Title: Implementation of “Defend Democracy through Political Independence” through the For Our Rights Committee

Whereas, at the 2023 DSA National Convention, delegates passed Member-Submitted Resolution #2: Defend Democracy through Political Independence (MSR2)

Whereas, one role of the National Political Committee (NPC) is to interpret and shape execution of the will of convention,

Whereas, to successfully execute Defend Democracy through Political Independence and ensure that DSA both effectively confront the Right in the 2024 elections, and build mass movements and working-class institutions independent of the Democratic Party, the implementation of MSR2 must have a well defined relationship with other campaigns related to fighting the right and/ or defending democracy and civil liberties, including the following:

- “A Fighting Campaign for Reproductive Rights and Trans Liberation”
- “Consensus Resolution Amendment O: Run DSA Candidates for School Boards”
- “Consensus Resolution Amendment L: Fighting the Right by Defending Abortion Rights, Trans People, and Democracy”

Therefore, the NPC will adopt the following revised timeline and workplan for MSR2:

Timeline:

Immediately, as of September 2023: the NPC forms the For Our Rights Committee (FORC), including a Steering Committee of two co-chairs from the NPC, an additional chair or co-chairs from the general membership, and recruit a multi-tendency body between 9 and 13 voting members total. Additional NPC members may serve as non-voting ex-officio members. The FORC may then move to adopt subcommittees (such as outreach, materials, comms) and designate work as it sees fit.

- September 18-25: The NPC Co-Chairs will be tasked with soliciting applications for the rest of the FORC with a brief survey covering their capacity to contribute to the campaign commission, their leadership experiences, and their commitment to maintaining comradely unity despite diverse political and tactical perspectives.

- September 26-27: The NPC Co-Chairs shall review and vote on a recommended set of candidates for the FORC, with no caucus holding more than three seats.

- September 28: The NPC SC shall approve, deny, or amend this recommended leadership and give the approved FORC a mandate to implement the work plan outlined below. Additionally, the NPC empowers the campaign commission to access relevant member and chapter data to conduct outreach. The NPC will also direct staff, financial, and other resources as it deems necessary.

September - November, 2023: FORC reaches out to DSA chapters, bodies, and members that have previously or are actively taking part in efforts to fight the right and defend democracy and civil liberties, to solicit input for the program. In order to minimize siloing between the relevant campaigns, a coordinating body *may* be formed to ensure the campaigns are aware of developments and outreach occuring, and not overwhelming members with asks that could be better integrated. The NPC authorizes FORC to begin assisting chapters organize with YDSA, student groups, teachers, student workers, faculty, and other unions against Republican elected officials and candidates, their usage of legislation, executive actions, and other legalistic maneuvering, and the radical Right's direct efforts attempt to undermine and attack democratic rights, public institutions, and workers' rights. The NPC authorizes FORC to launch a website and campaign fundraising.

November 30, 2023: FORC publishes a draft of the Program and submits it to the NPC.

November 30 - December 31, 2023: Chapters in coordination with FORC have opportunity to facilitate discussions about the draft Program, pass proposals suggesting the NPC support the draft as written or amend the draft.

December 31, 2023: The NPC revises the program and submits it to a membership-wide vote.

January 31, 2024: If the program is approved, DSA publishes the program on the website and publicizes it in the media. If the program is not approved, the NPC may submit a new program for a membership vote.

February - March 2024: FORC contacts chapters to adapt the campaign to their local conditions. FORC will coordinate with chapters that are planning on running candidates or home to socialists in office to organize socialists in office and DSA-endorsed candidates to support DSA's approach to 2024. FORC also uses the connections to local chapters to involve them in planning a Nationwide priority campaign around defending democracy.

March 2024: FORC coordinates with the Reproductive Rights and Trans Liberation Campaign (RRTLC) for the Day of Action and determines how to best integrate organizing efforts into FORC after RRTLC ends.

April - August 2024. FORC launches a modular priority campaign on defending democracy and civil rights.

September - November 2024: The NPC and/or other national spokespersons publicize our vision for defending democracy past the 2024 election cycle, agitating to raise our profile on the national stage, and coordinating with and organizing to support DSA candidates and socialist in office who agree to our vision and/or strategy. The campaign will mobilize contacts made in chapters to take part in local electoral campaigns and ballot measures, as well as campaigning against Republican nominee and the radical Right.

November 2024 - January 2025: FORC utilizes it’s network of activists in chapters across the country to mobilize in defense of election results in the case of a Republican loss or to effectively recruit new members in the event of a Republican victory.