**Resolution Condemning the Harmful Actions by the Texas Department of Public Safety and Texas Department of State Health Services in Targeting Transgender Texans**

Whereas, the Texas Democratic Party stands for the rights, dignity, and inclusion of all Texans, including those who identify as transgender; and

Whereas, the Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) has recently reversed its policy to block transgender Texans from pursuing changes in their gender markers on state-issued driver's licenses and ID cards, a move made without transparency or public notice; and

Whereas, the Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) has also enacted an unannounced policy change as of August 30, 2024, whereby Texas Vital Statistics no longer accepts court orders to update the sex marker on birth certificates, effectively eliminating the option for transgender Texans to amend their birth certificates to reflect their gender identity; and

Whereas, these policy changes constitute dangerous and discriminatory actions by the state government aimed at marginalizing and stripping the rights of transgender individuals; and

Whereas, the Texas Democratic Party recognizes that such actions by the DPS and DSHS represent a radical form of government overreach, fostering an environment of fear and intimidation among transgender Texans; and

Whereas, the tracking and targeting of transgender individuals by the state is reminiscent of historical abuses where government entities have compiled lists of marginalized communities, leading to severe consequences; and

Whereas, the Texas Democratic Party reaffirms its commitment to the principle that personal identity and dignity should be respected and that governmental entities have no place to interfere with individuals' rights to self-identify; and

Whereas, the actions of the Texas Department of Public Safety and Texas Department of State Health Services directly contradict the values of the Texas Democratic Party, especially at a time when the party, for the first time, has two transgender delegates at the Democratic National Convention;

Therefore, be it resolved that the Texas Democratic Party condemns in the strongest possible terms the Texas Department of Public Safety's and Texas Department of State Health Services' reversal of policies and their harmful impact on transgender Texans; and

Be it further resolved that the Texas Democratic Party calls upon the Texas Department of Public Safety and Texas Department of State Health Services to immediately reverse these discriminatory policies and restore the rights of transgender individuals to change their gender markers on state-issued identification and birth certificates without undue governmental interference; and

Be it further resolved that the Texas Democratic Party urges all members of the State Democratic Executive Committee to support this resolution and to take all necessary actions to advocate for the rights of transgender Texans.

Submitted by

Jeff Strater, Democratic National Committeeman and SDEC Member Congressional District 30
Robert Vargas, President of the Texas Stonewall Democratic Caucus
Jessica Cohen, Vice President of the Texas Stonewall Democratic Caucus