



The following resolutions were voted on and adopted unanimously by the delegates to the Greenville County Democratic Party Convention assembled on March 1, 2018, at the Fuller Normal Industrial School, 901 Anderson Rd., Greenville, S.C.

1) Education

WHEREAS, the State is improved when its residents have access to education beyond K-12, and technical college will afford brighter futures for South Carolina residents; BE IT RESOLVED, that the Greenville County Democratic Party supports investments for the provision of a free technical college education for every South Carolina resident, obtained by attending for two years to earn either an Associate's degree, or a specialized training certification.

WHEREAS, the State of South Carolina should make intentional efforts to improve quality education for students attending public schools, and since teachers are undercompensated, in comparison with the regional compensation rates of other teachers; BE IT RESOLVED, that the Greenville County Democratic Party supports higher teacher pay, better benefits, and offering job performance-based incentives, to help ensure the highest level of quality instruction available for public school students.

2) Social Justice

WHEREAS, the Greenville County Democratic Party is in favor of social justice advocacy pertaining to Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA), criminal justice reform, and LGBTQ equality; BE IT RESOLVED, that the GCDP supports efforts that continue their advocacies.

WHEREAS, the Greenville County Democratic Party agrees that the federal Tax Cuts & Jobs Act passed on December 22, 2017, "significantly favors the richest Americans," and "ensures that the richest 1% will always have disproportionate power," BE IT RESOLVED, that the Party supports rescinding this Act.

3) Guns/2nd Amendment

WHEREAS, the levels of gun violence in the United States are without parallel in the developed world, resulting in repeated tragedies like the Parkland, Florida and Las Vegas, Nevada mass shootings; and WHEREAS, the Greenville County Democratic Party seeks to end gun violence and mass shootings by promoting responsible gun ownership, gun safety, and common sense gun control; BE IT RESOLVED, the Greenville County Democratic Party supports substantive policies that provide for stringent gun safety measures, including policies that (1) regulate the purchase of assault-style weapons, high capacity magazines, and any accessory, including bump stocks, that simulates the ability of a fully automatic weapon; (2) require universal, loophole-free background checks; and (3) prevent individuals with a history of domestic violence or severe mental illness from purchasing or owning a firearm; and BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Greenville County Democratic Party opposes both state legislation that would allow South Carolina citizens to carry their guns openly without a permit and federal legislation that would allow citizens with lawful concealed-carry permits to carry nationwide.

4) *Elections*

WHEREAS, the right to vote is the cornerstone of democracy and that right has been under attack in South Carolina and the United States from home and abroad; BE IT RESOLVED that the Greenville County Democratic Party supports measures promoting awareness of and participation in elections and removing needless barriers to voting, by specifically, but not only: reauthorizing the Voting Rights Act, allowing automatic registration for high-school seniors and same-day registration at polls, and enhancing publicity for elections dates and sites; and BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Greenville County Democratic Party supports protecting the integrity of its vote by reinstating the paper ballot in lieu of or in conjunction with an electronic ballot.

WHEREAS, “one person, one vote,” is fundamental to the fairness of our elections, BE IT RESOLVED that the Greenville County Democratic Party opposes racial, partisan, and other forms of gerrymandering; and BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Greenville County Democratic Party supports the creation of a non-partisan commission for the fair and equitable re-apportionment of electoral districts after the 2020 census.

WHEREAS, the popular vote is the expression of the will of the people which should be paramount in the election of its representatives; and WHEREAS, the Electoral College is an undemocratic relic of the compromise with slavery at the foundation of the country; BE IT RESOLVED that the Greenville County Democratic Party supports a constitutional amendment to abolish the Electoral College; and BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Greenville County Democratic Party supports such statewide measures as can be implemented in the meantime to mitigate the undemocratic effects of the Electoral College, such as proportional awarding of electors.

WHEREAS, unrestrained corporate contributions to political action committees pose special dangers to the integrity of the electoral process and to the quality of public discourse, and the current crisis of money in politics has been made worse by the United States Supreme Court’s *Citizens United* decision, causing an impediment to common-sense campaign finance reform; BE IT RESOLVED that the Greenville County Democratic Party supports protecting the electoral process and the right to free speech and supports overturning *Citizens United* through judicial opinion or constitutional amendment.

WHEREAS, government offices are held in trust for the people by their representatives, and whereas those representatives are charged to carry out the people's business; WHEREAS, voters have a right to

know if a candidate intends instead to hold office in order to serve his own personal, family, or business interests to the detriment of the people's interest; BE IT RESOLVED that the Greenville County Democratic Party supports mandatory financial and tax disclosures for candidates who seek to be listed on ballots in the State of South Carolina.

5) Healthcare

WHEREAS, medical expense coverage offered by health insurance companies through Federal Government-sponsored healthcare and qualified Medicaid coverage would result in less-expensive premiums for services and increased consumer cost savings; BE IT RESOLVED that the Greenville County Democratic Party supports expanded Medicaid coverage for citizens of Greenville County, South Carolina, and the nation.

WHEREAS, medical care and medications costs "are beyond the reach of many citizens," which can cause premature deaths based upon inability to pay for them; BE IT RESOLVED, that the Greenville County Democratic Party recognizes Income Distribution inequalities and the growing wealth gap, and supports the belief that healthcare access is a right, and not a privilege. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Greenville County Democratic Party is in favor of electing candidates who will support the instatement of an affordable, Single-Payer healthcare system as a result.

6) Immigration

WHEREAS, the majority of South Carolinians believe that the United States should pass comprehensive legislation that provides a permanent legal status and a pathway to citizenship for undocumented persons brought to this country as children, commonly known as "DREAMers;" BE IT RESOLVED, the Greenville County Democratic Party calls on Congress to pass a "clean" DREAM Act or similar legislation that codifies the benefits currently conferred upon participants in the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program, including but not limited to: authorization for employment, protection from detention and/or deportation, and legal status that provides for a pathway to citizenship.

WHEREAS, the Greenville County Democratic Party is "firmly committed to State and national policies that restore every person's opportunity to pursue life, liberty, and happiness, regardless of the circumstances of their birth," and policies of the Republican Party are stifling these "cornerstones" of American democracy; BE IT RESOLVED, that the GCDP supports opportunities for individual upward mobility.

7) Criminal Justice

WHEREAS, millions of Americans have been convicted for the possession of marijuana, and whereas the criminal enforcement of marijuana prohibition has not only had a disparate impact on minorities and the

poor but has led to a militarized police force, the erosion of civil rights, and the degradation of communities at the hands of criminal gangs and cartels; WHEREAS, the scientific justifications for prohibition are no worse for marijuana than for more “respectable” substances like alcohol or tobacco; WHEREAS, the history of the prohibition of marijuana is mired in stereotypical ideas about minorities and the poor; and WHEREAS, other states have not only saved money on prisons and law enforcement by legalizing the sale of marijuana but have made money on the regulation of its sale; BE IT RESOLVED that the Greenville County Democratic Party supports the legalization of marijuana in the State of South Carolina.

WHEREAS, South Carolina consistently ranks in the top five jurisdictions nationally for the rate of women killed by men, and whereas victims of domestic violence often need special support and assistance due to the intimate nature of the crime and the public nature of its prosecution; BE IT RESOLVED that the Greenville County Democratic Party supports specialized law enforcement and victim advocate training in order to ensure that victims of domestic are not only protected but treated fairly and humanely by the criminal justice system.

WHEREAS, South Carolina is estimated to have the eighth highest incarceration rate in the United States, and WHEREAS the rate of prisoners to population has continued to rise in the face of decades-long decreases in the crime rate; BE IT RESOLVED that the Greenville County Democratic Party supports criminal justice reform to include expanding diversionary programs as alternatives to prosecution, abolishing mandatory minimum sentencing, reforming the state’s “Two- and Three-Strikes” laws, and prioritizing rehabilitation and reintegration in sentencing; and BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Greenville County Democratic Party supports constitutional and statutory limitations on the uses of prison labor in private industry as well as other abuses of the prisoner exception in the Thirteenth Amendment’s abolition of slavery and forced labor .

8) Environment

WHEREAS, Greenville County is experiencing extraordinary population growth, with a projected 160,000 new residents by 2040; and WHEREAS, unchecked growth and fast-paced development will result in land and resource overconsumption, further exacerbating the County’s affordable housing and public transportation crises and endangering its farms and forests; and BE IT RESOLVED, the Greenville County Democratic Party supports thoughtful, sustainable land use planning that contemplates the value of our natural environment and reflects the input of a diverse group of stakeholders.

WHEREAS, offshore drilling is an inappropriate economic development strategy for South Carolina, endangering our state’s coastline and the wildlife, industries, and families it supports; and WHEREAS, solar energy is a viable alternative to continued dependence on fossil fuels for energy generation; and WHEREAS, climate change is upon us, causing temperatures and the sea level to rise, stressing our agriculture, forestry, and fishing industries, and threatening our special places, plants, and wildlife; BE IT RESOLVED, the Greenville County Democratic Party opposes offshore oil and gas development, including seismic testing, and instead supports legislative measures that increase development of and access to solar energy; and BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Greenville County Democratic Party supports measures to combat climate change and mitigate its far-reaching effects.

9) Infrastructure

WHEREAS, the roads, bridges, highways and related transportation infrastructure of South Carolina play a crucial role in economic development; WHEREAS, The South Carolina Department of Transportation is responsible for maintenance of the bridges on South Carolina highways; and WHEREAS, The South Carolina Department of Transportation relies on funding allocated by the South Carolina General Assembly; and WHEREAS South Carolina's roads are unsatisfactory and unsafe; and WHEREAS, there the plan for repair or replacement is inadequate; and BE IT RESOLVED, that the Greenville County Democratic Party supports a fair and reliable funding stream for investing in transportation infrastructure to improve South Carolina's economic competitiveness.

10) Foreign Affairs

WHEREAS the power to declare war is vested solely in the United States Congress; WHEREAS the President is still acting off of the Authorization for Use of Military Force against Al Qaeda from 2001 and there has been no declaration of war against Syria; and WHEREAS the United States continues to deploy military forces nearly seventeen years after the initial authorization; BE IT RESOLVED that the Greenville County Democratic Party supports rescinding or revising the AUMF and the drawdown of forces deployed overseas.

11) Fairness Doctrine

WHEREAS, the public owns the airwaves and the Federal Communications Commission has allowed increasing monopolization of those airwaves by private broadcasters; and WHEREAS, the current broadcast media environment has helped create a toxic and skewed discourse; BE IT RESOLVED that the Greenville County Democratic Party supports reinstatement of the Fairness Doctrine; and BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Greenville County Democratic Party supports requirements that private broadcasters renting public airwaves be required to broadcast a certain amount of local educational content, including political forums and debates, in order to maintain their licenses.

12) Impeach Trump

WHEREAS, Donald Trump has shown a manifest disrespect for rights, opinions, and concerns of ordinary Americans; has bullied women, minorities, people with disabilities since before taking office; has harbored abusers in his administration; has been surrounded by a cohort of ethically-questionable business partners and allies; and has engaged in nepotism, obstruction, and deceit; BE IT RESOLVED that the Greenville County Democratic Party supports the continued Congressional investigation of Donald Trump, his associates, their foreign and domestic business dealings, and that should evidence of high crimes and misdemeanors be discovered, the Greenville County Democratic Party will support the House of Representatives in bringing Articles of Impeachment against the President of the United States.

13) Women's Issues

WHEREAS, women represent approximately 51% of the population of South Carolina; and WHEREAS, 15.9% of the State Legislature is currently comprised of women; and WHEREAS, five women have held statewide office in South Carolina's history; BE IT RESOLVED that the Greenville County Democratic Party supports continued support for women as leaders within the party and for elected local and statewide offices.

WHEREAS, women face discrimination and barriers related to reproductive health care services; BE IT RESOLVED that the Greenville County Democratic Party supports protecting and advancing reproductive health, rights and justice for women in Greenville County, South Carolina and the nation by opposing federal and state laws that impede women's access to healthcare.

WHEREAS, the Equal Rights Amendment ("ERA"), which guarantees equal rights for all citizens regardless of sex and seeks to end legal distinctions between men and women in terms of divorce, property, employment and other matters, was passed by both houses of the United States Congress in 1972; and WHEREAS, the necessary number of states did not ratify the ERA by the March 1979 deadline for it to become part of the United States Constitution; WHEREAS, South Carolina has not ratified the ERA; BE IT RESOLVED that the Greenville County Democratic Party supports ratification of the ERA by the State of South Carolina and its inclusion as an amendment to the United States Constitution.