



## 2017 Chatham County Convention Resolutions

### North Carolina

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2. SUPPORT FOR A NONPARTISAN REDISTRICTING PROCESS (HB 200) IN 2017
3. TUITION-FREE UNIVERSITIES
4. PROSECUTE ALL YOUTH UNDER AGE 18 AS MINORS

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### NORTH CAROLINA RESOLUTIONS

#### 1. ATLANTIC COAST PIPELINE (ACP)

**WHEREAS**, The Atlantic Coast Pipeline (ACP) would be disastrous to our climate by requiring the continued use and movement of hydraulic fractured gas that contaminates water supplies and pollutes our air; and

**WHEREAS**, The scope of this 550-mile proposed construction project crossing through the Blue Ridge Mountains and ending in Roberson County, NC, particularly and unfairly impacts economically depressed communities; and

**WHEREAS**, Leakage and intentional venting of “natural gas” (mostly methane) will occur all the way from the drilling sites to power plants, endangering the health and safety of people living near the pipeline as well as increasing methane released into the atmosphere to unacceptable amounts; and

**WHEREAS**, Reliance on fossil fuel detracts from the development of much needed alternative energy sources and delays greater employment and economic opportunities; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED**, That the Chatham County Democratic Party oppose the construction of the Atlantic Coast Pipeline.

## **2. SUPPORT FOR A NONPARTISAN REDISTRICTING PROCESS (HB 200) IN 2017**

**WHEREAS**, The system for redistricting in North Carolina has historically been unfairly manipulated by the party in power and overwhelmingly favorable to incumbent candidates; and

**WHEREAS**, The constitutionality of partisan redistricting is questionable; and

**WHEREAS**, District maps drawn for partisan advantage have led to years of expensive legal wrangling, divisive politics, and voter dissatisfaction; and

**WHEREAS**, Election districts created by the current partisan-drawn maps do not fairly represent the people of North Carolina and actually subvert the voting power of its citizens; and

**WHEREAS**, A nonpartisan, independent redistricting process is currently being successfully used in at least 12 other states; and

**WHEREAS**, Rep. Robert Reives II is a co-sponsor of House Bill 200, which calls for the establishment of a nonpartisan redistricting commission; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED**, That the Chatham County Democratic Party support this bill; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, That the Chatham County Democratic Party call upon the North Carolina Democratic Party to endorse this legislation.

## **3. TUITION-FREE UNIVERSITIES**

**WHEREAS**, Student loan debt has become a national issue; and

**WHEREAS**, Public education is necessary to sustain democracy and benefit society; and

**WHEREAS**, Student load debt stifles spending, slows the housing market, and holds back new businesses; and

**WHEREAS**, College degrees raise incomes and lower unemployment; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED**, That the Chatham County Democratic Party urge the North Carolina Democratic Party to stand in favor of tuition-free public universities that would eliminate undergraduate tuition.

#### **4. PROSECUTE ALL YOUTH UNDER AGE 18 AS MINORS**

**RESOLVED**, That the age of Juvenile Jurisdiction be raised to 18.

### **NATIONAL/INTERNATIONAL RESOLUTIONS**

#### **5. A RESOLUTION CALLING FOR UNIVERSAL HEALTH CARE**

**WHEREAS**, Thousands of our citizens die or suffer debilitating conditions because they do not receive quality physical or mental health care; and

**WHEREAS**, Every other advanced democracy delivers equal or better health care to all of its residents at significantly lower costs; and

**WHEREAS**, providing such care is our moral duty to our fellow human beings, is a human right to each individual person and is prudent economic practice; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED**, That the Chatham County Democratic Party urge the North Carolina Democratic Party to stand in favor of a health care policy that guarantees quality physical and mental health care for all of its residents; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, That the aforementioned health care be delivered in the most cost effective way regardless of the ability of individuals to pay.

#### **6. ISRAEL/PALESTINE (Quoting Thos. Jefferson)**

**WHEREAS**, All inhabitants of Israel/Palestine have the inherent right to “life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness”; and

**WHEREAS**, Such rights are secured to each person by participation as an equal citizen of a democratic and sovereign state; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED**, That the government of the United States support these rights for all, equally.

#### **7. A RESOLUTION CALLING FOR ELECTED OFFICIALS AND OFFICE HOLDERS TO ADDRESS CITIZENS WITH RESPECT**

**WHEREAS**, In our elections this past fall, both national and statewide, political rhetoric, at all levels but especially nationally, has been growing increasingly mean-spirited, venomously partisan, and fear-inducing; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED**, That all elected and appointed officials be mindful that they now represent and govern all U.S. and North Carolina citizens of all backgrounds; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** That officeholders address all of us with respect, thoughtfully considering all of our ideas to govern fairly and reasonably. Consistent with our most traditional and respectful democratic principles, elected officials and citizens, together, can create an American society that continues to develop peacefully, so that, as President Lincoln wisely stated, "government of the people, by the people, and for the people shall not perish from the earth."