



# 2024 Resolutions

Submitted to NC Congressional District 7  
as ***PASSED*** by the  
NHC Democratic Party  
at their Annual County Convention  
on March 16, 2024

## **Officers of the NHCDP**

Chair: Jill Hopman

1<sup>st</sup> Vice Chair: Sam Pierce

2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Chair: *Open seat*

3<sup>rd</sup> Vice Chair: Ian Appling

Secretary: Rachel Hatfield

Treasurer: Brenda Fong

## **[1] Resolution calling for Renewed Efforts to Desegregate Schools**

Passed by W27, M06 (2/17/2024)

Similar Resolutions Passed by W31, 2024 and W33, CF05, 2023

WHEREAS, The North Carolina Constitution states that “The people have a right to the privilege of education, and it is the duty of the State to guard and maintain that right.” (Article I Section 15); and

WHEREAS, The U.S. Supreme Court has ruled that segregated schools are inherently unequal; and

WHEREAS, Schools in North Carolina have become increasingly segregated by race and caregiver income since the 1980s, denying an equal opportunity for education to poor and minority students; and

WHEREAS, Clear evidence exists that all students benefit academically from attending diverse schools; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the North Carolina Democratic Party supports efforts to ensure ethnic, racial, and economic diversity in all schools in our state.

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## **[2] Enhancing Educational Excellence: A resolution for Inclusive Daycare Support for NC Public School Teachers’ Children**

Passed by W31 (2/17/2024)

WHEREAS, The dedication and commitment of North Carolina public school teachers are vital to the academic success and well-being of our students; and

WHEREAS, Supporting the work-life balance of educators is essential to fostering a positive teaching environment; and

WHEREAS, The availability of quality daycare services contributes to the overall professional satisfaction and retention of teachers; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the North Carolina Democratic Party advocates for the implementation of a comprehensive daycare program for the children of North Carolina public school teachers, ensuring a supportive and enriching environment that aligns with the educational values upheld by our state; and

RESOLVED, That we call upon policymakers, educational authorities, and community stakeholders to collaborate in developing and funding a sustainable daycare initiative, recognizing the positive impact it will have on our teachers, their families, and, ultimately, the quality of education in North Carolina; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the North Carolina Democratic Party stands committed to promoting the well-being of our educators and believes that by providing accessible daycare services, we are investing in the future success of our schools and the prosperity of our community.

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### **[3] Resolution in Support of Increasing Teacher Salaries in North Carolina**

Passed by W31 (2/17/2024)

WHEREAS, The invaluable role of educators in shaping the future of our society cannot be overstated; and

WHEREAS, The dedicated teachers of North Carolina consistently demonstrate commitment to the intellectual and personal development of their students; and

WHEREAS, Competitive compensation is essential to attract and retain highly qualified educators, fostering a positive and stable learning environment; and

WHEREAS, A well-compensated teaching profession is instrumental in elevating the overall quality of education provided to North Carolina's students; and

WHEREAS, Investing in teachers is an investment in the prosperity and progress of our state; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the North Carolina Democratic Party advocates for a comprehensive review and adjustment of teacher salaries in North Carolina to align with the importance of their role and the cost of living; and

RESOLVED, That the North Carolina Democratic Party urges policymakers to allocate necessary resources to implement a fair and substantial increase in teacher salaries, ensuring the recognition and appreciation of their crucial contributions to the community; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to relevant government officials and educational authorities to emphasize the urgency of addressing teacher compensation in North Carolina.

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### **[4] Resolution on Fostering an Education Worthy of our Democracy & Heritage of Freedom**

Passed by M04 (2/17/2024)

WHEREAS, We recognize that in recent times the effect of irresponsible governance, harmful laws, and the influence of extremists particularly in the realm of public education have led to collapsing morale, budget cuts, inadequate funding from state and local sources, along with

declining enrollments, an exodus of teachers, and a climate of discord surrounding public education in New Hanover; and

WHEREAS, The present New Hanover County Board of Education (NHCBE) has promoted and sought to implement a deliberate policy of banning books, while allowing parents and parent groups to censor and rebuke teachers, undercutting teacher morale and depriving them of the level of professional support that they should enjoy in New Hanover County, while encouraging an attitude of closed-mindedness in public schooling; and

WHEREAS, The current school voucher law enacted in the North Carolina General Assembly under so-called conservative leadership has enabled wealthy parents to obtain public funding to send their children to private academies, and that said policy has led to an outflow of students and funding from the public schools that began years ago and has only increased, thereby threatening an investment in public schooling that has endured through 175 years of North Carolina history, while threatening to abandon our schools to the most economically disadvantaged citizens while depriving them of an effective level of public support; and

WHEREAS, The board (NHCBE) has shown unwarranted sympathies with radical partisan groups such as the Proud Boys and the Moms for Liberty whose extremist demands have caused distress among students, parents and teachers, it has likewise enacted Section Z of Public School Policy 7205, which is a craftily-worded raft of regulatory provisions amounting to a flagrant and unprecedented assault on the public educational system that would dictate to teachers the explicit content of their instruction, while demonstrating a lack of trust and support for their professional preparation, education, training and their competence as public school teachers; and

WHEREAS, The board (NHCBE) has voted to dissolve the Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Committee, thereby effectively annulling the last fair attempt to address the existing social and economic disparities in the county, along with its historic lack of inclusiveness in public schooling, particularly in respect to African Americans, Latinos, Native Americans and LGBTQ+ persons, and thereby promoting the defection of these groups from public school support, while at the same time further eroding the broad support of the citizens of New Hanover County for public education; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That we, as Democrats, declare our support for public education and for public schools in North Carolina and in New Hanover County, and for public school teachers who have received their education at respected and accredited universities, colleges and schools, who have trained and developed their credentials in furtherance of school teaching; and

RESOLVED, That we call upon all groups, all parents, school officials, and legislators of all parties to pledge their support and to defend North Carolina's historic investment in public education; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That we hereby call for public schools that are worthy of our democracy, that are consistent with our national beliefs in fairness and human rights for all, and with our heritage of citizenship in a democratic society under a republic of laws, and that they should reflect our commitment to a society of fairness, equity, and inclusion while

fostering respect for the educator as well as for the process of learning, and that they should foster among the children of New Hanover County and of North Carolina an appreciation that they may one day live in a nation where they will be judged not by their appearance or the color of their skin, but by the content of their character.

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## **[5] Resolution to Protect Public Safety on Public Property & Public Meetings**

Passed by W31 and M06 (2/17/2024)

Similar resolution passed by FP04, FP07, and other precincts, 2023

WHEREAS, North Carolina General Statute, NCGS #14-12-8 states "No person or person shall in this State, while wearing any mask, hood, or device, whereby the person, face or voice is disguised, so as to conceal the identity of the wearer, enter, or appear upon or within the public property of any municipality or county of the State, or the State of North Carolina (1953 c. 1193, s.7); and

WHEREAS, The COVID pandemic created confusion about the enforcement of said statutes as mask mandates deemed necessary to protect the health of the public; and

WHEREAS, Extremist groups routinely violated state law, by attending public meetings, intimidating young children and their parents inside and out of public libraries, and other events while fully concealing their identity with masks, hats, and clothing; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the North Carolina Democratic Party supports all efforts to enforce the laws per State Statute which protect citizens on public property and at public meetings, from those that attempt to conceal their identity, intimidate the citizens, harass, and threaten others.

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## **[6] A Resolution Calling for Statutory Authority for NC Counties, Cities & Towns to Require Public Improvement Proffers from Developers to Mitigate the Impact of their Developments on Infrastructure, the Environment, Land Conservation, the Public & Taxpayers**

Passed by H13 (2/17/2024)

WHEREAS, The population of North Carolina has grown by more than 900,000 people, 9.5%, from 2010 to 2020, and is forecast to increase by an additional 3.5 million people, 32.7%, to 14 million people by 2050; and

**WHEREAS, The population of New Hanover County has grown by more than 42,000 people, 20.5%, from 2010 to 2024, and is forecasted to increase by an additional 44,000 people, 16%, to 285,000 in 2040; and**

**WHEREAS, This growth has resulted in an explosion in residential and commercial development in New Hanover County; and**

**WHEREAS, This development necessitates the construction of public infrastructure and services, including roads, schools, parks, libraries, stormwater mitigation facilities, sewers, wastewater treatment facilities; and**

**WHEREAS, The taxpayers have borne the burden of paying for these improvements and the public has suffered from increased traffic and crowded schools from such development; and**

**WHEREAS, The U.S. Supreme Court has held that an "exaction," such as mitigation, in-lieu and impact fees, land dedication, and easements, can be imposed in the government's exercise of its police power where there is a nexus between the proposed development and public need generated by the proposed development, and there is a "rough proportionality" between the exaction and the harms caused by the regulated activity; and**

**WHEREAS, It is a matter of fairness requiring developers to contribute to the public infrastructure and services needed due to their projects and thereby shift some of the cost burden away from taxpayers; and**

**WHEREAS, There are negative consequences by not requiring developers to provide proffers for public improvements, such as: (i) a lack of funding for essential public infrastructure, which leads to an increased strain on existing resources and services; (ii) a negative impact on property values and the overall quality of life; and (iii) a negative impact on the economic and environmental sustainability of a community; now, therefore, be it**

**RESOLVED, That the North Carolina Democratic Party calls for the City of Wilmington, New Hanover County, and other North Carolina counties, cities, and towns to support and implement statutory authority for counties, cities, and towns to require public improvement proffers from developers to mitigate the impact of their developments on infrastructure, the environment, land conservation, the public, and taxpayers; and**

**RESOLVED, That the North Carolina Democratic Party calls for the City of Wilmington, New Hanover County, and other North Carolina counties, cities and towns' state representatives and senators to sponsor and introduce statutory authority legislation for counties, cities, and towns to require public improvement proffers from developers to mitigate the impact of their developments on infrastructure, the environment, land conservation, the public, and taxpayers; and**

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the North Carolina Democratic Party calls for the North Carolina General Assembly to approve and for the Governor to sign statutory authority for counties, cities, and towns to require public improvement proffers from developers to mitigate the impact of their developments on infrastructure, the environment, land conservation, the public, and taxpayers.**

## **[7] Resolution: Affordable Housing**

Passed by CF05, M06 (2/17/2024)

Passed by CF05, 2023

**WHEREAS, Establish state legislation with provisions allowing each municipality to establish local base rents to align with the median family income of the municipality; base rents are not to exceed 30% of that municipality's median family income; rent increases should be no more than 2.3% of the current rent or more than the increase according to the Regional Consumer Price Index (CPI); each municipality should determine the methodology of determining the number or percentage of housing units that should be included under this law; and**

**WHEREAS, Housing is a human right and should be affordable to all citizens regardless of economic status; homelessness increased for countless working families across the state of North Carolina; and**

**WHEREAS, The current minimum wage is not a living wage; the cost of housing in many counties across NC is unattainable, resulting in increased homelessness among the working class, including educators; and**

**WHEREAS, Every job has significance, regardless of economic status - no one wants to use a filthy bathroom or go to a restaurant and eat out of dirty dishes; and**

**WHEREAS, North Carolina state law prohibits local governments from establishing rent control laws; and**

**WHEREAS, In North Carolina, landlords can raise the rent for any reason as long as they give proper notice (year-to-year lease - one month's notice, month-to-month lease - seven days' notice) and don't do so during the fixed term of a lease (unless the lease allows for it), and aren't doing so for specific discriminatory reasons (like race or age), which can result in housing disparities; and**

**WHEREAS, There are six states (California, New York, New Jersey, Maryland, Oregon, and Minnesota), and the District of Columbia that have localities where some form of residential rent control is in effect for typical structures; now, therefore, be it**

**RESOLVED, That upon the passage of this resolution by the North Carolina Democratic Party, the North Carolina General Assembly enters a bill into legislation establishing that each municipality has the right to set base rents aligned with the municipality's median family income; that rent control will not apply to exclusive sections of the municipality; that base rents are not to exceed 30% of that municipality's median family income, and that rent increases should be no more than 2.3% of the current rent or more than the increase according to the Regional Consumer Price Index (CPI).**

## **[8] Promoting Vegan Options at Democratic Party Functions**

Passed by W31, W30 (2/17/2024)

**WHEREAS, The Democratic Party has taken significant steps to promote policies and programs to preserve and protect the environment, combat climate change, provide for the health and well-being of all people, and show compassion to non-human animals; and**

**WHEREAS, A growing body of research has demonstrated the health, environmental, and humane benefits of a plant-based diet; and**

**WHEREAS, The current world population is over 8 billion people, and is projected to grow to 8.6 billion people in 2030 and 9.8 billion by 2050; and**

**WHEREAS, 36% of global crop calories are used to feed the 92.2 billion non-human animals raised and slaughtered for food each year, to produce only 12% of those calories for human consumption, while over 9 million people die each year of hunger and related causes; and**

**WHEREAS, Animal agriculture accounts for around 15 percent of the world's greenhouse gasses each year, according to estimates by the UN's Food and Agriculture Organization, which roughly equals the emissions from all the world's cars, trucks, airplanes, and ships combined; and**

**WHEREAS, Animal agriculture contributes to resource depletion, deforestation, erosion, desertification, water pollution, ocean dead zones, and other environmental catastrophes; and**

**WHEREAS, Pollution from animal agriculture disproportionately affects the health and well-being of economically disadvantaged, rural communities of color; and**

**WHEREAS, Plant-based diets have been proven to help lower the risk of obesity, heart disease, cancer, diabetes, and other chronic health conditions; and**

**WHEREAS, In the past four decades, new infectious diseases have increased at more than four times the rate of prior decades, most of which have nonhuman animal (zoonotic) origins, 50% of which have been associated with animal agriculture; and**

**WHEREAS, In 2023, over 1,400 mayors belonging to The United States Conference of Mayors, endorsed a resolution titled, "A Plant-Based Approach has Promise to Address Chronic Disease, Environmental, and Fiscal Burdens Facing Cities Across the Nation," introduced by New York City Mayor Eric Adams; and**

**WHEREAS, The Youth and Children Constituency of the UNFCCC (YOUNGO) and over 140 youth and civil society organizations successfully lobbied the presidency of the 2023 United Nations Climate Change Conference, also known as the Conference of the Parties of the UNFCCC (COP28), to ensure that the majority of the conference's food options were plant-based; now, therefore, be it**

**RESOLVED, That the North Carolina Democratic Party makes vegan food a prominent option for all local and state Democratic Party events for our members, donors, and guests.**



## **[9] Promoting the Arts in North Carolina**

Passed by W16 (2/17/2024)

**WHEREAS, The arts are important to the cultural world of all inhabitants of North Carolina; and**

**WHEREAS, The nonprofit arts and culture industry generates \$2.12 billion in direct economic activity in North Carolina, supporting almost 72,000 full-time equivalent jobs and generating \$201.5 million in revenue for local governments and the State of North Carolina; and**

**WHEREAS, Audiences spent more than \$1.18 billion in 2015, with each in-state resident spending an average of \$27.95 in the community, and nonresident attendees spent an average of \$61.86 per person; and**

**WHEREAS, Democrats support the arts as a subject in our schools and as an integral part of helping the students learn every subject in the public schools; and**

**WHEREAS, The North Carolina Arts Council is an education champion, advocating a comprehensive arts education for all students in and out of the classroom; and**

**WHEREAS, The arts create opportunities for success in many areas of learning and life for all students; the arts also offer teachers new strategies for engaging students in a creative learning process that stimulates learning, improves test score and reduces drop-out rates; the arts give kids the chance to practice creativity, problem-solving and collaboration; the arts education should be supported in North Carolina; and**

**WHEREAS, Democrats also support the protection of the arts from censorship, whether literature or visual arts; and**

**WHEREAS, The arts not only contribute to the economy of North Carolina but also encourage retirees to choose our state, providing a source of volunteers, knowledge, and ideas, along with income to help maintain our public services; and**

**WHEREAS, The state's nonprofit arts and culture sector includes almost 2,500 organizations and with over 50-percent participating in the study, 1,233 organizations surveyed spend \$937.5 million annually; and**

**WHEREAS, A total of 109,525 volunteers donated 4.6 million hours to the nonprofit arts organizations that participated in the study, representing an estimated value of \$108,772,044; now, therefore, be it**

**RESOLVED, That the New Hanover County Democratic Party and the North Carolina Democratic Party strongly urge local boards and commissions and the North Carolina General Assembly to consider passing an ordinance requiring that one percent of the cost of all government building renovation and new construction should be set aside for public arts.**

**[10] Resolution on the Value of Organized Labor & the Need to  
Champion the Rights of Working Americans**

Passed by M06 (2/17/2024)

Passed by M03, 2023

**WHEREAS, Prior to the 1970s, a strong US labor movement contributed significantly to growth of a US economy that provided opportunity for working Americans to improve their lives and those of their children; and**

**WHEREAS, Organized labor was instrumental in outlawing the shameful practice of child labor; and**

**WHEREAS, By 1937, organized labor actions created enough political momentum to pass the Fair Standards Labor Act which established the 8-hour work day, the 40-hour work week, and a federal minimum wage; and**

**WHEREAS, The labor movement was instrumental in the passage of other New Deal legislation, such as Social Security and Unemployment Insurance; and**

**WHEREAS, From the 1940's through the 1960's, when unions represented the highest percentage of American workers in history, income inequality was at its lowest point in the history of the country, and as union membership has declined since, so has the working class share of national income; and**

**WHEREAS, The labor movement provided strong support for the Civil Rights and Voting Rights Acts; and**

**WHEREAS, U.S. labor unions' involvement led to the first great expansion of health care for workers, and labor unions spearheaded the fight for the Family and Medical Leave Act, Medicare, and Medicaid; and**

**WHEREAS, The labor movement was a major force behind the Equal Pay Acts of 1963 & 2011 and the Americans With Disabilities Act and the Age Discrimination in Employment Act of 1967; and**

**WHEREAS, U.S. labor unions have fought for safety regulations and their enforcement including the Occupational Safety & Health Act (OSHA), which has drastically reduced injuries and deaths on the job; and**

**WHEREAS, U.S. labor unions have led the fight to give American workers paid vacations, paid holidays and paid sick leave; and**

**WHEREAS, Organized labor has always been a powerful supporter of and contributor to the U.S. System of public education as providing a ladder for working Americans to improve their lives; now, therefore, be it**

**RESOLVED, That the New Hanover County Democratic Party, the North Carolina Democratic Party and the National Democratic Party will champion the rights of working people, and fight to stop the war on U.S. labor unions; and**

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Democratic Party at all levels will work to enact and enforce legislation that protects workers and which furthers the cause of the right to organize and bargain collectively.

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**[11] Resolution in Support of the PRO ACT (Protect the Right to Organize)**

Passed by M06 (2/17/2024)

Passed by M03, 2023

WHEREAS, Since the day the National Labor Relations Act (NLRB) of 1935 was passed during the New Deal to protect workers' right to organize and bargain collectively, corporate America has waged war on labor, specifically intended to marginalize and eventually eradicate unions; and

WHEREAS, The current system for regulating organizing drives under the NLRB is tilted in favor of management because the penalties for breaking labor laws are so insignificant that corporate routinely break the laws with impunity, and considers the cost of the fines as part of their operating expenses; and

WHEREAS, Corporations routinely find loopholes in the labor laws to extend the time frame for organizing drives while they continue intimidation tactics to force the issue in their favor; and

WHEREAS, In spite of current labor laws, management frequently fires union organizers during organizing drives; and

WHEREAS, 13 southern states, including North Carolina, have passed so called "Right to Work" laws under the guise of providing individual workers the choice to avoid paying union dues after a union has won bargaining rights; these thinly veiled laws have nothing to do with freedom but are specifically intended as "union busting"- legislation that deprives unions of their power to bargain effectively with management; and

WHEREAS, These "Right to Work" laws, which were enacted during the Jim Crow period in the South, were specifically intended to divide workers and have led to lower wages, fewer benefits and more dangerous work places in NC and other southern states; and

WHEREAS, Research from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology shows that more than 60 million American workers would vote today to join a union, if given the opportunity; and

WHEREAS, The Gallup organization in their polling found that union approval stands at 65% of all American, the highest mark in half a century; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the New Hanover County Democratic Party and the North Carolina Democratic Party fully and enthusiastically support the passage of the PRO Act in the U.S. Congress and the repeal of all "Right to Work" legislation by the North Carolina General Assembly, in order that: All workers will be able to exercise their rights to organize and bargain collectively; workers can speak up for and support their union without fear of

reprisal, and a strengthened National Labor Relations Board will be able to hold corporations accountable if they violate workers' rights.

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## **[12] RESOLUTION FOR PEACE & SUPPORT**

Passed by FP07 (2/10/2024)

Similar Resolution Passed by W33 2/17/2024

**WHEREAS, The events of October 7 and resulting conflict between Israel and Hamas has led to a humanitarian crisis affecting countless families with tremendous loss of Palestinian and Israeli life; and**

**WHEREAS, We agree that all human life is precious, no matter what their faith or ethnicity; that North Carolina has a diverse population including many with family, social, and business ties to Israeli and Palestinian citizens here and abroad; and**

**WHEREAS, Many in our state have been deeply impacted by this conflict; and**

**WHEREAS, The North Carolina Democratic party acknowledges the deep personal impact that this conflict has had on numerous North Carolinians and extends its sincere condolences to those who have lost loved ones and extended family members in this conflict; and**

**WHEREAS, The North Carolina Democratic Party recognizes the importance of peace, safety and the protection of all human life for individuals in our state, our nation, and our world; and**

**WHEREAS, The North Carolina Democratic Party urges our national leaders to do everything in their power to end this conflict and to begin the process for a peaceful, sustainable solution; and**

**WHEREAS, We also acknowledge that harassment, discrimination and violence towards Muslims, Jews, and other minorities are contradictory to the values which define the residents of North Carolina; now, therefore, be it**

**RESOLVED, That the North Carolina Democratic Party supports and cares for its residents who have been directly impacted by this conflict and we condemn any form of harassment, hate speech, anti-Semitism, or Islamophobia that may be directed towards anyone who resides in our state.**

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## **[13] RESOLUTION CALLING FOR A CEASEFIRE AND HUMANITARIAN AID IN GAZA**

Passed by W26, W27 (2/17/2024)

**WHEREAS, All human life is precious and the targeting of civilians, no matter their faith, race, or ethnicity, is a violation of international humanitarian law; and**

**WHEREAS, 1,147 Israelis were killed by Hamas on October 7th and between October 7, 2023 and February 4, 2024, Israeli forces have killed at least 27,747 Palestinians, of whom over 11,600 were children, while 70,880 more have been wounded and thousands are unaccounted for; and**

**WHEREAS, Approximately 100 Israelis and thousands of Palestinians are currently being held hostage in Gaza and Israel; and**

**WHEREAS, Hundreds of thousands of lives are at imminent risk if a cease-fire is not achieved and humanitarian aid is not delivered without delay; and**

**WHEREAS, The New Hanover County Democratic Party and North Carolina Democratic Party advocate for the dignity and safety of all residents in every community, regardless of religion, race, or nationality; and**

**WHEREAS, New Hanover County has recognized its historical responsibility to denounce racial violence, as its citizens endure the repercussions of the coup of 1898, where an elected government was overthrown and hundreds of Black citizens were murdered, while thousands were forced to flee the city, enforcing racial apartheid, racial inequity, and the ongoing disenfranchisement of New Hanover County's Black citizens; and**

**WHEREAS, The New Hanover County Democratic Party acknowledges the unique role it plays in addressing historical injustices and strives to be a beacon of unity, equality, and justice; and**

**WHEREAS, The New Hanover County Democratic Party and the North Carolina Democratic Party recognize the diverse tapestry of its community, including members of our Palestinian community, our Muslim community, our Jewish community, and many others, all of whom contribute to the rich cultural and economic fabric of our city; and**

**WHEREAS, The leadership of the National Democratic Party holds immense diplomatic power to save Israeli and Palestinian lives; and**

**WHEREAS, On December 8, 2023 the United Nations General Assembly overwhelmingly voted for a humanitarian cease-fire in Gaza which called for all "immediate, durable and sustained humanitarian truce leading to a cessation of hostilities" and demanded that all parties "immediately and fully comply" with obligations under international humanitarian and human rights laws, "particularly in regard to the protection of civilians and civilian objects;" the resolution also urged the protection of humanitarian personnel, persons hors de combat, and humanitarian facilities and assets, and to enable and facilitate humanitarian access for essential supplies and services to reach all civilians in need in the Gaza Strip; now, therefore, be it**

**RESOLVED, That the North Carolina Democratic Party calls upon our Democratic representatives, in both the Senate and House of Representatives, to join us in: (1) urging the Biden administration to call for and facilitate an immediate de-escalation and a cease-fire to end the current violence, and (2) calling upon the Biden administration to promptly send and facilitate the entry of humanitarian assistance at the scale needed to meet the urgent needs of civilians in Gaza; and**

**RESOLVED, That the North Carolina Democratic Party supports all residents, no matter their faith or ethnicity, and condemns any and all forms of Islamophobia and antisemitism; and**

**RESOLVED, That the North Carolina Democratic Party urges the Biden administration to work for the release of all hostages held in Gaza and Israel, including the thousands of Palestinians currently detained by Israel; and**

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the North Carolina Democratic Party sends copies of this resolution to the President of the United States, North Carolina's Congressional Delegation, and North Carolina's Governor, State Senators and Representatives urging them to take immediate action to use their position and influence to help end Israel's war in Gaza.**

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**[14] Resolution on the Israeli-Palestinian Issue, the War in Gaza, and the Call for the Immediate Release of All Hostages and a Humanitarian Ceasefire**

Passed by W33 (2/17/2024)

**WHEREAS, The longstanding and deeply complex Israeli-Palestinian conflict is a source of immense suffering for both Israeli and Palestinian people; and**

**WHEREAS, The tragic loss of Israeli lives on October 7, 2023, was the deadliest attack against Jewish people since the Holocaust; and**

**WHEREAS, The recent hostilities in Gaza have created tragic consequences, leading to the loss of innocent civilian lives, extensive destruction, and suffering among both Israelis and Palestinians; and**

**WHEREAS, Democrats have an unwavering commitment to the principles of human rights, international law, and the peaceful resolution of conflicts; and**

**WHEREAS, It is important to protect the rights, dignity, and security of all individuals, including those in the West Bank, Gaza and Israel; and**

**WHEREAS, International law forbids the intentional targeting of civilians, hostage-taking, use of human shields, and denying immediate humanitarian aid; and**

**WHEREAS, The civilian casualties and the plight of hostages in Gaza have caused deep concern the world over; and**

**WHEREAS, Antisemitism and Islamophobia are rising in America, including numerous incidents on college campuses across the nation that threaten the well-being and safety of Jewish and Muslim students, resulting in bomb threats against Jewish institutions and the murder of a 6-year-old Palestinian-American Muslim child and the attempted murder of his**

**mother in Illinois, and the shooting of two Palestinian-American students and their Palestinian friend in Vermont; and**

**WHEREAS, North Carolina Democrats support a vigorous diplomatic engagement for Middle East peace, with the United States as a mediator between the State of Israel and the Palestinian Authority with the goal of ensuring full human and political rights for Palestinians and Israelis; and**

**WHEREAS, The North Carolina Democratic Party is in support of the right of Israeli citizens and Palestinians to determine the resolution of the conflict between them, through mutually respectful negotiations; and**

**WHEREAS, President Biden and his administration have taken the lead in establishing a humanitarian pause in the conflict, resulting in the release of some Israeli and international hostages, some Palestinian prisoners, and the resumption of humanitarian aid deliveries to Gaza; and**

**WHEREAS, President Biden and his administration have secured an extension of that humanitarian pause, resulting in the release of additional Israeli and international hostages and Palestinian prisoners and additional badly needed deliveries of humanitarian aid; and**

**WHEREAS, Hostages are still held and the need for additional aid for the civilians of Gaza is substantial; now, therefore, be it**

**RESOLVED, That the North Carolina Democratic Party: (1) expresses its immense sorrow over the loss of innocent lives and the suffering endured by civilians in Gaza, Israel, and the broader region; (2) calls for the immediate release of all hostages; (3) calls for a ceasefire, encouraging all parties to cease hostilities and prioritize the protection of civilian lives; (4) urges the international community, including the United States, to actively support and engage in diplomatic efforts to remove from power and bring to justice those who perpetrated the October 7 massacre, support fundamental principles of human rights, and bring about a peaceful and just resolution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict; (5) stands in solidarity with the people of Israel and Palestine, who are suffering from the violence and hostilities; (6) calls upon the United States and international governments to facilitate a two-state solution through direct negotiations between willing and responsible partners; and**

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the North Carolina Democratic Party: (7) calls on North Carolina Democrats to recognize the humanity of both Palestinians and Israelis when commenting on the crisis and condemns the rhetoric that leads to violence here and overseas; (8) calls on the North Congressional Delegation to advocate for a comprehensive and peaceful resolution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict that respects the rights and aspirations of all parties; (9) commits itself to raising awareness about the Israeli-Palestinian issue and fostering dialogue and understanding within our own party and among our constituents; (10) condemns any and all acts of terrorism perpetrated by Hamas, which has been designated a terrorist organization by the U.S. Government, as of October 8th, 1997, as**

**designated by the US Secretary of State in accordance with Section 219 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (INA), as amended, and (11) supports President Biden's efforts to seek a peaceful resolution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.**

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END

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