



**Democratic Party of Hawaii
2018 State Convention
Resolutions Committee Report**

Democratic Party of Hawai‘i

Report of the 2018 Convention Resolutions Committee

To: Tim Vandever, Chair
Democratic Party of Hawai‘i

The Convention Resolutions Committee considered approximately 70 resolutions during the period from May 9 to May 18, 2018, pursuant to the Standing Rules of the 2018 Convention. (There were some overlapping resolutions, some lacked proper paperwork, some were merged etc., so 70 is an approximation.) We met on Saturday, May 12, 2018; Tuesday, May 15, 2018; Thursday, May 17, 2018; and Friday, May 18, 2018, for a total of more than 12 formal meeting hours, plus substantial additional time in email and telephone communications.

We reported out favorably 50 resolutions and made negative recommendations on 12 resolutions. The Resolutions favorably recommended for adoption are listed below.

I wish to thank the following 20 members of the Convention Resolutions Committee who, in addition to me, actively participated – some more than others - in helping to edit and evaluate the resolutions for review by the convention:

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Among these members, I wish to give special thanks to John M. Zwiebel for organizing and keeping track of the Resolutions throughout the process. His assistance has been invaluable.

Alan B. Burdick, co-chair

May 19, 2018

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BUS:2018-01 Fight for \$15 as a Pathway to a Living Wage

Whereas, The Democratic Party of Hawaii's 2016 Platform supports a living wage and reads as follows: "As the party of working men and women in Hawai'i, we work to protect labor rights and social security; to ensure fair labor practices, a living wage for all workers, equal pay for equal work and fair taxation; we encourage legislation to raise the minimum wage and paid family and sick leave..."; and

Whereas, The Democratic Party of Hawai'i passed Resolution LAB 2014-01 titled "Automatic Adjustments of Minimum Wage to Keep Its Value Despite Inflation: which encouraged the Hawai'i State Legislature in part to "pass legislation to implement an annual adjustment of the minimum wage to preserve its value as the Cost of Living changes"; and

Whereas, Even with full employment, however, we need a strong minimum wage to sustain workers' bargaining power, since the minimum wage sets a limit on how much wages can fall when a worker loses or quits a job. The erosion of the minimum wage is another important way the rules of the labor market have been rewritten at the expense of working people. From 1946 to 1979, Congress periodically expanded coverage of the federal minimum wage and increased its value to track both inflation and wage growth. As a result, not only did wages rise in line with productivity, but poverty for African American families also fell dramatically—from 65.6% in 1965 to 39.6% in 1969. Since 1980, by contrast, policy makers have allowed inflation to eat away at the value of the minimum wage; and

Whereas, The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development released a study saying that as of 2018, low income for a single person in Honolulu is someone making up to \$65,350, just a year ago, it was \$58,600, a \$7,000 increase from 2017, and the study also reported a person living on O'ahu and making \$40,850 is now "very low income" and for a family of four, it's \$58,300; and

Whereas, The minimum wage in the state of Hawai'i was raised to \$10.10 on January 1, 2018 and a single person working two (2) full-time minimum wage jobs would be "very low income" as they would only make \$42,016 a year, before taxes; now, therefore be it

Resolved, The Democratic Party of Hawai'i encourages the Hawai'i State Legislature to pass legislation to increase the minimum wage to \$15.00 an hour by 2021; and be it

Resolved, That resolution LAB 2014-01 titled 'Automatic Adjustments of Minimum Wage to Keep Its Value Despite Inflation' last resolved clause be amended to read "*Resolved*, Such legislation should be in place to take effect in 2022, provided the minimum wage is raised to \$15.00 by 2021"; and be it

Resolved, That the Democratic Party of Hawai'i recognizes that a minimum wage of \$15.00 is not a living wage but it is a start; and be it

Ordered, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to Democratic members of the Hawai'i State Legislature, the Governor of the State of Hawai'i, the Lt. Governor of the State of Hawai'i, and the members of Hawaii's Congressional Delegation

BUS:2018-02 Urging the establishment of a minimum living wage that increases along with the Consumer Price Index

Whereas, A living wage is defined as the minimum income required for full-time workers to meet their basic needs including shelter, clothes and food; and

Whereas, In the world's wealthiest country, hundreds of thousands of full-time workers continue to earn poverty-level wages, putting their children and themselves at a lifestyle risk for health and education concerns, including, but not limited to, poor nutrition, unsafe or inadequate housing, lack of access to medical aid when needed; and

Whereas, Studies show that an increase in the minimum wage corresponds with an increase in jobs and has little or no negative effect on the employment of minimum wage workers, and that an increase in the minimum wage would generate billions of dollars in new consumer spending; and

Whereas, Several other states and cities with lower costs of living have already passed legislation moving the minimum wage to \$15 per hour and then adjusting for inflation, like California, New York, Seattle and Minneapolis; and

Whereas, The platform of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i supports "strong labor practices, good jobs and a living wage," as well as "measures to drastically reduce income and wealth inequality" and "a comprehensive approach to ending poverty"; therefore be it

Resolved, That the Democratic Party of Hawai'i urges the Hawai'i State Legislature to pass legislation increasing the state minimum wage to at least a level of self sufficiency, where full-time employment generates a living wage, and supporting annual increases to the state minimum wage equal to the percentage increase of the Consumer Price Index; and be it

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

EDU:2018-01 Urging the Democratic Party of Hawai'i to support increased funding for public education

Whereas, The Hawai'i Department of Education school district is the only single statewide school district in the United States; and

Whereas, Chronic underfunding of public schools undermines the state's goal of providing a quality education to all of Hawai'i's children; and

Whereas, According to a Ballotpedia analysis of the largest school districts in the United States, Hawai'i has the lowest per-pupil expenditures adjusted for cost of living; and

Whereas, Hawai'i's major private schools spend approximately \$15,173 per student, not including endowments, and approximately \$19,173 per student when Catholic schools, subsidized by the Roman Catholic Diocese, are not included; and

Whereas, The Hawai'i Department of Education school district spends just \$12,855 per student for general and special education students and approximately half as much as private schools when only general education students are considered; and

Whereas, A WalletHub.com study ranked Hawai'i 51st out of 50 states and the District of Columbia in starting and median teacher salaries adjusted for cost of living; and

Whereas, Hawai'i has one of the highest teacher turnover rates in the nation, with approximately 50 percent of the state's newly hired teachers leaving the profession within 5 years of being hired; and

Whereas, Hawai'i is experiencing a teacher shortage crisis, with 1,011 teacher vacancies reported for the 2017–2018 school year; and

Whereas, Research shows that raising teacher pay reduces teacher turnover and elevates student achievement; and

Whereas, Hawai'i's public schools face additional challenges, including inflated class sizes, a lack of arts and career and technical education courses, inadequate resources for special education and English language learner programs, and a shortage of public preschools; and

Whereas, Increasing funding for public education will improve teacher recruitment and retention, lower class sizes, expand academic curricula and course offerings, and provide adequate resources and staffing for special needs students; therefore be it

Resolved, That the Democratic Party of Hawai'i urges the Hawai'i State Legislature to increase public education funding, especially for the recruitment and retention of teachers, lower class sizes, special education programming, public preschools, career and technical education, and instruction in art, music, Hawaiian studies, and Hawaiian language; and be it

Ordered, That copies of this resolution be delivered to the Governor of the State of Hawai'i, Lt. Governor of the State of Hawai'i, President the Hawai'i State Senate, Speaker of the Hawai'i State House of Representatives, State Senators and State Representatives who are members of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i, Chairperson of the Hawai'i State Board of Education, and Hawai'i State Superintendent of Education.

EDU:2018-02 Urging the Hawai'i State Legislature to Pass a Constitutional Amendment Allowing the People of Hawai'i to Elect Members of the Board of Education

Whereas, The Democratic Party of Hawai'i supports the principles of democratic participation; and

Whereas, Public education is one of the bedrocks of an engaged citizenry; and

Whereas, In 2010, Hawai'i voters approved a ballot initiative allowing the governor to appoint all members of the Board of Education; and

Whereas, Hawai'i's public school system has not significantly improved since the establishment of an appointed Board of Education; and

Whereas, The Hawai'i Department of Education spends just \$12,855 per student for general and special education students, which is approximately half as much as major private schools in the state; and

Whereas, A WalletHub.com study ranked Hawai'i 51st out of 50 states and the District of Columbia in starting and median teacher salaries adjusted for cost of living; and

Whereas, Hawai'i has one of the highest teacher turnover rates in the nation, with roughly 50 percent of the State's newly hired teachers leaving the profession within five years of being hired; and

Whereas, Only 59 percent of students with disabilities graduated on time in the 2016–2017 school year; and

Whereas, Only 38 percent of English language learner students were on track to meet English language proficiency in 2016-2017; and

Whereas, Only 14 percent of Native Hawaiian students statewide complete postsecondary education or training, according to data compiled by Kamehameha Schools; and

Whereas, Hawai'i's public schools continue to suffer from an overemphasis on standardized testing, which has negatively impacted public schools, teachers and students by narrowing academic curricula, reducing arts and cultural education, causing teachers to teach to the test, decreasing whole child and vocational programming, and creating a climate of compliance and fear among students, teachers and administrators; and

Whereas, Allowing voters to elect members of the Board of Education would increase accountability of the Board to multiple stakeholders and members of the public, including teachers, parents, students and community organizations; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Democratic Party of Hawai'i urges the Hawai'i State Legislature to provide for a constitutional amendment to be adopted by the people of Hawai'i to elect members of the Board of Education; and be it

Ordered, That copies of this resolution be delivered to the Governor of the State of Hawai'i, Lt. Governor of the State of Hawai'i, President the Hawai'i State Senate, Speaker of the Hawai'i State House of Representatives, State Senators and State Representatives who are members of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i, the Chairperson of the Hawai'i State Board of Education, and the Hawai'i State Superintendent of Education.

ENV:2018-01 Urging the establishment of a carbon tax that reflects the role of fossil fuel consumption on global climate change

Whereas, There is an indisputable scientific consensus that man-made climate change constitutes a significant threat to our security and survival; and

Whereas, The effects of climate change are already being realized in more frequent and severe extreme weather events, with damage to social infrastructure and adverse health effects; and

Whereas, Consumption of fossil fuel resources is the primary cause of the greenhouse gases that constitute man-made climate change; and

Whereas, The current price of fossil fuels and greenhouse gases is far below their cost to society; and

Whereas, It is the overwhelming consensus of economists that a tax on carbon, charged against economic inputs in proportion to their contribution to the production of greenhouse gases, is the single most effective and efficient policy to stem and reverse the adverse effects of climate change; and

Whereas, A carbon tax, as a market-driven policy, will enhance personal choice and encourage innovation in the economy; and

Whereas, The future of our children and their children depends upon concerted action to mitigate the effects of climate change; therefore be it

Resolved, That the Democratic Party of Hawai`i urges the Hawai`i State Legislature to pass legislation adopting a state revenue-neutral tax on carbon, with 100 percent of the proceeds from the tax to be returned as dividends to Hawai`i households on a per capita basis; and be it

Ordered, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the Governor of Hawai`i, the Lt. Governor of Hawai`i and the members of the Hawai`i State Legislature.

ENV:2018-02 Urging Cesspool Abatement Measures

Whereas, Thousands of cesspools throughout the islands are threatening drinking water supplies, coral reefs and the health of the people who swim, surf, and consume the marine life in popular places; and

Whereas, This is a serious public safety issue, environmental problem and economic danger that is exacerbated by the effects of climate change; and

Whereas, The impact to coral reefs affects the state's economy, shoreline protection, recreation and habitat for important marine life; and

Whereas, Coral reefs around the state, including Kahalu'u Lagoon and Diamond Head on O'ahu, are threatened as cesspools overload nearby waters with nutrients - nitrogen and phosphorous - that cause algae to smother new growth; and

Whereas, The State Department of Health estimates \$1.75 billion is needed to replace all 88,000 cesspools around Hawai'i, with upgrades required urgently for about half of them; and

Whereas, Approximately 53 million gallons of raw sewage are being discharged each day into cesspools which are basically holes in the ground for wastewater; and

Whereas, One of highest priority area is in upcountry Maui, where 7,400 cesspools have caused nitrate levels in well water to spike dangerously close to safe-drinking limits; and

Whereas, The other area of the highest priority is in Kahalu'u, on the east side of O'ahu, where there have been incidents of skin infections consistent with sewage-contaminated surface water; and

Whereas, The risk of disease is expected to increase as cesspools deteriorate and become more prone to flooding as sea level rises and storms intensify as a result of Climate Change; and

Whereas, Hawai'i depends on wells for more than 90 percent of its drinking water and the vast majority of homes are near the ocean subject to sea level and water table rise causing an increase in wastewater contamination on healthy sources; and

Whereas, Both cesspools and septic tank upgrades still allow for effluent to leach into the ground into groundwater and into the ocean; and

Whereas, Connecting to local wastewater systems is best; and

Whereas, All cesspools are banned by 2050 by Act 27 and SB2647(2017); now, therefore be it

Resolved, That the Democratic Party of Hawai'i urges the Hawai'i State Legislature to seek cesspools abatement measures such as connecting to the local wastewater systems to totally eliminate the problem of leaching, coral damage, and wastewater contamination; and be it

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

ENV:2018-03 Dealing with the Consequences of Climate Change

Whereas, The fifth Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) report issued in 2009 concluded that climate change is happening at a much faster rate with more dire consequences than in previous reports; and

Whereas, The University of Hawai`i, School of Ocean and Earth Science and Technology (SOEST), has issued a report titled "Doubling Of Coastal Erosion Under Rising Sea Level By Mid-Century In Hawai`i" in 2015 that sea-level rise is the primary cause of coastal erosion in Hawai`i; and

Whereas, James Hansen, former NASA scientist and widely recognized climate expert, has written about the unexpected effects of fracking in causing the greatly increased release of Methane into the atmosphere; and

Whereas, Mr. Hansen is predicting sea level will rise "several meters" causing the loss of all Coastal Cities in the next 50 years; and

Whereas, the EPA web site states that Methane has up to 25 times greater impact, pound for pound, than Carbon Dioxide over a 100 year period; and

Whereas, Weather patterns surrounding Hawai`i have resulted in dramatic changes in rainfall and an increase in the strength of storms around Hawai`i; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Democratic Party of Hawai`i urges the Hawai`i State Legislature and the Congress of the United States to take serious and immediate action to mitigate the consequences of Climate Change; and be it

Resolved, That the Democratic Party of Hawai`i ask each member of the legislature without regard to party affiliation and the Governor of the State of Hawai`i to publicly state their position and actions they support to avert this crisis; and be it

Ordered, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the members of the Hawai`i State Legislature and of the Hawai`i State Congressional delegation.

Reference

Sea-level rise drives shoreline retreat in Hawaii

<http://phys.org/news/2013-08-sea-level-shoreline-retreat-hawaii.html>

<http://www.civilbeat.com/articles/2014/05/07/22017-hawaii-should-brace-for-major-environmental-changes-report-says/>

ENV:2018-04 Urging the Democratic Party of Hawai'i to Call for State Legislation to End Commercial Harvesting of Coral Reef Wildlife

Whereas, Hawai'i's coral reefs and the wildlife dependent upon them are severely threatened and being degraded by global climate change, increasing marine pollution, and commercial harvesting of wildlife; and

Whereas, Among these threats is the "aquarium fish trade"; and

Whereas, The incremental approaches taken thus far, including recent Hawai'i state legislative attempts at reform have failed and Hawai'i State Supreme Court rulings have highlighted yet failed to halt the institutional inertia continuing to defend and protect this wrongful business; and

Whereas, Coral reefs and the wildlife dependent upon them are a Public Trust resource and in, 1978, the citizens of Hawai'i elevated the Public Trust Doctrine to a constitutional mandate by approving Article XI, Section 1 of the state constitution, "For the benefit of present and future generations, the State and its political subdivisions shall conserve and protect Hawai'i's natural beauty and all natural resources...All public natural resources are held in trust by the State for the benefit of the people"; and

Whereas, In 2000, the Hawai'i State Supreme Court embraced the "precautionary principle" by affirming that "where there are present or potential threats of serious damage [to natural resources], lack of full scientific certainty should not be a basis for postponing effective measures to prevent environmental degradation"; and

Whereas, The taking of reef wildlife purely for commercial purposes cannot be reconciled with the "precautionary principle" nor the "hierarchy of priorities" policy guidelines of the Hawai'i State Department of Land and Natural Resources; and

Whereas, This practice is neither compatible with the local values and lifestyles of Hawai'i's residents, nor does it significantly contribute to the quality of life or economy of Hawai'i. On the contrary, by reducing the abundance of marine life and diminishing the beauty and health of Hawai'i's coral reefs, the aquarium trade degrades the value and limits the myriad benefits provided by these critically important ecosystems. Eighty four percent of registered voters in Hawai'i support the idea of ending the aquarium trade; and

Whereas, This highly destructive and wasteful enterprise can no longer be justified, nor be mitigated by mere regulation; now therefore be it

Resolved, That the Democratic Party of Hawai'i calls for state legislation to end commercial harvesting of coral reef wildlife; and be it

Ordered, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to all members of Hawaii's Congressional Delegation, the Governor of the State of Hawai'i, the Lt. Governor of the State of Hawai'i, all members of the Hawai'i State Legislature who are members of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i, and all the Mayors and members of County Councils who are members of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i.

ENV:2018-05 Urging divestment from companies building fossil fuel infrastructure on indigenous land

Whereas, Fossil fuel pipelines and other infrastructure runs across or beneath freshwater sources that provide drinking water and irrigate agricultural land in communities across the world; and

Whereas, This infrastructure runs through the ancestral lands and waters reserved for traditional and customary practices by Indigenous Peoples, including burial grounds and other sacred sites of cultural, religious and historical significance; and

Whereas, American Indian Treaties are recognized by the U.S. Constitution as “the supreme law of the land,” and require consultation and cooperation by the United States with the American Indian Treaty partner before any federal action is taken that affects Treaty lands, territories, water or other resources; and

Whereas, The American Indian Religious Freedom Act of 1978 affirms the need to “protect and preserve for American Indians their inherent right of freedom to believe, express and exercise the traditional religions,” particularly in American Indian sacred places; and

Whereas, The State of Hawai`i recognizes in its own Constitution that burial grounds and historic graves are “a finite, irreplaceable and nonrenewable cultural resource, and are an intrinsic part of the cultural heritage of Indigenous People;” and

Whereas, Articles 11, 12 and 25 of the United Nations Declaration of the Rights of Indigenous People (UNDRIP), as endorsed by the United States in 2010, affirms that Indigenous People possess the right to maintain and protect their culture, religion, practices, and relationship with their “traditionally owned and otherwise occupied and used lands, territories and waters”; and

Whereas, Article 32 of the UNDRIP further provides that governments shall consult with Indigenous Peoples “in order to obtain their free and informed consent prior to the approval of any project affecting their lands or territories and other resources, particularly in connection with the development, utilization or exploitation of mineral, water or other resources”; and

Whereas, Any spill of fossil fuels into rivers and streams will do irreparable harm to ecosystems, drinking water supplies and Treaty-reserved lands, territories, and other resources including burial grounds, grave sites and other sacred sites of cultural, religious and historical significance; and

Whereas, The Democratic Party of Hawai`i supports the rights of all Indigenous Peoples to self-determination on their ancestral lands; and

Whereas, The Democratic Party of Hawai`i supports the civil and human rights of Indigenous People opposing development of their ancestral lands; and

Whereas, The Democratic Party of Hawai`i supports a committed transition to a fully renewable energy future, while the construction of additional fossil fuel infrastructure will delay that future; therefore be it

Resolved, That the Democratic Party of Hawai`i urges the State of Hawai`i to divest from all companies with business interests tied to the development of fossil fuel infrastructure on indigenous ancestral land and to support the rights and claims of Indigenous People opposing development of their ancestral land; and be it

Ordered, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the Governor of the State of Hawai`i, the Lt. Governor of the State of Hawai`i, the Hawai`i State Legislature, the Hawai`i Congressional Delegation and the municipal governments of all four counties.

ENV:2018-06 Urging a moratorium on the importing of liquefied natural gas and a full ban on its use by 2030

Whereas, Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) is 90 percent methane, a global warming gas 84 times as potent as carbon dioxide; and

Whereas, The destabilizing influence of climate chaos and sea level rise caused by global warming has already begun to manifest itself in Hawai`i in the form of more and stronger hurricanes, beach loss, dying coral reefs, higher average temperatures, decreased trade winds, periods of drought, and heavy rain with flooding; and

Whereas, The 2017 Sea Level Rise Vulnerability and Adaptation Report from the State of Hawai`i predicts 3.2 feet of sea level rise as early as 2060, causing O`ahu alone to lose 9,400 acres of land and \$12.9 billion in economic capacity, and an additional \$430 million on Hawai`i Island; and

Whereas, 2017's Act 32 organized a "Hawai`i Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Commission," recognizing that the effects of climate chaos require immediate and unprecedented levels of intergovernmental cooperation and commitment to reducing greenhouse gas emissions in accord with the principles of the Paris Agreement, and to a "bold energy agenda" to achieve 100 percent clean energy by 2045; and

Whereas, Projected heights of sea level rise for Honolulu by the year 2030 are predicted to range from .3 to .7 feet, rendering our 100 percent renewable portfolio standard goal of 2045 critically insufficient to address the climate crisis at hand; and

Whereas, The construction of new fossil fuel infrastructure or expanded reliance on fossil fuels by utilities will delay fulfillment of our renewable energy goal and create financial risk to customers through potential stranded assets; and

Whereas, The economic opportunities of a clean energy future far outweigh the opportunities in expanding fossil fuel use; and

Whereas, The importing of LNG involves significant investment, locks the State of Hawai`i into decades of nonrenewable fossil fuel use and displaces investment into long term renewable energy development; and

Whereas, According to a 2016 Hawai`i Gas Company plan, conversion of existing oil-burning power-generating plants to use LNG would cost an estimated \$200 million; and

Whereas, The investment requirements to use LNG could, instead, be used to take great strides in implementing a smart electrical grid and developing solar, wind and other renewable energy sources; and

Whereas, The production of LNG raises significant environmental concerns, especially over the destructive and polluting practice known as hydraulic fracturing (also called "fracking"), and its fossil fuel-intensive storage and transportation to Hawai`i produces significant levels of greenhouse gases; therefore be it

Resolved, That the Democratic Party of Hawai`i urges the Hawai`i State Legislature to pass legislation establishing an immediate moratorium on the importation of LNG to Hawai`i, mandating an immediate stop to all future fossil fuel infrastructure development within the State of Hawai`i, and requiring that the State of Hawai`i meet its 100 percent renewable energy goal by 2030 without the use of LNG through aggressive investment in renewable energy development; and be it

Ordered, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the Governor of the State of Hawai`i, the Lt. Governor of the State of Hawai`i, and all members of the Hawai`i State Legislature.

ENV:2018-07 Develop and Fund a Computer-Model to Predict Shoreline Impacts of Global Warming and Sea-level Rise

Whereas, The next generation of computer modeling is a necessary adjunct to the prediction of cause and effect on shoreline walls and other shoreline barrier construction on Hawai'i's shoreline and for the protection of valuable shoreline property; and

Whereas, The Department of Land and Natural Resources ("DLNR"), Office of Conservation and Coastal Lands (OCCL) is responsible for management of coastal resources including beaches, dunes, and rocky shorelines seaward of county jurisdictions and/or within the State Conservation District; and

Whereas, The Coastal Lands Program ("CLP Program") is responsible for coordinating coastal management at DLNR-OCCL and the complementary long-term goals of conserving coastal resources and mitigating risks from natural and human-induced hazards for coastal communities, such as global warming and sea-level rise; and

Whereas, The Program develops and implements innovative shoreline management techniques, including alternatives for coastal erosion management through a long-standing cooperative relationship with the University of Hawaii Sea Grant College Program; and

Whereas, The Program also supports the State of Hawai'i Land Division with the Shoreline Certification Program, which plays a major role in addressing State shoreline issues regarding both permitting and enforcement; and

Whereas, The "certified shoreline" is defined as "the upper reaches of the wash of the waves, other than storm or seismic waves, at high tide during the season of the year in which the highest wash of the waves occur, usually evidenced by the edge of vegetation growth, or the upper limit of debris left by the wash of the waves" (HAR §13-222).

Whereas, The purpose of the certified shoreline is to provide the baseline for measuring shoreline setbacks and a computer-model will enable the prediction of future changes of the certified shoreline, which establishes the jurisdictional boundary between the State Conservation District (CD) and the County Special Management Area (SMA); now therefore be it

Resolved, That the Democratic Party of Hawai'i urges the state legislature to develop and fund a computer model within the Coastal Lands Program of the Office of Conservation and Coastal Lands of the Department of Land and Natural Resources to predict the shoreline impacts of global warming, sea-level rise and related wave effects; and be it

Ordered, that copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the State Legislature, Governor, and the State Department of Land and Natural Resources.

ENV:2018-08 Urging Hawai'i's officials to prioritize sustainability as a primary directive across all sectors of public policy

Whereas, Sustainability is defined by the World Commission on Environment and Development to mean “development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs;” and

Whereas, Traditional Hawaiian society was able to sustain a thriving population of an estimated one million people with advanced agriculture, aquaculture and prudent, effective management of land and natural resources; and

Whereas, Global climate chaos presents an urgent threat to the Hawaiian islands via sea level rise, ocean acidification, coral bleaching, drought, flooding, temperature changes, species extinction, infectious disease and other harmful impacts; and

Whereas, The nature of our island archipelago is one of limited resources, space and carrying capacity; and

Whereas, Hawai'i has made progress in energy and food security, but still relies upon foreign fossil fuel for 80 percent of its energy generation and imports a majority of its food supply; and

Whereas, The platform of The Democratic Party of Hawai'i supports this definition of sustainability and its urgent priority; and

Whereas, Human beings living in Hawai'i all have a moral obligation and real responsibility to act as good stewards of the land and preservers of its unique flora and fauna for the current and future generations; and

Whereas, Protection of our natural environment and natural resources benefits and sustains our economy and livelihoods, health and well-being, and enjoyment of Hawai'i's open spaces, parks and trails, coastlines, bodies of water and other natural resources; therefore be it

Resolved, That The Democratic Party of Hawai'i urges all elected and appointed officials of the State of Hawai'i and its various counties to work toward ensuring that all further plans for economic development, infrastructure upgrades, energy and food production, housing and all other sectors of public policy be researched, designed, executed and maintained with the core tenet of achieving sustainability as defined above as a primary goal; and be it

Ordered, That copies of this resolution be distributed to all elected and appointed officials of the State of Hawai'i and its various counties.

ENV:2018-09 Urging the Board of Land and Natural Resources to Abide by the Principles of Mālama ‘Āina

Whereas, The Board of Land and Natural Resources (BLNR) has a trust duty to mālama ‘āina; and

Whereas, The BLNR refused to assess the environmental impact of commercial aquarium collection until ordered to do so by the courts;

Whereas, In Ching v. Case (Civ. 14-1085-04) on April 3, 2018, First Circuit Judge Gary Chang concluded that the BLNR breached its duty to mālama ‘āina when it failed to monitor and investigate the Army’s compliance with lease terms to clean up unexploded ordnance at Pōhakuloa on Hawai‘i Island; and

Whereas, The Hawai‘i Supreme Court, the Intermediate Court of Appeals, and a circuit court concluded in three different cases that BLNR’s historic preservation division has violated its own rules that protect significant historic sites; and

Whereas, The BLNR attempted to relinquish the public’s interest in a shoreline path in Waikīkī;

Whereas, For years, the BLNR has continued to allow Alexander & Baldwin to take millions of gallons of water daily from dozens of streams without ever analyzing the impact on aquatic life in each of these streams; and

Whereas, The Hawai‘i Supreme Court concluded that the BLNR acted arbitrarily and capriciously, and abused its discretion by ignoring court decisions and a court order when certifying the shoreline; now therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Democratic Party of Hawai‘i urge all members of the Board of Land and Natural Resources to abide by the principles of mālama ‘āina as described in Ching v. Case (cited above); and be it

Ordered, That copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the Governor of the state of Hawai‘i and each member of the Board of Land and Natural Resources.

GOV:2018-01 Urging the Hawai'i State Legislature to prohibit monetary bail

Whereas, The stated purpose of monetary bail is to ensure that defendants show up in court by requiring an up-front payment and by threatening further monetary penalties if defendants do not comply; and

Whereas, Research like the Justice Policy Institute's 2012 report "Bail Fail: Why the U.S. should end the practice of using money for bail" is making it increasingly clear that monetary bail doesn't accomplish these goals fairly or efficiently, and that so-called "cashless" alternatives are actually more effective; and

Whereas, The cost of housing pretrial detainees in Hawai'i is around \$150 per day, per detainee; and

Whereas, Monetary bail can prevent indigent defendants from leaving jail while their cases are pending, leading to an indefensible state of affairs in which too many people are jailed unnecessarily with their economic status often defining pretrial outcomes; and

Whereas, When pretrial detention depends on whether someone can afford to pay a monetary bond, two otherwise similar pretrial defendants will face vastly different outcomes based merely on their wealth; and

Whereas, These disparities can have spiraling consequences, since even short periods of pretrial detention can disrupt a person's employment, housing or child custody and can undercut a defendant's ability to mount an effective defense; and

Whereas, As these outcomes accumulate in individual cases, improper use of monetary bail can accelerate unnecessarily high rates of incarceration and deepen disparities based on wealth and race throughout the criminal justice system; and

Whereas, Groups like the American Civil Liberties Union have argued the position that detaining unconvicted defendants because they cannot afford a monetary bond violates the U.S. Constitution; and

Whereas, This wealth-based incarceration disproportionately punishes and targets people of color and people from economically disadvantaged communities; and

Whereas, The American bail bond industry is funded by fewer than 10 multinational insurance corporations and collects around \$2 billion in profits annually from poor and disadvantaged people, turning the justice system into a wealth extraction site and encouraging over-incarceration; and

Whereas, Pretrial service agencies that use non detention-based interventions to ensure appearance at trial and promote community safety—including quantitative risk assessment determinations that use algorithms to assign a risk category that judges can incorporate into pretrial decision-making and that limit the use of preventive detention—have proven these alternatives to be effective replacements for monetary bail systems; and

Whereas, Washington D.C. has successfully moved away from a monetary bail system and now releases approximately 88 percent of defendants with non-financial conditions while maintaining public safety and the integrity of the court system so that, between 2007 and 2012, 90 percent of released defendants have made all scheduled court appearances, over 91 percent were not rearrested while in the community before trial, and 99 percent of released defendants were not rearrested on a violent crime while in the community; therefore be it

Resolved, That the Democratic Party of Hawai'i urges the Hawai'i State Legislature to pass legislation abolishing the monetary bail system in the State of Hawai'i and expanding pretrial services, investing in community-based justice programs, including the expansion of parole and probation services, and creating a legal presumption for courts to release non-violent defendants into the community; and be it

Ordered, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the Governor of Hawai`i, the Lt. Governor of Hawai`i and the members of the Hawai`i State Legislature.

GOV:2018-02 Abolition of Proprietary Voting Systems in Hawai'i

Whereas, The 2000 election for President, which the Democratic Party candidate lost, was mired in scandal because of the inability to accurately count the butterfly ballot in Florida; and

Whereas, The 2004 election for President, which the Democratic Party candidate lost, was mired in scandal because Ohio votes were actually counted in Kentucky; and

Whereas, The 2016 Presidential election was lost by the Democratic Candidate in Michigan, Pennsylvania and Wisconsin; and

Whereas, Hillary Clinton lost Michigan by 13,225 votes and there were approximately 75,000 ballots in Detroit that had no vote registered for President.; and

Whereas, Hillary Clinton lost Pennsylvania by 68,236 votes and the recent Special Election for the Pennsylvania 18 House District shows significant problems with the voting machines used by Pennsylvania; and

Whereas, Hillary Clinton lost Wisconsin by 27,257 votes and Wisconsin, like both Michigan and Pennsylvania uses the GEMS vote count system that may add or subtract fractions from any given vote potentially giving Donald Trump as much as 140,000 extra votes; and

Whereas, Manufacturers of Voting Machines claim copyright over the source code used in their machines so that they alone understand how these machines work; and

Whereas, All Voting Machines utilize proprietary hardware and software; and

Whereas, There is no outside entity or person who has a complete understanding of how these machines work; and

Whereas, Numerous individuals have repeatedly shown that they can easily hack voting machines from any and all manufacturers; and

Whereas, The state of Hawai'i votes on paper ballots that are scanned and counted by voting machines which may or may not be reliable ; and

Resolved, That the Democratic Party of Hawai'i urges the Hawai'i State Legislature to secure the right to vote of all Hawai'i citizens by implementation of an open, understandable, transparent voting system that does not depend on a private concern which claims proprietary process or copyright or patent over process; nor gives any organization or individual a monopoly over our secret ballot; and be it

Resolved, That the Democratic Party of Hawai'i urges each member of the legislature without regard to party affiliation and the Governor of the State of Hawai'i to publicly state their position in regards to implementing a trusted election system; and be it

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

GOV:2018-03: Emergency Management Agency and Preparedness

Whereas, The diverse and dispersed nature of emergency management stakeholders - Federal, State, County, private sector, and the public – presents a significant challenge to a shared understanding of the roles, responsibilities, and authorities that enable all stakeholders to synchronize, integrate, and coordinate disaster prevention, protection, mitigation, response, and recovery efforts; and

Whereas, In response to the ballistic missile threat stemming from geopolitical tensions with North Korea, Hawai'i led the way in the implementation of alert systems and procedures to increase its preparedness and keep Hawai'i's citizens informed of potential threats from ballistic missiles;

Whereas, Our country's only Missile-Alert System not only covers ballistic missiles but also natural disasters such as hurricanes and tsunamis; and

Whereas, On January 13, 2018, a false-missile alert occurred causing fear and panic across the Hawai'ian Islands as warnings of imminent attack lit up cell phones and swept across the airwaves; and

Whereas, While the false missile alert was costly in terms of public fears and statewide disruptions, the false alert revealed systemic issues that must be fully understood and important actions that should be taken over time to implement enduring solutions; and

Whereas, HI-EMA lacks a comprehensive Strategic Plan that provides vision and direction, prioritizes energy and resources, facilitates decision making, and identifies goals and objectives; and

Whereas, HI-EMA began their Ballistic Missile Preparedness testing and internal drills prior to publishing an annex to the 2017 State of Hawai'i, Emergency Operations Base Plan to address Chemical, Biological, Radiological, and Nuclear (CBRN) threats; and

Whereas, Many cellular/wireless phones did not receive a wireless emergency alert (WEA) on January 13, 2018; citizens in certain locations did not have access to WEA or other alert notification services and were unaware of the missile alert; and key government personnel were unable to communicate with each other on January 13, 2018, because wireless networks were saturated; and

Whereas, The HI-EMA (ready.hawaii.gov) website logged over 40,000 hits within the first three minutes of the missile alert that the HI-EMA server crashed five minutes later; be it

Resolved, That the Democratic Party of Hawai'i urge the Hawai'i Emergency Management Agency to (1) Publish a Strategic Plan; (2) Reinstitute the Ballistic Missile Preparedness Campaign; (3) Coordinate with State Emergency Communications Committee (SECC) to improve rapid notifications and updates; and (4) Coordinate with wireless carriers to expand coverage in areas that did not receive WEA or other alert notification services; and be it

Ordered, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the Hawai'i Emergency Management Agency, members of the Hawai'i Congressional Delegation, the Governor of the State of Hawai'i, the Lt. Governor of the State of Hawai'i, Hawai'i Legislators who are members of the Democratic Party.

GOV:2018-04 Urging the End of Public Partnerships with Employers Exploiting Workers with Disabilities

Whereas, Workers with disabilities are not protected by the federal minimum wage requirements; and

Whereas, Special wage certificates issued by the United States Department of Labor in accordance with Section 14(c) of the Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA) permit certain employers to pay subminimum wages to workers with disabilities; and

Whereas, Employers who take advantage of this predatory practice have an unfair advantage in labor costs when compared to employers who pay fair wages to their workers, thus allowing them to outbid employers who do not use this predatory wage practice; and

Whereas, Employers who exploit workers with disabilities may currently contract with the State of Hawai'i or lease facilities owned by the State of Hawai'i; and

Whereas, the O'ahu County Democrats adopted Resolution 2017-10, Support for the Transitioning to Integrated and Meaningful Employment Act of 2017, a bill which would end the payment of subminimum wages to workers with disabilities on a national level; and

Whereas, even if the State of Hawai'i discontinues its issuance of matching special wage certificates, thus ending the payment of subminimum wages to workers with disabilities in Hawai'i, employers holding these federal certificates in Hawai'i will still be allowed to discriminate against workers with disabilities by paying them wages below the prevailing wage for their professions; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Democratic Party of Hawai'i urge the Hawai'i State Legislature to pass new legislation prohibiting public entities from contracting with or leasing facilities to entities holding special wage certificates from the United States Department of Labor allowing them to pay subminimum wages to workers with disabilities in accordance with Section 14(c) of the Fair Labor Standards Act, thus removing government support from employers engaging in this discriminatory and predatory practice, which is currently authorized by federal law; and be it

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

GOV:2018-05 Urging the End of the Payment of Subminimum Wages to Workers with Disabilities

Whereas, Workers with disabilities are not protected by the federal or State minimum wage requirements; and

Whereas, Special wage certificates issued by the United States Department of Labor in accordance with Section 14(c) of the Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA), as well as similar certificates issued by the State Department of Labor and Industrial Relations, permit certain employers to pay subminimum wages, even as low as \$0.01 per hour, to workers with disabilities; and

Whereas, Employers who take advantage of this predatory practice have an unfair advantage in labor costs when compared to employers who pay fair wages to their workers, thus allowing them to outbid employers who do not use this predatory wage practice; and

Whereas, As demonstrated by the states of Vermont, New Hampshire, Maryland, and Alaska, as well as the City of Seattle, which have chosen to eliminate the practice of paying individuals with disabilities less than the minimum wage, special wage certificates are no longer needed; and

Whereas, the O'ahu County Democrats adopted Resolution 2017-10, Support for the Transitioning to Integrated and Meaningful Employment Act of 2017, a bill which would end the payment of subminimum wages to workers with disabilities on a national level; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Democratic Party of Hawai'i urge the Hawai'i State Legislature to pass new legislation permanently discontinuing the issuance of special wage certificates from the State Department of Labor and Industrial Relations allowing employers to pay subminimum wages to workers with disabilities in accordance with Section 14(c) of the Fair Labor Standards Act and amending Section 103D-1001, Hawaii Revised Statutes, by amending the definition of "qualified community rehabilitation program" by striking out the language involving payment of subminimum wages to workers with disabilities, thus including workers with disabilities in Hawai'i in the State minimum wage requirements; and be it

Resolved, That the Democratic Party of Hawai'i urge the United States Legislature to pass new legislation permanently repealing Section 14(c) of the Fair Labor Standards Act, thus eradicating this discriminatory and predatory practice on a national level; and be it

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

GOV:2018-06 Urging the Hawai`i Congressional delegation to pass a law banning all targeted, extrajudicial killings

Whereas, The United States has conducted targeted, extrajudicial killings in Afghanistan, Pakistan, Iraq, Somalia, Yemen and Syria, either by unmanned aerial vehicles, warplanes or cruise missile (hereafter referred to as “strikes”) that have clearly violated international humanitarian law (hereafter, “the laws of war”) because they struck only civilians or used indiscriminate weapons; and

Whereas, The United States has conducted strikes in these countries that may have violated the laws of war because the individual attacked was not a lawful military target or the attack caused disproportionate civilian harm; and

Whereas, Some or all of these attacks did not meet the threshold for an armed conflict and, therefore, fall under international human rights law, not the laws of war; and

Whereas, Human rights law only permits the use of lethal force where there is an imminent threat to human life; and

Whereas, It is also possible that these strikes did not adhere to policies for targeted killings disclosed by U.S. President Barack Obama in May, 2013, which provide that the United States will conduct strikes only against individuals who pose an “imminent threat to the American people,” when there is a “near-certainty that no civilians will be killed or injured” and

Whereas, From September 2014–May 4, 2018, independent journalism project Airwars.org has catalogued 29,305 strikes in Syria and Iraq killing an estimated minimum of 6,259 civilians and using an estimated 107,129 air dropped bombs and missiles; and

Whereas, Since taking office, President Trump has exponentially increased the frequency with which these strikes are utilized and has relaxed the regulations on these strikes put in place by President Obama; and

Whereas, There have been more than 10,000 strikes in Syria and Iraq (nearly a 50 percent increase) and civilian deaths have risen by 215 percent in 2017 compared with the previous year; and

Whereas, Regardless of the lawfulness of specific attacks, the deaths of numerous civilians and the lack of compensation or aid to families and affected communities has fueled public anger and frustration against the United States to the benefit of violent groups like the Islamic State and Al-Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula; and

Whereas, Detailed research from groups like the Mwatana Organization for Human Rights indicates the potential for these violent groups to take advantage of civilian discontent has only grown in recent years; and

Whereas, These strikes are therefore antithetical to any genuine effort to create a lasting peace; and

Whereas, The platform of the Democratic Party of Hawai`i calls for a “fair and just foreign policy that promotes peace”; therefore be it

Resolved, That the Democratic Party of Hawai`i urges the Hawai`i Congressional Delegation to promote and support legislation banning all forms of targeted, extrajudicial killings and prohibiting the government from executing them; and be it

Ordered, That copies of this resolution be transmitted, without regard for party affiliation, to the members of the Hawai`i Congressional Delegation, the Governor of the State of Hawai`i, the Lt. Governor of the State of Hawai`i, and all members of the Hawai`i State Legislature.

GOV:2018-07 Urging the adoption of a proportional representation system to ensure all votes count

Whereas, Our current first-past-the-post (hereafter, “current”) political system has contributed to growing political dysfunction resulting in low voter turnout, low voter registration, thereby undermining the legitimacy of our democracy; and

Whereas, Our current system encourages gerrymandering, unfairly advantages incumbents, and increases the role of money in politics, all of which make elections less competitive effectively disenfranchising many voters; and

Whereas, Our current system can result in undemocratic results, including our current Congressional makeup in which Republicans have transformed slim majorities in certain state votes into a two thirds majority of House seats, as has been the case in Pennsylvania, Ohio, South Carolina and Wisconsin; and

Whereas, Internationally, proportional representation is the most common type of electoral system with 89 of 192 democratic countries using this system as compared with 64 countries using winner-take-all, and 37 that use plurality; and

Whereas, A proportional representation system is objectively more democratic and fair, as it ensures that the proportion of votes cast will equal the proportion of representatives in the corresponding elected legislative body (e.g. 20 percent of the vote receives 20 percent of the seats), strengthening voter choice and representation; and

Whereas, Systems with proportional representation elect on average 8 percent more women candidates than first-past-the-post systems; and

Whereas, Government policies in countries with proportional representation more closely align to the values of the median voter; and

Whereas, A proportional representation system encourages more competition and provides more choices to voters; therefore be it

Resolved, That the Democratic Party of Hawai`i urges the Hawai`i State Legislature to pass legislation adopting a proportional representation system of elections; and be it

Ordered, that copies of this resolution be transmitted to the Governor of Hawai`i, the Lt. Governor of Hawai`i and the members of the Hawai`i State Legislature.

GOV:2018-08 Urging the Addition of a Non-Binary Gender Option On All Relevant State Documents and Forms

Whereas, The platform of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i calls for the protection and restoration of the civil and human rights of each person; and

Whereas, The platform of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i calls for the "eradication of discrimination"; and

Whereas, The platform of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i supports the "full equality and nondiscrimination with respect to duties, benefits and responsibilities regardless of actual or perceived sexual orientation, gender identity and gender expression"; and

Whereas, The platform of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i supports the "full implementation of a law that allows members of the transgender community to amend their birth certificates to accurately reflect their self-identified genders"; and

Whereas, It's important to give people who identify as non-binary legal recognition because many aspects of life are tied to government issued-IDs, documents and forms; and

Whereas, Adding a non-binary gender option is important for people whose appearance may not otherwise match the marker on their ID, document or form, which can leave them vulnerable to harassment, discrimination or violence; and

Whereas, Other countries like Australia, Germany and Canada all allow their citizens to legally change their gender to non-binary and do not appear to have experienced either an undermining of privacy and security systems put in place for things like IDs and passports, or found the overhaul too complex; be it therefore

Resolved, That the Democratic Party of Hawai'i urges the Hawai'i State Legislature to pass legislation establishing a non-binary option on all state documents and forms that require a notation of gender for the purposes of identification, statistics and other vital data; and be it

Ordered, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the members of the Hawai'i Congressional Delegation, the Governor of the State of Hawai'i, the Lt. Governor of the State of Hawai'i, and all members of the Hawai'i State Legislature.

GOV:2018-09 Mandatory Firearms Insurance

Whereas, When car ownership became widespread and accidental deaths increased in the 1920s, the United States government started car registration, licensing, and insurance in order to add accountability into the chain of ownership; and

Whereas, Gun owners should also be required to have liability insurance, so if they accidentally or intentionally injure or kill somebody, the victim or the victim's family will receive monetary damages; and

Whereas, There were 29 victims from the Route 91 Harvest Festival shooting in Las Vegas that had to turn to GoFundMe for help with the medical bills from being shot; and

Whereas, If the 20 children from the Newtown shooting had been murdered by a drunk or crazed driver, the car owner's insurance company would be paying millions out to their families, but because they were killed with guns, the victims' families are receiving nothing, not even burial expenses, for undergoing one of the most unthinkable and horrifying tragedies imaginable; and

Whereas, Hawaii's gun owners should be required to obtain firearm insurance to cover liabilities for personal injury and property damage arising out of the possession or use of the firearm; and

Whereas, No rights are absolute, we limit the right to drive with licensure; we limit the right to free speech with rules such as speech that presents a clear and present danger, such as yelling "fire" in a crowded theatre,, and it's time to put common-sense limitations on the right to own a gun; now, be it

Resolved; That the Democratic Party of Hawai'i urges the Hawai'i State Legislature to pass legislation to establish mandatory liability insurance for anyone who owns a gun; and be it

Ordered; That copies of this resolution be delivered to the Governor of the State of Hawai'i, the Lt. Governor of the State of Hawai'i, all Democratic Party members of the Hawai'i State Legislature, and Hawaii's Congressional Delegation.

GOV:2018-10 Urging the Democratic Party of Hawai`i to Advocate for Legislation to Create Permanent Rules of the State Legislature to Prevent “Gut-and-Replace” and “Frankenstein” Legislation which Materially Alters the Substance and Intent of Legislation as Originally Introduced

Whereas, The practice of “gut-and-replace,” removing the primary, original content of a piece of legislation and replacing it with other, sometimes unrelated content, with only two days public notice has seen a dramatic increase in recent state legislative sessions; and

Whereas, The practice of creating “Frankenstein legislation,” adding the contents of a piece of legislation that had died earlier in the session to a measure that is still being considered, has seen a dramatic increase as well; and

Whereas, For instance, “the Senate Way and Means Committee ... [as well as many other legislative committees] ... recently had an agenda featuring at least a dozen such bills, more than Capitol observers could recall ever seeing at one time.” (Civil Beat, 4/4/18); and

Whereas, “Common Cause, the League of Women Voters and other nonprofits, such as Hawai`i’s Thousand Friends and Americans for Democratic Action, have called on the Legislature for years to end “misleading practices which keep the public in the dark” (Civil Beat, 4/4/18); and

Whereas, These misleading practices not only prevent and discourage the public from engaging in the democratic process of law-making, but also give legislators insufficient time to adequately consider the content and implications of legislation that has been substantially altered with little notice; now therefore be it

Resolved, That the Democratic Party of Hawai`i urges the State Legislature to create permanent legislative rules prohibiting “gut-and-replace” and “Frankenstein” legislation (legislation that includes language that is substantively different from the measure’s original intent, or changes the subject of the measure as it was originally introduced); and be it

Ordered, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the State Governor, Lieutenant Governor, and all members of the Hawai`i State Legislature without regard of party affiliation.

GOV:2018-11 Calling for the Hawai'i State Legislative Committee Chairs of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i to be Held Accountable

Whereas, The Democratic Party of Hawaii ("DPH") is a political organization dedicated to the principle that the voice of the membership, expressed by rank-and-file Democrats through resolutions of the DPH's State Convention and the Party's annual "Package of Legislative Priorities," should be recognized and given full consideration by the DPH-affiliated state legislators; and

Whereas, DPH-affiliated legislative committee chairs have in the past prevented full consideration of bills incorporating measures supported by the platform and resolutions of the DPH and/or included in the DPH annual Package of Legislative Priorities by unilaterally refusing to schedule committee hearings on those bills; and

Whereas, An example of the violation of this DPH principle and the DPH platform, resolutions, and Package of Legislative was when House Bill 256 (Fair Labeling for Hawaii Coffee) was included in the DPH's 2017 Package of Legislative Priorities and supported by a resolution from the 2016 State Convention, but was killed in the 2017 Session and again in the 2018 Session when the respective Chairs of the House Consumer Protection and Commerce Committee unilaterally refused to schedule a committee hearing on the bill; and

Whereas, The DPH should hold DPH member legislative committee chairs accountable for not scheduling committee hearings and ensuring full consideration of legislation supported by the DPH platform and resolutions; and

Whereas, The State Democratic Convention passed a resolution in 2012 to hold legislators accountable for their lack of response to the resolutions passed at the State Convention (GOV 2012-13) but this resolution has not been enforced by the party, in addition to the enforcement mechanisms existing in that resolution; now therefore be it

Resolved, That the Democratic Party of Hawaii will hold the Hawai'i State Legislative Committee Chairs of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i accountable when they table legislation supported by the Democratic Party of Hawai'i platform, resolutions, and Package of Legislative Priorities; and be it further

Resolved, That the Democratic Party of Hawai'i urges the State Chair and/or the State Central Committee of the Democratic Party of Hawaii send publicly-disseminated "Notices of Concern" to Democratic Party-affiliated legislative committee chairs who do not schedule committee hearings on the above legislation, thereby tabling full consideration of legislation included in the Democratic Party of Hawai'i's "Package of Legislative Priorities" and/or supported by resolutions of the State Party Convention; and be it finally

Ordered, That copies of this Resolution be transmitted to each Democratic Party member of the State Legislature and to the Chair and State Central Committee of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i.

GOV:2018-12 Elimination of the IRS Percentage Depletion Calculation

Whereas, The Internal Revenue Service allows depreciation of certain mineral resources using the Percentage Depletion Calculation; and

Whereas, This method allows depreciation of assets far in excess of the capital investment required to retrieve these resources; and

Whereas, This excess depreciation shields income from taxes that are due to the Federal Government; and

Whereas, To encourage domestic production, the U.S. government provides subsidies through the tax code to the oil and gas industries worth billions of dollars each year. One of the largest of these tax expenditures is the so-called “percentage depletion” deduction, which allows independent oil and gas (and other fuel mineral) producers to automatically deduct 15 percent of their gross income from production, rather than simply writing off the real cost of their investments based on the fraction of resources extracted (“cost depletion”). Since the “percentage depletion” deduction is a flat rate, the resulting tax break often exceeds the normal depreciation or cost depletion deduction, thus acting as a sizable subsidy to qualifying energy companies; and

Whereas, The Republican Party continues to assert that the Government of the United States is “broke”; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Democratic Party of Hawai`i urges that the IRS rules allowing the use of the “Percentage Depletion Calculation” be eliminated; and be it

Resolved, That the Democratic Party of Hawai`i ask each member of the Hawai`i legislature without regard to party affiliation and the Governor of the State of Hawai`i and each member of the Hawai`i Congressional Delegation to publically state their position and actions they support to close tax loopholes; and be it

Ordered, That copies of this resolution be transmitted, without regard for party affiliation, to the members of the Hawai`i State Legislature and of the Hawai`i State Congressional delegation.

GOV:2018-13 Urging the creation of a competitive system of fully publicly-financed elections

Whereas, A strong democracy depends on an array of choices and free and fair elections; and

Whereas, Research by entities like New York University School of Law's Brennan Center for Justice confirms that large campaign contributions have an indisputable influence on our elections, and growing numbers of ordinary people feel that their voices are not being heard; and

Whereas, Wealthy candidates, or those with wealthy supporters, have a huge advantage over other candidates; and

Whereas, A candidate's ability to compete should be based on their ability to gain the support of constituents and not on their ability to raise money; and

Whereas, All holders of statewide offices are spending increasingly greater amounts of time fundraising (see *Civil Beat's* "Lawmakers Outdid Themselves Raising Campaign Cash This Session"); and

Whereas, Certain strategies for public funding of elections have been found to make it possible for community leaders who are not wealthy, and who do not have wealthy supporters, to run for office successfully; and

Whereas, The concerns expressed in GOV 2014-13 and NAT 2012-0107 have not been fully addressed; now be it

Resolved, That the Democratic Party of Hawai'i urges the Hawai'i State Legislature to pass legislation establishing a system of fully publicly financed elections for the State of Hawai'i's House and Senate races structured so that:

1. For every 10 constituent signatures, the state shall provide \$1,000 from the general fund to participating state house and senate candidates who receive no private campaign donations; and
2. The total amount available to candidates shall be capped at 140 percent of the median campaign donations received by non-participating candidates in the same district during the previous election cycle, or at \$50,000 for House of Representative candidates or \$80,000 for Senate candidates, whichever is greater; and be it

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

GOV:2018-14 Requiring that candidates for party officer positions above district level disclose the interests they represent upon announcing candidacy

Whereas, The Democratic Party of Hawai`i is a structured political organization based on the ethics and principles of its leaders and members; and

Whereas, The Democratic Party of Hawai`i values transparency, openness, honesty, integrity and service, as reflected and expressed within the party platform, constitution, and bylaws; and

Whereas, The officers of the Democratic Party of Hawai`i are elected and called to further the platform and the principles and values of the Democratic Party of Hawai`i expressed therein; and

Whereas, It is in the interest of the Democratic Party of Hawai`i to avoid conflicts of interest and the appearance of conflicts of interest; and

Whereas, The nature of lobbying is to represent interests that may not always be in accord with the party's goals and values; and

Whereas, Disclosure of the interests represented by candidates for party officer positions above district level can help to mitigate conflicts of interest and appearances of conflicts of interest; therefore be it

Resolved, That the Democratic Party of Hawai`i shall not consider registered lobbyists as candidates for party officer positions above the district level without these candidates first disclosing the various interests they represent as registered lobbyists; and be it

Ordered, That copies of the resolution be distributed to current officers, chairs, and vice chairs of the different committees in the Democratic Party of Hawaii and future candidates officer positions above the district level.

GOV:2018-15 Urging the Democratic Party of Hawai`i to bar lobbyists representing for-profit entities from its top officer positions

Whereas, The Democratic Party of Hawai`i (DPH) is a structured political organization based on the ethics and principles of its leaders and members; and

Whereas, The DPH is the party of the people, and not the party of for-profit interests, as reflected and expressed within the party platform, constitution and bylaws; and

Whereas, The party chairperson and vice chairperson are elected and called to further the platform and the principles and values of the Democratic Party of Hawai`i expressed therein; and

Whereas, Unions represent the interests of organized labor and working people and nonprofits often represent the interests of people and the planet, all of which are in-line with party goals and values; and

Whereas, These interests require lobbying; and

Whereas, The goals and values of the party and its platform and the goals and values of for-profit interests can be in conflict with one another; and

Whereas, Some for-profit interests use nonprofit models to further their for-profit interests; and

Whereas, A clear conflict of interest can arise when a top party officer is also a lobbyist for a for-profit interest and must represent both interests; and

Whereas, This scenario lessens the credibility of the party; therefore be it

Resolved, That the Democratic Party of Hawai`i shall not allow registered lobbyists working on behalf of for-profit entities to be candidates for chairperson or vice chairperson of the DPH; and be it further

Resolved, That the Democratic Party of Hawai`i shall not allow registered lobbyists working on behalf of nonprofits that advance the interests of for-profit entities to be candidates for chairperson or vice chairperson of the DPH; and be it further

Resolved, That the chairperson and vice chairperson of the Democratic Party of Hawai`i shall not lobby on behalf of for-profit entities while occupying the positions of chairperson and vice chairperson of the party; and be it further

Resolved, That the chairperson and vice chairperson of the Democratic Party of Hawai`i shall not lobby on behalf of nonprofits that advance the interests of for-profit entities to be candidates for chairperson or vice chairperson of the DPH; and be it further

Resolved, That the Democratic Party of Hawai`i shall allow registered lobbyists working on behalf of unions and other nonprofits to be candidates for chairperson or vice chairperson of the DPH; and be it

Ordered, That copies of this resolution be distributed to all current Democratic Party of Hawai`i officers and future candidates for chairperson and vice chairperson those positions.

GOV:2018-16 Urging the Adoption of Ranked Choice Voting in all State and County Elections

Whereas, primary, general and special elections in Hawai`i are currently conducted by single-choice plurality voting, or by two-round runoff elections; and

Whereas, in the method of single-choice plurality voting, casting a ballot for one's preferred candidate can cause the election of one's least favorite candidate through a "split vote," forcing voters to engage in strategic and insincere voting whereby they settle for the "lesser of two evils"; and

Whereas, the method of single-choice plurality voting can discourage more than two candidates from competing in an election; and

Whereas, the method of single-choice plurality voting means that a candidate can win an election even if opposed by a majority of voters; and

Whereas, both single-choice plurality voting and two-round runoff elections encourage candidates to campaign by attacking the character and qualifications of their opponents rather than promoting a positive message to voters, resulting in prosaic and petty elections, an uninformed and apathetic voting electorate and lower rates of participation and engagement in democracy; and

Whereas, ranked choice voting (also known as Instant Runoff Voting -- IRV) is a method of voting in which voters rank the candidates in order of choice and votes are counted in rounds so that any candidate must have a majority of the votes in a round to win; and

Whereas, There exists a significant amount of information on ranked choice voting and how best to implement the system, including free ranked choice voting software and demos, easily and readily available on the Internet; and

Whereas, ranked choice voting is used to elect officers in 11 cities today; was passed by a majority of Maine voters for use in all Maine state and congressional elections beginning in 2018; is used to elect officers internationally throughout the English-speaking world; is used to elect student governments in over 50 colleges and universities in the United States; and is recommended for use by private organizations in Robert's Rules of Order; and

Whereas, elections with ranked choice voting (or IRV) demonstrate that voters understand and appreciate the ability to rank candidates in order of choice and that ranked choice voting does not reduce turnout or significantly increase the rate of ballot errors; and

Whereas, ranked choice voting promotes majority support, facilitates greater voter choice, discourages negative campaigning, minimizes strategic voting, promotes the election of more women and people of color, and accomplishes these goals in a single election without the need for costly runoff elections; and

Whereas, ranked choice voting is legal in Hawai`i and has been upheld in federal court as a one person, one vote system consistent with the United States Constitution; therefore be it

Resolved, that the Democratic Party of Hawai`i urges the Hawai`i State Legislature to adopt ranked choice voting (also known as IRV) for all primary, general and special elections in the State of Hawai`i, and urges the various county councils to likewise pass ordinances adopting ranked choice voting for all such elections at the municipal level as well; and be it

Ordered, that copies of this resolution be transmitted to the Governor of the State of Hawai`i, the Lt. Governor of the State of Hawai`i, the members of the Hawai`i State Legislature, the Mayors and County Councils of Kaua`i, Honolulu, Maui and Hawai`i Counties.

GOV:2018-17 Urging Actions to Address the Proliferation of Monster Homes in Residential Neighborhoods

Whereas, Many Hawai'i neighborhoods have seen an increase in the number of structures commonly referred to as "monster homes," or large-scale homes with as many as twenty-five bedrooms and several families but are situated on property zoned for single-family residential use; and

Whereas, The construction of monster homes in single-family neighborhoods has raised concerns, including whether monster homes are in violation of permitting and zoning laws, whether contractors building these homes are complying with labor and safety standards, whether builders are observing environmental and clean water rules, whether the owners of these homes have appropriate certificates of occupancy or have modified their structures to create illegal units, and whether the owners of these homes are operating illegal short term vacation rentals; and

Whereas, Residents of neighborhoods that have monster homes have experienced an increase in noise and traffic, limited or no public parking, a strain on the existing community and surrounding infrastructure, inappropriate density in the neighborhood, and erosion of the neighborhood character; and

Whereas, The proliferation of monster homes has contributed to accelerating increases in property valuations, disproportionate increases in property tax assessments in affected neighborhoods, and the consistent outbidding of local residents by off-island purchasers; and

Whereas, Monster homes have not resulted in substantially expanded access to truly affordable housing for local residents; and

Whereas, The Democratic Party of Hawai'i Platform states that "adequate, accessible, affordable, and safe housing should be available to all residents of Hawai'i," and supports "efforts to promote truly affordable housing for all citizens who rent;" now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Democratic Party of Hawai'i urges the Legislative and Executive Branches of the State of Hawai'i and its Counties to undertake measures to review whether existing and planned monster homes are in compliance with permitting and zoning laws, to scrutinize the construction of monster homes to ensure compliance with labor and safety standards, to properly enforce environmental and clean water standards, to thoroughly inspect homes after completion of construction to ensure no illegal units have been created and that units are not being rented on a short-term basis to non-residents; 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 of Hawai'i, and the Hawai'i State Legislators, County Mayors, and County Council Members who are members of the Democratic Party.

GOV:2018-18 Urging the Congressional Delegation to Actively Work to Ensure that the Military Protects Our Natural Resources

Whereas, Damaging the land and impairing natural resources is inconsistent with protecting the homeland; and

Whereas, Military activities have contaminated our groundwater at Red Hill, littered the landscape of Pōhakuloa with unexploded ordnance, adversely affected archaeological sites and habitat at Mākua, and rendered substantial portions of Kaho'olawe unsafe; and

Whereas, The military once claimed that it was a matter of national security that it be allowed to continue to bomb Kaho'olawe and continue to train at Mākua, but that has proven to be inaccurate; and

Whereas, A state judge questioned the Army's veracity and reliability when it claimed to regularly clean up debris after each training exercise at Pōhakuloa; and

Whereas, Although the Navy argues that its fuel has not found its way into our drinking water wells, yet it is undisputed that leaks from some of its Red Hill tanks have contaminated our groundwater in an unacceptable manner; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Democratic Party of Hawai'i urge all members of the Hawai'i Congressional Delegation to actively work to ensure that the military takes all necessary action to prevent degradation of our natural resources and clean up the existing contamination; and be it

Ordered, That copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the Hawai'i Congressional delegation.

GOV:2018-19 Urging the reduction of “Superdelegates” from the Process of Selecting the Democratic Nominee for President.

Whereas, It should be the intent of the Democratic Party to carry out the process of selecting the Democratic Presidential Candidate in the most democratic manner possible; and

Whereas, It should be the intent of the Democratic Party to empower each Democrat to have an equal opportunity to participate in the selection process of their state in determining who will become the Democratic Nominee for President; and

Whereas, Allowing select members of the Democratic Party and certain elected officials who are members of the Democratic Party to be “Superdelegates” significantly harms the Democratic voters’ belief that the selection process is fair; and

Whereas, In 2016, there were 718 unpledged or so-called “Superdelegates” to the national convention, many who had committed their vote prior to any state primary or caucus taking place; and

Whereas, The outcome of the 2016 Democratic Presidential Nominating Process resulted in a bitterly divided Democratic Base many of whom chose not to vote for President or to vote for someone other than the Democratic Nominee that year; and

Whereas, The Democratic Nominee received a majority of the popular vote, but because of very narrow victories of the Republican Nominee in certain key states still lost; and

Whereas, The Clinton and Sanders campaigns negotiated formation of a Unity and Reform Commission (URC) and at least a 60% decrease in the number of Superdelegates which was confirmed by floor vote at the 2016 Democratic National Convention; and

Whereas, The Democratic National Committee did charter the URC; and

Whereas, The URC, in order to heal the fissures that have erupted within the Party, confirmed the reduction of Superdelegates by at least 60%, with some URC members calling for complete elimination of all Superdelegates; and

Whereas, The URC report has been submitted to the Democratic Party Rules and By-laws Committee (RBC) for confirmation and amendment; and

Whereas, Allowing any Superdelegate to sway the nomination process in 2020 may not reflect the will of the members of the Democratic Party and again divide the Party Base; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Democratic Party of Hawai`i urges the Democratic National Committee to follow through with, and expand on, the recommendations of the URC and the elimination of all “Superdelegates”; and be it

Resolved, That the Democratic Party of Hawai`i encourages those who may, in the future, qualify as “Superdelegates” to vote at the State and National Convention consistent with the outcome of Hawai`i’s Presidential Preference Poll or whatever selection process is used in the Superdelegates respective state; and be it

Ordered, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the State Central Committee, the Chair of the Democratic Party of Hawai`i and all members of the Democratic National Committee.

GOV:2018-20 Urging the Establishment of a Fair System of Statutory Exemption from Attachment and Execution of Real and Personal Property

Whereas, the current 40 year-old statutory exemptions from attachment and or execution of real and personal property are pitifully low; and

Whereas, the 2013 National Consumer Law Center Studies on States Allowing Debt Collectors to Push Families Into Poverty has rated the State of Hawai'i with a grade of "D" in protecting households from poverty; and

Whereas, the Hawai'i State Legislature has refused or failed to act to protect Hawaii families struggling with debt; and

Whereas, increasing statutory exemptions from attachment and execution (a judgment of possession obtained by a plaintiff from a court) of real or personal property will save taxpayer funding of public benefits by preventing poverty; and

Whereas, Hawai'i needs an updated safety net of assets for Hawai'i families who are struggling under heavy debt, low wages, and a high cost-of-living, now therefore be it

Resolved, That the Democratic Party of Hawai'i urges the Hawaii Legislature to establish a fair system of statutory exemption from attachment and execution of real and personal property; and be it further

Resolved, That the Democratic Party of Hawai'i urges State Legislators to pass legislation that will change the threshold amounts to qualify for attachment or execution exemptions as follows: a) human owner-occupied real property having a fair market value not exceeding \$275,000; b) various items of personal property to an aggregate cash value not exceeding \$5,000; and c) one motor vehicle up to the fair market value of \$15,000; and be it further

Resolved, That the Democratic Party of Hawai'i urges State legislators to pass legislation that will specify that exemptions from attachment or execution do not apply to individuals who are delinquent in the payment of income taxes, real property taxes, or a mortgage; and be it further

Resolved, That the Democratic Party of Hawai'i urges State Legislators to pass legislation that will exempt from the attachment of execution on personal property, one month of child support and spousal support; and be it finally

Resolved, That the Democratic Party of Hawai'i fully supports regular updating and/or indexing of exemptions to a cost of living index to prevent a recurrence of this drain on the middle class; and be it

Ordered, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to all members of Hawai'i's Congressional Delegation, the Governor of the State of Hawai'i, the Lt. Governor of the State of Hawai'i, all members of the Hawai'i State Legislature who are members of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i, and all the Mayors and members of County Councils who are members of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i.

GOV:2018-21 Urging the Hawai`i Congressional delegation to protect the First Amendment Right to political free speech in all its forms

Whereas, The First Amendment to the United States Constitution asserts that the government cannot punish, in any way, U.S. persons based solely on their expressed political beliefs; and

Whereas, The boycotting of, divestment from, or otherwise sanctioning of an entity for political reasons is a protected form of free speech as guaranteed by the Bill of Rights; and

Whereas, Even in its amended form, the proposed Israel Anti-Boycott Act (S.720) would amend existing law to prohibit people in the United States from supporting boycotts and other forms of sanctions targeting Israel; and

Whereas, The enactment of this bill would therefore directly violate the First Amendment rights of U.S. persons to political free speech, including the right to boycott, divest or otherwise apply sanctions against an entity—in this case Israel—for political reasons; and

Whereas, This proposed bill is therefore clearly unconstitutional; be it therefore

Resolved, That the Democratic Party of Hawai`i urges the Hawai`i Congressional Delegation to withdraw all support for the Israel Anti-Boycott Act and to work to uphold the First Amendment Right to political free speech in all its forms for all U.S. persons; and be it

Ordered, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the members of the Hawai`i Congressional Delegation, the Governor of the State of Hawai`i, the Lt. Governor of the State of Hawai`i, and all members of the Hawai`i State Legislature.

GOV:2018-22 Urging the State Legislature to Implement a Video Conference System to facilitate State Legislative Testimony from the Neighbor Islands, Including East and West Hawai'i Island

Whereas, The State Legislature's committees generally give only 48-hour notice of public hearings on state legislation and generally hold those hearings only in Honolulu; and

Whereas, Travel by neighbor island residents to Honolulu usually means the dedication of a full day with loss of wages in order to give what usually amounts to less than five [5] minutes of testimony at legislative committee hearings; and

Whereas, Short notice of committee hearings means that airline reservations often are not available, or if they are available, are very expensive; and

Whereas, Cab or rental car costs of several hundred dollars need to be added to the flight costs ; and

Whereas, A bill of importance to neighbor island residents may be scheduled for as many as three committee hearings in each legislative house, necessitating six trips to Honolulu to present committee testimony; and

Whereas, Neighbor island residents are being disenfranchised from meaningful participation in the legislative process because of aforementioned barriers to providing testimony; and

Whereas, Many other governmental bodies including, for example, the State of Alaska and the Hawaii and Kauai County Councils, have workable video conference systems for taking remote testimony and provide opportunities for meaningful participation by a broader range of citizens in the legislative process; and

Whereas, The Hawaii Legislature has at various times conducted successful video conferencing trials, but to date has failed to implement a permanent video conference system for testimony; now therefore be it

Resolved, That the Democratic Party of Hawaii urges the state legislature to implement a video conferencing system for facilitating state legislative testimony from the neighbor islands, including East and West Hawai'i island, and be it further

Resolved, That the Democratic Party of Hawai'i urges such video conferencing system should be implemented without delay and that the Democratic Party of Hawaii make this a top priority for the 2019 legislative session; and be it

Ordered, That copies of this Resolution be transmitted to each Democratic Party member of the State Legislature and to the Chairperson and State Central Committee of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i.

GOV:2018-23 Urging a ban on the privatization of the Public Good, including information, education, healthcare, natural resources and the criminal justice system

Whereas, Our government of, by and for the people has undergone a decades-long shift toward plutocracy, a form of society that is defined by control of wealth; and

Whereas, In this system wealth buys political power and influence; and

Whereas, This shift has resulted in a concentration of wealth and power among a handful of wealthy and connected elites and caused systemic inequality and injustice throughout the world; and

Whereas, This process has been spurred on by a growing movement toward the privatization of public goods like information, education, healthcare, natural resources and the criminal justice system; and

Whereas, Privatization seeks to generate wealth through the creation of wealth-extraction points; and

Whereas, Information, education, healthcare, natural resources and the criminal justice system are meant to be the domain of Public Good; and

Whereas, The Public Good benefits all of society, but do not necessitate or guarantee profit; and

Whereas, The Public Good are therefore incompatible with wealth extraction; and

Whereas, The privatization of the Commons has led to devastating consequences for Americans who now find themselves competing for access to information, education, healthcare, natural resources and justice when such access should be a guaranteed human right; and

Whereas, The privatization of these public goods often materializes in the form of Public-Private Partnership (hereafter "P3") model developments which are often promoted to the public as cost-saving, but which often carry with them a far higher cost to the public good; therefore be it

Resolved, That the Democratic Party of Hawai`i urges the Hawai`i State Legislature to pass legislation establishing an immediate ban on all P3 model developments that pertain to establishing a private for-profit interest of any kind within the realm of public goods including, but not limited to, information, education, healthcare, natural resources and the criminal justice system; and be it

Ordered, that copies of this resolution be transmitted to the Governor of Hawai`i, the Lt. Governor of Hawai`i and the members of the Hawai`i State Legislature.

HAW: 2018-01 Urging a Native-Hawaiian Rights Division be created in the Hawai'i Department of Attorney General

Whereas, Article XII, Section 7 of the Hawai'i state Constitution, "Traditional and Customary Rights" reads, "The State reaffirms and shall protect all rights, customarily and traditionally exercised for subsistence, cultural and religious purposes and possessed by ahupua'a tenants who are descendants of native Hawaiians who inhabited the Hawaiian Islands prior to 1778, subject to the right of the State to regulate such rights. [Add Const Con 1978 and election Nov 7, 1978]"; and

Whereas, Numerous state Supreme Court decisions have affirmed these rights in cases where these rights were being challenged by both public and private special interests, including *Public Access Shoreline Haw. v. Hawai'i County Planning Comm'n*, 903 P.2d at 1268 and *Ka Pa'akai O Ka'Aina v. Land Use Com'n*, 94 Hawai'i 31. 7 P.3d 1068; and

Whereas, The state Department of Attorney General has abrogated its affirmative duty to protect Native Hawaiian traditional and customary rights and the cultural and environmental resources inherently necessary for the continued existence of these rights; and

Whereas, The state Department of Attorney General has stopped attending island Burial Councils meetings to provide critical and essential legal guidance and assistance; and

Whereas, The increased rate of real estate development and prices has resulted in the systematic destruction of cultural landscapes essential to Native Hawaiian traditional and customary practices; now therefore be it

Resolved, That the Democratic Party of Hawai'i urges the State Legislature, working with the Department of Attorney General, the Hawaiian Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i, the Office of Hawaiian Affairs, the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands, the Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs, Native Hawaiian Organizations and kānaka maoli wherever they may currently reside, draft and pass legislation to create and fund a Native Hawaiian Rights Division of the State Attorney General's office; and be it

Ordered, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the following: Hawai'i Department of Attorney General, the Governor of Hawaii, the Lieutenant Governor of Hawai'i, the Hawai'i State Legislature, the Office of Hawaiian Affairs, the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands, the Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs, Native Hawaiian Organizations and kānaka maoli, and all the county mayors and members of County Councils.

HHS:2018-01 Ensuring Access to Medical Aid in Dying

Whereas, The Democratic Party of Hawai'i have supported the passage of medical aid in dying as it is a part of our platform under the HUMAN RIGHTS AND CIVIL RIGHTS & ECONOMIC JUSTICE plank which states "We support the individual's choice of dying with dignity, including Doctor assisted death"; and

Whereas, The Democratic Party of Hawai'i applauds the 2018 Legislature for passing medical aid in dying with the passage of Our Care, Our Choice Act and Governor Ige for signing it into law on April 5, 2018; and

Whereas, The Democratic Party of Hawai'i supports all efforts to ensure that all mentally capable adults that have been diagnosed with a terminal illness and given 6 months or less to live and those who choose medical aid in dying as one of their end-of-life options have full access to such services; and

Whereas, The Democratic Party of Hawai'i recognizes that doctors can choose whether to practice medical aid in dying but all eligible patients should be fully informed of their end-of-life options; and

Whereas, The Democratic Party of Hawai'i recognizes there is a shortage of doctors in the state of Hawai'i which can cause a barrier for mentally capable adults that have been diagnosed with a terminal illness to complete the lengthy process, including three medical appointments, to obtain a prescription for medical aid in dying; therefore be it

Resolved, That the Democratic Party of Hawai'i calls on the Hawai'i State Legislature to amend the Our Care, Our Choice Act to make the option easier to access should it be found that mentally capable and terminally ill patients are experiencing barriers to access the Our Care, Our Choice Act; and be it

Ordered, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to all Democratic members of Hawai'i's Congressional Delegation, the Governor of the State of Hawai'i, the Lt. Governor of the State of Hawai'i, all members of the Hawai'i State Legislature who are members of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i, and the Director of the Department of Health.

HHS:2018-02 Urging the Hawai'i State Legislature to Enact a Paid Family Leave Plan

Whereas, Paid Family Leave has long been a plank of the Hawai'i Democratic Party platform and advocates for women and families have supported enabling legislation since 2004, and all previous measures have been relegated to further study; and

Whereas, Women now make up 48 percent of Hawai'i's workforce and are the primary caregivers of infants, children and elderly parents, and are affected disproportionately by the unavailability of paid family leave; and

Whereas, Hawai'i's working families are not adequately supported during times of caregiving or illness because the Federal Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993 allows 12 weeks of unpaid leave and most families cannot afford to take unpaid leave; and

Whereas, 247,000 people serve as family caregivers and Hawai'i has the fastest growing population of individuals over the age of 65 in the nation; and

Whereas, Temporary Disability Insurance may provide some benefits for temporary disability, but does not provide paid family leave for both parents or paid leave to care for elderly relatives; and

Whereas, Other states have implemented successful models of affordable Paid Family Leave that have been supported by progressive employers and family advocates; therefore be it

Resolved, That the Democratic Party of Hawai'i urges the Hawai'i State Legislature to complete a timely and comprehensive review of all Hawai'i paid family leave plans and implement, at the soonest opportunity, the most comprehensive and actionable version; and be it

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

HHS:2018-03 Urging the Hawaii State Legislature to Protect Families including Parents with Disabilities

Whereas, People with disabilities continue to face antiquated attitudes, as well as preconceived and unnecessary societal biases regarding their ability to successfully parent their children in family and dependency law proceedings where custody and visitation are at stake and in public and private adoption, guardianship, and foster care proceedings; and,

Whereas, Because of these societal biases and antiquated attitudes, children of parents with disabilities are unnecessarily being removed from their parents' care or being restricted from enjoying meaningful time with their parents; and

Whereas, Children are being denied the opportunity to enjoy the experience of living in loving homes with parents or other care takers with disabilities; and

Whereas, The O'ahu County Democrats of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i previously adopted resolution OC 2017-9, Regarding a Blind Person's Right to Parent; and

Whereas, The Hawai'i State House of Representatives adopted House Resolution 138 in 2018, Requesting the Hawai'i State Judiciary and Department of Human Services to Not Use Blindness as a Basis for Denying Parental Rights; therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Democratic Party of Hawai'i urge the Hawai'i State Legislature to pass new legislation that will protect the best interests of children parented by individuals with disabilities or children who could be parented by individuals with disabilities through the establishment of procedural safeguards that require adherence to the Americans with Disabilities Act and respect for the due process and equal protection rights of parents or prospective parents with disabilities in the context of child welfare, foster care, family law and adoption; and be it further

Resolved, That the Democratic Party of Hawai'i request that the legislation specify that a parent's disability shall not serve as a basis for: denial or restriction of visitation or custody in family or dependency law cases, denial of participation in public or private adoption, denial of foster care or guardianship, when the visitation or custody, adoption, or foster guardianship is determined to be otherwise in the best interest of the child; and that, where a parent or prospective parent's disability is alleged to have a detrimental impact on a child, the party raising the allegation bears the burden of proving by clear and convincing evidence that the behaviors are endangering or will likely endanger the health, safety or welfare of the child; and that, if this burden is met, the parent or prospective parent with the disability shall have the opportunity to demonstrate how the implementation of supportive parenting services can alleviate any concerns that have been raised, that the court may require that such supportive parenting services be put in place, with an opportunity to review the need for continuation of such services within a reasonable period of time; and that, if a court determines that a disabled parent's right to custody, visitation, foster care, guardianship, or adoption should be denied or limited in any manner, the court shall make specific written findings stating the basis for such a determination and why the provision of supportive parenting services is not a reasonable accommodation that must be made to prevent such denial or limitation; and be it

Ordered, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the Governor of the State of Hawai'i, the Lt. Governor of the State of Hawai'i, State Department of Human Services, and all Democrats who are members of the Hawai'i State Legislature.

HHS:2018-04 Urging the Creation of a Task Force to Study the Establishment of a Statewide Community Land Trust to Promote Homeownership Opportunities in Hawai'i

Whereas, Hawai'i has traditionally been unable to provide an adequate amount of permanent, affordable housing for residents; and

Whereas, Studies estimate between 64,000 and 66,000 homes must be built to provide decent, safe affordable homes for the increasing population of Hawai'i; and

Whereas, It has been demonstrated that community land trusts can help address the need for permanent, affordable housing by: purchasing homes, including homes that fall into foreclosure; putting restrictions on the price and occupancy on the homes through ground lease covenants; and by selling the homes to income-qualified families at below market prices; and

Whereas, Na Hale O Maui has done an exemplary job of successfully using County of Maui Affordable Housing Funds and federal funding from the federal Neighborhood Stabilization Program to acquire, rehabilitate and sell bank owned foreclosure homes as community land trust housing; and

Whereas, The Na Hale O Maui community land trust could serve as a successful model for a statewide organization with professional leadership and centralized administration, providing many residents the potential to own a home in the State; Na Hale O Maui currently has a goal of building 12 affordable homes in Lahaina in the next funding cycle; therefore be it

Resolved, That the Democratic Party of Hawai'i urges the State Housing Finance and Development Corporation to convene a statewide community land trust task force to study the establishment of a statewide community land trust to promote homeownership opportunities in Hawai'i; and be it further

Resolved, That the Democratic Party of Hawai'i urges that the task force include, but not be limited to, the following members:

1. The chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources, or the chairperson's designee;
2. The executive director of the Hawai'i Public Housing Authority, or the executive director's designee;
3. A representative from the Na Hale O Maui Community Land Trust;
4. A representative from each of the community land trusts on Kaua'i, O'ahu and Hawai'i Island;
5. The director of the Affordable Housing and Homeless Alliance, or the director's designee; and
6. The director of the Hawai'i Habitat for Humanity, or the director's designee; and be it

Ordered, That certified copies of this resolution be transmitted to the governor of Hawai'i; the mayor of the counties of Hawai'i, Kaua'i, Maui, and the City and County of Honolulu; the director of Business, Economic Development and Tourism; the chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources; the director of Human Services; the chairperson of the Hawaiian Homes Commission; the chairperson of the Hawai'i Housing Finance and Development Corporation; the executive director of the Hawai'i Public Housing Authority; the executive director of the Trust for Public Lands; the director of the Affordable Housing and Homeless Alliance; and the director of the Hawai'i Habitat for Humanity.

HHS:2018-05 Single-Payer/All-payer Healthcare for Hawaii

Whereas, in January, 2018, Hawai'i's Insurance Commissioner projected that health insurance premiums will skyrocket to \$14,000 per person and \$42,500 for a family of four in the next eight years; and

Whereas, Massive rate increases for Hawaii residents will be unsustainable, with premiums doubling every 10 years and outpacing inflation and wages, according to the Hawai'i Insurance Commissioner; and

Whereas, The Hawai'i Insurance Commissioner has warned, "We're at a crisis point and people don't realize it"; and

Whereas, The Affordable Care Act (ACA or Obamacare) in section 1332 allows a state to apply for an "innovation waiver" to implement a single-payer healthcare system starting in 2017; and

Whereas, The Hawai'i State Legislature enacted HRS Chapter 322H in 2009 to create the Hawai'i Health Authority (HHA) to provide recommendations to the state for creation of a state-level single-payer healthcare system that would avoid the non-medical overhead costs of private insurance that are an unnecessary cost burden on our healthcare system; and

Whereas, All reputable studies of single-payer healthcare systems show that extensive savings and improvements in medical services would result if they were adopted; and

Whereas, The Legislature has not yet empowered the Hawai'i Health Authority to implement its recommendations; now, therefore be it

Resolved, That the Democratic Party of Hawai'i calls on the Hawai'i State Legislature to fund the Hawaii Health Authority so that it can design either a Single-Payer or an All-Payer Healthcare system that will remove the unnecessary burden of obtaining health insurance from private companies; and be it

Resolved, That the Democratic Party of Hawai'i calls on the Hawaii State Legislature to take additional immediate action to address the impending catastrophic increase in health insurance premiums; and be it

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

HHS:2018-06 Urging the State Legislature, State Administration, and County Councils and Mayors Take Immediate Action to Prevent Youth and Adult Suicides and Suicide Attempts

Whereas, There is no accurate account of adult and youth suicide attempts because the majority are not reported; and

Whereas, Both adults and youth, due to economic, familial, social, psychological and other issues, do not always have healthy and meaningful activities in their lives; and

Whereas, The accepted studies state that people with one healthy and meaningful relationship in their lives and one healthy and meaningful activity in their lives, their risk factors for behavioral health issues and suicide are reduced by over 75 percent; and

Whereas, State and county agencies have ability to create collaboration for the much needed guidance to our youth; therefore be it

Resolved, That the Democratic Party of Hawai`i urges the State Legislature, State Administration, and County Councils and Mayors to take immediate action to prevent suicides and suicide attempts; and be it further

Resolved, That the Democratic Party of Hawai`i urges the State Legislature, State Administration, and the County Councils and Mayors to consult with all stakeholders (providers, family members, youth) to gain input into ways to help prevent youth and adult suicides; and be it further

Resolved, That the Democratic Party of Hawai`i urges the State Legislature, State Administration, and the County Councils and Mayors to formulate a comprehensive plan for engaging and providing opportunities for our youth to have healthy role models and activities, including mentorship by members of the Democratic Party of Hawai`i; and be it further

Resolved, That the Democratic Party of Hawai`i urges the Hawai`i State Legislature to adopt the recommendations from "Report To The Hawai`i State Legislature In Response To House Concurrent Resolution (HCR) 66, H.D. 1, S.D. 1", dated December, 2017; and be it

Ordered, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the following who are members of the Democratic Party of Hawai`i: the State Governor, State Lieutenant Governor, and Hawai`i State Legislature, and to all the non-partisan Mayors and members of County Councils.

HHS:2018-07 Urging the Enforcement of Federal and State Title IX Legislation Prohibiting Discrimination in Education

Whereas, In 1972, the federal law prohibiting discrimination in education known as Title IX and later renamed the Patsy T. Mink Equal Opportunity in Education Act was enacted; and

Whereas, The Title IX law applies to all schools, from preschool through university, that receive federal funds; and

Whereas, The U.S. Department of Education's Office of Civil Rights (DOE OCR) has issued guidelines and best practices for schools and universities that receive federal funding for the protection of women and girls and LGBT students who may experience harassment and assault; and

Whereas, The University of Hawai'i and the Hawai'i Department of Education have both been the subject of U.S. DOE OCR audits; and

Whereas, The 2018 Hawai'i State Legislature passed HCR 198 SD1 requesting a report by the Hawai'i Department of Education detailing its actions to comply with Title IX; and

Whereas, The 2018 Hawai'i State Legislature also passed HB 1489 HD1, SD2, CD1 adding a new Chapter to Hawai'i Revised Statutes, Title 20 prohibiting discrimination in education in all Hawai'i educational programs and activities with an effective date of 2020; and

Whereas, The state Title IX legislation does not yet have any enforcement mechanism or complaint procedure and the Legislature is awaiting a report from the Legislative Reference Bureau due in 2019; therefore be it

Resolved, That the Democratic Party of Hawai'i urges the Hawai'i State Legislature to share the Title IX report by the State DOE requested by 2018 Hawai'i State Legislature with the public and with advocates, and requests regular updates on the progress of implementing Title IX protections in Hawai'i schools; and be it

Resolved, That the Democratic Party of Hawai'i urges the Hawai'i State Legislature broadest possible applications of Title IX and implement effective enforcement with responsive complaint procedures at the earliest opportunity; and be it

Ordered, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the Governor of the State of Hawai'i, the Lt. 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.

HHS:2018-08 Urging Hawai'i State Legislature to provide Sufficient Funding for girls' athletic facilities to comply with Title IX

Whereas, There are close to 3,200 students at Campbell High School, the State's largest public school, and it has not had a girls' athletic locker room since it opened in 1962; and

Whereas, The boys have their own athletic locker room with storage units and restrooms; and

Whereas, The boys' facility cannot be shared with the girls due to safety concerns and the locker rooms are only used for regular physical education classes and are not open and available for athletes' after-school activities; and

Whereas, This gender disparity when it comes to facilities applies to several schools around the State of Hawai'i and such disparity is in violation of Title IX of the Federal Civil Rights Act of 1972, now known as the "Patsy Mink Equal Opportunity in Education Act"; and

Whereas, Title IX requires that schools or education programs that receive federal assistance must provide equal opportunities and access to programs and facilities for female and male athletes; and

Whereas, More than 16,000 girls in Hawai'i participated in high school sports during the 2016–2017 school year; and

Whereas, Eight of the 23 high schools on O'ahu and two of 10 high schools on Hawai'i Island do not have a separate athletic girls' locker facility while facilities exist for boys; and

Whereas, Two of five schools on the island of Maui and one out of three schools on the island of Kaua'i are in violation of Title IX; and

Whereas, The Hawai'i Department of Education is failing the girls of the State of Hawai'i by not complying with the Title IX federal mandate and providing female athletic facilities; and

Whereas, The Department of Education was allocated \$337 million by the Hawai'i State Legislature for capital improvement projects for the fiscal years 2018–2019 but only \$33 million, or less than 10 percent has been allocated to improve gender equity or the rights of disabled individuals; therefore be it

Resolved, That the Democratic Party of Hawai'i urge the Hawai'i State Legislature to provide sufficient funding so that each school within the State Department of Education shall have equal athletic lockers and facilities for female and male athletes pursuant to Title IX: Patsy Mink Equal Opportunity in Education Act; and be it

Ordered, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the members of the Hawai'i Congressional Delegation, the Governor of the State of Hawai'i, the Lt. 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.

HHS:2018-09 Urging the State Legislature to Support and Fund the Veterans Treatment Court

Whereas, Democratic Party of Hawai`i Resolution Gov 2012-03, Resolution in Support of Veterans, addressed the needs of veterans in general; and

Whereas, Substance abuse and mental health issues among veterans have skyrocketed since 2012; and

Whereas, Specific measures need to be taken to address behavioral health issues since it has been reported that on average over 20 veterans per day die by suicide in the United States, as reported in the Veterans Administration Report on Veteran Suicide Statistics, dated September 15, 2017; and

Whereas, Hawai`i's Veterans Treatment Courts integrate alcohol and drug treatment, and mental health services, within the justice system and case management using a non-adversarial approach to promote public safety while protecting participants' due process rights; and

Whereas, Veterans Treatment Courts provide access to a continuum of alcohol, drug, mental health, and other related treatment and rehabilitation options while employing interdisciplinary education to promote effective program planning, implementation, and operations; and

Whereas, Veterans Treatment Courts create partnerships with the Department of Veterans' Affairs, other public agencies, and community-based organizations to enhance the program's effectiveness through generating local support; and

Whereas, Veterans Treatment Courts also provide a useful strategy for addressing prison overcrowding; and

Whereas, The current Veterans Treatment Courts are staffed by volunteers; now, therefore be it

Resolved, That due to the increased rate of suicidal behavior, mental health disorders, and substance abuse among veterans, Gov 2012-03, Resolution in Support of Veterans, ought to be superseded by the present Resolution; and be it further

Resolved, That the Democratic Party of Hawai`i urges the Hawai`i State Legislature to adequately fund, support, and expand the Veterans Treatment Courts program throughout the State of Hawai`i; and be it

Ordered, That copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the Democratic members of the Hawai`i State Legislature.

HHS:2018-10 Urging legal clarification for subscription or shared ownership access to raw milk or raw milk products.

Whereas the Democratic Party of Hawai`i and many citizens of this state have expressed support for small farm operations and "farm-to-table" local food production; and

Whereas some citizens prefer to consume raw milk or raw milk products, due to perceived taste or health benefits; and

Whereas the sale of raw milk or raw milk products is excluded by Hawai`i Administrative Rule, Title 11, Department of Health, Chapter 15 (Milk) 11-15-46; and

Whereas this restriction is an infringement upon each citizen's right to make decisions for him or herself regarding health choices and food preferences; and

Whereas decisions with potentially harmful, unintended consequences should be made from informed positions, any mechanism providing consumers access to raw milk or raw milk products should include biologically accurate information regarding the potential for zoonotic disease or parasite transmission (specifically between dairy animals and humans as a result of consuming raw milk or raw milk products), the prevalence of these transmissions in the state of Hawai`i, and what populations of end consumers are at increased risk; and

Whereas Chapter 157 of the Hawai`i Revised Statutes only addresses regulation of production procedures for processing, distribution and sale of pasteurized milk; and

Whereas in other states, raw milk can be legally obtained by consumers by either 1) purchasing a share of a herd or cow, thereby being considered part owner of the producing animal and thus allowed to obtain raw milk or raw milk products in exchange for financially contributing to the upkeep of the animal(s), or by 2) participating in a direct from the farm subscription service; and

Whereas neither Hawaii Statutes nor Administrative Rules clearly defines cow shares, herd shares or subscription services, as related to end consumers obtaining raw milk; and, therefore be it

Resolved, That that the Democratic Party of Hawai`i shall encourage elected officials of all political parties to consider amending the *Hawai`i Revised Statutes* to permit informed citizens to obtain unpasteurized and non-homogenized (also called raw) dairy products through a direct-from-farm subscription service, or from animals owned exclusively or in part by that citizen, or a member of that citizen's household or family, as part of a cow or herd share arrangement; be it further resolved that any such mechanism for obtaining raw milk or raw milk products includes provisions for risk mitigation and clear communication to consumers regarding risk mitigation; and be it

Ordered, that copies of this resolution be transmitted to the members of the Hawai`i Congressional Delegation, the Governor of the State of Hawai`i, the Lt. Governor of the State of Hawai`i, and Hawai`i State Legislators.

LAB:2018-01 Urging the legislature to recognize the legality of student labor unions in Hawai'i

Whereas, Article 23 of the United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights supports “the right to form and to join trade unions for the protection of his interests”; and

Whereas, Labor unions promote and defend the freedom of working people to make a good living, to support families, to have work-life balance, to access important public services like good schools and quality health care, and to have dignity and representation in the workplace; and

Whereas, These freedoms are under attack within a predatory neoliberal capitalist economic system in which the rising costs of living, rampant economic inequality and labor exploitation has rendered student laborers particularly vulnerable to poverty and economic hardship; and

Whereas, The University of Hawai'i relies increasingly on poorly-paid, temporary student labor for critical core competencies including invaluable research, administrative services, the teaching of essential classes, the management of key university facilities and the generation of profit for the university; and

Whereas, The precarious and temporary nature of graduate student employment lends itself to the increased likelihood of abuse without the recourse of union representation; and

Whereas, Student laborers are burdened by increasing amounts of debt, high costs of living, and mental and physical health issues stemming from lack of material security; and

Whereas, Student labor unions have existed in the nation since the 1960s, with all existing empirical research demonstrating improved working conditions, improved pay and benefits, improved job satisfaction, and improved professor-student relationships, with no negative effects reported; and

Whereas, The number of student labor unions has been steadily increasing nationwide with more than 100,000 unionized graduate workers across the country; and

Whereas, Such unions exist at public universities in over a dozen states, including California, Oregon, Washington and New York, as well as at many private universities including top-tier institutions such as the University of Chicago; and

Whereas, The National Labor Relations Board (NLRB) has affirmed that graduate assistants have the right to join unions and collectively bargain; and

Whereas, President Trump's new NLRB appointees may overturn the board's previously supportive ruling on graduate assistant unionization; and

Whereas, Denying the right of Hawai'i's student laborers to unionize is to therefore be complicit in President Trump's assault on workers' rights nationwide; and

Whereas, The platform of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i supports “strong labor practices, good jobs and a living wage” and vows to “protect and restore the civil and human rights of each person”; therefore be it

Resolved, That the Democratic Party of Hawai'i urges the Hawai'i State Legislature to pass legislation recognizing the legality of student laborers' human right to form a union capable of collectively bargaining on behalf of its membership; and be it

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

LAB:2018-02 Urging the realignment of social services to center on finances for basic needs

Whereas, Income inequality in the State of Hawai'i and in the United States continues to rise and an increasing number of people are living under the poverty line; and

Whereas, Advances in technology have increased productivity to an extent that many industries need far fewer workers than in the past; and

Whereas, Many lower and middle class people are juggling multiple jobs in order to make ends meet, and these multiple jobs leave them little time to care for themselves or their loved ones, and little time to invest in the training and initiatives that have helped Americans in the past to better their station in life; and

Whereas, The current welfare system provides a disincentive to work because benefits disappear as income increases; and

Whereas, The current welfare system imposes a series of qualification and claim hurdles that take up the valuable time and resources of those who can least afford them; and

Whereas, The current welfare system is a patchwork of different programs that each have their own qualification and enforcement bureaucracy; and

Whereas, The point of human life is to have a meaningful experience that balances purpose, service to others, growth and joy; and

Whereas, Much of the work that makes society function is unpaid work such as child care, elder care, volunteering, community activism, political involvement, mentoring and the generation of art, and such work is dependent on people having enough survival money from other sources in order to take the time to engage in such non-income earning activities; and

Whereas, Our state and our nation have achieved unprecedented levels of productivity and aggregate wealth; and

Whereas, Even the wealthiest among us achieved success using common resources and common infrastructure; and

Whereas, We advance our society socially, culturally and economically when we all have the opportunity to engage in occupations that we find meaningful, and when we remove unnecessary barriers to sharing the fruit of our labors; and

Whereas, A Universal Basic Income (UBI) model meets these needs more effectively and efficiently than this patchwork of welfare programs, saving money in the long run; and

Whereas, A UBI model has been successfully tested in at least seven municipalities and countries around the world and found to have generated increased productivity, inspired innovation, expanded small business opportunities, reduced personal debt, increased enrollment in higher education or vocational training programs, decreased rates of violent and property crime and improved health outcomes; be it

Resolved, That the Democratic Party of Hawai'i urges the Hawai'i State Legislature to pass legislation establishing a UBI system that will guarantee to all taxpaying residents a flat, equal, monthly basic income stipend that is enough to enable the resident to survive in the State of Hawai'i, regardless of paid income and independent of any other criteria of means; and be it

Ordered, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the Governor of the State of Hawai`i, the Lt. Governor of the State of Hawai`i and the members of the Hawai`i State Legislature.

NAT:2018-01 Urging the Hawai`i Congressional delegation to pressure Israel to respect Palestinian human rights

Whereas, In 2017 the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia published a report titled “Israeli Practices towards the Palestinian People and the Question of Apartheid” which describes how Palestinian citizens of Israel are “subjected to oppression on the basis of not being Jewish”; and

Whereas, The report describes how Palestinians in East Jerusalem similarly experience “discrimination in access to education, healthcare, employment, residency and building rights,” as well as “expulsions and home demolitions”; and

Whereas, The report describes how Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza Strip are governed by “military law” alongside Jewish settlers “governed by Israeli civil law”; and

Whereas, The report describes how Palestinian refugees and exiles are “prohibited from returning to their homes in Israel and the occupied Palestinian territory” on the basis that they “constitute a 'demographic threat' and that their return would alter the demographic character of Israel”; and

Whereas, This pattern of governance clearly demonstrates that Israel uses a separate system of laws and policies from the one that governs its Jewish citizens to discriminate against, segregate, manipulate, target and otherwise interact with Palestinians; and

Whereas, This sort of oppressive, tiered system of laws and policies fully meets the textbook definition of the word “Apartheid”; and

Whereas, Systems of Apartheid are classified as human rights violations by the United Nations; and

Whereas, Human Rights Watch's 2018 World Report found that the Israeli government has continued to “enforce severe and discriminatory restrictions on Palestinians' human rights; restrict the movement of people and goods into and out of the Gaza Strip; and facilitate the unlawful transfer of Israeli citizens to settlements in the occupied West Bank”; and

Whereas, Israeli forces have, as recently as May 14, 2018, fired live round ammunition at unarmed Palestinian protesters, killing scores of civilians and injuring up to 6,000 (see *TruthDig's* “Killing Gaza”); and

Whereas, The United Nations' Human Rights Council passed a resolution (A/HRC/31/L.37) in 2016 by a vote of 42 in favor, none against and five abstentions, demanding that Israel “comply fully with the provisions of the Fourth Geneva Convention of 1949 and cease immediately all measures and actions taken in violation and in breach of the Convention” and calling for “urgent measures to ensure the safety and protection of the Palestinian civilian population in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem” and further demanding that Israel “cease all practices and actions that violate the human rights of the Palestinian people”; be it

Resolved, That the Democratic Party of Hawai`i urges the Hawai`i Congressional Delegation to support the tenets of the 1986 Comprehensive Anti-Apartheid Act and support economic sanctions against Israel until it ceases all human rights violations against Palestinians and ends its Apartheid system; and be it

Ordered, that copies of this resolution be transmitted to the members of the Hawai`i Congressional Delegation, the Governor of the State of Hawai`i, the Lt. Governor of the State of Hawai`i, and all members of the Hawai`i State Legislature.

The committee rejected this resolution by Unanimous Consent. While we all sympathized with the outlaw nature of ICE and would have entertained a resolution that called for oversight of that agency, we could not justify the abolition of that agency without some alternative suggestion.

NR-01:Urging That ICE (Immigration, and Customs Enforcement) Be Abolished

Whereas, ICE is a relatively new agency created in 2003 by the Department of Homeland Security as a reaction to 9/11; and

Whereas, ICE has turned into a state funded group that regularly violates basic human rights; and

Whereas, Our nation can rely on our existing law enforcement and criminal justice agencies to arrest those who have committed a crime, just as occurred before 2003; and

Whereas, Our nation does not need a special enforcement agency for undocumented immigrants; and

Whereas, ICE has disrupted and separated Hawaiian families with American spouses and children, thus causing financial and emotional harm; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Democratic Party of Hawai`i urges the abolishment of ICE, Immigration, and Customs Enforcement; and be it

Ordered, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the members of the Hawai`i Congressional Delegation, The Governor of the State of Hawai`i, the Lt. Governor of the State of Hawai`i, Hawai`i State Legislators who are members of the Democratic Party; and be it

This resolution failed in a 4-9-1 vote. The committee could not reach a consensus on the purpose of such a convention. "Just because" did not seem to have relevance.

NR-02 Supporting a Hawai'i Constitutional Convention in 2018

Whereas, The most recent Hawai'i state constitutional convention was held in 1978, forty year ago; and

Whereas, The State of Hawai'i has changed dramatically in the last forty years; and

Whereas, A state constitutional convention would give power to the people to directly propose changes to the state constitution; and

Whereas, The Democratic Party of Hawai'i believes in importance of democracy and in the rule of the people; and

Whereas, Any proposed changes would have to be ratified by people of Hawai'i in a direct vote, providing a strong safeguard against attempts to change the Hawai'i state constitution in ways that would be detrimental to the public; therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Democratic Party of Hawai'i supports holding a Constitutional Convention and urges its members to vote yes on authorizing a Constitutional Convention; and be it further

Ordered, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to members of the Democratic Party who hold elected state political offices.

This resolution failed on a voice vote. The major objection was the short amount of time between the end of the legislative session and the next election thus leaving the incumbent at a distinct disadvantage. While many on the committee are tired of incumbents who do nothing but get reelected, we were not so sure that a rapid turnover of legislators was in the best interest of the state.

NR-03 Urging state legislators to refrain from fundraising while the legislature is in session

Whereas, State legislators are public servants beholden to the various constituencies that elected them to serve; and

Whereas, Their legislative service occurs on a part-time basis during less than half of a given calendar year; and

Whereas, Legislators can better serve their constituents during this brief but important time period if their attention is solely dedicated to legislating and not to fundraising, which can be engaged in during the remainder of the year; and

Whereas, Holders of public office statewide are spending increasingly large amounts of time fundraising (see Civil Beat's "Lawmakers Outdid Themselves Raising Campaign Cash This Session"); therefore be it

Resolved, That the Democratic Party of Hawai`i respectfully urges officials elected to the state legislature to refrain from engaging in campaign fundraising during the course of a given legislative session; and be it

Ordered, That copies of this resolution be distributed to all members of the Hawai`i State Legislature.

This resolution failed on a 4-8-2 vote. The committee did not feel that adding an additional burden on native Hawaiian families who have lived on the beach “forever” was in the best interest of the state. Some felt this would already be covered by flood insurance (it was not clear that flood insurance covers sea-level rise). Others objected that the burden would fall too greatly on those who could not afford it and the large resorts would not participate.

NR-04 Encouraging the Establishment of a Global-Warming Insurance Fund in the State of Hawai`i

Whereas, Rising sea levels as a result of global warming will endanger properties along the shores and coastline of the State of Hawai`i, and it has become evident that the State of Hawai`i lacks a realistic shoreline protection insurance program to protect the assets of residents, visitors, and numerous hotel chains in the Conservation Land Use District administered by the State of Hawai`i; and

Whereas, The cost of such a program should be equitably proportional in incremental fashion around the State to offset the billion-dollar impact to local property rights due to the above; and

Whereas, The protection of these rights, guaranteed by the State Constitution has become more important with the advent of statewide issues relating thereto; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Democratic Party of Hawai`i urge the legislature to protect and enhance the shoreline property of the State by establishing a statewide Global-Warming Insurance Program through the Office of the Insurance Commissioner; and be it

Ordered, That copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the State Governor, State Lieutenant Governor, the State Legislature, and the Office of the Insurance Commissioner.

Failed 8-6-2. Note that abstentions count at No, so it was a tie and a tie fails. Many felt that pursuing a constitutional amendment was impractical and had that not been part of the resolve clause, votes may have changed.

NR-05 Urging the Congressional Delegation to Pass an Amendment to the U.S. Constitution to Clarify the Individual vs the Collective Right to Bear Arms

Whereas, The language of Second Amendment of the United States Constitution has created considerable debate regarding the constitutional amendments intended scope; and

Whereas, Some people believe that this constitutional provision creates an individual constitutional right for citizens of the United States; and

Whereas, Under this "individual right theory", the United States Constitution restricts legislative bodies from prohibiting firearm possession, or at the very least, the Second Amendment renders prohibitory and restrictive regulation presumptively unconstitutional; and

Whereas, However, other people contend that the prefatory language of "a well regulated militia" indicates that the framers of the United States Constitution intended only to restrict the United States Congress from legislating away a state's right to self-defense; and

Whereas, Under this "collective rights theory", the Second Amendment asserts that United States citizens do not have an individual right to possess guns and that local, state, and federal legislative bodies possess the authority to regulate firearms without implicating a constitutional right; and

Whereas, These two interpretations of the Second Amendment have been considered and adopted by the United States Supreme Court; and

Whereas, In 1939, the United States Supreme Court adopted a collective rights approach under *United States v. Miller*, 307 U.S. 174 (1939) by determining that the United States Congress could regulate a sawed-off shotgun that had moved in interstate commerce under the National Firearms Act of 1934; and be it

Resolved, That the Democratic Party of Hawaii urges Congress to propose an amendment to the United States Constitution to clarify the constitutional right to bear arms as a collective rather than individual right; and be it further

Ordered, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the Hawai'i Congressional Delegation.

The committee could not see the point of this resolution. The resolve clause did not have an objective that the committee did not feel the legislature was already dealing with. GOV: 2018-23 was used as an example to show what the committee was looking for.

NR-06 Urging Government Leaders to Leverage Information and Technology

Whereas, The Platform of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i, approved at the 2016 State Convention of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i, recognizes that "the responsible development and use of technology in all its manifestations offers immense potential for our community, government, including institutions of higher education and business sectors;"; and

Whereas, The Platform of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i supports efforts to build and retain a qualified workforce in Hawai'i, including for jobs in emerging technologies in use in state and local government; and

Whereas, The commitment of the government leadership to modernize state government through information technology transformation is essential to maximizing the power of technology, modernizing business processes and industry best practices to increase the quality of government services to Hawai'i's people; to elevating the state's workforce so individuals are able to compete in the technological era and earn living wages; to securing citizens' privacy against cyber threats, including those from abroad; and to promoting overall effectiveness, efficiency and transparency of state government; and

Whereas, Many states and local governments across the United States have adopted open, data-driven policies with the intent of making public data available to the greatest number of users and for the greatest number of applications, ensuring government operations are transparent and have adopted these policies in recognition that access to empirical data is critical to providing decision makers with the information required to make informed decisions in the interest of the people; and

Whereas, State of Hawai'i executive branch departments are statutorily required, under Hawai'i Revised Statutes 27-44 to use reasonable efforts to make available to the public all appropriate and existing electronic data sets maintained by departments through the state's open data portal at data.hawaii.gov or a successor website designated by the Chief Information Officer; yet those efforts remain decentralized and currently fall short of their full potential; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Democratic Party of Hawai'i urges government leaders to adopt legislation and policies that promote efficiency, effectiveness, and transparency in state and local government, as well as to build and retain a corresponding modern and competitive workforce in Hawai'i; and be it

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

This resolution impacts Oahu only.

NR-07 Urging the United States Navy to retrofit its twenty jet fuel tanks or relocate them to a location away from the aquifer

Whereas, A Navy analysis may underestimate the contamination potential of leaks from giant fuel tanks from Red Hill; and

Whereas, The Navy has 20 underground fuel storage tanks dating to World War II in Red Hill above Pearl Harbor; and

Whereas, The tanks sit on an aquifer that supplies a quarter of the water consumed in urban Honolulu; and

Whereas, More than 27,000 gallons of jet fuel leaked from one of the tanks in 2014; and

Whereas, The Navy's evaluation of the potential risks appears to be skewed toward concluding that millions of gallons of jet fuel could be released without damaging the groundwater; and

Whereas, The Navy cannot locate the leaked fuel or accurately assess the risk to our groundwater; and

Whereas, Instead, the Navy is providing models to produce its preferred outcomes; and

Whereas, The Navy and regulatory agencies are working on a 20-year-plan to reduce the risk of leaks and fuel contamination from the tanks; and

Whereas, The plan includes new tank designs and potentially storing the fuel someplace other than Red Hill; and therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Democratic Party of Hawai'i urge the United States Navy to install double-walled tanks at Red Hill within five years or move the tanks if the Navy is unable to retrofit the twenty tanks into double-walled tanks within the time prescribed; and be it further

Resolved, That the Democratic Party of Hawai'i urge the Hawai'i State Legislature, and the U.S. Congress to mandate that the Navy retrofit the twenty Red Hill tanks to double-walled tanks within five years and or relocate the twenty tanks to a location where the risk of leakage into the aquifer and groundwater is greatly minimized; and be it

Ordered, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the United States Navy, members of the Hawai'i Congressional Delegation, the Governor of the State of Hawai'i, the Lt. Governor of the State of Hawai'i, Hawai'i Legislators who are members of the Democratic Party.

This resolution failed by consensus. California's proposition 13 was provided as an example of the negative way this process can be used. The money spent by "outside interests" that mislead people into voting against their own interests was also discussed. The committee wanted to recommend this but there were just too many negatives.

NR-08 Urging the legislature to authorize direct ballot initiatives

Whereas, Ballot initiatives are used around the world to give voters an opportunity to pass legislation directly; and

Whereas, Ballot initiatives can lead to laws being passed that help residents improve their quality of life, which might not otherwise have been passed; and

Whereas, The legislative and executive branches of government can implement policy that is opposed by the public whom they represent; and

Whereas, Giving residents the opportunity to pass legislation will lead to a more civically-engaged public; and

Whereas, Ballot measure contributions can enable special interests to hijack direct ballot initiatives, as was the case with Proposition 13 in California; and

Whereas, It is possible to curb the influence of special interests by implementing limitations on contributions that can be made in support or in opposition to a ballot initiative; therefore be it

Resolved, That the Democratic Party of Hawai'i urges the Hawai'i State Legislature to pass legislation authorizing direct ballot initiatives to give local residents the opportunity to participate in direct democracy; and be it

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

This resolution failed by consensus. IRS tax code is just too arcane to understand.

NR-09 Call for a Transaction Tax on Financial instruments

Whereas, Michael Lewis' book "Flash Boys" clearly reveals that many, if not most, transactions on stocks and bonds are routed through private communications networks, sometimes referred to as "Dark Pools", where bid and sell orders are momentarily delayed so that sophisticated high-frequency trading computer systems can enter an order to arrive at a public market before the original order, thus allowing the price of the stock or bond to the originator of the order to be slightly higher or lower; and

Whereas, That slight change in price is a guaranteed profit to the owners of those private networks which intercepted the original order; and

Whereas, This manipulation of the market is immoral if not illegal and contrary to the notion of a "free market" on which the US economy is based; and

Whereas, The implementation of a 0.1% tax on Financial Transactions of Stocks, Bonds and Derivatives will make this interception and manipulation of market orders unprofitable; now therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Democratic Party of Hawai'i urges our Congressional Representatives to support implementation of a Federal Financial Transaction Tax on all sales and purchases of Stock, Bonds, and Derivatives; and be it

Ordered, That the Democratic Party of Hawai'i ask each member of the legislature without regard to party affiliation and the Governor of the State of Hawai'i and each member of the Hawaii Congressional Delegation to publicly state their position and actions they support to implement a Financial Transaction Tax; and be it

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

The committee need much more background to understand what this resolution was trying to accomplish. It failed 4-6-4

NR-10 Support Virtual Currency Industry in Hawai`i

Whereas, Hawai`i is located between the two largest markets for Bitcoin and other virtual currencies, Asia and the Mainland U.S., and could serve as a hub for commerce between them; and

Whereas, Hawai`i seeks to expand the activity of companies such as these that pay relatively high wages; and;

Whereas, Ethereum, one of the largest virtual currencies by trading value, was partially developed in Hawaii; and

Whereas, Rules issued by the Hawai`i Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs have already caused Ethereum, Coinbase, and other billion-dollar companies to leave Hawai`i; and

Whereas, Virtual currencies have increased several thousand percent in 2017; and

Whereas, Tourists already withdraw thousands of dollars a day from a Bitcoin ATMs; and

Whereas, Additional tax revenue from Bitcoin and other virtual currency activity in the state would supplement our budget;

Whereas, Hawai`i's location is ideal for initial coin offerings, similar to IPOs for stocks; and

Whereas, The US Securities and Exchange Commission and the Commodities Futures and Exchanges Commission are already regulating virtual currencies; and

Whereas, Crafting laws that do not overly regulate virtual currencies will create an attractive business environment for this industry to grow; now, therefore be it

Resolved, That the Democratic Party of Hawai`i urges the Hawai`i State Legislature to support legislation that allows for the growth of the industry; and be it

Resolved, That the Hawai`i State Legislature work with the virtual currency industry when developing future regulations; and be it

Ordered, That copies of this resolution are sent to the Hawaii Congressional delegation, the Hawai`i Legislature, and to the Governor of Hawai`i.

The committee would be happy to see someone other than Donald Trump as president.

NR-11 Urging the Hawai`i Congressional Delegation to support impeachment proceedings against President Trump

Whereas, President Donald Trump has breached the Foreign Emoluments Clause of the United States Constitution; and

Whereas, President Trump has breached the Domestic Emoluments Clause of the United States Constitution; and

Whereas, President Trump has breached the Take Care clause of the United States Constitution, which says that the President "shall take care that the laws be faithfully executed"; and

Whereas, President Trump has obstructed justice by firing James Comey to stymy the Russia investigation; and

Whereas, President Trump has obstructed justice by pardoning former Sheriff Joe Arpaio; and

Whereas, President Trump has breached his oath of office by failing to "preserve, protect and defend the Constitution of the United States"; and

Whereas, President Trump has proven himself a clear and present danger to global security and the longevity of the human race, be it by threatening nuclear Armageddon on the Korean Peninsula, ignoring the increasingly dramatic dangers of climate change, rolling back environmental protections, furthering a nationalist agenda, destabilizing the Middle East and ignoring the plight of refugees, fueling racial tensions at home and abroad, supporting brutal, totalitarian regimes in direct violation of human rights law, or intentionally harming his own citizens, including the people of Puerto Rico; and

Whereas, President Trump is therefore a disgrace to the office of the President, to the United States Constitution and to the people of America; therefore be it

Resolved, That the Democratic Party of Hawai`i urges the Hawai`i Congressional Delegation to support impeachment proceedings against President Trump and support his expedient removal from office; and be it

Ordered, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the members of the Hawai`i Congressional Delegation.

This resolution might more appropriately be considered to have been merged or combined with BUS: 2018-01 and -02. It was just determined to be redundant and out of order because it conflicted with previously approved resolutions.

NR-12: Amending Resolution 2017-11 to increase Minimum Wage TO \$15/hour

Whereas, Hawai'i has the worst in the nation minimum wage which stifles wages of everyone in the State; and

Whereas, If companies were required to pay at least a living wage for entry level positions, workers with more skills and experience would be able to demand wages well beyond the amount paid for entry level positions; and

Whereas, Due to our exploitative minimum wage, those with degrees and decades of experience are unable to find decent paying jobs; and

Whereas, With depressed wages, there is also less income for the state to tax, leaving Hawai'i with one of the highest tax rates in the Nation but near the bottom in actual tax revenue leaving Hawai'i with failing infrastructure and underfunded schools; and

Whereas, The Platform of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i has recognized the positive impact of raising the minimum wage and has called for increasing it to \$15.00 per hour nationwide but Hawai'i's minimum wage still sits at \$10.10; and

Whereas, Many states and cities, both liberal and conservative, have increased their minimum wage to keep up with the cost of living; and

Whereas, Arizona and Maine, states with Republican governors, will reach \$12.00 per hour and beyond, and California, Washington, D.C., and New York are some of the many areas that will get \$15.00 per hour in a few years; and

Whereas, Hawai'i is the most expensive state in the country and the Legislature has been unwilling to come close to providing for a living wage; and

Whereas, Even where unemployment is at a record low and poverty is widespread, the minimum wage is equivalent to only \$21,000 per year; and

Whereas, The cost of affording one's basic needs in Hawai'i is estimated at \$32,000 or more for a single adult whereas hundreds of thousands of full-time workers earn far less than what is necessary to survive; and

Whereas, Multinational and billion-dollar corporations are allowed to pay wages well below what is necessary to afford an adult's basic needs, thereby causing our working families to pay the cost; and

Whereas, The cost is borne by families having to live in multigenerational households; work multiple jobs; live in substandard housings; and relocating to the mainland in search of a better life; and, be it; and

Whereas, OC 2017-11 was adopted in 2017 and LAB 2014-01 was adopted in 2014; and, therefore, be it

Resolved, That DPH Resolution LAB 2014-01 be amended to increase the minimum wage to fifteen dollars (\$15.00) per hour; and be it further

Resolved, That the Democratic Party of Hawai'i urge the 2019 Hawai'i State Legislature to mandate a minimum wage of fifteen dollars (\$15.00) per hour effective 1/1/2020; and be it further

Resolved, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the members of the Hawai'i Congressional Delegation, the Governor of the State of Hawai'i, the Lt. Governor of the State of Hawai'i, Hawai'i Legislators who are members of the Democratic Party; the Mayor of the City and County of Honolulu; and Members of the City Council of the County of Honolulu.

C-01: Urging That Bail Be Reformed

Whereas, In order to make Hawai'i's criminal justice system reflective of communal values, it is necessary to amend Hawai'i's bail setting practices to a more equitable, affordable, transparent and constitutional process; and

Whereas, In *Huihui v. Shimoda*, 644 P. 2d 968, 978 (1982), the Hawai'i Supreme Court explained that "...the manner in which the legislature allows this and other legitimate, recognized state concerns to be reflected in the bail decision, should it choose to do so by statute, must also be reasonable and satisfy the minimal demands of procedural due process as necessitated by the fact that pretrial detention denies an accused his liberty without a formal adjudication of guilt"; and

Whereas, Reforming, or even abolishing, the use of bail is not the only solution for aligning the state criminal justice system with the needs and goals of Hawai'i in the 21st century, but is one part of an enlightened, systemic, necessary strategy to incorporate a decrease in crime, data, lived experience here and abroad, analysis of legal and social history, and the work of members of the community outside the formal criminal justice system; and

Whereas, It costs \$152 per day to house a prisoner at the O'ahu Community Correctional Center (OCCC), approximately 70% of the total OCCC population is classified as either minimum or community custody (the two lowest classifications) and over 80% of the total jail population is charged with a class C felony or below (i.e. a misdemeanor, petty misdemeanor, violation, or technical offense); and

Whereas, Continuing confinement leads to a loss of employment, custody of minors, housing, vehicles, and standing in the community; which are punishments; must be delivered by the state after trial, not before, pursuant to the federal and state constitutions; and

Whereas, Poor and working class people are often unable to directly pay bail, which means they are forced to go through a bonding agency and permanently lose the money they have paid to that agency; and

Whereas, Bail reform in Hawai'i is overdue, as Hawai'i has a troubled, overcrowded prison system, which includes four prisons and four jails in the islands, and the private prisons contract on the continent, and these policies have had a significant disproportionate impact on Pacific Islanders and native Hawaiians, be it

Resolved, That the Democratic Party of Hawai'i urges the passage of bail reform policy by amending the law to:

1. Expand pretrial services; and
2. Expand judicial training; and
3. Require transparency in bail procedures; and
4. Shift the burden of proof to the state for keeping an individual in custody; and
5. Create a legal presumption for courts (and any other bail setting authority) to presume unconditional release for all defendants; and be it

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

COMBINED Into.

GOV:2018-04 Urging the End of Public Partnerships with Employers Exploiting Workers with Disabilities

C-02: Urging the End of Public Partnerships with Employers Exploiting Workers with Disabilities

Whereas, Workers with disabilities are not protected by the federal minimum wage requirements; and

Whereas, Special wage certificates issued by the United States Department of Labor in accordance with Section 14(c) of the Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA) permit certain employers to pay subminimum wages to workers with disabilities; and

Whereas, Employers who take advantage of this predatory practice have an unfair advantage in labor costs when compared to employers who pay fair wages to their workers, thus allowing them to outbid employers who do not use this predatory wage practice; and

Whereas, Employers who exploit workers with disabilities may currently contract with the State of Hawai'i or City and County of Honolulu or lease facilities owned by the State of Hawai'i or City and County of Honolulu; and

Whereas, The O'ahu County Democrats adopted Resolution 2017-10, Support for the Transitioning to Integrated and Meaningful Employment Act of 2017, a bill which would end the payment of subminimum wages to workers with disabilities on a national level; and

Whereas, Even if the State of Hawai'i discontinues its issuance of matching special wage certificates, thus ending the payment of subminimum wages to workers with disabilities in Hawai'i, employers holding these federal certificates in Hawai'i will still be allowed to discriminate against workers with disabilities by paying them wages below the prevailing wage for their professions; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Democratic Party of Hawai'i urge the Hawai'i State Legislature to pass new legislation prohibiting public entities from contracting with or leasing facilities to entities holding special wage certificates from the United States Department of Labor allowing them to discriminate against workers with disabilities in accordance with Section 14(c) of the Fair Labor Standards Act; and be it further

Resolved, That the Democratic Party of Hawai'i urge the various County Councils to pass new legislation prohibiting public entities from contracting with or leasing facilities to entities holding special wage certificates from the United States Department of Labor allowing them to discriminate against workers with disabilities in accordance with Section 14(c) of the Fair Labor Standards Act; and be it

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

Combined into:

GOV:2018-04 Urging the End of Public Partnerships with Employers Exploiting Workers with Disabilities

C-03 Urging an end to public contracts with employers exploiting workers with disabilities

Whereas, Workers with disabilities are not protected by the federal minimum wage requirements; and

Whereas, Special wage certificates issued by the United States Department of Labor in accordance with Section 14(c) of the Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA) permit certain employers to pay subminimum wages to workers with disabilities; and

Whereas, Employers who take advantage of this predatory practice have an unfair advantage in labor costs when compared to employers who pay fair wages to their workers, thus allowing them to outbid employers who do not use this predatory wage practice; and

Whereas, Employers who exploit workers with disabilities may currently contract with the State of Hawai`i or lease facilities owned by the State of Hawai`i; and

Whereas, The O`ahu County Democrats adopted "Resolution 2017-10, Support for the Transitioning to Integrated and Meaningful Employment Act of 2017," which urges an end to the practice of paying workers with disabilities subminimum wage on a national level; and

Whereas, Even if the State of Hawai`i discontinues its issuance of matching special wage certificates, thus ending the payment of subminimum wages to workers with disabilities in Hawai`i, employers holding these federal certificates in Hawai`i will still be allowed to discriminate against workers with disabilities by paying them wages below the prevailing wage for their professions; therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Democratic Party of Hawai`i urges the Hawai`i State Legislature to pass legislation prohibiting public entities from contracting with or leasing facilities to entities holding special wage certificates from the United States Department of Labor allowing them to discriminate against workers with disabilities in accordance with Section 14(c) of the Fair Labor Standards Act; and be it

Ordered, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the members of the Hawai`i Congressional Delegation, the Governor of the State of Hawai`i, the Lt. Governor of the State of Hawai`i, and all members of the Hawai`i State Legislature.

Proposer: Justin Salisbury; Proposer: Jun Shin

Superseded by GOV:2018-16 Ensuring Access to Medical Aid in Dying

Note, except for the use of “Resolved” vs “Whereas” it is the same.

C-04 Ensuring Access to Medical Aid in Dying

Whereas, The Democratic Party of Hawai'i has supported the passage of medical aid in dying and it has been a priority for the Party; therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Democratic Party of Hawai'i applauds the 2018 Legislature for passing medical aid in dying with the passage of Our Care, Our Choice Act and Governor Ige for signing it into law on April 5, 2018; and, be it

Resolved, That the Democratic Party of Hawai'i supports all efforts to ensure that all mentally capable adults that have been diagnosed with a terminal illness and given 6 months or less to live and those who choose medical aid in dying as one of their end-of-life options have full access full access to such services; and, be it

Resolved; That the Democratic Party of Hawai'i recognizes that doctors can choose whether to practice medical aid in dying but all eligible patients should be fully informed of their end-of-life options; and, be it

Resolved; That the Democratic Party of Hawai'i recognizes there is a shortage of doctors in the state of Hawai'i which can cause a barrier for mentally capable adults that have been diagnosed with a terminal illness to complete the lengthy process, including three medical appointments, to obtain a prescription for medical aid in dying; and, be it

Resolved; That the Democratic Party of Hawai'i encourages all of Hawaii's medical associations to educate their members about the Our Care, Our Choice Act; and, be it

Resolved; That the Democratic Party of Hawai'i encourages all of Hawaii's medical facilities to adopt policies supportive of their patients' who choose this option and of their doctors who choose to practice medical aid in dying; and, be it

Resolved; That the Democratic Party of Hawai'i encourages all medical professionals to learn about the Our Care, Our Choice Act and honor their mentally capable adults that have been diagnosed with a terminal illness end of life choice; and be it

Resolved; That the Democratic Party of Hawai'i calls on the Hawai'i State Legislature to amend the Our Care, Our Choice Act to make the option easier to access should it be found that mentally capable and terminally ill patients are experiencing barriers to access the Our Care, Our Choice Act; and finally be it

Ordered, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to all Democratic members of Hawaii's Congressional Delegation, the Governor of the State of Hawai'i, the Lt. Governor of the State of Hawai'i, all members of the Hawai'i State Legislature who are members of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i, Director of the Department of Health, the Hawaii Medical Board, the Hawaii Medical Society, Healthcare Association of Hawaii, Kokua Mau, Hawaii Association of Health Plans, the Hawaii Society of Clinical Oncologists, Board of Pharmacy the Hawaii Pharmacy Association, and the University of Hawaii School of Medicine.

Combined with:

GOV:2018-22 Urging the Hawaii State Legislature to Protect Families including Parents with Disabilities

C-05 2018-9: Preserving Families including Parents with Disabilities

Whereas, People with disabilities continue to face unnecessary societal biases regarding their ability to successfully parent their children in family and dependency law proceedings where custody and visitation are at stake and in public and private adoption, guardianship, and foster care proceedings; and

Whereas, Because of these societal biases, children of parents with disabilities are unnecessarily being removed from their parents' care or being restricted from enjoying meaningful time with their parents; and

Whereas, Children are being denied the opportunity to enjoy the experience of living in loving homes with parents or other care takers with disabilities; and

Whereas, The O'ahu County Democrats of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i previously adopted resolution OC 2017-9, "Regarding a Blind Person's Right to Parent"; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Democratic Party of Hawai'i urges the Hawai'i State Legislature to pass legislation that will protect the best interests of children parented by individuals with disabilities or children who could be parented by individuals with disabilities through the establishment of procedural safeguards that require adherence to the Americans with Disabilities Act and respect for the due process and equal protection rights of parents or prospective parents with disabilities in the context of child welfare, foster care, family law and adoption; and be it further

Resolved, That the Democratic Party of Hawai'i requests that the legislation specify that a parent's disability shall not serve as a basis for:

1. Denial or restriction of visitation or custody in family or dependency law cases, denial of participation in public or private adoption, denial of foster care or guardianship, when the visitation or custody, adoption, or foster guardianship is determined to be otherwise in the best interest of the child; and that,
2. Where a parent or prospective parent's disability is alleged to have a detrimental impact on a child, the party raising the allegation bears the burden of proving by clear and convincing evidence that the behaviors are endangering or will likely endanger the health, safety or welfare of the child; and that,
3. If this burden is met, the parent or prospective parent with the disability shall have the opportunity to demonstrate how the implementation of supportive parenting services can alleviate any concerns that have been raised, that the court may require that such supportive parenting services be put in place, with an opportunity to review the need for continuation of such services within a reasonable period of time; and that,
4. If a court determines that a disabled parent's right to custody, visitation, foster care, guardianship, or adoption should be denied or limited in any manner, the court shall make specific written findings stating the basis for such a determination and why the provision of supportive parenting services is not a reasonable accommodation that must be made to prevent such denial or limitation; and be it

Ordered, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the Governor of the State of Hawai'i, the Lt. Governor of the State of Hawai'i, State Department of Human Services, and all Democrats who are members of the Hawai'i State Legislature.

Combined with:

GOV:2018-07 Urging the adoption of a proportional representation system to ensure all votes count

C-06 Supporting a Proportional Representation Electoral System

Whereas, Ninety four countries around the world use some system of proportional representation, including many liberal democracies such as Australia, New Zealand, Germany, Israel, Denmark, Iceland, Costa Rica, Netherlands and Norway; and

Whereas, Proportional representation is a more democratic system as it assures that every vote will count and it effectively makes gerrymandering impossible; and

Whereas, Studies have shown that citizens in countries with proportional representation are more satisfied with their government, even when their party was not in power, and have on average 7.5% higher voter participation rates; and

Whereas, Systems with proportional representation elect on average 8% more women candidates than first past the post systems; and

Whereas, Government policies in countries with proportional representation are closer to those of the median voter; therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Democratic Party of Hawai'i encourage amending the Hawaii state constitution to create a system of proportional representation for the Hawai'i state legislature; and be it further

Ordered, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to members of the Democratic Party who hold elected state political offices.

By a vote of 10-3-2, the committee determined that this resolution conflicts with GOV 2012-13

OOO-1 Urging legislative committee chairs to hear bills and resolutions supported by the Democratic Party of Hawai`i

Whereas, The Democratic Party of Hawai`i subscribes to a party platform of ideals and goals created from within its membership as adopted at its county and state conventions; and

Whereas, The party platform of the Democratic Party of Hawai`i guides the directives and actions of its members in pursuit of the goals outlined ~~within~~ therein; and

Whereas, The members of the Democratic Party of Hawai`i who hold elected office are delegates to both county and state conventions and help shape the party platform to reflect the evolving ideals of the Democratic Party of Hawai`i as directed by its members; therefore be it

Resolved, That the Democratic Party of Hawai`i respectfully urges its members who are elected to the state legislature and serve as committee chairs to schedule hearings on bills and resolutions formally supported by the Democratic Party of Hawai`i as legislative priorities in accordance with the ideals and goals outlined in the party platform and party resolutions; and be it further

Ordered, That copies of this Resolution be distributed to all Democratic members of the Hawai`i State Legislature.