break up political party nominating primaries; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the California Democratic Party communicate to every media outlet, all Democratic elected officials, Democratic organizations and others that we are opposed to the Top-Two scheme and why it must be defeated. Sponsored by Senator Art Torres (Ret.), Chairman of the California Democratic Party; Former Senate President Pro Tem John Burton; Assemblymember John A. Perez; (Partial List)
Adopted April 26, 2009

Resolution Number SAC09.44
Oppose Governor Schwarzenegger’s Cuts To Children, Seniors and the Disabled in the 2009-2010 California State Budget
WHEREAS, Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger's proposed State Budget for 2009-2010 cuts 230,000 children from the state's CalWorks program, which provides general assistance to the state’s most impoverished children and, in many cases, the adults who care for them; cuts In-Home Supportive Services by $257.6 million, dropping 81,000 low-income seniors and people with disabilities from the program; cuts $1.324 billion in SSI grant payments which helps low-income seniors and people with disabilities meet basic living expenses; and cuts California's public schools, which serve 5.9 million students, by $5.2 billion - a reduction of $875 per student; and
WHEREAS, the 2009 California Democratic Party Platform supports a "guaranteed Cost-of-Living Adjustment (COLA) for CalWorks and SSI/SSP recipients in state and federal budgets," "increased, stable funding, and expansion of service hours that are provided the clients for In-Home Supportive Services," states that “Democrats will fight to set per-student public education funding at a minimum of $1,000 per student above the national average,” and pledges to "fight for public assistance programs which allow individuals to support themselves and their families;” and
WHEREAS, the California Democratic Party has historically supported programs which provide for the basic human needs of all Californians and recognizes cuts to the state’s social services and public education as a cruel attempt to balance the state budget on the backs of the poor;
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party expresses very strong opposition to the Governor's proposed cuts to the CalWorks program, SSI, In-Home Supportive Services and Education, and programs which service the elderly, disabled and children who are most vulnerable in our state; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party sends a copy of this resolution to the Democratic Delegation in the California State Legislature.
Submitted by Susie Shannon (Author), Ilene Haber, John Heaner, Patricia J. Sulpizio, Charles Igwe (Partial List)
Adopted April 26, 2009

Resolution Number SAC09.59
Protect Workers’ Rights to Organize
WHEREAS, in the National Labor Relations Act of 1935, the United States Congress declared it be the policy of the United States to encourage the practice of collective bargaining by protecting the exercise by workers of full freedom of association, self-organization and designation of representatives of their own choosing for the purpose of negotiating the terms and conditions of their employment or other mutual aid or protection; and
WHEREAS, while the National Labor Relations Act was designed to protect and encourage collective bargaining, in reality workers are routinely denied that freedom through harassment, coercion, and intimidation including termination; and
WHEREAS, the systematic denial of workers’ freedom to form and join unions and bargain collectively with their employers for better wages, benefits, and working conditions has contributed to the shrinking of America’s middle-class and a generation-long stagnation of wages;
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the California Democratic Party urges the Congress of the United States to enact federal legislation that would protect and preserve the freedom of America’s workers to organize and join unions by establishing meaningful penalties for violations of a worker's right to join a union, authorizing the National Labor Relations Board to certify a union by majority sign-up and providing for first contract mediation and arbitration; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party transmit copies of this resolution to the Speaker of the House of Representatives and to each Democratic Senator and Representative from California in the Congress of the United States.
Submitted by Tom Aja, Labor Caucus Treasurer, and Jim Gordon, Labor Caucus Chair; Amador, Calaveras, Mariposa, Mono, Placer, Sacramento, San Diego, San Joaquin, Stanislaus, Tuolumne and Yolo Counties
Adopted April 26, 2009
Resolution Number SAC09.80
Senior Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA)
WHEREAS, seniors sixty years of age or older are among the most vulnerable citizens in our country with little opportunity to increase their income; and
WHEREAS, an increase in the Cost-of-Living Adjustments in Social Security helps seniors cope with inflation, it may also cause tremendous hardship to many seniors by eliminating their eligibility for important programs, such as food stamps, housing subsidies and health care benefits on which they depend to provide food, shelter, and medical services; and
WHEREAS, seniors living near or below the poverty level should be protected from being disqualified from entitlement programs when they are granted automatic Cost-of-Living Adjustments in their Social Security payments because they suffer from poverty even with the help of Social Security and other entitlement benefits;
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party urges legislators at the local, state and national levels to protect seniors by adjusting the qualification criteria for entitlements to make them commensurate with the rise in the cost-of-living allowance in Social Security.
Submitted by JR Rose, Wendy Pollitz, Rachel Binah, Val Muchowski, Sheri Hanson, Jeff Tyrell, Ginger Pohlson, Kenny Jowers (Authors) & Mendocino County Democratic Central Committee
Adopted April 26, 2009

Resolution Number SAC 09.20A
Support Same-Sex Couples in Their Right to Marry by Repealing Proposition 8
WHEREAS, the California Democratic Party, the California Senate and Assembly, Democratic County Central Committees and Democratic Clubs throughout California opposed Proposition 8, a ballot measure designed to eliminate the fundamental right of same-sex couples to marry, both before the November election and subsequent to Proposition 8’s passage; and
WHEREAS, the 2008 California Democratic Party Platform states that the CDP stands in “support of the LGBT Community in its quest for the right to legal marriage;” with 2010 providing the most opportune time both to maintain the momentum for marriage equality following the post-Proposition 8 public outcry and to ensure that the top of the Democratic ticket is unified in its support for marriage equality; and
WHEREAS, the constitutional questions and issues raised are now pending before the California Supreme Court, while during the same period the Iowa courts have determined that marriage laws shall be extended to same-sex couples; THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party stands in solidarity with same-sex couples and their fight to retain the right to marry by joining with them in urging the voters of the State of California to repeal Proposition 8 within the next two years, should it be upheld by the Supreme Court; and
THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party send copies of this resolution to elected Democrats in the California State Legislature, the Chair of each Democratic County Central Committee in California and to media contacts to which the CDP sends periodic press releases.
Sponsored by Susie Shannon, John Cleary, Garry S. Shay (Authors); Los Angeles Stonewall Democratic Club; Thomas Patrick O’Shaughnessy; Los Angeles County Democratic Party; (Partial List)
Adopted April 26, 2009

2010
Resolution Number 10-11.05
In Support Of The Removal Of Exclusions For All Medically Necessary Transition Related Treatments For Transgender Californians
WHEREAS, the American Medical Association, American Psychological Association, and World Professional Association for Transgender Health agree that transition related care for transgender and gender non-conforming individuals, including treatments intended to bring a transgender person’s physical body into congruence with their gender identity (including mental health, hormone therapy, and a range of sexual reassignment surgeries), are medically necessary when part of an individual treatment plan developed between a patient and physician; and
WHEREAS, despite this recognition, public and private health insurance plans continue to categorically exclude such coverage, effectively denying transgender Californians their right to access medically necessary treatments despite experiences by the City and County of San Francisco and the UC system that the cost of removing the exclusion was significantly less than anticipated;
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party supports the removal of exclusions for all medically necessary transition related treatments for transgender Californians, especially as access to health insurance is increased via federal health care reform; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party request that the CalPERS system set an example to public and private insurance plans operating in California by eliminating all exclusions of coverage related to gender transition when prescribed by a physician for its members and their dependents.

Submitted by Anna Molander, Democratic Party of Sacramento County; Author: Karen Bernal
Adopted November 21, 2010

Resolution Number 10-11.10
Support Payday Lending Rate Caps
WHEREAS, California’s hard-working families pay almost $400 million in predatory interest rate fees annually to payday lenders, with the loans carrying up to a 459% annual percentage rate, causing the typical borrower to pay $800 for a $300 loan (Center for Responsible Lending); and

WHEREAS, the high costs of payday loans coupled with short repayment periods create a debt trap for most payday loan consumers, with the average borrower taking out nearly one loan per month, generating an inescapable debt spiral (California Department of Corporations), as well as almost doubling the likelihood that the borrower will be forced into bankruptcy (Vanderbilt Law School), and these effects fall disproportionately on low-income communities and communities of color, draining them of much-needed funds (Center for American Progress); and

WHEREAS, the federal Military Lending Act of 2006 caps the APR of loans offered to service members at 36%, a law which, according to the Department of Defense, increased affordable loan options to the military and reduced the need for military debt relief societies’ assistance;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party supports imposing a national cap on payday loans not to exceed ten (10) percent; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be sent to all members of the California congressional delegation.

Submitted by the Santa Clara County Democratic Party
Adopted November 21, 2010

Resolution Number SDL09.06
350 PPM Global Climate Goal
WHEREAS, global climate change endangers the foundation of human civilization by specifically threatening large scale farming, livestock production, fisheries and other wild animal food sources, traditional water supplies, and human habitable zones, due to radical changes in weather conditions and sea level; and

WHEREAS, leading atmospheric scientists, such as James E. Hanson of the NASA Goddard Institute for Space Studies, believe we can prevent the worst effects of global climate change by reducing the concentration of carbon dioxide in our atmosphere to 350 parts per million (PPM); and

WHEREAS, current atmospheric concentration of carbon dioxide is 387 PPM and increasing, the need to rapidly reverse this trend is critical and will require worldwide recognition of the goal 350 PPM;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party recognizes the goal of reducing the atmospheric concentration of carbon dioxide to 350 PPM; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party is committed to reaching the goal of 350 PPM, and will forward this resolution to our California U.S. Senators, California Democratic Congressional Delegation, the head of the Environmental Protection Agency, and President Barack Obama.

Sponsored by: Tony Hale, Treasurer, Environmental Caucus; Luke Breit, Chair, Environmental Caucus; Debra Broner, Vice Chair Environmental Caucus; Beach Cities Democratic Club
Adopted July 18, 2010

Resolution number 10-07.14
Condemning Voter Registration Fraud
WHEREAS, the constitutional right to register to vote with the political party of one’s choice has been a cornerstone of Democracy and a privilege of every American citizen, and it is a felony to deny the right to register to vote for the political party of one’s choice, or to change a voter’s party of choice without the voter’s knowledge and approval; and

WHEREAS, some California voters have had their party switched without their knowledge or approval by unscrupulous
contractors who were paid as much as $15 “bounties;” and
WHEREAS, voter registration fraud should be investigated and prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law;
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party finds the practice of switching a voter’s registered party
to be un-American, unconstitutional and felonious, and calls upon local, state and federal law enforcement to vigorously
investigate and prosecute the individual, corporation, organization, and political perpetrators of this voter registration fraud,
and, if convicted, to demand they be sentenced to the maximum penalty allowed by law; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party send a copy of this resolution to Secretary of State Debra
Bowen, Attorney General Edmund G. Brown Jr. and each county’s registrar of voters.
Sponsored by Los Angeles County Democratic Party
Adopted July 18, 2010

Resolution number 10-07.06e
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.
Sponsored by Resolutions Committee; San Diego County Democratic Party; Los Angeles County Democratic Party
Adopted July 18, 2010

Resolution number 10-07.02
Ensure More Equitable Sentences
WHEREAS, under the California Penal Code, felonies can be either straight felonies, meaning they cannot be charged as or
reduced to misdemeanors, or the felonies are wobblers, which are crimes that can be charged either as a felony or a
misdemeanor; and
WHEREAS, the criminal justice system should have proportionate sentences;
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that public safety can be better served by increasing the punishment for crimes against
victims and decreasing the punishment for non-violent offenders.
Sponsored by Michael Breeden, AD 27; Santa Cruz County Democratic Central Committee
Adopted July 18, 2010

Resolution number 10-07.09b
Infrastructure Funding And Economic Recovery
WHEREAS, the California and National economies are experiencing a Depression-like status regarding jobs and working families’ survival, and the opportunity exists to enhance society by accelerated funding of transportation and infrastructure projects by incorporating federal lines of credit put out by the Safe Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU) and Transportation Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (TIFIA), where local and regional tax increments have passed to pay for such projects; and
WHEREAS, Los Angeles Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa has worked to pass Measure R, which calls for forty billion dollars in transportation projects over the next thirty years to be paid for by local sales taxes, and working with Senator Boxer and Transportation Secretary Ray LaHood, in a program called “30/10” seek this to be the prototype for a national example of local government repaying the federal dollars with a dedicated revenue stream; and
WHEREAS, every billion dollars of construction funds create 47,000 jobs and when spent on local transportation development reduces greenhouse gasses, increases mobility and livability for communities, and the expedited funding could accelerate a national recovery without increased federal debt;
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party calls upon the California Congressional Delegation to support funding this concept and encourage all local governments to apply for these funds where a proven dedicated revenue stream for repayment exists.
Sponsored by Resolutions Committee; Dante Atkins (AD 42)
Adopted July 18, 2010

Resolution number 10-07.05
Oppose Arizona’s Anti-Immigrant Bill
WHEREAS, on April 23, 2010, Arizona Governor Jan Brewer signed Senate Bill 1070, which authorizes local law enforcement to demand proof of legal immigration status from any person suspected of a crime; and
WHEREAS, Senate Bill 1070, which violates human and constitutional rights including equal protection, will encourage racial profiling, create a climate of fear and persecution, and lead to under-reporting of crime and an increase of criminal activity; and
WHEREAS, the Platform of the California Democratic Party calls on Democrats to oppose racial profiling and xenophobic conduct that polarizes communities, and to condemn actions that keep undocumented immigrants in the shadows of our society;
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party denounces the enactment of Senate Bill 1070, urges its immediate repeal, and encourages local governments in California to formally oppose it; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party commends President Obama’s Department of Justice for taking the necessary legal action to overturn Arizona’s unconstitutional state law.
Sponsored by San Diego County Democratic Central Committee; Fresno County Democratic Central Committee Organization
Adopted July 18, 2010

Resolution number 10-07.15
Remove Cuba From The List Of State Sponsors Of Terrorism
WHEREAS, the United States’ list of State Sponsors of Terrorism should be reserved for countries that actually provide critical support to non-state terrorist groups and provide support for acts of international terrorism; and
WHEREAS, Cuba has never supported or performed any acts of terrorism against the U.S. or any other country, and furthermore Cuba fully cooperates with the international efforts and has ratified all 12 United Nations counter-terrorism conventions and has domestic laws that allow the government to track, block or seize terrorists’ assets, and according to the latest State Terrorism report there is no evidence of terrorist-related money laundering or terrorist financing activities in Cuba, and in fact Cuba has been a victim of terrorism;
WHEREAS, under President Obama’s administration several agreements have been signed with Cuba including unlimited travel and remittance for Cuban Americans and drug interdiction and counter narcotics efforts and migration issues are bilaterally discussed;
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party strongly recommends that President Obama and the 111th Congress of the United States remove Cuba from the List of State Sponsors of Terrorism; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Californian Democratic Party send this resolution to President Obama and the California Congressional Delegation.
Sponsored by Regina Carey, AD 6
Adopted July 18, 2010

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Resolution number SDL09.03
Restoration of HIV/AIDS Funding
WHEREAS, Governor Schwarzenegger shocked the HIV/AIDS community by using his veto to cut millions of dollars from the budget, eliminating services, medications, home care, educational programs, testing, counseling and preventive services; and WHEREAS, this has had, and is having, a life threatening effect on those afflicted with HIV/AIDS; THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party strongly request that these dollars be restored and that there further be a strong request that HIV/AIDS funding be protected from further cuts.
Sponsored by Elle Kurpiewski, AD 80; Dan Perdios; AD 80
Adopted July 18, 2010

Resolution number 10-07.08
Support Clean Truck Program
WHEREAS, in 2008 the Port of Los Angeles and Long Beach established a Clean Truck Program based on a concession model and a progressive elimination of older, dirty trucks allowed on port property in order to reduce air pollution; and WHEREAS, the Port of Los Angeles plan also enacted an employee driver provision which greatly increased the effectiveness of the Clean Truck Program by incorporating stronger labor and safety standards; and WHEREAS, enforcement of significant elements of this award-winning program have been undermined or blocked altogether through continuous litigation by industry interests; THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party urge federal representatives to support legislative changes necessary to the Federal Motor Carrier Act to enable local governments to enforce proper environmental, labor and safety standards for trucking interests; and BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party express their endorsement of the Clean Truck Program with the employee driver provision and communicate said endorsement in writing to state and federal government representatives, government agencies and port authorities.
Sponsored by Progressive Democratic Club
Adopted July 18, 2010

Resolution number 10-07.04
Support Goodwin Liu’s Confirmation To The Ninth Circuit Court Of Appeals
WHEREAS, Goodwin Liu is currently the Associate Dean and Professor of Law at the University of California, Berkeley, has practiced private law and clerked on the United States Supreme Court, was educated at Stanford University, Yale Law School and Oxford University as a Rhodes Scholar, and is widely acknowledged by legal peers for his intellectual brilliance as evidenced by the highest possible rating given to him by the American Bar Association; and WHEREAS, if confirmed, Goodwin Liu would be the nation’s only active Asian-American federal appeals judge serving out of 210 total seats, and would greatly enhance the possibility of the first Asian-American appointment to the United States Supreme Court in the future; and WHEREAS, the partisan attempt by the Republican Party to mischaracterize Goodwin Liu’s record and derail his historic nomination is also an attempt to handicap President Barack Obama’s ability to appoint a qualified replacement of his choice for retiring Supreme Court Justice John Paul Stevens; THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that in the interest of promoting intellectual brilliance and diversity in the highest courts of our land, the California Democratic Party urges the Senate Judiciary Committee and United States Senate to fairly and expeditiously confirm President Barack Obama’s well-qualified appointment of Goodwin Liu to the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit; and BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party will send this resolution to the Democratic members of the U.S. Senate Judiciary Committee, Democratic members of the U.S. Senate, and Professor Goodwin Liu.
Sponsored by Clark Lee, AD 60; Jay Chen, AD 58; Mike Fong, AD45; CDP Asian Pacific Islander Caucus Organization
Adopted July 18, 2010

Resolution number 10-07.21L
Support The NAACP And SCLC/LA In Condenning Extremist Racist Elements Within The Tea Party Movement
WHEREAS, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) and the Southern Christian Leadership Conference of Los Angeles (SCLC/LA) have repudiated extremist elements within the Tea Party Movement and called upon the Tea Party leaders to condemn those within their ranks who use racist epithets and anti-gay slurs in their signs,
slogans, actions and speeches; and
WHEREAS, these extremist Tea Party members have displayed signs and placards at Tea Party rallies with the most vile, antagonistic, racial and anti-gay defamatory language and images (i.e. the use of the N-word, anti-Semitic references, homophobic slurs and use of the term slavery); and
WHEREAS, some members of the Tea Party leadership have been reluctant to denounce these members;
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party joins with the NAACP and SCLC/LA in condemning the extremist elements within the Tea Party Movement; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the CDP calls on political parties and candidates for public office to reject and condemn the hateful, inaccurate, racist and inflammatory statements of extremists in the Tea Party and urges them to engage in civil debate about real issues.
Sponsored by Reginald Byron Jones-Sawyer, Sr., Secretary of the California Democratic Party and Darren Parker, Chair of the African-American Caucus
Adopted July 18, 2010

2011

Resolution 11-11.12
A Wall Street Transaction Tax
WHEREAS the economy of California, and the entire nation, was severely damaged in a recession triggered primarily by Wall Street-led investment banks and hedge funds trading in opaque and poorly regulated financial instruments, resulting in a severe contraction of credit and lending, significant loss of revenues to federal, state and local governments, decimation of public and private funds held for pensions and retirement, the loss of millions of jobs, and forcing California and other states into a deepening of annual deficits, devastating austerity measures, layoffs and curtailment of essential services,
WHEREAS Wall Street investment banks, hedge funds and similar entities across the nation currently pay zero sales tax on a host of highly profitable transactions, while in contrast American families dutifully pay sales tax of up to 10% every time they purchase necessities including school supplies and childrenâ€™s shoes; and a small fee on financial transactions could raise hundreds of billions or trillions of dollars in new revenue that could be spent on job creation and reduction of deficits,
WHEREAS such a tax, in various forms, on financial transactions has already been strongly supported in in legislation sponsored by prominent Democrats including both Rep. John Conyers (D-MI) and Rep. Peter DeFazio (D-OR), by labor organizations, including the AFL-CIO and the California Nurses Association, the Congressional Progressive Caucus, and prominent economists Paul Krugman, Joseph Stiglitz and Dean Baker,
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the California Democratic Party supports the establishment of a national Wall Street Transactions Tax on securities transactions, including but not limited to speculative trading, high-speed flash trading, and derivatives, and exempting tax-deferred retirement accounts of U.S. citizens, pension plans, and similar payroll savings plans.
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this resolution be transmitted to all members of the California Democratic Congressional delegation for further action.
Sponsored by Pacific Beach Democratic Club, Michael Copass, Ira Robinson, Derek Casady
Adopted November 20, 2011

Resolution 11-11.17
Commend The End Of The War In Iraq
WHEREAS the United States has been involved in two long-term unsustainable wars in Afghanistan and Iraq, adding over $1 trillion to our national debt, and
WHEREAS the Democratic Party recognizes the tremendous human costs borne by our men and women in uniform, their families, and their communities across the nation, and
WHEREAS President Obama campaigned on a promise to end the Iraq war by 2012 as a Presidential candidate in 2008, and President Obama recently announced that the United States will withdraw all troops from Iraq by the end of 2011,
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the California Democratic Party recognizes, and strongly commends President Obama's promise kept to the nation to end the Iraq War by 2012.
Sponsored by Chairman John Burton
Adopted November 20, 2011
Resolution 11-11.26L
Corporate Accountability In Elections
WHEREAS, corporations are one of the primary spenders in electoral campaigns, spending ten to twenty times more money on elections than labor, the environmental community and other Democratic constituencies combined, and
WHEREAS, corporate interests are, for the third time in recent memory, attempting to silence the voices of working families once and for all by making it illegal for labor unions to collect dues through payroll deductions.
WHEREAS, payroll deductions are the primary source of funding for labor's electoral advocacy campaigns while corporate funding for electoral activity does not originate from payroll deductions but rather from billions of dollars in corporate profits which would remain at their disposal thereby making this business as usual for corporations but ending labor's ability to support candidates and fight big business at the ballot box.
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the California Democratic Party strongly supports the corporate accountability measures that would partially level the playing field by requiring executives to obtain shareholder approval before making any political contributions and by requiring contributions to be listed on corporate websites with failure to do so constituting a misdemeanor offense.
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, a copy of this resolution will be sent to all Democratic statewide elected officials and members of Congress and the State Legislature.
Sponsored by Chairman John Burton
Adopted November 20, 2011

Resolution 11-11.09
Extend Unemployment Benefits
WHEREAS, the United States is continuing to face a crisis with a 9.1% unemployment rate in September 2011, and with the long-term unemployed continuing to seek work, but many reaching the end of their maximum possible 99 weeks of unemployment without being able to find employment; and
WHEREAS, President Obama has proposed the American Jobs Act, which would get Americans in every corner of the country working again, and put more money back into the pockets of middle-class families and small businesses, but due to Republican opposition, such relief will be delayed for some time; and
WHEREAS, an extension of unemployment benefits would not only spur economic growth, but would also provide a much-needed life-line while we work to create jobs,
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party supports all efforts to extend unemployment benefits by fourteen weeks for current and long-term jobless workers, especially those who have reached the end of their 99 weeks of unemployment benefits,
AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party transmits this support to all members of the California Democratic Congressional Delegation.
Sponsored by Congresswoman Barbara Lee and Chairman John Burton
Adopted November 20, 2011

Resolution 11-11.4
WHEREAS, the California Democratic Party believes that health care is a human right and not a privilege and as such all Californians should have affordable access to health care, including pharmacy care which is among the most important and most easily accessed services in the health care system, and according to the National Community Pharmacists Association a proposed merger of 2 of the largest pharmacy benefit managers, Express Scripts Inc.(ESI) and Medco, would result in the combined company controlling more than 40% of prescription drug volume and 60% of mail-order prescription volume with the potential to reduce competition from community pharmacies, and that this merger could reduce competition; and
WHEREAS, pharmacy benefit manger companies serve a valuable role in restraining the price of prescription drugs by negotiating discounts with large pharmaceutical manufacturers on behalf of employers, unions, and consumers; and
WHEREAS, many Californians rely on community pharmacies for their medication needs as well as other preventative health services such as screenings and immunizations and community pharmacies provide an important, easily accessible source of care in medically-underserved areas of urban and rural California, and some community pharmacies fear they could be squeezed out by the potential mail-order emphasis of the new combined company, making those patients with limited English proficiency and in need of immediate medication especially vulnerable,
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party calls upon the Federal Trade Commission to determine whether the Scripts/Medco merger will have anti-competitive effects on the market and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that copies of the resolution be forwarded to Democratic members of the California Congressional Delegation and the Federal Trade Commission. 
Sponsored by Sunny Zia, AD 70 
Adopted November 20, 2011

Resolution 11-11.19L
Honoring Gerald W. McEntee, President, AFSCME
WHEREAS, in 1981, Gerald W. McEntee was elected International President of the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME) and has served in that position for the past thirty years, more than doubling the AFSCME membership to 1.6 million households, leading the fight to assure public workers have a voice on the job, spearheading the successful effort to stop President Bush's plan to privatize Social Security, and advocating for diversity and inclusion within the American labor movement, evidenced by his efforts to win equal pay for women, health care and family leave for all workers, a voice in the workplace for all people, regardless of age, race, color, religion or sexual orientation; and
WHEREAS, as a Vice President of the AFL-CIO and chair of the Political Education Committee, co-chair of Health Care for America NOW!, and co-founder and chairman of the Economic Policy Institute, Gerald W. McEntee is the preeminent voice for working Americans, the nation's leading advocate for our nation's vital public services, and the labor movement's principal architect in maximizing the political and electoral strength of working families; and
WHEREAS, prior to assuming the presidency of AFSCME, Gerald McEntee began his distinguished career as a labor leader in Pennsylvania in 1958, leading the effort to organize more than 75,000 Pennsylvania public service employees - at the time the largest union mobilization in history, and was subsequently elected Executive Director at the founding convention of AFSCME Council 13 in Pennsylvania, and in 1974 was elected as an International Vice President of AFSCME;
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party proudly honors and thanks Gerald W. McEntee for his lifelong dedication to working families throughout the United States, and his tenacious, bold, and visionary leadership of the American labor movement, and wish him all the best in his future endeavors.
Sponsored by Willie Pelote and Chairman John Burton 
Adopted November 20, 2011

In Support Of Eliminating The Time Limit For Ratification Of The Equal Rights Amendment
WHEREAS, while several notable judicial victories protecting women's rights have been achieved, these victories do not rest upon a constitutional foundation, and therefore remain vulnerable to weakening or repeal; and present day women, of all generations, continue to face gender discrimination in many deep socioeconomic ways; and
WHEREAS, the Equal Rights Amendment, passed by Congress in 1972, would have become the 27th Amendment to the Constitution if 38 states had ratified it by June 30, 1982, at which time 35 states had ratified the ERA, which stated: "Equality of rights under the law shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any state on account of sex"; and in its stead, the 27th amendment, concerning Congressional pay raises, went to the states in 1789, but reached the 38 state goal only in 1992, a 203-year ratification period; and
WHEREAS, the 1972 Congressional ERA contained a time limit only in the proposing clause, and not in the text of the amendment itself; and the ERA language ratified by the 35 states did not contain a time limit for ratification; 
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the California Democratic Party supports federal legislative action to eliminate the time limit for ERA ratification, thereby maintaining the legal viability of the ERA and the existing 35 state ratifications, and that ERA shall be part of the Constitution whenever ratified by three additional states; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the California Democratic Party will distribute this resolution to all members of the California Democratic delegation in the House and Senate. 
Sponsored by David Sonneborn and Chairman John Burton 
Adopted November 20, 2011

Resolution 11-11.13
Proper Treatment For Individuals With Traumatic Brain Injury
WHEREAS, those harmed while on the job, such as Congresswoman Gabrielle Giffords, are able to receive full care for traumatic brain injuries because they are insured by worker's compensation, which provides the breadth of rehabilitation needed for recovery; and
WHEREAS, more than 360,000 US servicemembers return home from Iraq and Afghanistan with traumatic brain injuries yet are unable to receive the breadth of treatment needed for recovery; and
WHEREAS, 5.3 million people, or 2% of the U.S. population, suffer from the long term effects of traumatic brain injuries, and only a few insurance companies cover the breadth of therapies, including cognitive, occupational, physical, and speech, needed to return our citizens to a productive life;
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party supports enhanced benefits, including cognitive, occupational, speech, and physical therapy, of doctor-directed duration and intensity, as recommended by the American Medical Association, for our servicemembers, both in active service and as veterans, and as a minimum standard for all health insurance, as defined by the Affordable Care Act (ACA);
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party call on the California Democratic Congressional delegation and Senators Boxer and Feinstein to author legislation to ensure these benefits are available to our veterans and support efforts to ensure the definition of traumatic brain injury be included as an essential health benefit under the ACA Regulations for US citizens and additionally refer to the Democratic National Committee.
Sponsored by Alyson Abramowitz, CDP Disabilities Caucus
Adopted November 20, 2011

Resolution 11.11.18L
Protect A Strong And Viable US Postal Service
WHEREAS we need to fight to protect a strong and viable United States Postal Service for the millions of customers in the state of California.
WHEREAS, we agree that we should protect the jobs of the 108,000 Postal Service employees in the State of California, especially during the deepest recession in over 70 years.
WHEREAS, six-day mail delivery service is essential to the day to day functioning of thousands of businesses in the state of California.
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT, The California State Democratic Party hereby opposes any move to reduce postal delivery services in rural and urban areas or by reducing the United States Postal Service to 5 days and
FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, that the California State Democratic Party requests the Democratic Members of the California Congressional Delegation take the same position against reducing postal delivery to 5 day a week.
Sponsored by John Beaumont
Adopted November 20, 2011

Resolution 11-11.20L
Resolution Congratulating Ohio Labor Community For Repealing Anti-Collective Bargaining Law
WHEREAS, working families across the U.S. have found themselves under relentless assault by Republican elected officials such as Governor Kasich (R-Ohio), Governor Walker (R-Wisconsin) and their corporate backers, and
WHEREAS, the results of the 2010 national elections were wrongly interpreted by the GOP as a license to roll-back hard fought worker protections throughout the U.S. and resulted in numerous state-specific initiatives designed to punish working families, and
WHEREAS, earlier this month, Ohio voters rejected the centerpiece of Governor Kasich’s conservative agenda by repealing a law that restricted the right of public employees to bargain collectively.
THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the California Democratic Party congratulates the men and women of Ohio’s labor community and the We Are Ohio coalition for soundly defeating Governor Kasich’s anti collective bargaining initiative; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party will commit itself to an absolute defense of working families and their right to participate in and advocate for candidates and political parties of their choosing here in California.
Sponsored by Chairman John Burton
Adopted November 20, 2011

Resolution 11-11.11
Resolution To Support Federal Efforts To Require Internet-Only Retailer To Collect Sales Tax
WHEREAS, In 1992 the Supreme Court ruled that on-line retailers that did not have a physical nexus (presence) in a state were not required to collect sales tax in order to give competitive advantage to this new industry, and
WHEREAS, On-line retailers like Amazon, the largest on-line retailer in the world, no longer need this competitive advantage and mislead the public who then think they are not responsible for paying this sales tax and deprive California of this needed
revenue and put California's brick and mortar and on-line merchants who do collect sales tax at a severe competitive disadvantage resulting in a loss of revenue, employment opportunities and property taxes, and
WHEREAS, other on-line retailers such as Barnes and Noble, Wal-Mart, Best Buy and Target do collect on-line sales tax, and
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, The California Democratic Party supports Federal efforts that will correct this problem by creating a simple nationwide system of state and local sales tax collection evenhandedly applied to all sellers, no matter their business model, location or level of remote sales. and
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, The California Democratic Party requests that the Democratic delegation to Congress do everything within its means to will overturn the "physical presence" requirement and support a system that is fair and does not unduly burden small merchants and send this Resolution to our State and Congressional delegations and issue a press release about this action.
Sponsor: Carole Lutness, 38th AD
Adopted November 20, 2011

Resolution 11-11.08
Resolution On Social Security, Medicare And Medicaid
WHEREAS, Social Security is a great pride to America and the Democratic Party and is funded entirely out of the contributions of workers and their employers; and it is a social insurance program protecting against poverty in old age, loss of income due to disability, or the death of a spouse or parent; and
WHEREAS, Medicare protects seniors from catastrophic health problems which would otherwise bankrupt them and their families, and Medicaid is a nationwide safety net that ensures that people who fall through our complex and inadequate health care system will have health care, and s also the provider of long-term living solutions for many disabled and/or senior Americans, and
WHEREAS, the problem with our healthcare system is neither Medicare nor Medicaid, but that as a nation, we have not come to terms with our need for a national healthcare system such as a single-payer system, which would cut costs in a far more meaningful fashion, without harming our most vulnerable people, and
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party calls on all Democrats to reject any and all attempts to cut Social Security, Medicare or Medicaid, including but not limited to increase in eligibility age, chained-CPI, privatization in any form, or decreases in funding; and
THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party has a responsibility to preserve these American treasures which are the right of all citizens of this country, and therefore calls upon our Democratic Party to consider it a duty and privilege to protect and defend the integrity of Social Security against any individual or organization who would seek to diminish its presence in our society.
Sponsored by: Margie Metzler and Karen Bernal.
Adopted November 20, 2011

Resolution 11-11.27L
Support Oil Severance Tax To Raise Revenue For General Fund And Higher Education
WHEREAS, despite continued good faith efforts on the part of elected Democratic leaders to work across the aisle to shrink the state's budget deficit, California continues to face a budget shortfall with the possibility of additional service cuts to public safety, as well as the elderly, blind and disabled, on the horizon, and
WHEREAS, California's higher education system, once the gold standard for public universities and colleges, is now straining to maintain academic excellence and commitment to California's students following years of diminishing financial resources resulting in decreased enrollment, increased student fees, fewer classes, and increased faculty layoffs resulting in student protests throughout the state, and
WHEREAS, California is the only oil-producing state in the union that does not levy a tax on the extraction of oil and natural gas; even the state of Texas levies this tax; if levied in California, it would provide over $1 billion annually,
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party believes the state should levy an extraction tax on oil and natural gas and that two-thirds of the revenue raised as a result of the oil severance tax be directed to California's general fund with the remaining one-third directed to funding higher education, and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution be sent to all Democratic statewide elected officials, members of Congress and of the state legislature.
Sponsor: Chairman John Burton
Adopted November 20, 2011

**Resolution 11-11.06B**

Support Of Occupy / 99% Movement

WHEREAS, the overwhelming influence of corporate interests on public policy and institutions - exacerbated by greed, mismanagement, and corruption - has caused catastrophic levels of income inequality, financial distress, environmental harm, climate crisis denial, and other injustices felt by the overwhelming majority of Americans, the 99%, and WHEREAS, the wealthiest 1% of Americans, and their corporate interests have acquired a concentration of wealth and power that is unparalleled in the history of our nation, and this concentration of wealth and power in the hands of the few has resulted in tremendous economic and social instability that has most recently manifested in the "Occupy Wall Street" and "Occupy City" protests, and WHEREAS, the Occupy protestors, particularly those who have advocated their cause using non-violent means, have served to focus attention on the inadequate regulation of the financial industry, the damage inflicted by the absurd and misguided obsession with deficit reduction and the pressing need to reverse three decades of accelerated income inequality, all goals that we fight for in the electoral arena; and THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party stands with those protestors peacefully exercising their First Amendment rights to advance an agenda that results in adequate regulation of the financial industry and Wall Street speculators, reverses the catastrophic slide of income inequality and halts the implementation of austerity-driven economic policies that negatively impact the 99% and BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party supports the protesters' constitutional rights to free speech and peaceful assembly, and calls on public agencies to protect their rights fully and encourages California Democrats to support local occupy protests throughout the state as well as the movement encouraging individuals to transfer their funds to community banks and local credit unions.

Resolution Committee Substitute - Additional sponsors: State Party Controller Hilary Crosby, San Diego County Party, Jess Durfee, Michael Thaller, Sonoma County Democratic Party, Stephen Gale, Los Angeles County Party, Kess Kessler, Damian Carroll, DPSFV, Dr Michael McQuary

Adopted November 20, 2011

**Resolution 11-11.25L**

Swift Congressional Action To Support Economic Recovery

WHEREAS The United States is experiencing the worst economic downturn since the Great Depression, and with 14 million workers unemployed and many losing their skills and connection to the work force as their unemployment persists, we risk lasting damage to the economy, and WHEREAS the President has proposed and the Senate has introduced the American Jobs Act, which includes many components that have had traditional bi-partisan support including: rebuilding our aging infrastructure, modernizing our schools, employing teachers and first responders, and extending unemployment insurance benefits, including on-the-job training and entrepreneurship opportunities in unemployment insurance, providing tax benefits to employers adding workers, increasing wages, hiring veterans and hiring long term unemployed workers, and paying for these programs through small tax increases on incomes over a million dollars,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the California Democratic Party supports the goals of the American Jobs Act, and calls on all Congressmembers to support the American people by passing legislation such as the American Jobs Act.

Sponsor: Marcia Schneider, DPSFV

Adopted November 20, 2011

**Resolution 11-11.01**

The California Democratic Party Stands Behind President Obama

WHEREAS, President Barack Obama was elected President during one of the most difficult periods in United States history with the collapse of the economy including the housing industry, the stock market and the banking system and when he took office he found the country saddled with the debt that had been piled up by President George W. Bush whose administration had not only wiped out the substantial surplus left by the Clinton Administration but fought two wars off budget without raising the necessary taxes to pay for them, and WHEREAS, President Obama took immediate steps, working with a Democratic House and Senate, to save the US financial and banking system from collapse and acted to stimulate the economy with the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act,
increased spending on infrastructure, saved the US auto industry and the millions of jobs associated with that industry, and promoted a number of other policies to save jobs and businesses throughout the country, and passed an historic health care plan that will enable almost all Americans to receive insurance coverage and is holding steadfast to his promise to withdraw all combat troops from Iraq by the end of 2011, and
WHEREAS, President Obama has over and over again reached out to the Republican Party to partner with them as he sought to promote policies to create jobs, to seek additional revenue to bring down the Federal deficit and to fashion policies that will enable the United States to recover from these historic economic hardships but he found the Republicans in Congress to be obdurate and stubborn in their unwillingness to cooperate on these necessary policies and they even went so far as to threaten the United States with a default on our debts and obligations which led to the lowering of the credit rating of our great nation,
NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party commends the President of the United States, Barack Obama, for his valiant attempts to rescue the United States from these catastrophic economic times and urges him to continue to fight for the principles and policies of the Democratic Party which stand for opportunity, economic justice and fairness for all and to continue not only to reach out to ordinary Americans to explain what we must do to restore prosperity but to hold the Republican Party accountable before the American people for its recalcitrance and unwillingness to invest in the future of America.
Sponsors: Renea Wickman and Darren Parker - amended by Emily Thurber/Resolutions Committee
Adopted November 20, 2011

Resolution 11-11.09
Timely FEMA Funding
WHEREAS, natural disasters occur in odd places, such as volcanic eruptions in Washington, earthquakes in Virginia, hurricanes in Vermont, floods in Arizona, and tsunamis in Oregon; and
WHEREAS, the severity of these occurrences cannot be foreseen; and
WHEREAS, the victims of tornados, floods, hurricanes, earthquakes, etc. need immediate government assistance and not from funding which comes after extended deficit reduction negotiation,
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party supports fully funding FEMA disaster relief and opposes holding up needed federal aid to disaster victims whose needs are immediate and can’t wait for pending deficit reduction negotiations, and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party informs the California Democratic Congressional Delegation of this position.
Author: Craig Athon, 49th AD/LACDP
Adopted November 20, 2011

Resolution Number 11-04.64
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
Adopted July 31, 2011

Resolution Number 11-04.54
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
Adopted July 31, 2011

Resolution Number 11-07.03
Adopt Single Member District Election In At Large Electoral Districts That Under Represents 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
Adopted July 31, 2011

Resolution Number 11-04.24
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
Adopted July 31, 2011

Assault Weapons and Extended Clip Ban
Resolution Number 11-04.19
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
Adopted July 31, 2011

Resolution Number 11-07.35L
CDP Statement On July 22, 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
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party extends its deepest and most heartfelt1 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.
California Democratic Party Resolution To Request That USDA Reclassify The Light Brown Apple Moth and End Quarantines of California Farmers

Resolution Number 10-07.03

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
Adopted July 31, 2011

Resolution Number 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.
Adopted July 31, 2011

Resolution Number 11-04.77

Congratulating The Protestors And Activists 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
Adopted July 31, 2011

Countermanding Citizens United vs Federal Elections Commission
Resolution Number 11-04.83

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
Adopted July 31, 2011

Resolution Number 11-07.10
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
Adopted July 31, 2011

Resolution Number 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 irreparable 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
Adopted July 31, 2011

Resolution Number 11-07.16
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
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
Adopted July 31, 2011

Resolution Number 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
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
Adopted July 31, 2011

Resolution Number 11-07.30L
In Support Of Grocery Workers
WHEREAS, labor unions have historically been at the forefront of worker's rights, benefitting 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
Adopted July 31, 2011

Resolution Number 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
Adopted July 31, 2011

Resolution Number 11-04.57
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
Adopted July 31, 2011

Resolution Number 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
Adopted July 31, 2011

Resolution Number 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
Adopted July 31, 2011

Resolution Number 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 1 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.

Adopted July 31, 2011

Resolution Number 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.

Sponsored by LACDP
Adopted July 31, 2011

Resolution Number 11-04.51
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.
**Resolution Number 11-04.75**

**Opposing Religious Intolerance 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

Adopted July 31, 2011

**Resolution Number 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.

Sponsored by LACDP, Stephen Gale, Sonoma County Democratic Party

Adopted July 31, 2011

**Resolution Number 11-04.06**

**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
Adopted July 31, 2011

Resolution Number 11-04.17
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
Adopted July 31, 2011

Resolution Number 11-04.13
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
Adopted July 31, 2011

Resolution Number 11-04.81
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 Adopted July 31, 2011

Resolution Number 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 inhuman 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.
Sponsored by the Sonoma County Central Committee. Additionally sponsored by the LACDP. Adopted July 31, 2011

Resolution Number 11-04.33
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
Adopted July 31, 2011

Resolution Number 11-07.33L
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
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 18th 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.

Submitted by: Craig J. Beauchamp, DPOC Resolutions Committee
Adopted July 31, 2011

Resolution 11-04.76
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
Adopted July 31, 2011

Resolution Number 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
Submitted by: Igor Tregub, AD14 DSCC Delegate
Adopted July 31, 2011

Resolution Number 11-04.27
Resolution In Support Of Homeless Youth Housing

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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, 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 LGBTQ 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
Adopted July 31, 2011

Resolution Number 11-04.05
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
Adopted July 31, 2011

Resolution Number 11-04.21
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
Adopted July 31, 2011

Resolution Number 11-04.49
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

Adopted July 31, 2011

Resolution Number 11-07.28
Resolution to Support Tax Collection by Online 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 retainer 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

Adopted July 31, 2011

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.

Adopted July 31, 2011

Resolution Number 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
Adopted July 31, 2011

Resolution Number 11-07.23
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
Adopted July 31, 2011

Resolution Number 11-07.17
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
Adopted July 31, 2011
Resolution Number 11-04.56
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
Adopted July 31, 2011

Resolution Number 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
Adopted July 31, 2011

Resolution Number 11-07.22
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
Adopted July 31, 2011

Resolution Number 11-07.06
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.
Adopted July 31, 2011

Resolution Number 11-04.43
In Support Of Planned Parenthood
WHEREAS, Planned parenthood is "rooted in the courage and tenacity of American women and men willing to fight for women's health, rights, and equality"; and
WHEREAS, Planned Parenthood, which opened its first clinic in 1916, has played a significant role in the history of health care of women, giving access to affordable family planning and preventative health care services; and
WHEREAS, Planned Parenthood is under attack by Republicans who are waging a war against women by trying to cut health care services for women and take away the rights of women to control their own bodies;
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the CDP goes on record supporting the extraordinary work of Planned Parenthood and its commitment to providing quality health care for all women, regardless of income; and
THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party will go on record as opposing cuts to Planned Parenthood and will ask every Democratic Congressional legislator to stand firm and continue to oppose cuts to these vital services for women.
Submitted by Karen Weinstein. Sponsored by: East Bay Young Dems Democratic Club, Region 6, Madera County Central Committee, Stanislaus County Democratic Central Committee, Placer County Democratic Central Committee and many others
Adopted May 1, 2011

Resolution Number 11-04.84
Oppose Arizona's Anti-Immigrant and Anti-Ethnic Studies Bills
WHEREAS, on April 23, 2010, Arizona Governor Jan Brewer signed Senate Bill 1070, which authorizes local law enforcement to demand proof of legal immigration status from any person suspected of a crime; and HB 2218, which prohibits the teaching of Ethnic Studies in K-12 schools; and
WHEREAS, Senate Bill 1070, which violates human and constitutional rights including equal protection, will encourage racial profiling, create a climate of fear and persecution, and lead to under-reporting of crime and an increase of criminal activity; and
House Bill 2218 has been used by the Superintendent of the public school system in Arizona to target the Raza Studies program in Tucson and outlawed its teaching in the Tucson Unified School District, despite the fact that students in the Raza Studies program graduate at a higher rate than do other students in Arizona and the test scores of these students also surpassed the scores of other students in Arizona; and
WHEREAS, the Platform of the California Democratic Party calls on Democrats to oppose racial profiling and xenophobic conduct that polarizes communities, and to condemn actions that keep undocumented immigrants in the shadows of our society;
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party denounces the enactment of Senate Bill 1070 and House Bill 2218, urges their immediate repeal, and encourages local governments in California to formally oppose it; and
THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party commends President Obama's Department of Justice for taking the necessary legal action to overturn Arizona's unconstitutional state law SB 1070; and commends the educators who support the teaching of Ethnic Studies and upholding academic freedom in their federal lawsuit against HB 2218.

Authors/Sponsors: Mary Rose Ortega and the CDP Resolutions Committee, San Diego County Democratic Central Committee; Fresno County Democratic Central Committee Organization

Adopted May 1, 2011

Resolution Number 11-04.65
Protect The Ocean
WHEREAS, California has some of the most beautiful oceans and coasts in the world; from San Diego to Santa Monica, Monterey to San Mateo, San Francisco to the Redwood Coast, and our shores between, California's marine areas are unique gems that define the state; and
WHEREAS, beaches, the Pacific Ocean, and waterways are an essential part of California's economy from tourism and fishing to cruises and sporting events, and they provide free and inclusive access to all Californians. Recreational activities such as surfing, swimming, sailing, boating and countless others are enjoyed by millions of Californians and tourists from around the world; and
WHEREAS, California's ocean, beaches and coasts are threatened by a variety of problems, such as marine debris, offshore drilling, pollution, ocean acidification, and overfishing put a strain on our marine ecosystems and the species that live within them.
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party supports protecting and restoring our waterways by curbing pollution with tough permitting and enforcement, preventing runoff and sewage overflows through investment in green infrastructure, protecting and restoring ocean wildlife and habitat through marine protected areas and sustainable fisheries management and through reduction in the use of plastic bags, polystyrene and other marine debris; 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.
Sponsored by: Assemblymember Fiona Ma
Adopted May 1, 2011

Resolution Number 11-04.91L
Resolution Regarding Marilyn Davenport And Her Cartoon
WHEREAS, The Republican Party is an essential part of the American Political fabric to give expression and rights who believe in their Platform, and
WHEREAS, all American political parties must insist on responsible leadership and maintain an environment of mutual respect and inclusiveness, and
WHEREAS, Orange County Republican Central Committee leader, Marilyn Davenport, has committed an egregious act of depicting President Obama in a cartoon as a Chimpanzee and circulated it on the internet that not only insulted the President but offended African Americans and all fair-minded people who work for an inclusion and justice in America.
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party condemn this cartoon, her action and call on the Republican Party to remove Marilyn Davenport from its leadership,
THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution be forwarded to all state and local elected officials and to the National Republican and Democratic Parties.
Submitted by: Alice A. Huffman, Delegate, CA Dem Party.  Sponsored by: California Democratic Party African American Caucus, New Frontiers Democratic Club, Bobbiejean Anderson, Vice Chair LACDP and Darren W. Parker, Vice Chair Region 1 LACDP
Adopted May 1, 2011

Resolution Number 11-04.26
Resolution In Support Of A California Dream Act
WHEREAS, children should not be punished for the actions of their parents especially on matters where the children do not have a choice; and
WHEREAS, children of undocumented immigrants who grew up in California regard California as the only home they know where they have lived and been integrated into American culture and where many have become top students in California high schools and been later admitted to California colleges and universities, and
WHEREAS, it is of benefit to California to have these students on whom the state already has invested by providing a high school education remain in California for their higher education so they can become productive taxpaying citizens of our state, so
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party supports access for these children to our colleges and universities and to the tuition and scholarship opportunities available to other California students; and
THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party transmit this support to all Democratic Members of the California Legislative Delegation.
Submitted by Mario Beltran
Adopted May 1, 2011

Resolution Number 11-04.08
Resolution On Internet Sales Tax Equity And Compliance
WHEREAS, the nature of commerce and technology has changed and will continue to change in such a way that establishing physical presence to successfully compete in the California retail marketplace, one of the premier marketplaces in the United States because of its wealth, diversity, and population of over 37 million people, can be achieved through a multiplicity of technologies, marketing relationships, and affiliations with marketers operating within the state; and
WHEREAS, old standards of attributing physical presence to determine a retailer's nexus to a particular state in such a way as to extend that state's jurisdiction to enforce its tax laws under the Commerce and Due Process Clauses of the United State Constitution no longer serve to accurately measure the economic activity of the modern internet-connected marketplace available to every Californian with an internet connection whether on their phone, tablet, or at their home or office; and
WHEREAS, the traditional legal measures of physical presence work to create an unlevel playing field between internet-based retailers and California-based retailers, who are rooted and invested in local communities, and those measures are imposed by law and not the economics of a changing marketplace, and serve to artificially starve local economies of precious resources for providing services such as schools, public safety, and infrastructure;
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party supports 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
THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party supports expanding California statutes to the maximum extent permitted under the U.S. Constitution and supports executive branch administrative and legal action to enforce traditional and internet-based retailers' tax compliance.
Submitted by: Chris Parker
Adopted May 1, 2011

Resolution Number 11-04.36
Resolution On Social Security
WHEREAS, Social Security is a great pride to America and the Democratic Party and is neither a welfare nor an "entitlement program" because it is funded entirely out of the contributions of workers and their employers; and
WHEREAS, Social Security is not a retirement program, but an insurance program protecting against poverty in old age, loss of income due to disability, or the death of a spouse or parent; and
WHEREAS, Social Security protects women that are more likely to take time out of the workplace and live longer, but still earn
77 cents for every dollar a man earns, while African American women earn 61 cents, and Latinas earn 52 cents for every dollar earned by a white male;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party call on the California Democratic Congressional delegation and Senators Boxer and Feinstein to challenge the National Commission on Fiscal Responsibility and Reform’s attacks on Social Security by rejecting any and all attempts to cut Social Security benefits including but not limited to privatization, raising of the retirement age and/or decreasing its funding; and

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party has a responsibility to preserve an American treasure which is the right of all citizens of this country, and therefore calls upon our National Democratic Party to consider it a duty and privilege to protect and defend the integrity of Social Security against any individual or organization who would seek to diminish its presence in our society.

Submitted by: Cindy Young
Adopted May 1, 2011

Resolution Number 11-04.14
Resolution On Supporting Workers And Their Right To Collective Bargaining
WHEREAS, California values our public servants who provide healthcare, fight fires, protect our communities, teach our children, keep our roads safe, and care for our elderly and disabled; the economic crisis we face was not caused by California workers but is the result of a global recession and the foreclosure freefall that has hit our state particularly hard; workers have suffered tremendously in this recession and California has an unemployment rate of 12.5 percent, the highest it has been since the Great Depression; attacking workers rights will not help us rebuild our economy or fix our budget deficit; and

WHEREAS, California workers have the right to bargain collectively to ensure that workers have a voice on the job and can work together to try to improve their lives and provide for their families; collective bargaining has a long tradition of bringing labor and management together to resolve problems peacefully and avert labor disputes; collective bargaining is a process that requires both sides to compromise in order to reach agreement and all union benefits were achieved through sacrifices made on other issues; all workers have benefited from the hard-fought gains of the labor movement, including the eight hour day, the weekend to rest, the lunch break, child labor laws and health and safety protection; labor unions helped build the middle class in this country and continue to lead in the fight to keep and create good jobs; the right to organize is essential to a democracy and no democratic nation denies public or private sector workers the right to join a union and bargain collectively; and

WHEREAS, Legislation is pending in several states to strip workers of the right to organize; Wisconsin Governor Scott Walker is attacking the rights of public workers and teachers to engage in collective bargaining, while proposals in other states such as Ohio, Indiana, Florida, Michigan, New Jersey, California and across the nation, take away the rights of construction workers and seek to weaken unions by banning the union shop; these attacks are nothing more than an attack on the American middle class;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party acknowledges the valuable work done by both public and private sector workers in California and the hard times that all workers are facing in this economy; that the California Democratic Party reaffirms the legitimacy of every workers’ right to sit down with their employer in an atmosphere of mutual respect, and that workers in all states must have a basic right to organize and bargain collectively in order to revive our economy and rebuild our middle class; and

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the California Democratic Party calls upon all state legislators to respect public and private employees' collective bargaining rights, be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Wisconsin Governor Scott Walker, California Governor Jerry Brown, all California Democratic Legislators and to all affiliated unions in California. Submitted by Willie Pelote, AFSCME. Sponsored by Chairman John Burton, the California Labor Federation, LA CDP, Diablo Valley Democratic Club, Cañada Crescenta Democratic Club
Adopted May 1, 2011

Resolution Number 11-04.55
Resolution To Support A Main Street Contract For The American People
WHEREAS, America’s workers continue to suffer the highest levels of unemployment in decades, decreasing retirement, healthcare, and housing security and escalating healthcare costs, and wages for American workers have fallen or stagnated for much of the past three decades leading to a decline in living standards for many families; and
WHEREAS, in contrast, Wall Street and U.S. corporate profits for the recent third quarter were, at $1.6 trillion, the highest ever recorded while corporate CEOs, who 25 years ago were paid $27 for every dollar earned by employees now gets a ratio of about $275 to $1, and more than 40 percent of U.S. corporations paid no federal income taxes for two years or more during the period of 1998 to 2005; and some of the largest corporations in America, including Exxon/Mobil, and General Electric, paid no taxes last year, despite billions in profits, and received tax refunds from the IRS; and
WHEREAS, America's workers have been attacked by some of the wealthiest corporations denying workers their right to collectively bargain and organize, and in dozens of states, rightwing governors and legislators are attempting to roll back collective bargaining rights, and make deep cuts in social safety net programs while giving new tax breaks to corporations and super-wealthy individuals, and the House of Representatives is promoting unwarranted deep cuts in federally funded safety net programs; and
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party endorses the Main Street Contract for the American People, which calls for jobs at living wages, guaranteed healthcare, a secure retirement, equal access to quality education, a safe and clean environment, good housing and protection from hunger, human rights for all and an end to discrimination, the right to collectively organize and bargain, and a just taxation system where corporations and the wealthy pay their fair share; THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party opposes any takeaways and regressive taxes on poor and middle income families and calls for an end to blaming public workers for the economic recession and budget deficits caused by Wall Street greed, corporate tax loopholes, and bailouts.
Sponsors: Chairman John Burton; Malinda Markowitz; Co-President, California Nurses Association, National Nurses United
Adopted May 1, 2011

Resolution Number 11-04.78
Supporting The Nonviolent Human Rights And Democracy Movement In Iran
WHEREAS, the Government of Iran has systematically violated its constitutional and international treaty obligations to uphold universal human rights and has undertaken a campaign of violence, persecution, and intimidation against Iranian citizens seeking those rights, including by suppressing free access to the internet; and
WHEREAS, the United States government has taken several positive steps to address the human rights crisis in Iran, by easing U.S. sanctions on non-commercial internet communications software, imposing targeted sanctions on Iranian officials who have committed human rights violations, and supporting the establishment of a Special Rapporteur on Iran by the United Nations Human Rights Council; and
WHEREAS, some United States sanctions and policies continue to have the unintended effect of isolating and punishing the Iranian people, including by blocking the Iranian people from accessing internet communication tools, preventing U.S.-based non-governmental organizations from working directly with the Iranian people to provide humanitarian and human rights assistance in Iran, and imposing unnecessary burdens such as a single-entry student visa policy on Iranians seeking visas to the United States.
THEREfore BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party condemns the ongoing human rights abuses perpetrated by the Government of Iran, supports the establishment of a Special Rapporteur for Iran at the United Nations Human Rights Council to address human rights violations, and encourages the President and Secretary of State to work with international partners to impose targeted multilateral financial and travel sanctions against Iranian government officials who have ordered or carried out human rights abuses against the people of Iran; and
THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party stands with the Iranian people in their century long struggle for democracy and human rights and supports measures to build bridges between the American and Iranian peoples, including by easing restrictions that prevent the Iranian people from accessing internet communications tools and that prevent American non-governmental organizations from providing humanitarian relief to the Iranian people, and by expanding the number and types of visas available to Iranian students.
Author: Sunny Zia. Sponsored by: DPOC
Adopted May 1, 2011

Resolution Number 11-04.87L
Urge Opposition To Free Trade Agreements With Korea And Colombia
WHEREAS, the United States-Korea Free Trade Agreement (KORUS FTA) and the Colombia Free Trade Agreement (Colombia FTA) are the latest in a line of job-killing, corporate-first free trade agreements predicted to cost United States hundreds thousands of jobs concentrated in California industries such as electronic equipment manufacturing, according to

![Image](www.cadem.org)
the Economic Policy Institute; challenge the authority of our state, counties, and municipalities to govern in the interest of Californians; and advance trade liberalization's "race to the bottom" on labor rights and wages, environmental protections, human rights, product safety standards, public health, and in other areas; and
WHEREAS, over 2,700 trade union and human rights activists have been murdered in Colombia since 1986, including 51 in 2010 with a conviction rate of less than five percent; and the South Korean government represses workers by limiting the collective bargaining, striking, and lobbying abilities of public employees, while allowing more than half of Koreans to be categorized as "irregular workers," and therefore unable to form a union;
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party calls upon its U.S. House members to oppose the KORUS FTA and the Colombia FTA;
THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party send a copy of this resolution to each Senator and Representative from the California Congressional delegation urging them to vote to oppose these agreements.
Sponsored by the Santa Clara DCC, CDP Labor Caucus
Adopted May 1, 2011

2012

Resolution 12-11.02
Buy American
WHEREAS state and local governments and agencies, often through the practice of procuring products and services from private vendors, often select products not produced in the United States and these products are made by cheaper and unregulated labor, in some cases under inhumane work conditions and deficient quality and safety regulations, and
WHEREAS, purchasing products and materials made in other countries hurts our economy, causes losses in manufacturing, sales and marketing jobs, reduces income and sales tax revenues and significantly increases the costs to taxpayers due to the rising trade imbalance and unemployment benefits paid to those who lose their jobs in various sectors of our economy, and
WHEREAS, American businesses and workers produce products and services often at competitive prices with superior quality that directly benefits the United States economy,
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party urges all federal, state and local governmental agencies and departments to adopt and enforce Buy American policies to encourage buying goods that are made in the United States and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the California Democratic Party communicate this position to President Obama, Governor Brown, the Democratic members of the Congressional and State legislative delegations, and that the California Democratic Party urges all California Democratic County Central Committees to communicate this position to Democratic elected officials with city, community college, school board and other local agencies within their jurisdiction.
Author: John Vassiliades. Co-Sponsored by: Tony Mendoza, DPOC
Adopted November 18, 2012

Resolution 12-11.04
Department Of Defense Clean Energy Initiatives
WHEREAS, recognizing that as long as U.S. and global economic security are dependent on oil produced in volatile regions of the world heightens and increases the number of U.S. deployments and dangerous missions to ensure free world trade and the security of international sea lanes, developing alternatives to petroleum fuels and developing clean, domestic sources of energy have become strategic necessities for the Department of Defense.
WHEREAS, the Department of Defense is already committed to clean energy innovation and the development of alternative fuels, and specific examples of that commitment include: by 2025, the Department of Defense plans to attain 25 percent of its energy from renewable sources; e Navy's "Great Green Fleet" - a strike group of ships and aircraft powered entirely by advanced alternative fuels that will be fully operational by 2016; the Air Force's acquisition of 50 percent of aviation fuel used in the U.S. from blends of domestically-produced alternative sources that have lower carbon emissions than petroleum fuels by 2016; and the Army's "Net Zero" Initiative, which aims to have six installations each produce as much as they consume in energy, water, or waste by 2020
WHEREAS, the Department of Defense's clean energy innovation not only serves crucial warfighting needs, but has allowed it to be an active partner with the State of California to create opportunities and markets for California’s innovative companies and entrepreneurs in the clean energy economy and to further common energy goals of expanding renewable energy, using energy more efficiently and advancing promising new technologies like advanced biofuels.  
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party strongly supports the Department of Defense's initiatives to promote energy innovation and energy security.  
THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party calls on California's Congressional Delegation, the State of California, and California legislators on all levels to support the US military's efforts to advance energy innovation, and include the Department of Defense in the development and implementation of state and federal energy and environmental policy.

Author: Ricardo Reyes.  Sponsored: Veterans Democratic Club of Los Angeles County

Adopted November 18, 2012

Resolution 12-11.06A
Fillbuster Reform
WHEREAS, Republican intransigence and abuse of the filibuster in the U.S. Senate has exploded in recent years and has contributed to body's disfunction;  
WHEREAS, sixty votes are currently required for even the most mundane actions in the Senate and Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid has expressed the need for filibuster reform; and  
WHEREAS, Democrats have consistently failed to use the filibuster to block even some of the most outrageously right-wing policies, thus destroying the arguments some people are bound to make about how we must preserve the filibuster for when we are in the minority;  
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party adopt the position that pursuing and enacting filibuster reform in the Senate be the first priority of the Senate Majority; and  
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party write to all Democratic Senators imploring them to initiate such action immediately.

Author: California Democratic Party Chairman John Burton

Adopted November 18, 2012

Resolution 12-11.05
Rectify Veteran/Military Discharge Resolution
WHEREAS, since 1778 the Armed Forces in all of its services and components have discharged members for homosexuality, often in a capricious and arbitrary manner, granting discharges which were often punitive but just as often honorable but with a Military Separation Code which barred the member from benefits and reenlistment because of homosexuality, sexual perversion, or attempting or concluding a marriage with a member of the same sex; and,  
WHEREAS, Title 10 USC §1553 establishes a route for appeal of such discharges through the Discharge Review Boards and the Boards of Correction of Military Records , but the services are under no obligation to initiate such corrections, but require that each individual so affected pursue a long and often costly process for the upgrading of discharges and the correction of their military record; and,  
WHEREAS, the overturning of 10 USC §654 "Don't Ask Don't Tell" has ended the discharge practice but has not made whole the record of those so discharged.  
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the California Democratic Party asks the Congress of the United States under its Constitutional mandate "to make Rules for the Government and Regulation of the land and naval Forces" to require the Armed Forces in all its services and components to initiate both the upgrading of discharges and the correction of military records, without an individual petition, for all those who were discharged, either honorably or other-than-honorably, as homosexuals, including those discharged as "unfit", "unsuitable", or "undesirable" where homosexuality was the underlying cause, as long as no other charge was levied against them; and,  
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that under the auspices of the Governor of California the California National Guard set the example for the nation by initiating such a proactive program for its discharged members who fall under these criteria.  
Sponsored by: Sandy Cook LTCOL US Army Ret; Bob Handy HMC USN Ret; Art Torres Senator Ret, Past Chair CDP;  
Shawn Terris Veteran, CAPT USMC ; Russ Weed LTCOL USAF Ret; Roger Hart Veteran, Capt USAF; Don Katz Veteran
WHEREAS, organized religion is an important part of the State of California, the United States of America, and the world; WHEREAS, religious groups everywhere should be able to worship in peace and freedom and without fear of violence from those who practice religious hatred; and WHEREAS, the California Democratic Party African American Caucus and the California Democratic Party were appalled by the shooting at the Sikh Temple of Wisconsin, in Oak Creek, Wisconsin, on Sunday, August 5, 2012; THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the California Democratic Party condemns all forms of intolerance and hatred directed at religious groups; and THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, copies of this resolution shall be sent to the Sikh Temple of Wisconsin, so they may know, they are not alone, and to President Barack Obama, Secretary of State Hillary Clinton, Attorney General Eric Holder, and California’s Democratic congressional delegation, to encourage them in the important work of preventing illegal discrimination and hate crimes against all people.

Author: Mister Phillips. Co-Sponsored by CDP African American Caucus
Adopted November 18, 2012

WHEREAS, Yosemite National Park is preparing for the 150th anniversary observation of the 1864 Yosemite Grant Act as well as the 125th anniversary observation of Yosemite's 1890 designation as a National Park, and in order to help preserve and restore the natural beauty of Yosemite Valley and to better serve Yosemite National Park visitors, the National Park Service has committed to removing Administrative Services and adding much-needed satellite visitor services outside the congested Yosemite Valley; and WHEREAS, Mariposa County is the home of Yosemite and provides the only all-season access to Yosemite National Park via California Highway 140, as well as serving as home to the majority of Yosemite National Park Administrative personnel who currently commute an average of one hour in each direction along the Highway 140 corridor through the Merced River Canyon from home to work, adding unneeded automobile exhaust to an environmentally-sensitive area; and WHEREAS, the National Park Service, working with Mariposa County's elected officials and members of the United States Congress has determined that crowded conditions that sometimes result in visitors encountering up to a two-hour delay of idling automobiles entering Yosemite via the Arch Rock Entrance on Highway 140 can be greatly alleviated by building an Administrative and Visitor Services Center in the town of Mariposa which may also harbor a small museum, film orientation and other visitor support, all of which will allow visitors to purchase park admission in advance, receive answers to questions as well as brochures and maps now distributed at the Arch Rock Entrance gate and thus, allow for fast-tracking into the park, resulting in a better quality visitor experience as well as greatly reduced auto pollution;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party supports authorizing the purchase of land in the town of Mariposa near the intersection of California Highways 140 and 49 for the purpose of constructing a Yosemite National Park Administrative and Visitor Services Center.

Sponsored by Mariposa County Democratic Central Committee
Adopted November 18, 2012

WHEREAS, the Counties of Riverside and San Bernardino have over 4.2 million residents, representing over 10.4% of the State's population, 17% of the State's geography, and is the fastest growing region in the State; and WHEREAS, a strong and thriving health-care community is vital to the sustainability of any region; and, studies have indicated that more health services are needed; and, there is a severe shortage of physicians in Inland Southern California; and, only one-quarter of California's physicians are trained in the state; and studies show that 70% of physicians stay in the area where
they serve their residencies. UCR has a strong research base in health and health related fields to address diseases and health issues specific to the region, such as diabetes and asthma, and would partner with regional hospitals and clinics, community medical centers, and schools to provide service delivery to remote and under-served regions of Inland California; and,
WHEREAS, developing a School of Medicine at UC Riverside has been a major multi-year project of the cities and counties of the Inland Empire Region, working cooperatively to ensure the success of the medical school and investing considerable amounts of community resources. They have done their part in good faith to prepare for the impact of the school, only to have the state cut its funding, which puts the school in danger of losing its accreditation and has postponed its opening, which was to be in the fall of 2013;
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED the California Democratic Party hereby supports the state funding of UCR's School of Medicine, and supports providing the necessary resources and funding this project at the earliest possible date;
FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED, that California Democratic Party will send to a copy of this resolution to all Democratic members of the California Legislative Delegation, and urge them to support the funding of UCR's School of Medicine, and suggests the San Bernardino and/or Riverside County Democratic Central Committee should likewise send copies of this resolution to the San Bernardino and Riverside County Boards of Supervisors, to the Mayor and the City Council of Riverside, and to the Chancellor of UC Riverside.
Sponsor: San Bernardino County Democratic Central Committee
Adopted November 18, 2012

Resolution 12-11.01
Stop Outsourcing Government Work
WHEREAS, Too many California state, county, municipal governments, school districts and agencies have adopted the practice of outsourcing to private vendors many public works and infrastructure contracts and other services normally performed by public employees; and
WHEREAS, Some of these jurisdictions, under the guise of saving taxpayer money have been persuaded by private consulting firms to award no-bid contracts at a higher cost than those of competitive bid contracts; and these jurisdictions have used sham financial arguments to crush the unionized workforce of its employees by outsourcing government jobs; and
WHEREAS, outsourcing of public works contracts and other public services in California is causing a proliferation of abstruse contracts that receive government funds without competitive bidding, significantly increasing costs to the taxpayer while eliminating public construction inspection and public oversight, which reduces or eliminates essential yardsticks that ensure higher standards at lower costs;
THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the California Democratic Party urges our elected Democratic State representatives to take legislative action to stop the wasteful and costly outsourcing of public works contracts and services; restore public oversight and inspection for infrastructure projects; preserve competitive bidding on all highway, roadway and building construction contracts; encourage State, County, municipal governments, school districts and agencies to include public oversight, inspection and performance measures on public works projects; and ensure adequate monitoring of the work, cost, and progress of all contracts made by government agencies in California.
Author: John Vassiliades. Co-Sponsored by: Tony Mendoza, DPOC, CYD, Sacramento CDCC
Adopted November 18, 2012

Resolution 12-11.07
Tax Returns Of Presidential Candidates
WHEREAS, the character and values of the President of the United States are of paramount importance because he/she wields enormous power and influence in our country and in the world, and financial practices including payment of taxes legitimately influence voters' evaluation of presidential candidates, and
WHEREAS, presidential candidates beginning with George Romney, have released their tax returns for several prior years in order to demonstrate that they have nothing unseemly to hide, and
WHEREAS, the 2012 Republican presidential candidate has refused to release his tax returns in the face of allegations that he failed to pay taxes and hides his income and wealth in foreign countries,
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party urges the Congress and President to require presidential candidates to release their tax returns for the past ten years and the results of any IRS investigations of those returns, and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party transmits this resolution to President Obama, Vice-President Biden and the California Democratic Congressional Delegation.
Author: Bob Gerecke. Sponsored: LACDP
Adopted November 18, 2012

Resolution 12-11.08
Voting Suppression
WHEREAS, the U.S. Constitution gives States the right to determine their voting procedures, but some States have misinterpreted and abused this power, creating obstacles to voting by eligible citizens, and
WHEREAS, the citizens of those States lack the power to reverse voter suppression laws precisely because many citizens who would reverse them are prevented from voting, and
WHEREAS, the U.S. Justice Department is responsible to defend the Voting Rights Act and citizens' Constitutional right to vote,
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party congratulates the Obama administration for vigorously opposing all forms of voter suppression and enforcing all eligible citizens' right to vote, urges the administration to redouble its efforts, and requests the members of Congress to publicly support such action, and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party transmits this resolution to President Obama, Attorney General Holder, and the California Democratic Congressional Delegation.
Author: Bob Gerecke. Sponsored: LACDP
Adopted November 18, 2012

Resolution 12-07.06
Applauding President Obama For Supporting Marriage Equality
WHEREAS, the California Democratic Party stands in solidarity with same-sex couples in California who are fighting to regain their right to marry; and
WHEREAS, we stand with all fair-minded Americans who believe that marriage equality is a basic civil right, that every adult is entitled to marry the person they love and that equality is meaningless if only some of us are equal under the law; and
WHEREAS, the California Democratic Party has included marriage equality in its Platform since 2008, and other California organizations have likewise been on the forefront of this civil rights issue, such as the California NAACP which opposed and campaigned against Prop 8 in 2008, and
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party strongly applauds President Obama for becoming the first sitting president in American history to have the courage to support the freedom of same-sex couples to marry and in doing so has helped the nation take a huge collective step toward a stronger, more equal, and more inclusive American where all loving families are not only accepted, but celebrated, and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party recognizes how President Obama's actions have led the way for other national organizations, such as the NAACP and LULAC, to likewise affirm support for marriage equality.
Author, Senator John Burton, Chairman
Adopted July 29, 2012

Resolution 12-07.02
Businesses In “Right-To-Work” States Seeking Local And State Contracts
WHEREAS, twenty-three states have adopted "Right-to-work" laws, making it impossible for workers to organize labor unions by majority vote, and
WHEREAS, workers in "Right-to-work" states earn from $1,500 to $5,000 less per year than workers in other states, enabling manufacturers in those states to undercut prices while increasing their own profits, and
WHEREAS, companies in California and other unionized states are facing pressure to hold down costs by holding down wages,
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party encourages California cities, counties and state agencies to adopt policies giving preference in purchasing goods and services to vendors that are not located in "Right-to-work" states, unless the vendor is unionized, and
THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party send copies of this resolution to the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors, the Speaker of the California Assembly, the President Pro Tem of the California Senate, the Los Angeles City Council, and other governmental bodies as appropriate.
Resolution 12-07.05
Commending President Obama, Leader Pelosi & Democratic Congress For Passing The Affordable Care Act
WHEREAS, universal health care coverage has long been a centerpiece of the Democratic Party’s platform and national legislative efforts; and
WHEREAS, the unsustainable rise in health care premiums was hurting not only the American middle class but also American businesses - large and small - thereby making it difficult for them to compete and to provide coverage to their employees and their families; and
WHEREAS, the Affordable Care Act passed by a Democratic Congress, signed into law by President Obama in 2010, and recently upheld by the U.S. Supreme Court, has allowed an additional 2.5 million young adults to remain under their parents’ insurance coverage until age 26, prohibited insurance companies from denying coverage due to pre-existing conditions, and provided billions of dollars in prescription drug savings to Medicare recipients;
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party commends President Obama for his visionary leadership and determination and expresses its gratitude to Leader Nancy Pelosi and those Democratic members of the 111th U.S. Congress who carried the Affordable Care Act to victory, thereby strengthening coverage for those who already possessed health insurance and extending benefits to millions of Americans.

Author: Senator John Burton, Chairman
Adopted July 29, 2012

Resolution 12-07.22L
Emergency Resolution Supporting Senator Wyden’s Call For Immediate International Support And Assistance To Japan
WHEREAS, after touring what remains of the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear facilities decimated by last year’s earthquake and subsequent tsunami, U.S. Senator Ron Wyden (D-Ore.) sent letters to Japanese Ambassador Fujisaki, and to Secretary of State Clinton, Energy Secretary Chu, and NRC Chair Jaczko, assessing the dire situation and proposing that Japan be urged to accept international support and assistance, and
WHEREAS, the Daiichi nuclear facilities are still not secure from any number of possible threats including another significant earthquake, which seismologists say is almost certain to occur in the near future, and which could cause the 1,535 spent nuclear fuel assemblies in Unit 4’s spent fuel pool to become exposed, igniting a globally catastrophic radioactive fire, and
WHEREAS, specifically, short of removing the nuclear fuel as quickly as possible, if steps are not taken to immediately stabilize the nuclear fuel pool in Unit 4 that is conservatively estimated to contain 5,000 Hiroshima bombs worth of cesium-137, and an earthquake or other event were to allow the water to drain out of that pool, an unstoppable nuclear fire could ensue and continue until all the nuclear fuel had burned completely, releasing a catastrophic amount of radiation into the ocean and atmosphere, which would spread and linger over all parts of the world including the United States for many years to come;
NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party urgently supports Senator Wyden’s plea for international action, and calls upon the United States to take the lead in pressing for Japan to accept immediate assistance and support; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this Resolution be sent to President Barack Obama, Secretary of State Hillary Clinton, Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid, House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi, and Senators Barbara Boxer and Dianne Feinstein, as well as all California Democratic Congressional members, and all California Democratic Central Committees urging them to immediately take and make all possible actions and efforts in dealing with this potential nuclear catastrophe in Japan.
Sponsored by Sonoma County Democratic Party
Adopted July 29, 2012

Resolution 12-07.10
Gulf Of The Farallones And Cordell Bank National Marine Sanctuary Boundary Modifications
WHEREAS the Northern California coast just south of Bodega Head is already protected by the Gulf of the Farallones and the Cordell Bank National Marine Sanctuaries, and
WHEREAS the biologically productive Sonoma and Southern Mendocino Coast deserves similar protection from oil spills and land-based pollution including protection of the rich estuaries of the Russian and Gualala Rivers, and
WHEREAS adjusting the northern boundary for Cordell Bank will add an area called the Bodega Canyon, the vortex for much of the nutrient-rich upwelling's along the Northern California Coast, that also deserves similar protection,
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the California Democratic Party supports extending the boundaries of the Gulf of the Farallones and Cordell Bank National Marine Sanctuary to afford beneficial protections to the Sonoma and Southern Mendocino Coast, at the earliest possible date.
Sponsored by Sonoma County Democratic Party
Adopted July 29, 2012

Resolution 12-07.01
Protect The Vote
WHEREAS, The Republican Party hides behind false accusations of voter fraud in order to enact voter suppression laws that target and disenfranchise young people, working families, and communities of color, while hypocritically engaging in actual voter fraud right here in California; and
WHEREAS, In 2010, the Democratic Party worked tirelessly to legally register voters creating the movement to win the 52nd Assembly seat for Democrats and elect Dr. Pan to the California State Assembly, turning the national red tide away, while local Democratic Party activists and Labor leaders uncovered numerous cases of Republican voter fraud aimed at switching voters' party identification without their consent;
WHEREAS, In 2012 in Sacramento County, the GOP again paid bounty hunters for each Republican registration card they turned in despite this scheme encouraging more fraudulent voter registration cards to be submitted, forcing local election officials to squander scarce resources and adding to the 960 cases for fraudulent voter registration or fraudulently altering party affiliation the Secretary of State's Election Fraud Investigation Unit opened from 1994 to 2010; now, therefore, be it THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT We, The California Democratic Party, actively support Speaker John A. Pérez, Dr. Pan and the Assembly Democrats' efforts to "Protect the Vote", promoting the rights of every Californian to participate in the political process and stop fraudulent registration drives that disenfranchise voters.
Be it further resolved, that the California Democratic Party calls on the California Secretary of State and the Attorney General to investigate and prosecute fraudulent partisan voter registration drives, as evidenced by recent Sacramento County Republican Party efforts.
Sponsored By Assemblymember Dr. Pan, Alex Rooker, Eric Bauman
Adopted July 29, 2012

Resolution 12-07.14
Provide Homeless Veterans With Shelter And Services
WHEREAS, in the decade since the 9/11 terrorist attack on our country, more than 2.2 million troops have been deployed to support the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq with many of those returning from combat facing new battles as they transition back to civilian life after having spent an average of 240 days in combat, and
WHEREAS, some veterans suffer invisible wounds including Post-Traumatic Stress and Traumatic Brain Injury that, if not treated, can lead to troubled relationships, lost jobs, substance abuse, homelessness, suicide, and
WHEREAS, homelessness among veterans between the ages of 25 and 54 has risen dramatically with 61 percent of our homeless veterans falling into this age range without adequate shelter and services; for example, in Los Angeles the number of homeless female veterans has risen 51 percent since 2009.
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party, recognizing the current and long term needs for shelter and supportive services for the growing population of homeless, disadvantaged and disabled veterans, urge that Master Plans for VA properties reflect the development of facilities to adequately accommodate the projected needs for this purpose and that our Congressional Delegation make the funding of these developments an urgent priority, and
THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party send a copy of this resolution to the members of the California Democratic Congressional Delegation, the Democratic members of the California Legislature, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs and the members of the Veterans Committees of both houses of Congress.
Author: Joe Halper; Sponsored by LACDP
Adopted July 29, 2012

Resolution 12-07.07
Resolution On Value-Added Scores In Teacher Evaluations
WHEREAS in an otherwise laudable effort to improve students' educational outcomes, many school districts are looking for easy answers to the complicated task of evaluating and increasing teacher effectiveness, and
WHEREAS rather than developing comprehensive teacher evaluation strategies that emphasize peer evaluation, professional development, constructive performance reviews, and cooperative sharing of best practices, some so-called education "reformers" have promoted the use of "value-added" formulas, which compare students' scores on standardized tests from the previous year to their scores at the end of the school year, and assign a numerical score to a teacher's performance, followed in some cases by publishing those scores for public review, and
WHEREAS "value-added" evaluation is a highly imprecise and unreliable tool, unable to accurately separate out a teacher's performance from factors beyond his or her control, which often unfairly tars teachers as "underperforming" when in fact the same teacher has scored highly in previous years, and focusing on this single number to the exclusion of other factors in a child's educational experience can confuse parents, depress school morale, destroy careers, incentivize cheating, and lead to perverse and wrongheaded strategies for improvement,
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the California Democratic Party (CDP) supports the creation and implementation of constructive, holistic teacher evaluation strategies, while opposing the use of value-added testing scores as the sole means of evaluating teachers, and opposes the public dissemination via media or school administration of individual teachers' value-added scores, and
THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the CDP will communicate this position to Secretary of Education Arne Duncan, State Superintendent Tom Torlakson, the Ranking Democratic members of the Senate and House Education Committees, and the Chairs of the Assembly and Senate Education Committees.

Resolution 12-07.26L
Resolution Opposing The “English Only” City Council Meeting Proposal In The City Of Walnut And Any Other California Cities Or Counties
WHEREAS, diversity is the strength of California; in the City of Walnut in the east San Gabriel Valley area of Los Angeles County, the population consists of 63.6% Asian and Pacific Islanders and 19.1% Latinos, with 46.8% of the City's population being foreign born;
WHEREAS, the City of Walnut has a history of blatant disregard for the needs of limited English proficient residents in the City, including having been sued by the U.S. Department of Justice for failing to provide in-language election materials and election-related assistance to limited English proficient voters as required by the federal Voting Rights Act;
WHEREAS, the City of Walnut is now considering the adoption of an "English Only" policy at its City Council Meetings, in which City Council Meeting proceedings would be conducted only in English, and non-English speakers wishing to participate in City Council proceedings would be required to provide their own interpreters, and that this discriminatory policy would hinder civic participation and access to the government for many residents and other cities and counties are experiencing the same issue;
BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party opposes the "English Only" policy of the Walnut City Council and any other cities and counties in California; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution be transmitted to the U.S. Department of Justice, the Walnut City Council, the League of Cities, the Contract Cities Association, the California State Association of Counties, interested parties, and the media.
Sponsors: Clark Lee, Eric C Bauman, Olivia Lee, Arnold Lee
Adopted July 29, 2012

Resolution 12-07.19
Resolution To Oppose The Closing Of The USPS Processing Centers In California
WHEREAS we need to protect a strong and viable United States Postal Service for the millions of customers in the state of California, and the 4.2 million residents of the Inland Empire, the third-largest region in the state; and,
WHEREAS, the United States Postal Service has slated for closing the only USPS Processing Center in the Inland Empire, located in Redlands, which serves 4.2 million residents in the two geographically largest counties in the state, and plans to
serve these counties from Orange County, which has two USPS Processing Centers which are not slated for closing, and which are located within 18 miles of each other, serving 3 million residents; and,
WHEREAS, this center employs more than 750 Inland Empire workers and is a vital source of stable employment to a region suffering more deeply than most during the current economic difficulties, and where business development and recovery depends in part on efficient, prompt mail services.
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED That, the California Democratic Party opposes the closing of the Inland Empire USPS Processing Center and any other such Centers in California and,
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that all members of the California Congressional Delegation be sent copies of this resolution and be urged to oppose closing of the Inland Empire USPS Processing Center in Redlands and any other such Centers in California, and that copies of this resolution also be sent to the Postmaster General of the U.S., the San Bernardino County Board of Supervisors, and to the City Council of Redlands.
Sponsored by San Bernardino County Democratic Central Committee
Adopted July 29, 2012

Resolution 11-11.21L
Response To The Continuing Outage Of San Onofre Nuclear Power Plant
WHEREAS: the San Onofre Nuclear plant experienced an emergency shutdown and radioactive steam release January 31, 2012 after replacing four steam generators; and
WHEREAS: the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) preliminarily stated at its June 18, 2012 inspection hearing that the likely cause of the steam generator tube degradation was a design flaw that should have been identified in the computer modeling by the manufacturer, Mitsubishi Heavy Industries, and the NRC will be holding additional investigative hearings in the months ahead to fully understand the causes and future options; the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) is responsible for protecting California ratepayers, and the cost of the recently installed steam generators was $670M and the cost to repair or replace the recently installed steam generators is unknown but may be borne by ratepayers; and the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission stated on June 18, 2012, in San Juan Capistrano that it will take as much time as necessary to ensure the safety of the San Onofre Nuclear plant and that no decision on restarting it has been made, and the California Energy Commission and Independent System Operator have announced they are planning for no San Onofre Nuclear plant supply through 2013-14 to ensure there are no rolling blackouts which may damage an already fragile economic recovery; and
WHEREAS, when fully operational, the San Onofre Nuclear plant supplies up to 2,200 Megawatts (MW) of electricity to the electricity grid, and is a major source of employment for 2,200 men and women of the building trades; and the uncertainty about its restart provides a concrete opportunity for California to realize the demonstrated potential for energy efficiency and conservation as a resource in its own right and of renewable energy power including utility scale solar, wind, geothermal and rooftop solar and micro-turbine wind power to offset this possible withdrawal of supply;

Resolution 12-07.08A
Resolution To Retain Wild And Scenic River Act Protections On The Merced And Other California Rivers
WHEREAS, Congress approved the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act (WSRA) in 1968 to preserve certain rivers which possess outstandingly remarkable scenic, recreational, or other similar values in free-flowing condition and to protect such rivers for the benefit and enjoyment of present and future generations; Congress subsequently amended the WSRA to add the main stem of the Merced River and the lower Merced River in 1987 and 1992 respectively to the list of rivers so protected; Congress has never authorized removal of any river or portion of a river from the wild and scenic river system; and
WHEREAS, the protections thus established by Congress have permitted millions of Americans to enjoy the natural beauty of the Merced River and have resulted in additional tourism which benefits the economy of Mariposa County; and
WHEREAS, Merced Irrigation District has undertaken efforts, including legislation introduced to and approved by the House of Representatives, to remove one-half mile of the pristine three-mile section of the lower Merced River from the protections afforded by the WSRA, thus precluding present and future generations of Californians and Americans from enjoying the natural beauty of that portion of the river and offering injury to Mariposa’s economy today and in the future;
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the California Democratic Party opposes all efforts, including any legislation which may be proposed for approval by the United States Congress, the end result of which would be to remove any portion of a California river from the protections afforded by the WSRA.
Sponsors: Rosemarie Smallcombe, the Mariposa County Democratic Central Committee
Adopted July 29, 2012

Resolution 12-07.08A
Response To The Continuing Outage Of San Onofre Nuclear Power Plant
WHEREAS: the San Onofre Nuclear plant experienced an emergency shutdown and radioactive steam release January 31, 2012 after replacing four steam generators; and
WHEREAS: the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) preliminarily stated at its June 18, 2012 inspection hearing that the likely cause of the steam generator tube degradation was a design flaw that should have been identified in the computer modeling by the manufacturer, Mitsubishi Heavy Industries, and the NRC will be holding additional investigative hearings in the months ahead to fully understand the causes and future options; the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) is responsible for protecting California ratepayers, and the cost of the recently installed steam generators was $670M and the cost to repair or replace the recently installed steam generators is unknown but may be borne by ratepayers; and the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission stated on June 18, 2012, in San Juan Capistrano that it will take as much time as necessary to ensure the safety of the San Onofre Nuclear plant and that no decision on restarting it has been made, and the California Energy Commission and Independent System Operator have announced they are planning for no San Onofre Nuclear plant supply through 2013-14 to ensure there are no rolling blackouts which may damage an already fragile economic recovery; and
WHEREAS, when fully operational, the San Onofre Nuclear plant supplies up to 2,200 Megawatts (MW) of electricity to the electricity grid, and is a major source of employment for 2,200 men and women of the building trades; and the uncertainty about its restart provides a concrete opportunity for California to realize the demonstrated potential for energy efficiency and conservation as a resource in its own right and of renewable energy power including utility scale solar, wind, geothermal and rooftop solar and micro-turbine wind power to offset this possible withdrawal of supply;
NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the California Democratic Party calls upon our State policy makers and the California Public Utilities Commission to: a) direct a focused implementation of a renewable energy program that generates high quality jobs, that pay prevailing wage, incorporate local jobs through Project Labor Agreements, and includes solar power on residential homes in order to reduce peak energy costs, water demand, improve air quality, and which puts the men and women of the building trades back to work in the service territories supplied by San Onofre Nuclear plant; and b) order utility-funded incentives for the owners of nonresidential buildings in these service territories to implement the California Energy Commission's new energy efficiency standards before their official start date on January 1, 2014; and

AND THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the California Democratic Party calls for an independent design review prior to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission's decision to permit a restart of either Unit 2 or 3, culminating in an adjudicatory hearing including discovery, testimony and cross-examination by independent experts on whether it is safe to restart the San Onofre Nuclear Power Plant before it makes a decision on whether to permit a restart of either Unit 2 or 3.

Sponsored By CDP Resolutions Committee; San Diego County Democratic Party, Democratic Party of Orange County

Adopted July 29, 2012

2013

13-11.08
California’s Nonprofit Hospitals And Charity Care
WHEREAS, nonprofit hospital’s in California frequently conduct business similar to for profit hospitals and, the profit (or excess revenue) of California’s nonprofit hospitals has soared into the billions of dollars while their top administrators’ salaries have climbed into the millions, while they continue to maintain a tax-exempt status; and
WHEREAS, according to the State of California Auditor, in the 2012 audit, the amount of charity care they provide has dropped to a percentage of service that is the same as or less than that of for-profit hospitals, while economically struggling counties and cities in California lose more than $1 billion as a result of the tax exemption of nonprofit hospitals, in addition to the direct payments counties make to hospitals in their geographic area to provide hospital care for the poor, thus effectively subsidizing the hospitals profits with taxpayer dollars; and
WHEREAS, the California State Legislature and Board of Equalization have already began to investigate nonprofit hospitals as well as questioning what nonprofit hospitals consider charity care and community benefits since there is currently no clear definition of what constitutes charity care or community benefits nor are there any clear enforceable penalties for non-compliance.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, Therefore be it resolved, the California Democratic Party calls on Governor Jerry Brown, the California State Legislature and the State Board of Equalization to act to clearly define charity care and community benefits. THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this legislation holds nonprofit hospitals accountable by protecting both the rights of all patients and the rights of the tax payers of California.

Authored by Rochelle Pardue-Okimoto, AD 15; Co-Sponsors: Hilary Crosby, California Democratic Party Controller, Democratic Party of Contra Costa County, El Cerrito Democratic Club, African American Caucus and Wendy Bloom, AD15

Adopted November 24, 2013

13-11.13
Eliminating The Time Limit For Ratification Of The Equal Rights Amendment
WHEREAS, while several notable judicial victories protecting women's rights have been achieved these victories do not rest upon a constitutional foundation, and therefore, as we continue to experience, remain vulnerable to weakening; and present day women, of all generations, continue to face gender discrimination in many deep socioeconomic ways; and
WHEREAS, the Equal Rights Amendment (ERA) passed by Congress in 1972, which stated that “Equality of rights under the law shall not be denied by or abridged by the United States, or by any state, on account of sex”, was ratified by 35 states, rather than the minimum requirement of 38 states, by the original time limit of June 30, 1982; and
WHEREAS, Congress should explicitly lift the time limit on ratification of the ERA in order to seek ratification by 3 additional states, rather than having to seek re-ratification by the previous 35 states, as well; and neither of the bills referred to in the resolution passed at the July, 2013 CDP Executive Board meeting included elimination of this time limit; and there is precedent for doing so, in that the 27th amendment, concerning congressional pay raises, involved a 203 year ratification period;
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the California Democratic Party supports legislative action to eliminate the time limit for the ERA, as explicitly stated in HJ Res 43 (Andrews) and SJ Res 15 (Cardin), thereby maintaining the legal viability of the ERA and the existing 35 state ratifications, and that ERA shall be part of the Constitution whenever ratified by three additional states; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the California Democratic Party shall transmit copies of this resolution to all members of the California Democratic delegation in the House and Senate, to encourage them to be cosponsors of the House or Senate bill, respectively.
Author: David Sonneborn
Adopted November 24, 2013

13-11.27
Ending The Sequester's Impact On Veterans
WHEREAS, that the federal sequester will impact up to 150,000 veterans in California who are served through the Department of Labor's Veterans Transition Assistance Program;
WHEREAS, that the federal Jobs for Veterans State Grants Program would also experience cuts, which results in a reduction in the capacity to serve tens of thousands of veterans in their efforts to find civilian employment in California;
WHEREAS, that from 2011-2016 the White House projects that over one million service members will exit the armed forces and enter the private sector stressing the need for a reinvigorated veteran's job program;
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the United States Congress reverse the egregious effects of the sequestration, which adversely and disproportionately affects veterans and harms the recovery of the United States economy by:
1. Expeditiously reversing the effects of the sequestration that began on April 1st, 2013 by restoring funding to all affected entities;
2. Passing the President's American Jobs Act that will introduce a new Returning Heroes Tax Credit for firms that hire unemployed veterans, as well as the Wounded Warrior Tax Credit, that will benefit employers who hire veterans with service-connected injuries; and,
3. Developing and funding new plans to employ veterans throughout the State of California and the United States of America.
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT, that copies of this resolution be transmitted to all members of the California Democratic Congressional delegation and Speaker of the United States House of Representatives.
Sponsored by: The CDP Veterans Caucus
Adopted November 24, 2013

13-11.05
Holocaust Remembrance Day In California
WHEREAS, The Holocaust caused the unfortunate deaths of more than six million Jewish persons, and millions of other innocents
WHEREAS, The State of California is home to a substantial Jewish population and the State of California recognizes the pain and suffering of Jewish victims of the Holocaust and other anti-Semitic atrocities.
WHEREAS, Americans must never forget the terrible crimes against humanity and must educate further generations to promote understanding of the dangers of intolerance in order to prevent similar injustices from happening again.
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, That Holocaust Remembrance Day will be recognized as an official day of remembrance in the State of California.
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That Holocaust Remembrance Day will be scheduled for California.
Author: Mark Charles Hardie
Adopted November 24, 2013

13-11.06
Long Range Plans Supporting Climate Stabilization
WHEREAS, (1) Stabilizing our climate at a livable level is critical to our future; (2) the greenhouse gas (GHG) emission targets of the Governor’s Executive Order S-3-05 were designed by climate scientists to support stabilizing the climate at a livable level; (3) S-3-05's GHG emission targets are (a) the year 2000 level by year 2010, (b) the 1990 level by 2020, and (c) 80% below the 1990 level by 2050;
WHEREAS, Regional associations of municipal governments, municipal governments, and state agencies may approve long-range plans that do not support climate stabilization;
WHEREAS, Regions around the state are preparing Regional Transportation Plans (RTPs); municipal governments around the state are preparing Climate Action Plans (CAPs) and General Plan Updates; and state agencies prepare long-range plans that have significant GHG implications; THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party urges all Democrats to support and work for long-range plans that achieve GHG emission reductions that align with the climate-stabilizing prescription of the latest climate science as determined by, no worse than, the Governors Executive Order, and BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party will communicate this position to Governor Edmund G. Brown, Jr., Attorney General Kamala Harris, and the California Air Resources Board Chair. Authored by: Michael Bullock; Supported by: San Diego County Democratic Party Adopted November 24, 2013

13-11.30L
Protecting Parking Access In California
WHEREAS California has approximately 4.6 million seniors and approximately 1.9 million people with disabilities, many of whom rely upon access provided by a disability parking placard or license plate; WHEREAS the City and County of San Francisco has recently made it City policy to pursue changes to state law that would impose time limits and begin charging disability parking placard holders to park. And, that this action was taken without a public vote of any locally elected official, circumnavigating the democratic process; WHEREAS alternative means of transportation such as mass transit and Para transit are not always viable alternatives for people with disabilities, and imposing additional charges on placard holders will impose an undo financial hardship and drastically inhibit full and equal access to a central government program as guaranteed by the Americans with Disabilities Act; THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California State legislature:
1. Resist any efforts that weaken the rights of disabled Californians
2. Demand that any plan proposed by local jurisdictions to combat fraud and misuse in the disability parking placard system be developed in close collaboration with a wide cross section of people with disabilities not affiliated with the government of that jurisdiction
THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution be transmitted to all democratic members of the California state legislature and all members of the San Francisco Board of Supervisors before the beginning of the next legislative session. Sponsored by the CDP Disabilities Caucus Adopted November 24, 2013

13-11.12
Resolution Urging Support For Legislative And Federal Action In The Wake Of The Trayvon Martin Case
WHEREAS, Florida resident George Zimmerman was absolved of all charges in the shooting death of 17-year-old Trayvon Martin and was subsequently freed without any consequences to his life, liberty, or pursuit of happiness despite having taken the life of a young, unarmed, college-bound man and destroying the lives of his family; WHEREAS, local police departments have been sanctioned for abuses of police power, police brutality and racial profiling, and there is growing public concern that racially disproportionate "Stop-and-Frisk" policies and so-called "Stand Your Ground" laws may be enacted in California and other states in response to concerns for public safety; WHEREAS, the Democratic Party must stand behind President Barack Obama's call for the US Justice Department to evaluate grounds to re-try Zimmerman for having violated Martin's civil rights and the President's acknowledgement of racial disparities in arrests and sentencing throughout the US, with young men of color receiving the brunt of policing and imprisonment disproportionate to their percentage of the population; THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the California Democratic Party and its members do hereby: express support for the Martin Family in their search for justice for the death of their son; express support for President Obama's and California State and local officials' call for a national conversation on racial inequities in the Justice system and support for U.S. Attorney General Eric Holder in his efforts to defend the civil rights of this minor child; express support for legislative and political efforts to stop police brutality, to end "stand your ground" laws and to eliminate racial profiling and racial disparities from the California criminal justice system, and BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this resolution be sent to U.S. Senators Dianne Feinstein and Barbara Boxer, the California Democratic Congressional delegation, Governor Jerry Brown, California Senate President Pro Tem Darrell
Radioactive Shale Oil And Gas Drilling Wastewater Disposal
WHEREAS, high levels of radioactive wastewater from shale oil and shale gas well drilling, typically from one, two or more miles underground, has been found to contain radioactivity levels up to 3,600 times safe drinking water levels and 300 times allowable industrial effluent levels, according to the EPA (1); WHEREAS, shale oil and gas drilling may release radioactive heavy-metals typically locked within deep rock layers, termed Naturally Occurring Radioactive Materials, or NORMS; Horizontal shale drilling plus aggressive well stimulation methods, such as hydraulic fracturing and acid matrix stimulation, may release radioactive heavy-metals into the wastewater stream, such as radium, uranium and thorium; That compared to conventional vertical drilling into shallower pooled petroleum reserves, current horizontal shale oil and gas drilling is typically much deeper and involves aggressively disturbing greater amounts of tightly-embedded NORMS.

WHEREAS, Radioactivity levels of California drilling wastewater are currently deemed insignificant, based upon a 1996 study during the Administration of Governor Pete Wilson, from vertical-only wells drilled into pooled petroleum resources typically more shallow than shale; The California Division of Oil Gas and Geothermal Resources (DOGGR), therefore, deemed all oil drilling wastes to be, a priori, not a potential radioactive hazard. (14)

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, to make obsolete the Wilson Administration era oil drilling wastewater study and undertake a new study to investigate current levels of wastewater radioactivity from horizontal or directional shale wells and potentially radioactive solid shale drilling wastes, such as filters and pipe and tank scale; That radioactivity levels in shale well produced-wastewater be assessed at the well-head and correlated with gamma ray spectroscopy from the original well logs made while drilling.

THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That oil and gas drilling waste having significantly elevated levels of radioactivity above accepted levels of concern, be disposed of and transported in the appropriate manner, if measured above levels deemed safe during the Pete Wilson Era study, while both consistent with and not exempt from general industrial radioactive levels set by California and Federal guidelines; That significantly radioactive drilling-process wastewater be deemed unfit for Class 2 injection wells traditionally used for wastewater with insignificant radiation levels and that the most appropriate and robust storage or injection well must be required for its safe long-term disposal; That significantly radioactive solid oil and gas drilling waste also be disposed of in special radioactivity-capable facilities; That there be prudent consideration of the seismic threats to wastewater injection well integrity
Submitted by Charles Davidson.
Adopted November 24, 2013
WHEREAS, California law currently prohibits discrimination based on sex, sexual orientation and gender identity in schools and protects students whose identity, physical characteristics, or behavior differs from stereotypical gender associations from harassment or discrimination, and

WHEREAS, Students who have been denied access to school activities and facilities corresponding with their gender identities - further exacerbating discrimination throughout all aspects of education - have suffered physical, emotional and academic harm, exemplified by poor academic performance, high drop-out rates, behavioral problems, bullying, violence, and suicide, and

WHEREAS, AB 1266 “The School Success and Opportunity Act” signed by Governor Brown assures the rights of all students to access school facilities, programs and activities consistent with his or her gender identity regardless of the gender listed on the student's records, and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party strongly supports the right of all students to have access to safe school facilities, programs and activities consistent with their gender identity needs and condemns any effort to roll back student rights currently enshrined in California law; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party will send a copy of this resolution to all Democratic County Committees and to members of the Democratic legislative and congressional delegations.

Authored by Denise Penn, John Cleary
Adopted November 24, 2013

13-11.02
Resolution Opposing At-Large Voting Systems In Local Elections
WHEREAS, The California Voting Rights Act of 2002 has served to expand the scope of the statutory safeguards provided by the Federal Voting Rights Act of 1965, thereby providing protections to California's minority voters from disenfranchisement and has helped to ensure that the votes of minority voters in local election jurisdictions are not diluted by at-large voting systems, and

WHEREAS, Los Angeles County Superior Court Judge Mark V. Mooney has halted the City Council elections in the City of Palmdale, a minority-majority city where Latinos and African Americans account for 69% of the population, the judge having cited the Palmdale's at-large election system for violating the California Voting Rights Act by diluting the impact of their votes and creating disparate electoral representation in the city government, the demonstrable result being that only one minority candidate has been elected to the Palmdale City Council since the 1960's, and

WHEREAS, several minority-majority local election jurisdictions across California that similarly use at-large voting system are under scrutiny under the California Voting Rights Act, there are pending challenges to these jurisdictions to replace at-large voting systems with district-based voting systems, in order to insure that minority voters are fairly represented and that these voters are afforded to opportunity to elect representatives of their choice to their local governments,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party supports efforts to protect minority voting rights and uphold the principles of equal representation throughout California, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party supports all efforts, where appropriate and required by law, to uphold the principles of the California Voting Rights Act and to replace at-large voting systems in local election jurisdictions with district-based voting systems, thus affording all voters the opportunity to elect representatives of their choice.

Sponsored by: Eric C. Bauman, LACDP Chair, AD 46 Clark P Lee, AD 55; John Kopp, Riverside County DCC, LACP
Adopted November 24, 2013

13-11.04
Resolution Opposing Recall Of Elected California Democratic Lawmakers By Gun Lobby
WHEREAS, California's lawmakers have successfully, and repeatedly, balanced the Second Amendment rights of responsible gun owners in the state with the overwhelming need to reduce tragedies brought about by gun violence; and

WHEREAS, California's lawmakers have worked tirelessly to keep Californians, and our environment, safe by passing sensible and responsible gun legislation while adhering to the U.S. and California Constitutions; and

WHEREAS, conservative zealots, with the support of Tea Party Republican legislators like Assemblymember Tim Donnelly, a former border vigilante and his Party’s leading anti-immigrant voice, have launched an effort to recall six members of the State Legislature’s Latino Caucus.
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the California Democratic Party strongly and wholeheartedly supports the six Democratic legislators and members of the Latino Caucus targeted by this unnecessary and pernicious recall effort and will defend all six from any attacks by the gun lobby and the Tea Party Republicans.

Submitted by the CDP Resolutions Committee
Adopted November 24, 2013

T3-04.34L
Resolution Supporting The Civil Rights Of California's Homeless
WHEREAS, on any given night in California, over 160,000 men, women, and children are homeless, due to the fact that emergency shelters are full with long waiting lists, and not enough affordable housing, employment opportunities and other services are available which could help them transition out of homelessness, and that according to data collected by the McKinney-Vento Educational Programs, over 292,624 California children experience homelessness each year, representing 13% of the 2,200,000 children living in poverty in our State; and
WHEREAS, often the very acts necessary for human survival, such as sleeping, resting, saving food, attending to personal hygiene, and covering oneself from the elements have been made crimes, and
WHEREAS, the denial of services specific to the needs of biological functions in some cases amounts to cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment.
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the California State Democratic Party supports the position that homeless people should have the right to use public spaces to engage in life-sustaining activities; to have access to hygiene centers, and to be fairly treated and not targeted by law enforcement for just appearing homeless; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that we urge cities and counties to avoid enacting laws and ordinances to exclude and eject the poor and homeless, and instead concentrate on finding real solutions to homelessness such as affordable housing, homeless services, hygiene centers and employment opportunities.
Sponsored by Tami Dramer; the Democratic Party of Sacramento County, Yolo County DSCC Placer County DSCC Solano County DSCC El Dorado County DSCC Mariposa County DSCC Region 3 Delegates
Adopted November 24, 2013

T3-11.11
Resolution In Support Of Leader Pelosi's Defense Of The Affordable Care Act
WHEREAS Congressional Republicans dragged the United States into a government shutdown lasting 16 days, which cost the taxpayers $24 billion, created widespread economic uncertainty, and threatened default on the country's loan obligations; and
WHEREAS this reckless hostage-taking was an extreme effort to defund and gut the landmark Affordable Care Act, an established law of the United States that was upheld by the Supreme Court and has withstood electoral challenges; and
WHEREAS House Democrats, led by Democratic Leader Nancy Pelosi, were steadfast in their refusal to jeopardize the ACA, accepting no proposals by Republicans that would seek to weaken or dismantle it, and were ultimately successful in derailing Tea Party and Republicans' efforts;
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that we commend and thank Nancy Pelosi and the California Congressional Delegation for banding together to successfully defend the Affordable Care Act, which provides access to healthcare for the uninsured, strengthens coverage for those already insured, and allows young Americans to remain under their parents' health coverage until the age of 26; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that we ask our Democratic representatives in Washington DC to continue their commitment to the Affordable Care Act in future legislative standoffs and to stand firm against extremist Republicans whose irrational obsession with overturning the ACA continues to produce dangerous consequences for our nation's economic well-being.
Sponsored by Chairman John Burton
Adopted November 24, 2013

T3-11.09
Resolution In Support Of Operating Engineers Local 39 In Dispute With Dignity Health
WHEREAS, the members of International Union of Operating Engineers Local 39 have been on strike at Dignity Health's St. Francis, St. Mary's, Sequoia and Dominican facilities to protest substandard wages and benefits since October 1, 2013; and
WHEREAS, Dignity Health has shown poor faith in this dispute, attempting to curtail Local 39's picketing, filing a Complaint in the San Mateo County Superior Court and charges with the National Labor Relations Board, attempting to remove Chief Engineers of Local 39 from the bargaining unit, and other anti-worker actions; and
WHEREAS, Dignity's continued intransigence on this labor dispute is putting their patients' health at risk, as many patients and other professionals will not cross the picket line; THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party supports its brothers and sisters of Local 39 and their strike for equitable and fair compensation at Dignity Health facilities; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party asks the management of Dignity Health to resolve this matter swiftly by submitting to binding arbitration, as proposed by Local 39, and acting in a manner that is befitting a company that has adopted the word "dignity" as part of its moniker.

Author: John Burton, Chairman, California Democratic Party
Adopted November 24, 2013

13-11.20
Resolution Supporting City College Of San Francisco
WHEREAS, City College of San Francisco (CCSF) is among the highest rated community colleges in the nation and serves the Bay Area with distinction by providing a valuable and much needed resource for San Franciscans at every stage of life and from every neighborhood; and
WHEREAS, Despite its high rating by some, City College was found by the Accrediting Commission for Community & Junior Colleges (Commission in 2012 to have failed to meet a number of accreditation standards that all California community colleges are required to meet, and the Commission gave City College only one year, half the time that could have been granted, to come into compliance with the standards, and, seemingly ignoring the impact of significant progress City College has made in addressing each of the Commission's recommendations, the Commission in 2013 concluded that City College was not in compliance and made the most drastic decision to terminate City College's accreditation in July 31, 2014 and WHEREAS the Commission action has resulted in a severe financial crisis at City College due to a decline in student enrollment caused by student's fears they would not receive credit for classes completed and also making it more difficult to hire and retain excellent faculty, and the closure of City College would be a disaster as City College provides tens of thousands of students degrees and workforce training certificates and as a result, both the California Federation of Teachers and City Attorney Dennis Herrera have filed suit against the Commission for irregularities and unlawful conduct, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party expresses its strong support for the continued existence of City College, that it commends the college for continuing to work to come into compliance with accreditation standards, and that it asks the Commission to give City College the entire two year period allowed to come into compliance, that the Party reaffirms its prior position urging reforms in the accreditation process to avoid situations exactly like City College is facing here, supports efforts by the San Francisco community to provide resources to City College and supports legal efforts to ensure the survival of City College.

Sponsored by Rafael Mandelman, Chairman John Burton, Scott Wiener, David Campos, David Chiu, John Avalos, Matt Dorsey, Carole Migden, Bill Fazio, Hene Kelly, Petra DeJesus, Tom Ammiano, Leah Pimentel, Malia Cohen, Kelly Dwyer and Leslie Katz, Jim Gonzales
Adopted November 24, 2013

13-11.22
Resolution To Protect Voting Rights In HOAs
WHEREAS, more than 25% of all Californians, who live in Common Interest Developments (CIDs), also known as Homeowner Associations (HOAs) and Planned Unit Developments (PUDs), vote each year to elect Board members and to approve or disapprove changes in CC&Rs, By-Laws, Rules and Regulations; and
WHEREAS, current California laws, including the Davis-Sterling Act and the Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act, establish secure, protected voting procedures and ensure the voting rights of all homeowners in California Common Interest Developments, and include a voting inspector, double-envelope ballots, and observed vote counting; and
WHEREAS, commercial interests, including association management companies who seek to make a profit, have and will likely continue to propose changes to the California laws designed to implement unsecure voting procedures, including the elimination of the election inspector, double envelope ballots, and observed vote counting through unproven online voting systems, which would eliminate the protections of the voting rights of homeowners;
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party is OPPOSED to a change in California laws, including the Davis-Sterling Act and the Bagley Keene Open Meeting Act, which would eliminate the voting rights and protected voting systems in Common Interest Developments, Planned Unit Developments, and Homeowner Associations, in order to establish unproven voting procedures, such as online voting, and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party SUPPORTS the democratic management of Common Interest Developments and the protection of the voting rights of home owners and the secure, protected voting systems in Common Interest Developments throughout the State of California.
Authored by Diane Wallace, Sponsored by Region 16
Adopted November 24, 2013

13-11.28L
Support For A Vaccination Cease Fire In Syria And For Vaccinations Throughout The Middle East
WHEREAS, after eradicating polio (poliomyelitis) in 1999, civil war has caused immunization levels among the children in Syria to fall from approximately 95% to less than 68% resulting in a polio outbreak in the war-ravaged region, and
WHEREAS, the entire Middle East region, and specifically Turkey, Iraq, Jordan, and Lebanon are at risk of further outbreaks as Syrian refugees pour into neighboring countries currently unable to support the immunization and medical health needs of the refugees much less their own populations, and
WHEREAS, the recent outbreaks have caused a resurgence in the disease after the lowest number of reported cases in history in 2012 at only 223 cases,
THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the California Democratic Party supports the United Nations, the World Health Organization, UNICEF, and the Save the Children's Fund in seeking support for a "Vaccination Cease Fire" and vaccinations throughout the Middle East so that health workers have access to endangered populations and that all factions guarantee that aid workers do not become targets in their attempts to eradicate this insidious disease; and
THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the California Democratic Party encourages our Congressional Delegation and President Barack Obama to take meaningful steps to support these efforts in response to this Middle East health crisis.
Authored by Jeff Koertzen, Co-sponsored by the Democratic Party of Contra Costa County, Craig Cheslog (CDP Region 2 Director)
Adopted November 24, 2013

13-11.10
Social Security Discrimination Against Public Employees
WHEREAS, more than one half million retired public employees have their Social Security benefits significantly reduced or removed completely because the Social Security Act includes two penalties: the Government Pension Offset (GPO) which reduces the amount of Social Security spousal benefit by two-thirds or more, and the Windfall Elimination Provision (WEp), which reduces the Social Security benefit already earned from public/private sector jobs because of the separate but added public pension benefit, and
WHEREAS, these penalties cause significant financial hardship and penalize only public employees (e.g. Teachers, Police Dept., Fire Dept.) who paid into Social Security and have also earned a pension in the public sector, and
WHEREAS, these penalties are entirely unjust, discriminatory and punitive against public employees, and Social Security benefits should be paid to every public employees and their survivors.
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party urges the Congress and President to eliminate this double standard and provide public employees' earned and paid-for Social Security benefits by repealing the WEP and GPO penalties; and
THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party will send this resolution to President Barack Obama and California's Democratic Congressional delegation.
Authored by: Bob Gerecke, Loren Scott; Sponsored by Los Angeles County DCC
Adopted November 24, 2013

13-11.25L
Thanking Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid For Upholding Majority Rule By Ending Filibuster Use On Judicial Nominations
WHEREAS, Republican obstructionism and their abuse of the filibuster to thwart majority rule has resulted in the U.S. Senate's inability to fulfill its constitutional duties, especially with respect to judicial nominations; and
WHEREAS, California Democrats have previously called for filibuster reform as sixty votes are increasingly required for even the most mundane actions in the U.S. Senate; and
WHEREAS, Republicans in the U.S. Senate were likely to implement their own brand of filibuster reform if, god forbid, they were to ever find themselves in the majority once more;
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party strongly applauds Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid, and California’s Senators Feinstein and Boxer for implementing long overdue filibuster reform and upholding the principle of majority rule by ending the use of the filibuster on judicial nominations; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party will transmit copies of this resolution to the Senate Majority Leader and California’s U.S. Senate representatives.

Author: California Democratic Party Chairman John Burton
Adopted November 24, 2013

13-11.07
The Underfunded State Judicial System
WHEREAS, the equal right to liberty and justice under the law is a key principle to our democracy, as the Fourteenth Amendment to the Constitution provides that No State shall make or enforce any law which shall abridge the privileges or immunities of citizens of the United States; nor shall any State deprive any person of life, liberty or property, without due process of law; nor deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws;” and
WHEREAS, increasing court costs, legal fees, court closures, and delays create a discriminatory practice in the courts depriving economically disadvantaged persons of equal justice under the law by creating a barrier of affordability to due process, which includes an affordable and speedy trial; and
WHEREAS, the closing of courts and reductions in court staffing levels have resulted in irreparable and irreversible harm to the public, causing increased costs and delays from court closures and lack of availability to justice in the community, greater danger to public safety and harm to children and families seeking to redress child/spousal support and domestic violence issues, as well as increasing costs of doing business in the state;
THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party supports access to justice for all Californians and calls on the California government to find non-discriminatory means to restore adequate funding to the California court and justice systems; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the California Democratic Party proclaims that justice should not be based on the wealth of a person or entity and will send a copy of this resolution to Governor Jerry Brown, Assembly Speaker John A. Perez, Senate President Pro Tem Darrell Steinberg, and Budget Chairs Mark Leno and Nancy Skinner.

Authored by: Ray Bishop; Supported by: Democratic Party of the San Fernando Valley
Adopted November 24, 2013

Resolution 13-04.59
A Wall Street Transaction Tax
WHEREAS, the economy of California, and the entire nation, was severely damaged in a recession triggered primarily by Wall Street-led investment banks and hedge funds trading in opaque and poorly regulated financial instruments, resulting in a severe contraction of credit and lending, significant loss of revenues to federal, state and local governments, decimation of public and private funds held for pensions and retirement, the loss of millions of jobs, and forcing California and other states into a deepening of annual deficits, devastating austerity measures, layoffs and curtailment of essential services,
WHEREAS, Wall Street investment banks, hedge funds and similar entities across the nation currently pay zero sales tax on a host of highly profitable transactions, while in contrast American families dutifully pay sales tax of up to 10% every time they purchase necessities including school supplies and children's shoes; and a small fee on financial transactions could raise hundreds of billions or trillions of dollars in new revenue that could be spent on job creation and reduction of deficits, WHEREAS, such a tax, in various forms, on financial transactions has already been strongly supported in legislation sponsored by prominent Democrats including both Rep. John Conyers (D-MI), Rep. Keith Ellison (D-MN) and Rep. Peter DeFazio (D-OR), by labor organizations, including the AFL-CIO and the California Nurses Association, the Congressional Progressive Caucus, and prominent economists Paul Krugman, Joseph Stiglitz and Dean Baker,
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party supports the establishment of a national Wall Street Transactions Tax on securities transactions, including but not limited to speculative trading, high-speed flash trading, and derivatives, and exempting tax-deferred retirement accounts of U.S. citizens, pension plans, and similar payroll savings plans.
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution be transmitted to all members of the California Democratic Congressional delegation for further action.
Sponsored by the La Jolla Democratic Club.
Adopted July 21, 2013

Resolution 13-04.44
Affirming California’s Pluralism And Diversity
WHEREAS, the State of California's commitment to pluralism and to the free exercise of religion are the cornerstone of American values that have helped produce one of the most ethnically and religiously diverse and vibrant places in the world; and
WHEREAS, there has been a marked nationwide increase in acts of violence, discrimination and hostility directed at Americans who are Arab, Middle Eastern, Muslim, or South Asian (AMEMSA) community on the basis of their religious or ethnic identity including here in California; and
WHEREAS, Democratic Party of California has a history of opposing discrimination and supporting the rights to religious liberty and equal protection and recognizing that when those rights are threatened for some they are weakened for all; THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, with the concurrence of the Chairperson, that by the adoption of this Resolution, the California Democratic Party hereby includes in its 2013-2014 State and Federal Legislative Program, support and sponsorship of any legislation, which would OPPOSE Islamophobia, bigotry and discrimination and repudiate random acts of violence against AMEMSA community members;
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party send a copy of this resolution to the President, Governor, The Senate, The House, and The California State Legislature and call on them to take all executive, administrative, regulatory and legislative actions to implement this resolution.
Sponsored by the Region 18 meeting, the Arab-American Caucus, 25+ DSCC Delegates
Adopted July 21, 2013

Resolution 13-04.70
Allow A Certain Class Of Undocumented Immigrants To Obtain Provisional Drivers Licenses
WHEREAS, the Obama administration recently announced a program to grant temporary work permits and a reprieve from possible deportation to undocumented immigrants 30 years and younger who were brought to this country before they turned 16 and who meet other requirements such as having a clean record, a high school diploma and referred to as the "deferred action for childhood arrivals."
WHEREAS, because of the Obama program we applaud Governor Brown for signing AB2189, a bill that now allows those young immigrants who qualify for the Obama program to also be allowed to get driver's licenses and thus obtain insurance; and
WHEREAS, currently insurance companies only insure individuals with a California driver's license, and given that California has a higher than average population of undocumented immigrants driving the roads and highways of California without driver's licenses and more importantly without insurance, the higher number of unlicensed and uninsured drivers has exponentially increased the cost of automobile insurance for the rest of the California car owners and has also resulted in more unsafe drivers and accidents on its roads and highways;
THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party urges the legislature and the Governor to consider allowing undocumented immigrants who have a clean record, a verifiable residence, who have lived in California for more than 10 years and who are over the age of 30, to obtain a driver's license, so these individual undocumented immigrants have to obtain automobile insurance which will bring down the cost for all California drivers and will improve the overall safety of the roads for all drivers; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that any information obtained by the California Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) for these driver's licenses will not be shared with ICE or any other such federal or state agency for the purposes of deporting any undocumented immigrant who seeks a driver's license; except when ordered by the courts as it relates to criminal prosecution only.
Supported by the Democratic Party of Orange County, Chicano-Latino Caucus, The Delores Huerta Democratic Club of Northern California, The Latino Democratic Club of LA County
Adopted July 21, 2013

Resolution 13-04.1
Applauding Historic Democratic Victories While Recognizing We’re Just Getting Started

WHEREAS, for the last two election cycles, Democrats in California, have managed to buck the Republican Red Tide that swept the nation in 2010 and scored magnificent wins in 2012 including picking up six Congressional seats in swing districts and capturing a 2/3 majority in the State Legislature; and

WHEREAS, California Democrats in 2012 also helped to beat back a full frontal assault on our labor allies in the form of Proposition 32 and helped to pass Governor Jerry Brown’s Proposition 30 to invest in education and local public safety; and

WHEREAS, in 2011, after sweeping all statewide offices the previous year, our Party committed to pressing its advantage with programs to increase Latino voter registration in inland areas and boost vote-by-mail performance in Democratic strongholds, recognizing the hard work we put in 2011 contributed to and set the table for the historic victories of 2012.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party will not let up and will continue to work at 100% capacity in order to deny Republicans any chance of an electoral resurgence that would prove disastrous for our state. And while those "red corners" of our state continue to shrink it will be up to us to make sure they shrink at a faster pace so that all Californians have a fair shot.

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the California Democratic Party proclaims that despite holding every statewide elected office, a larger share of Congressional Districts than ever before, and a 2/3 majority in the State Legislature, we’re just getting started!

Sponsored by CDP Resolutions Committee
Adopted July 21, 2013

Resolution 13-04.17
Bypass Gridlock In Sacramento

WHEREAS, under California’s Constitution, only 8% of the number who voted in the last gubernatorial election may place a constitutional amendment on the ballot, but a 2/3 supermajority of both houses is required for the Legislature to do so, and

WHEREAS, a 2/3 supermajority of both houses in the Legislature is also required to raise revenue, and any attempt to do this is usually thwarted by the minority party, with detrimental effects on the state’s budget, public services and credit rating, and

WHEREAS, the Democratic majority temporarily has a 2/3 supermajority in both houses and the ability to place a constitutional amendment on the ballot despite minority opposition,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party urges the Democratic members of the Legislature to allow a simple majority of both houses to place a measure on the ballot, thereby providing a means to overcome obstruction by the minority, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party will transmit this resolution to the Governor and to all Democratic members of the California Legislature.

Supported by the LACDP Resolutions Committee
Adopted July 21, 2013

Resolution 13-07.40L
Condemning Emergency Evacuation Deficiency

WHEREAS on July 20, 2013, the evacuation process of Hilton Orange County failed to appropriately provide for guests with and without disabilities and

WHEREAS in the event of an actual emergency at least five persons in wheelchairs would have been stranded to fend for themselves and possibly remain in harm’s way and

WHEREAS there is an ongoing problem of facilities greatly lacking in their training on these matters;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the CDP affirms support for and enforcement of emergency procedures and provision of all services to persons with disabilities and joins the Disabilities Caucus of the CDP in condemning the response by staff at the Hilton Orange County as inadequate;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the CDP shall pursue complaint actions against the hotel that will result in no further patronage of this facility until these matters are corrected.

Submitted by Alyson L Abramowitz, Secretary of the CDP Disabilities Caucus
Adopted July 21, 2013

Resolution 13-04.13
Condemning Ongoing Republican Paid Bounty Voter Registration Fraud
WHEREAS, for nearly ten years the California Republican Party and many local county Republican parties have engaged in fraudulent paid bounty voter registration and petition drives in at least Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, Ventura and Sacramento Counties;
WHEREAS, in countless newspaper stories, it's been shown these paid bounty drives have included switching voters party registration from Democratic to Republican without the voters knowledge, use of fake names, bait and switch tactics on petition signature gathering, and more;
WHEREAS, one county registrar recently found invalid voter registration cards at a whopping 44 percent from just one Republican financed paid bounty registration drive, and in some instances, cards were submitted with street numbers or names that can't be found and in others, the voters themselves didn't exist;
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party calls on the California Republican Party to abandon paid bounty voter registration drives since they are clearly being used to artificially boost their electoral numbers and result in disenfranchisement of the electorate;
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party calls on the Republican Party to abandon misdirected and unnecessary Voter identification laws and instead launch a full investigation into their own fraudulent paid bounty voter registration and petition drives to help protect and safeguard every citizen's right to vote.
Supported by Jess Durfee, Lead Chair Voter Services Committee; Riverside County Democratic Central Committee; Bob Shelen, Lead Chair Voter Services Committee; Susan Devine, Lead Chair Voter Services Committee; Henry Vandermeir, Chair Democratic Party of Orange County; Francine Busby, Chair San Diego County Democratic Party
Adopted July 21, 2013

Resolution 13-07.15
Condemning The Internal Revenue Service’s Discriminatory Targeting Of Political Groups
WHEREAS, the federal government and the Internal Revenue Service are expected to conduct business in a way that is worthy of the public’s trust and to apply the law in a fair and impartial manner; and
WHEREAS, Democrats believe in freedom of speech and the right of political groups to organize, regardless of political creed and without obstruction or discrimination by our government, its agencies or its personnel;
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party condemns any political targeting by the Internal Revenue Service’s personnel that may have led to discrimination and excessive scrutiny of politically active groups applying for tax-exempt status; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party calls for reforms that will create standardized criteria and streamlined processing for non-profits applying for tax-exempt status.
Author: John Burton, Chair, California Democratic Party
Adopted July 21, 2013

Resolution 13-04.53
Convention For The Elimination Of Discrimination Against Women
WHEREAS, the Convention for the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women, known as CEDAW, was adopted by the United Nations in 1979 and establishes the fundamental rights of women; and
WHEREAS, it has now been adopted by more than 180 countries and yet has not been adopted by the United States of America, the only Western nation not to do so; and
WHEREAS, a new campaign has begun to encourage U.S. Cities to adopt it, beginning with the City of San Francisco in 1992, as a means to encourage the U.S. Senate to ratify it and the President to sign it; and
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party asks the California State Legislature to adopt CEDAW and ask Senator Diane Feinstein and Senator Barbara Boxer to seek Senate ratification of CEDAW and ask President Barack Obama to sign it.
Supported by the Beach Cities Democratic Club, LACDP
Adopted July 21, 2013

Resolution 13-04.57
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.

Sponsored by the La Jolla Democratic Club
Adopted July 21, 2013

Resolution 13-04.36
Graduate Student Research Assistant/Researcher Collective Bargaining Rights

WHEREAS, thousands of graduate students at the U.C. have the right to be represented by a union when they work as teaching assistants, tutors and readers, but lose the rights and protections of a union contract - including but not limited to job security rights, protections against discrimination, workload protections, grievance and arbitration procedures, child care subsidies, and family and medical leave - when they make the common shift from working as a teaching assistant to working as a research assistant or graduate student researcher,

WHEREAS, reaching assistants and graduate student researchers at the U.C work in the same labs and at the same workbenches as 6,000 postdoctoral researchers who already enjoy the rights and protections of a union contract,

WHEREAS, the potential costs of collective bargaining with research assistants would be small, and the cost of denying workers basic rights and protections incalculable,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party supports the extension of collective bargaining rights to research assistants and graduate student researchers.

Supported by UC Santa Barbara Campus Democrats
Adopted July 21, 2013

Resolution 13-04.45
Include Hearing And Vision Care, As Well As Dental Care, In Health Care Plans And Proposals

WHEREAS, approximately 37 million Americans currently suffer from hearing loss according to the Centers for Disease Control and that number will increase as the population ages, and approximately 11 million Americans need proper refractive correction and the number of people with age-related eye diseases such as macular degeneration, cataract, diabetic retinopathy and glaucoma will also increase as the population ages; and

WHEREAS, the costs of insurance coverage for hearing and vision disorders is prohibitive for many people and existing federal and state laws provide for limited coverage for these disorders and only for certain groups; and

WHEREAS, the California Democratic Party advocates for universal, comprehensive and affordable health care for all Californians;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party calls for all health care plans in California to include provisions for hearing and vision care, as well as dental care, in all health care proposals.
Sponsored by the Oakhurst Democratic Club, Mariposa Democratic Club and Mariposa Democratic Central Committee, CDP Region 4
Adopted July 21, 2013

Resolution 13-04.30
Mandatory Reporting Of Maternal Deaths And “Near Misses”
WHEREAS, California’s maternal mortality rate was 49% higher in 2006-2008 than in 1999-2001, and the US is ranked 50th globally in maternal health despite spending more on health care per capita than any other nation in the world; and WHEREAS, severe complications, known as “near misses” are on the rise with one in four California women suffering from postpartum complications, such as severe postpartum hemorrhages, preeclampsia, hypertension and/or infection with some of these maternal morbidities and deaths occurring up to 42 days postpartum after hospital discharge; and WHEREAS, there are more women age 35 and over having pregnancies; in-vitro fertilization and infertility treatments which contribute to higher risk pregnancies are on the rise; African-American women are 3.3 times more likely to have a higher case fatality rate regardless of age; and currently in California there is no mandatory maternal morbidity and mortality reporting. THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party supports the mandatory reporting of all maternal deaths (mortalities) and maternal “near misses,” (morbidities) by all hospitals in our state to California Department of Public Health, Maternal Child Adolescent Health Division, to share with the California Pregnancy Associated Mortality Review, as Illinois has done, and BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party send a copy of this resolution to the California Medical Association and the American Medical Association and ask that they publicly support such mandatory reporting.
Author: Karleen Basch, AD 45 Delegate
Adopted July 21, 2013

Resolution 13-07.06
Marijuana Distribution
WHEREAS the California Supreme Court has ruled that cities and counties can ban medical marijuana collectives under their zoning laws with over 200 cities and counties encompassing most of the state having enacted bans, and WHEREAS California’s medical marijuana collectives were the only legal distribution system available to patients to obtain medicinal marijuana and the lack of any legal medical marijuana distribution system forces a half million or more patients to turn to illegal and criminal sources for their supplies or drive hundreds of miles to cities that allow medical marijuana collectives, and WHEREAS the California Supreme Court concluded their decision on banning collectives by noting that “nothing prevents future efforts by the Legislature, or by the People, to adopt a different approach.” THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the California Democratic Party strongly urges our state legislators to enact legislation that will establish parameters to guide all California cities and counties in the exercise of their regulatory powers with respect to licensing, nuisance abatement and zoning regulation regarding facilities for the distribution of medical marijuana. Such statewide framework is needed to enable reasonable access, at affordable rates, to a uniform legalized medical marijuana distribution program, one available to all patients in all areas of California, rural as well as urban, and WHEREAS the California Supreme Court concluded their decision on banning collectives by noting that “nothing prevents future efforts by the Legislature, or by the People, to adopt a different approach.”

Author: Lanny Swerdlow, Assembly District 42, John Kopp, DSCC Member & County Committee Vice Chair, Assembly District 60, Howard Katz, County Committee Chair, Assembly District 71. Supported by the Brownie Mary Democratic Club of Riverside County, Riverside County DCC
Adopted July 21, 2013

Resolution 13-04.48
Marijuana Legalization Resolution For President Obama
WHEREAS, 18 states and the District of Columbia have passed laws legalizing the use of cannabis when recommended by a physician, and Colorado and Washington in 2012 passed laws legalizing the recreational use of cannabis, and over 825,000 Americans are caught up in the criminal justice system every year for marijuana law violations, and WHEREAS, the United States spends over $20 billion a year enforcing marijuana prohibition laws, and thousands of people are killed every year involving the smuggling of illegal drugs into the United States and marijuana accounts for over half of these illegal drugs, and polls show overwhelming support for the medicinal use of cannabis and majority support for legalization of marijuana, and
WHEREAS, marijuana prohibition laws are racially enforced with a far larger percentage of African-Americans and Hispanics convicted and imprisoned for marijuana prohibition offenses than their white counterparts even though marijuana use in their communities is no more than in white communities, and Whereas college students lose their college grants and scholarships if found to be using marijuana,
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party requests: President Obama to allow the newly enacted marijuana legalization laws in Colorado and Washington to go into effect with no federal interference, and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party asks President Obama to end the Department of Justice interference and raids by federal agencies in states with medical marijuana laws, and. A comprehensive study be immediately undertaken to produce recommendations for reform of our nation's marijuana prohibition laws.
Sponsored by the Brownie Marie Democratic Club of Riverside County, Riverside County Democratic Central Committee
Adopted July 21, 2013

Resolution 13-07.12
On Returning To Constitutional Government
WHEREAS the Bill of Rights is the principal document defining who we are as a people and the Fourth Amendment, protects our citizens from government intrusion into their affairs by banning unreasonable searches and seizures; and
WHEREAS the government's heretofore secret (but massive) collection of our phone and email without any reasonable cause to believe any crime has been committed has now been made public; and
WHEREAS the Patriot Act, authorized under President George W. Bush and continued under the Obama administration began and continued these offenses against the Bill of Rights;
BE IT RESOLVED that the California Democratic Party denounces such actions in no uncertain terms, and calls upon the Congress and this Administration to immediately halt such practices before they move us even further towards a totalitarian state.
Cosponsored by Malcom Burnstein and CDP Chairman John Burton
Adopted July 21, 2013

Resolution 13-07.16
Oppose Skyrocketing Student Debt And Preferential Treatment Of Corporations
WHEREAS, the Californian Master Plan for Higher Education states that some form of higher education ought to be accessible to all regardless of their economic means, and the State of California needs our youth to attend college as a way to prepare them to contribute to the country and the economy, and
WHEREAS, a recent study from Projectonstudentdebt.org showed that Californians graduating with bachelor's degrees from CSU, UC and private colleges on average have $18,879 of debt at the time of graduation and Forbes reported in January that U.S. parent borrowing is up 75% since the 2005-2006 academic year with an average of $34,000 in student loans while loans for cars and houses are declining, and
WHEREAS, we as a nation, have bailed out mega corporations when they were in debt, and then loaned them money at the absolute lowest levels possible while keeping interest rates high for the future leaders of our country
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party stands with the educational community in its commitment to the Californian Master Plan for Higher Education, affirming that each student should be able to go to college without undue financial burden; and supports measures that decrease student loan interest rates and tie student interest rates for federally backed loans with Federal Reserve discount rates paid by corporations for short term borrowing.
THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party send a copy of this resolution to the Governor of the State of California as well as all members of the California Democratic delegation of the State Legislature and California Congressional Caucus
Authored by Thea Selby, Assembly District 17; by Thomas Brown, Assembly District 17; California Democrats, Regional District 6
Adopted July 21, 2013

Resolution 13-04.40
Overtun Citizens United Corporate Constitutional Amendment Rights And Declare That Money Is Not Speech And Corporations Are Not Persons
WHEREAS, the California Democratic Party passed a resolution calling on Congress to use all its means to reform federal campaign laws to establish reasonable spending limits and reporting requirements for all contributors, and to initiate a
constitutional amendment process which would result in placing appropriate limits on corporate influence over election outcomes; and
WHEREAS, the legislatures of California and 10 other states have gone on record supporting a constitutional amendment to overturn Citizens United, and voters in San Francisco and Richmond have passed ballot measures explicitly instructing Congress to initiate such an amendment as have voters in Montana, Colorado, and 170 municipalities across the country; with Los Angeles to vote on similar instructions on May 21 of this year; and,
WHEREAS, despite heroic efforts by Senate and Congressional Democrats to enact effective controls over campaign spending, Republican lawmakers continue to thwart these efforts, and the Supreme Court radically rejected well-settled law in its Citizens United v. FEC case, opening the floodgates to a massive spending spree by corporations and other non-natural persons;
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party calls upon the Congress to send to the states for ratification a constitutional amendment overturning Citizens United vs. FEC corporate constitutional rights, clarifying that corporations are not persons and constitutional rights are for natural persons only, ending the doctrine that money is speech and leveling the playing field through limits on the ability of corporations and other wealthy interests to influence the outcome of elections through political campaign contributions and expenditures; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution be transmitted to all members of the California Democratic Congressional Delegation.

Supported by the Democratic Party of San Fernando Valley, Wendy Block Sheila Mickelson, Jodie Cooper, Russell Greene, Leah K. Herzberg, Carole Lutness, Melissa Grant, Cara Robin
Adopted July 21, 2013

Resolution 13-04.38
Prosecute and Hold Accountable Financial Executives
WHEREAS, it has been almost five years since the financial crisis crippled the American economy and,
WHEREAS, unacceptably high numbers of Americans have suffered job losses, foreclosure, homelessness, and loss of dignity due to the crisis and,
WHEREAS, the Financial Crisis Inquiry Commission showed why the system failed, that there was verifiable evidence of trillions of dollars of fraud and gross negligence, that crimes were committed by mortgage originators, underwriters, banks, and there have been no financial executive brought, to prosecution for the above actions
BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party stands in solidarity with Senator Elizabeth Warren and others in their effort to encourage regulators, the Justice Department, SEC, and other responsible parties to prosecute and hold accountable those who not only created the crisis but have been merciless in their treatment of those who suffer as a result of their actions while still ignoring good corporate governance policies.

Supported by the Morongo Basin Democratic Club
Adopted July 21, 2013

Resolution 13-07.35L
Protect Service Members From Sexual Assault
WHEREAS, sexual assault is a serious crime that often causes significant physical and mental harm from which some victims never recover;
WHEREAS, there were 3,374 reports of sexual assault involving members of the United States Armed Forces in fiscal year 2012; and the actual incidence of sexual assault involving members of the Armed Forces was probably much higher; the United States Department of Defense (DoD) estimates that approximately 26,000 members of the Armed Forces experienced "unwanted sexual contact" in fiscal year 2012; and
WHEREAS, the DoD admits that "[d]espite unprecedented attention and involvement from senior leadership, enhanced SAPR [sexual assault prevention and response] policies and training, and outreach to key stakeholders, sexual assault remains a persistent problem in the military;"
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the California Democratic Party urges President Barack Obama, Secretary of Defense Chuck Hagel, Secretary of the Navy Ray Mabus, Secretary of the Army John McHugh, Secretary of the Air Force Michael Donley, and every member of the United States Congress to use the full weight of their respective offices to substantially reduce the number of sexual assaults involving members of the Armed Forces; and
THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, copies of this resolution shall be sent to President Barack Obama, Secretary of
Defense Chuck Hagel, Secretary of the Navy Ray Mabus, Secretary of the Army John McHugh, Secretary of the Air Force
Michael Donley, and California's Democratic congressional delegation to encourage them in this most important effort to
protect services members from sexual assault.

Authored by Mister Phillips; Co-sponsors: CDP African American Caucus; El Cerrito Democratic Club; CDP Region 9; CDP
African American Caucus Chairman Darren W. Parker; CDP Veteran's Caucus Chairman Lawson C. Stuart; CDP Regional
Director Diana Love, Region 9; My Christian, AD 11; Carolyn R. Phinney, AD 16; James R. Donnelly, AD 16; Gabriel Quinto,
AD 15; Rochelle Pardue-Okimoto, AD 15; Igor Tregub, AD 15; Dan Rush, AD 15; and Wendy Bloom, AD 15.

Adopted July 21, 2013

Resolution 13-07.23
Provide Shelter And Services For Veterans
WHEREAS, at discharge from military service, veterans are not automatically enrolled in the Veterans' Administration; and are
poorly informed of VA services and locations, and face an inordinate delay in the processing of their claims, in some cases as
long as two years, and
WHEREAS, more than 2.2 million troops returning from Afghanistan and Iraq face new battles as they transition back to
civilian life including physical, mental and emotional wounds such as PTSD which if not treated, can lead to troubled
relationships, lost jobs, substance abuse, homelessness and even suicide, and
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party supports the immediate implementation of the following
by the Department of Defense and the Veterans' Administration:
1) Promptly develop a system of concurrent physical exams and enrollment in the VA system, with issuance of a VA ID
Card at the time of discharge, and
2) Provide Permanent Supportive Housing with robust individualized and comprehensive services to promote independent
living leading to an early return to the community life, avoiding the more expensive institutions such as jails, hospitals, and
homeless shelters, and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California County Democratic Party send a copy of this resolution to the California
Democratic Congressional Delegation, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs and the Secretary of Defense.

Author: Joe Halper, 50th AD, LACDP
Adopted July 21, 2013

Resolution 13-07.41L
Public Private Partnerships (P3s) Must Be Done Smart And Responsibly And Have Good Value For The Taxpayer
WHEREAS, state and local governments and agencies, though the practice of procuring public works transportation contracts
from private consulting firms may select delivery methods that involve private sector investment as a substitute to governmen
tissued bonds or other available public funding for construction delivery methods such as Design-Build, Innovative Financing or
Public-Private Partnerships (P3s); and
WHEREAS, state and local governments and agencies, facing funding shortfalls for transportation infrastructure projects due
to the diminished state funding, the financial markets decline, reduced fuel use and excise taxes, or stable tax revenues are at
times persuaded by investment firms to utilize these alternative delivery methods that are provided flexibilities from the State
Public Contract Code; and
WHEREAS, there exists a need to develop the proper accountability and selection criteria in order to protect precious public
funds from excessive profit margins, higher interest costs and more expensive maintenance and operation costs that linked to
these contractual agreements. Without proper safeguards the practice of awarding Public-Private Partnerships (P3s) may lead
to higher costs to the taxpayers, while benefiting mostly influential investors at the expense of the public's interest and the
unionized workforce of government employees who provide public oversight and ensure conformity to applicable standards
and laws.
THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the California Democratic Party urges our elected Democratic State representatives to
courage the use of public financing as the primary source of funding for infrastructure instead of Public-Private Partnerships
and use competitive bidding procurement on all state infrastructure roadway construction contracts; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the California Democratic Party urges State and local governments and agencies to include
public oversight, to provide transparency, monitoring and financial accountability on all contracts procured by all government
agencies in California; and provide opportunities and a preference to California based workers and businesses in order to keep jobs local and in California.

Authored by John Vassiliades and Supported by AD65, Senator Norma Torres, California Young Democrats, DPOC

Adopted July 21, 2013

**Resolution 13-07.26**

Resolution Against Deployment Of U.S. Troops In Syria Without Congressional Approval

WHEREAS, amidst reported use of chemical weapons and a soaring number of casualties, Syria's long-running civil war has increasingly commanded the attention and involvement of this administration and allied nations; and

WHEREAS, the framers of the Constitution clearly delineated the powers of declaring and waging war, between the executive and legislative branches of government; and

WHEREAS, President Obama is being urged to intervene in Syria, and such intervention would inevitably place more American lives at risk;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party opposes any deployment of troops to Syria or the conflicted region for purposes of war or peacekeeping without explicit approval and consent of the Congress of the United States.

Author: John Burton, Chair, California Democratic Party

Adopted July 21, 2013

**Resolution 13-07.25**

Resolution Calling On DNC To Hold Meetings In Union Hotels

WHEREAS, since the days of Franklin D. Roosevelt, organized labor has been a staunch ally of the Democratic Party and has been at the forefront of the fight for civil rights, a woman's right to choose, LGBT equality, the fight to pass President Obama's affordable care act and the fight to enact immigration reform;

WHEREAS, the California Democratic Party and other state parties abide by a policy of only patronizing businesses, especially hotels, that have collective bargaining agreements with organized labor;

WHEREAS, the Democratic National Committee's choice of holding conventions and DNC meetings in right-to-work states, at non-union hotels, in an effort to reach out to voters in red states has borne little to no electoral fruit;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party urges the Democratic National Committee to adopt a strict and explicit policy requiring conventions and DNC meetings be held at hotels and venues with union contracts for those who cook the food, clean the rooms, and serve the drinks and food and make our stays comfortable and enjoyable; and

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, copies of this resolution be sent to the Chair of the DNC, the DNC executive committee and California's DNC delegation.

Author: John Burton, Chair, California Democratic Party

Adopted July 21, 2013

**Resolution 13-07.21**

RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF NATIONAL STRATEGY TO ELIMINATE POVERTY

WHEREAS, 46.2 million Americans or 15.1 percent of the American people were living in poverty in 2010 which includes 25.3 percent of Californians, 21.9 percent of children and 3.5 million seniors;

WHEREAS, poverty disproportionately impacts communities of color: the rate of poverty among African Americans is 27%; 26.6 percent among Hispanics; 12.1 percent for Asian Americans; and 25.3 percent of Native Americans; and

WHEREAS, in 2010 a family of 4 was considered poor under the U.S. Census Bureau's official measure if the family's income was below $22,314

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the California Democratic Party supports the creation of a comprehensive, national strategy to eliminate poverty with the goal of cutting poverty in half over the next 10 years.

Author: Congresswoman Barbara Lee

Adopted July 21, 2013

**Resolution 13-07.39L**

Resolution In Support Of President Obama's Statement On July 19, 2013 In Response To The George Zimmerman Ruling

WHEREAS, we respect that trial by jury is a cornerstone of our American judicial system; and
WHEREAS, President Barack Obama has spoken eloquently in the wake of Trayvon Martin's death, urging calm, compassion and adding perspective to the dialogue taking place in response to the ruling; and 
WHEREAS, the jury's ruling has opened a dialogue among communities throughout the nation involving race, criminal justice, and inconsistencies in state laws which may contribute to the likelihood that incident's like the one involving Trayvon may occur again; 
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the California Democratic Party commends President Obama for displaying compassion, leadership and offering critical perspective in the wake of the jury's ruling; and 
THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, we recognize that a tremendous amount of work remains to be done to challenge, and change, the inequities that exist within our judicial system in order to ensure the system works equally for all. 
Authors: Assemblymember Reginald Jones-Sawyer, Sr., African-American Caucus Chairman Darren Parker 
Supported by: 59 Assembly District Delegation 
Adopted July 21, 2013 

Resolution 13-07.01
RESOLUTION OF THE CALIFORNIA DEMOCRATIC PARTY, PROCLAIMING A STATEWIDE EFFORT TO SUPPORT AUTISM AWARENESS
WHEREAS, autism is a pervasive developmental disorder affecting the social learning, communication, and behavior skills of those affected by it; and as more and more health professionals become proficient in diagnosing autism, more and more children are being diagnosed on the autism spectrum, resulting in rates as high as 1 in 88 children and 1 in 53 male children, across the country; and 
WHEREAS, while there is no cure for autism, it is well documented that if individuals with autism receive treatment early in their lives, it often is possible for those individuals to lead significantly improved lives; and 
WHEREAS, Autism Speaks is one of the organizations nationally spearheading an awareness effort in order to educate, parents, professional and the general public about autism and its effects, in addition to providing research, advocacy, and services for those affected and their families; 
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, The California Democratic Party hereby to support and participate in Autism Awareness events, and proclaim the month of April as "Autism Awareness Month" in order to become better educated on the subject of autistic spectrum disorders and in turn help to educate our communities abroad, and 
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party supports initiatives that advance and support autism awareness domestically and internationally. 
Submitted by: Astrid Zuniga- AD 21 DSCC Executive Board Member, UDWA/AFSCME 3930; Supported by: DSCC Region 4, Lowell J. Young- Mariposa Co. Democratic Central Committee & Affirmative Action Committee Member 
Adopted July 21, 2013 

Resolution 13-07.22
Resolution On A Fair Minimum Wage
WHEREAS, poverty is a serious problem that has become worse during the current depression; jobs and wages are not growing fast enough to pull us out of this depression any time soon; and we have the power and moral responsibility to alleviate this great suffering; and 
WHEREAS, companies in this current economic crisis are not hiring or giving wage increases because they see insufficient demand for their goods and services; the demand is low because too many people are holding back spending due to unemployment, low wages, or heavy debt; a higher minimum wage will bring up the base of the salary scale to give consumers greater purchasing power; and the increased sales that come from that purchasing enable businesses' higher profit to allow for increased wages and increased hiring; and 
WHEREAS, historical evidence shows no discernible linkage between increasing wages and inflation, whether the increased wages are the minimum wage or soaring CEO salaries; in 1968, the Federal minimum wage in 2013 dollars was $10.68 per hour and the State’s was $11.02; neither of these caused an adverse effect on employment; neither the State nor Federal minimum wage has kept up with the cost of living; and the current State and Federal minimums provide American workers neither income above the poverty level nor a living wage which would allow these workers the basic human rights of all individuals;
THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party supports a State and Federal minimum wage of $11.00 per hour indexed to cost of living, and the California Democratic Party further supports a living wage enabling workers to afford life's basic necessities of food, shelter, clothing, health care, and education; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the California Democratic Party will send this resolution to the President, the Governor, and our State and Federal legislators representing California.

Sponsored by: Richard M. Mathews; Democratic Party of the San Fernando Valley, African American Caucus, Richard M. Mathews, E-Board, AD 38, R. L. Miller, Caucus Chair, AD 44, Cecile Bendavid, E-Board, AD 45, Ray Bishop, Caucus Chair, AD 45, Nancy L. Bednar Ph.D., DSCC, AD 36, Sherryan Lima, DSCC, AD 36, Suzann Reina, DSCC, AD 36, Mark Archuleta, DSCC, AD 38, Richard Carter, DSCC, AD 38, Joshua Heath, DSCC, AD 38, Michael Kulka, DSCC, AD 38, Dorri Raskin, DSCC, AD 38, Farid Ben Amor, DSCC, AD 39, Rosalyn Kahn, DSCC, AD 46

Adopted July 21, 2013

Resolution 13-04.55
Resolution On Gerrymandering
WHEREAS In 2012 Republican candidates for the House of Representatives won a majority of seats (234 to 201) despite receiving 1.4 million fewer votes than Democratic candidates, as a result of gerrymandering districts in Florida, Michigan, North Carolina, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Virginia and Wisconsin, and the Republican National committee now seeks to have Presidential electoral votes awarded on gerrymandered districts, and
WHEREAS, a Republican State Leadership Committee report brags that this was a result of intentional gerrymandering, and in order to discriminate against Democratic voters, Republicans have intentionally discriminated against minorities, and
WHEREAS, all states are subject to the anti-discrimination provisions of national civil rights and voting rights laws, which the U.S. Department of Justice is empowered and obligated to enforce; California voters achieved unbiased districting by approving an initiative which created an independent citizens' redistricting commission; and Florida, Michigan and Ohio have an initiative process for amending their state constitution,
THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the California Democratic Party urges the Justice Department to place a high priority on legal action to eliminate discriminatory gerrymanders in all states in which they have occurred, and urges the Democratic National Committee to eliminate gerrymanders by organizing and funding initiative drives in states where that is an option, and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the California Democratic Party will communicate this resolution to the DNC, President Barack Obama and Attorney General Eric Holder.

Sponsored by the Democratic Club of Claremont, Bob Gerecke, 41st AD

Adopted July 21, 2013

Resolution 13-04.50
Resolution On Identity Theft
WHEREAS, Identify Theft, has become a major white collar crime, running into the Billions of dollars in losses and is not a laughing matter, contrary to Hollywood's recent movie, Identify Theft; and
WHEREAS, the victim as the innocent person who has had their name, social security number and credit stolen; has to go to great lengths to clear their name and credit, at their personal expense and time; and
WHEREAS, the victim is often treated as the criminal, when attempting to clear their name and restore their credit and it has been documented that the credit reporting industry has many errors in their reports;
THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party urges all federal, state and local governmental agencies and departments to adopt and enforce an immediate moratorium on restitution being sought from the victim whose identity has been stolen until legislation, ordinances and regulations are put in place that (a) guarantee that any person defrauded by the criminal, shall be able to seek restitution, only from the criminal using a stolen identity and not the innocent person whose identify was stolen; (b) puts the burden of clearing up problems created for the victim on the parties that allowed the impersonator to be granted loans, to be sold items, and otherwise to cause damage to innocent persons; (c) streamlines the burden of proof to clear their name and credit, for the identity theft victim.
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party communicate this position to President Obama, Governor Brown, the Democratic members of the Congressional and State legislative delegations, and that the California Democratic Party urges all California Democratic County Central Committees to communicate this position to Democratic elected officials with city, community college, school board and other local agencies within their jurisdiction.
Sponsored by the Point Loma Democratic Club
Resolution 13-07.36L
Resolution On U.S. Supreme Court’s Decision Effectively Gutting The Voting Rights Act
WHEREAS, the Voting Rights Act (VRA) is one of the most effective, and necessary, pieces of legislation passed by Congress in the last fifty years; and
WHEREAS, despite achievements and advances we’ve made collectively as a nation over the past fifty years, in red states like Mississippi, Alabama, Texas and others, work remains to be done so that all Americans can enjoy their voting rights without discrimination; and
WHEREAS, the U.S. Supreme Court recently struck down the existing coverage formula used to determine which states and electoral subdivisions are subject to the preclearance requirement of Section 5 of the VRA, effectively gutting the Act by taking away the Department of Justice’s strongest tool to prevent voter disenfranchisement;
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the California Democratic Party forcefully condemns this 5-4 ruling by the U.S. Supreme Court which is bound to set back the cause of voting rights for years to come; and
THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the California Democratic Party strongly supports efforts to mitigate the damage the court’s decision is likely to inflict on voters who are registered in preclearance districts.

Author: John Burton, Chairman, California Democratic Party
Adopted July 21, 2013

Resolution 13-07.32
Resolution Recognizing Need For Continued Advocacy In Republican Strongholds In Order To Ensure Adequate Representation For All Californians
WHEREAS, elected leaders of the City of Costa Mesa, in particular elected Republican leaders, have displayed a history of antagonism against members of the Latino community, including redundantly and unnecessarily declaring their city a "Rule of Law City" while other California cities were welcoming and acknowledging the contributions of their immigrant populations; and
WHEREAS, the city has a 35% Latino population but its city council lacks even a single Latino elected official; and
WHEREAS, while California is decidedly a blue state, the above facts make clear that much work remains to be done to ensure that all Californians, especially those in communities considered Republican strongholds, have political representation they can be proud of;
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the California Democratic Party will continue to fight to expand our Democratic majority and proactively work to ensure that the "red corners" in state continue to shrink so that all Californians, including immigrants and members of historically underrepresented communities, have a fair shot at adequate representation.
THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the California Democratic Party recognizes the essential work that organizations like LULAC, NCLR, NALEO and the SWVREP conduct to increase and expand Latino voter participation in California.

Author: John Burton, Chair, California Democratic Party
Adopted July 21, 2013

Resolution 13-07.14
Resolution Requiring Data Collected By NSA Program To Be Destroyed After Six Months Unless A Judge Deems Information In The Interest Of National Security
WHEREAS, recent revelations have once again shined a light on our nation's sprawling surveillance programs, including those programs that are capturing personal communications of Americans, even those not under investigation or suspected of a crime; and
WHEREAS, the National Security Agency (NSA) is required by law, to gather intelligence on foreign nationals and restricted from turning its significant intelligence gathering powers on our own citizens; and
WHEREAS, questions have been raised about the legality of gathering large swaths of information and data on Americans not suspected of a crime and not suspected of plotting to hurt our nation;
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the California Democratic Party calls on requiring the NSA to destroy domestic data and records collected on Americans within six months unless a federal judge deems the information to be in the interest of national security; and
THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, copies of this resolution be sent to President Obama, the Chair and Co-Chair of the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence, the Chair and Co-Chair of the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence and the Director of the NSA.

Author: John Burton, Chair, California Democratic Party

Adopted July 21, 2013

Resolution 13-04.31
Resolution To Promote Non Partisan Voter Registration In High Schools

WHEREAS, Congress passed the National Voter Registration Act of 1993 [NVRA] to increase voter registration because a participating electorate is vital to a democracy, and, according to the Federal Election Assistance Commission (EAC), nationally voter registration actually decreased by more than 3.6 million voters during the two years leading up to the 2010 elections, and, WHEREAS, Sections 5 and 7 of the NVRA requires that States offer voter registration opportunities at certain State and local offices, including the DMV and public assistance and disability offices. Any office in California that provides public assistance must offer voter-registration services. This includes any of the following federal public assistance programs: the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP, formerly the Food-Stamp Program), the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC), the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program (formerly the Aid to Families with Dependent Children or AFDC program), the Medicaid program, and the State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP). This also includes state public assistance programs, and, WHEREAS, In addition to offices providing public assistance, Section 7 also requires California to designate "other offices" within California as voter-registration agencies. Such other agency designations may include State or local government offices such as public libraries, public schools, state colleges, universities and community colleges, city and county clerk's offices, marriage license offices, government revenue offices, and unemployment compensation offices, and THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party strongly urges California School Districts to provide non-partisan voter registration education to high school seniors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party forward this resolution to Democratic members of the United States Senate, the United States Congressional Delegation, the California Legislature, and County Democratic Party Central Committees

Supported by the Chicano-Latino Caucus, he Dolores Huerta Latino Democratic Club of Northern California, the Latino Democratic Club of Los Angeles County

Adopted July 21, 2013

Resolution 13-07.10
Resolution To Protect Workers From Retaliation And Unjust Conditions

WHEREAS, the largest employer in the United States, Wal Mart, was cited in a May 2007 Human Rights Watch Report for its aggressive tactics aimed at opposing its workers from organizing; and, a January 2013 National Labor Board memo cited that eighty charges were filed against Wal-Mart for attempting to prevent its workers from forming unions; and WHEREAS, Federal laws, under National Labor Relations Board ("NLRB"), require said workers to prove that offending employers manifested an intent to retaliate against workers who complained or organized, the practical result is that many workers are left without adequate remedies to redress their grievances and claims against employers that take pre-textual actions against, or impose punitive conditions on, workers or for whatever motive, fail to provide adequate working conditions for its workers; and WHEREAS, the California Labor and Employment Laws provide a powerful means of advocacy for workers who seek better wages and working conditions; and, as non-union employers have a higher incidence of poor working conditions and lower wages; and, anti-union employers are known to impose sub-standard conditions on workers who complain; and that the power to enact laws for higher wage standards and working conditions is reserved to the states; THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the California Democratic Party urges our state legislature to enact stronger state labor and employment laws to protect workers and, further, for stronger penalties for employer violations of state labor and employment laws; THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the California Democratic Party forward this resolution to the President of the United States and each member of the California Delegation to U.S. Congress to urge enactment of National Labor Relations Board statutes to provide for strong compensatory and punitive damage awards to workers for acts of employer
retaliation for against workers who attempt to organize and for enactment of new federal laws to make it easier for workers to unionize.
Submitted by: Michael Harrington, DSCC [42nd AD]; Palm Desert Greens Democratic Club; Michelle Campbell DSCC [67th AD], Riverside County Democratic Party
Adopted July 21, 2013

Resolution 13-04.78
Resolution To Support Peacebuilding
WHEREAS, violence in America cuts across age, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, disability, ethnicity, religion, and nationality, and negatively impacts the quality of life, erodes social values and standards of morality, deteriorates national morale, and creates a culture that systematically reproduces violence by the use of force and violence as means of defense and security domestically and internationally, and
WHEREAS, funding of domestic and international wars on crime, immigration, terrorism, and so on drains the U.S. and global economy and a recent report from the Institute for Economics and Peace estimates that in the U.S. violence containment costs around 15% of Gross Domestic Product each year and is the largest discrete industry in this country, costing around $2.16 trillion dollars annually, and
WHEREAS, the epidemic of violence in America must be contained through the implementation of nonviolent strategies to remedy the effects of gang violence, domestic abuse, sexual violence, and gun violence domestically; as well as to alleviate growing international tensions and help resolve civil wars and international conflicts the United States has pledged to support.
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the California Democratic Party encourages state and national legislatures to support research by government agencies and NGOs to identify and address the root causes of violence in our society, and supports the implementation of education and training programs in nonviolent conflict resolution in public agencies and in public schools.
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the California Democratic Party will support policy initiatives that will advance peace building domestically and internationally on the local, state, and national level.
Supported by Region 16, 41 DSCC Delegates, Democratic Central Committee of Marin
Adopted July 21, 2013

Resolution 13-04.42
Resolution To Support The Campaign To Ratify The ERA (Equal Rights Amendment)
WHEREAS, the Equal Rights Amendment (ERA) which states that "Equality of rights under the law shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any state on account of sex," was a proposed amendment to the United States Constitution designed to guarantee equal rights for women, originally introduced in Congress for the first time in 1923 by Alice Paul; finally passed both houses of Congress in 1972 and went to the state legislatures for ratification but failed to secure the requisite number of ratifications before the final deadline mandated by Congress of June 30, 1982.
WHEREAS, the ERA has been introduced into every session of Congress for the past 30 years and has seen legislative activity in eight of the 15 unratified states yet the Amendment still has not been incorporated into our Constitution; Congresswoman Carole Maloney (D-NY) introduced H.J.RES 69, Equal Rights Amendment [112th Congress] on June 22, 2011 and on Tuesday, March 5, 2013, Senator Robert Menendez (D-NJ) reintroduced the traditional ERA ratification bill as S.J. Res. 10 with 10 co-sponsors, in the U.S. Senate, including our Senator Barbara Boxer;
WHEREAS, women have made incredible progress in the past thirty-five years, but unfortunately judicial attitudes can shift and Congress can repeal existing laws with a simple majority vote and there are continuing struggles to roll back women's rights in education, health, employment, and even domestic violence. As the great suffragist and author of the ERA Alice Paul said "We shall not be safe until the principle of equal rights is written into the framework of our government."
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party re-affirms its support for statewide efforts to help ratify the Equal Rights Amendment;
AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party shall transmit copies of this resolution to President Obama and to all Democratic members of California's Congressional and Senate delegation to encourage them to be co-sponsors of either the House or Senate bill.
Sponsored by: Ces Rosales (AD 15), Northern California co-chair of the CDP Women's Caucus; Karen Weinstein (AD 15), former Chair of the CDP Women's Caucus, Assembly member Joan Buchanan, Assembly member Robert Wieckowski,
Resolution 13-04.80  
San Onofre Nuclear Power Plant  
WHEREAS: the San Onofre Nuclear plant experienced an emergency shutdown and as a result of these failures and other complications Edison International has announced it will not seek to restart the San Onofre Nuclear Plant  
WHEREAS, when fully operational, the San Onofre Nuclear plant supplied up to 2,200 Megawatts (MW) of electricity to the electricity grid, and is a major source of employment for 2,200 men and women of the building trades; and the elimination of its restart provides a concrete opportunity for California to realize the demonstrated potential for energy efficiency and conservation as a resource in its own right and of renewable energy power including utility scale solar, wind, geothermal and rooftop solar and micro-turbine wind power to offset this possible withdrawal of supply;  
NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party calls upon our State policy makers and the California Public Utilities Commission to: a) direct a focused implementation of a renewable energy program that generates high quality jobs, that pay prevailing wage, incorporate local jobs through Project Labor Agreements, and includes solar power on residential homes in order to reduce peak energy costs, water demand, improve air quality, and which puts the men and women of the building trades back to work in the service territories supplied by San Onofre Nuclear plant; and b) order utility-funded incentives for the owners of nonresidential buildings in these service territories to implement the California Energy Commission's new energy efficiency standards before their official start date on January 1, 2014; and  
Sponsored by La Jolla Democratic Club  
Adopted July 21, 2013

Resolution 13-04.58  
Single Payer Health Care  
WHEREAS, the new health care system passed under President Obama is a step in the right direction and Single Payer Health Care or Medicare for Everyone would be a further improvement, and  
WHEREAS, the advantage of Single Payer Health Care is that insurance companies along with their profits and overhead would be replaced by the federal government as the single payer for health care services as is now the case with Medicare, resulting in huge savings in health care costs, and  
WHEREAS, Single Payer Health Care is not socialized medicine because the hospitals, doctors and other providers would not work for the government but would remain in the private sector,  
NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party supports a further evolution of our health care system into a Single Payer system, or Medicare for All, and  
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party transmits this resolution to President Obama and to the Democrats in the California Congressional delegation and to all Democratic members of the California legislature.  
Sponsored by the La Jolla Democratic Club  
Adopted July 21, 2013

Resolution 13-04.41  
Stop The Payday Debt Trap  
WHEREAS, California's hard-working families pay almost $400 million in predatory interest rate fees annually to payday lenders, with the loans carrying up to a 459% annual percentage rate, causing the typical borrower to pay $570 for a $255 loan; and  
WHEREAS, the high costs of payday loans coupled with short repayment periods create a debt trap for most payday loan consumers, with the average borrower taking out nearly one loan per month, generating an inescapable debt spiral, as well as almost doubling the likelihood that the borrower will be forced into bankruptcy (Vanderbilt Law School), and these effects fall disproportionately on low-income communities and communities of color, draining them of much-needed funds; and
WHEREAS, payday loans should be a little-used form of emergency assistance, and aspects of the business model that trap working families in a debt trap must be reformed; 
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party supports reforms to California's payday loan laws, including but not limited to the following:

• Limiting the number of payday loans payday lenders can make to a borrower each year.
• Increasing of the amount of time a borrower has to pay back a loan.
• Requiring that payday lenders allow a borrower who is unable to repay a payday loan on the due date to enter into a repayment plan.
• Requiring that payday lenders determine the borrower's ability to repay the loan based on standard underwriting criteria; and
• Limit the amount of interest to be charged in annum

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

Supported by the Santa Clara County Democratic Party

Adopted July 21, 2013

Resolution 13-04.10
Student Fee Freeze

WHEREAS, the state's working families who have children attending the state's public colleges and universities have endured significant increases in student fees, creating a financial strain for many Californians as their incomes have not kept pace with these increasing costs, and

WHEREAS, the Regents of the University of California have raised mandatory system wide student fees by 68 percent since the 2007-08 academic year, and over 200 percent in the past decade, and the Trustees of the California State University have raised mandatory system wide student fees by 76 percent since the 2007-08 academic year, and over 242 percent in the past decade, and California Community College fees increased 130 percent increase in five years from $20 a unit in 2008-09 to $46 a unit in 2012-13, and

WHEREAS, the California 1960 Master Plan for Higher Education declared that a tuition-free higher education is in the best interest of the state and should be continued for all California residents and the state has long recognized the value of providing broad access to postsecondary education to the state's diverse residents,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party urges Governor Brown, the California State Legislature, the Regents of the University of California and the Trustees of the California State University to institute a fee freeze at the levels established in the 2011-12 fiscal year for the next four years, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party communicate this position to Governor Brown, the Democratic members of the State Legislature, the Regents of the University of California, the Trustees of the California State University, the Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges, and that the California Democratic Party urges all California Democratic County Central Committees to communicate this position to Democratic elected officials with city, community college, school board and other local agencies within their jurisdiction.

Supported by Speaker John A. Perez, 25 DSCC Delegates
Adopted July 21, 2013

Resolution 13-04.5
Support For Ban On Single Use Plastic Bags

WHEREAS, according to the United States Environmental Protection Agency as many as a trillion single use plastic bags are used worldwide every year, including 12 billion in California;

WHEREAS, on average there are 46,000 pieces of plastic in each square mile of every ocean on Earth and in California single use plastic bags pollute beaches, clog creeks, kill marine life, litter public spaces, and cost local governments millions of dollars in clean up, including $24 million to Los Angeles County every year;

WHEREAS, the town of Fairfax, the City & County of San Francisco, the County of Los Angeles, the City of San Jose, Marin County, City of Manhattan Beach, and the City of Oakland have passed laws banning single use plastic bags;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the California Democratic Party supports a statewide ban on single use plastic bags;

THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, 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.
Resolution 13-07.27
Support For Repeal Of The 2001 Authorization Of Use Of Military Force
WHEREAS, in the wake of the tragic events of September 11, 2001, the Congress, by a vote of 420-1 approved and President George Bush signed, the 2001 Authorization for Use of Military Force (AUMF).
WHEREAS, the AUMF authorized the President to "use all necessary and appropriate force against those nations, organizations, or persons he determines planned, authorized, committed, or aided the terrorist attacks that occurred on September 11, 2001, or harbored such organizations or persons, in order to prevent any future acts of international terrorism against the United States by such nations, organizations or persons."
WHEREAS, the 2001 AUMF has been cited in justifications of warrantless surveillance and wiretapping activities, indefinite detention practices, extrajudicial targeted-killing operations, and an ever-growing and indefinite pursuit of an ill-defined enemy abroad.
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the 2001 AUMF is an overly broad authorization that has far-reaching implications, which shake the very foundations of our democracy.
THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the California Democratic Party supports repealing the 2001 AUMF as soon as possible, but no later than the end of 2014 when combat operations in Afghanistan finally end.
Author: Congresswoman Barbara Lee
Adopted July 21, 2013

Resolution 13-07.30
Support Of Northgate Gonzalez, Vallarta Market Workers To Form A Union Via Card Check Neutrality
WHEREAS, Grocery workers across the State of California play a critical role in the economy, working holidays, weekends, and long hours to provide our families with the essential foods that we consume daily; and
WHEREAS, Grocers such as Northgate Gonzalez Markets and Vallarta Supermarkets have achieved success in the Latino grocery business. The ever growing Latino community is their number one target base and yet these markets often forget the backbone of their success are the workers that report to work in their stores day in and day out who deserve a work environment with dignity and respect, and
WHEREAS, we acknowledge some of these markets give back to the communities in which they serve. So it is now time for Northgate Gonzalez and Vallarta Supermarkets to act in the best interest of their company and our communities and be the champions for the Latino workforce by allowing their workers to unionize via card check neutrality, and
THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the California Democratic Party support the rights of the workers at Northgate Gonzalez and Vallarta Supermarkets to organize and bargain collectively; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that we call upon the Northgate Gonzalez and Vallartas Supermarkets to recognize the rights of those who work for them and allow those workers to choose freely to unionize, without fear, intimidation, retaliation, or coercion via card check neutrality.
Sponsored by Anabel Salcedo; United Food and Commercial Workers Local 135
Adopted July 21, 2013

Resolution 13-04.12
Support Publicly Owned Voting Systems
WHEREAS, our right to vote is the fundamental way in which we engage our government and that the integrity of voting relies on the trust that each vote is counted as cast and voting systems are the devices and processes by which a vote is cast and counted;
WHEREAS, transparency of voting systems is vital for the public's ability to verify and trust election outcomes, yet every voting system used in California elections is owned by private vendors that limit transparency due to trade secrets and private voting systems have a history of election problems, including in Florida during the 2000 Presidential election, and thousands of reported malfunctions in each of the 2004, 2006, 2008, 2010, and 2012 national elections and private vendors can have conflicts of interest between their political and commercial activities;
WHEREAS, the County of Los Angeles is developing a voting system that will be owned and operated by publicly accountable election officials and the publicly owned system will increase voter confidence in the electoral process by requiring
transparency, a verifiable public record, access to voters with language barriers and disabilities, and ease for all voters to understand and use;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party supports the efforts of Los Angeles County to develop, own and operate a publicly owned voting system; and encourages California counties to develop, own and operate a publicly owned voting system.

Supported by Senator Alex Padilla, 25 + Delegates
Adopted July 21, 2013

Resolution 13-07.38L
Supporting California's Implementation Of The Affordable Health Care Act

WHEREAS, President Obama, with the invaluable leadership of Speaker Nancy Pelosi, successfully enacted historic healthcare reform legislation - the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act- affectionately known as" Obamcare", which represents the most significant expansion and regulatory overhaul of the US healthcare system since Medicare and Medicaid, thereby enabling millions of uninsured or under-insured Americans to finally acquire quality, affordable healthcare.

WHEREAS, California, under the leadership of Governor Brown has been the nation's leader in implementing the federal law, enacting legislation authored by Speaker John Pérez to create the California Health Benefit Exchange. Additionally California went beyond the federal coverage mandate in defining and establishing essential health benefits, with the result that California was recently praised by President Obama as a model for the country for implementing the Affordable Care Act correctly and in persuading health insurers to offer better plans at affordable prices.

WHEREAS, California's Health Benefit Exchange, now known as "Covered California", is partnering with The California Endowment, Health Consumer Alliance and major multi ethnic media groups in launching a massive statewide education and outreach campaign working with various labor, health, ethnic and community organizations to reach the 5.3 million uninsured Californians where they live, work, play and worship in order to provide the necessary information about all the new health care options available, with the goal of enabling a large and diverse number of Californians to successfully enroll for health insurance during this first enrollment period beginning October 1st. Additionally, now more than 1.4 million low income and poor Californians will also have access to the now expanded Medi-Cal program as a result of legislation authored by Speaker Pérez.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, That the California Democratic Party commends Governor Brown, Speaker Pérez, the State Legislature, Insurance Commissioner Dave Jones and Covered California for the effective and professional launch of the most sweeping health care reform of our lifetime which should result in 7 million Californians having access to quality affordable healthcare, with a full array of benefits and none of the previous restrictions imposed by the insurance industry.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the CDP will explore every opportunity to support the successful implementation of Obamcare and further encourages all affiliated organizations to assist in the dissemination of information about the new opportunities, choices and federal subsidies available under the Affordable Care Act, and to resist any and all efforts to undermine its success.

Authoried by: Eric C. Bauman, Vice Chair, California Democratic Party
Adopted July 21, 2013

Resolution 13-07.11
Trans Pacific Partnership

WHEREAS, the trade agreement known as Trans Pacific Partnership is being negotiated in secret, and opponents in the labor and environmental communities argue that it would give new enforceable monopolistic rights and privileges to multi-national corporations, and establish limits on sovereign governments’ ability to regulate corporations’ actions, including but not limited to the areas of intellectual and copyright provisions, prices, labor practices, environmental impacts, disclosure requirements, and safety issues and

WHEREAS, according to public documents from the US Trade Representative, this agreement would allow multi-national corporations to sue governments through international tribunals, staffed by private sector attorneys, which could force governments to pay compensation to corporations and investors if the challenged policies are deemed to hinder investors' future profits, even if those corporations are not abiding by the countries' laws and regulations and

WHEREAS, past trade agreements have had a detrimental impact on jobs and wages, the environment, and fair equitable trade, this agreement goes beyond what has been done before, and should not be pursued
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party calls for withdrawal from Trans Pacific Partnership negotiations, and calls for a new, more transparent paradigm for trade negotiations

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party forward copies of this resolution to President Obama, the Office of U. S. Trade Representatives, Governor Jerry Brown, Speaker John A. Perez, Senate President pro Tempore Darrell Steinberg, Speaker of the House John Boehner and Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid. Authored by Susie Shannon, Assembly District 50, Dorothy Reik, Assembly District 50, Adrienne Burk, AD46

Adopted July 21, 2013

Resolution13-07.28
Western Hemispheric Summit

WHEREAS, President Obama is well liked and enjoying high popular marks and is respected in Latin America for his global, forward -looking vision of mutual global responsibility, and

WHEREAS, President Obama is to be congratulated on his recent announcement that "in 2014 he plans to host the first of its kind, a summit of leaders from across sub-Saharan Africa in the United States,"

WHEREAS, The United States of America shares not only the Hemisphere with all the Americas but we share a common history and many of the same problems facing the world today, such as failing economies, climate change, immigration, drug wars, human rights violations, to name a few, and the US must continue working to solve these problems in cooperation and agreement with our neighbors.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, That the California Democratic Party recommends that our nation take the lead in organizing a summit of leaders as we are doing with the sub Saharan African Leaders and in the near future open dialogue with all countries of the Latin America hemisphere and that it be conducted in a process in which all countries take responsibility and act within their national interest based on mutual respect and develop solutions to address our many diverse issues, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution is sent to President Obama and all of the California Congressional Delegation for action.

Authored by Placido Salazar, Assembly District 10; Bobbie Salazar, Assembly District 10

Adopted July 21, 2013

Resolution 13-04.3C
Affirm Continuing Support of CEQA

WHEREAS, the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) was enacted by the California legislature in 1970 as the state’s premier planning and environmental protection law and it has served to inform the public and local government decision-makers of potential environmental harm and ways to avoid or reduce that harm before it occurs, and CEQA has ensured the public’s right to participate in a fair, transparent planning process for the past forty years because members of local communities are knowledgeable of their needs and environmental issues which has resulted in improved project planning due to public participation leading to better air quality, green building standards to reduce greenhouse gases, improved water quality and more efficient use of water and energy in general, and

WHEREAS, a recent qualitative analysis titled "The Economic and Environmental Impact of the CEQA" shows that under CEQA California’s GDP per capita growth has exceeded US per capita growth and using a variety of measurements California’s share of manufacturing, construction in general including housing, the growth of high tech, bio-tech and other industries which attract professional and technical labor, and even the percentage of environmentally friendly infill developments all have matched or exceeded national results indicating that by promoting a cleaner environment CEQA has directly enhanced California’s economy, and

WHEREAS, there have been recent attacks on the integrity of this law that would compromise, dilute and diminish its effectiveness by reducing or eliminating public participation and the public’s right to enforce as well as reducing the transparency of the public process, and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the California Democratic Party stands with the labor and environmental community in affirming its support and commitment to CEQA’s original intent to ensure public participation and transparency in the planning process in order to protect California’s environment and calls on the state legislature and governor to oppose any efforts to weaken this law or reduce public participation, and
THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the California Democratic Party will send a copy of this resolution to all members of the California Democratic delegation of the State Legislature as well as the governor.

Committee Resolution, co-sponsored by Carole Lutness; Los Angeles County Democratic Party; Democratic Party of San Fernando Valley; State Building and Construction Trades Council; Dan Kalb

Adopted April 14, 2013

Resolution 13-04.43
Calling For Overturning Of Proposition 8 By Us Supreme Court
WHEREAS, the California Democratic Party, which has a long and proud history of standing up for the rights of all people, has taken an official stand against Proposition 8 which denies marriage equality to same-sex couples; and
WHEREAS, California's Attorney General Kamala Harris, Speaker of the Assembly John A. Pérez, and many other prominent Democratic elected officials have made their opposition to the discriminatory law quite clear; and
WHEREAS, the U.S. Supreme Court has recently heard eloquent arguments as to why this discriminatory law is unconstitutional and must be overruled;
THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED the California Democratic Party is united and speaks with one voice as it calls on the US Supreme Court to recognize the validity of the plaintiffs arguments seeking to overturn Proposition 8 in order to guarantee full equality under the law for same-sex couples; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution by the California Democratic Party be widely publicized by the Party and its officers.

Sponsored by Stonewall Democratic Club of Greater Sacramento, Miracle Mile Democratic Club (Los Angeles), Yes We Can Democratic Club (Long Beach), West Hollywood Democratic Club, Beverly Hills Democratic Club, West Los Angeles Democratic Club, Speaker John A Pérez, every CDP Officer

Adopted April 14, 2013

Resolution 13-04.16
Charter Cities Should Pay Prevailing Wage
WHEREAS, it is a matter of statewide concern that California has an available workforce of skilled construction workers to efficiently complete both public and private infrastructure projects;
WHEREAS, prevailing wage workers efficiently, safely and timely complete both public and private infrastructure projects,
WHEREAS, a charter city should not receive or use state funding or financial assistance for a construction project if the city has a charter provision or ordinance that authorizes a contractor to not comply with the prevailing wage rules on any public works contract,
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the California Democratic Party supports all actions that ensure workers receive prevailing wage from charter cities on any public works contract;
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the California Democratic Party supports all actions to ensure no charter city receives state funding or assistance for construction if it fails to adopt a prevailing wage ordinance which is consistent with the California Democratic Party policy of supporting a strong workforce, adequate standard of living and prosperity for all.

Supported by DEMCCO, North Area of San Diego Democratic Party

Adopted April 14, 2013

Resolution 13-04.39
Close The Corporate Loophole
WHEREAS, Proposition 13, passed in 1978, is unfair in that it allows commercial property owners to avoid paying their fair share and has shifted the tax burden to residential property and away from business, including everyday homeowners and working families; and
WHEREAS, the state of California continues to face chronic budget crises in large part because Proposition 13 has forced the state to rely on more volatile revenue sources than the property tax, like income taxes and sales taxes paid by working families that move in tandem with economic cycles, causing deficits and requiring cuts to vital services that grow our economy and thereby worsening economic downturns;
WHEREAS, regularly reassessing non-residential property would, according to an analysis of data provided by the California Board of Equalization, generate at least $6 billion in additional revenue for California, and shift the tax burden from homeowners, renters, and working families to corporations and commercial landholders;

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THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party supports commercial property tax reform that will require commercial properties to be reassessed regularly while maintaining residential property owners’ protections under Prop 13; and
THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Democratic Party of California will communicate this position to Democratic elected officials.

Sponsored by the Santa Clara County DCC, Fresno County Democratic Central Committee, Mariposa Democratic Club, Mariposa Democratic Central Committee, Region 4, Wellstone Democratic Renewal Club, LACDP
Adopted April 14, 2013

Resolution 13-04.33
Condemning Republican Efforts To Promote And Pass Voter ID Laws
WHEREAS, National Weather Service data shows that Americans are struck and killed by lightning about as often as voter ID fraud occurs;
WHEREAS, since 2001, there have been nearly 1,000 voter identification bills introduced in a total of 46 states, which resulted in 24 states passing a voter identification law;
WHEREAS, voter identification laws are only used to limit voter turnout, and result in the elderly, students, communities of color and other citizens being denied their right to vote, such as in Indiana where there were no instances of voter fraud when their state law was passed, but afterwards the new law succeeded in stopping ten nuns from exercising their right to vote;
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party recognizes the right for all citizens to vote, including the elderly, students, and communities of color;
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party condemns Republican attempts to pass Voter ID laws which have nothing to do with the sanctity of voting but instead are an open and blatant attempt to limit voter participation in key states, by denying those who may not support Republican ideology their right to vote and their chance to make their voice heard.

Supported by Chairman John Burton, 25 DSCC Delegates
Adopted April 14, 2013

Resolution 13-04.32
Do Not Repeal The Voting Rights Act
WHEREAS, the Supreme Court of the United States is considering repealing the 1965 Civil Rights Act (the Voting Rights Act), and
WHEREAS, the passage of the 1965 Voting Rights Act was passed only after massive civil rights efforts, including the famous march from Selma to Montgomery Alabama, and
WHEREAS many voter suppression efforts are being attempted in states of the old Confederacy which are covered by the Voting Rights Act
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic State Central Committee calls upon the United States Supreme Court to not repeal the 1965 Civil Rights Act.

Supported by Region 14
Adopted April 14, 2013

Resolution 13-04.37
Minimum Wage Workers’ Rights
WHEREAS, minimum wage and hourly employees have a right to be paid for all hours worked, to meal and rest periods, to reimbursement of necessary expenses, to timely final pay, to complete and accurate wage statements, among other rights under the California Labor Code;
WHEREAS, class action lawsuits are generally the only way for such employees to hold their employers accountable for violating the Labor Code because they allow groups of employees to join together against large corporations with significant resources. But these large corporations are increasingly forcing their employees to unwittingly sign mandatory arbitration agreements, which cede their rights to hold their employers accountable for violating labor laws and to have their cases heard by a jury of their peers in court; and
WHEREAS, the United States Supreme Court, by its 5-4 decision in AT&T Mobility v. Concepcion, 131 S. Ct. 1740 (2011) and other cases, has closed the courthouse doors to these employees and has allowed corporations to block class action lawsuits through the use of these mandatory arbitration clauses.
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party reaffirms the right of employees to vindicate their rights through the class action mechanism and to have their cases heard in court, and urges the California Democratic Congressional Delegation to take the lead in passing legislation that overturns the Court's ruling in Concepcion and restores employees' rights to hold corporations accountable in court.

Sponsored by: Melissa Grant, Pacific Palisades Democratic Club; Karleen Basch AD 45; Cary Brown AD 45; Jodie Cooper AD 45; Wendy Block AD 46; Lloyd Dent AD 46; Michael Goldman AD 45; Russell Greene AD 45; Joe Halper AD 50; Leah K. Herzberg AD 45; Jon Katz AD 50; Kevin McKeown AD 50; Linda Luck AD 62

Adopted April 14, 2013

Resolution 13-04.60A

Moratorium On Hydraulic Fracturing

WHEREAS, hydraulic fracturing, commonly referred to as "fracking," is a technique that drills wells vertically and often horizontally deep under the earth's surface and injects a mixture of water, sand and toxic chemicals into the wells at high pressure to crack shale and dense rock formations to extract gas or oil; and

WHEREAS, fracking uses large amounts of water thereby reducing its availability for agriculture and other public use, uses large amounts of toxic chemicals some of which can cause cancer, creates wastewater that brings these chemicals and other deep earth contaminants (sometimes radioactive) to the surface and can pollute the drinking water supply either directly or through leaky wells, releases methane gas into the air that exacerbates climate change, and may cause earthquakes; and WHEREAS, fracking is currently not regulated in California and is exempt from federal regulation under an exception in the Safe Drinking Water Act whereby the chemicals used are treated as secret corporate property and are not tested or made public, and the locations of the wells are not tested or made public; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the California Democratic Party supports: 1) an immediate moratorium on fracking, with such a moratorium to remain in effect until legislation and regulations are put in place that repeal the exception in the Safe Drinking Water Act, guarantee public health and safety, mitigate the effects on climate change, protect the environment and allow government access and testing of the chemicals used; 2) full disclosure and testing of all sites; and 3) substitution of conservation and renewable sources of energy where practical; 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.

Submitted By: Progressive Democrats of Santa Monica Mountains; Los Angeles County Democratic Party; Michael Goldman, Susie Shannon; RL Miller; Region 6 Delegation; California Democratic Party; San Mateo County Democratic Central Committee; San Mateo County Democracy for America; Gregory Loew, AD24; Ashleigh Evans, AD22; Carole Dorshkind, AD24; L.A. County Democratic Party; Valley Grassroots for Democracy; Russell Greene AD 45; Tom Camarella AD 54; Patricia Levinson AD 54; Veronica Rocha AD 50; Cary Brown AD 50; Jenilyn Stapleton AD 46; Carol Lutness AD 38; Clifford Tasner AD 46; Ivy Afalqa AD74; Dorothy Reik AD 50; Brent Page AD 62; Brad Parker AD 46; Mike Thaller AD 79; Susie Shannon AD 50; Markham Starnsbury AD 54; Genise Schnitman AD 50; Greg Valtierra AD 54; Melissa Grant AD 50; Janet Turner AD50; Lloyd Dent AD 46; Raymond Bishop AD 45; Jon Katz AD 50; Teresa Priem AD 45; Casey Robinson AD 50; Wendy Block AD 46; Carolyn Fowler AD 62; Daraka Larimore-Hall AD 37; Leah Herzberg AD 45

Adopted April 14, 2013

Resolution 13-04.29

Resolution Supporting Efforts To Reduce Gun Violence & Mass Shootings

WHEREAS, on December 14, 2012 a deranged killer wielding a legally and easily-obtained assault weapon with high-capacity ammunition magazines shot his way into Sandy Hook Elementary School in Newtown, Connecticut and killed twenty young children and six brave educators and administrators; and

WHEREAS, The massacre in Newtown was, sadly, not an anomaly as families continue to grieve as a result of shockingly similar incidents from Aurora, Colorado, to Tucson, Arizona, to Blacksburg, Virginia; and

WHEREAS, while President Obama strongly believes that the Second Amendment guarantees individuals the right to bear arms, he also believes this is the time to make common sense efforts to protect children and our communities from gun violence. There is an immediate need for regulating military-style assault weapons, high-capacity ammunition magazines, instituting universal background checks for gun purchases and allowing the Bureau of Alcohol Tobacco and Firearms to collect
information to help establish effective policies to prevent gun trafficking and this need has never been clearer if we want to protect children and our communities from gun violence; THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the California Democratic Party strongly supports efforts by U.S. Senator Dianne Feinstein, Representative Mike Thompson and their Democratic colleagues, as well as Democratic Members of the California Legislature, to minimize the frequency and deadly reach of mass shootings in the United States. THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the California Democratic Party calls on all Democratic members of Congress and the California Legislature to demonstrate courage and leadership and support the efforts of Senator Feinstein, Representative Thompson and fellow Democrats working to stop the proliferation of military-style assault weapons, minimize the frequency of mass shootings in the United States and allow agencies like the Bureau of Alcohol Tobacco and Firearms to collect information and evidence to help establish effective policies to prevent illegal gun trafficking. Supported by Chairman John Burton, Stephen Gale, Joe Hall, Darrell Darling, Igor Tregub, Nick Anas, Mal Burnstein Adopted April 14, 2013

Resolution 13-04.85
Resolution To End Unlawful Drone Strikes, Extrajudicial Executions, And Restrict Domestic Drone Surveillance
WHEREAS, the U.S. government sets a dangerous precedent as it continues drone strikes and extrajudicial killings on people in countries with whom America is not at war, the majority being "signature drone strikes," where operators fire upon groups of men whose identities are unknown, but who are deemed "targets" based on vaguely defined "suspicious behavior" or "signatures," including being a male of "military age," while also utilizing the unlawful and inhumane practice of "double taps," where rescuers of victims of initial strikes are killed by a second strike; and WHEREAS, our drone attacks result in the disproportionate killing of 36 to 50 civilians for every one alleged combatant and, given that the Geneva Conventions prohibit attacks that "may be expected to cause incidental loss of civilian life... excessive in relation to the concrete and direct military advantage anticipated" during armed conflicts, and that the extrajudicial execution of any person, whether in peace or war time, is prohibited by International Human Rights and International Humanitarian Law, and knowing that the constant overhead presence of U.S. drones engenders hatred and desire for revenge among the communities under attack by terrorizing the daily lives of ordinary civilians beyond actual death and physical injury- destroying the culturally binding fabric of weddings, funerals, everyday community activities and the lives of children, many who are so traumatized they cannot go to school, and are unable to eat, sleep, play, socialize or function normally, which is a form of physiological torture and collective punishment prohibited by international law, all the while making the world and our nation less safe; and WHEREAS, the current administration is directing the use of drones on American citizens by
1) Authorizing the use of military drones to target and kill alleged terrorists, including U.S. citizens who may not even be involved in operational plots to harm our nation, without recognizing the United States Constitutional guarantee of due process for all people, including those accused of treason; and
2) Directing the FAA to create regulations enabling drones to fly throughout U.S. airspace including California by September 2015 for surveillance of individuals or groups in public spaces and in their homes, in direct violation of our Constitutional guarantee to privacy and freedom from unreasonable searches;
THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party stands in opposition to the extrajudicial killings and use of drones as described herein, both foreign and domestic, and urges that our policies be structured within the framework of international law, Constitutional checks and balances, due process, judicial review, and transparency; and BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we call upon the Congressional delegation and the White House to:
1) Make public all claimed legal justifications of present policies and practices;
2) Conduct a fundamental re-evaluation and overhaul of current practices by reforming the policies authorizing the use of American military force, both foreign and domestic; and
3) Re-institute Congressional authority and oversight with regard to war making powers and federal law Enforcement.
Committee Resolution, Co-Sponsored by: Karen Bernal, Margarita Lacabe, John Burton, Peter Leinau, Rick Tuttle
Adopted April 14, 2013

Resolution 13-04.86L
Resolution To Save Social Security
WHEREAS, the Social Security program does not add to the federal deficit and, in fact, the Social Security Trust Fund lends money to the federal government through the purchase of government bonds;
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, cuts in Social Security should not be part of any deficit reduction program because Social Security does not add to the deficit;
AND BE IT ALSO RESOLVED, the California Democratic Party opposes any effort to reduce Social Security under the guise of budget cuts that would help reduce the federal government deficit.
Supported by Chairman John Burton
Adopted April 14, 2013

Resolution 13-04.63
Support Immigration Reform And Provide Path To Citizenship For New Americans
WHEREAS, the United States remains a nation of immigrants and New Americans have immigrated to support their families and contribute to our communities in unique but important ways, from accepting menial jobs that other Americans are unwilling to do, to working in the health professions to working for innovative technology and engineering firms and in doing so these New Americans contribute to the United States economy - including paying billions of dollars into our nation's Social Security fund; and
WHEREAS, the process of immigrating to the United States can be inaccessible and burdensome to New Americans, young immigrants who dream of the ability to access quality education without fear, families of same-sex marriages and same-sex couples, those seeking to reunite with deported family members, those lacking financial means to cover the costs, or the ability to complete a complex process that can take decades for those lacking resources; and
WHEREAS, the creation of a path to citizenship for New Americans should ultimately lead to a living wage and strong labor standards for all Americans while putting a halt to employers taking advantage temporary and so-called guest-worker programs that in effect create a "race to the bottom" for all workers, including New Americans.
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party strongly supports efforts in Congress to follow through on President Obama's commitment to grant these New Americans a clear pathway to earn citizenship free of unnecessary or burdensome roadblocks and free of "temporary" or "guest" designations.
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party forward copies of this resolution to Democratic members of the United States Senate, the United States Congressional Delegation, the California Legislature, and County Democratic Party Central Committees.
Supported by Carlos Alcalá, Nick Anas, Igor Tregub, Kerri Asbury, Alameda County Democratic Central Committee, Norma Alcalá, Placido Salazar, Angélica Tellechea, Bobbie Salazar, Leticia García, Xilonin Cruz-González, Armando Telles, Tony Madrigal, Angel Diaz, The Chicano-Latino Caucus, The Dolores Huerta Latino Democratic Club of Northern California, the Latino Democratic Club of Los Angeles County
Adopted April 14, 2013

Resolution 13-04.14
Support Of Hospital Distinct Part Skilled Nursing Facilities
WHEREAS, California Democrats believe that health care is a human right and not a privilege and that meaningful access to such care is essential, and Democrats therefore "support the full funding of community clinics and health centers that serve low-income and homeless populations;" and
WHEREAS, in the spring of 2013, the California state government intends to reduce Medi-Cal repayment rates to Hospital Distinct Part Skilled Nursing Facilities (DP/SNF) based on rates in effect in 2008 and to recoup funds for claims with dates of service beginning June 1, 2011; these intended cuts and retroactive repayment recovery are not sustainable by district hospitals and therefore those hospitals may be forced to eliminate local access to these critical services; and
WHEREAS, if these reductions and recoupment occur, they will cause (1) a devastating decrease in repayments of up to 30% for many facilities; (2) many District Hospitals to shift beds and/or close entire units; (3) many Medi-Cal beneficiaries to be transferred to other skilled nursing facilities, often significantly outside of their community, resulting in disruption in the continuity of care; (4) patients to be distant from their support networks of family and friends; (5) approximately 30% of transferred patients to die shortly after their relocation as a result of trauma associated with the relocation; and (6) DP/SNF closures which may result in significant economic disruption and hardship to the communities in which the DP/SNFs are located due to loss of jobs and related income;
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party opposes these rate reductions to the Medi-Cal program that will decrease access to care and disproportionately harm the most vulnerable among us, and encourages Democratic
state legislators to introduce and pass legislation to overturn such cuts and to provide even greater funding for rural hospitals and clinics.

Supported by Oakhurst Democratic Club, Mariposa Democratic Club and Mariposa Democratic Central Committee, CDP Region 4, Sonoma County Democratic Party

Adopted April 14, 2013

*Resolution 13-04.35*

**Support of the US Postal Service**

WHEREAS, the US Postal Service is a 200 year old institution that employs over a half a million people living and working in all of our communities, receives no taxpayer dollars, is the second largest civilian workforce in the country—40% women, 40% minority, and 22% veterans, many with disabilities— and working with its unions has reduced the workforce, improved efficiency, and introduced new products and services; and

WHEREAS, the US Postal Service is the only private company or federal agency required by Congress to pre-fund retiree health benefits for 75 years, requiring payment of $5.5 billion annually to the Treasury for ten years; and

WHEREAS, the US Postal Service has overfunded the Civil Service Retirement System by an estimated $50 billion and overfunded the Federal Employees Retirement System by approximately $6.9 billion;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California State Democratic Party encourages US Senator Barbara Boxer and US Senator Dianne Feinstein and the California Democratic Congressional Delegation to support efforts that end the mandate requiring USPS to pre-fund health care benefits and allow the USPS to recover overpayments made to federal pension plans.

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that when these elected representatives consider changes in service delivery or closing of post office facilities that priority be given to considering the effects on the most vulnerable elderly, sick, disabled, and poor citizens along with the effects on employees and local communities, especially in remote areas.

Supported by Region 6, Michael Thaller, San Mateo DCC, Brigid O'Farrell

Adopted April 14, 2013

*Resolution 13-04.47*

**Supporting California’s Public Schools and Dispelling The Corporate “Reform” Agenda**

WHEREAS, the so-called "reform" initiatives of Students First, rely on destructive anti-educator policies that do nothing for students but blame educators and their unions for the ills of society, make testing the goal of education, shatter communities by closing their public schools, and see public schools as potential profit centers and children as measurable commodities; and

WHEREAS, the political action committee, entitled Democrats for Education Reform is funded by corporations, Republican operatives and wealthy individuals dedicated to privatization and anti-educator initiatives, and not grassroots democrats or classroom educators; and

WHEREAS, the billionaires funding Students First and Democrats for Education Reform are supporting candidates and local programs that would dismantle a free public education for every student in California and replace it with company run charter schools, non-credentialed teachers and unproven untested so-called "reforms";

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party reaffirms its commitment to free accessible public schools for all which 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 Republican funding of these groups and work with the authors of this resolution to dispel the false reforms and support the real needs of the classroom: trained teachers, adequate funding, safe and clean facilities, diverse and stimulating curriculum and access to pre-school and higher education.

Sponsored by the CTA, CFT, and CFA

Adopted April 14, 2013

*Resolution 13-04.11*

**Supporting Fair, Accountable, and Representative University Governance**

WHEREAS, the University of California and the California State University systems are routinely ranked among the top public universities in the world; and the people of California are committed to ensuring the continuing excellence, accessibility, and affordability of these universities; and
WHEREAS, the current means of structuring the UC Board of Regents and CSU Board of Trustees has proven insufficient and even detrimental to the proper governance of the UC and CSU systems, insofar as the Regents and Trustees are not accountable to the university stakeholders, including students, faculty, staff, and the public, and do not adequately represent these stakeholders; are, as captains of industry and executives of financial sector institutions, frequently subject to conflicts of interest; often lack professional experience and backgrounds in education; regularly fail to attend meetings and engage the public in a transparent and open manner; and demonstrate an inability to act as fiscal stewards and provide adequate supervision over administrative overreach, student needs, and lab management; THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party will support and encourage efforts by lawmakers and the voters to make the governing boards of the University of California and California State University systems more responsive and accountable by broadening their representation of the public on the UC Board of Regents and the CSU Board of trustees, and shortening the terms of office. 

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

Supported by the Santa Clara County Democratic Party

Adopted April 14, 2013

Resolution 13-04.77
Urging President Obama To Reject The Tar Sands Pipeline
WHEREAS, (1) The proposed Keystone XL pipeline will cross South Dakota, Nebraska, Kansas, Oklahoma and Texas; as well as the Ogallala Aquifer and the Athabasca River, which supply nearly one-third of our nation's irrigation ground water and drinking water for millions of people; (2) 1,252 protesters supported by major environmental groups (NRDC, EDF, Sierra Club, NWF, Union of Concerned Scientists, 350.org, League of Conservation Voters) were arrested in front of the White House; and (3) nine Nobel Peace Laureates asked President Obama to "do the right thing for our environment" in rejecting this proposal; WHEREAS, (1) the system has already spilled 12 times, releasing 30,000 gallons of crude oil; (2) a major leak could pollute these waterways, causing high rates of cancer in local communities; (3) "the tar sands are the dirtiest source of fuel on the planet (Al Gore);" (4) greenhouse gas emissions from tar-sands crude would be approximately 82% greater than for the average US crude; and (5) if the tar sands are fully developed, "it is essentially game over" for solving the climate crisis (James Hansen, our leading climate scientist); and WHEREAS, (1) TransCanada stated that the project would increase the price of oil in the Midwest; (2) James Little, Transport Workers Union President, and Larry Hanley, Amalgamated Transit Union, President representing 300,000 US workers, issued a statement asking President Obama "NOT to approve the construction of the Keystone XL pipeline or to take any actions that lead to the further extraction of tar sands oil from Alberta;" and (3) a recent Cornell University Global Labor Institute analysis found that the Keystone XL Pipeline may eliminate more jobs than it creates; THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party supports efforts to stabilize our planet's climate, protect public health, and advance job creation in the new "green economy" and asks President Obama to deny the "Presidential Permit" for the Keystone XL pipeline; and BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party send a copy of this resolution to the President of the United States, Governor of the State of California, California Congressional Caucus, California State Senate and State Assembly Members, and County Board of Supervisors, asking them to take action in support of this resolution.

Supported by the Point Loma Democratic Club, Pacific Beach Democratic Club

Adopted April 14, 2013

2014
Resolution 14-11.08
A Resolution Opposing Any Delays To The Full Implementation Of AB32
WHEREAS, the California Democratic Party platform promotes the development of environmentally sustainable energy sources and supports timely and ongoing implementation of AB 32, California's pioneering climate and clean energy law; and WHEREAS, AB 32 not only has global environmental benefits, but also directly benefits lower-income and disproportionately impacted communities by reducing the amount of pollution emitted locally while generating hundreds of millions of dollars in proceeds to invest in clean energy, energy efficiency, clean transportation alternatives, and sustainable community development such as urban trees and transit-oriented affordable housing; and
WHEREAS, most of California largest emitters have been complying with AB 32 for several years, but the last phase of implementation - the application of the cap-and-trade program to gasoline and other fuels currently scheduled to commence on January 1, 2015 - is being heavily opposed by oil companies and their lobbyists;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the California Democratic Party opposes any efforts to obstruct, delay, or repeal the full implementation of AB 32, and affirms its support for placing gasoline and fuels under the cap and trade program;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the California Democratic Party will forward a copy of this resolution to the Governor and all Democratic members of the State Assembly and State Senate.

Sponsored by Dante Atkins (AD 50), RL Miller (AD 44), and the Democratic Club of the Conejo Valley

Adopted November 16, 2014

Resolution 14-11.19L

Condemning The Disappearance Of Mexican Students

WHEREAS, following a clash with the police, forty-three college students disappeared on September 26, 2014 in Iguala, Mexico; and

WHEREAS, Mexican Attorney General Jesus Murillo Karam announced that fourteen police officers confessed to participating in the disappearance;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the California Democratic Party joins world condemnation of the disappearance of these students; that the location of the students or their bodies be determined; and that those responsible for this heinous crime be brought to justice.

THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the California Democratic Party is to inform President Obama, US Secretary of State John Kerry, and the Democratic members of the California congressional delegation of this position.

Sponsored the CDP Chicano Latino Caucus and associate sponsors: Fenay-USA, Club International Rio Viejo, Casa Tlaxcala, Pueblos Unidos, Alerta Cali, Hispanos Unidos, Mujeres Exitosas, Club Puga, Hermandad Unidos Sin Frontera, and Los Dos Mexico

Adopted November 16, 2014

Resolution 14-11.11

Ferguson Resolution: “No Taxation Without Representation”

WHEREAS, Michael Brown was killed by police in Ferguson, Missouri, a town in which 66% of residents are black, yet 50 of its 53 police officers are white, as are 5 of its 6 city council members and 6 of its 7 school board members, as are the police chief and the mayor of Ferguson, leaving Ferguson taxpayers unrepresented in city government; and African Americans account for 86 percent of the traffic stops in the city, and 93 percent of the arrests after those stops, a situation leading to unarmed pedestrian Michael Brown’s police shooting death and weeks of civil disobedience in protest; and

WHEREAS, the reason the people of Ferguson, Missouri and similar towns do not control their own governance is because they do not vote (only 6% of Ferguson's African Americans cast a ballot in the last election) and they do not register to vote; they are alienated from true democracy by a centuries-long legacy of slavery, reconstruction, taxation without representation, disenfranchisement and voter suppression that continues to this day; and

WHEREAS, now, organizations across the country have sent support to St. Louis County, Missouri to help register, educate voters, groom and support potential candidates and restore the democratic process in Ferguson; and Senator Claire McCaskill has pledged candidate-training workshops; and acknowledging that Ferguson is not unique in the US and that disenfranchisement exists in California, in places where people are underrepresented in local government, public officials do not reflect the community they serve, people feel powerless and police leave the community feeling terrorized, because citizens are unregistered and do not vote;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the California Democratic Party supports the citizens of Ferguson’s drive to reestablish the democratic process; and we recommit to the principle of one person, one vote, with a goal of 100% registration and voting in all California counties; that people have the right to elect candidates that support their values; that obstacles to voting be overcome to increase participation in California before the 2016 elections; that California Democrats will resist any efforts to disenfranchise voters, wherever they may reside; and that copies of this resolution be sent to all California Democratic Party leaders, and Democratic County Chairs.

Sponsored by Alameda County Democratic Central Committee, California State Democratic Party, African American Caucus, Women’s Caucus, Native American Caucus, California Young Democrats, Wellstone Democratic Renewal Club, Carlos Alcalá
Resolution 14-11.18L
Fixing The Silent Hold

WHEREAS, the practice in the U.S. Senate known as the Silent Hold allows Senators to anonymously and secretly stop bills, confirmations, and resolutions from leaving committees or coming to a vote on the floor, and place these holds even when they are not in Washington, and these holds can be of indefinite duration; and
WHEREAS, despite many attempts to reform this practice, the number and sorts of holds have increased to unprecedented levels, allowing a single Senator to prevent majority rule; and
WHEREAS, this has resulted in the Senate being unable to enact legislation, resolutions and confirmations, rendering the Senate dysfunctional and unaccountable, and frustrating the electorate;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party urges the Senate to reform the rules to prohibit Senators from making these holds anonymously, to require that all requests for holds be in writing and be entered into the Congressional Record without delay, and to provide that a vote of ten Senators can release a hold; and
THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party send this resolution to Majority Leader Harry Reid, as well as Senators Barbara Boxer, Dianne Feinstein, and Ron Wyden.

Sponsored by LACDP
Adopted November 16, 2014

Resolution 14-11.07
Stop UC Tuition Hike and Ensure Access To Higher Education

WHEREAS, while historically California has led the nation in providing affordable access to higher education, tuition has steadily increased since the 1970's and doubled in the University of California system in the past 8 years as higher education cost inflation has increased while state support of higher education has decreased, and the increased tuition has hurt our economy as employers struggle to find qualified workers, income inequality is exacerbated, student debt becomes crushing, financial aid is unable to keep up with the tuition increases and higher education becomes out of the reach of much of the middle class, and
WHEREAS, after years of declining state support, following passage of Proposition 30, Governor Brown and the Democratic legislature agreed to a four year investment plan for higher education that would provide two years of 5% increases to general funding of the UC and CSU systems, followed by two years of 4% increases contingent on the UC and CSU systems holding tuition flat at 2011-12 levels through 2016-17, and
WHEREAS, despite this agreement, the UC have decided to increase tuition up to 5% a year, further restricting student access to affordable higher education and at the same time, giving generous salary increases to their University chancellors, using students as leverage in budget negotiations,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the California Democratic Party joins Governor Brown, Lt. Governor Newsom, Speaker Atkins, Senate pro Tem de Leon, AFSCME 3299, and the UC Student Association in opposing the UC tuition plan and urge all Democratic legislators to join in that opposition, and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the California Democratic Party urges California to ensure that tuition does not increase for higher education, that policies be adopted that help more students complete financial aid forms, increase the size of grants to keep pace with inflation, ensure that increased grants and financial support to higher education do not simply worsen higher education cost inflation, and provide more opportunities for free or lower cost tuition at higher education facilities where students volunteer service to their country, state or local community in fields certified by the State.

Authored by CDP Resolutions Committee and Kathryn Lyberger (President, AFSCME 3299); Sponsored by CDP Resolutions Committee
Adopted November 16, 2014

Resolution 14-11.22L
Support For Executive Action On Immigration Reform

WHEREAS, over 11,000,000 undocumented immigrants are living and working in the United States, many of whom have long standing ties to this country including American born children, and who live in constant fear of deportation, and
WHEREAS, these immigrants are an integral part of America's workforce in all parts of our economy from agriculture to high tech and whose labor contributes millions of dollars to our economy, and
WHEREAS, the Republican-controlled House and now apparently the soon-to-be Republican-controlled Senate are unwilling or unable to tackle this issue that is of vital concern to not only those personally affected but to all Americans who value the contributions of these hard working immigrants and who empathize with their uncertain and fearful status, now THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the California Democratic Party urges President Obama to take executive action to regularize the status of such undocumented immigrants including providing work permits and a path to legal status possibly including citizenship and that the President should reserve deportation for convicted criminals, those who pose a national security threat and those who crossed the border after the date of the executive order and who are not otherwise eligible for protection under federal immigration law.
Sponsored by the CDP Resolutions Committee
Adopted November 16, 2014

Resolution 14-07.32L
Support Saving Net Neutrality
WHEREAS, the Federal Communications Committee (FCC) has recently extended the public hearing period concerning its consideration of Internet regulations affecting the open internet; and
WHEREAS, since mid-May, the Chair of the FCC has variously communicated a favored option to create a two (or more)-tiered Internet, with fast lanes for those who could afford it, that would allow Internet Service Providers (ISPs) to be able to pick winners and losers online and discriminate against online content and applications; and
WHEREAS, President Obama has recently publicly supported reclassification of ISPs as common carriers, under Title II of the Telecommunications Act, to preserve a truly free and open internet, free of any speed or access preferences, that does not block or discriminate against any applications or content that ride over those networks;
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party supports reclassification of ISPs as common carriers and urges promulgating and enforcing robust net neutrality regulations using all means at their disposal to create an internet without any speed or access preference and urges the FCC to pursue that policy; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party shall communicate this support to the Chair of the FCC, Tom Wheeler, as well as to the two Democratic Commissioners, Mignon Clyburn and Jessica Rosenworcel.
Sponsored by David Sonneborn (AD 68)
Adopted November 16, 2014

Resolution 14-07.24
Affordable Care Act For The Undocumented
WHEREAS, undocumented residents are ineligible for the Affordable Care Act and hospitals must give care to the uninsured even if a hospital is in financial difficulties: and
WHEREAS, many undocumented persons come to this nation with routine but serious health conditions or with diseases which are virtually eradicated in this country but which are susceptible to be spread when untreated, which is likely when a person cannot pay for healthcare and is ineligible for the Affordable Care Act, as they avoid going to doctors or hospitals until they are very sick and contagious; and
WHEREAS, many undocumented residents are the young healthy people that the Affordable Care Act needs to succeed and that health insurance companies want;
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that in order to promote a healthier America and a healthier American healthcare system, the California Democratic Party supports making undocumented residents eligible for the Affordable Care Act; and
THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the California Democratic Party inform President Obama, US Secretary of Health and Human Services Sylvia Mathews Burwell, and the Democratic members of the California congressional delegation of this position.
Sponsored by LACDP
Adopted July 13, 2014

Resolution 14-07.34L
California Democrats Support Food Stamps Funding Restoration And Heating Allowance For Low Income Californians
WHEREAS, food stamp cuts spearheaded by Republicans in Congress have led to $457 million being cut from 4,168,000 Californians (11% of the population) who rely on California's Cal-Fresh program to meet basic nutritional needs; and
WHEREAS, raising the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program to $20 in the State of California will provide for the full restoration of Food Stamps benefits for recipients; and
WHEREAS, the California Democratic Party platform states that California Democrats "Support the full funding of food stamp programs;"

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the California Democratic Party supports raising the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program to ensure for the restoration of food stamp cuts to California's most vulnerable residents, and

THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be sent to Governor Jerry Brown and the California Democratic Party delegation of the State Legislature.

Authored by Susie Shannon (AD 50)
Adopted July 13, 2014

Resolution 14-07.19
Calling For Campaign Finance Reforms For State And Local Parties
WHEREAS, the California Democratic Party believes that Democratic state and local party committees are essential partners to Democratic elected officials and play a vital role in elections and volunteer activism; and
WHEREAS, current campaign law federalizes nearly every state and local committee action, even though the vast majority of committee efforts focus on ballot initiatives, local, city, county and state legislative races, and state constitutional offices, while only a small fraction of electoral activities is dedicated to federal campaigns; and
WHEREAS, campaign laws subject party subject committees to a higher level of regulation than any other political organization, such as Citizens United-styled Independent Expenditure campaigns, creating an inordinate burden on state and local party committees as campaigns and donors seek out organizations that have fewer obstacles to participation in the political process;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the California Democratic Party endorses the recommendations put forth in the Association of State Democratic Chairs' report titled, "Legislative Recommendations for Campaign Finance Reform", which includes measures such as simplifying rules for grassroots volunteer efforts, creating more reasonable definitions for what counts as "Federal Election Activity," and indexing fundraising limits to inflation while still maintaining the transparency of political parties at a higher level than any other political committee; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the California Democratic Party will send this resolution to the Association of State Democratic Chairs to urge and work with its members on this important policy change to ensure the vitality of state and local party committees by lifting some of the unnecessary and burdensome regulations that continue to hinder their development.

Submitted by Chairman John Burton
Adopted July 13, 2014

Resolution 14-07.27
CDP Support To Prevent The Death Of The Salton Sea
WHEREAS, (1) The Salton Sea, the largest body of water in California, is in danger of accelerated disappearance; (2) its shrinking rate, about 6 feet/year, exposes bottom areas with decades of accumulated poisonous agricultural chemicals; (3) such chemicals, picked up and disseminated by the strong desert winds, pose severe health hazards, and descend on nearby farms polluting growing crops; (4) conflicts with the Federal Clean Water and Clean Air Acts continuously arise from the Sea's ongoing deterioration, and
WHEREAS, (1) the State of California has incurred severe financial obligations through the 2003 Quantitative Settlement Agreement (QSA) in assuming ultimate ownership for restoring the Sea; (2) disputes over these State obligations now linger in legal and legislative limbo with no end in sight; (3) an outcome of the QSA is reduction of water inflows to the Sea, shrinking to a trickle starting in 2017; (4) such water reductions increase the Sea's salinity endangering the survival of its last remaining fish species - tilapia, critical food for Pacific Flyway migratory birds; (5) nutrient-laden inflows of polluted water cause periodic algal blooms creating eutrophic conditions that suffocate vast numbers of tilapia; (6) the dead rotting fish produce health-threatening noxious odors that may reach over 160 miles, as they did in Sept 2012 when they reached Los Angeles; (7) combinations of these effects soon may cause extinction of the Sea's ecological viability and bring on conflicts with the Federal Endangered Species Act, and
WHEREAS, (1) many plans to ‘fix the Sea’ have been introduced over the years with none assessed likely to be effective; (2) the current plan, known as 'The Preferred Approach', if implemented, will forever change the character of the Sea imposing drastic ecological changes; (3) an effective restoration program could restore the Salton Sea environment enabling its return as a vibrant tourism and recreation destination, a status it held as recently as the late 1960s, and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party exert the strongest possible influence on state and federal agencies to organize, fund, manage, implement, and sustain a viable restored Salton Sea, and

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party support garnering additional funds for enlarging the scope of current stop-gap measures to arrest deterioration of the Sea’s ecosystem until the final solution can be developed and sustained by law.

Sponsored by John Kopp (AD 60), Suzan Wilkinson (AD 56), and Gail Ferrell (AD 67).

Adopted July 13, 2014

Resolution 14-07.33L

Change The Name Redskins

WHEREAS, the Yoche Dehe Tribe and the National Congress of American Indians have been demanding that the Washington Redskins change their name for many years; and

WHEREAS, the name Redskins has its historical origins in a deplorable history of genocide against Native Americans, including massacres at "Wounded Knee," "Eagle Lake," and "the Trail of Tears;" and

WHEREAS, the name Redskins is an offensive racial slur;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the California Democratic Party supports demands that Washington Redskins owner Daniel Snyder put an end to a seventy-year-old racial slur that has persisted far too long and change the team mascot; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the California Democratic Party send this resolution to the entire California Congressional delegation and to the National Football League Team Owners.

Sponsored by Carlos Alcala (AD 7) and Norma Alcala (AD 7)

Adopted July 13, 2014

Resolution 14-07.11

Helping People Get The Medical Equipment They Need

WHEREAS, many low income recipients of Medicare and Medi-Cal who need expensive durable medical equipment like wheelchairs have difficulty getting it, while people who no longer need their equipment have no way of transferring it to someone who does need it, and

WHEREAS, Oregon has created a pilot project to contract with nonprofit organizations to provide medical assistance recipients with used durable medical equipment, and

WHEREAS, Democrats in the California Legislature have the necessary majority to be in the vanguard of improving health care for all, especially low income people, while simultaneously reducing health care costs and the amount of trash in landfills

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the California Democratic Party supports developing a means for used but no longer needed medical equipment to be refurbished and made available to low income persons who need it, as Oregon has done, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this be communicated to the Governor and to the Democratic members of the State Legislature.

Sponsored by the LACDP

Adopted July 13, 2014

Resolution 14-07.38L

Humanitarian Assistance To Refugee Children From Central America

WHEREAS, this year an estimated sixty thousand children have fled rape, robbery, and gang violence and extortion in their homelands of Honduras, El Salvador, and Guatemala to the relative safety of our nation, and

WHEREAS, the California Democratic Party and its Chicano Latino Caucus considers the plight of these children a great humanitarian crisis, and

WHEREAS, the government of the United States has the legal and moral obligation to respond to these children’s plight with humanitarian assistance and due process,
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party supports President Obama's request to Congress for $1.8 billion in humanitarian assistance for these children from Central America and efforts to reunite them with their families, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party calls on the California Congressional delegation to support existing laws that accord these children culturally competent assistance, due process, and protection as refugees, and that the United States, Central American nations, and international organizations work together to improve the quality of life in Central American countries in an effort to reduce migrations of unaccompanied minors; and that this resolution be sent to President Obama and the California Congressional delegation immediately.

Authored by the Chicano Latino Caucus
Adopted July 13, 2014

Resolution 14-07.21
In Support Of Walmart Workers’ Right To Unionize
WHEREAS, Walmart is the largest retail employer in the United States, which promotes a business model of largely part-time, low-wage jobs without health insurance, benefits or career advancement; and
WHEREAS, Walmart workers from across the country recently walked off the job to take their grievances to the annual Walmart shareholders’ meeting on June 7, 2013 in Fayetteville, Arkansas; and
WHEREAS, a May 2007 Human Rights Watch report found that Walmart stands out in the sheer size and magnitude of its aggressive anti-union tactics and apparatus, aimed at opposing its workers from unionizing, a January 2013 National Labor Board memo cited that eighty charges were recently filed against Walmart for attempting to prevent its workers from organizing; and workers returned from strike under fear of retaliation, and said Walmart workers returned to their jobs on June 10, 2013, under fear of management retaliation;
THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the California Democratic Party stands with labor, and with Walmart workers’ right to unionize free of retaliation.
Submitted by Michael Harrington (AD 42)
Adopted July 13, 2014

Resolution 14-07.17
Keep Social Security Offices Open
WHEREAS, the Social Security Administration, through its Vision 2025 program, is considering closing or consolidating hundreds of its field offices in favor of providing services almost exclusively through its website; and
WHEREAS, the SSA employs 28,000 people in 1,200 field offices nationwide, helping 180,000 people per day with tasks as simple as replacing a lost Social Security card to complicated retirement, disability, survivor, Medicare, and SSI claims; and
WHEREAS, senior, disabled, low-income, and non-English speaking Americans have a much lower rate of access to and familiarity with the Internet than the country as a whole;
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party supports the modernization of SSA service delivery while maintaining the important services of community SSA field offices; and
THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party calls upon Congress to impose a moratorium on field office closures or consolidations until a process is in place to minimize the impact to the communities, beneficiaries, employees and taxpayers.
Sponsored by LACDP and CDP Senior Caucus
Adopted July 13, 2014

Resolution 14-07.02
Making Citizenship Affordable
WHEREAS, New Citizenship legislation pending in Congress may provide for fees of $680, fines of $2000, and payment of back taxes, which expenses many new citizens may be unable to afford; and
WHEREAS, the underground economy deprives California of billions of dollars of income; and
WHEREAS, the cost of citizenship should not be so great that New Americans are deprived of citizenship opportunity;
THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the California Democratic Party encourages credit unions and banks to provide citizenship loans amounting to ninety percent (90%) of the cost of citizenship fees and penalties and back state taxes owed, not to exceed $5000; that all monies obtained from these citizenship loans must be used for direct payment of citizenship fees, penalties; and that the state of California work with lending institutions to facilitate these new lending practices.
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution shall be forwarded to all members of the California Democratic Congressional Democratic delegation, the California Democratic legislature delegation, and to all Democratic State Constitutional officeholders.

Sponsored by Carlos Alcala (AD 7)
Adopted July 13, 2014

Resolution 14-07.12

Opposing The Confirmation Of Michael Boggs
WHEREAS, in exchange for moving forward other judicial nominations, the President has nominated for the U.S. District Court in the Northern District of Georgia Michael Boggs, who has publicly taken positions against LGBT rights and women's right of choice, has supported a plan for publicly posting the names of doctors who perform abortions, voted against same-sex marriage, and voted for continued use of the Confederate flag; and
WHEREAS, if Michael Boggs' appointment by a Democratic President is confirmed in the Senate with Democratic support, it will be difficult for Democrats to oppose a future appointment of Boggs to a higher Court; and
WHEREAS, some Democrats have opposed the appointment including Majority Leader Reid, Senator Boxer, and Georgia Congressman John Lewis,
NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party thanks Senators Feinstein and Boxer for their statements of concern about this nomination and calls on them to vote against confirmation of Michael Boggs.
Sponsored by the LACDP and Democratic Party of the San Fernando Valley
Adopted July 13, 2014

Resolution 14-07.04

Reducing Abuse Of The Recall Process
WHEREAS, recall elections require a two-step process with one vote on whether to replace the incumbent and one simultaneously to choose a replacement; these elections can be the only contest on the ballot resulting in an expensive election with low voter turnout; and a low turnout election can allow a small but determined minority to gain an unfair advantage; and
WHEREAS, when a public official fails to fulfill the duties of his office by engaging in actions or omissions such as failing to perform required duties, incompetence in performing duties, and unethical conduct, the official should be recalled, and there is usually substantial and bi-partisan support for the recall; and
WHEREAS, the recall procedure and its often low election turnout has been used to recall an officeholder solely on the basis of a position on a single issue (such as a position on gun control), an executive's policy, or a judge's decision on a case; and a recall can result in the official's replacement by a candidate of one party who obtains only a plurality vote, which can produce an unrepresentative result;
NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party supports an effort to reform the California recall procedure by considering the following: (a) requiring a higher number of voters to qualify a recall, (b) allowing more flexibility in scheduling the recall election in order to have the recall vote on the same date as another election, (c) requiring a super majority (such as 55%) for the vote on the recall of the elected official, (d) requiring that there should be a separate election on a separate date for selecting a replacement, and (e) requiring that if no replacement candidate obtains a majority of the vote there shall be a runoff between the two candidates with the highest number of votes; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party will send copies of this resolution to the Governor, the Speaker, the Pro Tempore, and the Chairpersons of the elections committees of the Senate and the Assembly.
Sponsored by the Democratic Party of the San Fernando Valley
Adopted July 13, 2014

Resolution 14-07.09

Reporting of Crimes Against Children
WHEREAS, existing state law mandates that any person who reasonably believes that he or she has observed the commission of a murder, rape, or lewd or lascivious act, where the victim is a minor under the age of 14 years, shall notify a peace officer; and
WHEREAS, existing state law is silent on the reporting of these very same crimes where the victim is a minor aged 14 to 17 years; and
WHEREAS, the California Democratic Party believes that this silence is an oversight that places some minors in unnecessary danger;
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the California Democratic Party calls on Governor Jerry Brown and the California State Legislature to evaluate existing state law and to take the necessary steps to protect all minors, by mandating that any person who reasonably believes that he or she has observed the commission of a murder, rape, or lewd or lascivious act, where the victim is a minor under the age of 18 years, shall notify a peace officer subject to existing state law, which allows a person not to report if they have a reasonable fear for their personal or family safety; and
THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the California Democratic Party shall send a copy of this resolution to Governor Brown, President pro Tempore Darrel Steinberg, and Speaker Toni Atkins to let them know that Democrats are seriously concerned about the safety of California’s children.
Sponsored by Mister Phillips (AD 15), CDP African American Caucus, et al.
Adopted July 13, 2014

Resolution 14-07.25
Resolution Calling For Immediate Emergency Asylum For LGBTs In Africa
WHEREAS, homosexuality is a crime in 38 countries in Sub-Saharan Africa, where the death penalty is proposed as an option for punishment in Uganda and several other nations, resulting in a sharp increase of arrests, beatings, torture, and death among LGBT persons and their supporters, as well as jeopardizing HIV/AIDS treatment and care for millions; and
WHEREAS, we as citizens of the world reject the adoption of these new laws, which constitute grave threats to the universal rights to life, freedom of expression, of association and assembly, and freedom from torture and cruel, inhuman, and degrading treatment and reiterate that sexual orientation and gender identity are human rights guaranteed by international law; and
WHEREAS, the current LGBT asylum procedures are largely financially and politically prohibitive and out of reach for all but a select few Sub-Saharan African citizens;
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party strongly supports administrative action that would make it easier for the Federal Government to expand and grant expedited asylum to refugees who are fleeing persecution from Sub-Saharan Africa because of their sexual orientation or identity, or because they oppose anti-LGBT legislation, and further encourages other countries to bear their fair share of these refugees; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the California Democratic Party calls on the U.S. Government, including the President of the United States and Secretary of State to take action to end the persecution, abuse, and murder of LGBTs around the world, including but not limited to making strong public and international statements condemning such persecution and exerting all necessary pressure on governments to take action.
Sponsored by Region 17
Adopted July 13, 2014

Resolution 14-07.18
Resolution In Support Of USPS Non-Bank Financial Services
WHEREAS, Wall Street-backed predatory payday lenders and related money-card scams are financially devastating millions of low-income, working families and retirees, taking from them an average of a full month’s hard-earned, desperately needed wages each year to pay exorbitant fees and usurious interest; and
WHEREAS, banks and other financial institutions have been abandoning low-income neighborhoods, thereby creating "bank deserts", while failing to offer low-cost financial products that fit the needs of low-income people; and
WHEREAS, the Inspector General of the US Postal Service (USPS) has proposed a plan to stabilize USPS finances by providing the first-ever consistent nationwide alternative to payday lenders at America’s 30,000+ post offices and online and, similarly, provide other low-cost basic financial services to empower low-income people who are disproportionately women, minorities, veterans, immigrants, retirees and/or disabled;
NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the California Democratic Party hereby joins Sen. Elizabeth Warren and other bold leaders, and urges federal, state and local elected officials to join in support of the Inspector General's proposal that will return over $1 trillion in excessive fees and interest to low-income people and communities over the next decade while preventing otherwise necessary postal rate hikes, layoffs, service cuts and post office closures as well as potential privatization; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the California Democratic Party warns against, and urges federal, state and local elected officials to oppose potential "backdoor privatization" by rejecting partnerships between the USPS and Wall Street banks and related businesses, and rather urges and supports collaboration between the USPS and independent community banks, savings and loan associations and credit unions to benefit low-income people, independent community institutions, and the USPS itself, respectively.

Sponsored by Sonoma County Democratic Party
Adopted July 13, 2014

Resolution 13-11.29L
Resolution To Decommission Obsolete DOT-111 Railroad Tanker Cars And Regulate Tanker Car Parking And Transit

WHEREAS, Californians are concerned that oil refineries transport volatile and explosive products in old railroad tanker cars which travel within 200 ft. of people’s homes, and in the last 5 years, there has been a 40-fold increase in carloads of crude oil bound for U.S. refineries - on old tracks not meant for such loads; and
WHEREAS, the U.S. Department of Transportation recognizes that the most common railway tanker car, the DOT-111, is prone to rupture and explosion during derailments, as in the following 2013 accidents: a train carrying Bakken shale oil derailed and burned in Casselton, North Dakota; a train carrying North Dakota (Bakken) crude oil derailed and exploded in Lac-Mégantic, Canada - destroying much of the town and killing 47 people; 13 DOT-111 tanker cars carrying liquefied petroleum gas and crude oil derailed and exploded in Alberta, Canada; and
WHEREAS, tanker cars regularly travel through communities carrying explosive products and have been parked unattended for long periods on tracks near residences; and, after a series of explosive train fires with shale oil from Bakken, North Dakota, the Department of Transportation's Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) issued a safety alert to “indicate that the type of crude oil being transported from the Bakken region may be more flammable than traditional heavy crude oil”;
THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the California Democratic Party respectfully requests that city councils, mayors, county supervisors, state legislators, and members of Congress urge the federal agencies responsible for railroad safety, namely the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) and the Federal Railroad Administration, to protect communities and the environment by requiring that railroads, refiners, and tanker owners promptly institute the most rigorous safety protocols such as: regulating train speed with electronic back-up speed controls, mandating two-person train staffing, mandating hazardous cargo warnings for Bakken crude and liquefied petroleum gas, informing relevant public agencies of hazardous train cargo, instituting a comprehensive spill response plan, and prohibiting frequent or long-term parking of unattended tanker cars on railroads within 200 feet of buildings and occupied spaces.
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the California Democratic Party respectfully requests that state legislators, and members of Congress urge the Department of Transportation to remove obsolete DOT-111 rail tanker cars from service immediately on trains having more than 50 cars or more for hazardous materials; and require that replacements be built expeditiously and to the highest standards.
Sponsored by Charles Davidson
Adopted July 13, 2014

Resolution 14-07.08
Resolution To Encourage The Support Of Affirmative Action

WHEREAS, the California Democratic Party believes that "[o]ur economy must be built on a diverse workforce educated in quality public schools;" and
WHEREAS, the California Democratic Party "believe[s] that all Americans deserve the opportunity to participate fully in the economic, cultural, political, and social facets of society;" and
WHEREAS, the California Democratic Party has pledged to "[e]ncourage, support and defend voluntary and mandatory affirmative action measures aimed at enhancing equality in employment, education, and business opportunities;"
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the California Democratic Party applauds the recent efforts to expand socio-economic and educational opportunity to all Californians through the implementation of affirmative action programs and initiatives; and
THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the California Democratic Party shall send copies of this resolution to every Democratic member of the California State Legislature, as encouragement to unite in championing affirmative action and other Democratic values.
Resolution 14-07.05
Resolution To Overturn “Top Two” Primary
WHEREAS, the Top Two Primary was placed on the California ballot to gain a single politician’s vote for the passage of a State Budget without research into the possible effects of its passage, and
WHEREAS, the California Democratic Party took a formal position opposing the Top Two Primary (Proposition 14) in the 2010 election and the last two election cycles have proven the flaws of the “Top Two” idea with some districts having a majority of voters from one party and no candidate from that party for that office on the November ballot, and
WHEREAS, the courts have confirmed the banning of write-in voting in the General Election, thereby disenfranchising all voters, including minority party and protest voters of one of the most fundamental rights of free speech which is to vote for candidates of their choosing in open elections.
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party supports a repeal of the “Top Two” primary and a return to the electoral system that served California well from 1891 to 2010.
Sponsored by LACDP
Adopted July 13, 2014

Resolution 14-07.39L
Restore The Cuts
WHEREAS, the California Democratic Party supports the Rainy Day Fund measure, and
WHEREAS, we are also concerned about removing too many funds from the general fund operational needs with resulting significant impact on programs for working families, the homeless, those with mental illness, children, K-12 education, higher education, the elderly, seniors, and the disabled.
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the California Democratic Party encourages Governor Brown and the Democratic Legislature to provide full and adequate funding for programs which were cut to meet these and other human needs.
Sponsored by the CDP Resolutions Committee
Adopted July 13, 2014

Resolution 14-07.16
Santa Susana Field Laboratory Cleanup
WHEREAS, a partial nuclear meltdown in 1959, chemicals utilized in rocket testing, and numerous other accidents, spills, and releases resulted in widespread radioactive and hazardous chemical contamination at the Santa Susana Field Laboratory (SSFL), a former nuclear and rocket testing facility in Ventura County just outside the cities of Los Angeles and Simi Valley; and
WHEREAS, the United States Department of Energy (DOE) and National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) have entered into agreements with the California Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) to restore the site to its natural state by cleaning up all detectable contamination on their parts of the property to background levels defined by DTSC, but Boeing, which controls the rest of the property, has not entered into the agreement and successfully sued to overturn legislation requiring cleanup to "Residential/Rural-residential levels,” and
WHEREAS, DTSC has begun a CEQA process to evaluate potential environmental impacts relative to the proposed cleanup of the SSFL site, and as part of this process will seek public input on remediation and mitigation.
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the California Democratic Party calls upon the DTSC, NASA, DOE, and Boeing to implement a prompt and full clean up to background levels of the SSFL site.

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the California Democratic Party urges all organizations and other stakeholders to respect and observe the above principles in evaluating and implementing cleanup operations and to do more to protect the public’s health, safety and welfare, giving due consideration to minimizing negative impacts of the cleanup on neighbors as discussions are held over the destinations and delivery methods, all efforts are made that the principles of environmental justice must be respected, including utilizing when possible on-site processing of contaminants, considering alternate routes and methods for removal of material that cannot be de-contaminated on-site to reduce traffic, preventing accidental dissemination of contaminants into the community, protecting the water system, and preserving archeological sites and artifacts.

Supported by LACDP, VCDP, DPSFV, et al.
Adopted July 13, 2014

Resolution 14-07.40
School Bullying
WHEREAS, children who are bullied are more likely to experience: depression, anxiety, increased sadness and loneliness, changes in sleep and eating patterns, loss of interest in activities, health complaints, and decreased academic achievement and school participation; and
WHEREAS, children who bully are more likely to: abuse alcohol and other drugs, get into fights, vandalize property, drop out of school, engage in early sexual activity, have criminal convictions as adults, and abuse their partners or children as adults; and
WHEREAS, children who witness bullying are more likely to: have increased use of tobacco, alcohol, or other drugs, have increased mental health problems, including depression and anxiety, and miss or skip school;
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the California Democratic Party recognizes that school bullying is not child's play; rather it is a serious problem that must be addressed for the sake of all children, including children who bully;
THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the California Democratic Party shall send a copy of this resolution to Governor Jerry Brown, President pro Tempore Darrel Steinberg, Speaker Toni Atkins, State Superintendent of Public Instruction Tom Torlakson, and the California School Boards Association to encourage them to develop more effective strategies to reduce school bullying.

Sponsored by Mister Phillips (AD 15) and CDP African American Caucus
Adopted July 13, 2014

Resolution 14-07.06
Support For The Implementation Of Restorative Justice Policies For All California School Districts
WHEREAS, studies indicate that suspension does not often result in positive behavior changes and rather can instead intensify misbehavior by increasing shame, alienation and rejection amongst students resulting, according to an extensive Texas study, in the fact that students are 5 times more likely to drop out, 6 times more likely to repeat a grade and 3 times more likely to have contact with the juvenile justice system if suspended even once; and
WHEREAS, the California Democratic Party recognizes that schools can improve safety by making sure that school climates are welcoming, that responses to misbehavior are fair, non-discriminatory and effective, and are based upon restorative justice and other proven practices that also recognize the need to address those students who identify as Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Queer, Latino students, English Language Learner students and students with disabilities; and
WHEREAS, failure to offer these interventions often leads to bullying which has harmful social, physical, psychological impact on bullies, victims and bystanders; and,
THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the California Democratic Party encourages all school districts to establish a district policy and an implementation plan that will provide all students with positive tiered behavioral interventions, including but not limited to restorative justice based policies and programs and other effective alternatives to suspension, increase instructional time, prevent bullying, harassment and intimidation and reduce suspensions and,
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party urges school communities and candidates running for school boards to publicly support and work toward adoption and implementation of these policies.

Sponsored by Region 17
Adopted July 13, 2014
Resolution 14-07.30
Supporting Both A District-Based Voting System And Moving City Elections From
WHEREAS, at-large voting systems in the United States have historically been used to disenfranchise voters based on race or ethnicity, after both Reconstruction in the late 1800s and after federal passage of the Voting Rights Act of 1964 and the California Voting Rights Act of 2001 protects minority voters from disenfranchisement and ensures that votes of minorities in local election jurisdictions are not diluted by at-large voting systems and as the CDP is on record supporting district-elections where appropriate; and
WHEREAS, Whittier, a minority-majority city where Latinos account for 66% of the population, in the 115-year history of the City, which was incorporated in 1898, only one Latino has been elected to the Whittier City Council; and
WHEREAS, a lawsuit has been filed by Whittier citizens charging the city’s at-large voting system violates the California voter rights act, and calling for changes ensuring that minority voters are fairly represented and that these voters are afforded the opportunity to elect representatives of their choice to their local governments;
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party supports the following changes:
1) Whittier City Council elections change from at-large voting to representation by districts, where the candidates must reside in the district and only registered voters in that district can vote for the candidates, and
2) Move City Council elections from April in even numbered years to the Tuesday after first Monday in November of even numbered years in accord with state and federal elections, and
3) Create City Council district lines with input from the community; and
THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party support all efforts to protect minority voting rights and uphold the principles of equal representation in the City of Whittier.
Sponsored by LACDP
Adopted July 13, 2014

Resolution 14-07.20
Urging The DNC To Communicate With State Parties Regarding Venue Selection
WHEREAS, the DNC hosted an event featuring President Obama at a California Walmart store this past May, despite the well-known fact that Walmart Corporation is anti-worker and anti-woman; and
WHEREAS, picking such an unwise site for a presidential visit triggered picketing by workers, members of labor unions, and Democratic activists, which caused embarrassing stories in the press for the President and the state party; and
WHEREAS, it appears the DNC does not take into consideration all factors when determining sites for presidential visits or even national conventions, such as in 2012 in the Right-to-Work state of North Carolina, which also passed an anti-gay marriage proposition;
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the CDP requests that the DNC communicate with state party leaders when planning DNC events or Presidential appearances by President Obama so that we may be able to provide important knowledge about potential embarrassments to the party and the President that the DNC does not seem to consider; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that future events be held at venues that continue to unite our party and not turn into divisive events.
Submitted by Chairman John Burton
Adopted July 13, 2014

Resolution 14-07.03
Voting Rights For Military And Overseas Voters
WHEREAS, the right of citizens to vote by secret ballot is the fundamental basis of our democracy, and that right is guaranteed to all citizens, including to members of the military and to overseas voters, and
WHEREAS, runoff elections in special elections to fill vacancies and in other situations are often held eight or nine weeks after the first election, making it difficult for military and overseas voters to receive and return their runoff ballots in sufficient time to have them counted, unless they agree to waive their right to cast a secret ballot and return their runoff ballot via fax or email, and
WHEREAS, other states and jurisdictions, including Arkansas, Louisiana, and South Carolina, have long sent a special runoff ballot with the first ballot to military and overseas voters that allows those voters to indicate and return their runoff choices (by ranking them in order of preference) with their first ballot, allowing them to fully participate in both the first and runoff election without sacrificing their right to cast a secret ballot,
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party supports allowing military and overseas voters to return a special runoff ballot with their first ballot in all elections where a runoff election may be held within ninety days of the first election, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution shall be sent to the Governor, the Secretary of State, and members of the California Democratic legislative delegation.

Sponsored by the CDP Veterans Caucus
Adopted July 13, 2014

2015 Resolution 15-05.70L
"I CAN'T BREATHE" Resolution: Medical Aid And Transparency In Police Encounters And Investigations

WHEREAS, during an unwarranted arrest for selling loose cigarettes, Staten Island police officers caused unarmed asthmatic Eric Garner's death by asphyxiation, ignoring his repeated cries of "I can't breathe!" while maintaining their lethal chokehold, they made no attempts to resuscitate the unconscious Mr. Garner; and when paramedics arrived, they too made no attempts at resuscitation, as though his life did not matter; and

WHEREAS, during Freddie Gray's unwarranted arrest (for running after making eye contact), Baltimore police officers ignored his requests for an asthma inhaler, not responding to his screams of pain; failed to notify medics or administer aid; dragged him into their van without benefit of a seatbelt, causing him to suffer a crushed larynx and severed spine; drove to the police station (not hospital) after four stops, and he subsequently died; and others have had similar experiences, including 12-year-old Tamir Rice, shot (for playing with his toy gun) by a Cleveland, Ohio police officer who failed to administer aid to the dying child; and Walter Scott, shot in the back after an unwarranted stop (for broken tail light) by a North Charleston, SC officer who handcuffed his dying body without checking his pulse; and

WHEREAS, police officers ensure public safety despite the risks; these hardworking public servants have a unique role as trusted peacekeepers; yet between January 1 - April 30, 2015, 384 people died in police custody nationwide, averaging one every 8 hours, including 62 in California (one every 48 hours); and police conduct private, internal investigations, yet residents have the right to a transparent public process;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party supports President Obama's statement: "...we have seen too many instances of what appears to be police officers interacting with individuals, primarily African American, often poor, in ways that raise troubling questions," and we express sorrow and disapproval about unwarranted police killings; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that California Democratic Party supports these principles: (1) that police officers should attempt to mitigate officer-inflicted injuries by: administering emergency aid, handling victims' requests for medical assistance and immediately alerting medical personnel; (2) that in the interest of transparency: residents have the right to videotape police interactions without harassment; and body, dashboard and prisoner compartment cameras should become mandatory police equipment; and (3) that independent investigators and special prosecutors should be appointed in cases of police deadly use of force against nonviolent, unarmed residents.

Sponsored by the Alameda County Democratic Party, African American Caucus, East Bay Black Young Democrats, Oakland East Bay Democratic Club, Castro Valley Democratic Club, Wellstone Democratic Renewal Club.

Authored by: Pamela Mays McDonald (AD15)
Adopted May 17, 2015

California's Senior Bill Of Rights
Resolution 15-05.08

WHEREAS, older Californians have worked hard all their lives to provide for their families, build our State, and defend our Nation, and for these years of service and contribution, they deserve a dignified, secure, and independent retirement; and

WHEREAS, the number of Californian's age 60 years and older is rapidly expanding, expected to reach nearly 12 million by 2030, California's seniors will continue to rely heavily on programs and services such as Social Security, Medicare, Medi-Cal, and In-Home Supportive Services to help meet their needs for high quality and affordable health care, financial security, and the ability to maintain their dignity and independence by safely living in their homes for as long as possible; and these programs, services and those who provide them will serve an even greater importance to the safety, security and well-being of older Californians as this population grows; and
WHEREAS, notwithstanding these crucial programs and services, older Californians experience greater financial losses in time of economic downturn and are subject to higher incidences of poverty, hunger, and homelessness; and older Californians are increasingly the victims of fraud, scams, exploitation, and even physical abuse that threaten their dignity, financial security, and access to health care;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the California Democratic Party recognizes the contributions and sacrifices that older Californians have made to the State and also recognize the threats they face; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party unwaveringly upholds and protects the dignity and independence of older Californians by continuing our commitment to seek and support efforts that help ensure for them— (1) financial security, (2) quality and affordable health and long-term care, (3) protection from abuse, fraud, and exploitation, (4) a strong economy now and for future generations, and (5) independence through safe and livable communities with adequate housing and transportation options.

Sponsored by SEIU ULTCW, AFSCME United Domestic Workers, and 25 DSCC Delegates.

Adopted May 17, 2015

Resolution 15-05.07
Calling for the Republican Party to Stop Blocking Student Loan Debt Relief

WHEREAS, the cost of higher education in the state of California continues to skyrocket, requiring more students to turn to financial assistance in the form of loans to finance their college education; such that 40 million Americans owe $1.2 trillion in student-loan debt, surpassing consumer credit card debt for the first time in history, with California students averaging $20,340 in debt from our public and private non-profit 4-year institutions; and

WHEREAS, student-loan debt is a burden that follows an individual for years but affects society as a whole, as it has diminished a generation’s economic power, forcing millions to put off major life decisions like starting a family or buying a home, thereby contributing to slower economic recovery; and

WHEREAS, there are an array of solutions that can help mitigate the negative impacts of student debt, such as lowering the interest rate to that of other federal loans; allowing those with outstanding debt to refinance at current lower interest rates, expanding debt forgiveness, and allowing student loans to be discharged in bankruptcy;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the California Democratic party reprimands the Republican Party and its members in Congress for their repeated efforts to block legislation that would provide student loan debt relief; and

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the California Democratic Party supports continued efforts to keep higher education affordable, as well as the efforts of Democrats in Congress to alleviate the burden of student-loan debt.

Sponsored by John Vigna (President, California Young Democrats) and 25 DSCC Delegates.

Adopted May 17, 2015

Resolution 15-05.06
Calling Upon The Republican Party To Address Climate Change Now

WHEREAS, the Republican Party has been at the forefront of global climate change denial, endangering the future of our planet and its people by propagating false claims and junk science, rejecting the urgent need to take immediate action to reduce greenhouse gas emissions – both at home and abroad; and

WHEREAS, Republicans recklessly resort to theatrics and stunts to cheapen public discourse on the topic of climate change, bringing snowballs onto the floor of Congress and going to great lengths to censure the use of terms like, “climate change,” “global warming,” and “sea-level rise;” and

WHEREAS, the Republican Party has a long track record of rewarding and defending the fossil fuel industry – one of their biggest financial contributors – by shamelessly stopping at nothing to rollback and stymie any environmental progress that could diminish their donors’ profits, including threats to reverse Obama’s EPA regulations, nullify any international climate agreements, and freeze worthwhile investments into clean and renewable energy;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the California Democratic Party calls upon the Republican Party and its representatives to immediately stop their deception and denial and instead begin engaging in serious conversation on how to immediately reduce our carbon dioxide emissions and embrace international climate agreements; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the California Democratic Party and our elected representatives will continue to lead on this issue by pushing for urgent and necessary measures to combat climate change.

Sponsored by Rachel Binah and 25 DSCC delegates.

Adopted May 17, 2015
Resolution 15-05.14
Rebuild California By Making The Commercial Property Tax Code Fair
WHEREAS, since the Great Recession in 2008, California has experienced over $20 billion in cuts to education, infrastructure and essential services such as support for seniors and the very poor; and
WHEREAS, since the implementation of Proposition 13 in 1978, many large corporations and wealthy commercial property owners have exploited a series of loopholes in the law to avoid reassessment of commercial properties to market levels, such that this has resulted in the chronic underfunding of basic services for communities all across California and transferred the burden of funding basic services onto individual taxpayers and new businesses; and
WHEREAS, we all agree that existing protections for homeowners, renters and family farms should remain in place but that reform to the commercial tax code would make the system fairer;
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party shall support permanent measures to bring equity to California’s commercial property tax code by reassessing commercial property at its current market rate and investing the proceeds in California’s communities, schools and small business tax relief, stop the unfair exploitation of loopholes applicable to commercial property under Prop. 13, and support new accountability measures to ensure funds are distributed transparently and appropriately.
Sponsored by CTA, CFT, SEIU, AFSCME and 25 DSCC delegates.
Adopted May 17, 2015

Resolution 15-05.52
Resolution In Opposition Of The "Fast-Tracking" Of The Trans-Pacific Partnership That Outsources American Jobs
WHEREAS, the latest provisions of the Trans-Pacific Partnership’s Investor-State Dispute Settlement System aggressively expand the powers of multinational corporations, giving them the ability to undermine democracy by challenging our federal, state and local laws and programs that could diminish any of their future expected profits in international tribunals; and
WHEREAS, the TPP will spur another exodus of American jobs in the service, public and manufacturing sectors, as it includes rules that will make it even easier for corporate America to outsource call centers, programming, engineering, and manufacturing jobs, putting Americans out of work; and
WHEREAS, such unfettered power would result in an erosion of collective bargaining rights and a rollback of labor, health, consumer safety, and environmental regulations, and spurring a race to the bottom and an increase in wealth and income inequality;
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party reaffirms its longstanding opposition to “fast tracking” of the Trans-Pacific Partnership, denounces any elements which result in the massive expansion of corporate power and the weakening of democratic rule and workers rights, and calls for the disclosure of all the details of the agreement; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party send this to our congressional delegation and President Obama.
The issue of the Trans-Pacific Partnership was originally brought to the attention of the CDP Resolutions committee in 2013 by Susie Shannon (AD50), Dorothy Reik (AD50), and Adrienne Burk (AD46).
Adopted May 17, 2015

Resolution 15-05.72L
Resolution In Opposition To Arctic Oil Drilling Permit
WHEREAS, the proposed Shell Oil drilling in the Chukchi Sea is a threat to human and other life as this region, one of the most dangerous and environmentally sensitive places in the world to drill, with extreme storms with icy waters and waves up to 50 feet high, and no roads to major cities, no deep water ports within hundreds of miles, and the closest properly equipped Coast Guard station more than 1,000 miles away; and
WHEREAS, any oil extracted from reserves under the Chukchi Sea is unnecessary as International Energy Agency statistics show the U.S. as the world’s biggest producer of oil; and
WHEREAS, drilling in the Chukchi Sea will be a serious threat to the lifestyle of many American Inupiate villagers and other native tribes who live in the region, and it also will be in clear violation of the Marine Protection Act, which prohibits activities with the potential to injure or disturb a marine mammal in the will;
THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the California Democratic Party officially opposes the decision to allow Shell Oil rights to drill in the Chukchi Sea, and supports the provision of assistance to any displaced workers as a result of any stoppage; and BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the California Democratic Party will forward a copy of this resolution to the Democratic National Committee, Alaska Democratic Party, as well as President Barack Obama, the California Congressional delegation, Senators Boxer and Feinstein and the Environmental Protection Agency, as well as the U.S. Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement urging that they take all appropriate actions to deny approvals for drilling on the basis of Marine Mammal Protection Act and other above-stated reasons.

Sponsored by Progressive Democrats of the Santa Monica Mountains and LACDP.

Authored by: Dorothy Reik (AD50)
Adopted May 17, 2015

Resolution 15-05.21

Resolution in Support of Divestment from Fossil Fuel Companies

WHEREAS, the climate crisis is a severe threat to current and future generations and the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) Fourth Assessment Report found that global warming is already causing costly disruption of human and natural systems throughout the world including the melting of Arctic ice, the ocean’s rise, increase in ocean’s acidity, flooding and drought; and
WHEREAS, almost every government in the world has agreed through the 2009 Copenhagen Accord that any warming above a 2°C (3.6°F) rise would be hazardous, and that if humans pour only about 565 more gigatons of carbon dioxide into the atmosphere this limit will be not possible to maintain; and
WHEREAS, for the purposes of this resolution, a “fossil fuel company” shall be defined as any of the 200 publicly traded companies with the largest coal, oil, and gas reserves as measured by the gigatons of carbon dioxide that would be emitted if those reserves were extracted and burned, as listed in Fossil Free Indexes’ “The Carbon Underground 200” report, as updated; and
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party calls upon the University of California and California State University endowments, the University of California Retirement Plan, and the California Public Employees’ Retirement System (CALPERS) and the California State Teachers’ Retirement System (CALSTRS) institutional pension funds, to immediately stop new investments in fossil fuel companies, to take steps, without risking any financial loss to its members, to divest all holdings from the top 200 fossil fuel companies as determined by the Carbon Underground list within five years, and to release periodic updates to the public, detailing progress made toward full divestment; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party send a copy of this resolution to the Governor of the State of California, the Board of Regents of the University of California, the Chancellor of the California State University system, members of the state Senate and state Assembly, asking support for institutional divestment from fossil fuels without risk of financial loss to its members and for this resolution.

Sponsored by Region 2, Region 5, and Alameda, Alpine, Amador, Los Angeles, Marin, Placer, Sacramento, Santa Barbara, Santa Cruz, Solano, Sonoma, Ventura, and Yolo Democratic Central Committees.

Authored by: RL Miller (AD44), Janet Cox (AD15) and Andy Kelley (AD15).
Adopted May 17, 2015

RESOLUTION 15-05.15

Resolution in Support of Repealing California’s Personal Beliefs Exemption to Mandatory Vaccinations

WHEREAS, for the protection of all students and the community at large, California and every state in the United States passed laws requiring vaccination for school enrollment to achieve sufficient immunity to prevent the spread of serious contagions, including polio, measles, and whooping cough in schools and communities and for the protection of children and adults who cannot receive vaccines from these infections; and
WHEREAS, the past success of vaccination has resulted in people being unaware of the dangers of preventable infections, while the spread of unscientific misinformation about vaccines has made some parents hesitant about vaccination, resulting in a significant rise in use of the personal belief exemption, which has been identified as a major factor in the spread of the 2010 whooping cough outbreak that hospitalized 809 and killed 10 infants and the 2014-2015 measles outbreak beginning in Southern California that infected 134 Californians including 15 infants too young to receive the measles vaccine and hospitalized at least 20 people; and
WHEREAS, the Democratic Party stands for protection of the most vulnerable and sound science to keep the nation safe, exemplified by President Franklin D. Roosevelt founding the March of Dimes to quickly respond to polio epidemics anywhere in the nation and funding research that resulted in the development of the polio vaccine, which after a field test of 1.8 million children, 60 years ago, was announced to be “safe, effective, and potent”; THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party support the removal of the personal belief exemption to legally required vaccinations for school attendance, and THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party send copies of this resolution to Governor Brown and to the Democratic members of the California Legislature. 
Sponsored by the San Francisco Democratic Party and Miracle Mile Democratic Club.
Adopted May 17, 2015

Resolution 15-05.05
Resolution on Fighting Inequality by Expanding Economic Opportunity
WHEREAS, the recent economic recovery has proved prosperous for the top income earners while working and middle class American families have not benefited in nearly the same proportion; and WHEREAS, wages for working families have stagnated over the last fifteen years and median household income has declined during the same period, but it is proven that when workers have the opportunity to stand together in unions to bargain for fair wages and decent benefits, income inequality decreases; and WHEREAS, Republicans habitually promote economic policies that are detrimental to working and middle class families who are increasingly stretched by the demands of the new economy and frustrated by the uneven rewards that hard work brings, while top income earners enjoy earnings gains year after year; THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the California Democratic Party will recommit its efforts to combat growing income inequality by fighting for policy solutions that expand economic opportunity for poor, working and middle class families; and THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the California Democratic Party will work to encourage candidates and elected officials to fight to expand economic opportunity and address the gross economic disparities currently plaguing our nation’s economy.
Sponsored by Art Pulaski, 25 DSCC delegates, San Diego County Democratic Party and Women Democrats of Sacramento County.
Adopted by the California Democratic Party
At its May 2015 State Convention
Anaheim Convention Center
May 17, 2015

Resolution 15-05.11
Resolution to Make California Work Better for Working Women by Advancing Workplace Equality and Modernizing Worker’s Compensation Laws
WHEREAS, women of all ages have 20-40% higher injury rates than men in the same jobs, and women’s injury rates increase with age as male rates decline with age, resulting in a 50% higher injury rate for women over the age of 55; additionally, 64% of mental stress claims are made by women caused by workplace abuse, including 35% of working women who are subject to sexual harassment, and WHEREAS, Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger pushed through changes in Workers’ Compensation insurance that reduced permanent disability compensation for women, based on the assumption that lower bone density caused by osteoporosis, pregnancy and menopause are the true causes for many workplace injuries for women, creating this gender discrimination which runs contrary to the Patient Protections and Affordable Care Act, a central tenant of which is that being a woman is not a pre-existing medical condition, and WHEREAS, Governor Schwarzenegger’s changes and other discriminatory policies are deeply embedded into the workers compensation system, as evidenced by the facts that carpal tunnel syndrome – a disorder that disproportionately effects women – too often has a disability rating of 0%; that breast cancer contracted as a result of dangerous workplace exposures has a disability rating of 0% for many women; and the fact that first-responder professionals are granted presumptions related to their injuries with the sole exception being hospital nurses – a field dominated by women – who experience higher than acceptable incidences of contracting blood-borne diseases as a result of their work,
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party declares that current Workers’ Compensation insurance regulations and laws unfairly impact working women, and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party urges policy makers to make California a better place for working women by promoting workplace equality and modernizing worker’s compensation laws to correct gender-based discriminatory policies.

Sponsored by CDP Women’s Caucus Chair Christine Pelosi, the CDP Women’s Caucus, CDP Chair John Burton, CDP Vice-Chair Alex Gallardo-Rooker, CDP Vice-Chair Eric C. Bauman, CDP Secretary Daraka Larimore-Hall, CDP Controller Hilary Crosby, the Alameda County Democratic Party, the Los Angeles County Democratic Party, the Marin Democratic Party, the Democratic Party of Orange County, the Sacramento County Democratic Party, the San Francisco Democratic Party, the San Mateo County Democrats, the Santa Clara Democratic Party, the Stanislaus County Democratic Party, and the Yolo County Democratic Party.

Adopted May 17, 2015