

1 **GOV 2012-02 Reducing Prison Population & Pardoning Inmates With Cannabis Charges**

2
3 Whereas, the Democratic Party of Hawai'i request that on June 23, 2011, Gov. Neil Abercrombie signed
4 Hawaii's \$21.9 billion biennial state
5 budget. Based on the budget drafted by the state legislature, the governor must reduce state
6 spending by \$50 million in each of the next two years; and
7

8 Whereas, Gov. Abercrombie, in a speech to legislators about the state's fiscal health, said that
9 Hawaii faces an "undeniable storm" of fiscal challenges that could upend the state's economic
10 foundation; and
11

12 Whereas, In a June 16 memo, the governor instructed state department directors to identify low priority
13 programs for possible elimination and take other cost-cutting measures; and
14

15 Whereas, the state auditor's December 2010 report, "Management Audit of the Department of
16 Public Safety's Contracting for Prison Beds and Services stated "In Hawaii, spending on
17 incarceration has soared in recent years, despite the economic problems that have been haunting
18 the state." Also saying the corrections budget has increased from \$128 million in 2000 to \$225
19 million in 2009 and "Higher education has been a clear loser in the nation's choice to fund bars
20 not books;" and
21

22 Whereas, this 2011 report also stated "there are serious management and procurement problems
23 with the state's contract to hold some 2,000 inmates at Corrections Corporation of America
24 facilities in Arizona; and
25

26 Whereas, June of 2011, an alliance of world leaders declared the War on Drugs "a resounding
27 failure" and recommended ending the criminalization of drug users who "do no harm to others"!
28 This alliance included former Secretary of State George Shultz, former Chairman of the Federal
29 Reserve Paul Volcker, former UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan, and ex-presidents of Columbia
30 and Mexico; and
31

32 Whereas, the state of Hawaii is looking for ways to reduce its' prison population and many
33 inmates were incarcerated for use of cannabis, incorrectly classified as a dangerous drug, widely
34 used by the public, & bringing many health benefits; now, therefore, be it
35

36 *Resolved*, That the Governor pardon those incarcerated for non-violent cannabis related charges
37 and establish community programs to help them reintegrate, getting out of prison and into work
38 programs; and be it
39

40 *Ordered*, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the Governor of Hawai'i, and all
41 members of the Hawai'i State Legislature.

1 **GOV 2012-03 Resolution in Support of Veterans**

2
3 Whereas, the Democratic Party of Hawai'i supports all veterans who have honorably served the United
4 States of America; and

5
6 Whereas, the Commander-in-Chief, President Barack H. Obama and the Director of Veterans Affairs Eric
7 K. Shinseki are from Hawai'i, and

8
9 Whereas, Hawai'i U.S. Senator Daniel Inouye and U.S. Senator Daniel Akaka are both distinguished
10 veterans; and

11
12 Whereas, the State of Hawai'i 2012 Legislature only passed two resolutions and one bill out of 29
13 veteran's related bills and resolution introduced to the legislators this year; and

14
15 Whereas, veterans are suffering from a variety physical and mental ailments as a result of their service to
16 the United States; and

17
18 Whereas, veterans should receive proper medical care, access to jobs, judicial processing, and burials;
19 now therefore be it

20
21 Resolved, That the Democratic Party of Hawai'i supports our veterans and appropriate legislation needs
22 to be passed in the State Legislature to render the needed support, including but not limited to, a
23 Veterans Court with the State Judiciary, a Veterans Summit, upgrades and expansion of State Veterans
24 Cemeteries, and a State Honor and Remember Flag; and be it further

25
26 Ordered, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to each O'ahu legislator in the State Legislature and
27 the Governor of Hawai'i.

1 **GOV 2012-04 PROPOSED RESOLUTION TO REPEAL THE PROHIBITION OF CANNABIS**

2
3 Whereas, For more than 40 years the “War on Drugs” has fostered violence, increased criminal activity
4 and imposed criminal records on otherwise law abiding citizens; and

5
6 Whereas, it serves no public good to jail potentially productive people solely for the use of the natural
7 intoxicant, marijuana, and causes huge disruption to innocent families, and has resulted in corruption of
8 law enforcement’s true mission to serve and protect; and

9
10 Whereas, prohibition has been totally ineffective at keeping cannabis away from our youth and has
11 tragically criminalized and needlessly exposed many to the prison system; and

12
13 Whereas, more than 750,000 individuals in the United States are arrested every year for simple
14 possession; and

15
16 Whereas, Administrative Law Judge Francis L. Young ruled on September 6, 1988 that the Drug
17 Enforcement Administration (DEA) improperly classified cannabis as a “Schedule I” drug; and

18
19 Whereas, cannabis has a long history of positive spiritual and medicinal use and has caused far fewer
20 negative health and social impacts than alcohol or tobacco; and

21
22 Whereas, 16 states plus the District of Columbia have recognized its medicinal value and have
23 established medical marijuana programs; and

24
25 Whereas, The enormous amount of resources currently spent trying to control marijuana could be better
26 spent on education to reduce demand for all drugs and to treat those that have addictions; and

27
28 Whereas, in 2008 53% of Hawai`i County voters passed an ordinance making the possession of cannabis
29 the lowest law enforcement priority; and

30
31 Whereas, An effective distribution system could be set in place to tax, regulate and control cannabis as
32 are alcohol and cigarettes; now, therefore be it

33
34 *Resolved*, That the Democratic Party of Hawai`i urge all Democratic elected officials at all levels must
35 work to end cannabis prohibition; and be it

36
37 *Resolved*, That the Legislature of the State of Hawai`i enact legislation to tax, regulate and control the
38 commercial production, distribution and use of cannabis and to legalize the cultivation of cannabis
39 sufficient for personal use at private premises; and be it

40
41 *Resolved*, That the Obama Administration and our Representatives in Washington, D.C. be strongly
42 encouraged to take steps to remove cannabis as a “Schedule I” substance; and be it

43
44 *Ordered*, That copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the Democratic members of the
45 Hawai`i State Legislature and to all Democratic candidates for the Hawai`i State Legislature as well as our
46 Senators and Representatives in Washington, D.C.

47

1 **GOV 2012-06 Support for Control if Money in Politics**

2
3 Whereas, The problem with money in politics is not so much the amount that is spent on campaigns as it is who pays for them,
4 what they get in return, and how that affects public policy and spending priorities; and

5
6 Whereas, The Supreme Court ruling in "Citizens United" allowing unlimited Corporate donation to political campaigns is
7 having a major impact our government and our elected officials; and

8
9 Whereas, The 2010 midterm election campaign was the most expensive in history, with hundreds of millions spent by
10 anonymous, outside groups; and

11
12 Whereas, Some of the nation's largest and richest companies, including Wal-Mart, Coca-Cola, Koch Industries and AT&T,
13 have joined forces to invest millions of dollars each year to promote the careers of thousands of state legislators and secure
14 passage of legislation that puts corporate interests ahead of the interests of ordinary Americans; and

15
16 Whereas, The DISCLOSE (Democracy is Strengthened by Casting Light on Spending in Elections) Act would be an important
17 step on behalf of transparency in politics because it would ensure that voters understand who is paying for the ads they
18 see and hear; and

19
20 Whereas, The influence of anonymous, unlimited campaign contributions makes it probable that more environmentally
21 damaging projects will be approved and environmental protections will be weakened; now, therefore, be it

22
23 *Resolved*, That Democratic Party of Hawai`i support an amendment to the Constitution of the United States of America, which will
24 overturn the US Supreme Court ruling of Citizen's United, which gives corporations the same rights of speech as an individual
25 citizen; and be it further

26
27 *Resolved*, That Democratic Party of Hawai`i support a citizen-funded fair elections system, wherein qualifying candidates, able
28 to provide evidence of support through district signatures, may chose to have their campaigns be publicly funded rather than
29 seek outside funding; and be It further

30
31 *Resolved*, That Democratic Party of Hawai`i support national disclosure legislation, which will require all politically funded
32 advertisements to disclose who paid for those advertisements; and finally be it

33
34 *Ordered*, That copies of this resolution be forwarded to the governor of the State of Hawai`i.
35

1 **GOV 2012-13 Support the Implementation of Democratic Party Resolutions By Elected**
2 **Government Officials at All Levels of Government Who Are Members of the Democratic Party of**
3 **Hawai'i**
4

5 WHEREAS, untold thousands of hours are spent by members of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i
6 at the precinct, district, county, and state levels to draft and review resolutions; and
7

8 WHEREAS, these resolutions after careful review and debate, allowing all to have their say, are
9 voted on in a democratic fashion; and
10

11 WHEREAS, the aspirations and dreams of members of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i are
12 reflected in said resolutions; and
13

14 WHEREAS, resolutions that are passed at the state convention become the bedrock upon which the
15 Democratic Party of Hawai'i is based; and
16

17 WHEREAS, being a Democrat should reflect a basic value system that has been created by the
18 sharing of ideas at the precinct, county, and state levels; now, therefore,
19

20 BE IT RESOLVED, that elected officials at all levels of government who are members of the
21 Democratic Party of Hawai'i should reflect the beliefs of party members who have worked so
22 diligently to craft, debate, and vote for the resolutions passed at the State Convention of the
23 Democratic Party of Hawai'i.
24

25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that elected officials who are registered members of the
26 Democratic Party of Hawai'i shall be included as delegates, outside of the number of delegates
27 allowed per their respective precinct, and shall be encouraged to attend their respective County
28 conventions and to take an active part in platform and policy formation.
29

30 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a scorecard or other means of evaluation of the above named
31 government officials be implemented by the Democratic Party of Hawai'i to give party members a
32 sense of said officials compliance with the resolutions and platform passed by this body.
33

34 BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that at every annual convention, the Platform Committee may
35 require an explanation from any current Democratic office holder about any official statement or
36 vote that appears to seriously deviate from the existing platform and resolutions.

1 **GOV 2012-14 To Honor the Separation of State and Church and the Female Members of Hawaii's**
2 **Monarchy**

3
4 Whereas, the Democratic Party of Hawaii supports and defends the Constitution of the United States of
5 America; and

6
7 Whereas, the separation of State and Church is one of the founding principles of the United States of
8 America as it is found in the First Amendment as well as Article VI of the U.S. Constitution; and

9
10 Whereas; the State of Hawai'i is the most religiously diverse state in the Union; and

11
12 Whereas, Good Friday holds no secular purpose and is solely a Christian remembrance; and

13
14 Whereas, no other religion has its own State holiday; and

15
16 Whereas, the State of Hawai'i is one of only 10 states in the nation that observes Good Friday; and

17
18 Whereas, the Democratic Party of Hawaii is dedicated to gender equity and respecting and honoring our
19 great State's host culture; and

20
21 Whereas, King Kamehameha and Prince Kuhio both have State holidays to honor and respect their
22 memories and contributions to the State of Hawaii; and

23
24 Whereas, there is not one State holiday to honor and respect the memories and contributions of Queen
25 Liliuokalani, Queen Emma or any other of Hawaii's female monarchy; now therefore be it

26
27 Resolved, That the Democratic Party of Hawaii supports legislation eliminating Good Friday as a State
28 holiday and replacing it with a State holiday to honor, remember and respect the memories and
29 contributions of Hawaii's female monarchy; and be it further

30
31 Resolved, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to each Democratic legislator in the Hawaii State
32 Legislature well as to the Honorable Governor of the State of Hawaii Neil Abercrombie and Lt. Governor
33 Brian Schatz

34

1 **GOV 2012-15 Support Affordable Renewable Energy**
2

3 Whereas, our economic fortunes have tumbled, Hawaii Democrats believe the answer to working our way
4 out of this economic downturn exists in: Providing jobs to rebuild our economy, protecting families facing
5 tough times in an uncertain economy and incentives small businesses ; and
6

7 Whereas, A comprehensive Transportation Plan that moves Hawaii forward, Hawaii can modernize our
8 out-of-date transportation system in order to put working families to work as we reduce congestion and
9 improve air quality, provide better emergency service and move goods safer and more efficiently. A
10 comprehensive transportation plan that rebuilds our long-neglected transportation system, prioritizes the
11 potential for federal matching grants, and aims at reducing our greenhouse gas emissions and has the
12 potential to pump over \$3 billion dollars into our economy and sustain more jobs than ever before over
13 the next five years; and
14

15 Whereas, Energy Efficiency and the Green Economy, Energy efficiency holds great potential to confront
16 climate change and create good-paying jobs. We will provide opportunities for homeowners and
17 businesses to upgrade their homes or businesses, creating fast growing local markets for Hawaii
18 booming renewable energy industry, Hawaii's innovation needs to make it the world's leader in the
19 manufacturing of solar technology, wind energy, wave and tidal, geothermal, biofuels and hydrogen fuel
20 cell manufacturers. Hawaii Democrats will work to expand on these successes; and
21

22 THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Hawaii Democratic Party urge Congress to support policy
23 initiatives that will promote and fund: the development of the new energy economy, health care, low-
24 income assistance energy programs, the creation of green jobs, and a just transition for workers and
25 vocational institutions; and
26

27 FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, the Hawaii Democratic Party encourages international, national, state,
28 regional, and local government agencies to direct public and private investment toward communities and
29 provide an opportunity for businesses, schools, affordable housing associations, and other community
30 institutions to participate in and benefit from efforts to develop, market, deploy and utilize renewable
31 energy and energy efficiency technologies; and
32

33 FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, that the Hawaii Democrats will urge all levels of government to support
34 and fast track all forms of progressive renewable energy as well as energy policy initiatives and programs
35 that will generate revenue to finance clean energy investments, provide living wages and reduce energy
36 consumption through energy efficiency while ensuring that any such program incorporates principles of
37 democratic accountability, sustainability and social justice.
38
39

1 **GOV 2012-16 Hate Crimes Reporting**

2
3 Whereas, The State of Hawai'i passed Hate Crimes Legislation nearly a decade ago; and

4
5 Whereas, There is anecdotal evidence that hate crimes are being committed as they are reported in the
6 media; and

7
8 Whereas, The State of Hawai'i the City and County of Honolulu has yet to prosecute a crime and ask for
9 the "hate crime" enhancement; and

10
11 Whereas, The prosecutors are inclined to negotiate a plea which does not involve the hate crimes
12 enhancement; and

13
14 Whereas, The police department and the Prosecutor are not required to report "hate crimes"; and

15
16 Whereas, There is no mechanism in place to track all crimes including an indicator on the report form if
17 alleged as hate crime to determine why they are not being prosecuted as hate crimes; now, therefore, be
18 it

19
20 *Resolved*, That the Hawai'i Democratic Party ask the Mayor to direct the Chief of Police to track all crimes
21 reported as hate crimes and all crimes booked as hate crimes, and to ask the Prosecutor to track all
22 crimes charged as hate crimes, all crimes prosecuted as hate crimes and the disposition of all crimes
23 initially reported as hate crimes, so that citizens can determine why the hate crimes law is not being fully
24 enforced; and be it further

25
26 *Ordered*, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the Governor, members of the Hawai'i Senate
27 and Hawai'i House of Representatives, and candidates for every elective office whose jurisdiction
28 includes the City and County of Honolulu.

1 **GOV 2012-20 Urging the Counties to Preserve Property Tax Exemptions for Kuleana Lands.**
2

3 Whereas, following the Great Mahele, several thousand native tenants, or maka'ainana, were granted title
4 to their own lands under the Kuleana Act of 1850; and
5

6 Whereas, while kuleana lands represent a lasting legacy of the Hawaiian monarchy, the rapid escalation
7 of land values in recent times has meant that kuleana land owners often cannot afford the real property
8 taxes assessed against their lands and therefore have been forced to sell their kuleana lands or allow tax
9 foreclosure sales; and
10

11 Whereas, in response to these conditions, and after careful consideration and discussion, the City and
12 County of Honolulu, the County of Hawai'i, the County of Kaua'i, and the County of Maui have in recent
13 years enacted ordinances granting property tax exemptions for kuleana lands; and
14

15 Whereas, these exemptions have resulted in qualified owners of kuleana lands paying a minimal property
16 tax, resulting in enhanced protection of these historic lands and in tax relief to the owners; and
17

18 Whereas, the fiscal impact of these exemptions on county revenues has been minimal as relatively few
19 parcels qualify for the exemptions; and
20

21 Whereas, terminating or weakening these exemptions would reverse their beneficial effects and disrupt
22 owners' expectations of continuing tax relief; now, therefore be it
23

24 *Resolved*, That the counties are urged to preserve property tax exemptions for kuleana lands; and be it
25

26 *Resolved*, That copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the Governor of Hawai'i.

1 **GOV 2012-21 A RESOLUTION TO INCREASE PARTICIPATION IN REPRESENTATIVE DEMOCRACY IN**
2 **HAWAII LEGISLATIVE ISSUES**

3
4 Whereas, it is the people of the State of Hawaii from whom the State government derives its
5 constitutional powers; and

6
7 Whereas, the people of the State of Hawaii are must participate in the process of legislative
8 development and deliberation in order for our representative democracy to function as intended;
9 and

10
11 Whereas, a significant amount of the State's population lives on the neighbor islands and is faced
12 with the barrier of geography in participating in person at legislative hearings and deliberative
13 processes; and

14
15 Whereas, the only means of travel to O'ahu for the purpose of providing testimony to the State
16 Legislature by citizens residing on the neighbor is via airplane; and

17
18 Whereas, the cost of air travel to and from O'ahu represents a significant financial barrier to many
19 of the State's residents; and

20
21 Whereas, the residents of neighbor islands have attempted to participate in the legislative
22 process by providing online written testimony; and

23
24 Whereas, chairs of various legislative committees have summarily dismissed the written
25 testimony of those persons not physically present at hearings; and

26
27 Whereas, a uniform method of ensuring that the voices of the residents of the neighbor islands is
28 heard would be of benefit to all and ensure that our representative democracy functions as
29 intended; now, therefore, be it

30
31 *Resolved*, That the Democratic Party of Hawai'i supports the use of State of Hawaii funds,
32 and personnel and capital resources to ensure that video conferencing capabilities are deployed
33 to the neighbor islands such that the many barriers to participation in the legislative process
34 mentioned above and experienced by the residents of the neighbor islands are reduced or
35 eliminated; and be it

36
37 *Resolved*, That the Democratic Party of Hawai'i strongly urges elected officials of Hawai'i
38 County to partner with the State of Hawaii as a consultant in providing technical assistance in
39 emulating the model of remote video conferencing already adopted by the County of Hawaii to
40 provide convenient access to the residents of Hawaii County in the County's legislative process,
41 regardless to the geographic area of the island in which they reside.

1 **GOV 2012-22 RESOLUTION CALLING FOR DEMOCRATIC PARTY OF HAWAII TO INITIATE CAMPAIGN**
2 **FOR U.S. CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT ELIMINATING THE ELECTORAL COLLEGE**
3

4 Whereas, the history of the United States of America's Electoral College is a convoluted and checked one,
5 with both large and small states benefiting or losing out, depending on the politics of the times; and
6

7 Whereas, the issue of slavery, which was a main factor in the establishment of the Electoral College, was
8 outlawed in the 19th Century; and
9

10 Whereas, the American ideal of one-man, one-vote is no longer seen as a reality by most U.S. citizens today;
11 And
12

13 Whereas, the technological capability now exists for the accurate filing and counting of a popular vote,
14 eliminating a past logistical problem; and
15

16 Whereas, the Electoral College makes some votes worth more than others; and
17

18 Whereas, voters in the 50th State have a difficult time believing their votes count when the rest of the nation
19 has already determined the U.S. presidency while many of Hawaii's citizens have not had the chance to cast
20 their ballots; and
21

22 Whereas, Hawaii as well as the entire nation continues to experience declining numbers of voters; and
23

24 Whereas, in addition to recent movements on the Mainland that essentially disenfranchise entire groups of
25 voters, young citizens and others are expressing their distrust of the two-party system, specifically through the
26 Occupy Movement that not only went nationwide but international; and
27

28 Whereas, since 2001, Gallup polls have consistently found that "a majority of Americans have continually
29 expressed support for the notion of an official amendment to the U.S. Constitution that would allow for direct
30 election" of the U.S. president and vice president; and
31

32 Whereas, the current Electoral College structure does not support more than a two-party system; and
33

34 Whereas, the movement to eliminate the Electoral College would have more success in the second term of a
35 sitting president; now, therefore, be it
36

37 *Resolved*, That the Democratic Party of Hawaii -- whose voters in the past have led the nation in establishing
38 citizens' rights despite gender, religious, racial, cultural and economic factors -- lead the way once again by
39 establishing a panel to study and create a proposed U.S. Constitutional amendment eliminating the Electoral
40 College and establishing a straight popular vote for the nation. The proposed amendment would then be sent
41 to Congress and all state and territorial legislatures for adoption.

1 **GOV 2012-23 PROPOSED RESOLUTION TO PROMOTE MODERN ROUNDABOUTS**

2
3 Whereas, the Hawaii State Department of Transportation, Highways Division, expresses as a high
4 priority goal, to “Reduce the number and severity of traffic-related injuries and deaths on Hawaii’s
5 roadways...;” and

6
7 Whereas, the safest known intersection control is the modern-design roundabout; and

8
9 Whereas, roundabouts reduce fatalities by more than 90%; injuries by as much as 76%; and
10 pedestrian collisions by 30-40%; and

11
12 Whereas, the cost of traffic collisions is borne by the taxpayers of this state, to wit: emergency
13 response costs for Police and Fire Department, including Ambulance, personnel and vehicles), as well
14 as the personal costs of injury, of loss of income, loss of quality of life, and loss of life; and therefore
15 their taxes should provide for them the safest possible roadway and intersection solutions; and

16
17 Whereas, roundabouts increase traffic flow/intersection capacity by 30-50% more than do traffic
18 signals; and

19
20 Whereas, roundabouts have no signal equipment to repair and maintain, which in Hawaii typically
21 costs as much as \$10,000 annually per signalized intersection; and

22
23 Whereas, roundabouts continue to perform their intersection control function and provide safety to all
24 road users without need for electrical power, an important feature in Hawaii (especially Hawaii Island),
25 which may be subject to emergency conditions such as hurricane, flooding, earthquake and lava
26 inundation; and

27
28 Whereas, communities typically adjust to roundabouts within a few months, with reduction of all
29 collisions within that time and public approval reaching 65%; and

30
31 Whereas, roundabouts can save as much as 30% of fuel use in many cases, and the corresponding
32 percentage of greenhouse gas emissions/air pollution, thus helping Hawaii address global climate
33 change commitments; and

34
35 Whereas, the Federal Highways Administration, the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety and the
36 American Association of Retired Persons strongly endorse roundabouts and provide the points above
37 and much more information on their websites; and

38
39 Whereas, in jurisdictions within the United States where full life-cycle analysis of roundabouts versus
40 signals is required, roundabouts are being built; and

41 Whereas, a study at Georgia Institute of Technology has demonstrated that states adopting pro-
42 roundabout resolutions or policies have built more roundabouts; now therefore be it

43
44 Resolved, That the Democratic Party of the State of Hawaii, in order to protect the lives and wellbeing
45 of the residents and visitors of the State, will, through its elected representatives in the State House
46 and Senate, introduce and enact legislation to direct and compel the Hawaii Department of
47 Transportation to conduct a bona-fide, full-life-cycle analysis of the benefits and costs of roundabouts
48 versus traffic signals whenever any intersection in the State is to be upgraded to an intersection
49 control device or whenever the traffic signal equipment is to be replaced at any intersection already
50 controlled by a traffic signal; and be it

51
52 Resolved, That wherever analysis reveals that roundabouts are the superior solutions, and not traffic
53 signals, roundabouts accordingly shall be built by the Division of Highways, using the best known
54 practices and designs best suited to each location.

1 **GOV 2012-26 RESOLUTION REGARDING LICENSING FOR HAWAII PUBLIC RADIO**

2
3 Whereas, Hawaii Public Radio (HPR) is the only completely self-supporting publicly financed radio
4 media in the Hawaiian Islands; and
5

6 Whereas, Hawaii Public Radio has been able to finance and support two streams of programing to most
7 areas of the state, except the eastern portion of the Big Island, which has only one program stream; and
8

9 Whereas, the Federal Communication Commission has refused licensing for the second stream of HPR,
10 in spite of the fact that it is the more informative and diverse media of the KIPO program stream, which
11 served the public good in making issues available to the public in unbiased programming not controlled
12 by communication conglomerates; and
13

14 Whereas, other commercial media in Hawaii has continued to be consolidated under fewer and fewer
15 owners, and presents a much more uniformly biased coverage of news and issues of both the Nation
16 and the State of Hawaii; and
17

18 Whereas, it is in the interest of the citizen public to have the most diverse and unbiased information
19 available to it, such that the public can make informed decisions impacting the public welfare in this
20 state; now, therefore, be it
21

22 Resolved, That the Democratic Party fully supports the work of Hawaii Public Radio and strongly urges
23 the State of Hawaii to encourage the FCC to fully license HPR so that all of their programming streams
24 can be received statewide.

1 **GOV 2012-28 RESOLUTION REGARDING POSTING BOND**

2
3 Whereas, the Democratic Party of Hawaii shall defend residents/citizens of the State of Hawaii against
4 any and all violations of duly enacted State Laws, including the irregular, controversial searches,
5 seizures and arrests carried out by the Federal Agencies of the United States Government that
6 transgress Constitutionally protected Rights of citizens to Freedom of Religion, Speech and Right to
7 post bail bond while awaiting trial; and
8

9 Whereas, citizen Roger Christie of Hilo has been held for twenty months without bail by federal
10 authorities in Honolulu accused of a victimless crime pertaining to his religious beliefs and practices as a
11 minister utilizing cannabis as the essential sacrament; and
12

13 Whereas, during this time of captivity heinous violations have been committed and the accused parties
14 have been released on bail despite their involvement in cases of rape, kidnapping, embezzlement, and
15 murder; and
16

17 Whereas, the President of the United States has pressed for an opening of a discussion on the failure of
18 the War on Drugs, and that the current pursuit of the prohibition has crowned the USA with the dubious
19 and shameful distinction of having the highest incarceration rate in the entire world; now, therefore, be it
20

21 **Resolved**, That all duly elected officials representing the People of Hawai'i shall defend the
22 Constitutionally guaranteed rights of citizens of the State of Hawai'i including those infringements by the
23 Federal authorities; and be it
24

25 **Resolved**, That this enactment is to safeguard the system of representative government of the Republic
26 of the United States of America, for surely the much dreaded path to totalitarianism is unavoidable
27 should the Several States of the Union fail to defend their citizens' rights of worship, speech and to
28 POST REASONABLE BOND WHILE AWAITING TRIAL.

1 **GOV 2012-30 Resolution Nullifying Unconstitutional Provisions of the NDAA**

2
3 Whereas, the Constitution of the United States is the foundation of our nation's rights and freedoms,
4 and is the basis of our representative democracy; and

5
6 Whereas, the indefinite military detention without trial of US citizens, could be allowed by
7 Sections 1021 and 1022 of the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA); and

8
9 Whereas, the indefinite military detention of any person without trial violates the 4th, 5th and 6th
10 amendments and Articles I and III of the Constitution of the United States and the Posse Comitatus Act,
11 violates articles 9, 10, and 11 of the United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights, violates
12 Parts 1, 2, and 3 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, and diminishes the
13 reputation and stature of the United States among our community of nations; and

14
15 Whereas, our country was founded upon the principles of presumed innocence and the right to a fair
16 trial, and generations of activists and military servicemen and women have fought and lost their lives
17 to preserve these very ideals, and Sections 1021 and 1022 of the NDAA violates and corrodes these
18 ideals, and the State of Hawaii re-affirms its gratitude for the supreme sacrifice of those in the Armed
19 Forces who have served and died in battle in the name of those same cherished rights and liberties;
20 and

21
22 Whereas, the NDAA's detention provisions could, under Humanitarian Law Project v. Holder, allow the
23 targeted detention of activists, journalists and other Americans exercising their First Amendment rights
24 despite the crucial role of Free Speech in preserving liberty, could allow the recurrence of torture in
25 military detention in violation of the Eighth Amendment, and could force US military service members to
26 serve as domestic jailers, a role for which they are neither trained nor equipped, nor is ever appropriate;
27 and

28
29 Whereas, the FBI Director, the Defense Secretary, the Director of National Intelligence, the Department
30 of Defense, and many of our nation's generals, admirals, and servicemen and women have opposed the
31 NDM's detention provisions; and

32
33 **Resolved,** That we request all our public agencies and officials operating within the state and its
34 political subdivisions to decline requests by federal agencies acting under detention powers granted by
35 the NDAA that infringe upon residents' freedom of speech, religion, assembly, privacy, or rights to
36 counsel; and be it

37
38 **Resolved,** That we expect all federal, state, and local law enforcement officials acting within the State of
39 Hawaii to abide by and work in accordance with State law by allowing any detainees among the State of
40 Hawaii's residents or visitors access to a trial, counsel and due process, as provided by Article III of the
41 Constitution of the United States; and be it

42
43 **Resolved,** That we request that our United States Congressman and Senators monitor the
44 implementation of the NDAA and actively work for the repeal of the NDAA's detention provisions to
45 restore fundamental rights and liberties embodied in and guaranteed by the Constitutions of the State of
46 Hawaii, the Charters of its political subdivisions, and the Constitution of the United States; and be it

47
48 **Resolved,** That the Democratic Party of Hawaii shall send signed copies of this resolution to our US
49 Congressman and Senators, the US Senate Committee on the Judiciary, the US Senate Select
50 Committee on Intelligence, the US House of Representatives Committee on the Judiciary, the US
51 House of Representatives Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, the US Attorney General, and
52 the President of the United States, and requests our Governor and State legislature do the same.