

November 2020 CDP Resolution Packet

Lead Co-Chairs: Agi Kessler & Willie Pelote

Friday, November 13, 2020

RESOLUTION 20-11.04

Maintain Cash Retail

WHEREAS extensive research shows Black, Latino, and other vulnerable populations historically subjected to discriminatory lending practices continue to have less access to financial resources, and California's economy shifts toward an increasingly cashless system where many individuals (including children) without significant digital financial assets (credit cards, debit cards, electronic banking, etc) may be unable to access essential goods and services; and

WHEREAS significant barriers of entry exist to participating in digital financial asset systems that may include a minimum threshold of assets, geographic availability, the initial cost of electronic devices, technical savvy, as well as the loss of purchasing power associated with mandatory use taxes or transaction fees sometimes associated with cashless purchase; and

WHEREAS the growth of "cashless" stores are a slippery slope that can accumulate into "cashless neighborhoods" that can become de facto racially and/or economically segregated neighborhoods with little or no oversight where those without digital financial assets cannot purchase public transportation or even a bottle of water;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the California Democratic Party supports the maintenance of cash-based retail systems that allow those without access to significant digital financial assets to continue to travel freely, access essential goods and services and participate as functional members of society; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the author of this resolution will send copies of this resolution to members of local governments in all 58 counties in California.

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Sponsored By: CADEM Region 6, Assembly District 22

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RESOLUTION 20-11.05

Hold Corporate Perpetrators Responsible

Whereas unsafe products and services provided by corporations that harm the physical, mental, and financial health of our society are approved and promoted by company leaders, but are punished by fines—not commensurate with the profits gained— paid by corporations and ultimately customers with no consequences for those responsible; and

Whereas many examples abound to show corporate fines have not been sufficient in changing the criminal behavior of corporate decision-makers because they have not been held personally and criminally responsible for their actions; and

Whereas a corporate created opioid epidemic is currently destroying lives, there is price gouging for PPEs during the COVID crisis, vaping is marketed to kids, our private information is sold to those who rig our elections, defective car airbags maim, neglectful PG&E caused fires to kill 84 Californians, banks commit mortgage fraud leaving kids to live in cars – they all have two things in common: No one went to jail and corporate executives put profit before our health, safety, privacy or the environment; and

Therefore Be It Resolved that the California Democratic Party supports holding corporate officers and managers criminally responsible for endangering the public whether they were deliberate or through negligence, with punishment fitting the crime patterned after sentences for other illegal actions.

Author(s): Ellis Goldberg, Assembly District 16

Sponsored By: Ellis Goldberg, Assembly District 16; Sharon Goldberg, Assembly District 16; Brodie Hilp, Assembly District 16; Diablo Valley Democratic Club, Assembly District 14; San Ramon Valley Democratic Club, Assembly District 16; TriValley Democratic Club, Assembly District 16; Democratic Party of Contra Costa County, Assembly District 16; Alameda County Democratic Party, Assembly District 16; REGION 2 ADEMS, Assembly District 16; RICHARD ADLER, Assembly District 16

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RESOLUTION 20-11.06

Resolution Calling for an Increase of Public Transportation

Whereas increasing public transport, including traditional buses and rail systems along with moving to zero-emission buses and trains, can significantly lower our carbon footprint and help us meet the existential threat of destructive climate change; and

Whereas a lack of public transportation disproportionately affects low-income communities in California which continues the cycle of poverty in this state through limited access to jobs and education; and

Whereas many students depend on public transportation to get to school and inadequate access to transportation leads to truancy, which disproportionately affects low-income and black, Indigenous or people of color students as they rely on this method of transportation the most, and truancy can lead to juvenile incarceration, contributing to the school-to-prison pipeline and the mass incarceration of minorities in this country;

Therefore Be It Resolved that the California Democratic Party supports increased accessibility and availability of eco-friendly and public-health oriented public transport, especially in low-income communities, and targeted to a new generation of public transportation users; and

Be it Further Resolved that the author will send a copy to interested parties including state and local governments.

Author(s): Bill James, Assembly District 24

Sponsored By: Santa Clara County Democratic Central Committee; Santa Clara County High School Democrats of America

Contact Information: Bill James |

RESOLUTION 20-11.07

Resolution Opposing Trump Rollback of Clean Air Protections

WHEREAS the Trump Administration has revoked or substantially rolled back more than 100 environmental rules and regulations, including emissions and clean energy rules for power plants, emission and fuel-efficiency standards for vehicles, and further withdrew the U.S. from the Paris Climate Accord and revoked California's power to set stricter tailpipe emission standards than the federal standard; and

WHEREAS the United States and the world are far off track in dealing with the climate emergency, following a year of record-breaking heat, rising hunger, displacement and loss of life due to extreme temperatures, and climate crisis-induced wildfires and weather disasters; and

WHEREAS the Trump rollbacks will significantly increase greenhouse gas emissions and lead to thousands of additional premature deaths from poor air quality each year, while imposing substantial financial costs including hundreds of billions of dollar in additional fuel costs and increased costs to treat respiratory illness ;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the California Democratic Party urges the Environmental Protection Agency to fulfill its obligation under the Clean Air Act to regulate emissions from all sources to protect human health and the environment from the effects of air pollution, including at a minimum restoring the Obama-era requirement for Corporate Average Fuel Economy to be achieved by 2025, renewing California's authority to impose fuel efficiency standards that are more strict than the federal standard, and enforcing the Obama Administration's rules requiring power plants to use cleaner fuels and control the emission of mercury, greenhouse gases, and other toxins.

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RESOLUTION 20-11.08

Resolution in Defense of TransWomen

WHEREAS, the number of transWomen who have been brutally murdered in 2020 has risen to at least 15, including six transwomen who were murdered in the five weeks ending May 9, 2020 and two murdered the week of June 9, 2020 alone; this number reflects a disturbing increase from the 29 Trans people who were murdered in 2019, and the brutality and callousness of these murders, including three occasions where transwomen were brutally beaten by groups of cis-men while large groups of people stood and cheered, fails to draw national news coverage, and the police continue to ignore the victims: Alexa Luciano Ruiz, age 24; Iyanna Dior, age 21; and Muhlaysia Booker, age 23; and

WHEREAS, transWomen, suffer the highest rates of violence, rape, murder, unemployment and suicide, but the national media almost exclusively directs their attention to cis-men being murdered rather than violence against transWomen and public services continue to present barriers for transWomen; and

WHEREAS, we must honor and recognize those who are victims by knowing their names, including: Alexa Luciano Ruiz, age 24; Yampi Mendez Arocho, age 19; Monika Diamond, shot in an ambulance; Lexi, age 33; Johanna Metzger, age 25; Serena Angelique Velazquez Ramos, age 24; Layla Pelaez Sanchez, age 21; Penelope Diaz Ramirez, age 31 (killed in police custody); Nina Pop, age 28; Helle Jae O'Regan, age 20; Tony McDade, Dustin Parker, Dominique "Rem'mie" Fells, age 27; Riah Milton Thompson, age 25; Selena Reyes-Hernandez, age 24; and Marilyn Cazares, age 22;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party calls on all Democrats to recognize the violence and unique challenges faced by transWomen, and to educate others and lend their voices, votes, and contributions to the elimination of transphobia in the Bay Area, California, and the United States; and

RESOLVED FURTHER, that the California Democratic Party calls for (i) the enactment of public policy directed toward implementing the end of discrimination and violence against transWomen, (ii) the closing of the services gap for transWomen in healthcare and other public services, and (iii) the prompt, good faith investigation of all transphobic incidents and hate crimes, and the appropriate consequences for police violence targeting transgender individuals (Scout Schultz/Tony Dade/Penelope Ramirez/Roxana Hernandez/Johanna Leon/Carmela Diaz) or the failure of the police to respond to acts of violence against the transgender community, (iv) the open inclusion of transWomen into society.

Author(s): Roxanne, Assembly District 27; Claudia Shope, Assembly District 27; ,

Sponsored By: Santa Clara County Democratic Central Committee, Organization; Santa Clara County Democratic Party Chair Bill James, Assembly District 24

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RESOLUTION 20-11.09

RESTORATION OF INTEGRITY IN FEDERAL JUDICIARY

WHEREAS the United States federal judiciary has been packed with conservative judges over the term of Donald Trump, culminating with Judge Amy Coney Barrett being sworn in as the 115th Supreme Court Justice on October 26th, 2020, ensuring 6-3 conservative control of the Supreme Court and conservative majorities in much of the lower courts for the foreseeable future; and

WHEREAS these appointments largely come from a perversion of the Senate appointment process whereby Republican Senate leadership unapologetically obstructed a majority of President Obama's appointments to the courts, including, but not limited to, judge Merrick Garland's appointment to the Supreme Court seat now held by Neil Gorsuch, with the specific intent of keeping those seats open for a future GOP president to fill, and then hypocritically violated the very rules they set down about election-year appointments to the Supreme Court, by rushing through a partially vetted Judge Barrett only weeks before a Presidential election in which over 60 million people had already voted; and

WHEREAS these illegitimate appointments of conservative judges and perversion of the Constitutional process have created a severe threat to our election system, our democratic process and the ideals and policies of the Democratic Party and the fundamental human rights of people of color, the LGBTQIA+ community, immigrants, religious minorities, and the working class at large;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the California Democratic Party strongly supports a thorough and complete assessment and implementation of measures needed to reform and rebalance the Supreme Court and the lower courts of the federal judiciary, which may include but should not be limited to, expanding access to justice through creating more seats for judges, judicial term limits, establishing a process to rotate judges, certiorari reform, and assessing or reassigning the jurisdiction of certain courts; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the California Democratic Party recognizes that the spiraling disregard and misuse of Senate procedural rules under GOP control, may necessitate that Democratic-controlled Congress to operate with the understanding that Democrats may have to take such steps as are necessary to ensure that these perversions and undermining of our checks and balances that protect our democratic republic are corrected and ensure that they no longer continue.

Author(s): CDP Resolutions Committee; Ryan Skolnick, Assembly District 14
Sponsored By: Resolutions Committee

Resolution 20-06.40

Resolution Calling on Governor Newsom to Exercise Emergency Powers to Release Immigrants Detained in California Detention Centers

WHEREAS, While COVID-19 has already caused significant harm to those living freely in our society, it poses a more severe threat to those who are locked in institutional facilities like immigration prisons and detention centers, where close quarters, lack of resources for basic hygiene, and limited access to health services become breeding grounds for communicable disease that can result in innumerable deaths; and

WHEREAS, During a state of emergency, Governors are empowered to take drastic measures to protect the lives of people in their states, such as seizing control from private hospitals and releasing incarcerated individuals from crowded jails, and just as Governor Newsom has applied his broad emergency powers to impose a shelter-in-place order and close down schools and businesses, he can do so to close immigrant detention centers, many of which are private facilities as well as municipal and county run jails; and

WHEREAS, It is urgent that we protect our most vulnerable neighbors who are trapped in overcrowded detention centers that could become sites of major outbreak and death if we fail to act, and most of the people held by ICE, including very young children, have homes to go to or can access support from the hundreds of community organizations willing to help provide housing

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, That the California Democratic Party urges Governor Newsom to use his emergency powers to release all immigrants currently detained in California immigrant detention centers in the interest of public health;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the California Democratic Party also urges Governor Newsom to suspend the transfer of individuals from California state custody to Immigration and Customs Enforcement, and halt the expansion of immigrant detention facilities.

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Resolution 20-06.41

Release Immigrants Detained in California Detention Centers

WHEREAS, While COVID-19 has already caused significant harm to those living freely in our society, it poses a more severe threat to those who are locked in institutional facilities like immigration prisons and detention centers, where close quarters, lack of resources for basic hygiene, and limited access to health services become breeding grounds for communicable disease that can result in innumerable deaths; and

WHEREAS, During a state of emergency, Governors are empowered to take drastic measures to protect the lives of people in their states, such as seizing control from private hospitals and releasing incarcerated individuals from crowded jails, and just as Governor Newsom has applied his broad emergency powers to impose a shelter-in-place order and close down schools and businesses, he can do so to close immigrant detention centers, many of which are private facilities as well as municipal and county run jails; and

WHEREAS, It is urgent that we protect our most vulnerable neighbors who are trapped in overcrowded detention centers that could become sites of major outbreak and death if we fail to act, and most of the people held by ICE, including very young children, have homes to go to or can access support from the hundreds of community organizations willing to help provide housing; now, therefore, be it

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED That the California Democratic Party urges Governor Newsom to use his emergency powers to release all immigrants currently detained in California immigrant detention centers in the interest of public health; and, be it

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, That the California Democratic Party also urges Governor Newsom to suspend the transfer of individuals from California state custody to Immigration and Customs Enforcement, and halt the expansion of immigrant detention facilities.

Author:, , Li Miao Lovett, Assembly District 19

Sponsored:, David Campos, Assembly District 17, Honey Mahogany, Assembly District 17, , Keith Baraka, Assembly District 19, Gloria Berry, Assembly District 17, , Leah Lacroix, Assembly District 19, Li Miao Lovett, Assembly District 19

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RESOLUTION 20-11.11

RESOLUTION CALLING FOR THE CALIFORNIA DEMOCRATIC PARTY TO SUPPORT AND PROHIBIT THE SALE OF FLAVORED TOBACCO IN CALIFORNIA

Whereas, On August 31, 2020 The Tobacco Industry filed a referendum with the California Secretary of State to repeal a new law prohibiting the sale of flavored tobacco. If the referendum qualifies, The Tobacco Industry would place this on the November 8, 2022 election, and the law to end the sale of flavored tobacco products would be halted or not take effect unless and until approved by voters in said election. Therefore, candy-favored tobacco products would remain on the market for nearly two extra years to addict young new users, especially individuals of color and from disadvantage communities. Over 100 jurisdictions in California have passed ordinances which prohibit the sale of candy and menthol cigarettes; and

Whereas, Smoking remains the leading preventable cause of death in the U.S. The 2014 U.S. Surgeon General's report found that more than 43 million Americans still smoke. It is estimated that tobacco use will cause 480,000 deaths this year in the U.S. Both opponents of smoking and purveyors of cigarettes have long recognized the significance of adolescence as the period during which smoking behaviors are typically developed. National data show that about 95 percent of adult tobacco users begin smoking before the age of 21, and most begin with a flavored product. In 2009, Congress prohibited the sale of cigarettes with flavors other than tobacco or menthol. Tobacco companies responded by expanding the types of non-cigarette tobacco products they offer, and now make most of those products available in a growing array of kid-friendly flavors. Little cigars, smokeless tobacco, hookah, and e-cigarettes are marketed in a wide variety of candy flavors with colorful packaging and deceptive names that appeal to youth; and

Whereas, The delay would enable Big Tobacco to generate \$1.1 billion in revenue from the sale of menthol cigarettes alone during the 22 months that California's implementation of SB 793's flavor ban is not in effect. Approximately 17,000 lives will be lost, 37,000 more high school kids will start using e-cigarettes, and the state will rack up another \$800 million in health care costs related to tobacco use; and

Therefore Be It Resolved that California Democratic Party and all its entities to Support and Prohibit the Sale of Flavored Tobacco in California, and further urges CADEM Chair Rusty Hicks, the CADEM Executive Board to support this action; and

Be It Further Resolved that our position shall be communicated with our federal, state and local elected officials.

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Sponsored By: Primo Castro, Assembly District 57

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RESOLUTION 20-11.12

Addressing Public Health Threat Posed by Detention Centers

Whereas while COVID-19 has already caused significant harm to those living freely in our society, it poses a more severe threat to those who are locked in institutional facilities like immigration prisons and detention centers, where close quarters, lack of basic hygiene, and limited access to health services become breeding ground for a communicable disease that can result in innumerable deaths; and

Whereas it is urgent that we protect our most vulnerable neighbors who are trapped in overcrowded detention centers that could become sites of major outbreak and death if we fail to act, and most of the people held by ICE, including very young children, have community organizations willing to help provide housing and support;

Therefore Be It Resolved That the California Democratic Party believes that all possible steps should be taken to suspend transfers of people to immigration centers during the Covid-19 health crisis.

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RESOLUTION 20-11.13

Providing basic life saving measures for detainees, arrestees, and prisoners

WHEREAS in the State of California more than 600,000 are behind bars or under criminal justice supervision (2019), about a thousand people die every year while in the process of being arrested, while subject to use of force by law enforcement, in the temporary custody of a law enforcement agency, or while incarcerated in a city, county, or state correctional facility; and

WHEREAS many of these deaths are preventable, many of these individuals are either children or have not been convicted of any crime, these deaths over represent Black and Latino populations, and prisoners who might still medically be able to summon their own assistance rarely have sufficient resources or freedom with which to do so; and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the California Democratic Party believes that any and all persons under detention, arrest, or in-custody be provided with basic life saving measures;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the author will send copies of this resolution to county governments within the state of California.

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RESOLUTION 20-11.14

Resolution to address San Quentin COVID-19 crisis and replace Federal Receiver J. Clark Kelso

Whereas, 6,565 inmates at Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) prisons throughout California have tested positive for COVID-19, and at San Quentin State Prison, with a population of 3,551 inmates, 2,033 inmates and 209 employees have tested positive for COVID-19 (as of July 14, 2020), 10 patients have died, and it is known that this outbreak can be linked to decisions by Federal Receiver J. Clark Kelso to transfer infected inmates from Chino State Prison (the California Institution for Men); and

Whereas, Receiver Kelso himself proclaimed that responding to the COVID-19 crisis was “not only important to our population (inmates), but it’s important for you (prison workers), your families and our communities,” (3/31/20 cdc.ca.gov), which demonstrates that he is conscious that the steps necessary to fight COVID-19 in the prisons link to further prevention throughout the community; and

Whereas, the lives of these inmates and workers, who include proportionately high numbers of people of color from disadvantaged communities already suffering from the inequitable economic and racist distribution of resources, remain our responsibility as the people of California to provide their care and safe environment;

Therefore, be it resolved that the California Democratic Party calls on the U.S. District Court to replace Receiver J. Clark Kelso with a person who will be proactive in fighting the spread of COVID-19 in the prison system, who will develop site-specific plans coordinating with our State representatives and with our local public health officers, who will provide resources to communities where increased outbreaks trace back to the prison system’s mistakes around the COVID-19 fight, including additional contact tracing and testing resources, and who will consult and listen to local public health officials and infectious disease experts in responding to the ongoing crisis; and

Be it further resolved that the State of California and the California Democratic Party should condemn the halting, faulty and mistake-ridden response to COVID-19 by the CDCR.

Author(s): Kris Organ, Assembly District 10

Sponsored By: Democratic Central Committee of Marin, Assembly District 10

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RESOLUTION 20-11.15

Resolution to reform law enforcement and reallocate funds to reimagine public safety in California

Whereas, during this year, following the death of George Floyd and other black and brown people, at the hands of police, many Democratic Central Committees, Clubs and other organizations passed a resolution calling for, “meaningful systemic change against institutionalized racism, economic suppression and opportunity inequalities”; and California Attorney General Becerra called for, “broad police reforms and proactive efforts to protect lives”, and hundreds of thousands of people, in protests and in council chambers throughout California and across the nation, have called for an end to excessive and militarized policing; and

Whereas police reform and use of force guidelines are only a first step toward ending the violence against marginalized communities which are still traumatized and brutalized by existing policing practices, and reform and oversight alone have proven ineffective in ending the violence; and

Whereas dismantling systemic racism, and the policies that support it, will take a full reimaging of public safety to include investing in our communities for schools, jobs, housing, health, and welfare, reallocating resources to those programs, and employing mental health, medical and other professionals to replace much of conventional policing;

Therefore Be It Resolved that the California Democratic Party supports the immediate adoption of Attorney General Becerra’s use of force recommendations at the state and local level;

Be it Further Resolved that the California Democratic Party supports the reallocation of funds into alternatives for public safety that invest in communities and broader oversight and accountability, and do so with all deliberate speed.

Author(s): Pat Johnstone, Assembly District 10

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RESOLUTION 20-11.16

Resolution Calling for the Implementation of Ethnic Studies Curriculum

Whereas the lack of BIPOC (Black Indigenous People of Color) representation and incorporation in the education system has been shown to cause psychological damage to marginalized students of color; and

Whereas the majority of literature taught in California high schools features white protagonists, white authors, and originates from a culture centered around whiteness, and within those works, the racist history of the n-word along with the normalization of non-black-teachers permitting the reading aloud of the n-word for the sake of literary accuracy has yet to be addressed by districts across the state;

Whereas the failure on the part of the California Department of Education to standardize curriculum incorporating ethnic studies has led to a disregard for BIPOC studies and imposes an unnecessary burden on teachers to develop their curricula (as cited by the criticism to the first ethnic studies curriculum released by the Instructional Quality Commission), failing to guarantee each student an equal education due to factors they cannot control; and, as the most recent attempt to standardize curriculum has been vetoed by Gavin Newsom, no ethnic studies curriculum or framework has been released for reference by school districts, leaving the burden of developing one onto resource-strapped schools; and

Therefore be it Resolved that the California Democratic Party supports prioritizing the implementation of ethnic studies classes in each district and supports changing the curriculum to address racist histories of currently mandated books and to ultimately mandate the reading of literature across multiple cultural and racial viewpoints, including books recommended or mandated by the California Department of Education; and

Be it Further Resolved that the California Democratic Party supports the revision and passage of an ethnic studies requirement as a high priority item for the California government and Department of Education, to implement ethnic studies as a requirement for high schools across California.

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RESOLUTION 20-11.17

Resolution to Expand the Pool of Citizens Eligible to Run for Sheriff in California

WHEREAS, sheriffs in California are constitutionally elected county officials who exercise vast authority in their three primary duties of operating the county jail, policing California's 58 counties the sheriff also serves as Coroner; and in counties with large populations, sheriffs manage thousands of employees, most of whom are unarmed civilians who outnumber armed sworn employees; and

WHEREAS, prior to 1988, the California constitution required no special qualifications to run for the office of sheriff until the California State Sheriff's Association successfully lobbied for a bill that restricted candidates to those with current and former law enforcement experience which drastically shrunk the pool and qualifications of eligible candidates and enabled most incumbent sheriffs, who face no term limits, to run for reelection unopposed, so that in 2014, for example, only 19 of California's 58 counties had a contested race for the office of sheriff; and

WHEREAS, protests against police brutality have called for elected officials to reimagine public safety, by shifting some duties away from armed officers to unarmed civilians and social workers. Yet the restriction limiting candidates to those with law enforcement experience has resulted in Sheriffs generally ill-suited to reimaging public safety, as they lack adequate de-escalation and mental health crisis intervention training or rehabilitative and restorative justice backgrounds or commitments. In the large counties where the majority of Californians live, Sheriffs rarely reflect the values or the diverse populations of their constituents, or enjoy their trust;

RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party urges the State of California to restore the right of any citizen to run for County Sheriff in their county of residence and thereby enlarge and enhance the pool of potential candidates to include a broader, more representative spectrum of backgrounds, qualifications and values; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party urges the State of California to establish a Task Force charged with redefining the office of County Sheriff to shift from a punitive to a rehabilitative approach to public safety.

Author(s): Igor Tregub, Assembly District 15; Pamela Drake, Assembly District 18; Pamela Price, Assembly District 18

Sponsored By: Alameda County DCC; Hilary Crosby, Assembly District 18

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RESOLUTION 20-11.18

Resolution to Expand the Pool of Citizens Eligible to Run for Sheriff in California

Whereas: Sheriffs in California are constitutionally elected county officials who exercise vast authority in their jurisdictions. The Sheriff has three primary duties: to operate the county jail, police unincorporated areas, and attend to and execute orders of the courts. In 41 of California's 58 counties, the Sheriff is also the Coroner. In counties with large populations, Sheriffs manage thousands of employees, most of whom are unarmed civilians who outnumber armed sworn employees in every county; and

Whereas : prior to 1988, the California constitution required no special qualifications to run for the office of Sheriff. The California State Sheriff's Association successfully lobbied for a bill that restricted candidates to those with current and former law enforcement experience, codified at Government Code Section 24004.3. As a result, the pool of eligible candidates shrunk, enabling most incumbent Sheriffs, who face no term limits, to run for reelection unopposed. In 2014, only 19 of the 58 counties in California had a contested race for the office of Sheriff; and

Whereas : protests against police brutality have called for elected officials to reimagine public safety, by shifting some duties away from armed officers to unarmed civilians and social workers. Yet the restriction limiting candidates to those with law enforcement experience has resulted in Sheriffs generally ill-suited to reimagining public safety, as they lack adequate de-escalation and mental health crisis intervention training or rehabilitative and restorative justice backgrounds or commitments. In the large counties where the majority of Californians live, Sheriffs rarely reflect the values or the diverse populations of their constituents, or enjoy their trust; now therefore be it

Resolved : The State of California shall return to the original constitutional language by removing Government Code Section 24004.3, thereby restoring the right of any citizen to run for County Sheriff in their county of residence and enlarging the pool of potential candidates to include a broader spectrum of backgrounds, qualifications and values; and be it

Further Resolved: that this Resolution shall be distributed to the California Democratic Party, to all County Democratic Party Central Committees, to all chartered California Democratic Clubs, and to all California Democratic Assembly Members and State Senators

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Sponsored By: Alameda Democratic Central Committee, Assembly District 15

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RESOLUTION 20-11.19

Resolution Condemning Discrimination of LGBTQ in Healthcare

WHEREAS health protections and health insurance should not be limited but rather expanded to apply to all Americans, free from discrimination; and

Whereas vulnerable populations experience compounding factors that create health disparities and are less likely to seek, can afford, or have access to healthcare and provisions to access affordable healthcare should be granted and not revoked; and

Whereas the Trump administration finalized a rule that removes nondiscrimination protections for LGBTQ people when it comes to health care and health insurance;

Therefore Be It Resolved that the California Democratic Party unequivocally condemns and opposes any removal of provisions for healthcare or class protections, especially for, but not limited to, LGBTQ identity.

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RESOLUTION 20-11.20

Taking the Hate out of Homeownership

WHEREAS In the State of California every year thousands of real estate transactions continue to be conducted using deeds, titles, and other documents that include race restricting covenants that prevent transfer(s) of property to racial, ethnic, or religious minorities, but frequently Black people, with many homeowners unaware of racially related documents; and

WHEREAS in 1948 the US Supreme Court ruled in Shelley v. Kramer that rendered racially restrictive covenants unenforceable, and the Fair Housing Act made them illegal, and state (or local) enforcement of such covenants violated the Equal Protection Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment; and

WHEREAS the continued inclusion of these covenants in real estate contracts discourages the transfer of property to both people of color and religious minorities, artificially reduces the supply of housing, and perpetuates a discriminatory housing practice;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the California Democratic Party supports the removal of racially restrictive covenants from the real estate transaction process; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the author of this resolution will send copies to county governments in all 58 counties.

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RESOLUTION 20-11.21

Resolution Calling for the Preservation of Access to Student Mental Health Services

Whereas instances of youth suicide and mental illness are on the rise nationwide, and further acknowledging that many of the factors that contribute to severe mental health issues begin in the home and disproportionately affect students of color, unstably housed and economically insecure students, and LGBTQ+ students; and

Whereas social distancing and shelter-in-place have increased the need for student mental health services as overall mental health has deteriorated and incidences of domestic disputes and violence have increased while schools transitioning to distance learning significantly increased the difficulty faced by students in accessing school-based mental health services; and

Whereas the economic implications of the Covid-19 pandemic have resulted in decreased revenue for school districts and nonprofit mental health service providers and potential budget shortfalls place the availability of vital mental health resources at risk;

Therefore Be It Resolved that the California Democratic Party supports access to mental health services for students in school districts throughout California, including counseling and referrals to local providers, and that both previously provided and newly developed services be made available digitally for the duration of the period that schools are not open in-person, the availability and accessibility of these services being altered to reflect the severe increase their necessity; and

Be It Further Resolved that the California Democratic Party supports adequate funding, when financially feasible, for the use of “telehealth” services, including mental health services, and to maintain as much funding and resources as possible, allocated to student mental health services, that keeps pace with their increasing need, when considering budget rearrangements and cuts due to the economic effects of Covid-19.

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RESOLUTION 20-11.22

Resolution Opposing Final Rule on Campus and K-12 Sexual Assault and Harassment

WHEREAS Secretary of Education DeVos recently issued a final rule under Title IX which guts protections for victims of sexual assault and harassment for college campuses and K-12 schools, the new rule among other things requiring colleges and universities to provide a live hearing before a panel in which a person accused of sexual assault or harassment has the right to cross-examine a complainant through an “advisor” chosen by the accused and who may but need not be an attorney but who can be anyone, including a fellow student, fraternity member or angry parent, and the new rule further requires schools and colleges to dismiss any complaint that does not meet the high bar of being “severe and pervasive” as well as “objectively offensive,” such that it denies the victim access to an educational program, and the rule further excludes most off-campus and online harassment and assault from the purview of Title IX entirely, and further allows colleges to require “clear and convincing evidence” to prove sexual harassment and assault; and

WHEREAS experts and survivors have said the rule will reduce the willingness of survivors to come forward, will require schools to abandon certain trauma-informed best practices, and is too narrow in scope; and

WHEREAS the final rule, which is over 2,000 pages long, imposes dramatically changed substantive rules and expanded procedural requirements and was issued in the midst of a global pandemic and associated shutdown of schools across the nation, and yet requires full compliance within just three months;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the California Democratic Party opposes DeVos’s final rule, supports legal action being taken by the National Women’s Law Center to prevent the rule from becoming effective, urges in any event that the August 14, 2020 effective date be delayed to allow schools more time to study and prepare to comply with the rule, and further calls on Congress to immediately pass legislation to revoke the rule and adopt rules, modeled on the U.S Department of Education’s 2001 Sexual Harassment Guidance, and 2011 and 2014 guidance documents revoked by Secretary DeVos, which will better protect students against sexual assault and harassment.

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Sponsored By: Santa Clara County Democratic Central Committee; Santa Clara County Democratic Party Chair Bill James, Assembly District 24; Michele Dauber, Assembly District 24

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RESOLUTION 20-11.23

Translators and interpreters ensure language access for Californians

Whereas more than 40 percent of California residents, speak a language other than English at home, including some immigrants, and nearly 20 percent of state residents, or almost 8 million people, have limited English proficiency (LEP), with many relying on highly skilled translators and interpreters to participate in every aspect of life, from education to business, labor, science, and technology and from the courts to the arts, entertainment, conferences, and health and medical appointments and social service; and

Whereas the Americans with Disabilities Act guarantees access to auxiliary aids and services by people with disabilities, including more than 2.2 million Californians who are deaf, deaf-blind, hard of hearing, or with a speech disability relying on access to auxiliary aids and services, which include sign language interpreting services and communications access real-time translation (CART); and

Whereas all obstacles to Californians' access to highly-skilled, expert translators and interpreters should be removed;

Therefore Be It Resolved, that the California Democratic Party recognizes access to highly-skilled, expert translators and interpreters who ensure language access for Californians be as an issue of dignity, equality, and inclusion that Democrats respect and protect; and

Be It Further Resolved the California Democratic Party opposes policies and practices that jeopardize Californians' capacity to access highly-skilled, expert translators and interpreters as that would be considered threats to civil rights and progress towards equity in our diverse state.

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RESOLUTION 20-11.25

Protecting the Amah Mutsun Sacred Site of Juristac

WHEREAS, the area in Central California known as Juristac to the Amah Mutsun Tribal Band is the location of numerous ceremonial and sacred sites, comprising a landscape of great historical, cultural and spiritual importance to the Amah Mutsun, who are working diligently to restore their indigenous practices, regain stewardship of their lands, heal from historical trauma, and fulfill their obligation to Creator; and Juristac is home to threatened and endangered species and is identified in the Santa Clara Valley Habitat Plan and other regional landscape linkage studies as a vital wildlife corridor linking the Santa Cruz, Gabilan, and Diablo Ranges; and

WHEREAS, the Sargent Ranch Management Company has applied to the County of Santa Clara for a conditional use permit for a proposed open-pit sand and gravel mining operation (the Sargent Quarry Project) with aggregate processing facilities on approximately 320 acres of Sargent Ranch, located within the area known as Juristac to the Amah Mutsun; potentially removing 40 million tons of sand and gravel aggregate, plus millions of tons of overburden (layers of soil, clay, etc.), from four massive pits, up to 550 feet deep, dug into hills considered sacred to the Amah Mutsun; and

WHEREAS, the Amah Mutsun maintain that the proposed mining pits, overburden piles, roads, and processing facilities would irreparably harm Mutsun cultural resources, including wildlife, landscape features, and the spiritual integrity of Juristac, threaten the sensitive ecology of this unique habitat and impact adjacent ecological areas, whose threatened populations make use of this critical wildlife corridor; and the Tribal Council of the Amah Mutsun Tribal Band has taken a unanimous stance in opposition to the Sargent Quarry Project and is seeking the support of surrounding communities in efforts to protect their sacred grounds; numerous individuals, groups, environmental organizations, the cities of Santa Cruz and Morgan Hill, the Democratic Parties of Santa Clara County and Santa Cruz County, and Region 7 of the California Democratic Party have adopted resolutions opposing the proposed Sargent Quarry Project;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party supports the efforts of the Amah Mutsun Tribal Band to preserve Sargent Ranch/Juristac as open space and to regain access to their cultural and spiritual sites at Juristac; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party opposes any projects that would compromise any cultural and sacred sites.

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RESOLUTION 20-11.26

Opposing the Sale of Dangerous Fireworks for Non Commercial Use

WHEREAS forest fires in California in 2020 to date, have burned 4 million acres, killed 31 people, and destroyed 7,000 homes, while 2018 forest fires killed more than 100 people and destroyed 17,000 homes, nationwide, more than 19,500 total fires were started by fireworks between 2014-2018, with forty-nine percent of all fires reported on the fourth of July determined to have been started by fireworks (2018) and 59% of those being brush, grass, or forest fires; and

WHEREAS fireworks injuries continue to disproportionately injure children under 15 years of age with a third of fireworks eye injuries resulting in permanent blindness, and the American Academy of Pediatrics stating unequivocally “every type of legally available consumer use (“safe and sane”) firework has been associated with serious injury or death”; and

WHEREAS despite California air quality last month being simultaneously both the worst in the United States and the worst in California history, almost three hundred California communities still allow sales of personal use fireworks;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the California Democratic Party opposes the sale of fireworks not intended for commercial use;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the author will send copies of this resolution to members of county government in all 58 counties.

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Resolution 19-08.50

Urging Democrats to Learn About All Sides When They Travel to Israel and Palestine

WHEREAS the government of Israel and supportive U.S. organizations that advocate for, as many other governments and NGOs [Non-Governmental Organizations] do, regularly invite members of Congress, state legislators, and other public officials to visit; and

WHEREAS such trips are frequently criticized for providing a less than complete perspective of the state of affairs between Israel and Palestine; and

WHEREAS a full, balanced understanding of the situation is crucial for officials responsible for shaping U.S. policy in the region or who might have such responsibilities in the future, who should learn about Israeli and Palestinian viewpoints from a wide range of sources aside from government advocates and spokespeople;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the California Democratic Party urges any public or party officials who visit Israel or Palestinian Territories to also devote substantial time to visiting Palestinian/Arab towns, villages, and refugee camps in the Palestinian Territories, the multitude of religious and ethnically diverse communities in Israel, and Israeli and Palestinian grassroots advocates, non-governmental organization leaders and officials with diverse views on the issue; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that California Democratic Party encourages officials who choose to visit the region to learn about the issues firsthand, to reach out to local and/or national groups engaged in advocacy for peaceful coexistence and justice between Israelis and Palestinians to make the appropriate connections on the ground.

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RESOLUTION 20-03.27

The Rights of Freedom of Movement, Asylum and Return for Refugees and Other Displaced Communities

WHEREAS, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights is a milestone document rejecting the horrors of oppression, including the rape, torture, incarceration, murder, and assault of displaced peoples, proclaimed by the United Nations General Assembly on December 10, 1948, as a common set of principles for all peoples, universally setting out fundamental human rights to strive for and achieve, including the right to freedom of movement, the right to return to a country, and the right to asylum from persecution; and

WHEREAS, Articles 13 and 14 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights state “Everyone has the right to freedom of movement and residence within the borders of each state. Everyone has the right to leave any country, including his own, and to return to his country.” and that “Everyone has the right to seek and to enjoy in other countries asylum from persecution.”; and

WHEREAS, the suffering of displaced communities around the world must be acknowledged and ameliorated to the greatest extent possible within the limitations of existing international law and jurisprudence, such as evaluating impacts of major population shifts, time of displacement, national security risks, and the acceptance of resettlement, compensation or diplomatic solutions, and the United States and other countries have disregarded the right to asylum from a reasonable fear of persecution based on race, religion, nationality, political opinion, or membership in a particular group, under their laws and international law, by holding asylum seekers outside their borders or by limiting the rights of resettlement or movement of asylum seekers within their borders;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party generally recognizes the Universal Declaration of Human Rights principles of freedom of movement, right to leave, and the right to return; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party recognizes that the U.S. has denied rights to asylum seekers within its borders, and supports the aspirations of the non-binding United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights within the limitations and qualifications recognized under existing law and jurisprudence.

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RESOLUTION 20-11.28

Resolution to Cut Aid to Foreign Police & Military

Whereas the United States currently funds police and military assistance to multiple foreign governments with human rights violations, for example in the Philippines, where President Duterte has presided over the extrajudicial killings of tens of thousands of residents and has also assassinated indigenous leaders, journalists, land defenders, and other critics of his administration, with killings carried out by the Philippine National Police and the Armed Forces of the Philippines,

Whereas US foreign assistance funds have also been used to support the military detention, interrogation, and ill treatment of Palestinian children in violation of international humanitarian law,

Whereas there is a movement within the US to shift funding from police departments towards health, housing, youth, education, and other local services that deal with the root causes of crime, and this change can also apply to US foreign policy,

Therefore be it resolved that the California Democratic Party support foreign policy that ends assistance to police and militarization of countries with human rights violations, and redirect assistance towards treatment and rehabilitation of those who have been subject to military detention;

Be it further resolved that the California Democratic Party condemn the Philippines' Anti-Terror Law and other similar policies, and also support the investigation and prosecution of members of military and police forces who are credibly found to have violated human rights;

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RESOLUTION 20-11.29

Resolution supporting diplomatic peace-building efforts in the Middle East and North Africa

WHEREAS, the Democratic Party has consistently supported a directly and bilaterally negotiated two-state solution that ensures Israel's future as a Jewish and democratic state with recognized borders and upholds the right of Palestinians to live in freedom and security in a viable state of their own;

WHEREAS, a just and peaceful solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict does not include the prospect of unilateral annexation, which has been historically opposed by all American governments except the Trump Administration, because it threatens the security and dignity of residents and threatened to undermine cooperation between the parties which is the best path to achieving democracy, justice and equal rights of self-determination for Israelis and Palestinians;

WHEREAS, the normalization of relations between countries not only helps build economic partnerships, foster cross-border understanding and begin the long process of peace, as has been seen with historic treaties with Egypt and Jordan, but also has often encouraged the development of democratic values, minority protections and multicultural tolerance across borders, and such peace partners have at times served to provide additional pressure against efforts by the Israeli Right to pursue annexation;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the California Democratic Party supports the historic partnership agreements between Israel and its new peace partners the UAE and Bahrain and the roles this peace plays in preventing unilateral annexation of the West Bank as well as encouraging greater tolerance, democratic values and civil liberties protections in the UAE and Bahrain, which still have considerable room for improvement.

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RESOLUTION 20-11.30

Congratulations to President-Elect Joseph R. Biden, Jr., and Vice President-Elect Kamala D. Harris

Whereas, former Vice President Joseph R. Biden and Senator Kamala D. Harris have received 75 million votes, the highest popular vote ever, and have captured the 270 electoral college votes to become the 46th President and the 49th Vice President of the United States of America; and

Whereas, the voters have made history again by electing the first ever South Asian and African-American woman to serve as Vice President of the United States of America; and

Whereas, President-Elect Joseph R. Biden and Vice President-Elect Kamala D. Harris have received accolades from leaders around the world in recognition of their successful campaign to lead the world's largest democracy; leaders who have been frustrated over the past four years due to the lack of leadership and indecisiveness from the White House; leaders who respect America and depend on America for keeping the world safe; leaders who look to America to lead with dignity, decency, respect and honor; leaders who look to America to lead in finding a cure for COVID-19 and addressing climate change, world hunger, conflicts and human rights;

Therefore Be It Resolved, that the California Democratic Party supports counting all votes cast by mail and in person in every state in the union regardless of false claims of impropriety; and

Be It further Resolved, that the California Democratic Party joins the voters in American and the International community in extending congratulations to President-Elect Joseph R. Biden and Vice President-Elect Kamala D. Harris as our next President and Vice President of the United States of America.

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