

## **Climate Change Resolution**

Submitted by: Quentin Wathum-Ocama (MN)

WHEREAS, Climate Change is the defining issue of our time and we are at a defining moment for generations to come, requiring urgent leadership and real solutions to make critical change; and

WHEREAS, Climate Change impacts everyone on our planet, exacerbating economic instability, causing irreversible damage to our biodiversity, and disproportionately impacting vulnerable populations globally; and,

WHEREAS, as Democrats we both believe in science and in acting now to prevent further damage to our people, planet and economies; and

WHEREAS, failure to address Climate Change comprehensively now may result in creating only temporary and partial solutions to the fundamental inequities in American society that are the core of the Democratic platform; and

WHEREAS, as Democrats we have a moral responsibility to provide a national debate to focus the country's attention on this critical issue and what the American people must do to solve it, while also dispelling the myths and outright falsehoods that have been perpetuated regarding Climate Change;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that one of the first several DNC Presidential Debates should be focused on Climate Change issues and solutions; and

THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the President, Democratic National Committeeman, and the Democratic National Committeewoman shall support any resolution that calls for one of the first several DNC Presidential Debates should be focused on Climate Change issues and solutions at the DNC Summer Meeting in San Francisco on August 22nd; and

THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that all the other Officers of the Young Democrats of America shall advocate to their state Democratic National Committeepeople that they support any resolution that calls for one of the first several DNC Presidential Debates should be focused on Climate Change issues and solutions at the DNC Summer Meeting in San Francisco on August 22nd; and

THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that if the DNC decides not to sponsor such a debate that it clearly states that our candidates are free to participate in any and all forums or debates focused on Climate Change sponsored by other groups.

## Young Democrats of America Veterans Caucus

### Submitted by: Veterans Affairs Caucus

Whereas, The United States has the best trained and hardest working brave men and women serving in the Army, Marine Corps, Navy, Air Force, and Coast Guard. Service Members work around the clock and sacrifice immeasurably to keep us safe. Therefore, we must respect and honor Service Members, Veterans and their families both at war, overseas, and back home.

Whereas, We support all active military members, their families, and veterans to be treated with respect and dignity regardless of Age, Race, Sex, Gender Identity, National Origin, Religion, Disability, Pregnancy, Medical Condition, Political Affiliation. Marital Status, Sexual Orientation, Military Rank, Income Level, and Housing Status ext.

Whereas, We fully support open Transgender service in the military. They have been willing to put their life on the line for our nation.

Whereas, We are committed to addressing the scourge of sexual assault of both women and men in the military. It is an unquestionably dishonorable act. We must increase efforts to prevent sexual assault and rape, and aggressively investigate and prosecute allegations. Victims must receive timely, appropriate and comprehensive treatment for physical, emotional, and psychological trauma resulting from sexual assault.

Whereas, We support Department of Defense (DoD) policies that are green and environmentally friendly. It is important to value future generations by leaving them a sustainable earth. The cost of fuel in combat is costly not only in economic terms, but also in combat casualties. Therefore, it is vital that the most efficient airplanes, boats and vehicles be used.

Whereas, We believe in the need for sensitivity and respect in dealing with Military Sexual Trauma (MST), Adjustment Disorder, Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI), mental disabilities, and physical disabilities at all levels of the Government from the President of the United States to lower enlisted.

Whereas, We support training for identifying and increasing awareness on Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) and Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) in the private workplace along with those required by the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), and we support providing training to union representatives and human resources professionals about Uniform Services Employment and Readjustment Rights Act (USERRA).

Whereas, We honor the sacrifice of military families who serve alongside our service members. We recognize the unique concerns and challenges they face. We support military families having accessible jobs, education, childcare, and health care.

Whereas, We promote family-friendly policies and champion efforts to care for our military family members, especially for the spouses and children who have to rebuild their lives after the loss, life-altering injury, or disability of a loved one.

Whereas, We support the caregiver program that provides funding to people taking care of veterans who need full time care because of combat or other military related injuries.

Whereas, We support expanding the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) mental health services to veterans' families, including children, parents, siblings and significant others, when the veteran is receiving treatment for mental health or behavioral health problems.

Whereas, We support improving access to affordable and high-quality child care services, especially for military families and National Guard members who live off base and have fewer available options. We also support extending the hours of DoD active duty child care facilities to include weekends and after business hours.

Whereas, Our country has a sacred, moral responsibility to keep faith with all our veterans and wounded warriors. We must take care of those who have put their lives on the line to defend us. That is why we will push for more educational benefit and job training, support and increase of veterans' courts, end chronic displacement and combat suicide, as well as protect and preserve the post-9/11 GI Bill for future generations.

Whereas, We will fight for every veteran to have timely access to high-quality health care and timely processing of claims and appeals, as well as work to resolve the systemic problems in parts of Department of Veterans Affairs (VA). Health care is a human right. All Veterans and their dependents should be given care at the VA. The VA system needs to be fully funded, with staff that is well paid, and expanded to rural areas that do not have VA hospitals.

Whereas, We reject attempts to profit off our veterans by privatizing the VA. We believe that the VA must be fully resourced so that every veteran gets the care that they have earned and deserves, including those suffering from sexual assault, mental illness and other injuries or ailments. We must also look for more ways to make certain the VA provides veteran-center care with full and equal treatment.

Therefore, Be it Resolved, that the Young Democrats of America honor the sacrifice of our military and their families, and YDA will continue to advocate for our military and veteran families.

Now therefore be it resolved that the Platform Committee will establish a new Veteran's affairs section in the 2021 platform and before that time this resolution be used as a YDA statement of support on Veterans issues.

**A RESOLUTION THANKING THE INDIANA YOUNG DEMOCRATS AND THE MARION COUNTY YOUNG DEMOCRATS FOR HOSTING A SUCCESSFUL 2019 NATIONAL CONVENTION**

**Sponsor: Louis Elrod  
(GA)**

WHEREAS, the Indiana Young Democrats and the Marion County Young Democrats hosted a successful national convention of the Young Democrats of America in Indianapolis, Indiana from July 17 to July 20, 2019,

WHEREAS, the Indiana Young Democrats' and the Marion County Young Democrats' planning, organizing, and implementing of the national convention was conducted with professionalism and hospitality,

WHEREAS, the Young Democrats of America recognizes the efforts many individuals within the Indiana Young Democrats, the Marion County Young Democrats, and the Indiana Democratic Party took to support this national convention,

WHEREAS, multiple influential speakers from local candidates to Presidential candidates and the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives addressed the general body,

WHEREAS, the Convention Management Committee members Bryanta Booker-Maxwell, Arielle Brandy, Katherin Chi, Matt Hughes, Committee Vice-Chair Keith Potts, and Committee Chair Bridgette Tupes volunteered countless hours to prepare the national convention,

WHEREAS, the workers of Crowne Plaza ensured the success of the national convention's day-to-day operations and safety;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Young Democrats of America offers their sincere and heartfelt gratitude to the Indiana Young Democrats and Marion County Democrats for their dedicated and outstanding service in organizing a productive and enjoyable national convention for all attendees and delegates.

**Resolution to Recognize the 50th Anniversary of the Moon Landing**  
**Submitted by: Young Democrats of Pennsylvania**

WHEREAS, July 20th, 2019 is the 50th anniversary of Neil Armstrong and Edwin “Buzz” Aldrin of the Apollo 11 mission landing on the Moon; and

WHEREAS, twelve (12) people walked on the lunar surface, the last in 1972; and

WHEREAS, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration receives decreasing levels of funding; and

WHEREAS, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration creates thousands of careers and generates hundreds of millions of dollars of economic activity as well as technological spinoffs and creative products which increase the well-being of Americans and humans across the planet;

WHEREAS, the Apollo program and its successes were made possible by multiple advancements from marginalized voices, including women and black Americans.

THEREFORE, scientific progress is improved through the desegregation and diversification of workplaces and educational institutions.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Young Democrats of America recognize the accomplishments of America’s brave astronauts, past and present; and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Young Democrats of America honor those whose lives were lost in the pursuit of discovering the universe; and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Young Democrats of America support maintained peace in international space operations and the cooperation it creates; and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Young Democrats of America support the return of a human presence beyond Earth’s orbit, including the lunar surface, and the landing of humans on Mars; and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Young Democrats of America support public investment in space exploration and the technological, scientific, and humanitarian advancements which return from it.

RECOMMENDING FINANCIAL SUPPORT FROM DNC

Submitted by: New York State Young Democrats

WHEREAS, The Young Democrats of America is the official youth arm of the Democratic Party and represents Democrats under the age of 36,

WHEREAS, millennials compose the largest voting bloc,

WHEREAS, young people play a uniquely important part of the democratic process,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, The Young Democrats of America call upon the newly elected Executive Board to request from the Democratic National Committee a permanent annual line-item expenditure of one hundred thousand dollars.

**A Resolution Commemorating the Life of Hector Figueroa, 32BJ SEIU President  
Submitted by: New York State Young Democrats**

1 **WHEREAS**, Hector Figueroa was first elected president of 32BJ SEIU in 2012, the 2.  
largest property-services union in America representing over 170,000 building  
3 cleaners, security guards, doormen, and airport workers in Connecticut,  
4 Delaware, Florida, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New  
5 York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Virginia, and Washington D.C;

6  
7 **WHEREAS**, 50,000 workers were unionized by 32BJ under Hector Figueroa's  
8 presidency;

9  
10 **WHEREAS**, Figueroa began his organizing work with Workers United in 1990  
11 before going on to organize public employees in his native Puerto Rico;

12  
13 **WHEREAS**, under Figueroa's leadership, 32BJ was an early and national leader 14 with  
fast-food workers in the Fight For \$15 movement to raise the minimum  
15 wage to fifteen dollars an hour;

16  
17 **WHEREAS**, under Figueroa's presidency, 32BJ successfully bargained in 2018 for 18 a  
minimum wage of nineteen dollars an hour for the 40,000 airport workers  
19 serving New York City's three major airports;

20  
21 **WHEREAS**, due to Figueroa's leadership, 32BJ was an outspoken force for social 22  
justice in areas beyond worker's rights, supporting efforts at police reform and 23  
opposing injustice against immigrants; and

24  
25 **WHEREAS** Hector Figueroa unexpectedly passed away on Thursday, July 11,  
26 2019 at the age of 57; now, therefore, be it

27  
28 **RESOLVED**, That the Young Democrats of America hereby recognize and express  
29 their gratitude for the accomplishments of Hector Figueroa for working-class and 30  
poor Americans from all walks of life, and offer their condolences to Hector's  
31 family and the members of 32BJ SEIU on his untimely passing.

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**A Resolution to Honor New York State in their passage of historic progressive housing reforms and condemn the destructive housing policies advanced by the Trump Administration and Secretary of Housing and Urban Development Ben Carson.**

**Submitted by: New York State Young Democrats and Kristina Contreas Fox (RI)**

1. **WHEREAS**, On June 14, 2019 The New York State Governor signed the
2. Housing Stability and Tenant Protection Act of 2019 into law
3. which was made possible by the shift of power to the Democrats in the
4. New York State Senate led by the first woman of color Majority Leader
5. Andrea Stewart-Cousins in conjunction with a longstanding Democratic
6. Majority in the New York State Assembly led by the first person of color Speaker Carl Heastie;
- 7.
8. **WHEREAS**, the loopholes exploited by landlords to excessively increase rents
9. were closed; protections were created for residents of mobile homes from
10. predatory investments; overcharges in rent were made more
11. easily recoverable; housing protections were extended statewide; and the
12. sunset clauses on existing protections were ended;
- 13.
14. **WHEREAS**, The Trump Administration has proposed housing policies which
15. include deep cuts into the availability of public housing, the elimination of
16. the Community Development Block Grant program, and the furtherance of
17. its anti-immigrant agenda through a rule proposed by HUD Secretary Ben
18. Carson to prohibit housing assistance to families with an undocumented
19. family member;
- 20.
21. **now, therefore**,
- 22.
23. be it **RESOLVED**, That *The Young Democrats of America*
24. *recognize the reforms as enacted in New York State as acts of progress and*
25. *humanitarianism.*
- 26.
27. be it further **RESOLVED**, that *housing reforms like those of New York's*
28. *meant to ease the burdens of inequitable costs of living as well as to set a more*
29. *dignified living standard for the underserved and unfairly targeted will be met*
30. *with support by The Young Democrats of America as needed and/or requested*
- 31.
32. be it further **RESOLVED**, that *The Young Democrats of America define and*
33. *decry The Trump Administration housing policies as set forth by The US*
34. *Department of Housing and Urban Development led by Secretary Ben Carson as*
35. *a threat to the well being - specifically their housing security - of all those*
36. *residing in the United States and its territories, in addition to being inhumane,*
37. *unjust, xenophobic, and racially targeted.*
- 38.
39. be it further **RESOLVED**, that *The Young Democrats of America shall establish*

- 40. a task force centered around promoting progressive federal housing policies*
- 41. utilizing progressive best practices including but not limited to those set forth*
- 42. in New York while also combating the inhumane policies of President Donald J.*
- 43. Trump and HUD Secretary Ben Carson.*

## **YDA Resolution in Support of DC Statehood**

**Submitted by: DC Young Democrats**

**Whereas** this nation is founded on the belief that all people are endowed with certain inalienable rights and that to secure these rights, governments are instituted, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed; and

**Whereas** the rights of the 700,000 residents of the District of Columbia are abridged when the U.S. Congress imposes its will on local matters and denies DC residents voting representation on federal issues in both houses of the U.S. Congress;

**Whereas** the people of the District of Columbia are the only Americans who still bear all of the responsibilities of citizenship, but who do not enjoy all of the rights of citizenship, including authority over state and local matters and representation in both houses of Congress, making the District, in effect, a colony under Congressional jurisdiction;

**Whereas** the residents of the District of Columbia pay more Federal taxes per capita than residents of any State in the country, yet do not have full and equal representation in Congress and self-government;

**Whereas** there are no constitutional, historical, financial, or economic reasons why the 700,000 Americans who live in the District of Columbia should not be granted statehood;

**Whereas** the District of Columbia has a larger population than two States, Wyoming and Vermont, and is close to the population of the seven States that have a population of under one million fully represented residents;

**Whereas** the District of Columbia government has one of the strongest fiscal positions of any jurisdiction in the United States, with a \$14.6 billion budget for fiscal year 2019 and a \$2.8 billion general fund balance as of September 30, 2018; and

**Whereas** statehood will ensure that residents of the District of Columbia enjoy full rights in state and local matters and voting representation in both houses of the U.S. Congress just like every other citizen of the United States of America, and is a matter of simple justice:

**Therefore be it resolved**, that the Young Democrats of America supports statehood for the people of Washington, D.C. and urges Congress to grant the people of Washington, D.C. the full rights of American citizenship by passing the “Washington, D.C. Admission Act” (H.R. 51/S. 631), which would make the residential and commercial areas of the District of Columbia the 51<sup>st</sup> State while preserving a smaller federal district as the nation’s capital. Additionally, the Young Democrats of America supports changing the U.S. Senate filibuster rules to require only 51 votes to consider a statehood bill, instead of the typical 60-vote threshold, in order to expedite the end of the disenfranchisement of DC residents.

