

1 **GOV 2014-01 Opposing Legislation to Permit Discrimination**

2
3 Whereas, In the face of the decision by courts, legislatures and voters across the country to recognize
4 equal marriage rights for all couples, regardless of sexual orientation, opponents of equality have settled
5 upon a strategy of trying to pass bills which would permit individuals and businesses to discriminate
6 against people, provided it is claimed that discrimination is rooted in a sincerely held religious belief; and
7

8 Whereas, This effort is being promoted nationwide by the notorious right-wing and corporate group, the
9 American Legislative Exchange Council; and
10

11 Whereas, When such a bill was approved by the Arizona State legislature, the Republican Governor, Jan
12 Brewer, was lobbied to veto the bill by many residents of the state, as well as from other states, including
13 businesses and some clergy and civic leaders, including both of the recent Republican presidential
14 candidates, John McCain and Mitt Romney, which resulted in even Jan Brewer coming to oppose and
15 veto the bill; and
16

17 Whereas, The civil rights struggle for equality for Americans of African ancestry famously expressed itself
18 as a struggle against discrimination by private businesses, who would refuse service in restaurants,
19 hotels, motels, theaters, buses, and in the face of which many people courageously demanded equal
20 service, whether it was Rosa Parks on a bus in Montgomery or college students at the Woolworth counter
21 in Greensboro, North Carolina; and
22

23 Whereas, The passage of time makes it hard for many to believe, but the system of discrimination in the
24 South was supported by many clergy and devoutly religious white citizens who believed segregation was
25 consistent with God's Plan; and
26

27 Whereas, Legislation was introduced in the recent session here in Hawai'i which would have permitted
28 Hawai'i businesses to discriminate against customers based upon sexual orientation, gender, race,
29 religion, or other protected status, provided that discrimination was based upon a religious belief; now,
30 therefore, be it
31

32 *Resolved*, The Democratic Party of Hawai'i strongly opposes discrimination in the provision of services
33 by a business to prospective customers and finds the practice abhorrent, whatever the source of the
34 prejudice which motivates the discrimination; and be it
35

36 *Resolved*, The Democratic Party of Hawai'i strongly urges its candidates and elected officials elected
37 under our Party banner to also strongly oppose any such legislation; and be it
38

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

1 **GOV 2014-02 Support for a Progressive Tax Structure, Reducing Taxes for Low-Income Residents**

2
3 Whereas, The effective tax rate paid by low-income Hawai'i residents is about 13% of their income, while
4 the effective tax rate paid by the wealthiest Hawai'i residents, after deductions and reduced rates for
5 capital gains, averages about 8%; and

6
7 Whereas, The tax rates for low-income Hawai'i residents are among the highest in the country and our
8 State income tax laws impose tax liabilities starting at a very low adjusted income; and

9
10 Whereas, This imbalance in tax rates, whereby low income residents pay a higher rate than wealthier
11 residents, violates basic tax fairness, which should be reflect the ability to pay; and

12
13 Whereas, The tax credit for low-income renters has not been adjusted since 1981; and

14
15 Whereas, The tax credit to offset the impact of the General Excise Tax (GET) on Hawai'i residents has
16 not been adjusted since 2007, despite inflation; and

17
18 Whereas, Other changes to the tax structure can help reduce poverty and shield low-income families and
19 individuals from taxes when they are already struggling to survive; now, therefore, be it

20
21 *Resolved*, The Democratic Party of Hawai'i declares its support for the principle of progressive taxation,
22 and commits to re-balancing our tax structure to ensure lower income residents pay a lower tax rate than
23 higher income residents; and be it

24
25 *Resolved*, The Democratic Party of Hawai'i urges our legislators to make adjustments to our tax system
26 including an update to tax credits affecting low and middle income residents, specifically including the
27 low-income renter tax credit and the Food/Excise Tax credit; and be it

28
29 *Ordered*, That copies of the resolution be transmitted to Governor of Hawai'i and the Democratic
30 members of the Hawai'i State Legislature.

1 **GOV 2014-03 Oppose Cooperation with Political Forces Working to Defeat Democrats For**
2 **Supporting the Party Platform**

3
4 Whereas, Members of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i , including candidates and elected officials who
5 seek office using the name of our party, have pledged to support the platform of the party; and
6

7
8 Whereas, Party members volunteer to support, and members of the public vote for candidates, in part,
9 because of their party affiliation; and
10

11 Whereas, Elected officials, in addition to being members of a political party, are also obliged to consider
12 the views of the residents in their districts, to weigh information presented to them in public hearings or in
13 communications from lobbyists and citizen advocates, coming to their own determination of which policies
14 are best for the people of Hawai'i ; and
15

16 Whereas, The formation of a third political party with ballot status now provides candidates who disagree
17 with the Party's positions on key issues an alternative means for seeking election to office; and
18

19 Whereas, Using the Rules as a means of trying to win cooperation from elected officials who are elected
20 as Democrats is time-consuming and cumbersome, and should thereby only be employed in the most
21 egregious cases; and
22

23 Whereas, There is a well-organized effort by religious fundamentalists, mobilizing through their churches
24 and targeting for defeat several Democratic candidates because our candidates have supported the
25 party's position in favor of equal marriage rights for gay and lesbian couples; and
26

27 Whereas, Some Democratic elected officials and candidates have been meeting with and appear to be
28 cooperating with these forces in their effort to defeat fellow Democrats; and
29

30 Whereas, While the Party recognizes the right of elected officials to vote in ways inconsistent with the
31 Party platform, we have drawn the line when that opposition results in working with forces hostile to the
32 Party for the purpose of defeating other Democrats because they support the platform; now, therefore, be
33 it
34

35 Resolved, The Democratic Party of Hawai'i communicates clearly and publicly that it does not approve of
36 any member, especially one who has attained office from running as a Democrat, who works in concert
37 with political forces hostile to the Party's platform and seeks to defeat Democratic candidates due to their
38 support of our platform; and be it
39

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

1 **GOV 2014-04 Supporting State-of-the-Art Government Technology**

2
3 Whereas, An efficient and effective government technology radically improves transparency and
4 accountability; and

5
6 Whereas, Some Hawai'i government computer systems are over 20 years old; the State's financial
7 accounting and management information system is 30 years old; the payroll system is 40 years old; and
8 some systems were written in COBOL, a programming language that's now defunct; and

9
10 Whereas, The reason Hawai'i is so far behind is that it has skimped on Information Technology (IT)
11 investment for decades; and

12
13 Whereas, The State of Hawai'i is an \$11 billion enterprise but yet it spends only spends 1.4 percent of its
14 budget on IT, which compares to the national average of close to 3 percent in other states and 10 percent
15 for the federal government; and

16
17 Whereas, The absence of reliable digital access to government services forces the use of paper forms,
18 which causes inefficiencies in almost every department of state government; the problem with paper is
19 that it has to be moved, sorted, filed and retrieved; and

20
21 Whereas, for example:

22
23 (1) Although jobs are posted on the State's website and applications are made online, a new State hire
24 must fill out many paper forms for different purposes for each benefit such as health insurance; and

25
26 (2) If you apply to the State for Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), which used to be
27 called food stamps, it requires you to fill out and turn in an application and also have a face-to-face
28 interview with a State employee. If you live in Honolulu, that's really not too much of a problem, but if you
29 live in Hana, it is difficult because you have to drive three hours each way to Wailuku to go to the state
30 office to meet with these people. Other states conduct this entire application process online; and

31
32 (3) Financial reporting is one of the most troubling results of the State's old, disjointed IT system; perhaps
33 the best example is the state's Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR). The state still operates
34 on a cash accounting basis rather than an accrual basis, so in order to complete the CAFR, though, the
35 Department of Accounting and General Services still has to convert the state's financial data to accrual;
36 using FAMIS (Financial Accounting and Management Information System), the state's 40-year-old
37 financial accounting system, this is a long, tedious process, much of which has to be done manually; and

38
39 Whereas, the state's Business and Information Technology/Information Resource Management
40 Transformation Plan is intended to address most of those problems directly, and the plan also
41 emphasizes open government; now, therefore, be it

42
43 *Resolved*, That the Democratic Party of Hawai'i supports improved transparency and accountability
44 through:

45 (1) An integrated Information Technology/Information Resource Management Transformation Plan having
46 enterprise architecture, standards, policies, and portfolio management that allows full visibility and control
47 of enterprise investments; and

48
49 (2) Open government environment through public online access to government data; and be it

50
51 *Ordered*, That copies of the resolution be transmitted to the Democratic members of the Hawai'i State
52 Legislature and the Governor of the State of Hawai'i and Cabinet members.

1 **GOV 2014-06 Ensure Public Tax Dollars Are Not Used For Private School Vouchers**

2
3 Whereas, the Democratic Party of Hawai'i supports a quality education for every child by providing
4 funding needed for all students to achieve educational excellence; and such an education requires
5 adequate and equitable funding from public tax sources for schools to obtain the resources (e.g.,
6 personnel, programs, materials, buildings, and technology) to meet the needs of all students; and

7
8 Whereas, the Democratic Party of Hawai'i recognizes that the concept of voucher plans, tuition tax
9 credits, or other funding/ financial arrangements that use tax monies to subsidize sectarian and
10 nonsectarian pre-K through 12 private school education can undermine public education; reduce the
11 support needed to adequately fund public education; cause racial, economic, and social segregation of
12 students; and threaten the constitutional separation of church and state that has been a cornerstone of
13 American democracy; and

14
15 Whereas, the Democratic Party of Hawai'i agrees with the concept that public monies should not be
16 provided for students to attend sectarian and non sectarian pre-K through 12 schools or other institutions
17 in order to obtain educational services; in addition, we believe that any private school or agency that
18 receives public funding through voucher plans, tax credits, or other funding/financial arrangements must
19 be subject to full accountability through measures and regulations as required for equivalent public
20 schools; now, therefore, be it

21
22 *Resolved*, That the Democratic Party of Hawai'i calls upon the Hawai'i State Governor, Hawai'i State
23 Senate President and Hawai'i State Speaker of the House to ensure public tax dollars are not used for
24 private sectarian and nonsectarian schools or organizations; and be it

25
26 Ordered, That copies of this resolution be sent to the Hawai'i State Governor and all Democratic
27 members of the Hawai'i State Legislature.

1 **GOV 2014-07 Promote Family Savings**

2
3 Whereas, Nationally in 2013 Personal Savings as a percent of Disposable Personal Income was less
4 than 5% while mortgage and consumer debt payments were at double that rate; and

5
6 Whereas, More than 40 percent of American households lack the savings to cover basic expenses for 3
7 months if an unexpected event leads to a loss of stable income; and

8
9 Whereas, 71 percent of children born to high-saving but low-income parents move up from the bottom
10 income quintile over one generation compared with only 50 percent of children from similarly low-income
11 households whose parents do not save; and

12
13 Whereas, Several states now allow the provision of “prize-linked savings” (PLS) accounts to promote
14 savings by offering participants chances to win prizes based on deposit activity (the more you save the
15 more chances to win) with the savings never at risk as a safe, regulated financial product of credit unions;
16 and

17
18 Whereas, These PLS accounts have proven to attract people who previously did not save and those with
19 low incomes—helping them build financial safety nets for themselves for future financial needs and as an
20 alternative to costly credit; and

21
22 Whereas, Senators Sherrod Brown (D-Ohio) and Jerry Moran (R-Kansas) have introduced the “American
23 Savings Promotion Act” to extend the ability of banks and savings and loan institutions to offer these
24 products nationally (in addition to credit unions under state regulation); and

25
26 Whereas, The Democratic Party of Hawai‘i has supported the efforts of our people to improve their
27 standards of living and hopes and dreams for their children; now, therefore, be it

28
29 *Resolved*, That the Democratic Party of Hawai‘i urges the Hawai‘i State Legislature to introduce and pass
30 legislation to allow credit unions in Hawai‘i to offer prize-linked savings accounts; and be it

31
32 *Resolved*, That the Democratic Party of Hawai‘i urges the Hawai‘i Congressional delegation to support
33 the American Savings Promotion Act; and be it

34
35 *Ordered*, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the Governor and Lieutenant Governor of
36 Hawai‘i, to all Democratic members of the Hawai‘i State Legislature, and to the members of the Hawai‘i
37 Congressional delegation.

1 GOV 2014-08 **Hawai'i Safe and Responsible Drivers**

2
3 Whereas, Relevant state statutes prevent some Hawai'i residents from applying for a driver's license; and

4
5 Whereas, Said residents need to drive to take their children to school and to the doctor, to do the family
6 shopping, to commute to work and attend to other daily activities; and

7
8 Whereas, Having unlicensed drivers on our roads puts all Hawai'i residents and visitors at risk, making
9 our roads less safe; and

10
11 Whereas, Access to drivers' licenses will ensure that more drivers on Hawai'i roads obtain proper driver
12 education, pass driving tests and vision exams, are able to purchase auto insurance, and be entered into
13 the state DMV database; and

14
15 Whereas, Unlicensed, uninsured drivers cause damage claims that other policy holders must cover, more
16 licensed drivers with insurance will bring the cost of covering uninsured motorists down and reduce
17 insurance rates; and

18
19 Whereas, Access to driver's licenses will encourage drivers to cooperate with law enforcement officials by
20 reporting accidents or helping to solve crimes, thereby making our roads and communities safer, and the
21 work of law enforcement officers easier; and

22
23 Whereas, Licenses will assist first responders and health care providers in determining the identity of the
24 person they are assisting; and

25
26 Whereas, Nationwide, state legislatures are creating and moving legislation to ensure roadway safety for
27 all – eleven states plus Puerto Rico and the District of Columbia have enacted laws to provide access to
28 drivers' licenses, regardless of immigration status; and

29
30 Whereas, Better access to drivers' licenses will increase revenue into the state and boost sales of
31 automobiles, auto insurance, fuel and car service; now, therefore, be it

32
33 *Resolved*, That the Democratic Party of Hawai'i supports legislation which provides that the examiner of
34 drivers may issue a driver's license to a person who is unable to submit proof that the applicant's
35 presence in the United States is authorized under federal law; provided that the applicant meets all other
36 qualifications of licensure and provides satisfactory proof of the person's identity and Hawai'i residency;
37 and be it

38
39 *Ordered*, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the Governor of the State of Hawai'i and to the
40 Democratic members of the Hawai'i State Legislature.

1 **GOV 2014-09 Funding American Governments to Meet Government Responsibilities**

2
3 Whereas, During the first two years of economic recovery following the Bush Depression, the mean net
4 worth of households in the upper 7% of wealth distribution rose by an estimated 28%, while the mean net
5 worth of households in the lower 93% dropped by 4%; and

6 Whereas, The mean wealth of the 8 million households in the top 7% rose by almost \$600,000 to over
7 \$3.1 Million, while the mean wealth of the 111 million households of the "rest of us" fell by over \$6,000 to
8 a mere \$133,817; and

9 Whereas, The disparity between the Haves and the Have Nots in America, which began during the
10 Reagan Presidency, is about to surpass the inequality of the "Gilded Age"; and

11 Whereas, Between 2009 and 2012, 95% of all new income generated in the USA went to the top 1%; and

12 Whereas, The top 1% of America now owns 38% of America while the bottom 60% owns only 2.3%; and

13 Whereas, American CEOs make 354 times the average worker wage; while German CEOs make 147
14 times and Japanese CEOs make only 67 times the average worker wage; and

15 Whereas, The Wal-Mart heirs (5 people) have more wealth than the bottom 40 percent of Americans; and

16 Whereas, Taxpayers spend about \$7 billion per year for food stamps and other welfare benefits for
17 workers who are employed by fast-food corporations which do not pay a living wage -- resulting in a direct
18 subsidy to those corporations; and

19 Whereas, There are more Americans living in poverty now than at any time in the history of our nation;
20 and

21 Whereas, To Whom much is given, much shall be required; now therefore, be it

22 *Resolved*, That the Democratic Party of Hawai'i believes that all Americans and American corporations
23 have an inalterable responsibility to America and all other American citizens to ensure life, liberty, and the
24 pursuit of happiness; and be it

25 *Resolved*, That the Democratic Party of Hawai'i supports restructuring federal and state income-tax laws
26 to ensure extremely wealthy Americans and corporations meet their responsibilities to America and all
27 American citizens; and be it

28 *Resolved*, That the Democratic Party of Hawai'i supports elimination of the wage cap on the Federal
29 Insurance Contributions Act (FICA) taxes to guarantee the viability of Social Security thus ensuring the
30 nation meets its responsibilities to American citizens; and be it

31 *Ordered*, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the Democratic members of the Hawai'i State
32 Legislature and of the Hawai'i State Congressional delegation.

1 **GOV 2014-10 Urge the State Legislature to Fund General Obligation Bonds for a Hawai'i Gulf War**
2 **Memorial**

3
4 Whereas, The freedom and security that Unites States citizens enjoy today are direct results of the
5 sacrifices and continued vigilance of the Unites States Armed Forces over the course of our nation's
6 history; and

7
8 Whereas, The members of the United States Armed Forces have engaged in numerous conflicts
9 worldwide for over two centuries, more recent combat missions have included the Persian Gulf War (1990
10 -1991) known as Operation Desert Storm; the conflict in Iraq (1991 – 2003) known first by Operation Iraqi
11 Freedom and followed by Operation New Dawn; and the ongoing effort of Operation Enduring Freedom,
12 more commonly known as the "War in Afghanistan"; and

13
14 Whereas, The members of the Unites States Armed Forces have also served a pivotal role in the Global
15 War on Terrorism, Homeland Defense, and Operation Noble Eagle and continue to protect our borders by
16 land, sea, and air; and

17
18 Whereas, The recognition of the sacrifices of members of the Unites States Armed Forces who served in
19 the various conflicts in which the United States was involved, many of whom paid the ultimate sacrifice,
20 can be found throughout the State, including the USS Arizona Memorial, the National Memorial Cemetery
21 of the Pacific at Punchbowl, the Korean and Vietnam War Memorials on the grounds of the State Capitol;
22 and

23
24 Whereas, It is fitting for the State to give tangible and visible recognition for the sacrifices and
25 contributions of veterans from Hawai'i who served in the Persian Gulf War, Operation Desert Storm,
26 Operation Iraqi Freedom, Operation Enduring Freedom, Operation New Dawn, the Global War on
27 Terrorism, Homeland Defense, and Operation Noble Eagle and who have protected our borders by land,
28 sea, and air; and

29
30 Whereas, The Legislature passed Senate Bill No. 551, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, C.D. 1, enacted as Act 139,
31 Session Laws of Hawai'i 2013, which required the Office of Veterans Services, with the assistance of the
32 Department of Accounting and General Services, the Department of Defense, and the State Historic
33 Preservation Division, to develop a plan to establish a memorial honoring the veterans of the above
34 named campaigns; and

35
36 Whereas, The Office of Veterans Services had a task force that, based upon its findings and research,
37 determined the ideal spot for the memorial would be on the grounds of the Hawai'i State Veterans
38 Cemetery in Kaneohe on the island of Oahu with replicas of the memorial be located be located at state
39 veterans' cemeteries statewide; now, therefore; be it

40
41 *Resolved*, That the Democratic Party of Hawai'i urges the State Legislature to authorize the State of
42 Hawai'i Director of Finance to issue general obligation bonds for the purpose of planning, design, and
43 construction of the Hawai'i Gulf War Memorial on the grounds of the Hawai'i State Veterans' Cemeteries
44 statewide; and be it

45
46 *Resolved*, That the Democratic Party of Hawai'i requests that the sum appropriated be expended by the
47 Office of Veterans' Services, in consultation with the Department of Accounting and General Services;
48 and be it

49
50 *Ordered*, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the Governor and Lieutenant Governor of the
51 State of Hawai'i, the Democratic State Legislators, the Officer of Veterans Services, State Department of
52 Defense, Department of Budget and Finance, and the Department of Accounting and General Services.

1 **GOV 2014-11 Urge the State Legislature to Fund General Obligation Bonds for a Veterans' Long-**
2 **Term Care Facility**

3
4 Whereas, The number of aging baby-boomers continues to increase, not only in the State of Hawai'i , but
5 across the nation; and

6
7 Whereas, Increased advancements in medical science and technology have also resulted in citizens in
8 our communities living longer; and

9
10 Whereas, The number of residents needing long-term care has grown exponentially and includes an
11 ever-growing veteran population with a resulting significant shortage of long-term care facilities statewide;
12 and

13
14 Whereas, Through the efforts of congressional delegation, particularly the late Senator Daniel K. Inouye,
15 steps were initiated to address some of these long-term care needs, particularly for those who provided
16 military service to our country, resulting in the State building the first veterans' ninety-five-bed capacity
17 nursing care facility, the Yukio Okutsu Home in Hilo; and

18
19 Whereas, There are 120,000 veterans in Hawai'i, 44,000 of whom are over the age of 65, and a shortfall
20 of 173 long-term care beds; and

21
22 Whereas, The Department of Veterans Affairs distributes approximately \$85,000,000 annually to assist
23 states with providing state veterans' homes; and

24
25 Whereas, With the increasingly aging veterans population, and the general growth of the population of
26 veterans in Hawai'i due to the drawdown of troops, first in Iraq and now in Afghanistan, the State can
27 make a strong case to receive federal funds to build an additional veterans' home based on need; and

28
29 Whereas, The building of a state veterans' home also has economic and educational benefits to the
30 State, as shown at the Yukio Okutsu state veterans' home; now, therefore; be it

31
32 *Resolved*, That the Democratic Party of Hawai'i urges that State Legislature authorize the issuance of
33 general obligation bonds for the construction of a 173 bed veteran long-term care facility; provided that no
34 bond issuance shall be made unless the federal government appropriates the designated federal match
35 of the funds needed to complete the facility; and be it

36
37 *Ordered*, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the Department of Veterans Services, Governor
38 and Lieutenant Governor of the State of Hawai'i, the Democratic State Legislators, and the Office of
39 Veterans Services.

1 **GOV 2014-12 Urge the State Legislature to Establish a Veterans' Coordinator Position Within the**
2 **Office of Veterans Services to Assist All Veterans, With a Primary Focus on Female Veterans**
3

4 Whereas, Women have served honorably and courageously in all of America's wars and conflicts since
5 the American Revolution with nearly 15 percent of the United States Armed Forces consisting of women;
6 and
7

8 Whereas, The population of female veterans is increasing exponentially and is projected to exceed ten
9 per cent of the total veteran population by the year 2020, with more than 11,000 female veterans residing
10 in Hawai'i alone; and
11

12 Whereas, The circumstances and challenges faced by female veterans, as well as women on active duty,
13 are often different from those of their male counterparts. Despite this, veterans' benefits have traditionally
14 been designed to address the needs of male veterans; and
15

16 Whereas, The Hawai'i women military veterans task force, which was established in response to the
17 2012 Senate Resolution No. 6, S.D.1, 2012 concluded that military women face multiple interrelated
18 complex problems, including a high rate of military sexual trauma, and for female veterans, the related
19 reentry issues of adequate health care, high rates of post-traumatic stress disorder, homelessness, and
20 joblessness; and
21

22 Whereas, The task force recommended to help address the various problems and needs of veterans is to
23 establish and fully fund a Veterans Coordinator position within the Office of Veterans Services to assist all
24 veterans, with a primary focus on female veterans; now, therefore; be it
25

26 *Resolved*, That the Democratic Party of Hawai'i urges the state legislature to appropriate the funds
27 necessary to establish a new full-time, permanent Veterans Coordinator position in the Office of Veterans
28 Services, whose primary focus is female veterans, by fiscal year 2016; and be it
29

30 *Ordered*, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the Hawai'i State Governor and Lieutenant
31 Governor, all Democratic State legislators, and the Office of Veterans Services.

1 **GOV 2014-13 Urging the Party and Legislators to Work Together to Pass Public Financing of**
2 **Elections**

3
4 Whereas, The Hawai'i Democrats support the public financing of elections; and

5
6 Whereas, The effort to pass "Voter Owned Elections" bills has gone on for many years; and

7
8 Whereas, The Hawai'i State Legislature in 2008 passed a bill for a pilot program of public financing of
9 County Council elections in Hawai'i County; and

10
11 Whereas, The experience in Hawai'i County has demonstrated public financing can provide a helpful
12 alternative for candidates to run viable campaigns, without having to spend time soliciting contributions
13 from special interests; and

14
15 Whereas, The option to use public funding for elections has benefited both incumbents and challengers;
16 and

17
18 Whereas, The 2013 and 2014 Hawai'i Legislative sessions were both close to passing a bill which would
19 have provided the option of public financing for candidates to the State House, but failed to reach
20 agreement on a final draft; now, therefore, be it

21
22 *Resolved*, That the Democratic Party of Hawai'i strongly urges Democratic legislators to work during the
23 interim to reach an agreement on passing legislation to provide the public financing option for candidates
24 to the state House as an expansion of the program; and be it

25
26 *Resolved*, That the Democratic Party of Hawai'i strongly urges Democratic members of the State
27 Legislators to make passage of public financing of elections a priority for the 2015 legislative session; and
28 be it

29
30 *Ordered*, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to all Democratic members of the Hawai'i State
31 Legislature.