

A RESOLUTION IN REJECTION OF THE INSULAR CASES

Authored by: Eliot Tricotti (TX)

Sponsor: Gabriela Medina Marrero (PR)

WHEREAS the set of United States Supreme Court decisions referred to as the Insular Cases rely on a racist, *Plessy*-era doctrine of “separate and unequal” to establish the constitutional relationship between the United States and its territories.

WHEREAS the *Insular Cases* rest on an explicitly White Anglo-Saxon supremacist vision of the country, made clear by the inclusion of deeply offensive language such as “alien races” and “people with an uncivilized race” when referring to the people living in U.S. territories.

WHEREAS the racially grounded holdings in the Insular Cases are contrary to the text and history of the Constitution and have no modern relevance whatsoever.

WHEREAS the legacy of the Insular Cases is an unequal legal and political relationship between the U.S. and the territories that continues to threaten the rights and interests of Americans living in the territories.

WHEREAS the ongoing discrimination against citizens in U.S. territories reinforces the need to stop relying on the discredited assumptions about the people living in U.S. territories and antiquated notions of racial inferiority on which they were based.

WHEREAS the U.S. Department of Justice continues to rely on the Insular Cases to argue for the continued exclusion of the territories from essential federal programs and benefits.¹

BE IT RESOLVED that the Young Democrats of America call on the U.S. House of Representatives to pass H.Res.279², introduced by Natural Resources Committee Chair Raúl Grijalva (D-AZ) with Rep. Stacey Plaskett (D-USVI), Rep. Michael San Nicolas (D-Guam), Rep. Jenniffer González-Colon (R-PR), Rep. Gregorio Sablan (D-CNMI), Rep. Nydia Velázquez (D-NY), Rep. Ritchie Torres (D-NY) and Rep. Jesús “Chuy” García (D-IL).

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Young Democrats of America call on the U.S. Department of Justice and the Biden-Harris administration in general to reject and refrain from any continued reliance on the Insular Cases in all present and future cases, as well as any and all executive and administrative decisions.

Cosponsors:

¹ Brief of petitioner United States of America, *Vaello v United States* (No. 20-303) https://www.supremecourt.gov/DocketPDF/20/20-303/181129/20210607194124315_20-303tsUnitedStates.pdf

² Full text: <https://naturalresources.house.gov/imo/media/doc/Grijalva%20Insular%20Cases%20Resolution%20March%2026%202021.pdf>

Kolby Dulhon (TX)
Breanna Spaulding (SC)
Bill Ford (SC)
Nick Truog (WC)
Shayna Daitch (WA)
Carrie McFadden (CA)
Kati Durkin (ID)
StaciLeu Tyau (ID)
Richard Peebly (ID)
Arne Frick Nelson (WA)
Christen Hebrand (CA)
Tazbir Alam (NY)
Sophia Mill (WV)
Rebecca Pinn (MA)
Jacintha Webster (OK)
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Alicia Halvensleben (WC)
Adam Strider (WV)
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George Thurlow (FL)
Caleb Roehner
TJ Deluca
Seth Woods (KC)
Christopher Clevenger Morris (OH)
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Matthew Russell Kochevar (IN)

Commending DCYD and YDPR for their efforts to educate YDA's National Committee about the cause of statehood during the 2019-21 Biennium

By Charles Meyers (WI)

WHEREAS the Young Democrats of America (YDA) recognizes the District of Columbia Young Democrats (DCYD) and the Young Democrats of Puerto Rico (YDPR) for their efforts throughout the biennium on their education and advocacy for statehood for the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico, respectively.

WHEREAS it is unacceptable that the United States continues to disenfranchise U.S. citizens and strip them from having full representation – voice and vote – in Congress for all issues affecting the Nation.

WHEREAS it is long overdue that the U.S. recognizes both jurisdictions as States of the Union and with it the full rights that are enjoyed in any of the other 50 states.

WHEREAS YDA calls on Congress to continue work on H.R. 51 for the admission into the United States of the state of Washington, Douglass Commonwealth.

WHEREAS YDA calls on Congress to support H.R. 1522 for the admission of the territory of Puerto Rico into the United States as a state.

LET IT BE RESOLVED that the Young Democrats of America will continue to advocate for statehood for both the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico as we strive to create a more equitable society where we celebrate our diverse background as one Nation.

Co-authors/writers: Introduced by , and Jason Park.

Resolution Opposing the Recall of California Governor Gavin Newsom

WHEREAS a recall is an off-cycle election that effectively disenfranchises BIPOC voters and working families, as it is well known that the electorate is usually smaller, less diverse; and recent off cycle elections produced dismally low turnout including: the 79th California Assembly District Special Election with turnout at 21.2% and the California Senate District 30 special election with 12.6% turnout,

WHEREAS the Democratic Governor of California, Gavin Newsom, is being targeted for recall, not for any official malfeasance, but because a depressed electorate is the only realistically viable way Republicans have to win statewide in California,

WHEREAS it is highly likely that, if Governor Gavin Newsom were to be recalled, the new Governor would be elected with a paltry plurality of the vote and lack the support of a majority of California voters,

WHEREAS the bylaws of the California Democratic Party dictate automatic opposition to the recall of any Democratic elected official, unless there is a 60% majority votes otherwise, and the recall of Governor Gavin Newsom is a distraction and detriment to the Democratic Party's efforts to fight attacks against the right to vote and voter suppression being organized and legislated by Republicans, both in California and nationwide,

WHEREAS this current recall effort is being spearheaded and fueled by Republicans and Trump mega-donors, including \$250,000 from the Republican National Committee, in an effort to overturn Democratic electoral victories and undermine California's COVID recovery;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Young Democrats of America unequivocally opposes the recall campaign against California Governor Gavin Newsom,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Young Democrats of America affirms that, except in extreme circumstances, the time to hold elected officials accountable at the ballot box is at regularly scheduled primary or general elections where the most voters and voices are able to be included, and that this resolution does not imply the Young Democrats of America's position on any recall electoral race that may be considered in the future but solely applies to the recall attempt against California Governor Gavin Newsom.

Resolution Honoring Governor-Designate Kathy Hochul and Acting Lieutenant Governor-Designate Andrea Stewart-Cousins

Whereas, the Young Democrats of America recognizes historic achievements; and

Whereas, the Young Democrats of America celebrate women serving in leadership positions; and

Whereas, effective Tuesday, August 24, 2021, following the resignation of the current governor, Kathleen Courtney Hochul will be sworn in as the 57th Governor of New York; and

Whereas, upon taking office, Gov. Hochul will become the first female Governor of the State of New York; and

Whereas, upon Gov. Hochul taking office, Senate Temporary President and Majority Leader Andrea Alice Stewart-Cousins will assume the office of Acting Lieutenant Governor of New York, making her the first Black woman to serve in that position; and

Therefore, Be It Resolved that the Young Democrats of America congratulate Governor-Designate Kathleen C. Hochul and wish her the best of luck as she embarks on this new endeavor as Governor of the State of New York; and

Be It Further Resolved that the Young Democrats of America congratulate Acting Lieutenant Governor-Designate Andrea A. Stewart-Cousins and wish her the best of luck as she embarks on this new endeavor as Acting Lieutenant Governor of the State of New York.

Resolution in Support of Defunding the Police

Whereas, since YDA's last meeting on April 10th 48 Black people have been unjustly murdered by police including Daunte Wright who was shot and killed by police officer, Kim Potter, during a police stop on April 11, 2021.

Whereas, We say the names of the 48 Black people murdered by police since our last convening on April 10th. Pier Alexander Shelton, Anthony J. Thompson, Matthew Zadok Williams, Miles Jackson, Lindani Myeni, Innes Lee, Larry Jenkins, Ryan Williams, Doward Sylleen Baker, Ma'Khia Bryant, Andrew Brown, Torey Casey, Terrance Maurice Parker, Ashton Pinke, Adonis Traughber, Everton Brown, Kalon J. Horton, Lance Lowe, Timothy Fleming, Gary Moncrief, Tyronne Penny, Darion M. Lafayette, Roderick Devonne Merchant, Vedo Hall, Darren Dejuan Chandler, Shannon Wright, Demetrious Stanley, Winston Boogie Smith, Timothy FLOWERS, Terrell J. Gas, Solomon Jamison, Antsy Dolce, Briana Sykes, Jeff Melvin, De'Shon Hill, Earl Fitzgerald Hunter, Joseph Lee Humbles, John Reuben Turbe, Klevontaye White, Justin Powell, Ryan LeRoux, Maurice Sentel Mincey, Quentin Bogard, Gabriel Parker, Kevlin Wallace, Alexsis C. Wilson.

Whereas, Black people account for less than 13 percent of the U.S. population, but are murdered by police at three times the rate of white people and police have murdered 126 Black People within the year 2021.

Whereas, For much of U.S. history, law enforcement meant implementing laws that were explicitly designed to subjugate Black people and enforce white supremacy. We must divest from excessive, brutal, discriminatory policing and invest in a vision of community safety that works for everyone, not just an elite few.

Whereas, We know the safest communities in America are places that don't center the police. What we're looking for already exists, and we already know it works. We need look no further than neighborhoods where the wealthy, well-connected, and well-off live, or anywhere where there is easy access to living wages, health care, quality public education, and freedom from police terror.

Whereas, Black Lives Matter. That includes poor Black lives, Disabled Black lives, Incarcerated Black lives, Uneducated Black lives, Trans Black Lives, and young Black lives. All of which deserve to have their communities funded instead of being over policed and criminalized because we keep us safe.

Whereas, We can't stand by while our city, state, and federal governments continue to fund an excessive, brutal, and discriminatory system of policing. We will no longer be told that what we deserve is not politically viable or logistically possible.

Whereas, Jacob Blake should not be paralyzed.

Whereas, Breonna Taylor should still be here.

Therefore Be It Resolved, The Young Democrats of America stand in solidarity with Black people and their clear demands to divest from excessive, brutal, discriminatory, overfunded policing — and to reinvest those monies in underserved communities, especially Black communities. Therefore we believe in Defunding the police and investing in a vision of community safety that works for everyone.

Co-Sponsors:

Amber Sherman, Tennessee
Jolie Grace Wareham, Tennessee
Mike Hemminger, Virginia
Jovan Richards, New York
Jeni Atchley, South Carolina
Jennifer Blemur, District of Columbia
Stephon Moore, Kentucky
Seth Woods, Kentucky
Devin Murphy, California
Christen Herbrard, California
Philip Ford, South Carolina
Stephanie C. Wheaton, New York
Nicholas Truog, Wisconsin
Tia Hopkins, Maryland
Nnedi Stephens, Nevada
Kolby Duhon, Texas
James Parker, Alabama
Angela Charles, Utah
Darold Highsmith Jr., Ohio
Derrick Quarles, South Carolina
Jonah Simmons, South Carolina
Charles Wilkes, Oklahoma
Bree Spaulding, South Carolina
Tonya Johnson, South Carolina
Quentin Wathun-Ocama, Minnesota
De’Juan Stevens, Ohio
Kerrigan Sanders, Texas
Izzy Dobbel, Illinois

A RESOLUTION THANKING THE OHIO YOUNG DEMOCRATS AND THE KENTUCKY YOUNG DEMOCRATS FOR HOSTING A SUCCESSFUL 2021 NATIONAL CONVENTION

Sponsor: Eric Marquez (CA)

WHEREAS, the Ohio Young Democrats and the Kentucky Young Democrats hosted a successful national convention of the Young Democrats of America in Cincinnati, Ohio from August 11 to August 14, 2021,

WHEREAS, the Ohio Young Democrats' and the Kentucky 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 Ohio Young Democrats and the Kentucky Young Democrats,

WHEREAS, the Convention Management Committee members Jen House, Hanna Detwiler, Spencer Dirrig, Lucy Frank, Jordan Hawkins, Dontavius Jarrells, Madison Newingham, Eryn Pritchett, Bridgette Tupes, and Millie Vaughn, volunteered countless hours to prepare the national convention,

WHEREAS, the workers of Westin Cincinnati 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 Ohio Young Democrats and Kentucky Young Democrats for their dedicated and outstanding service in organizing a productive and enjoyable national convention for all attendees and delegates.

Young Democrats of America Resolution calling the implementation of human resources and equity infrastructure to support BIPOC, Women, Non-Binary People, and the larger LGBTQ+ Community and all people working within the Young Democrats of America and chartered units

1. **WHEREAS**, requiring professional human resources staff who are
2. trauma-informed within the state or territorial democratic party
3. organizations is not common practice,
4. **WHEREAS**, some states have codes of conducts that set intention
5. to not harass employees and volunteers especially for BIPOC,
6. LGBTQ+ folx, and women,
7. **WHEREAS**, Wisconsin has adopted a code of conduct and funded
8. human resources staff to address instances of misbehavior
9. between staffers and other staffers, between staffers and
10. volunteers, volunteers and staffers, and volunteers and other
11. volunteers,
12. **WHEREAS**, Washington has a code of conduct violation
13. submission form for instances of conduct violations to be
14. investigated once submitted to the Chair, Executive Director, Party
15. Affairs Director, and at least one of the DNC members of the
16. WSDCC,
17. **WHEREAS**, the state of California has a code of conduct and an
18. Ombudsperson to investigate violations of their harassment-free
19. environment for employees and all others associated with the party,
20. **WHEREAS**, the state of Michigan has a code of conduct and
21. investigation, reporting, and resolution process and possible
22. removal for violations,
23. **RESOLVED**, that the leadership of each Young Democrats of
24. America Chartered Unit begin a discussion with their state or
25. territorial party's leadership about adopting a code of conduct with
26. an outlined procedure to intake, investigate, and resolve violations
27. of the said code of conduct,
28. **RESOLVED**, that each Young Democrats of America Chartered
29. Unit meet with their state or territorial party leadership to discuss
30. their state or territorial party hiring professional human resources
31. staff who are trauma-informed to support survivors by investigating
32. and resolving instances of code of conduct violations
33. **RESOLVED**, that the Young Democrats of America should live our
34. values of equity and inclusion and in the upcoming biennium as
35. part of YDA's budget process create and circulate an RFP and
36. budget for contracting with a third party firm to investigate
37. allegations of misconduct so that YDA's Judicial Council is no
38. longer responsible for handling those allegations

Submitted by:

Izzy Dobbel - IL
Charles Myers - WI
Hannah Wroblewski - NE
Seamus Campbell - NY
Rob Sembarski - MI
Arne Frick Nelson - WA
Diane Le - CA
Tom Mailard - IL
Quinne Welter - IL
Alicia Halvensleben - WI
Kerrigan Sanders- TX
David de la Fuente - TX
Hannah Horick - TX

Action Taken:

Effective Time Period: Ongoing

Young Democrats of America Resolution to Recognize the State of Illinois for Becoming the First State in the Country to Outlaw Deception During Interrogations of Minors (IL SB 2122, Senator Robert Peters)

1. **WHEREAS**, in 1969 deception when interrogating minors was an acceptable practice by law
2. enforcement in the City of Chicago and Illinois,
3. **WHEREAS**, policies and procedures of this sort generated from the “tough on crime” era,
4. **WHEREAS**, these said practices were directly targeted and utilized to incriminate and convict
5. people of color, especially Black people,
6. **WHEREAS**, in every state in the country, it is legal for police to lie during interrogations and
7. make false claims to lead people to confess to crimes they did not commit,
8. **WHEREAS**, false confession causes approximately 29% of wrongful convictions in the United
9. States,
10. **WHEREAS**, minors are vulnerable to deception and 36% of exonerees who were convicted
11. under the age of 18 falsely confessed and 10% of exonerees over the age of 18 falsely confessed,
12. **WHEREAS**, on Thursday, July 15th, lead by Sen. Robert Peters and State Representative Justin
13. Slaughter, Illinois became the first state in the U.S. to ban police from lying or using deceptive
14. tactics while interrogating,
15. **WHEREAS**, this practice is exploitative of young people and especially BIPOC youth,
16. Be it **RESOLVED**, the Young Democrats of America acknowledge this trailblazing reform for
17. young people and young BIPOC,
18. Be it further **RESOLVED**, that the Young Democrats of America acknowledged “tough on
19. crime” policy to be a direct attack on BIPOC communities,
20. Be it further **RESOLVED**, that the Young Democrats of America seek to advocate for progressie
21. reforms and to pull back “tough on crime” policy nationwide

Submitted by:

Izzy Dobbel, National Committeeperson, Young Democrats of Illinois

Action Taken:

Effective Time Period: Ongoing

<https://innocenceproject.org/police-deception-lying-interrogations-youth-teenagers/>

Young Democrats of America Resolution to Recognize the State of Illinois for Becoming the First State in the Country in their passage and signing of historic education reform to require the instruction of Asian American Pacific Islander history in Illinois Schools (Senator Ram Villivalam, SB)

1. **WHEREAS**, on July 12th of 2021, Illinois became the first state in the country to require the
2. inclusion of Asian American history units in public school curriculums under the Teaching
3. Equitable Asian American Community History Act (TEAACH),
4. **WHEREAS**, TEAACH directly requires teaching of "the contributions of Asian American
5. communities to the economic, cultural, social, and political development of the United States as
6. well as Asian American civil rights advancements, and other aspects of history.”
7. **WHEREAS**, the bill was led by the nonprofit group Asian Americans Advancing
8. Justice-Chicago and chief-sponsored by Senator Ram Villivalam,
9. **WHEREAS**, the bill acknowledges the contributions and vital story of Asian Americans in the
10. U.S. in the holistic image of American history and that they are a key and celebrated community
11. in Illinois and nationwide,
12. Be it further **RESOLVED**, that the Young Democrats of America acknowledge the absence of
13. this history in schools and the contributions that Asian Americans have made to shape this
14. country,
15. Be it **RESOLVED**, the Young Democrats of America acknowledge this trailblazing reform for
16. young people, education, and overall support for the Asian American Pacific Islander community,
17. Be it further **RESOLVED**, that the Young Democrats of America seek to advocate for progressie
18. reforms, advocate for the incorporation of inclusive and honest history in public schools to
19. encompass the truth of the Asian American Pacific Islander community and others who have
20. been excluded from mainstream teaching plans.

Submitted by:

Izzy Dobbel, National Committeeperson, Young Democrats of Illinois

Action Taken:

Effective Time Period: Ongoing

**YOUNG DEMOCRATS OF AMERICA —
RESOLUTION AGAINST THE CONSTRUCTION OF LINE 3
AND CONDEMNATION OF TREATMENT OF PROTESTORS**

Written by: Carter Yost (MN)

WHEREAS The Line 3 pipeline project is the expansion of a 1,097 mile oil pipeline stretching across parts of Canada, North Dakota, Minnesota, Wisconsin, and stolen Anishinaabe land¹

WHEREAS The Line 3 pipeline would carry over 760,000 barrels of crude oil each day once operational (which works out to be around 11 billion gallons of refined gasoline per year)

WHEREAS The Line 3 oil pipeline, if completed, would contribute more to climate change than the rest of Minnesota’s economic activity combined; the pipeline in its proposed final form would be “roughly equivalent to building 50 new coal fired power plants”²

WHEREAS The construction of Line 3 is in direct violation of the treaty rights of Anishinaabe peoples and nations, including the disruption of their legally guaranteed right to hunt, fish, and subsist off the land Line 3 crosses

WHEREAS The calculated “social carbon cost” of the Line 3 pipeline, including estimate by the State of Minnesota³, reaches totals ranging from \$287 billion to over \$440 billion⁴

WHEREAS The Keystone XL Pipeline, which was recently canceled⁵ and opposed by the Biden Administration⁶, was projected to carry less than 10% more barrels per day (830k vs 760k)⁷

WHEREAS There have been multiple reports and incidents of drilling mud spills during construction — indicating pipeline construction has damaged natural fresh waterways.⁸

WHEREAS Indigenous organizers, activists, and protestors have been met with violent force from government and private security personnel, including the unwarranted use of tear gas, rubber bullets, pepper spray, physical assault, arrests, detentions, and illegal crowd dispersion tactics including low-flying debris-throwing helicopter hovering⁹

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED The Young Democrats of America calls for the Biden Administration to issue an immediate suspension of construction on the Line 3 pipeline.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED The Young Democrats of America stands in solidarity and support with Indigenous organizers, peaceful protestors, and water defenders who are on the front lines advocating against Line 3.

¹ <https://www.stopline3.org/map>

² <https://www.stopline3.org/issues/#climate>

³ <https://mn.gov/eera/web/project-file?legacyPath=/opt/documents/34079/Line%203%20Revised%20FEIS%20Ch%2005.pdf>

⁴ <https://www.edockets.state.mn.us/>

⁵ <https://www.nytimes.com/2021/06/09/business/keystone-xl-pipeline-canceled.html>

⁶ <https://www.vox.com/22306919/biden-keystone-xl-trudeau-oil-pipeline-climate-change>

⁷ <https://stateimpact.npr.org/texas/tag/keystone-xl-pipeline/>

⁸ <https://www.startribune.com/mpca-reports-more-drilling-mud-spills-along-line-3-construction-route/600086700/>

⁹ <https://minnesota.cbslocal.com/2021/06/08/u-s-border-officials-investigating-use-of-low-flying-helicopter>

Resolution to call for increased sanctions on China (People's Republic of China)

BY David Rosen (CA)

WHEREAS: The Chinese government is detaining up to 1.5 million Uyghurs, and using torture and rape against them, in an effort to commit genocide.

WHEREAS: The Chinese continue to persecute the Tibetan Buddhist population through the kidnapping and exile of their religious leaders, and forced labor and arrest of the population.

WHEREAS: China has ended democratic rule for 7.5 million people in Hong Kong, and is actively persecuting and harassing all peaceful opposition.

WHEREAS: China aggressively harasses nations in the South China Sea, such as the Philippines, Vietnam, and Malaysia, in order to steal their maritime territory.

BE IT RESOLVED: That the YDA encourages the Biden administration and Democrat leaders in Congress to work on imposing strong and increasing multilateral sanctions on China until egregious human rights abuses are corrected.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: The United States should provide further economic and infrastructure construction support to democratic nations with developing economies to encourage development in these nations more aligned with our values.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED: That the YDA encourages the government of the United States to recognize Taiwan as an independent nation that acts as a beacon of democracy for those in the region.

RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF FUNDING UNIVERSAL PRE-KINDERGARTEN
Submitted by Kentucky Young Democrats

WHEREAS, 40 percent of children ages 3 to 5 are not enrolled in child care, preschool, or kindergarten;

and WHEREAS, 35-45 percent of American schoolchildren are poorly prepared to succeed in school at kindergarten entry; and

WHEREAS, unequal access to quality childcare and early childhood education programs produces a disparity in student learning and development which further contributes to achievement gaps; and

WHEREAS, childcare and early childhood education programs that are universally accessible create an opportunity to raise children's developmental proficiencies and their capacity to have lifelong success in the education system; and

WHEREAS, exposure to high-quality childcare and early childhood education programs can boost social, moral, physical and cognitive development, among children from low-income families; and

WHEREAS, investment in early childhood education programs for low income children from birth to age five reduces special education enrollment, grade retention, and behavioral problems; and

WHEREAS, investment in early childhood education programs for low income children from birth to age five increases high school graduate rates, earnings in adulthood and mental health; and

WHEREAS, every dollar invested in high-quality early childhood education produces a seven to ten percent annual return on investment; and

WHEREAS, effective preschool programs produce strong academic and social gains for all children, even though gains for low-income children are larger; and

WHEREAS, the United States Senate Budget Committee, under the advice and leadership of President Biden and Chairman Sanders, has introduced S. Con. Res. 14 as its budget reconciliation bill; and

WHEREAS, S. Con. Res. 14 allocates sufficient funding to provide universal pre-kindergarten to all children in the United States of America, regardless of their residence or ability to pay;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Young Democrats of America supports increasing funding for high-quality early childhood education and childcare programs that are

universally accessible and supports and advocates for the inclusion of Pre-K funding as part of K-12 funding formulas; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Young Democrats of America strongly supports and urges the passage of S. Con. Res. 14 and the full funding of universal, high quality, publically funded Pre-K and childcare for all children.

National Committee Members:

Stephon Moore, Kentucky
Seth Woods, Kentucky
Chris Anderson, Ohio
Jeni Atchley, South Carolina
Spencer Trumm, Oregon
Amina Dedefo, Minnesota
Susan Florian, Nevada
Dyna Martinez, Indiana
Amber Sherman, Tennessee
Tyrell Aagard, Utah
Joseph Paige, Tennessee
David Perelman, Tennessee
Alix Thornhill, Tennessee
Hendrell Renus, Tennessee
Daisney LaCroix, Tennessee
Josh Coleman, Alabama
Lillian Ferrao, Washington
Kati Durkin, Idaho
Taylor Beckett, North Carolina
David De La Fuente, Texas
Kolby Duhon, Texas
Emma Craig, Nebraska
Shayna Daitch, Washington
Elisa Muñoz, Puerto Rico
Nicholas Truog, Wisconsin
Julia Mattingly, Kentucky
Lashea Burt, Kentucky
Quentin Watham-Ocama, Minnesota
Lutisha Buckner, Kentucky
Gabi Medina, Puerto Rico

YDA Resolution in Support of DC Statehood

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 51st 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.