



COUNTY CONVENTION PACKET

2023

Letter from Chair

Dear Union County Democrats,

It's been an honor to serve alongside you as Chair the past two years. We've experienced highs and lows and we have come out on the other side stronger, wiser and more determined to win than ever. I am so excited about the future of the Democratic Party in North Carolina AND the impact Union County Democrats will have in the coming years locally and nationally.

It's not going to be easy. The odds are stacked against us, but we are on the right side of history and NEVER underestimate how a small group of people can change the world. It's the only thing that ever has.

On April 15th, you will elect a new board of officers and I will be passing the torch to the new Chair to lead our party to the next level. My plea to each of you, is to do everything you can to help them be successful. The five elected board members cannot do it on their own. It takes each of us showing up, speaking out and waving our blue flag proudly. It may mean getting out of your comfort zone by knocking on doors, or making phone calls, or joining a municipal committee, or speaking at county commissioner meetings... It's going to take every one of us to turn our county blue. Whatever your gift, talent or resource, the Union County Democratic Party needs you. There is a place at the table with your name on it!

I have met so many wonderful people and I know many will become life-long friends. I am grateful to each of you for giving me grace as I have learned to lead this party. Now, it's time to lean-in to this new board. Let's rally our troops and turn our county blue. We CAN do this!

In gratitude,
Lisa Walker
Chair, Union County Democratic Party

Rules of the Day

RULE 1. *Chair.* The County Party Chair (Chair) shall have general direction of the meeting and shall be authorized to take such action as necessary to maintain order. The Chair, with the guidance of the appointed Parliamentarian, shall decide all questions of order, subject to an appeal by any delegate. Order of priority of Rules shall be (1) the North Carolina Democratic Party Plan of Organization, (2) the Rules adopted by the delegates of the Convention, and (3) Robert's Rules of Order (12th Edition). Courteous respect for one another will be the standing order of the day.

RULE 2. *Obtaining Recognition.* Except in the case of physical challenge, when any delegate wants to speak in debate, that delegate shall rise, approach a microphone, and await recognition by the Chair. The Chair shall inquire of the delegate the purpose for which the delegate rises. If the delegate's purpose in seeking recognition is in order, the Chair will recognize the delegate, and the delegate shall state their name and precinct name or number.

RULE 3. *Limitations on Speaking and Debate.* No delegate shall speak in debate more than once on the same question, or longer than one (1) minute, without permission of the assembly, granted by a majority vote without debate. Debate will be limited to five (5) minutes per motion, without permission of the assembly, granted by a majority vote without debate. Ad hominem arguments will not be tolerated by the Chair who may curtail the remaining

time of the speaker. The Chair will attempt to alternate between members in favor or opposed to a motion. A "Point of Order" should be made only if the Party Plan of Organization, Rules of the Day, or Robert's Rules of Order are being violated by the Chair or another member. A "Question or Point of Personal Privilege" should be made only if it concerns the rights of the assembly or the individual's ability to fully participate physically and is urgent in nature. Neither "Point of Order" or "Question or Point of Personal Privilege" shall be used to debate a matter that is before the body.

RULE 4. *Credentialed Voting.* Credentialed delegates are those whose names appear on the official delegates' list submitted by the precincts and who have registered prior to the Convention call to order. The Chair may take voice votes, standing votes, or ballots for any and all votes. If a voice vote is used, any call for division must be sanctioned by delegates from twenty-five (25) percent of the precincts present.

RULE 5. *Quorum.* A quorum shall exist any time there is at least one credentialed delegate present from fifty (50) percent plus one of the organized precincts in the County. If the presence of a quorum is questioned, the Party Secretary, and/or assistants shall call the roll of precincts to determine if a quorum exists. Once a quorum has been established, no further quorum call needs to be recognized for one (1) hour. If a quorum exists when the body begins

debate on a subject, it is presumed to exist until that item is completed.

RULE 6. *Nominations for County Executive Committee Officers.*

Nominations for officers shall be conducted by a nomination committee or taken from the body with nominating speeches: limited to five minutes (5) for the Nominating Committee and limited to two (2) minutes for each nomination from the floor. Nominations do not require a second.

RULE 7. *Nominations for State Executive Committee Members.* Only nominations for State Executive Committee members made in accordance with section 4.01 of the Plan of Organization shall be in order. (Only if there are vacancies).

Nominations for SEC shall be conducted by a nomination committee or taken from the body with nominating speeches: limited to five (5) minutes for the Nominating Committee and limited to one (1) minutes for each nomination from the floor. Nominations do not require a second.

RULE 8. *Nomination of Congressional Convention Delegates.* Any credentialed delegate may place in nomination the name of a registered Democrat as

delegate to the Congressional District convention as appropriate for the nominee's voting address. If nominations for delegates to a convention are closed and the number of nominations does not exceed the number of seats, a motion to elect all nominees by acclamation shall be in order.

RULE 9. *Election of County Executive Committee Officers.* If only one nomination has been made, a motion to elect by acclamation will be in order.

If two or more nominations have been made for an office, the election shall be conducted in accordance with the weighted vote requirements in Section 5.02 of the Plan of Organization.

RULE 10. *Election of State Executive Committee Members.* If the number of nominations for State Executive Committee members is equal to the number of members to which the county is entitled, and the nominations conform with section 4.01 of the Plan of Organization, a motion to elect all nominees by acclamation will be in order.

Otherwise, each delegate will Vote for no more than eight (8) people. Ballots with more than eight (8) votes will be marked spoiled and will not be counted.

Union County will have eight (8) elected SEC seats in 2023, as described in the NCDP Plan of Organization.

Furthermore, in compliance with gender equity rules set forth in that Plan:

Four (4) of the eight (8) SEC seats will count towards the female gender identity allotment and four (4) of the eight (8) SEC seats will count towards the male gender identity allotment.

However, when a candidate is asked to declare their gender identity, they may declare female, male or gender non-binary.

Votes for all nominated candidates will be tallied from highest to lowest and evaluated as follows:

The gender identity (either female or male) that first achieves 4 positions shall be identified. The first gender non-binary candidate who receives more votes than the 4th-placed candidate shall displace the 4th-placed candidate.

If necessary, the process will repeat for the second gender identity and/or additional candidates that have declared their gender identity to be non-binary.

RULE 11. *Election of Congressional Convention Delegates.* Any credentialed delegate may place in nomination the name of a registered Democrat as delegate to the Congressional District convention as appropriate for the nominee's voting address. If nominations for delegates to a convention are closed and the number of nominations does not exceed the number of seats, a motion to elect all nominees by acclamation shall be in order.

RULE 12. *Resolutions.* Resolutions will be presented as a group for approval. Credentialed delegates may remove individual resolutions from a group for amendments by obtaining recognition,

stating a resolution they would like to have removed, and providing a reason. Credentialed delegates may make motions to approve or deny groups of resolutions. In debate, a delegate having removed a resolution from the group of considered resolutions may be recognized for one (1) minute to speak to the reason the resolution was pulled or to make motions. A delegate from the precinct or group of precincts submitting the Resolution may be recognized for one (1) minute to speak on behalf of the resolution or explain its intent. Delegates may then be recognized to speak for one (1) minute, alternating on behalf of or in opposition of the proposed Resolution.

RULE 13. *Tellers.* If ballots are used in any contested election, votes shall be collected and recorded via a paper ballot provided to each in-person precinct team in attendance to record their votes. The collected ballots shall be tallied in accordance with the weighted vote requirements in Section 5.02 of the Plan of Organization. In any contested election, each nominee may designate an official observer of this process by indicating to the Chair the name and email address of their designee.

Agenda

1. Welcome & Call to Order
 - a. NCDP Statement of Inclusion
 - b. Moment of Silence
 - c. Pledge of Allegiance & Salute to the NC Flag
 - d. Message from the State Chair
 - e. Inspiration Message from Rev Idris Strange
2. Meeting Requirements
 - a. Roll Call by Secretary for Quorum
 - b. Approval of Agenda
 - c. Approval of Rules of the Day
 - d. Approval of Last Year's Meeting
3. Elections
 - a. Election of County Party Chair
 - b. Election of County Party Vice Chairs
 - c. Election of County Party Secretary
 - d. Election of State Executive Committee Members
 - e. Election of Congressional Convention Delegates
4. Approval of County-level Resolutions
5. 2023 Hunley Award Recognition
6. Conduct any other business related to the affairs of the County Party
7. Announcements
 - a. Saturday, May 20th - Congressional District Conventions
 - b. Saturday, June 24th - 2023 Unity Dinner
 - c. Saturday, June 24th - Summer SEC Meeting
 - d. Tuesday, November 7th - Election Day
8. Adjournment

Minutes of the 2022 Union County Democratic Party Convention

The 2022 Convention was NOT recorded.

The Union County Democratic Party elected to hold a virtual County Convention. The virtual convention was organized and paid for by the UCDP. The Union County Convention was overseen by representative(s) from the county party: Kevin Daniels Union County Panelists: Lisa Walker, Chair; Cynthia Singleton, 1st Vice-Chair; Stuart Purr, 2nd Vice-Chair, Benjamin Gonzalez, 3rd Vice Chair, Cristal Robinson, Secretary, Krystal Edwards, Treasurer. Add. Panelist: Harry Crow, Parliamentarian

Date: Saturday, March 26, 2022

Meeting Location: Online via Zoom, no recording except Chat.

Voting Procedures: Roll Call and votes were accomplished using the "Raise Hand" or Voice feature on Zoom.

Start Time: 10:00 am

- 1) Welcome and Call to Order: Lisa Walker, UCDP Chair
- 2) Statement of Inclusion: Benjamin Gonzalez, 3rd Vice Chair
- 3) Moment of Silence
- 4) Pledge of Allegiance:
- 5) Message from State Party Chair, Dr. Bobbie Richardson

- 6) Roll Call: QUORUM ATTAINED (19 precincts needed); Full list of participating precincts are unavailable. Once a quorum was met, roll call ended. Cristal Robinson confirmed the roll call and quorum.

- 7) Agenda presented and voted on.
NO objections: approved as presented

- 7) Rules for the Day presented and voted on:
NO objections: approved as presented

- 8) Approval of Minutes from the 2021 County Convention
NO objections: approved as presented

9) Business

- a. Elect Delegates to the 2022 Congressional District Conv.

Motion: Everyone in the meeting are delegates to the District and the Board will fill in any vacant positions - Ernest Walker, 2nd: Patricia Kindley - No Debate - Vote: Passed

- b. Elect Delegates to the 2022 NCDP State Convention

Motion: Everyone in the meeting are delegates to the District and the Board will fill in any vacant positions - Stuart Purr, 2nd: Nathan Hailey - No Debate - Vote: Passed

- c. Elect two (2) members to the Senate Executive District 29 Committee. Unless districts are wholly contained within the county.

Motion: JoAnn Jablonski for House District 65 Executive Committee - Stuart Purr, 2nd: Michele Nicholson - No Debate - Vote: Passed

Motion: John Kibler for Senate District 29 Executive Committee - Surluta Anthony, 2nd: Nathel Hailey - No Debate - Vote: Passed

- d. Election of any County Officer is there is a vacancy

Motion: Chris Michaelson for SEC Replacement - Ernest Walker, 2nd: Nathel Hailey - No Debate - Vote: Passed

10) Resolutions: NONE

11) Other Business: NONE

12) Announcements: Times for future meetings

13) Adjournment at 11:40 pm
NO objections

Elections

Nominations from the Floor will be accepted, but here is the proposed election slate as presented by the nominating committee (Carol Fox, Evelyn Maben-Hall, Ernest Collins).

County Party Chair

Parron Baxter

County Party Vice Chairs

Vice Chair 1 - Keanna Marsh

Vice Chair 2 - Karen Hicks

Vice Chair 3 - Heather Oldland

County Party Secretary

Kathleen Domanski

State Executive Committee Members (Total of 8 - Four female & four male including non binary)

Shawntay Anthony

Surluta Anthony

Brian Cross

Kevin Daniels

John Kibler

Joyce Koon

Cristal Robinson (they)

Lynn Slivka

Lisa Walker

Election of Congressional Convention Delegates (171 delegates)

UCDP Officer Candidate Biographies

Chair: Candidate Parron Baxter

Experience & Qualifications: I believe that I bring to the table a diverse and knowledgeable experience that not only helps inform others when I attend community meetings but also the citizenry when engaging in our local community. I chose to get involved in the local Democratic party almost immediately after moving to Union Co, and worked closely with Lisa Walker who has been a mentor to me in this journey.

Brief Description of your Platform: The best days are in front of us here in Union Co. To get there we must keep up all of the great work that has laid the foundation for where we are now. We must have a multipronged approach in my opinion and that to me is 1. Strategy 2. Tactics 3. Acceptance. Strategize on new opportunities, tacitly fight with our solidarity and information, and accept people whether they are with us or not.

Why do you wish to serve as an officer? Over the past year I have truly enjoyed being a member of the UCDP. Doing the work and showing up has transformed my entire perspective. Communicating directly with the people colors in the messaging and initiatives that we have planned. I would like to ignite the pride in us as Dems, as historically and contemporarily have been on the right side of history and issues. We can do this and lets do it together!

Vice Chair 1: Candidate Keanna Marsh

Experience & Qualifications: As an experienced Administrative Assistant, I bring a comprehensive set of skills that I believe will be valuable to UCDP. In my Administrative Assistant role, I honed my abilities in researching, planning and organizing, providing a firm foundation. My collaboration, people-centric nature, and compassion have afforded me excellent time-management and interpersonal skills.

Brief Description of your Platform: I support the values and missions of democracy. Supporting democracy not only promotes such fundamental American values as religious freedom and worker rights, but also helps create a more secure, stable, and prosperous global arena in which the United States can advance its national interests. Advancing begins on a local scale thus, I aim to be of service to empower my residential county.

Why do you wish to serve as an officer?: I serve as the point of contact for the Outreach & Service Committee in the Union County Democratic Party. I wish to serve as a board member because I understand the critical need for service within the Democratic Party. Alongside this, I exude a passion for outreach and service. Given my notion of passion, I aim to be a pillar of support for my community and the UCDP.

Vice Chair 2: Candidate Karen Hicks

Experience & Qualifications: Precinct Chair, Outreach Volunteer

Brief Description of your Platform: Assist with training for precinct chairs - identify local key contact for assistance in learning modules in NCDP resources; assist with precinct meetings and help promote attendance. In addition, develop and implement community programs where UC Dems (voters) can gain knowledge of current issues, candidates, as well as information on what's going on in municipal/local government agencies.

Why do you wish to serve as an officer? As Precinct Chair, I have held precinct meetings, canvassed, rallied volunteers to canvass, wrote post cards, and made many voter & volunteer phone calls.

Vice Chair 3: Candidate Heather Oldland

Experience & Qualifications: I have experience with organizing while working for, Red Wine & Blue, a non-profit that uses digital media and relational organizing to engage and empower suburban women around political issues. This experience has shown me how important communication is and ways to facilitate engagement with people in the community. I can bring those experiences to improve communication outreach for UCDP.

Brief Description of your Platform: Communication is key and I would like to help improve our internal communications to precinct leaders and volunteers. I also want to improve our communication and messaging to the community, from updating social media, websites, newsletters, calendars, and events. It's also important to make sure that the Democratic Party messages are reaching our voters.

Why do you wish to serve as an officer? During the 2022 election I have volunteered for the Union County Democratic Party from postcard writing, to distributing candidate literature, poll greeting, posting on social media to engage voters from grassroots groups, organizing meet ups to get voters involved and to the polls. I would like to serve on the board for 3rd Vice Chair to help increase community engagement for positive change in Union County.

Secretary: Candidate Kathleen Domanski

Experience & Qualifications: Former Secretary of Union County Senior DEMS; currently decry of Library Association of Waxhaw; volunteer with Council for Aging and staff the UCDP Office once a week. Current treasurer of UC Senior DEMS.

Brief Description of your Platform: To support electing Democrats up and down the ticket and promote Democratic values within our community.

Why do you wish to serve as an officer? I am an active UCDP volunteer and help in any area that's needed to grow our party. I have strong organization skills, am process-oriented and I am willing to serve.

Treasurer: Appointed by Chair

State Executive Council (SEC) Candidate Biographies

Shawntay Anthony, female

Experience & Qualifications: I have served as a past precinct chair, County, district and state convention delegate. I have worked professionally in politics for a decade and volunteered for years prior. I'm currently a staff member at NCDP.

Brief Description of your Platform: As an SEC member I would want to bring attention to the needs and concerns of our Suburban community since Union is a mix of rural and suburb. I already attend each of the meetings so there would be no question if I will serve my responsibilities as an SEC member.

Why do you wish to serve on the SEC?: I am the Director of Coalitions & Community Engagement. I primarily work with our marginalized communities across the state providing programs and events to empower and maintain space for all in our big tent.

Surluta Anthony, female

Experience & Qualifications: Lifelong Democrat, served in every precinct position, attended county, district and state conventions, former elected official, elected Dist 9 Delegate to 2020 DNC, active voter, former GOTV Chair, SEC member, poll worker, campaign worker, sign distributor, member AfroAmerican and Native American Caucus, Senior Dem and Democratic Women, Unity Dinners, telephone canvass. ❤️ Democracy

Brief Description of your Platform: Educate voters, get out the vote, get our message out and motivate voters, build Afro American Caucus and Native American Caucus

Why do you wish to serve on the SEC?: County, district and state conventions, SEC Meetings, Precinct work, voter registration, candidate, Senior Dems, Democratic Woman, Afro American Caucus, Native American Caucus, transportation to polls, poll watcher

Brian Cross, male

Experience & Qualifications: Precinct Vice Chair of 29A, two time candidate for Indian Trail Town Council, member of VFW 2423, Member of Indian Trail PARC committee, bus commuter. VP at Bank of America

Brief Description of your Platform: Preserve voting rights, increase school funding, get the state legislature to fund more transportation and road projects. Push for more collaboration with Mecklenburg county and less short sighted NIMBY government which is so prevalent in Union County.

Why do you wish to serve on the SEC?: Served as an SEC member the last 2 years. Its a huge responsibility with a difficult learning curve, I really want to use what I learn and be more further engaged joining other caucuses and committee work in a following term.

Kevin Daniels, male

Experience & Qualifications: I have been serving the UCDP since I moved here five years ago. I have served as precinct chair, 2nd Vice Chair of the County, and the SEC. I believe in term limits, but would like to stick around on the SEC for another term or two. We just had a big shakeup of the leadership and I would love the opportunity to work with this new board, advocating for Union County.

Brief Description of your Platform: I believe that Union County gets ignored by the state party because we have longshot chances of winning countywide races. However if we want to become more competitive, we need state resources. While I'm sure all candidates would advocate for Union County just as hard as I do, I believe the new board's vision of re-engagement fits with mine and I look forward to helping them enact their plan.

Why do you wish to serve on the SEC?: My involvement in politics started when I moved here in 2017. At my first precinct meeting I was elected precinct chair and shortly after that I was asked to staff the office. I was elected as 2nd Vice Chair of the UCDP in 2019 and have remained heavily involved with various activities.

I have served on the SEC since leaving the UCDP board two years ago. I would like the opportunity to work with this new board for a bit before stepping aside to make room for new voices.

John Kibler, male

Experience & Qualifications: Democratic Activist for 50 years in NC. Political Treasurer for 12 years.

Brief Description of your Platform: To represent ALL Citizens of NC including People of Color, The Jewish Community, The Islamic Community, The poor, homeless, and destitute.

Why do you wish to serve on the SEC?: Canvassing, Phone Banking, Card Writing, Sign Posting, Precinct Chair, President of Senior Democrats, County Treasurer, District Treasurer, Candidates Treasurer, etc.

Joyce Koon, female

Experience & Qualifications: Currently serving on the SEC for the last 2 years and Precinct Chair for the last 5 years.

Brief Description of your Platform: To help Union County obtain the help it needs from the State Party to win elections and increase the number of democrats.

Why do you wish to serve on the SEC?: I believe all voices in Union County need to be heard. I became active in Union County as soon as I moved here and realized not one Democrat was running for office. I immediately connected with the county office and started canvassing, phone banking, sending out the blue ballots as well as poll greeting. For the last 5 years, I served as Precinct Chair and was just re-elected for the next two years. Because of my hard work, my precinct is known as the precinct that can be depended to get things done. My precinct is one of the largest in the county and under my leadership has more new members participating in county activities than ever before. I wish to continue serving on the board to help the party move forward and increase democratic participation.

Cristal Robinson, non-binary

Experience & Qualifications: Diversity & Civil Rights Attorney, Social Entrepreneur, and Neuroqueer & Disability Advocate: Cristal Robinson is an attorney focused on diversity, equity, & inclusion in education, employment, & business ownership who enjoys watching their autistic son experience life, growing older with their autistic spouse, & figuring out their true self as a late-in-life diagnosed autistic professional.

Brief Description of your Platform: LGBTQIA+ and Disability Rights are everyone's rights: Cristal Robinson (they/them/she) is passionate about advancing the rights of neurodivergent, queer, and other diverse people through representation, advocacy, and consulting.

Why do you wish to serve on the SEC?: NCDP Disability Issues Caucus - Treasurer of Board of Directors, UCDP - secretary, current SEC member for UCDP, Treasurer for 3 candidates, current precinct co-chair, past Treasurer of Potter-Randall Democratic Club, other positions and working on candidate campaigns and issue organizations.

www.votecristal.com

Lynn Slivka, female

Experience & Qualifications: Retired Army Veteran, SFC, Medical Training Units, Instructor and LPN. Extensive background in organizing, education and training. Organized PCT 37A and served as Chair from 2007-15. Served as VC from 2016-18. Helped organize other Precincts. Currently Precinct Secretary. Past Secretary duties UCDP Democratic Women, Past Member of Women's Summit (Political and Social Issues affecting our region).

Brief Description of your Platform: Unapologetically progressive with a focus on reducing corporate greed putting profits over the needs of people. Studied on critical issues, pending legislation, prepared to take action, canvass, or engage in voter outreach. I believe in equal human rights, racial, social, economic justice and healthcare for all.

I'm a dedicated, loyal and reliable member seeking re-election to a full term.

Why do you wish to serve on the SEC?: Hillary for President 2008, Obama for President 2008 and 2012-Organizer OFA, ran staging locations during campaigns and GOTV push; Bernie Sanders for President 2016 and 2020; Elected National Delegate NCCD9 to DNC Convention in Philadelphia 2016; Progressive Caucus NCDP 2016 to present; Kay Hagen for Senate- 2008 and 2014; Organizer staging locations in Stallings Union County and Lake Park Union County Offices; Various local campaigns support staff for Wesley Chapel, Indian Trail and Mecklenburg races in our Congressional Districts.; ★ NC Democratic Women STAR Award 2010; 🏆 Charles Hunley Award Union County 2019

Lisa Walker, female

Experience & Qualifications: Precinct Chair for four years, County Chair for two years. Retired business executive. Strong communicator. High energy and committed to growing our party.

Brief Description of your Platform: I am passionate about racial and economic equity, strong public education, free and fair elections, accessible/excellent healthcare for all, climate change issues, women & LGBTQ rights, affordable housing, safe crime-free neighborhoods and better paying jobs for all.

Why do you wish to serve on the SEC?: I've been Precinct Chair (4 years) Cluster lead (2 years), County Chair (2 years), and SEC member (2 years). I think SEC members must represent all DEM constituents in our county. SEC members need to be actively involved with the county party on a local level so they know the issues and desires of our members and can vote accordingly on the issues

that impact the direction of our party. If elected, I will continue to solicit input from DEM members and represent the interests of our Union County party as a whole.

Resolutions

- 1. RESOLUTION ON ADDRESSING SYSTEMIC INEQUITIES FACED BY THE BLACK COMMUNITY**
- 2. RESOLUTION FOR THE NORTH CAROLINA DEMOCRATIC PARTY TO ALLOW AND SUPPORT UNIONIZATION OF THE NCDP PROFESSIONAL STAFF**
- 3. RESOLUTION TO URGE AGAINST THE ACCEPTANCE OF CAMPAIGN DONATIONS FROM DUKE ENERGY**
- 4. RESOLUTION ON REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH VIA CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS**
- 5. RESOLUTION TO PROTECT THE RIGHT TO BOYCOTT BY US COMPANIES**
- 6. RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF A REAL APPROACH TO HOUSING POLICY**
- 7. RESOLUTION TO CRIMINALIZE WAGE THEFT**
- 8. RESOLUTION CALLING ON NC DEMOCRATS TO BOYCOTT AIPAC EVENTS**
- 9. RESOLUTION FOR A "RIGHT TO VOTE" AMENDMENT**
- 10. RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF CODETERMINATION FOR LARGE CORPORATIONS**
- 11. RESOLUTION ON RECOGNIZING ANTI-PALESTINIAN BIGOTRY**
- 12. RESOLUTION TO BAN BALANCE-BILLING**
- 13. RESOLUTION TO PROMOTE THE USE OF LOCAL SOLAR AND STORAGE IN CARBON PLANNING**
- 14. DUPLICATE TO #5**
- 15. RESOLUTION TO RECOGNIZE MAY 15 AS NAKBA REMEMBRANCE DAY**

1. RESOLUTION ON ADDRESSING SYSTEMIC INEQUITIES FACED BY THE BLACK COMMUNITY

WHEREAS, the Black community is a vital part of the Democratic Party's base and has played a significant role in shaping the party's values and principles; and

WHEREAS, the Black community has historically faced systemic inequities in areas such as housing, education, healthcare, criminal justice, and economic opportunity, which have persisted despite some progress; and

WHEREAS, these systemic inequities have resulted in unequal access to resources, opportunities, and power, and have contributed to persistent racial disparities in health, education, income, and wealth;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Democratic Party commits to addressing systemic inequities faced by the Black community through policies that aim to:

1. Address systemic racism in all areas of American life, including housing, education, healthcare, criminal justice, and economic opportunity, and eliminate discriminatory practices and policies.
2. Invest in communities of color by directing resources towards programs and initiatives that promote economic opportunity, affordable housing, quality education, and healthcare, and support small businesses owned by people of color.
3. Reform the criminal justice system to eliminate racial disparities in policing, sentencing, and incarceration, and promote alternatives to incarceration, such as community-based programs and restorative justice.
4. Increase representation of Black people in leadership positions and decision-making roles at all levels of government, including the judicial system, law enforcement, and public education.
5. Provide support and resources for Black-owned businesses, entrepreneurs, and workers, including access to capital, training, and mentorship.
6. Promote voting rights and civic engagement in the Black community, including combating voter suppression and gerrymandering, and expanding access to early voting, mail-in voting, and polling places in underserved communities.
7. Address health disparities in the Black community, including the disproportionate impact of COVID-19, by expanding access to affordable healthcare and investing in community-based health programs.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Democratic Party recognizes the vital role of the Black community in our party and in the United States as a whole, and pledges to work

towards a future where all people have equal access to opportunities, resources, and power, regardless of their race or ethnicity.

Submitted to the Union County Democratic Party by Kevin Daniels, Precinct 7 on March 7, 2023

2. RESOLUTION FOR THE NORTH CAROLINA DEMOCRATIC PARTY TO ALLOW AND SUPPORT UNIONIZATION OF THE NCDP PROFESSIONAL STAFF

WHEREAS, in the 2022 cycle the previous director and elected board either directly or indirectly engaged in union busting activities; and

WHEREAS, as this was a direct violation of Democratic Party values and allowed Republicans to, correctly and honestly attack Democrats as anti-Labor; and

WHEREAS, employees of the NCDP were given their union membership along with termination of employment.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the North Carolina Democratic Party be required to allow for unionization of its professional staff.

RESOLVED that union busting/anti-labor activities be added as grounds for removal of any professional staff or elected officer.

Submitted to the Union County Democratic Party by Kevin Daniels, Precinct 7 on March 7, 2023

3. RESOLUTION TO URGE AGAINST THE ACCEPTANCE OF CAMPAIGN DONATIONS FROM DUKE ENERGY

WHEREAS the Climate Crisis is one of the greatest threats ever faced by humanity; and

WHEREAS the Climate Crisis has been created by emissions of greenhouse gasses; and

WHEREAS Duke Energy is the 2nd largest corporate emitter of greenhouse gasses in the US; and

WHEREAS Duke Energy is pursuing an expansion of up to 11.7 GW of new fracked gas plants in North Carolina by 2050.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the NC Democratic Party urges candidates for public office to refuse Duke Energy campaign donations.

BE IT RESOLVED that the NC Democratic Party urges candidates for public office to vigorously denounce Duke Energy money spent in their favor through Super PACs.

Submitted to the Union County Democratic Party by Kevin Daniels, Precinct 7 on March 7, 2023

4. RESOLUTION ON REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH VIA CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS

WHEREAS, consistent with the 14th Amendment of the Constitution, its limits on governmental powers, and the Bill of Rights, that no state government or institution may restrict rights and/or grant or allow greater liberties to any one-person, individual group, or specified groups; and

WHEREAS, the term 'Person(s)', used in the 14th amendment, refers to the common accepted definition of the word, with no exclusions based on gender, race, ethnicity, age, sexual designation or preference, nor physical attributes or any such affectations; and

WHEREAS, the amendment refers to all people (U.S. citizens), not any one group, with no differentiation of rights between genders, or based on race, ethnicity, age, sexual designation or preference, and physical attributes or any such affectations.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

- That women have complete control over their bodies and healthcare decisions, and we believe the 14th amendment of the Constitution guarantees this control, as it does for every male citizen.
- That a woman's decisions regarding pregnancy should be her own choice and not that of the government.
- That abortion procedures must be safe, legal, accessible to all North Carolina women regardless of ability to pay; therefore, the State abortion fund should be fully funded and accessible to indigent women.
- That every woman, including trans-identified individuals, should have access to prenatal and postnatal care, appropriate counseling, as well as access to information regarding all choices related to pregnancies.
- That we should focus on preventing unintended pregnancies and reducing the need for abortion through increasing access to family planning services, access to affordable birth control, including emergency contraception, and by providing comprehensive age-appropriate sex education.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the North Carolina General Assembly must insure people's rights to reproductive freedom and complete bodily autonomy, as reflected by the 14th amendment's equal protection and non-discrimination clause.

Submitted to the Union County Democratic Party by Kevin Daniels, Precinct 7 on March 7, 2023

5. RESOLUTION TO PROTECT THE RIGHT TO BOYCOTT BY US COMPANIES

WHEREAS, the First Amendment Right to boycott was undermined with passage of anti-boycott laws by 34 state governments which punished individuals and businesses for engaging in boycott of Israeli occupation (1,2); and

WHEREAS, the anti-BDS laws have provided Republicans a blueprint to create similar laws to target boycott activity in other areas (3,4); and

WHEREAS, The Nation notes that “the American Legislative Exchange Council has drafted legislation modeled on efforts to block divestment from Israel” (5); and

WHEREAS, Politico reported that similar anti-boycott laws are now flooding state legislatures to protect fossil fuel companies and suppress advocacy related to climate change (6); and

WHEREAS, in 2023, similar laws are now being proposed in state legislatures to penalize companies from receiving state contracts if they engaged in boycotts of the firearms, mining, agriculture, or timber industries or for boycotting companies that do not offer abortion care, gender affirming care or meet diversity standards (7);

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the North Carolina Democratic Party opposes any laws that limit the right to boycott, especially when those boycotts advocate for human rights, gun safety, diversity standards, healthcare or climate justice.

Submitted to the Union County Democratic Party by Kevin Daniels, Precinct 7 on March 7, 2023

6. RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF A REAL APPROACH TO HOUSING POLICY

WHEREAS, The availability, quality, cost, and location of housing matter to all Americans. Where people live affects the jobs they can get, the schools their children can attend, and the kind of community they live in. Rents rose faster over the previous year than they have in the past 20 years, leaving many low- and medium-income renters priced out of their homes. Affordable housing is generally defined as housing costs not exceeding 30% of household income.

BE IT RESOLVED that we support the following forms of housing relief at the local, state, and federal levels of government:

- Continue to provide federal funds for rental and mortgage assistance to persons caught by inflationary housing costs.
- Include immigrants, regardless of status, in subsidized rent and mortgage payments.
- Pass the Housing Survivors of Major Disasters Act (H.R., 3037, 2022) to address barriers preventing access to FEMA aid, and ensure that expanded options for proving home ownership apply retroactively.
- Pass federal legislation to permanently implement HUD's Mixed-Status Rule to provide access to federal housing assistance regardless of immigration status of family members.
- Promote state and local rental assistance programs to provide emergency rental and utility costs assistance and provide resources for homeowners struggling with mortgage payments.
- Enforce the federal enforcement mechanisms of the Fair Housing Act (Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968) including punitive damages and attorneys' fees as the Act provides.
- Support and enforce fair housing provisions of the North Carolina Human Right Act that apply to persons discriminated against because of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, physical or mental handicaps, and family status.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that we support the following economic recovery initiatives:

- Pass the Green New Deal for Public Housing Act, to retrofit public housing and provide workforce training, and workforce training subsidies for residents.
- Enact a federal Home Owners Loan Corporation (HOLC) modeled after the HOLC provided in Roosevelt's New Deal; ensure loans are available to all.
- Repeal the Faircloth Amendment, which bans any net increase in public housing units.

- Increase funding for affordable housing programs at HUD and the USDA by increasing block grants to states to build, rehabilitate, or preserve housing targeted to extremely low income (ELI) households.
- Allow underwater homeowners to write down principal to the value of the property and refinance to take advantage of cheap federal credit, limited to the price of the median home following the guidelines of President Obama's Plan to Help Responsible Homeowners.
- Provide civil and criminal penalties against mortgage holders and related mortgage service providers for deceptive practices during repackaging and refinance negotiations; require explanation of optional payback choices, such as paying at end of loan term.
- Publicly funded universal child care shall be provided.
- Join with the National Low Income Housing Coalition (NLIHC) to support the Campaign for Housing and Community Development Funding (CHCDF), a coalition working to increase resources for affordable housing and community development
- Publicize the availability to North Carolina jurisdictions of HOME-ARP funds from the America Rescue Plan to assist vulnerable populations such as individuals and households who are homeless or at risk of homelessness.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that we support the following policy reforms to improve housing affordability for North Carolina residents:

- Subsidize housing equitably between homeowners and renters, e.g., federal mortgage-interest deduction (MID) and capital gains exemptions on homeowners.
- Increase the supply of affordable housing by including funds for the repair of existing units, including weatherization/energy efficiency, and construction of new units in any infrastructure package.
- Include housing investments for America's low-income households in any infrastructure package.
- Revise "not in my backyard" NIMBY zoning codes enacted by municipalities and counties that restrict high-density projects such as building heights.
- Encourage local and state governments to revise building codes to increase the availability of high-density housing. The average rent in North Carolina increased 20% from Jan. 2021 to Jan. 2022.
- Encouraging public transit-oriented developments.
- Require developers to include a certain number of affordable units within a larger market-rate development
- Achieve net zero carbon footprint for all residences by 2050.

- Increase funding for USDA and HUD programs, including those that provide funding to support affordable housing in rural areas and on Native American tribal lands.
- Address housing barriers to successful reentry into their communities for the nearly one in three Americans with a criminal record.

Submitted to the Union County Democratic Party by Kevin Daniels, Precinct 7 on March 7, 2023

7. RESOLUTION TO CRIMINALIZE WAGE THEFT

WHEREAS, NC general statute § 14-74. Larceny by servants and other employees states:

"If any servant or other employee, to whom any money, goods or other chattels, or any of the articles, securities or choses in action mentioned in G.S. 14-75, by his master shall be delivered safely to be kept to the use of his master, shall withdraw himself from his master and go away with such money, goods or other chattels, or any of the articles, securities or choses in action mentioned as aforesaid, or any part thereof, with intent to steal the same and defraud his master thereof, contrary to the trust and confidence in him reposed by his said master; or if any servant, being in the service of his master, without the assent of his master, shall embezzle such money, goods or other chattels, or any of the articles, securities or choses in action mentioned as aforesaid, or any part thereof, or otherwise convert the same to his own use, with like purpose to steal them, or to defraud his master thereof, the servant so offending shall be guilty of a felony: Provided, that nothing contained in this section shall extend to apprentices or servants within the age of 16 years. If the value of the money, goods, or other chattels, or any of the articles, securities, or choices mentioned in G.S. 14-75, is one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) or more, the person is guilty of a Class C felony. If the value of the money, goods, or other chattels, or any of the articles, securities, or choices mentioned in G.S. 14-75, is less than one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000), the person is guilty of a Class H felony."

WHEREAS, there is no equivalent criminal penalty for theft by employers from "servants and other employees".

WHEREAS, wage theft affects millions of American workers every year, costing workers an estimated 15 billion dollars a year.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the North Carolina Democratic Party affirms that workers are entitled to the full value of their labor and condemn wage theft in all its forms, including but not limited to:

- 1) payment below the minimum wage;
- 2) withholding agreed upon wages (this includes overtime on commissions, piece rate, and regular wages);
- 3) not accruing or not being allowed to use paid sick leave;
- 4) not paying promised vacations or bonuses;
- 5) requesting job duties be performed outside of compensated time;

- 6) not paying final wages in a timely manner;
- 7) withholding unauthorized deductions (not otherwise provided for in law);
- 8) denying required or promised meal breaks, rest breaks, or preventative cool-down breaks,
- 9) managers or owners taking tips;
- 10) failing to reimburse business expenses;
- 11) bounced paychecks;
- 12) withholding or denying reporting time pay; or
- 13) misclassifying employees as independent contractors.

RESOLVED, that the North Carolina Democratic Party support legislation designating any person who deprives employees of owed compensation to be guilty of wage theft.

RESOLVED, that the North Carolina Democratic Party support legislation such that any person committing wage theft from an employee totaling less than \$100,000 is guilty of a class H felony, and any person committing wage theft from employees totaling \$100,000 or more is guilty of a class C felony.

RESOLVED, that each instance of theft, among multiple employees or separate occurrences with the same employee, being its own offense.

Submitted to the Union County Democratic Party by Kevin Daniels, Precinct 7 on March 7, 2023

8. RESOLUTION CALLING ON NC DEMOCRATS TO BOYCOTT AIPAC EVENTS

WHEREAS, the American Israel Public Affairs Committee (AIPAC) is a right-wing single-issue pro-Israel advocacy group; and

WHEREAS, AIPAC intervened in the 2022 Democratic primaries and spent millions through their United Democracy Project Super PAC on which Democrats to support in the primaries; and

WHEREAS, at the same time, AIPAC also supported 109 election-denying insurrectionist Republicans including the following NC Republicans (1):

- Dan Bishop (NC-08)
- Virginia Foxx (NC-05)
- Richard Hudson (NC-09)
- Greg Murphy (NC-03)
- David Rouzer (NC-07); and

WHEREAS, The Guardian has accused AIPAC of making it possible for “Republican mega-donors to hijack Democratic primaries” (2); and

WHEREAS, AIPAC supported Republican candidates in opposition to Democratic candidates in the general election (3); and

WHEREAS, AIPAC support helped the Republicans gaining a majority in the House of Representatives in the 2022 general election; and

WHEREAS, this support of election-denying Republicans has put American democracy and Democratic priorities like voting rights, women’s rights, LGBTQ rights, immigrant rights, climate and economic justice and all other Democratic priorities at risk; and

WHEREAS, J Street, the mainstream pro-Israel, pro-peace, pro-democracy Jewish-American advocacy group said that “this aggressive intervention in Democratic primaries – by a group funded in part by Republican mega-donors – to promote an unpopular agenda is harmful to American foreign policy, to the Democratic party and ultimately to the State of Israel” (4);

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the North Carolina Democratic Party (NCDP) declare AIPAC to be hostile to Democratic Party values and detrimental to fundamental democratic principles.

RESOLVED, that the NCDP calls on the NC Democratic delegation to Congress to not attend AIPAC events, including their yearly conference, for supporting anti-democratic Republicans, making it possible for Republican mega-donors to influence Democratic primary elections and for supporting Republicans against Democratic candidates in the general election.

RESOLVED, that the NCDP urge the NC Democratic delegation to Congress to work with pro-Israel, pro-peace, pro-democracy Jewish-American advocacy organization, J Street, to help develop policy regarding Israel-Palestine because of our shared values and respect for fundamental democratic principles.

Submitted to the Union County Democratic Party by Kevin Daniels, Precinct 7 on March 7, 2023

9. RESOLUTION FOR A “RIGHT TO VOTE” AMENDMENT

WHEREAS, current North Carolina laws do not guarantee a right to vote; and

WHEREAS, our federal voting rights laws only protect from disenfranchisement based on specific set of criteria such as sex and race; and

WHEREAS, this leaves open possibilities for disenfranchisement based on new reasons and requirements such as voter ID laws; and

WHEREAS, the War on Drugs and our legal system has been used to disenfranchise voters by specifically targeting black, minority and poor communities through felony convictions and incarceration; and

WHEREAS, a “right to vote” amendment will be required to protect everyone’s right to vote from new restrictions not defined in current voting rights laws; and

WHEREAS, a “right to vote” amendment will be required to re-enfranchise our large prison population who were disenfranchised through the application of racially motivated laws; and

WHEREAS, the states of Vermont and Maine have already enfranchised prison inmates.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the North Carolina Democratic Party work with the Democratic caucus in the General Assembly and the Governor’s office to amend the North Carolina Constitution and make voting rights a fundamental right for all U.S. citizens residing in North Carolina.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the right to vote amendment include the enfranchisement of prison inmates in North Carolina who are U.S. citizens.

Submitted to the Union County Democratic Party by Kevin Daniels, Precinct 7 on March 7, 2023

10.RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF CODETERMINATION FOR LARGE CORPORATIONS

WHEREAS, codermination is the practice of workers of an enterprise having the right to elect representatives on the board of directors of a company; and

WHEREAS, codetermination is a means of bringing democracy to the workplace; and

WHEREAS, codetermination helps reduce management-labor conflicts by improving and establishing communication channels; and

WHEREAS, codetermination gives labor greater bargaining power and protecting workers' rights in the workplace; and

WHEREAS, codetermination is already practiced by globally successful companies such as BMW, Daimler and Volkswagen;

WHEREAS, S.3348 - The Accountable Capitalism Act introduced by Senator Elizabeth Warren in 2020 would require that employees elect 40% of a board of directors for any corporation with over \$1 billion in tax receipts; and

WHEREAS, the North Carolina Democratic Party should represent the interest of the working class of North Carolina;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the North Carolina Democratic Party support establishment of codetermination at the federal level for any publicly traded corporation with over \$1 billion in tax receipts.

Submitted to the Union County Democratic Party by Kevin Daniels, Precinct 7 on March 7, 2023

11. RESOLUTION ON RECOGNIZING ANTI-PALESTINIAN BIGOTRY

WHEREAS, the Preamble of the NCDP Plan of Organization states:

“We, the members of the North Carolina Democratic Party, in order to make more effective the principles of our Party, to embrace and serve all peoples of our Party without regard to race, age, gender, color, creed, national origin, religion, ethnic identity, sexual orientation, gender identity, economic status, or disability (hereinafter referred to as “status”), to insure the blessings of liberty and equal opportunity, and to work together for the welfare and happiness of all citizens, do hereby adopt and establish this Plan of Organization;” and

WHEREAS, Section 0.01 Open Party of the North Carolina Democratic Party Plan of Organization states that:

“all public meetings of the North Carolina Democratic Party at the precinct, county, district and state levels shall be open to all registered Democrats inclusive of race, sex, color, creed, national origin, religion, ethnic identity, sexual orientation, gender identity, economic status, philosophical persuasion or disability;” and

WHEREAS, Palestinian-Americans and advocates of Palestinian human rights have faced personal attacks both inside and outside the party; and

WHEREAS, resolutions were edited by members of the party to erase concerns important to Palestinian-Americans and advocates of Palestinian human rights; and

WHEREAS, false claims of “antisemitism” was used at the 2022 state convention in an attempt to suppress legitimate calls for an investigation into the killing of a Palestinian-American journalist; and

WHEREAS, some members of the party are calling for censoring the Palestinian human rights issue completely from discussion within the party in order to suppress the rights of Palestinian-Americans and advocates of Palestinian human rights; and

WHEREAS, members of the party have made statements suggesting Palestinians have less than full human rights; and

WHEREAS, calls for respecting basic human rights of Palestinians have been repeatedly smeared as inherently anti-Jewish/antisemitic which is categorically false; and

WHEREAS, these acts are discriminatory and bigoted towards Palestinians and create a hostile environment for Palestinian-Americans and advocates of Palestinian human rights within the North Carolina Democratic Party;

RESOLVED that North Carolina Democratic Party adopt the following statements as guidelines for recognizing anti-Palestinian bigotry:

- Opposition to equal participation of Palestinian-Americans and advocates of Palestinian human rights within the North Carolina Democratic Party.
- Calling for censoring of issues and topics relevant to Palestinian-American Democrats and advocates of Palestinian human rights within the North Carolina Democratic Party.
- Deploying false claims of “antisemitism” to deflect, intimidate and suppress discussion related to Palestinian human rights.
- Denial of Palestinian families' indigeneity to the land formerly known as Mandatory Palestine.
- Denial of the forced expulsion of Palestinian families in 1948 known as the Nakba.
- Using demographic concerns as a reason to oppose Palestinian families the right of return to their homes and villages as called for under UN Resolution 194.
- Denial of equal rights for Palestinian families, suggesting that Palestinians should have fewer rights than other groups or suggesting any other group is inherently privileged with greater rights than Palestinians.
- Suggesting that Palestinians, as a people, should be denied equal rights because of the actions of a few and thereby justifying collective punishment.
- Suggesting that granting Palestinians equal rights would diminish the rights or benefits of any other group.
- Suggesting that the economic, technological and cultural advancement of any other group is dependent on the unequal treatment of Palestinians or that such advancements are justifications for the continued unequal treatment of Palestinians.
- Suggesting that Palestinians families benefit from the current system of second-class citizenship, revocable residency status (East Jerusalem), living under military occupation (West Bank), living under a military siege (Gaza) and living as refugees in the diaspora in other countries instead of living with full equal rights in their own homeland.

Submitted to the Union County Democratic Party by Kevin Daniels, Precinct 7 on March 7, 2023

12. RESOLUTION TO BAN BALANCE-BILLING

WHEREAS, balance-billing is when a provider charges a patient for the difference between the provider's stated price for a service/procedure and the allowed amount negotiated with the insurance company; and .

WHEREAS, these bills can exceed the maximum out of pocket limit of a patient's health insurance coverage, at times by hundreds of thousands of dollars; and

WHEREAS, these additional costs do not count towards meeting the maximum out of pocket limits set by healthcare insurance coverage; and

WHEREAS, these practices create significant uncertainty and risk of financial hardship for North Carolina residents; and

WHEREAS, there is currently no protection for North Carolina residents from these practices for non-ER visits which are available in other states in the country;

THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED that the North Carolina Democratic Party, in order to protect patient financial security for anyone insured in the state of North Carolina, supports banning the practice of balance-billing in North Carolina.

Submitted to the Union County Democratic Party by Kevin Daniels, Precinct 7 on March 7, 2023

13. RESOLUTION TO PROMOTE THE USE OF LOCAL SOLAR AND STORAGE IN CARBON PLANNING

WHEREAS, solar and storage has a levelized cost of \$42-69/MWh; and

WHEREAS, North Carolina has 86 GW of PV potential in North Carolina on rooftops, commercial parking lots, urban parcels, and brownfield sites; and

WHEREAS, solar and storage can be built near its point of use, cutting down on transmission project costs;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the NC Democratic Party urges new appointees to the North Carolina Utilities Commission should be committed to moving toward local solar with battery storage as the backbone of the statewide electricity system.

RESOLVED that the State and Federal Government shall fund publicly-owned wind, solar, geothermal, and storage resources, with the goal of US energy production becoming 100% carbon neutral by 2040.

Submitted to the Union County Democratic Party by Kevin Daniels, Precinct 7 on March 7, 2023

14. RESOLUTION TO PROTECT THE RIGHT TO BOYCOTT BY US COMPANIES

WHEREAS, the First Amendment Right to boycott was undermined with passage of anti-boycott laws by 34 state governments which punished individuals and businesses for engaging in boycott of Israeli occupation (1,2); and

WHEREAS, the anti-BDS laws have provided Republicans a blueprint to create similar laws to target boycott activity in other areas (3,4); and

WHEREAS, The Nation notes that “the American Legislative Exchange Council has drafted legislation modeled on efforts to block divestment from Israel” (5); and

WHEREAS, Politico reported that similar anti-boycott laws are now flooding state legislatures to protect fossil fuel companies and suppress advocacy related to climate change (6); and

WHEREAS, in 2023, similar laws are now being proposed in state legislatures to penalize companies from receiving state contracts if they engaged in boycotts of the firearms, mining, agriculture, or timber industries or for boycotting companies that do not offer abortion care, gender affirming care or meet diversity standards (7);

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the North Carolina Democratic Party opposes any laws that limit the right to boycott, especially when those boycotts advocate for human rights, gun safety, diversity standards, healthcare or climate justice.

Submitted to the Union County Democratic Party by Kevin Daniels, Precinct 7 on March 7, 2023

15. RESOLUTION TO RECOGNIZE MAY 15 AS NAKBA REMEMBRANCE DAY

WHEREAS, the Nakba, or Catastrophe in Arabic, is the traumatic expulsion of over 750 thousand Palestinians in 1948 during the establishment of the state of Israel and who were subsequently officially registered as refugees by the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) ⁽¹⁾; and

WHEREAS, approximately 300 thousand Palestinians fled or were forcibly expelled before May 14, 1948, marking the end of the British mandate, official declaration of Israel's creation and the day before war with Israel's Arab neighbors started; and

WHEREAS, this meant that over 75% of Palestinians who were meant to be citizens of Israel were forcibly displaced or denied to return to their homes since 1948 ⁽²⁾; and

WHEREAS, the Nakba also includes the demolition of over 500 Palestinian villages and the subsequent confiscation of Palestinian homes and properties using Israel's Absentees' Property Law ^(3,4); and

WHEREAS, the Nakba also includes dozens of massacres of Palestinian communities such as in places like Deir Yassin and Tantura; and

WHEREAS, Israel was eventually established on 77% of historical Mandatory Palestine demarcated by the armistice border known as the Green Line at the end of the war in 1949 at a time when Palestinians accounted for 70% of the population and the Jewish community (both native and immigrant) accounted for 30% of the population ⁽⁵⁾;

WHEREAS, the UN General Assembly Resolution 194 calls for "the refugees wishing to return to their homes and live at peace with their neighbours should be permitted to do so at the earliest practicable date" - this has been denied to the Palestinian refugees since 1948 ⁽⁶⁾; and

WHEREAS, Israel subsequently occupied the remaining 23% of Palestine during the 1967 war and now controls all of historical Mandatory Palestine ⁽⁷⁾; and

WHEREAS, Israel passed the Nakba Law in 2011 to penalize and outlaw the commemoration of the Nakba in Israel as part of a long-standing position to deny the reasons behind the Palestinian exodus in 1948 ⁽¹²⁾; and

WHEREAS, Israeli publication *Haaretz* documented that Israel actively hides evidence of the Nakba as part of an effort to deny the violent expulsion of Palestinians in 1948 ⁽¹³⁾; and

WHEREAS, the North Carolina Democratic Party makes a commitment to “restoring full human rights for the Palestinian populations” and for the United States to be a neutral mediator between the parties; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary to learn about and acknowledge the narratives of both Israelis and Palestinians for the United States to fulfill the role of neutral mediator; and

WHEREAS, Palestinian-Americans and those concerned with justice and human rights are active members of the North Carolina Democratic Party and whose support is essential for Democratic success in North Carolina;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the North Carolina Democratic Party recognizes May 15 as Nakba Remembrance Day.

Submitted to the Union County Democratic Party by Kevin Daniels, Precinct 7 on March 7, 2023