

GOV 2016-01 End Statute of Limitations for Sexual Assaults

Whereas, The State of Hawaii's statute limits the time frame for survivors of sexual assault to file charges against sexual predators that had lapsed prior to the enactment of Senate Bill 2588 (2012), which removed the statute of limitations for survivors of sexual assault to file charges for civil action; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Democratic Party of Hawai'i applauds the Democratic members of the 2012 Hawai'i State Legislature that voted to passing Senate Bill 2588 (2012), which removed the statute of limitations for survivors of sexual assault to file charges for civil action; and be it

Resolved, That the Democratic Party of Hawai'i recognizes that Hawaii's citizens need the protection of unfettered access to litigation of their sexual predators regardless of age or gender; and be it

Resolved, That the Democratic Party of Hawai'i recognizes that sexual assault can cause lifelong trauma to the mental, physical, emotional, and/or financial well-being of survivors and their families, due to the fact that this traumatic assault it may take the survivor years to be able to come forward to confront the assault and their attacker; and be it

Resolved, That the Democratic Party of Hawai'i calls upon State of Hawai'i legislators that are members of the of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i to end the statute of limitations for sexual assaults for those sexual assaults that happened prior to the enactment of Senate Bill 2588 (2012); and be it

Ordered, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the Governor of the State of Hawai'i, Lieutenant Governor of the State of Hawai'i and all members of the Hawai'i State Legislature who are members of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i.

GOV 2016-02 Urging Appointment of Out LGBT Judges

Whereas, According to Gallup, 5.1% of adults in Hawai'i self-identify as Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual or Transgender (LGBT), which is the highest percentage of any U.S. state, second only to Washington D.C.; and

Whereas, There are eighty or more full-time trial and appellate court judges in the Hawai'i State court system, very few of whom identify as LGBT; and

Whereas, The LGBT community appears to be underrepresented on the Hawai'i bench; and

Whereas, the Democratic Party of Hawai'i supports full equality for the LGBT community; and

Whereas, the Democratic Party of Hawai'i recognizes the importance of having a judicial system that fairly represents the diversity of Hawaii's people; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Democratic Party of Hawai'i urge the Governor of the State of Hawai'i, the Chief Justice of the Hawai'i Supreme Court, members of the Hawai'i Senate, and the Judicial Selection Commission to nominate and appoint qualified attorneys that openly identify as LGBT to fill judicial vacancies; and be it further

Resolved, That the Democratic Party of Hawai'i urge the Governor of the State of Hawai'i, the Speaker of the Hawai'i House of Representatives, the President of the Hawai'i Senate, and the Chief Justice of the Hawai'i State Supreme Court to consider the need for greater LGBT representation on the bench when appointing members of the Judicial Selection Commission; and be it

Ordered, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the Governor of the State of Hawai'i, the Lieutenant Governor of the State Hawai'i, the Chief Justice of the Hawai'i State Supreme Court, Democratic members of the Legislature, and the Judicial Selection Commission.

GOV 2016-03 **Ensuring Full Participation by Democrats in the Presidential Preference Poll**

Whereas, The Democratic Party of Hawai'i advocates for full participation of all of our members in our Presidential Preference Poll, where the members of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i vote to help select the Democrat who will become the Democratic National Committee's nominee for President of the United States of America; therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Democratic Party of Hawai'i recognizes the Presidential Preference Polls in 2008, 2012 and in 2016 did not allow for participation of our members who were not available to show up in person to vote at the Precinct Meetings; and be it

Resolved, That the Democratic Party of Hawai'i recognizes there could and should have been better preparation for the Presidential Preference Poll in 2008 and in 2016; and be it

Resolved, That the Democratic Party of Hawai'i calls upon the State Central Committee to establish a Special Committee "Presidential Preference Poll Change Committee" to study the issue and issue a report on how to change the Presidential Preference Poll to ensure all Democratic Party of Hawai'i members are able to participate, with the following members: State Party Chair (or their designee); one of the State Central Committee Rules Co-Chairs; one of the State Central Committee Affirmative Action co-chairs; all the Democratic Party County Chairs – Kaua'i, O'ahu, Maui and Hawai'i (or their designees); all Caucus Chairs - Education, Environmental, Hawaiian Affairs, Kupuna, LGBT, Labor, and Women's - (or their designees); Hawaii Young Democrats Chair (or their designee); and the 2016 Delegate Selection Plan Chair; and be it

Resolved, That the Democratic Party of Hawai'i requires the Presidential Preference Poll Change Committee to report back no later than ninety (90) days prior to the convening of the 2018 Democratic Party of Hawai'i State Convention what scenarios were considered and their recommendation for proceeding with the 2020 Presidential Preference Poll to ensure every member that wishes to participate in the Presidential Preference Poll can do so; and be it

Resolved, That the Democratic Party of Hawai'i requires the following to be included in the Presidential Preference Poll Change Committee report: list of available systems to replace and/or ways to change the current Presidential Preference Poll system; estimated cost to implement each system and/or changes; recommended changes, if any, to the Party's Constitution and Bylaws to implement the revised system; and submit a draft proposal of the 2020 Delegate Selection Plan; and finally be it

Ordered, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the 2016-2018 State Party Chair, 2016-2018 State Central Committee Rules Co-Chairs; 2016-2018 Affirmative Action co-chairs; chairs of the Democratic Party County Chairs – Kaua'i, O'ahu, Maui and Hawai'i, chairs of all established Caucuses of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i – Education, Environmental, Hawaiian Affairs, Kupuna, LGBT, Labor, and Women's, chair of the Young Democrats, every member of the 2016 – 2018 Democratic Party of Hawai'i's State Central Committee members and the 2016 Delegate Selection Plan Chair

GOV 2016-04 Relating to the Treatment of Animals

Whereas, Animals are living beings that deserve to be protected from abuse and mistreatment under the law; and

Whereas, Current laws have not adequately protected animals from cruelty and inhumane treatment as evidenced by the large population of unclaimed stray animals at shelters around the state and the discovery of multiple “puppy mills”; and

Whereas, It is imperative that negligent or abusive owners be brought to justice for causing the needless suffering of innocent animals; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Democratic Party of Hawai'i supports the regulation and inspection of animal breeders supplying animals to commercial retailers in order to reduce the incidence of breeders raising animals in poor living conditions; and be it further

Resolved, That the Democratic Party of Hawai'i supports serious efforts for the rehabilitation of perpetrators of animal cruelty who may otherwise continue to abuse animals or even other people if left uncorrected.

GOV 2016-05 **Enact a Safe Passing Zone Law for Overtaking Bicycles**

Whereas, 40% of all cyclist fatalities are caused by being struck from behind (National Highway Traffic Safety Administration); and

Whereas, 14 cyclists have been killed on Hawaii's roads in the last 5 years (NHTSA), three on the Island of Hawai'i; and

Whereas, 32 states and DC have a safe passing law (National Conference of State Legislature); and

Whereas, 12% of cyclists "felt threatened for personal safety" the last time they rode, and someone "drove too close to me" was the primary reason (NHTSA); and

Whereas, The State of Hawai'i as well as the County of Hawai'i are sought after destinations for cyclists and triathletes, providing revenue to the economy; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Democratic Party of Hawai'i supports legislation amending HRS Section 291c-43 to provide that the minimum safe distance for a motor vehicle to overtake a bicycle is three feet; and be it

Ordered, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the Governor, Lt. Governor of the State of Hawai'i, and all State Legislators who are members of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i.