

EER#: Resolution to Endorse “Yes on All 3” Ballot Measure Campaign

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Background

WHEREAS, the general election will occur on November 3, 2026;

WHEREAS, the Virginia General Assembly has referred three ballot measures which, if passed, would enshrine rights to felon enfranchisement, marriage equality, and reproductive freedom in the state constitution;

WHEREAS, members from the Northern Virginia Branch and several relevant sections (AfroSoc, QueerSoc, and SocFem) and working groups (Abolition and Bodily Autonomy) have co-sponsored this resolution, completed Metro DC DSA's [ballot measure endorsement questionnaire](#), and has developed an initial [campaign plan](#);

WHEREAS, bodily autonomy, including reproductive justice and trans and queer liberation, is [core to our values](#) as DSA members, affirmed by the passage of “A Fighting Campaign for Reproductive Rights and Trans Liberation” at the 2023 DSA National Convention, which resulted in the formation of the national Trans Rights and Bodily Autonomy Campaign Commission and the chapter’s Bodily Autonomy Working Group;

WHEREAS, DSA chapters around the country have endorsed and knocked tens of thousands of doors for similar ballot measure campaigns around the country, especially to [protect abortion rights](#) in red and purple states after the overturning of *Roe v. Wade* in 2022;

WHEREAS, there are four other DSA chapters in Virginia—Charlottesville, New River Valley, Richmond, and Tidewater—who have been in ongoing discussions about the possibility of a statewide organization in recent years, some of whom have already been proactively contacted and are themselves [proposing the same campaign](#) for endorsement in their chapters;

WHEREAS, abortion is [accessible but not legally protected](#) in the state of Virginia, which has seen the [largest increase in clinician-provided abortions](#) nationwide as the only state in the South without a post-*Roe v. Wade* abortion ban has forced abortion seekers in the region to seek care far from their home states;

WHEREAS, police and prison abolition is also [core to our values](#) as DSA members, who are committed to organizing to “constrain, diminish, and abolish the carceral forces of the state . . . [and] their manifestations in all forms throughout society . . . [which] expands the space for mass, organized, and collective action of the working class, and clears ground for us to build the institutions of a society to serve our communities with real justice and equality”;

WHEREAS, felon disenfranchisement reinforces the carceral, repressive forces of the state by systemically depriving (formerly) incarcerated individuals of their access and right to democratic participation, and thus, a form of agency over their own lives and an equal say in the role of policing and prisons in our society;

WHEREAS, according to a [lawsuit filed on behalf of Bridging The Gap In Virginia](#) and three Virginia residents who are disenfranchised due to former felony convictions, “an estimated 312,540 [formerly incarcerated] Virginians are disenfranchised, rendering Virginia the state with the fifth highest number of citizens disenfranchised for felony convictions, and the sixth highest rate of disenfranchisement [overall]”;

WHEREAS, the Supreme Court has been [formally asked to overturn the ruling](#) in *Obergefell v. Hodges*, which extended marriage rights to same-sex couples nationwide, in which case the state of Virginia would return to its pre-2015 [constitutional ban on marriage equality](#);

WHEREAS, the increasing criminalization and repression of LGBTQ+ people and reproductive healthcare, as well as the particular injustices the carceral state inflicts on [LGBTQ+ people](#) and [women](#), alongside the ongoing mass detention and incarceration of migrants and people of color, are grounds for solidarity and unity among abolitionists, (queer and trans) feminists, and socialists;

WHEREAS, our chapter has an active membership base in Northern Virginia organizing for abolition, reproductive justice, and queer and trans rights that has demonstrated an ability to mobilize volunteers and notch legislative victories on local [boards](#) and [councils](#) around these issues;

WHEREAS, our chapter endorsed the [Maryland Reproductive Freedom Amendment](#) in the 2024 general election and mobilized volunteers from all parts of the DMV to knock approximately 5,000 doors in less than two months—targeting Prince George’s County Council District 5 where chapter electoral organizers had already campaigned for Uncommitted and foresaw a special election;

WHEREAS, even though the amendment was very likely to pass without our endorsement, the campaign trained new electoral organizers and canvassers in the Prince George’s County Branch, who would later elect chapter-endorsed candidate [Shayla Adams-Stafford](#) in the then-anticipated 2025 Prince George’s County Council District 5 Special Election, as well as cadre candidate Frankie Fritz in the 2025 general election for Greenbelt City Council;

WHEREAS, the Metro DC DSA, including its Northern Virginia Branch and Abolition, Bodily Autonomy, and Labor working groups, have developed strong relationships with numerous progressive community organizations and labor unions which the [campaign](#) intends to organize to support these ballot measures;

WHEREAS, the Yes on All 3 campaign would build branch and chapter electoral capacity and a base for the numerous municipal and county elections throughout Northern Virginia in 2027, as well as a prospective candidate in the 2028 presidential primary per the 2025 DSA National Convention resolution to “Unite Labor and the Left to run a Socialist for President and Build the Party”;

Resolution

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the chapter endorses the “Yes On All 3” ballot measure campaign in Northern Virginia and authorizes the formation of a working group to organize, canvass for, and otherwise provide support to the campaign through Election Day.