



The Resolutions Committee was called to order by Co-Chair Jim Zogby at 6:00 p.m. on Friday, February 20, 2015. The Committee considered 21 new Resolutions, which were a combination of message and commemorative Resolutions.

1. Resolution Highlighting President Obama and Democrats' Economic Accomplishments was amended with the addition of co-sponsors and passed unanimously.
2. Resolution on Expanding Economic Opportunity for Women and Families was amended with the addition of co-sponsors and passed unanimously.
3. Resolution Recognizing Black History Month and the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Bloody Sunday was amended with the addition of co-sponsors and passed unanimously.
4. Resolution on Expanding Economic Opportunity for Women and Families was amended with the addition of co-sponsors and passed unanimously.
5. Resolution to Urge Congress to Provide the Residents of the District of Columbia with Statehood and Full Democracy was amended with the addition of co-sponsors and passed unanimously.
6. Resolution Reaffirming Commitment to State Parties was amended with the addition of co-sponsors and passed unanimously.
7. Resolution Commending the Democratic Victory Task Force was amended with the addition of co-sponsors and passed unanimously.
8. Resolution Supporting Healthcare, Education and Job Training for our Service Members, Veterans and Military Families was amended with the addition of co-sponsors and passed unanimously.
9. Resolution Recognizing Lunar New Year as a Significant Cultural Holiday and Encouraging the Democratic National Committee to Recognize and Celebrate this Holiday was amended with the addition of co-sponsors and passed unanimously.
10. Resolution Supporting Cuba Policy Changes was amended with the addition of co-sponsors and passed unanimously.
11. Resolution Commending Taiwan for its Efforts to Advance Freedom, Democracy and Diversity and its Partnership with the United States in Addressing Global Challenges was amended with the addition of co-sponsors and passed unanimously.
12. Resolution Supporting the People of France: The Charlie Hebdo Tragedy was amended with the addition of co-sponsors and passed unanimously.
13. Resolution to Propose Four Legislative Reforms to Prevent the Future Use of Torture by the Government was amended with the deletion and addition of language and the addition of co-sponsors and passed unanimously.
14. Resolution Honoring the Life and Career of Marion Barry was amended with the addition of co-sponsors and passed unanimously.

15. Resolution Commemorating the Life and Career of Mario Matthew Cuomo was amended with the addition of co-sponsors and passed unanimously.
16. Resolution Commemorating the Life and Career of Wendell Ford was amended with the addition of co-sponsors and passed unanimously.
17. Resolution Commemorating the Life and Career of Robert Clayton Lanier was amended with the addition of co-sponsors and passed unanimously.
18. Resolution Commemorating the Life and Career of Rudy Lombard was amended with the addition of co-sponsors and passed unanimously.
19. Resolution Honoring the Life and Career of Darold “Dode” Lowe was amended with the addition of co-sponsors and passed unanimously.
20. Resolution Commemorating the Life and Career of Thomas Michael Menino was amended with the addition of co-sponsors and passed unanimously.
21. Resolution Commemorating the Life and Career of Tracey Pinson was amended with the addition of co-sponsors and passed unanimously.

This morning, the Executive Committee considered a Resolution on a Right to Vote Amendment to the U.S. Constitution. A copy of that Resolution is also attached to this Report.

There being no further business, the Resolutions Committee adjourned at 7:00 p..m.

The following Resolution was considered by the Resolutions Committee at its meeting on February 20, 2015, in Washington, DC, and will be recommended for adoption by the full Democratic National Committee at its meeting on February 21, 2015.

Submitted by:           Congresswoman Debbie Wasserman Schultz, DNC Chair/Florida  
Donna Brazile, DNC Vice Chair/District of Columbia  
Raymond Buckley, DNC Vice Chair/New Hampshire  
Andrew Tobias, DNC Treasurer/Florida  
Stephanie Rawlings-Blake, DNC Secretary/Maryland  
Henry Muñoz, DNC National Finance Chair/Texas  
Joanne Dowdell, At-Large/New Hampshire  
Earl Fowles, At-Large/District of Columbia  
Martha Fuller Clark, Vice Chair, New Hampshire  
Anthony Graves, Colorado  
Ben Jeffers, Louisiana  
Jadine Nielsen, Hawaii  
Rion Ramirez, At-Large, Washington  
Lottie Shackelford, At-Large/Arkansas

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***Resolution Highlighting President Obama and Democrats' Economic Accomplishments***

**WHEREAS**, over the past six years under President Obama's leadership we have rebuilt our economy from the middle out and recovered from the worst recession since the Great Depression, with more than 58 straight months of private sector job growth; and

**WHEREAS**, the country's unemployment rate is at the lowest we've seen in six years, last year was the strongest year for economic growth since the recession, and in the third quarter the economy grew at its fastest pace in more than a decade; and

**WHEREAS**, President Obama and Democrats have been clear that pay equity is a top priority and that the status quo where women make 78 cents to the dollar is not only wrong, it hurts our economy as women constitute nearly half of the nation's work force, and women are their family's primary breadwinner in 40% of U.S. households with children; and

**WHEREAS**, average gas prices have fallen across the country, and thanks to that and President Obama's actions requiring higher fuel standards and energy independence, the average American family should save around \$750 on gas this year; and

**WHEREAS**, President Obama made tough choices and took necessary and crucial steps to save the auto industry, saving at least 1 million American jobs that would have been lost, and today car companies are again adding jobs;

**WHEREAS**, through President Obama's health care law, it's estimated that 19 million fewer Americans will be uninsured by the end of this year, and millions more now have access to quality affordable health insurance because no family should go bankrupt because of illness; and

**WHEREAS**, the Congressional Budget Office predicts the federal budget deficit will shrink this year to its lowest level since President Barack Obama took office; and

**WHEREAS**, President Obama made it clear in his State of the Union address that his last two years in office will be guided by middle class economics that ensures everyone benefits from the economic recovery we've fought for instead of failed trickle-down economics of the past;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the DNC will continue to support President Obama and Democrats as they work to expand economic opportunity and grow our country from the middle, out, instead of the top, down.

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Submitted by:           Congresswoman Debbie Wasserman Schultz, DNC Chair/Florida  
Donna Brazile, DNC Vice Chair/District of Columbia  
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Earl Fowlkes, At-Large/District of Columbia  
Martha Fuller Clark, Vice Chair/New Hampshire  
Anthony Graves, Colorado  
Ben Jeffers, Louisiana  
Jadine Nielsen, Hawaii  
Rion Ramirez, At-Large/Washington  
Lottie Shackelford, At-Large/Arkansas

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***Resolution on Expanding Opportunity for Women and Families***

**WHEREAS**, this year marked the 42<sup>nd</sup> anniversary of the Supreme Court’s decision in Roe v. Wade, a decision protecting a woman’s right to make decisions regarding her own health and the health of her family; and

**WHEREAS**, March 1 marks the start of Women’s History Month to commemorate the generations of women who stood up and courageously paved a path for all women today; and

**WHEREAS**, forty-three million workers have no paid sick leave, and President Obama announced in his State of the Union Address that he will advocate paid sick leave and paid maternity leave for all Americans despite Republican obstruction; and

**WHEREAS**, President Obama also made it clear in his State of the Union address that he will continue to fight until women, who make up nearly half the workforce in the United States, have pay equity; and

**WHEREAS**, the Affordable Care Act brought health care security to millions of women who can now focus on their professional, academic, financial, and personal goals without having to worry about losing access to quality, affordable health care for themselves and their families; and

**WHEREAS**, because of the Affordable Care Act, an estimated 48.5 million women now receive preventive health care services without the burden of out-of-pocket costs, and the country has seen a 5.5 percent decline in the uninsured rate among women between the ages of 18 and 64 since 2013; and,

**WHEREAS**, Republicans in Congress continue to attempt to reverse the progress women in America have made, insisting that a woman’s boss or politicians should be part of conversations between a woman and her doctor;

**WHEREAS**, Republican-led legislatures have passed laws recently that considerably limit access to safe women's health clinics, attempting to take us back to a time before Roe v. Wade's protections existed;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the DNC supports the rights of women to protect her health and advance her economic interests and affirm that when women succeed, America succeeds.

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Submitted by:           Congresswoman Debbie Wasserman Schultz, DNC Chair/Florida  
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Andrew Tobias, DNC Treasurer/Florida  
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Ben Jeffers, Louisiana  
Jadine Nielsen, Hawaii  
Rion Ramirez, At-Large/Washington  
Lottie Shackelford, At-Large/Arkansas

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***Resolution Recognizing Black History Month and the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Bloody Sunday***

**WHEREAS**, February marks Black History Month, giving us an opportunity to honor the many contributions African Americans have made to our nation;

**WHEREAS**, Black History Month is celebrated in February to encompass the birthdays of both Frederick Douglass and President Abraham Lincoln, two instrumental advocates for the Black community; and

**WHEREAS**, Black Americans have a rich history of hard-won progress and have had a long-standing role in our nation that must be celebrated and recognized; and

**WHEREAS**, this year we also commemorate the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Bloody Sunday and the successful Selma to Montgomery movement. In March of 1965 Black Americans from all walks of life stood together to demand constitutionally guaranteed voting rights. Their courage on the Edmund Pettus Bridge called our nation to action. Their efforts directly led to the passage of the Voting Rights Act that year; and

**WHEREAS**, we must respectfully recognize the painful parts in the history of Black Americans in the United States and vow to continue to move to a more peaceful time for all—never taking our eyes off of where we came so we ensure we cannot go back; and

**WHEREAS**, Black History Month gives us the opportunity to reflect on how much more we can do to help honor the legacy of those who fought for the rights of all by ensuring that every child in America has an equal opportunity to succeed; and

**WHEREAS**, the Democratic Party and Democratic leaders have been champions in both the civil rights and voting rights movements, making it clear that when more people have equality and more people have a seat at the table then our country is better for it; and

**WHEREAS**, Democrats continue to work toward restoring provisions in the Voting Rights Act that were struck down by the Supreme Court but that are essential to ensuring everyone's voice is heard in our elections; and

**WHEREAS**, the African American community is disproportionately affected by unemployment and President Obama and Democrats are fighting to raise the federal minimum wage to a fair wage; and

**WHEREAS**, Democrats work every day to ensure that, regardless of race or the zip code a person is born in, they have equal access to affordable health care, housing, voting, and a quality education;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, as Democrats we believe in recognizing the contributions and accomplishments of all of those who take parts in our communities and proudly celebrate Black History Month.



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Martha Fuller Clark, Vice Chair, New Hampshire  
Anthony Graves, Colorado  
Ben Jeffers, Louisiana  
Jadine Nielsen, Hawaii  
Lottie Shackelford, At-Large/Arkansas  
Jim Zogby, At-Large/District of Columbia

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***Resolution on Immigration Reform***

**WHEREAS**, we are a nation of immigrants and are strongest when we tap the talents of all who live here and embrace our diversity; and

**WHEREAS**, it remains a top priority of President Obama and Democrats to fix a broken immigration system; and

**WHEREAS**, President Obama is committed to immigration reform that includes an earned path to citizenship for the over 11 million undocumented immigrants living in this country, and has been clear that he will not accept changes to the immigration system that create two classes of people; and

**WHEREAS**, the costs of inaction are simply too high to delay and studies have demonstrated that fixing our immigration system would boost our economy, strengthen our borders, and decrease our deficit; and

**WHEREAS**, our broken immigration system affects individuals of all races and nations of origin – from Europe to Asia to Latin America to Africa – who want to be contributing members of our business and communities; and

**WHEREAS**, the 113<sup>th</sup> Democratic Senate passed a bipartisan comprehensive immigration reform compromise that House Republicans refused to bring to a vote; and

**WHEREAS**, The Obama administration took action to improve our immigration system and give relief from deportation to DREAMers; and

**WHEREAS**, House Republicans have yet to put forth a comprehensive plan to fix our broken immigration system, and instead want to deport millions of DREAMers who know no home other than the United States and were brought here at no fault of their own; and

**WHEREAS**, President Obama took bold, definitive action to protect families and stop the deportation of more than 4 million individuals who could stay in the country legally and apply for work permits, but it lies with Congress to take the comprehensive actions on immigration that the country needs;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the DNC supports President Obama's lawful and Constitutional effort to provide immediate relief through Executive Action and renews our call for Republicans to join President Obama and Congressional Democrats in passing comprehensive immigration reform.

The following Resolution was considered by the Resolutions Committee at its meeting on February 20, 2015, in Washington, DC, and will be recommended for adoption by the full Democratic National Committee at its meeting on February 21, 2015.

Submitted by:           Congresswoman Debbie Wasserman Schultz, DNC Chair/Florida  
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Stephanie Rawlings-Blake, DNC Secretary/Maryland  
Henry Muñoz, DNC National Finance Chair/Texas  
Anita Bonds, Chair, District of Columbia  
Ed Patillo, Vice Chair, District of Columbia  
Mary Eva Candon, District of Columbia  
Arrington Dixon, District of Columbia  
Joanne Dowdell, At-Large/New Hampshire  
Earl Fowlkes, At-Large/District of Columbia  
Martha Fuller Clark, Vice Chair, New Hampshire  
Anthony Graves, Colorado  
Ben Jeffers, Louisiana  
Karren Pope-Onwukwe, Maryland  
Rion Ramirez, At-Large/Washington  
Lottie Shackelford, At-Large/Arkansas

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***Resolution to Urge Congress to Provide the Residents of the District of Columbia with Statehood and Full Democracy***

**WHEREAS**, the United States Constitution that was ratified in 1788, provided the right to vote for representation in Congress to the “People living” in the several states of the United States, and included citizens of the several States as well as those living on the land that would later be designated by the federal government for the nation’s capital as ceded by Maryland and Virginia to become the District of Columbia; however, through the enactment of the “District of Columbia Organic Act of 1801” DC residents were disenfranchised from voting for representative Members of Congress for more than 200 years; and

**WHEREAS**, District of Columbia residents pay among the highest per capita federal taxes in the nation and more than 200,000 residents have served in the federal armed services, and yet DC residents have no vote in the United States Congress; and

**WHEREAS**, no other nation in the world denies the right of self-government, including participation in its national legislature, to the residents of its capital; and

**WHEREAS**, the residents of the District of Columbia lack full democracy, equality, and citizenship enjoyed by the residents of the 50 states; and

**WHEREAS**, the citizens of the District of Columbia continue to express their determination to achieve full representation by electing two United States Senators and a United States Representative to advocate for statehood and full democracy; and

**WHEREAS**, the Democratic Party platforms have historically supported statehood for the District of Columbia and we call on the Party to renew that commitment in 2016 by endorsing statehood for the District of Columbia in the Party platform; and

**WHEREAS**, the new majority in the House of Representatives began the 114th Congress by continuing to deny District of Columbia Delegate Eleanor Holmes Norton a vote in the Committee of the Whole, and is expected to again trample on District of Columbia Home Rule by introducing riders on how the District of Columbia spends its locally raised tax dollars; and

**WHEREAS**, in January 2015, District of Columbia Delegate Norton introduced HR 317, the New Columbia Admission Act providing for Statehood with a record number of 93 original co-sponsors, and is expected to introduce bills to grant District of Columbia budget and legislative autonomy; and

**WHEREAS**, in September 2014, the Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee held the first-ever Senate hearing on District of Columbia Statehood and the first Congressional hearing on Statehood in more than 20 years, and S132 and HR292 had a record number of 21 co-sponsors in the Senate and 112 co-sponsors in the House, respectively; and

**WHEREAS**, the voters of the District of Columbia passed an initiative to legalize the possession of small amounts of marijuana and the majority party claims to have blocked its implementation, and last Congress blocked the District of Columbia from spending its locally raised tax revenue on abortion funding; and,

**WHEREAS**, although the District of Columbia timely passed a balanced budget for each of the last 19 years, the District of Columbia has faced the possibility of being shut-down each year because of Congressional deliberations over the federal budget and the imposition of riders opposed by the District of Columbia; and

**WHEREAS**, as part of the FY 2014 and 2015 budgets, the District of Columbia was exempted from federal government shutdowns for FY 2015 and 2016, respectively; and

**WHEREAS**, the residents of the District of Columbia have endorsed Statehood for the District of Columbia, and passed a District-wide referendum on budget autonomy; and

**WHEREAS**, President Barack Obama is in support of Statehood for the nation's capital, and has previously spoken in favor of giving the District voting representation in Congress and full control over its budget and laws; and

**WHEREAS**, it has been 50 years since the passage of the Civil Rights Act and 40 years since the District of Columbia was granted Home Rule, and the residents of the District of Columbia have yet to have the same rights as the residents of the 50 states; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Democratic National Committee passed the “Resolution in Support of the District of Columbia Fair and Equal Voting Rights Act” in 2007, the “Resolution in Support of the District of Columbia House Voting Rights” in 2009, the “Resolution to Urge Congress to Provide the Residents of the District of Columbia with Full Democracy” in 2011, and the Black, Ethnic, LGBT, Veteran’s, Women’s and other caucuses of the Democratic National Committee each adopted resolutions in support of Statehood at the DNC 2014 Winter Meeting;

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Democratic National Committee endorse and encourage citizens and their members of Congress to support Statehood and full democracy for the District of Columbia that will guarantee to the residents of the District of Columbia full Congressional voting representation, budget autonomy, and all of the rights that the people of the 50 United States enjoy.

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Submitted by:                   Congresswoman Debbie Wasserman Schultz, DNC Chair/Florida  
John Burton, Chair, California

Steven Alari, California	Anthony Graves, Colorado	Karen Packer, Vice Chair, Oregon
Patrice Arent, Utah	Vallena Greer, Vice Chair, Mississippi	Bruce Palmer, Vice Chair, Wyoming
Jon Ausman, Florida	Stanley Grossman, Democrats Abroad	Christine Pelosi, California
Shawn Bagley, California	Jaime Harrison, Chair, South Carolina	David Pepper, Chair, Ohio
Dominic Balletto, Chair, Connecticut	Luis Heredia, Arizona	Redding Pitt, Vice Chair, Alabama
Phil Bartlett, Chair, Maine	Pat Hobbs, National Federation of Democratic Women, California	Vince Powers, Chair, Nebraska
Jan Bauer, At-Large/Iowa	Marge Hoffa, Vice Chair, Minnesota	Jake Quinn, North Carolina
Belinda Biafore, Vice Chair, West Virginia	Aleita Huguenin, California	Rion Ramirez, At-Large/Washington
Gus Bickford, Massachusetts	Therese Hunkin, American Somoa	Jaxon Ravens, Chair, Washington
Erin Bilbray, Nevada	Vince Insalaco, Chair, Arkansas	Stephanie Rawlings-Blake, DNC Secretary/Maryland
Rachel Binah, California	Troy Jackson, Maine	Richard Ray, Georgia
Anita Bonds, Chair, District of Columbia	Nancy Jacobson, Florida	Clara Reid, Vice Chair, American Samoa
Carolyn Boyce, Idaho	Ben Jeffers, Louisiana	Evelyn Richardson, Pennsylvania
Robert Bragar, Democrats Abroad	Tim Jerman, Vice Chair, Vermont	Betty Richie, Texas
Sandra Brandt, Virginia	Gaylene Kanoyton, Vice Chair, Virginia	Bill Roe, Vice Chair, Arizona
Donna Brazile, DNC Vice Chair/District of Columbia	Patsy Keever, Vice Chair, North Carolina	Valerie Rongey, Vice Chair, Washington
Sam Bregman, Chair, New Mexico	Larry Kenck, Chair, Idaho	Virgie Rollins, National Federation of Democratic Women/Michigan
Scott Brennan, Iowa	E.Lee Kinch, Vice Chair, Kansas	James Roosevelt, At-Large/Massachusetts
Raymond Buckley, DNC Vice Chair/New Hampshire	Kaye Koonce, Vice Chair, South Carolina	Sally Rosser, Georgia
Jeanne Buell, Vice Chair, Idaho	Caitlin Kraft-Buchman, Democrats Abroad	William Roy, Kansas
Carol Burke, Virgin Islands	Teresa Krusor, Kansas	Keelan Sanders, Mississippi
Jim Burn, Chair, Pennsylvania	Roberta Lange, Chair, Nevada	Peggy Schaffer, Vice Chair, Maine
Laura Calvo, Oregon	Fagafaga Langkilde, American Samoa	Melissa Schroeder, Vice Chair, Wisconsin
Mitchell Cesar, Florida	Linda Langston, National Democratic County Officials/Iowa	William Shaheen, New Hampshire
Martha Fuller Clark, Vice Chair, New Hampshire	Jim Larson, Chair, Montana	Garry Shay, California
James Clayborne, At-Large/Illinois	Congresswoman Barbara Lee, California	Kenneth Sherman, Vice Chair, Democrats Abroad
Rickey Cole, Chair, Mississippi	Jean Lemire Dahlman, Montana	Barbra "Babs" Siperstein, At-Large/New Jersey
Wallace Collins, Chair, Oklahoma	Frank Leone, Virginia	Kathryn Solon, Chair, Democrats Abroad
Sheila Comar, Vice Chair, New York	Belkis Leong-Hong, At-Large/MD	Rick Stafford, Minnesota
Peter Corroon, Chair, Utah	Cindy Lerner, National Democratic Municipal Officers Conference/Florida	Christopher Stampolis, California
Doris Crouse-Mays, Virginia	Yvette Lewis, Chair, Maryland	Casey Steinau, Vice Chair, Alaska
Ana Cuprill, Chair, Wyoming	Cordelia Lewis-Burks, Vice Chair, Indiana	Kathy Sullivan, New Hampshire
John Currie, Chair, New Jersey	Sandra Loridans, Democrats Abroad	Gary Suwannarat, Democrats Abroad
John Daniello, Chair, Delaware	Martha Love, Wisconsin	Susan Swecker, At-Large/Virginia
Leah Daughtry, At-Large/New York	Juanita Luiz, At-Large/Washington	Andrew Tobias, DNC Treasurer/Florida
Wendy Davis, Georgia	Marcia Marley, New Jersey	Annette Taddeo, Florida
Dottie Deans, Chair, Vermont	Ken Martin, Chair, Minnesota	Alexis Tameron, Chair, Arizona
Lizette Delgado-Polanco, Chair, New Jersey	Iris Martinez, Illinois	Allison Tant, Chair, Florida
Nancy DiNardo, Vice Chair, Connecticut	Sharon Mast, Washington	Lawrence Taylor, Oregon
Frank Dixon, Chair, Oregon	Lupita Maurer, Oregon	Ann Tornberg, Chair, South Dakota
Kate Donaghue, Massachusetts	David McDonald, Washington	Keith Umemoto, California
Becca Doten, California	Tom McGee, Chair, Massachusetts	Robert Valeu, Chair, North Dakota
Joanne Dowdell, At-Large/New Hampshire	Andy McGuire, Chair, Iowa	Randolph Voller, Chair, North Carolina
Kathy Duffy, Vice Chair, New Mexico	Natasha McKenzie, College Democrats of America/DC	Joan Wagnon, Chair, Kansas
Jess Durfee, California	Rhine McLin, Vice Chair, Ohio	Carolyn Warner, Arizona
Mary Ellen Early, California	Shari Mellin, Indiana	Michael Wenstrup, Chair, Alaska
John Eastwood, Democrats Abroad	Kimberly Metcalfe, Alaska	Chris Wicker, Vice Chair, Nevada
Joyce Elliott, Vice Chair, Arkansas	Glen Middleton, Maryland	Lona Wilbur, Washington
Reni Erdos, New Jersey	Jim Mowrer, Vice Chair, Iowa	Marian Williams, Florida
Earl Fowlkes, At-Large/District of Columbia	Dorothy Mrowka, Connecticut	Nikema Williams, Vice Chair, Georgia
Isabel Framer, At-Large/Ohio	Henry Muñoz, DNC National Finance Chair/Texas	John Wisniewski, New Jersey
Alexandra Gallardo-Rooker, Vice Chair, California	Jadine Nielsen, Hawaii	David Worley, Georgia
Kate Gallego, Arizona	David O'Brien, Massachusetts	Nancy Worley, Chair, Alabama
Alice Germond, At-Large/Virginia	Blanca Uzeta O'Leary, At-Large/Colorado	Rosalind Wyman, California
Pete Gertonson, Idaho	Stephanie Ohigashi, Chair, Hawaii	Laurence Zakson, California
Mike Gireau, Wyoming	Ian Olson, Alaska	Patricia Zieg, Nebraska
Alma Gonzalez, Florida	Sandy Opstvedt, Iowa	John Zody, Chair, Indiana

***Resolution Reaffirming Commitment to State Parties***

**WHEREAS**, in 2014, Democrats suffered losses in races up and down the ticket. We want to learn from 2014 and move forward; and

**WHEREAS**, those states who benefited greatly from the support of the Democratic National Committee (DNC) and the State Party Partnership Program now more than ever need additional access to resources and support; and

**WHEREAS**, the DNC has consistently invested in our state parties at an increased level since 2005/2006 through the State Party Partnership Program, and continues that investment in new and innovative ways to keep pace with technology and campaign advances; and

**WHEREAS**, we recognize that the strength of our Party at all levels is reflected in our commitment to diversity is immense and will enable state parties to develop outreach necessary to reach out to underrepresented communities and constituencies in a planned and comprehensive manner; and

**WHEREAS**, by investing throughout the 2016 election cycle in a state party-based professionally trained diverse staff and volunteer base, the Democratic Party will enhance and improve its opportunity for a competitive advantage in the 2016 elections; and

**WHEREAS**, by working with the DNC through their 2015 State Party Assessment process, important information will be shared and together we will be better positioned to guide our partnership through the next generation of the State Party Partnership Program; and

**WHEREAS**, state parties are a cornerstone for support and advancement of the President and his agenda, as well as the ground floor to find, cultivate, and elect strong local candidates who will become our national leaders for the future;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the DNC plans and will implement a more enhanced and robust program, continuing in the spirit of the 50 State Strategy, in the coming days allowing state parties to flourish, and giving access to valuable tools and resources that assist states in efforts to build the Party, elect Democrats, committing to hiring more diverse staff – including minorities and women, electing Democrats, and take back the House and the Senate as well as many statewide offices and legislative houses; and

**BE IT ALSO RESOLVED**, that by working with the DNC to strengthen our commitment to all state parties, we will be better equipped to recruit and elect Democrats up and down the ticket, support our Presidential nominee in 2016 as well as help President Obama establish his ongoing legacy.

Submitted by: William Owen, Tennessee  
Raymond Buckley, DNC Vice Chair/New Hampshire  
Andy Tobias, DNC Treasurer/Florida  
Gus Bickford, Massachusetts  
Joanne Dowdell, At-Large/New Hampshire  
Earl Fowlkes, At-Large/District of Columbia  
Martha Fuller Clark, Vice Chair, New Hampshire  
Anthony Graves, Colorado  
Ben Jeffers, Louisiana  
Jadine Nielsen, Hawaii

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***Resolution Commending the Formation of the Democratic Victory Task Force***

**WHEREAS**, the results of the 2014 elections were less than satisfactory to most Democrats; and

**WHEREAS**, the policies promoted by President Barack Obama and Democrats in Congress have resulted in dramatic economic increases since the "Great Recession" years of 2008 and 2009; and

**WHEREAS**, in many areas Democrats have not benefited electorally from the successful Democratic policies; and

**WHEREAS**, the 2016 election cycle will provide an opportunity for Democrats to seek election on strong and growing results from Democratic policies;

**WHEREAS**, Chair Debbie Wasserman Schultz established the Democratic Victory Task Force to examine the Democratic Party's role in recent election in order to better serve candidates and constituents in future elections;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Democratic National Committee (DNC) commends the formation of the Democratic Victory Task Force for their efforts to evaluate our practices and commits to continuing "Listening Tour" activities in the 2016 cycle; and hosted by regional DNC Caucuses; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that local Democratic officeholders and officials be invited to give feedback for the purpose of allowing the DNC to learn about issues and concerns of all Americans; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, the Democratic National Committee commends the work of the Democratic Victory Task Force and their findings be used to ensure the election of a Democratic President in 2016, and encourages Democrats at all levels to convene local listening meetings.



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Christine Pelosi, California  
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Stephanie Rawlings-Blake, DNC Secretary/Maryland  
Jean Dahlman, Montana  
Jan Donatelli, Pennsylvania  
Joanne Dowdell, At-Large/New Hampshire  
Don Fowler, At-Large/South Carolina  
Earl Fowlkes, At-Large/District of Columbia  
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Stanley Grossman, Democrats Abroad  
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Ben Jeffers, Louisiana  
Bob Mulholland, California  
Jadine Nielsen, Hawaii  
Rion Ramirez, At-Large/Washington  
Garry Shay, California  
Keith Umemoto, California  
Rosalind Wymann, California  
Laurence Zackson, California

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***Resolution Supporting Healthcare, Education, and Job Training for our Service Members, Veterans and Military Families***

**WHEREAS**, as we give thanks for the sacrifices of all those who have served our country honorably at home and abroad - our service members, veterans and military families - we must acknowledge that years of war have put too heavy of a burden on too narrow a slice of our population, and we must do more to fulfill our moral obligation to serve those who serve us; and,

**WHEREAS**, our returning veterans face too many obstacles in receiving earned benefits, services, and opportunities such as healthcare, job training, education and transition services which in turn put further strain on military families; and

**WHEREAS**, as President Barack Obama has said, "we should never send America's sons and daughters into harm's way unless it is absolutely necessary and we have a plan, and we are resourcing it and prepared to see it through;"

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Democratic National Committee (DNC) urge swift action to secure veterans the benefits, services, and opportunities they have earned: getting health care, including assistance for post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and military sexual trauma (MST); end the backlog in disability claims; implement the Clay Hunt SAV Act; end the scourge of veterans' homelessness by the end of the year; provide more public-private partnerships that assist military spouses and children; and, build out tools such as the Veterans Employment Center and the Boots to Business initiative so veterans and their families have the jobs, skills, and education they need to succeed; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that out of respect for current and future generations of veterans, the DNC insist upon a diplomacy-first approach to threats with war only as a last resort and at a level of planning and resources worthy of the sacrifices made by our men and women in uniform.

The following Resolution was considered by the Resolutions Committee at its meeting on February 20, 2015, in Washington, DC, and will be recommended for adoption by the full Democratic National Committee at its meeting on February 21, 2015.

Submitted by:           Congresswoman Debbie Wasserman Schultz, DNC Chair/Florida  
                          Bel Leong-Hong, At-Large/Maryland  
                          Jadine Nielsen, Hawaii  
                          Keith Umemoto, California  
                          Evan Low, At-Large/California  
                          Russell Okata, Hawaii  
                          Congresswoman Tulsi Gabbard, DNC Vice Chair/Hawaii  
                          Raymond Buckley, DNC Vice Chair/New Hampshire  
                          Andrew Tobias, DNC Treasurer/Florida  
                          Stephanie Rawlings-Blake, DNC Secretary/Maryland  
                          Anthony Graves, Colorado  
                          Jadine Nielsen, Hawaii  
                          Rion Ramirez, At-Large/Washington

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***Resolution Recognizing Lunar New Year as a Significant Cultural Holiday and Encouraging the Democratic National Committee to Recognize and Celebrate this Holiday***

**WHEREAS**, Lunar New Year begins with the first full moon of the lunar calendar and ends 15 days later on the first full moon of the lunar calendar; and

**WHEREAS**, Lunar New Year is often referred to as Chunjie (Chinese), Tet (Vietnamese), Solnal (Korean), Losar (Tibetan) and Spring Festival; and

**WHEREAS**, Lunar New Year celebrations began over 4,000 years ago in China and now are celebrated across the world; and

**WHEREAS**, Lunar New Year is celebrated by over 8 million Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders in the United States; and

**WHEREAS**, Lunar New Year is one of the most significant cultural holidays for Asian American and Pacific Islanders; and

**WHEREAS**, 6 percent of the population is Asian American and Pacific Islanders representing a rapidly growing population in the country; and

**WHEREAS**, more than two-thirds of Asian American and Pacific islanders voted for the reelection of President Obama in 2012; and

**WHEREAS**, turnout among registered voters meant that a record number of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders went to the polls in 2012; and

**WHEREAS**, Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders accounted for 2.8 percent of the total vote won; and

**WHEREAS**, 39 Asian American and Pacific Islander candidates ran for Congressional Office, more than doubling the number of candidates running for national office in 2008 and 2010;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Democratic National Committee (DNC) join the Asian American and Pacific Islander Caucus in recognizing that Lunar New Year is a significant cultural holiday for many Asian American and Pacific Islanders in the United States; celebrating Lunar New Year's cultural significance to many Asian American and Pacific Islander populations and celebrating accordingly; embracing the cultural diversity of the members of the Democratic Party; and celebrating the start of the New Lunar Year at the same time as we celebrate the Winter meeting of the DNC.

The following Resolution was considered by the Resolutions Committee at its meeting on February 20, 2015, in Washington, DC, and will be recommended for adoption by the full Democratic National Committee at its meeting on February 21, 2015.

Submitted by:           Congresswoman Barbara Lee, California  
Donna Brazile, DNC Vice Chair/District of Columbia  
Raymond Buckley, DNC Vice Chair/New Hampshire  
Andrew Tobias, DNC Treasurer/Florida  
Henry Muñoz, DNC National Finance Chair/Texas  
Joanne Dowdell, At-Large/New Hampshire  
Earl Fowlkes, At-Large/District of Columbia  
Martha Fuller Clark, Vice Chair, New Hampshire  
Anthony Graves, Colorado  
Ben Jeffers, Louisiana  
Rion Ramirez, At-Large/Washington  
Jim Zogby, At-Large/District of Columbia

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***Resolution Supporting Cuba Policy Changes***

**WHEREAS**, on December 17, 2015, President Obama announced historic steps to chart a new course toward normalizing relations with Cuba; and

**WHEREAS**, the United States has pursued more than 50 years of policies toward Cuba that have not improved or advanced our interests; and

**WHEREAS**, the U.S. and Cuba are separated by 90 miles of water, and the United States is home to some two million Cubans and Americans of Cuban descent; and

**WHEREAS**, the President noted in his December 17, 2015, statement that, “we can do more to support the Cuban people and promote our values through engagement;” and

**WHEREAS**, other regional and international partners including those in the Western Hemisphere have not shared U.S. policy towards Cuba; and

**WHEREAS**, for more than 35 years the United States has had strategic relations with China, and nearly two decades ago reestablished relations with Vietnam, while also expressing grave concerns and consternation for human rights violations and repressing the freedom of their own citizens; and

**WHEREAS**, President Obama will participate in the 2015 Summit of the Americas in Panama with human rights and democracy being the key Summit themes;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Democratic National Committee commends the President for his leadership in advancing these historic changes toward normalizing relations between the United States and Cuba while continuing to prioritize the values of freedom and human rights; and;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Democratic National Committee supports efforts by the U.S. Congress to modernize travel and economic policies relating to Cuba while pursuing meaningful improvements in human rights and freedoms.

The following Resolution was considered by the Resolutions Committee at its meeting on February 20, 2015, in Washington, DC, and will be recommended for adoption by the full Democratic National Committee at its meeting on February 21, 2015.

Submitted by: Doris Crouse Mays, Virginia  
Jess Durfee, California  
Earl Fowlkes, At-Large/District of Columbia  
Raymond Buckley, DNC Vice Chair/New Hampshire  
Andrew Tobias, DNC Treasurer/Florida  
Joanne Dowdell, At-Large/New Hampshire  
Martha Fuller Clark, Vice Chair, New Hampshire  
Anthony Graves, Colorado  
Ben Jeffers, Louisiana  
Sunita Leeds, At-Large/District of Columbia  
Rion Ramirez, At-Large/Washington

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***Resolution Commending Taiwan for its Efforts to Advance Freedom, Democracy and Diversity and its Partnership with the United States in Addressing Global Challenges***

**WHEREAS**, Taiwan is a thriving democracy, having conducted five free and fair presidential elections and continuously maintaining a free, open and diverse society, which serves as a model to East Asia and the world; and

**WHEREAS**, Taiwan performs a leading role in East Asia in celebrating diversity and promoting tolerance, having hosted annual gay pride marches for 13 years, permitting gay and lesbian soldiers to serve in the military, enforcing laws to prevent discrimination, and considering legislation to legalize same-sex marriage; and

**WHEREAS**, Taiwan has closely collaborated with the United States to combat global terrorism, offering more than \$7 million to the international coalition against the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) for assistance to Iraqi and Syrian refugees, as well as participating in the Container Security Initiative and contributing to the Pentagon Memorial Fund; and

**WHEREAS**, Taiwan remains a critical partner in addressing shared global challenges, including its active engagement in humanitarian relief measures, public health endeavors and environmental protection initiatives, such as recent efforts to curtail the spread of Ebola through the donation of 100,000 sets of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) to West Africa and \$1 million to the Centers for Disease Control Foundation; and

**WHEREAS**, Taiwan actively and publicly advocates for a sustained United States presence and engagement in the Asia-Pacific region and the Obama Administration's "rebalance" toward Asia; and

**WHEREAS**, Taiwan, as the tenth-largest trading partner of the United States and a top 10 destination for U.S. agricultural and food exports, and among the leading global buyers of U.S. beef, corn, soybeans, wheat, feed grains and numerous fruit and vegetable crops, has made a concerted effort to enhance trade and investment relations with the U.S., providing the third-largest delegation of business leaders to the 2013 SelectUSA Investment Summit, sending numerous high-level CEOs as part of a delegation to the U.S. to promote investment, and facilitating nearly \$8 billion in foreign direct investment in the U.S. in 2012; and

**WHEREAS**, the 2014 delegation to Taiwan led by U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Gina McCarthy marked the highest-level U.S. government visit to Taiwan since 2000, and followed the delegations led by U.S. Agency for International Development Administrator Rajiv Shah and Deputy Secretary of Energy Daniel Poneman, reaffirming the importance of high-level consultation and exchanges between Washington and Taipei; and

**WHEREAS**, the United States' unwavering commitment to the Taiwan Relations Act and enduring support for Taiwan's security and self-defense has been instrumental in maintaining peace, security and stability in the Taiwan Strait while providing Taipei confidence in its engagements with Beijing, resulting in an unprecedented number of economic and cultural cross-Strait agreements;

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Democratic National Committee commends Taiwan for its active efforts to advance freedom, democracy and diversity and its reliable partnership with the United States in addressing global challenges, and joins President Obama and his Administration in supporting the strong and deepening relationship between the United States and Taiwan.



The following Resolution was considered by the Resolutions Committee at its meeting on February 20, 2015, in Washington, DC, and will be recommended for adoption by the full Democratic National Committee at its meeting on February 21, 2015.

Submitted by:           Congresswoman Debbie Wasserman Schultz, DNC Chair/Florida  
                          Anthony E. Graves, Colorado  
                          Donna Brazile, DNC Vice Chair/District of Columbia  
                          Raymond Buckley, DNC Vice Chair/New Hampshire  
                          Andrew Tobias, DNC Treasurer/Florida  
                          Stephanie Rawlings-Blake, DNC Secretary/Maryland  
                          Henry Muñoz, DNC National Finance Chair/Texas  
                          Joanne Dowdell, At-Large/New Hampshire  
                          Earl Fowlkes, At-Large/District of Columbia  
                          Martha Fuller Clark, Vice Chair, New Hampshire  
                          Jadine Nielsen, Hawaii

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***Resolution Supporting the People of France: The Charlie Hebdo and Kosher Market Tragedies***

**WHEREAS**, on January 7, 2015, two masked gunmen entered the offices of the French magazine Charlie Hebdo in Paris, France killing twelve people; two policemen and ten civilians - and initiated one of the worst terrorist acts in France's history; and

**WHEREAS**, the terrorists led a violent escape and parallel attacks, including an attack on a kosher market, ensued over the next two days that took the lives of five additional people; one policeman and four civilians - and wounded numerous innocent bystanders and law enforcement personnel; and

**WHEREAS**, the French National Police and elite forces responded bravely in the face of danger, risking, and in some cases giving their lives, to protect the innocent and defend the democratic principles of freedom of speech and freedom of the press; and

**WHEREAS**, the French Republic is a longstanding ally of the United States with warm relations between our people and the unshakable values of free speech and democracy shared between our nations;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Democratic National Committee offer its heartfelt condolences to the people of France and affirm its support of our shared democratic principles in the face of terrorism and cowardice.

The following Resolution was considered by the Resolutions Committee at its meeting on February 20, 2015, in Washington, DC, and will be recommended for adoption by the full Democratic National Committee at its meeting on February 21, 2015.

Submitted by: Shawn K. Bagley, California  
Garry Shay, California  
Aleita Huguenin, California  
Chris Stampolis, California  
Kathryn Solon, Chair, Democrats Abroad  
Blanca O’Leary, At-Large/Colorado  
Pat Hobbs, National Federation of Democratic Women/California  
Andrew Tobias, DNC Treasurer/Florida  
Henry Muñoz, DNC National Finance Chair/Texas  
Joanne Dowdell, At-Large/New Hampshire  
Martha Fuller Clark, Vice Chair, New Hampshire  
Anthony Graves, Colorado  
Jadine Nielsen, Hawaii  
Rion Ramirez, At-Large/Washington

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***Resolution to Propose Four Legislative Reforms to Prevent the Future Use of Torture by the Government***

**WHEREAS**, the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence released the Findings and Conclusions of its study of the CIA Detention and Interrogation Program in December 2014; and

**WHEREAS**, the Democratic National Committee believes that the evidence is overwhelming and incontrovertible that the U.S. Government engaged in torture; and

**WHEREAS**, Executive Order (No. 13491) is not codified as a part U.S. law and could be overturned by a future president with the stroke of a pen and changes must be made in U.S. law to insure that the United States never again engages in any action of torture; and

**WHEREAS**, this support for proposed legislation is meant to codify the January 22, 2009 Executive Order (No. 13491) entitled, “Ensuring Lawful Interrogations;”

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Democratic National Committee support the conclusion that, under any common meaning of the term, CIA detainees were tortured and the conditions of confinement and the use of authorized and unauthorized interrogation and conditioning techniques were cruel, inhuman, and degrading, constituting torture. This new legislation will expand this limitation to U.S. Intelligence Community personnel as well, consistent with Executive Order (No. 13491); and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** that the Democratic National Committee support establishing the U.S. Army Field Manual as the Exclusive Set of Interrogation Techniques; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** that the Democratic National Committee support ensuring that U.S. policy never again allows for secret indefinite detention. This new legislation will prohibit the U.S. Government from holding captured detainees other than on a “short term, transitory basis” consistent with Executive Order (No. 13491); and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** that the Democratic National Committee support requiring the U.S. Government to notify the Red Cross and provide timely access to all captured detainees. This new legislation would provide access to those detainees as soon as practicable, consistent with Executive Order (No. 13491); and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** that the Democratic National Committee insist on closing all torture loopholes to prevent abuses such as when U.S. domestic law prohibiting torture and the Detainee Treatment Act of 2005 were both interpreted by the White House office of Legal Counsel to allow the CIA to use brutal physical and psychological interrogation techniques even though existing U.S. law and treaty obligations should have prevented many of the abuses and mistakes made between 2002 and 2007. This new legislation will make clear that such interrogation techniques are prohibited, consistent with Executive Order (13491); and

**BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED,** that the Democratic National Committee demand that Congress enshrine Executive Order (No. 13491) in these recommended legislation proposals and requests state legislatures and other elected governmental bodies to send similar requests to their Congressional delegations.

The following Resolution was considered by the Resolutions Committee at its meeting on February 20, 2015, in Washington, DC, and will be recommended for adoption by the full Democratic National Committee at its meeting on February 21, 2015.

Submitted by:           Congresswoman Debbie Wasserman Schultz, DNC Chair/Florida  
Donna Brazile, DNC Vice Chair/District of Columbia  
Raymond Buckley, DNC Vice Chair/New Hampshire  
Andrew Tobias, DNC Treasurer/Florida  
Stephanie Rawlings-Blake, DNC Secretary/Maryland  
Anita Bonds, Chair/District of Columbia  
Joanne Dowdell, At-Large/New Hampshire  
Earl Fowlkes, At-Large/District of Columbia  
Anthony Graves, Colorado  
Ben Jeffers, Louisiana  
Rion Ramirez, At-Large/Washington  
Lottie Shackelford, At-Large/Arkansas  
Jim Zogby, At-Large/District of Columbia

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***Resolution Honoring the Life and Career of Marion Barry***

**WHEREAS**, Marion Barry was born on March 6, 1936 in Itta Bena, Mississippi; and

**WHEREAS**, in 1958, he graduated from LeMoyne College and later received a master's degree in chemistry from Fisk University; and

**WHEREAS**, Barry formed an NAACP chapter during his graduate studies at Fisk University while participating in historical sit-ins in Nashville and shortly after becoming the first chairman of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC); and

**WHEREAS**, in 1965 he moved to Washington as a leader in Washington D.C.'s SNCC organization; and

**WHEREAS**, Barry co-founded Pride Inc. in 1967 which was a tremendous aid to unemployed African American men and youth, giving over 1,000 inner-city African Americans work; and

**WHEREAS**, in 1971 he was elected to the Washington, D.C. school board and served as president of the D.C. school board from 1972-1974; and

**WHEREAS**, Barry was elected to the Washington, D.C. Council as an at-large representative; and

**WHEREAS**, on November 7, 1978, at age 42, he was elected mayor of Washington, D.C., and served for three terms; and

**WHEREAS**, in 1992, Barry was elected to represent Ward 8 on the Washington, D.C. City Council; and

**WHEREAS**, in 1994 he was elected for a fourth, and final, term as mayor; and

**WHEREAS**, as mayor, Barry's programs provided summer jobs for youths, offered home-buying assistance for working-class residents and gave assistance to senior citizens and

**WHEREAS**, he also offered many middle- and upper-level management positions in the Washington, D.C. government to African Americans; and

**WHEREAS**, in 2004 Barry returned to public service and was elected once again as the Ward 8<sup>th</sup> representative to the Washington, D.C. City Council, where he served until his passing in 2014;

**WHEREAS**, on November 23, 2014, Barry died of hypertensive cardiovascular disease at United Medical Center in Washington at the age of 78; and

**WHEREAS**, Democratic National Committee Chair Debbie Wasserman Schultz said Barry was, "A hero of the civil rights movement and a longtime leader in the District of Columbia, Barry's personal demons could not obscure his deep and abiding love for the city and its people. His voice and his constant presence will be missed by the people of Ward 8 and residents across the District"; and

**WHEREAS**, Rep. John Lewis, D-Ga., said, "He used his influence and power to lay a foundation for the thriving, metropolitan community people flock to today";

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Democratic National Committee honor Marion Barry for his contributions and inspiration to our country and offer its condolences to his family.

The following Resolution was considered by the Resolutions Committee at its meeting on February 20, 2015, in Washington, DC, and will be recommended for adoption by the full Democratic National Committee at its meeting on February 21, 2015.

Submitted by: Congresswoman Debbie Wasserman Schultz, DNC Chair/Florida  
 Tonio Burgos, New Jersey  
 David Patterson, Chair, New York  
 Sheila Comar, Vice Chair, New York  
 Donna Brazile, DNC Vice Chair/District of Columbia  
 Raymond Buckley, DNC Vice Chair/New Hampshire  
 Andrew Tobias, DNC Treasurer/Florida  
 Stephanie Rawlings-Blake, DNC Secretary/Maryland  
 Henry Muñoz, DNC National Finance Chair/Texas  
 Stuart Appelbaum, New York  
 Nick Balletto, Chair, Connecticut  
 Barbra Casbar Siperstein, At-Large/New Jersey  
 Gus Bickford, Massachusetts  
 Nancy DiNardo, Vice Chair, Connecticut  
 Debbie Dingell, Michigan  
 Joanne Dowdell, At-Large/New Hampshire  
 Reni Erdos, New Jersey  
 Earl Fowlkes, At-Large/District of Columbia  
 Martha Fuller Clark, Vice Chair, New Hampshire  
 Anthony Graves, Colorado  
 Karen Kirkpatrick-Valentine, Delaware  
 Marcia Marley, New Jersey  
 Dorothy Mrowka, Connecticut  
 Jadine Nielsen, Hawaii  
 John Olsen, Connecticut  
 Karren Pope-Onwauke, Maryland  
 Hans Riemer, National Democratic County Officials/Maryland  
 Rion Ramirez, At-Large/Washington

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***Resolution Commemorating the Life and Career of Mario Matthew Cuomo***

**WHEREAS**, Governor Mario Matthew Cuomo was born to immigrant parents Andrea and Immaculata Cuomo on June 15<sup>th</sup>, 1932, in Queens, New York; and

**WHEREAS**, he began his life in South Jamaica Queens, a home he described as a world of small shops, tenements, apartments, and well-kept two, three and four-family houses, a world of immigrants and their children, of all kinds and colors; and

**WHEREAS**, he has spoken so often of how it was also a world of dreams - - college, law school, law practice, secretary of state, lieutenant governor, and governor; and

**WHEREAS**, Governor Cuomo graduated from St. Johns University, summa cum laude in 1953 and graduated tied for the top of his class at St. John's School of Law in 1956; and

**WHEREAS**, he became an advisor to Judge Adrian P. Burke, entered private practice in 1958, served as a Professor at St. Johns law school and chaired the St. John's University Alumni Federation; and

**WHEREAS**, in 1974, he served as the Lt. Governor nominee on the Democratic ballot alongside Howard Samuels, lost, but was then appointed Secretary of State by Governor Hugh Carey; and

**WHEREAS**, in 1977, he ran for Mayor of New York against eventual winner Ed Koch, and in 1978 was elected Lt. Governor before defeating Mayor Koch in a primary race for Governor of New York State in 1982; and

**WHEREAS**, campaigning under the memorable slogan "Experience Money Can't Buy," and vastly outspent by a wealthy Republican opponent Louis Lehrman, he won a campaign for Governor in 1982; and

**WHEREAS**, during his campaigns for office he told his party, and his nation, what he had been telling the people of his state: that at the core of our national policies must be a vision of us as a family; and

**WHEREAS**, in 1990, Governor Cuomo became the first Democratic Governor in New York State history to be elected to a third four-year term; and

**WHEREAS**, he led an economic resurgence, with record-breaking tax cuts, dynamic job development, transportation system repair, housing programs and elevated his state's education system to top priority; and.

**WHEREAS**, Governor Cuomo brought a special combination of eloquence, effectiveness, and compassion to his state and his travels across America and the world; and

**WHEREAS**, he was a Lincoln Scholar and author of many books about the State he so loved and the ideas he so cherished; and

**WHEREAS**, Governor Cuomo was known as a "progressive pragmatist" often tackling tough issues like opposing the death penalty, supporting affective gun control and contrasting the supply side values of the Reagan years and two national recessions during his terms in office; and

**WHEREAS**, as governor, Cuomo was an innovator creating the nation’s first seat belt law, appointed the first two women, the first African American and the first Latina to the State’s highest court; and

**WHEREAS**, he was a philosopher who believed in dedicating his life to something larger than oneself; and

**WHEREAS**, in his years as governor he remembered and demonstrated that last line of his “Tale of Two Cities” Keynote Speech to the 1984 Democratic National Convention in San Francisco, “Please, make this nation remember how futures are built”; and

**WHEREAS**, Governor Cuomo confronted the difficult question as to the proper role of religious belief in the public forum from a “Catholic Governor’s Perspective” at Notre Dame in 1984; and

**WHEREAS**, on January 1, 2015, Governor Cuomo passed away at his home in New York City; and

**WHEREAS**, upon learning of Governor Cuomo’s death, President Obama said “Mario paired his faith in God and faith in America to live a life of public service – and we are all better for it;” and

**WHEREAS**, the legacy of Governor Mario Matthew Cuomo will live on with his wife Matilda and their five children, their spouses, and fourteen grandchildren, and all those he inspired throughout a lifetime of public service;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Democratic National Committee honor the life of Governor Mario Matthew Cuomo and his contributions to our Party and our nation and offer its condolences to his family.



The following Resolution was considered by the Resolutions Committee at its meeting on February 20, 2015, in Washington, DC, and will be recommended for adoption by the full Democratic National Committee at its meeting on February 21, 2015.

Submitted by: Donna Brazile, DNC Vice Chair/District of Columbia  
Raymond Buckley, DNC Vice Chair/New Hampshire  
Andrew Tobias, DNC Treasurer/Florida  
Stephanie Rawlings-Blake, DNC Secretary/Maryland  
Henry Muñoz, DNC National Finance Chair/Texas  
Anthony Graves, Colorado  
Rion Ramirez, At-Large/Washington

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***Resolution Commemorating the Life and Career of Wendell Ford***

**WHEREAS**, Wendell Ford was born on September 8, 1924 in Owensboro, Kentucky; and

**WHEREAS**, Ford attended the University of Kentucky; and

**WHEREAS**, prior to getting involved in politics, he served in the United States Army and the Kentucky Army National Guard; and

**WHEREAS**, Ford was the only individual to serve as lieutenant governor, governor, and as a senator for Kentucky; and

**WHEREAS**, he served four terms in the Senate and during his last eight years, he served as the Senate Democratic whip; and

**WHEREAS**, one of his main accomplishments was his work with Sen. Mark Hatfield in the early 1990's to confront low voter participation and because of his efforts, legislation was passed in 1993 which made voting easily accessible by automatically registering people to vote simultaneous with their motor-vehicle registration; and

**WHEREAS**, Ford passed away January 22, 2015, after battling with lung cancer; and

**WHEREAS**, Kentucky Governor Steve Beshear said, "As I began my career in public service, I watched and learned from Senator Ford, who was the epitome of principled leadership. In every office in which he served, his methods were simple: Wendell Ford listened, he cared, and he got the job done";

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Democratic National Committee honor Wendell Ford for his contributions and inspiration to our country and offer its condolences to his family.

The following Resolution was considered by the Resolutions Committee at its meeting on February 20, 2015, in Washington, DC, and will be recommended for adoption by the full Democratic National Committee at its meeting on February 21, 2015.

Submitted by: Donna Brazile, DNC Vice Chair/District of Columbia  
Raymond Buckley, DNC Vice Chair/New Hampshire  
Andrew Tobias, DNC Treasurer/Florida  
Stephanie Rawlings-Blake, DNC Secretary/Maryland  
Henry Muñoz, DNC National Finance Chair/Texas  
Anthony Graves, Colorado  
Ben Jeffers, Louisiana  
Rion Ramirez, At-Large/Washington

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***Resolution Commemorating the Life and Career of Robert Clayton Lanier***

**WHEREAS**, Robert Clayton Lanier was born on March 10, 1925, in Baytown, Texas; and

**WHEREAS**, he received his bachelor's degree from the University of New Mexico. He then received his Juris Doctor from the University of Texas; and

**WHEREAS**, Lanier then began working with the prestigious Houston firm Baker & Botts; and

**WHEREAS**, he served as chairman of the Texas Highway Commission and Houston's Metropolitan Transit Authority; and

**WHEREAS**, in January of 1992, Lanier became mayor of Houston where he would serve for six years and was known as "Mayor Bob"; and

**WHEREAS**, during Lanier's three terms in office, he put 655 police officers on the street which led to a 21.7 percent drop in crime during his first two years in office. Crime fell by 31.4 percent throughout his tenure as mayor; and

**WHEREAS**, Lanier was also known for supporting Affirmative Action, infrastructure improvement and improving neighborhood; and

**WHEREAS**, at the age of 89, Lanier passed away from natural causes; and

**WHEREAS**, Houston Mayor Annise Parker recalled, "Bob Lanier had an engaging manner. He connected with people. He had a clear vision for the city and I heard him exclaim many times";

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Democratic National Committee honor Mayor Bob Lanier for his contributions and inspiration to our country and offer its condolences to his family.

The following Resolution was considered by the Resolutions Committee at its meeting on February 20, 2015, in Washington, DC, and will be recommended for adoption by the full Democratic National Committee at its meeting on February 21, 2015.

Submitted by: Donna Brazile, DNC Vice Chair/District of Columbia  
 Raymond Buckley, DNC Vice Chair/New Hampshire  
 Andrew Tobias, DNC Treasurer/Florida  
 Stephanie Rawlings-Blake, DNC Secretary/Maryland  
 Henry Muñoz, DNC National Finance Chair/Texas  
 Ben Jeffers, Louisiana  
 Anthony Graves, Colorado  
 Rion Ramirez, At-Large/Washington

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***Resolution Commemorating the Life and Career of Rudy Lombard***

**WHEREAS**, Rudy Lombard, was born in Algiers, a community in New Orleans, Louisiana, in 1939; and

**WHEREAS**, Lombard graduated from Xavier University with a bachelors in business and later attained a doctorate in urban planning from Syracuse University; and

**WHEREAS**, he simultaneously served as senior class president at Xavier University as well as the national vice president of CORE (Congress of Racial Equality); and

**WHEREAS**, On September 17, 1960, Lombard was arrested during his senior year for participating in a sit-in at the McCrory's dime store on Canal Street which was organized by the local chapter of CORE; and

**WHEREAS**, the McCrory's dime store sit-in went to the U.S Supreme Court as Lombard v Louisiana and the court's overturning the arrests became a precedent case in eradicating segregation laws; and

**WHEREAS**, in 1978, he co-authored "Creole Feast: 15 Master Chefs of New Orleans Reveal Their Secrets" with Nathaniel Burton, which highlights black chefs who helped give the New Orleans culinary reputation its unique taste ; and

**WHEREAS**, he worked at NorthShore University HealthSystem in Evanston, Illinois as a research scientist with a concentration on prostate cancer and organized screenings and forums to give cancer information to African Americans and Latinos; and

**WHEREAS**, on December 13<sup>th</sup>, 2014, the New Orleans activist passed away at the age of 75 due to pancreatic cancer;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Democratic National Committee honor Rudy Lombard for his contributions and inspiration to our country and offer its condolences to his family.

The following Resolution was considered by the Resolutions Committee at its meeting on February 20, 2015, in Washington, DC, and will be recommended for adoption by the full Democratic National Committee at its meeting on February 21, 2015.

Submitted by: Jason Rae, Wisconsin  
Mike Tate, Chair, Wisconsin  
Melissa Schroeder, Vice Chair, Wisconsin  
Martha Love, Wisconsin  
Lee Saunders, At-Large/Wisconsin  
Donna Brazile, DNC Vice Chair/District of Columbia  
Raymond Buckley, DNC Vice Chair/New Hampshire  
Andrew Tobias, DNC Treasurer/Florida  
Henry Muñoz, DNC National Finance Chair/Texas  
Anthony Graves, Colorado  
Rion Ramirez, At-Large/Washington

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***Resolution Honoring the Life and Career of Darold “Dode” Lowe***

**WHEREAS**, Darold “Dode” Lowe was born on January 28, 1938, in Eau Claire as the son of Agnes and Owen Lowe; and

**WHEREAS**, Lowe served his country in the U.S. Army; and

**WHEREAS**, he married the love of his life, Gretchen, in 1959; and

**WHEREAS**, Lowe started his career as an Eau Claire water department employee and union leader before moving to Madison in 1971 for a job with AFSCME Council 40; and

**WHEREAS**, he was a proud member of AFSCME throughout his entire career; and

**WHEREAS**, Lowe served as a member of the Democratic National Committee representing Wisconsin from 1988 to 1994; and

**WHEREAS**, he served as a member of the Dane County Board of Supervisors from 1994 to 2004; and

**WHEREAS**, Lowe served his community through being on the Rolling Meadows Neighborhood Association, United Way Board, the Madison Personnel Board, Dane County Parks Commission and Dane County Library Board; and

**WHEREAS**, he served the Democratic Party of Wisconsin and the Democratic Party of Dane County in a number of capacities, including as the long-time chair of the DPW Convention Rules Committee; and

**WHEREAS**, Lowe was a tireless advocate and campaign volunteer, working with hundreds of candidates at all levels; and

**WHEREAS**, he had a long, distinguished career fighting for progressive causes and Democratic candidates in Wisconsin and around the nation; and

**WHEREAS**, Lowe passed away on October 30, 2014, at the age of 76;

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Democratic National Committee honor Darold “Dode” Lowe by commemorating his service to the Democratic Party, the state of Wisconsin and to the United States.

The following Resolution was considered by the Resolutions Committee at its meeting on February 20, 2015, in Washington, DC, and will be recommended for adoption by the full Democratic National Committee at its meeting on February 21, 2015.

Submitted by: Congresswoman Debbie Wasserman Schultz, DNC Chair/Florida  
 James Roosevelt, At-Large/Massachusetts  
 Donna Brazile, DNC Vice Chair/District of Columbia  
 Stephanie Rawlings-Blake, DNC Secretary/Maryland  
 Raymond Buckley, DNC Vice Chair/New Hampshire  
 Andrew Tobias, DNC Treasurer/Florida  
 Henry Muñoz, DNC National Finance Chair/Texas  
 Tom McGee, Chair, Massachusetts  
 Deb Kozikowski, Vice Chair, Massachusetts  
 Gus Bickford, Massachusetts  
 Kate Donahue, Massachusetts  
 David O'Brien, Massachusetts  
 Sue Thompson, Massachusetts  
 Joanne Dowdell, At-Large/New Hampshire  
 Martha Fuller Clark, Vice Chair, New Hampshire  
 Anthony Graves, Colorado  
 Ben Jeffers, Louisiana  
 Rion Ramirez, At-Large/Washington  
 Lottie Shackelford, At-Large/Arkansas

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***Resolution Commemorating the Life and Career of Thomas Michael Menino***

**WHEREAS**, Thomas Michael Menino, was born December 27, 1942, in the Hyde Park neighborhood in Boston, Massachusetts; and

**WHEREAS**, Menino received an associate's degree in business management from Chamberlayne Junior College in 1963 and a bachelor's degree in community planning from the University of Massachusetts, Boston; and

**WHEREAS**, after graduating from Chamberlayne, he became an insurance salesman at Metropolitan Life; and

**WHEREAS**, in 1983, Menino was elected to the Boston city council, where he served until 1993; and

**WHEREAS**, in 1993 he became the first Italian-American mayor of Boston and served as mayor until January, 2014;

**WHEREAS**, during his five terms as mayor, Menino focused on achieving clean, safe, livable neighborhoods, improving inner city education and providing affordable housing; and

**WHEREAS**, under his administration, Boston was named one of the greenest cities in the nation with the renovation of hundreds of acres of new parks and miles of new bike paths; and

**WHEREAS**, Menino also helped to oversee the completion of the Central Artery “Big Dig” project, construction of the Rose Kennedy Greenway, the Boston Convention and Exhibition Center and revitalization of the Seaport District and under his leadership there was a major influx of high-tech employers, expansion of many of the area’s top-flight universities, hospitals and cultural institutions; and

**WHEREAS**, he was elected president of the U.S. Conference of Mayors in 2002; and

**WHEREAS**, in 2006, Menino founded Mayors Against Illegal Guns which began with 15 mayors and now includes more than 1,000 current and former top municipal officials around the country; and

**WHEREAS**, shortly after leaving office, he was diagnosed with an advanced cancer that had spread to his liver and lymph nodes, but even after his diagnosis, he continued his dedication to the community through his work as a urban public policy specialist at Boston University; and

**WHEREAS**, on October 30, 2014, Menino passed away, at the age of 71; and

**WHEREAS**, President Obama described Menino as, “...Bold, big-hearted, and Boston strong, Tom was the embodiment of the city he loved and led for more than two decades... His legacy lives on in every neighborhood he helped revitalize, every school he helped turn around, and every community he helped make a safer, better place to live...today our thoughts and prayers are ... with the entire Menino family, and with the people of Boston who Tom loved so much, and who loved him in return” ; and

**WHEREAS**, Secretary of State John Kerry stated, “Tom Menino was Boston...Others talked, Tommy worked. Crime fell, population rose, the skyline became world-class, schools got better, the financial, academic, and medical sectors thrived, and neighborhoods became more diverse. It was in those neighborhoods that Mayor Menino made his mark... Tom Menino had the big bold beating heart of a street politician...He knew what built community. He felt the city and the neighborhoods in his bones...He was fiercely loyal and unbelievably reliable...He was just a spectacular public servant and a great mayor of Boston and I think he marked an era of a kind of politics that people want, people miss. It’s not partisan, but it’s taking care of folks and making sure things are better”; and

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Democratic National Committee honor Mayor Tom Menino for his contributions and inspiration to our country and offer its condolences to his family.





The following Resolution was considered by the Resolutions Committee at its meeting on February 20, 2015, in Washington, DC, and will be recommended for adoption by the full Democratic National Committee at its meeting on February 21, 2015.

Submitted by: Donna Brazile, DNC Vice Chair/District of Columbia  
Raymond Buckley, DNC Vice Chair/New Hampshire  
Andrew Tobias, DNC Treasurer/Florida  
Stephanie Rawlings-Blake, DNC Secretary/Maryland  
Henry Muñoz, DNC National Finance Chair/Texas  
Joanne Dowdell, At-Large/New Hampshire  
Anthony Graves, Colorado  
Rion Ramirez, At-Large/Washington  
Lottie Shackelford, At-Large/Arkansas

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***Resolution Commemorating the Life and Career of Tracey Pinson***

**WHEREAS**, Tracey Pinson, was born September 18, 1957, in Washington, DC; and

**WHEREAS**, Pinson received a bachelor of science degree in Political Science from Howard University and later received her Juris Doctor from Georgetown University Law Center; and

**WHEREAS**, from 1982-1986, Pinson served as counsel to the Committee on Small Business, US House of Representatives, for Chairman of the House Small Business Committee, Congressman Parren J. Mitchell; and

**WHEREAS**, she then served as Assistant to the Director within the Office of Small Business Programs at the Office of the Secretary of Defense for nine years;

**WHEREAS**, Pinson also helped minority institutions including Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) ,ensuring these institutions participated in Army-funded programs and over \$100 billion in Army awards have gone to HBCUs because of her leadership; and

**WHEREAS**, in April of 1995, Pinson was appointed by the Honorable Togo West, Secretary of the Army, to serve as the Director of the Office of Small Business Programs within the Office of the Secretary of the Army, where she was the highest-ranking female civil servant in the Army acquisition field; and

**WHEREAS**, Pinson retired from the Department of the Army in June 2014; and

**WHEREAS**, Pinson passed away on Sunday, 14 December 2014; and

**WHEREAS**, Kweisi Mfume, former president and CEO of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, as well as a five-term Congressman from Maryland's 7th congressional district, remarked on Pinson's influence, "Really sorry to learn of Tracey's passing. She and her late mom Valerie were true trailblazers for diversity and minority business opportunities";

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Democratic National Committee honor Tracey Pinson for her contributions and inspiration to our country and offer its condolences to her family.

The following Resolution will be considered by the DNC Executive Committee at its meeting in Washington, DC, on February 20, 2015.

Submitted by: Donna Brazile, DNC Vice Chair/District of Columbia  
Congresswoman Debbie Wasserman Schultz, DNC Chair/Florida  
Christine Pelosi, California  
Maria Elena Durazo, DNC Vice Chair/California  
Anita Bonds, Chair, District of Columbia  
Leah Daughtry, At-Large/New York  
Bel Leong-Hong, At-Large/Maryland  
Minyon Moore, At-Large/District of Columbia  
Virgie Rollins, National Federation of Democratic Women/Michigan  
Lottie Shackelford, At-Large/Arkansas  
James Zogby, At-Large/District of Columbia

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***Resolution on a Right-to-Vote Amendment to the U.S. Constitution***

**WHEREAS**, in a democracy, the right to vote is a *moral imperative*, the most fundamental *legal right* and is *protective of all other rights*; and

**WHEREAS**, when President Lyndon B. Johnson signed the 1965 Voting Rights Act he said, “The right to vote is the basic right, without which all others are meaningless”; and

**WHEREAS**, each state, except for the State of Arizona, has explicitly enshrined the right to vote with at least some level of protection in its state constitution; and

**WHEREAS**, nowhere in the United States Constitution is there an explicit declaration of the right to vote, which weakens protection in federal courts and undercuts state voting rights protections due to state courts often “lock stepping” rights to the level of support provided federally; and

**WHEREAS**, the United State Supreme Court has called the right to vote a fundamental right, this fundamental right should be *explicitly* guaranteed to all Americans in the U.S. Constitution; and

**WHEREAS**, as President Barack Obama, as a professor of constitutional law at the University of Chicago, began each of his constitutional law classes sharing with his students the surprising fact that an explicit “federal individual right to vote” is not in the U.S. Constitution; and

**WHEREAS**, the only reference to an individual right to vote in the original U.S. Constitution and Bill of Rights is the requirement that any citizen qualified to vote for a member of a state’s most “numerous house of the state legislature” is eligible to vote for Members of the House of Representatives; and

**WHEREAS**, the Constitution has been amended 17 times since the passage of the Bill of Rights and 7 of those amendments pertain to voting – 14th, 15th, 17th, 19th, 23rd, 24th and 26th – but none of them add the *explicit, fundamental, affirmative, individual, citizenship or federal right to vote* to the Constitution; and

**WHEREAS**, three amendments *outlaw discrimination in voting*, whether on the basis of *race* (15<sup>th</sup>) with the 1965 Voting Rights Act serving as the implementing legislation for this amendment 95 years later, *sex* (19<sup>th</sup>), or *age* (26<sup>th</sup>); and

**WHEREAS**, a right to vote constitutional amendment would *fulfill* the promise of the 15<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> Amendments; and

**WHEREAS**, of the 119 nations that elect their public officials using some form of democratic elections, 108 have the right to vote in their constitution, but the United States is one of the 11 nations - including Australia, the Bahamas, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belize, India, Indonesia, Nauru, Samoa, and the United Kingdom - that does not explicitly contain a citizen's right to vote in its constitution; and

**WHEREAS**, with the exception of certain federal laws such as the National Voter Registration Act of 1993, the Help America Vote Act of 2002 and the Military and Overseas Voter Empowerment Act of 2009, the U.S. has virtually no national uniform standards for voting systems controlled by the states; and

**WHEREAS**, since *voting is a state right*, with virtually no national uniform standards, we have ended up with multiple and varied election systems in the 50 states (plus the District of Columbia), 3,143 counties (or county equivalents), and about 13,000 local voting jurisdictions that administer about 186,000 precincts, all organized and controlled and managed by local election officials with 86% of Section 5 of the Voting Rights Act Preclearance objections involving *local*, not national or state, voting issues; and

**WHEREAS**, the United States Supreme Court has unfortunately undermined the right to vote in recent years, notably in its 2013 decision of *Shelby County v. Holder* which made the preclearance requirement ineffective and, as Freedom Rider, Selma marcher and US Congressman John Lewis so aptly stated, "struck a dagger in the heart of the Voting Rights Act"; and

**WHEREAS**, since 2014 at least 83 restrictive voting rights bills were introduced in 29 states, and the Brennan Center reports that 21 states have enacted restrictive voting laws since 2011, including North Carolina, Ohio, Texas, and Wisconsin, and that in Texas alone this will affect more than 600,000 adult-age citizens who do not have state-issued photo identification; and

**WHEREAS**, voter turnout in November 2014 represented a smaller percentage of eligible voters than in a congressional election since 1942, voter turnout in many primary elections in 2014 was at an all-time low in more than half of states holding primaries, and voter turnout in some major cities is now in single digits; and

**WHEREAS**, a "right to vote" constitutional amendment applies to and should be supported by all Americans because it is (a) *non-partisan* – not Democratic, Republican or independent; (b) *non-ideological* – not liberal or conservative; (c) *non-programmatic* – it does not require you to support or oppose any particular legislative program(s); and (d) *non-special interest* – it's application is not limited to minorities, women, labor, business, seniors, lesbians and gays or any other special interest groups;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Democratic National Committee (DNC) supports amending the United States Constitution to explicitly guarantee an individual's right to vote; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the DNC will encourage state parties to work with state lawmakers and others to access the need to petition for a statewide referendum on the November 2016 general election ballot (and all states where this is possible), advocating to amend the United States Constitution to explicitly guarantee an individual's right to vote; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the DNC specifically supports House and Senate Joint Resolutions which would amend the United States Constitution to explicitly guarantee an individual's right to vote – e.g., such as resolution H.J. Res. 25 introduced into the 114<sup>th</sup> Congress by Congressman Mark Pocan of Wisconsin and Congressman Keith Ellison of Minnesota; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the DNC supports H.R. 885 to amend the Voting Rights Act of 1965 to revise the criteria for determining which States and political subdivisions are subject to section 4 of the Act, as introduced in the 114th Congress by Congressman James F. Sensenbrenner of Wisconsin along with 30 cosponsors, including several members of the Congressional Black Caucus; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the DNC will educate the general public on this issue by drafting and distributing this resolution in support of amending the United States Constitution to explicitly guarantee an individual's right to vote and sharing the resolution with all appropriate governmental officials; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Democratic National Committee encourages other organizations and individuals – e.g., political organizations and leaders, religious organizations and leaders, civil rights organizations and leaders, other civic organizations and leaders, business organizations and leaders, voting rights organizations and leaders, labor organizations and leaders, women's organizations and leaders, youth organizations and leaders, gay and lesbian organizations and leaders, environmental organizations and leaders – to pass organization resolutions to endorse amending the United States Constitution to explicitly guarantee an individual's right to vote; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Democratic National Committee will establish a Right to Vote Taskforce to make recommendations on changes in laws, regulations, and practices designed to improve voter participation and better uphold voting rights in local, state, and national elections and consider changes to recommend to state and federal constitutions, statutes, and regulations; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Democratic National Committee will continue to work with members of Congress and the Obama Administration to repair the Voting Rights Act of 1965; and continue to work with various Secretaries of State and other election administrators to ensure all eligible citizens have access to the ballot box across the country.