

Resolutions Packet approved at 12/7/25 MDSCC Meeting

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1: Resolution in opposition to Attacks on Birthright Citizenship

WHEREAS, the present Republican administration is declaring that birthright citizenship is no longer a right of children born in the United States;

WHEREAS, the 1857 U.S. Supreme Court decision in *Dred Scott v. Sandford* denied citizenship and constitutional rights to African Americans, contributing to the tensions that led to the Civil War;

WHEREAS, following the Civil War, the United States ratified the 14th Amendment, establishing birthright citizenship as a constitutional right and ensuring that all persons born on U.S. soil are granted citizenship, with narrow exceptions for the children of foreign diplomats and enemy combatants from occupying armies;

WHEREAS, the U.S. Supreme Court has repeatedly upheld birthright citizenship, including in *United States v. Wong Kim Ark* (1898) and *Plyler v. Doe* (1982);

WHEREAS, the 14th Amendment, Section One, of the U.S. Constitution clearly states that: "All persons born or naturalized in the United States, and subject to the jurisdiction thereof, are citizens of the United States and of the State wherein they reside. No State shall make or enforce any law which shall abridge the privileges or immunities of citizens of the United States; nor shall any State deprive any person of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law; nor deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws."

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Michigan Democratic Party goes on record as actively and vehemently opposing any effort in state government or federal government that threatens the birthright citizenship of citizens;

FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Michigan Democratic Party affirms strong support for birthright citizenship as a fundamental principle of our nation's values and legal framework.

2: Resolution calling for the Repeal of Restrictions on Marriage Equality in the Michigan Constitution

WHEREAS, the Michigan Constitution currently contains language in Article I, Section 25, which limits the recognition of marriage to the union of one man and one woman, stating: "To secure and preserve the benefits of marriage for our society and for future generations of children, the union of one man and one woman in marriage shall be the only agreement recognized as a marriage or similar union for any purpose."

WHEREAS, the presence of this unconstitutional language in the Michigan Constitution continues to serve as a symbol of discrimination against LGBTQ+ individuals and fails to reflect the values of equality and inclusion now embraced by the people of Michigan;

WHEREAS, removing this provision from the Michigan Constitution would affirm the commitment to fairness, equality, and the protection of civil rights for all Michiganders;

WHEREAS, the Michigan Democratic Party is committed to advancing policies that promote equality and justice for all individuals regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity;

WHEREAS, the continued existence of Article I, Section 25 in the Michigan Constitution poses a risk of future legal challenges, judicial reinterpretations, and regressive policies that could threaten the rights of LGBTQ+ couples;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Michigan Democratic Party urges all elected officials, community organizations, and citizens to support repealing this language to ensure Michigan's laws reflect the fundamental values of equality, dignity, and respect for all individuals.

3: Resolution in support of Affirming the Michigan Democratic Party as the Party of Freedom

WHEREAS, the government of the United States of America since January 20, 2025, has been administered under the control of a felon, Donald John Trump, and an oligarchic class of individuals who have collectivized their wealth by using their privilege in elite society;

WHEREAS, a class of political insiders, grifters, and modern robber barons have propped up this administration, bolstering a war against our Constitution, freedom, and rights by suppressing the social and economic freedom of the people;

WHEREAS, actions have been placed into motion by government officials across the nation that aim to directly target the inherent freedoms and liberties we hold dear as Michiganders;

WHEREAS, erratic actions by the current administration, including illegal and unconstitutional actions and the impoundment of authorized funds, have left the economy incredibly unstable, jeopardizing economic opportunity for all Americans;

WHEREAS, the impoundment of federal allocations and the seizing of technology within the departments tasked with allocating those funds have economic consequences in our communities, as well as significant domestic and national security implications;

WHEREAS, millions of working-class Americans—including federal employees, state and local government employees who rely on federal grant funding, construction and trade workers on federally funded projects, and millions of other collateral employees—are now vulnerable to becoming victims of a recession of choice at the hands of the current administration;

WHEREAS, the current administration has attempted to subvert the Constitution of the United States with orders to end birthright citizenship and has taken action to enlist radicalized, unelected bureaucrats to obstruct and deny the people of the United States their rights under our constitutional order;

WHEREAS, the current administration has dismantled governmental units and authorities and has identified entire departments, such as the Department of Education and Department of Labor, for elimination and privatization into the control of the elite and well-connected oligarchy;

WHEREAS, state legislatures across the nation, including in Michigan, as well as at the federal level, have deliberately enacted, proposed, or supported legislation to limit the rights of working people and have intentionally sought to maintain a permanent poverty class and working class to exploit for cheap labor;

WHEREAS, the Idaho Legislature, with the support of some state attorneys general, has begun intentional steps to set up the Supreme Court to overturn the constitutional right to same-sex marriage granted in *Obergefell v. Hodges* (2015) and to rule the Respect for Marriage Act (2022) unconstitutional;

WHEREAS, the actions of the Supreme Court in *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization* (2022), along with the formal opinions and informal suggestions by members of the Court, further threaten the constitutional rights established in *Griswold v. Connecticut* (1965), *Loving v. Virginia* (1967), *Lawrence v. Texas* (2003), and other landmark decisions;

WHEREAS, political actors at all levels of government are actively working to restrict, suppress, and disenfranchise the votes and voices of millions of American citizens, discouraging participation in our democratic republic;

WHEREAS, we, the people, are bound by a moral obligation to ourselves, our neighbors, and our country to carry forward the promise of unalienable rights and self-determination for all;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Michigan Democratic Party asserts before the people of Michigan that it is the political party that supports the principles of liberty and the social and economic freedom of all Michiganders, including:

1. The freedom to constitutional protection and the right to constitutional citizenship at birth;
2. The freedom to assemble and petition elected and appointed officials for a redress of grievances;
3. The freedom to learn factually about our world's complex human and physical history;
4. The freedom to unionize and collectively bargain for better wages and conditions of employment;
5. The freedom to work and live with dignity and respect, without discrimination or undue burden;
6. The freedom to contract civil marriage between consenting adults without discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity, or other protected classes;
7. The freedom to make one's own healthcare decisions, including reproductive healthcare;
8. The freedom to cast a vote and to have one's voice heard without undue interference;
9. The freedom to live with unalienable rights and the stability of opportunity to pursue social tranquility and economic security;
10. The freedom to self-determination of additional rights, including those reserved to the people that are not explicitly stated herein.

FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Michigan Democratic Party calls upon our elected representatives to take and utilize all procedural and substantive actions available to support these freedoms, defend the liberty of Michiganders, and uphold our constitutional order.

4: Resolution calling for Updated Landlord-Tenant Rights and Police Interaction

WHEREAS, there has been a significant incidence of landlord-tenant disputes and mental health crises resulting in deaths in Michigan, particularly in Wayne County, at the hands of police officers, court officers, and landlords;

WHEREAS, Sherman Lee Butler was being unfairly evicted from his Detroit apartment in August 2024 and was killed by the bailiff who served him, with body camera footage not released to the public until December 2024 despite public demands;

WHEREAS, John Zook Jr. of Wayne called the police for help while experiencing a mental health crisis and was fatally shot upon their arrival, with body camera footage still unreleased despite public outcry;

WHEREAS, Antwone Allen had a disagreement with his landlord, and while in the process of vacating the premises, he was killed in December 2024;

WHEREAS, an unidentified individual in Dearborn requested that his landlord make repairs to his rental unit and was then shot by the landlord during a confrontation on the premises;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Michigan Democratic Party urges county prosecutors to automatically release police body camera footage to the public whenever police use force or weaponry, in an effort to promote police transparency and accountability;

FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Michigan Democratic Party recommends that the Michigan Legislature create a task force to address landlord-tenant rights in Michigan, specifically focusing on the safety of the eviction process and the response of county prosecutors when a tenant is injured.

5: Resolution in support of Affirming the Rights and Dignity of Transgender People

WHEREAS, President Donald J. Trump has issued an Executive Order “Defending Women From Gender Ideology Extremism and Restoring Biological Truth To The Federal Government”, which attempts and fails to define only two sexes, but nevertheless mandates that the government ignore the biological reality that gender is a social construct, and our sex is a spectrum;

WHEREAS, President Donald J. Trump has issued an Executive Order “Prioritizing Military Excellence and Readiness” seeking to disqualify and remove transgender people from the military, including those who have served honorably and with dignity, despite having never served himself, and ignoring the reality that we as a people are made stronger for our differences, not weaker;

WHEREAS, President Donald J. Trump has issued an Executive Order “No Men in Women’s Sports”, barring transgender individuals from competing in sports according to their gender, while perpetuating lies that harm anyone who doesn’t ‘look female’ enough, such as referring to Algerian boxer Imane Khelif as ‘assigned male at birth’ despite the fact that she was not;

WHEREAS, President Donald J. Trump has issued an Executive Order “Ending Radical Indoctrination in K-12 Schooling”, attempting to force schools to out their transgender students, and threatening to pursue criminal charges against teachers and staff that support their transgender students under claims of practicing medicine without a license;

WHEREAS, President Donald J. Trump has begun to use dangerous language towards the transgender community including referring to them as “un-American” and “dishonorable.”

WHEREAS, Representative Nancy Mace uttered a slur against the transgender community on the floor of Congress, and when confronted about it, raised her voice and repeated the slur multiple times before facing no consequences for her actions;

WHEREAS, there have been 462 anti-trans bills proposed in states across America so far this year, with 674 in 2024;

WHEREAS, the transgender community has been systematically targeted by the Republican party and by Donald J. Trump and painted as villains, despite having existed throughout the course of human history and having no verifiable proof of harm caused by the community;

WHEREAS, the transgender community deserves the protections, rights, and respect afforded to any American citizen;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Michigan Democratic Party strongly supports the transgender and LGBTQIA+ community, and will pursue legislation in protection and support of the community;

FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Michigan Democratic Party shall urge the responsible authorities to provide guidance to schools on whether executive orders such as those aforementioned are enforceable, and how they can be resisted to best protect transgender students;

FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Michigan Democratic Party condemns and denounces the Republican Party, Representative Nancy Mace, and President Donald J. Trump for their callous, cruel, and irresponsible behavior towards the transgender community;

FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Michigan Democratic Party shall endeavor to further learn and understand the plight and reality of being transgender, in order to be better equipped to advocate in support of the community.

6: Resolution in support of Eliminating the Wage Cap on Social Security Taxes

WHEREAS, Social Security has served as a critical safety net for working Americans and people with disabilities since its creation by President Franklin D. Roosevelt in response to the Great Depression;

WHEREAS, Social Security is primarily funded by worker contributions, with employees paying 6.2% of their wages up to a set wage base limit;

WHEREAS, in 2025, the wage base limit is set at \$176,100, meaning that income above this threshold is not subject to Social Security taxes, effectively exempting high earners from paying the same proportion of their income as lower-wage workers;

WHEREAS, while all workers contribute 1.45% of their wages toward Medicare, those earning above \$176,100 are in a stronger financial position to support essential programs that provide for people with disabilities and retirees;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Michigan Democratic Party supports eliminating the wage cap on Social Security contributions to ensure the wealthiest Americans pay their fair share to sustain these vital programs for all Americans.

7: Resolution in support of a Living Wage Floor in Michigan

WHEREAS, the Michigan Democratic Party recognizes the critical role that workers play in the economic well-being and prosperity of our communities and economy;

WHEREAS, a living wage is defined as the hourly rate an individual must earn to provide for their basic living necessities, including food, shelter, transportation, healthcare, and other essential needs for themselves and their families;

WHEREAS, the current minimum wage in Michigan, though important, fails to align with the true cost of living in many regions of the state, leaving far too many working individuals and families unable to meet their basic needs;

WHEREAS, in September 2018, the Michigan Legislature adopted a ballot initiative that would have raised the minimum wage to over \$12 an hour and phased out the tipped minimum wage by 2022;

WHEREAS, the Legislature adopted the initiative, which removed it from the ballot, and subsequently amended the proposal to extend the timeline for reaching a \$12 minimum wage to 2030, removed automatic inflation adjustments, and reversed the decision to phase out the tipped minimum wage, leaving it at 38% of the state's regular minimum wage;

WHEREAS, the Supreme Court decided on July 31, 2024 to reinstate the ballot initiative as originally proposed which is set to go into effect in February 2025, with the state minimum wage scheduled to reach \$15 per hour by 2028 and the tipped minimum wage set to equal the regular minimum wage by 2030;

WHEREAS, as of February 22, 2025, Michigan's minimum wage for regular workers is \$12.48 per hour, which is insufficient to provide a stable and sustainable standard of living for many workers;

WHEREAS, as of February 22, 2025, the minimum wage for tipped workers in Michigan is \$5.99 per hour, which is lower than the standard minimum wage, leaving workers in the hospitality and service industries at a greater risk of financial instability and economic hardship;

WHEREAS, research consistently shows that raising the minimum wage to a living wage benefits not only individual workers but also strengthens local economies by increasing workers' purchasing power, reducing reliance on public assistance programs, and improving overall economic productivity;

WHEREAS, the Michigan Democratic Party is committed to creating a fair and just economy where all workers are paid a wage that ensures their dignity, stability, and the ability to provide for their families;

WHEREAS, the principles of fairness, equity, and opportunity demand that all workers, regardless of their occupation, be paid a wage that reflects the true cost of living and ensures their economic security;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Michigan Democratic Party supports the establishment of a living wage in Michigan, defined as the hourly rate needed to meet the basic living needs of an individual and their family, and calls for a gradual increase in the state's minimum wage to align with this standard;

FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Michigan Democratic Party supports the elimination of the tipped minimum wage and the establishment of a single, uniform minimum wage for all workers, including those in the service and hospitality industries;

FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Michigan Democratic Party urges all branches of the state government—the Governor, the House, and the Senate—to work collaboratively to enact legislation that will raise the state minimum wage to meet the cost of living in Michigan, ensuring that all working individuals and families can achieve financial security and dignity;

FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Michigan Democratic Party urges all Michigan employers to recognize the importance of paying fair wages that reflect the true cost of living and contribute to a sustainable and equitable economy.

8: Resolution in support of Workers and Labor

WHEREAS, everyday working families are the lifeblood of Michigan's economy and public life;

WHEREAS, Michigan's voters have proclaimed loud and clear that they want elected officials to fight for affordability and the working people, frequently citing stagnant wages, rising costs, and the health of our economy as top concerns;

WHEREAS, the wealthy are making life harder for working people by refusing to pay their fair share of taxes to fund our schools, roads, and public safety while also refusing to pay workers enough to raise their families on, as evidenced by the massive rise in corporate profits amid the stagnant wages that Michigan families have had to endure for the last several decades;

WHEREAS, the Michigan Chamber of Commerce supports policies that take away the ability for working people to come together and organize for good-paying jobs and safe working conditions;

WHEREAS, Democrats in Lansing have stood with working people by repealing "right-to-work," restoring prevailing wage, increasing unemployment insurance, expanding voting rights, and advancing countless other pro-worker measures that benefited families across Michigan;

WHEREAS, an extensive amount of work still needs to be done in the Capitol and across Michigan to ensure that working people are protected from corporate anti-worker interests that seek to divide the working people in favor of excessive corporate domination;

WHEREAS, the Michigan Democratic Party, if it hopes to win Michigan elections, must reaffirm its commitment to the working people by fighting for life-sustaining wages, safe staffing, and adequate benefits including earned paid sick leave and paid family leave for workers;

WHEREAS, Michigan must commit to being a pro-worker state by passing reforms such as strengthening child labor laws to ensure that businesses are not exploiting minors in the workplace, updating OSHA violation penalties to avoid the Trump administration's OSHA office taking over MiOSHA, restoring local governments' ability to enact labor regulations that support members of their communities, updating the worker's compensation system so that it benefits workers and not the insurance industry, and many other policies that will make Michigan a better place to work and live;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Michigan Democratic Party encourages all elected officials to vigorously support working people by enacting and enforcing legislation and policies that ensure safe working conditions, create and maintain life-sustaining jobs, and protect the right to organize freely;

FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Michigan Democratic Party encourages all elected officials to oppose policies that unfairly benefit big business and corporate special interests at the expense of the working people and the people of Michigan.

9: Resolution calling for Full Disclosure of Political Campaign Media Spending

WHEREAS, anonymous spending on political campaign media distorts the political landscape beyond recognition by permitting non-voters to influence results without accountability, and by suppressing information required to allow voters to assess the credibility and hidden agendas of the message presented;

WHEREAS, neither the Constitution nor the Founding Fathers endorsed or even contemplated corporations (non-existent in 1789) having First Amendment political speech “rights”, let alone the ability to create anonymous cabals to corrupt the electoral process;

WHEREAS, First Amendment freedom of speech functions to permit informed political decisions, not as a shield to mask secret agendas, to foment lies, and allow distortions to go unchallenged or be without repercussions;

WHEREAS, the current judicial climate unfortunately and incorrectly supports unfettered, no-limit media spending during political campaigns, while anonymity has not, thus far, been judicially enshrined;

WHEREAS, national polling clearly demonstrates voter aversion to the ability to influence election results anonymously, most especially when such efforts are undertaken by foreign governments, corporations, and special interest groups hiding behind deceptively named super-PAC walls;

WHEREAS, Michigan currently permits unlimited and undisclosed “issue ads,” and virtually unlimited and undisclosed “vote for” and “vote against” ads;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Michigan Democratic Party supports and will seek passage of legislation requiring complete disclosure of funding on all political media campaign spending, including initial sources of funding, intermediaries, “straw” persons and entities, and all amounts spent, so that We The People may make informed decisions and assess the degree of self-interest and other motivations driving any political media spending.

10: Resolution in support of Michigan's Biological Diversity, Wilderness Heritage, and Native American Relationships

WHEREAS, the USEPA has found that clean air, water, and lands improve worker health, increase real estate values, boost tourism, reduce healthcare costs, and create healthy ecosystems;

WHEREAS, research consistently shows that expansion of parks and trailways increases property values, improves the health of our citizens, and strengthens communities;

WHEREAS, clean air, water, and biologically diverse parklands and wilderness areas significantly increase tourism, which is essential to Michigan’s economy;

WHEREAS, wilderness and wild parklands preserve species, ecosystems, and biological diversity critical to healthy ecosystems;

WHEREAS, our Native American nations are a significant under-resourced voting block who have historically lived in harmony with and promoted the biological diversity of our wilderness heritage;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Michigan Democratic Party will foster relationships with our Native American nations;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Michigan Democratic Party will promote projects such as expanding parklands, expanding wilderness areas, and building interconnected trailways to improve the lives, economy, and health of all Michiganders;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Michigan Democratic Party supports protecting and preserving Michigan's biological diversity and wilderness heritage, working in conjunction with Michigan's tribal communities, Native American caucuses, and all other parties.

11: Resolution calling for the Expansion of Michigan's Bottle Bill

WHEREAS, the carbonated beverage container deposit system approved by the residents of Michigan in 1976 has been extremely successful in creating a 90% average return rate in the five decades it has been in place;

WHEREAS, non-carbonated beverage containers continue to litter Michigan's roadsides and beaches;

WHEREAS, the current system does not require all return stations to accept all containers;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Michigan Democratic Party shall call upon the Michigan Legislature to enact legislation that will celebrate the 50th anniversary of the historic 1976 vote by Michigan's citizens by:

1. Expanding the current system to include a wider array of beverage containers, such as water bottles, sports, energy, and caffeinated drinks, juice containers, and plastic milk cartons;
2. Allowing containers to be returned to any station, not just the location where the beverage was purchased;
3. Adding incentives (such as a fraction of a cent fee per bottle to retailers who sell single-use plastic containers) that encourage the marketplace to slow the flow of plastic and encourage sustainable substitutes;
4. Increasing regulatory standards by which corporations must upkeep bottle return machines and the collections system;
5. Using funds from the expanded bill to assist with other pollution protection and clean-up projects.

12: Resolution calling for Legislation for PFAS Testing and Mitigation

WHEREAS, chemicals commonly known as PFAS were routinely used in manufacturing processes and in foam materials used in firefighting;

WHEREAS, these PFAS are called "forever chemicals" because of their extremely slow breakdown rate;

WHEREAS, in June 2022 the EPA issued a statement that negative health effects may occur when PFAS are detected in drinking water even at extremely low concentration levels;

WHEREAS, the CDC has stated that prolonged exposure to PFAS can have adverse health effects like liver damage, reproductive difficulties, and growth and developmental challenges;

WHEREAS, many communities around the State of Michigan are detecting levels of PFAS in drinking water supplies;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Michigan Democratic Party calls for state legislation authorizing widespread PFAS testing for Michigan communities, providing funding for necessary mitigation efforts, and assisting citizens affected by prolonged PFAS exposure.

13: Resolution calling for Local Control of Bans on Single-Use Plastics

WHEREAS, the state of Michigan borders on 80% of the freshwater in the United States and 20% of the world's freshwater;

WHEREAS, scientific evidence now confirms that plastic pollution is pervasive in the environment;

WHEREAS, microplastic pollution such as from single-use plastics makes up the bulk of all plastics found on shorelines, including hundreds of miles of Great Lakes shorelines;

WHEREAS, based on findings of a scientific assessment of plastic pollution, the Canadian government added manufactured plastics to the Canadian Environmental Act (CEPA) of 1999 and has subsequently banned the sale, manufacture, and import of single-use plastics;

WHEREAS, legislation was introduced in 2023 to reinstate local governing units' ability to establish local bans on single-use plastics but did not pass both chambers of the state legislature;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Michigan Democratic Party shall advocate for the repeal as soon as possible of the statute prohibiting local entities from banning single-use plastics, to protect this irreplaceable part of Michigan's environment, economy, and quality of life.

14: Resolution in support of Continuing the Implementation of PA 233 to Allow the Michigan Public Service Commission to Site Large Solar and Wind Facilities

WHEREAS, the rise in global temperatures is leading to more and larger catastrophic climate events such as hurricanes, tornadoes, droughts, and wildfires;

WHEREAS, climate scientists recognize that human use of fossil fuels has caused the rise in those temperatures;

WHEREAS, renewable energy sources such as solar and wind have been proven to be efficient in energy production, thus eliminating the need for fossil fuels;

WHEREAS, many local units of government have chosen to enact zoning requirements that effectively zone out and/or severely restrict any development of solar, wind, and battery storage within their boundaries;

WHEREAS, these restrictions unfairly hamper the local landowners that wish to lease land for solar, wind, or battery storage;

WHEREAS, these restrictions unfairly hamper the State of Michigan's ability to meet its renewable energy goals;

WHEREAS, Public Act 233 was signed into law by Democratic Governor Gretchen Whitmer on Nov. 28, 2023, to allow the Michigan Public Service Commission to determine siting of utility-scale solar facilities of 50

megawatts or greater and wind facilities of 100 megawatts or greater when local units of government have set zoning restrictions incompatible with solar and wind energy development;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Michigan Democratic Party strongly supports the continuing implementation of PA 233;

FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Michigan Democratic Party reminds each Michigan county of its responsibility to help generate the electricity needed for its citizens and industries.

15: Resolution in support of the Medicare for All Acts Legislation

WHEREAS, although the Affordable Care Act allowed healthcare coverage for millions of additional people and our healthcare practitioners can perform great deeds, it is in a state of crisis;

WHEREAS, the COVID pandemic, natural disasters, divorce, corporate bankruptcies, and cyclical employment crises have clearly shown that no one's health nor their health insurance is secure, with 496,000 uninsured in Michigan, 26 million Americans without health insurance, and an additional 26 million underinsured nationally;

WHEREAS, our employer-based, profit-driven healthcare delivery system rations healthcare according to ability to pay. It allows, approximately, thirty thousand people to die every year for lack of coverage and has diminished our overall health to the point that the U.S. ranks 35th in the world in health outcomes, and even worse for infant mortality and life expectancy, yet ranks first in healthcare costs;

WHEREAS, without new strategies, the never-ending rising costs of healthcare continue to challenge the already strapped budgets of our public and private employers. We have tried all the profit-driven healthcare insurance industries' attempts at controlling rising costs such as PPOs, HMOs, HSAs, HRAs, bigger deductibles, higher copays, and coinsurance costs. These attempts ultimately only benefited the insurance industry's bottom line while leaving employers, employees, and retirees with more expensive or unaffordable healthcare;

WHEREAS, the Medicare for All Acts legislation builds upon and expands Medicare to provide additional comprehensive medical benefits to every person in the United States. Coverage includes primary care, vision, dental, prescription drugs, mental health, substance abuse, long-term services and supports, and reproductive health care without paying deductibles, premiums, or copays. The Acts also include universal coverage of long-term care with no cost-sharing for older Americans and individuals with disabilities and prioritize home and community-based care over institutional care. Importantly, the legislation eliminates the administrative waste and exorbitant profits of our profit-driven healthcare and will reduce prescription drug prices by requiring negotiations on drug prices. The Medicare for All Acts would take this annual \$500 billion savings and redirect it into providing comprehensive universal healthcare to all who live in the United States;

WHEREAS, in Michigan, as throughout our country, Black, Latino, Indigenous peoples, underserved communities, and both our rural and urban communities suffer from significant healthcare disparities and lack of access to healthcare providers. People of color have been hospitalized at high rates due to COVID-19 and suffered death at rates alarmingly higher than would be predicted for their population sizes in Michigan. These communities would see reductions in healthcare disparities by having easy access to comprehensive, universal healthcare, provided by the Medicare for All Acts legislation without the interruptions in care present in our employer-based, profit-driven healthcare;

WHEREAS, the proposals to fund the Medicare for All Acts legislation are based on a graduated tax structure which requires everyone to pay their fair share in taxes, based upon our ability to pay. This means 99% of us will actually be saving thousands of dollars we currently pay for healthcare because we will no longer pay for premiums, deductibles, copays, and coinsurance costs. Those of us who earn \$29,000 annually or less will not pay any additional taxes for this healthcare. Unions and employers will no longer be required to negotiate healthcare plans;

WHEREAS, the Medicare for All Acts legislation is the only healthcare system that can provide expanded universal coverage, save us money, control costs, eliminate healthcare inequalities, provide us true freedom of choice, and prepare us for the healthcare challenges of the future. These are the values upon which this legislation is based; the focus is on people and communities, not revenues and profits;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Michigan Democratic Party supports the Medicare for All Acts legislation and will work in collaboration with other Michigan counties, cities, townships, allied groups, and elected officials to ensure the passage of this legislation.

FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED, that signed and dated copies of this resolution be sent, on Michigan Democratic Party letterhead, to Michigan's Governor and U.S. Senators, the United States President and Vice President, the Michigan Congressional Delegation, and the Michigan Democratic Party's affiliate organizations. Copies of the above communications will be forwarded to Michigan for Single Payer Healthcare: 9200 36th Street S., Scotts, MI 49088.

16: Resolution in support of Preventing Veteran Suicide

WHEREAS, a recent National Veterans Suicide Report with data as of 2022 indicates that despite sustained federal focus, veteran suicide rates have remained alarmingly unchanged;

WHEREAS, the suicide rate for veterans in 2022 actually increased 2% year-over-year;

WHEREAS, as of 2022, suicide was the 2nd-leading cause of death for veterans under the age of 45;

WHEREAS, of the over 47,000 suicides in 2022 among all adults in the United States, veteran suicides comprised over 13% of the total, despite veterans representing only about 6% of the US population;

WHEREAS, recently separated veterans experienced even higher suicide rates than other Veterans;

WHEREAS, suicide rates among homeless veterans were over 100% higher than housed Veterans;

WHEREAS, the suicide rate was 75% higher for veterans with military sexual trauma;

WHEREAS, among Veterans who contacted the Veterans Crisis Line in 2021, the suicide rate over the next month was double the 12-month rate among all veterans;

WHEREAS, 3 out of every 4 Michigan veterans who commit suicide do so using a firearm, highlighting the need for targeted intervention strategies;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Michigan Democratic Party (MDP) commits to directly supporting the MDP Veterans & Military Families Caucus in combating the ongoing crisis of veteran suicide in Michigan and across the country;

FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED, that the MDP will support initiatives aimed at preventing veteran suicide, including advocating for increased access to mental health resources, firearm safety programs, and comprehensive support for recently separated and homeless veterans;

FINALLY, BE IT RESOLVED, that the MDP urges state and federal leaders to take immediate action to expand suicide prevention efforts, address key risk factors among vulnerable veteran populations, and ensure that all Michigan veterans receive the care and support they need.

17: Resolution calling for a Ban on Weapons Designed for Combat and Weapons Often Used in Mass Shootings

WHEREAS, the major gun manufacturers have reaped profits of over \$1 billion in the last decade;

WHEREAS, gun manufacturers use dangerous marketing tactics to sell weapons to the public, such as marketing to young people, preying on the insecurities of men, and appealing to white supremacists;

WHEREAS, the number of weapons designed for combat and weapons often used in mass shootings in private hands has increased to nearly 20 million;

WHEREAS, the only purpose of weapons designed for combat and weapons often used in mass shootings is to injure or kill a large number of people in a short period of time;

WHEREAS, as a society, we have no greater purpose than to ensure the safety of our families, children, communities, and schools;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Michigan Democratic Party strongly supports legislation that will criminalize the manufacture, sale, purchase, importation, transfer, or possession of weapons designed for combat and weapons often used in mass shootings, large capacity magazines, unserialized “ghost guns”, or any modification such as a bump stock;

FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Michigan Democratic Party strongly supports legislation that will only allow authorized public safety officers and government military personnel, who are well-trained and certified, to possess and use in the state of Michigan weapons designed for combat and weapons often used in mass shootings;

FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Michigan Democratic Party strongly supports legislation and prosecution holding negligent gun owners responsible for the actions of children in their care.

18: Resolution calling for a Statewide Program to Buy-Back Weapons Designed for Combat and Weapons Often Used in Mass Shootings

WHEREAS, a tremendous number of weapons designed for combat and weapons often used in mass shootings are already privately owned;

WHEREAS, government-operated “buy back” programs have been an effective incentive in reducing privately-owned weapons designed for combat and weapons often used in mass shootings in US states as well as countries such as New Zealand, Australia, the United Kingdom, and Canada;

WHEREAS, reducing the number of privately owned weapons designed for combat and weapons often used in mass shootings could lead to fewer mass shootings, gun deaths, and suicides;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Michigan Democratic Party shall call for legislation to create and fund a permanent statewide “buy back” program in Michigan operated by the relevant State of Michigan authorities.

19: Resolution in support of Foster Care System Reform

WHEREAS, foster care benefits in the current system cease at age 18;

WHEREAS, an 18-year-old is not likely to have the ability to financially support themselves;

WHEREAS, without some extra help and support, many 18-year-olds face the possibility of homelessness;

WHEREAS, programs such as free community college allow young people to gain knowledge and/or skills to help them succeed if they are able to attend;

WHEREAS, many programs, rules, and laws view adulthood as age 21;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Michigan Democratic Party supports an independent review of the foster care system rules for possible changes, to include extension of the program to age 21.

20: Resolution in Support of Intellectual Freedom

WHEREAS, every person has the right to access information, privately or publicly, in all formats from all points of view;

WHEREAS, such inquiry allows every person to form their own ideas and opinions;

WHEREAS, the right to conduct such inquiries, broadly termed Intellectual Freedom, is enshrined in both the U.S. Constitution (U.S. Constitution, Amendment 1) and the Michigan Constitution of 1963 (MCL Article 1 Section 5);

WHEREAS, the Michigan constitutional provision expressly provides that “every person may freely speak, write, express and publish his views on all subjects”;

WHEREAS, as stated by James Madison, principal author of the Bill of Rights, “a popular government, without information, or the means of acquiring it, is but a prologue to a farce, or a tragedy, or perhaps both”;

WHEREAS, between July 2021 and June 2022, 41 books were banned across four Michigan school boards;

WHEREAS, in 2023, Michigan recorded at least 42 attempts to ban or restrict books (67 titles);

WHEREAS, the politicization of local library boards, county commissions, and school boards to suppress intellectual freedom is a preventable threat to the fundamental charge of government to protect our and our children's rights to inquire, learn, and choose individual opinions;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Michigan Democratic Party affirms its support of intellectual freedom in libraries and schools;

FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED, the Michigan Democratic Party denounces and condemns the suppression of knowledge or opinion by any unit of government or public body.

21: Resolution in support of Local Control of Vacation Rentals

WHEREAS, some legislators in Lansing seek to remove the control of vacation rental properties from local governments;

WHEREAS, companies and groups of individuals are buying current residential homes in resort communities and using them as vacation rentals, thus removing necessary worker housing;

WHEREAS, vacation rentals may negatively impact local neighborhoods in such ways as: increased local traffic, increased noise, an increase in local rental rates, and property value increases or decreases;

WHEREAS, the local elected officials are most knowledgeable about the positive and negative effects of vacation rentals in their communities;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Michigan Democratic Party supports legislation that keeps the control of vacation rentals in the hands of local communities.

22: Resolutions calling for Expanding Transparency in Local Government Through Broadcasts, Recordings, and Written Recordings, and Written Records of Public Body Meetings

WHEREAS, many local governments and public bodies meet at times inconvenient for the general public to attend;

WHEREAS, minutes of many local governments and public bodies are only published in minimal and abbreviated form;

WHEREAS, good government is transparent government;

WHEREAS, many units of government in Michigan have already equipped their meeting rooms with recording equipment to broadcast meetings live; and these units regularly post video of meetings for the public to review;

WHEREAS, broadcast equipment is readily available, inexpensive, and commonly used;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Michigan Democratic Party calls on all governments and public bodies in the State of Michigan to live-broadcast their meetings online and post recorded video of meetings for later viewing;

FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Michigan Democratic Party shall actively engage with the Michigan Municipal League, the Michigan Association of Townships, the Michigan Association of Counties, the Michigan Association of School Boards, and other associations and organizations that provide support to local government, to make Michigan a model for the nation in citizen access to the proceedings of local government bodies.

23: Resolution in Opposition to President Trump's Blanket Pardon of Insurrectionists Who Committed Crimes at the United States Capitol on January 6th, 2021

WHEREAS, the former and current President of the United States, Donald J. Trump, refused to acknowledge losing the 2020 presidential election and convinced many of his supporters that the election was stolen;

WHEREAS, he called on those supporters to travel to Washington, D.C., to protest and delay the certification of his 2020 election loss;

WHEREAS, at a rally on January 6th, 2021, President Trump utilized inflammatory rhetoric and called on his supporters to march to the Capitol as Congress was voting to certify the 2020 presidential election;

WHEREAS, President Trump's supporters marched to the United States Capitol, where they pushed through barriers and assaulted law enforcement to enter the building; and once inside, they continued to attack law enforcement, destroyed property, and desecrated the halls of American democracy;

WHEREAS, many of the insurrectionists were charged and convicted of the crimes they committed on January 6th, 2021, including assault, seditious conspiracy, theft, and disruption of Congress;

WHEREAS, on January 20th, 2025, President Donald J. Trump pardoned over 1,500 people charged or convicted of crimes committed on January 6th, 2021;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Michigan Democratic Party condemns the pardoning of January 6th insurrectionists who sought to overturn a free and fair election by violent means.

24: Resolution to Recognize the Life and Legacy of President Jimmy Carter

WHEREAS, President Jimmy Carter served as President of the United States from 1977 to 1981;

WHEREAS, President Jimmy Carter passed away after a lifetime of service to this country on December 29, 2024;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Michigan Democratic Party recognizes the legacy and impact of President Jimmy Carter to the people of the United States and the world as a president and humanitarian;

FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Chair of the Michigan Democratic Party shall send an official letter of condolence and recognition to the Carter family and estate on behalf of the Party.

25: Resolution in opposition to Non-Advisory Presidential Appointees and Executive Branch Access to Citizens' Personal Data

WHEREAS, traditionally American presidents have been allowed to hire advisors and create commissions;

WHEREAS, traditionally the role of those persons hired has been strictly limited to advising the President on those specific areas;

WHEREAS, traditionally those persons hired have been required to undergo a rigorous security clearance process;

WHEREAS, those persons are appointed and not elected officials;

WHEREAS, the Trump administration created the Department of Government Efficiency (DOGE) and placed Elon Musk as its head;

WHEREAS, the DOGE has been given unlimited access to data on the personal and private information of American citizens;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Michigan Democratic Party strongly opposes the actions of the DOGE and any future Executive department, agency, or commission that attempts to operate in any manner other than an advisory role;

FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Michigan Democratic Party strongly urges the Congressional Delegation to use all lawful methods to shut down the extraordinary measures being used by the DOGE.

26: Resolution to Support and Endorse the Invest in MI Kids Proposal

WHEREAS, the Michigan Democratic Party acknowledges that Michigan's public schools are the cornerstone of our communities and the foundation of our children's future; and,

WHEREAS, the Michigan Democratic Party believes strong public schools attract families, boost property values, and strengthen the workforce—benefiting everyone; and,

WHEREAS, Michigan's public schools are [underfunded by \\$4.5 billion](#), and more than 3/4 of all Michigan public school students attend schools in districts that are over \$2000 per pupil below adequacy; and

WHEREAS, funding for Michigan's School Aid Fund has significantly decreased over the last two decades, and between 2015 and 2022, seven studies found Michigan does not provide enough money for the state's public schools²; and,

WHEREAS, in the 2021-2022 school year, Michigan offered the lowest starting teacher salary in the Great Lakes region³; and,

WHEREAS, the top 1% earners in Michigan pay a lower effective tax rate than everyday people pay (5.7% for the top 1% vs 7.1-9.7% for the bottom 80%)⁴; and,

WHEREAS, the lifetime earnings of Michigan's current K-12 students could increase by \$27 billion if their educational achievement matched the national average; and,

WHEREAS, A 10 percent increase in per-pupil spending improved low-income students' graduation rates by seven percentage points, and their adult hourly wages by 13 percent;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Michigan Democratic Party hereby endorses the Invest in MI Kids proposed amendment to the Michigan Constitution to impose a 5% fair share surcharge on annual taxable income over \$1 million for joint filers and over \$500,000 for single filers, to raise funds for career and technical education, reducing class size and attracting and retaining educators in public schools across the State and is subject to an annual audit.

27: Resolution in support of Solidarity with Palestinians and Israelis and an end to the violence in Gaza

WHEREAS, acknowledging the Human disaster and the unfolded military aggression by Hamas in attacking Israel on 10/7/2023 and taking place in Gaza since 10/2023 by the Israeli Defense Fund (IDF);

WHEREAS, recognizing the importance of the international laws to maintain peace, stability and protect human rights even in war time;

WHEREAS, affirming that massive killing, using starvation as a weapon in war, forcing displacement on civilians, destroying infrastructure and preventing humanitarian aids are war crimes;

WHEREAS, the United States of America is a signatory to, and ratified on November 4, 1988, the 1948 UN Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide (Genocide Convention), making its provisions legally binding under international law;

WHEREAS, Article I of the Genocide Convention obligates all signatories to “undertake to prevent and to punish” the crime of genocide;

WHEREAS, Article III of the Genocide Convention explicitly criminalizes complicity in genocide;

WHEREAS, Article IV establishes that any person—whether a government official, private individual, or corporate entity—who participates in genocide or its facilitation must be held accountable;

WHEREAS, under U.S. law, including the Foreign Assistance Act, Arms Export Control Act, and Leahy Law, the provision of military assistance is prohibited to foreign entities engaged in gross violations of human rights, including genocide;

WHEREAS, the International Court of Justice (ICJ) has jurisdiction over cases arising from the Genocide Convention and has issued rulings requiring states to take proactive measures to prevent genocide and in association with the arrest warrants for multiple parties issued by the International Criminal Court (ICC);

WHEREAS, Michigan, as a state within the U.S., bears a legal and moral responsibility to ensure that its institutions and policies align with the principles of the Genocide Convention and U.S. law;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Michigan Democratic Party expresses its solidarity with the Palestinians and Palestinian Americans under attack in Gaza, the hostages, and people of Israel and the Palestinian people in the West Bank too and commitment to advocate for the already accepted ceasefire;

FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Michigan Democratic Party supports an immediate arms embargo against any country convicted of committing war crimes (according to the definition set by the Nuremberg trials) or committing genocide at the International Court of Justice (ICJ), while the accused government or regime remains in power;

FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Michigan Democratic Party urges the Michigan Legislative Delegation, Governor, Congressional Delegation, and other elected Democrats to:

1. Introduce and support legislation ensuring Michigan institutions, including pension funds and state contracts, disassociate and divest from governments, companies, institutions, or individuals convicted of complicity in genocide.
2. Establish a statewide task force to review Michigan's financial, institutional, and trade relationships to ensure compliance with the Genocide Convention and related U.S. laws.
3. Introduce and support legislation for a U.S. arms embargo against any country or groups convicted of genocide or complicity in genocide;
4. Introduce and support legislation in Congress to oppose policies of genocidal forced displacement of native peoples in Gaza, Palestine, and elsewhere in the world.

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED Nothing in this resolution should be seen to denigrate the people of Israel or Palestine or American Jews, Arab Americans or American Muslims. It is the Michigan Democratic Party's sincere hope for a lasting peace that includes autonomy, freedom, and self determination for both the Israeli and Palestinian people.