

Resolution 19-01

Resolution in Support of Persons with Disabilities and Calling on 2020 Democratic Presidential Candidates to Support Persons with Disabilities

Proposed by: Seamus Campbell (NY) & Sam Jarris (CO)

WHEREAS, the Young Democrats of America believes that scientific progress has fundamentally changed and will continue to improve the quality of human life; and

WHEREAS, the Young Democrats of America advocate for the continued responsible use and advancement of technology as a force for good in the world; and

WHEREAS, the Young Democrats of America reject those who refuse to consider scientific the consensus in the creation of public policy; and

WHEREAS, science continues to advance based on further research and technology; and
WHEREAS, according to a 2017 study from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, since 2001, vaccines have prevented over 20 million deaths via herd immunity including the viruses of measles, mumps, and rubella; and

WHEREAS, the only scientific study to find a link between vaccines and, the developmental disorder, Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) was retracted by the publishing medical journal after its author, who lost his medical license as a result of his professional misconduct, was found to have manipulated data to support his hypothesis; and

WHEREAS, discovering the root causes of ASD requires further research; and

WHEREAS, President Donald Trump has previously stated a belief that vaccines cause ASD;
And

WHEREAS, President Donald Trump has also stated that those who commit gun violence have a mental illness; and

WHEREAS, the scientific and medical community has accepted as fact that mental illness has a biochemical component; and

WHEREAS, the scientific and medical community has never found any linkage between mental illness and gun violence; and

WHEREAS, mental illness has been proven to be treatable via a variety of means including, but not limited to therapy, counseling, and pharmacology; and

WHEREAS, people with mental illness and/or ASD can live fully productive and independent

lives and is in no way a weakness; and

WHEREAS, leading into the 2020 Presidential Election, Democrats must have a united front on issues of science and health when opposing President Donald Trump;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Young Democrats of America call on all Democratic candidates seeking the presidency to publicly commit to supporting the scientific and medical community, its research, and its funding; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Young Democrats of America call on all Democratic candidates seeking the presidency to publicly reject debunked claims that vaccines cause Autism Spectrum Disorder; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Young Democrats of America call on all Democratic candidates seeking the presidency to reject the belief that mental illness causes gun violence; And

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Young Democrats of America call on all Democratic candidates seeking the presidency to reject all non-peer reviewed and anecdotal science as fact; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Young Democrats of America believe that people with disabilities are not second class citizens, and deserve support and accommodations so they can fulfill their full potential and that no amount of positive thinking will get rid of a disability, particularly any chronic health conditions; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Young Democrats of America acknowledge intersectionality and disability, as people with disabilities from less privileged backgrounds face more obstacles to overcome and, thus, more funding is needed towards research in how the broader context of behavioral and social factors and environment impact health and treatment; And

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Young Democrats of America believe that health conditions need to be treated using evidence-based science, and increased funding so that more research can be done to increase equity in research and treatment for health conditions that had previously been underfunded; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Young Democrats of America support increased funding for research into health conditions and basic science, as much of the current research into treatments, particularly new medicines, depend on funding from private companies; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Young Democrats of America believe that scientific evidence is the basis for improving the quality of patient care and enhancing the health of the public; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that the Young Democrats of America call on all Democratic candidates seeking the presidency to promise, if elected, to support people with any and all medical conditions as well as physical, psychological, mental, and/or developmental disabilities in their policies.

Resolution Calling on Joshua Harris-Till to Rename His Dog “Manhole” and Support the 2019 Project for Awesome

WHEREAS, the Young Democrats of America 2019 Winter meeting in Birmingham, Alabama is happening on the same weekend as the 13th annual Project for Awesome - an annual charity event started in 2007 by the Vlogbrothers of John and Hank Green; and

WHEREAS, the Project for Awesome is an annual, 48-hour online fundraiser on YouTube for Save the Children, Partners in Health, and the charities chosen by the viewers; and

WHEREAS, the Project for Awesome, for the last five years, has raised at least \$1 million for charity; and

WHEREAS, John Green was named a Young Democrat for Life at the 2019 Young Democrats of America Convention in Indianapolis, Indiana; and

WHEREAS, John and Hank Green have expanded their media outreach from video blogging and into the areas of promotion of education, scientific discovery, literacy, and civic engagement; and

WHEREAS, John and Hank Green have also created a podcast entitled *Dear Hank and John* and, on episode 137, John and Hank Green elected to identify creative names for dogs; and

WHEREAS, one of the unique dog names conjured up by John and Hank Green was “Manhole;” and

WHEREAS, Young Democrats of America President Joshua Harris-Till is the owner of a new dog currently named “Jax;” and

WHEREAS, the Young Democrats of America’s platform and mission is consistent with the work done by John and Hank Green in matters of education, science, literacy, and civic engagement; and

WHEREAS, the Young Democrats of America support its Young Democrats for Life; and

WHEREAS, the Young Democrats of America support the work done by John and Hank Green to raise money for charities including Save the Children, - which provides humanitarian relief to in areas hurt by war, natural disasters, and other conflicts - Partners in Health, - which provides health care to people in developing countries - and other charities via money raised from the 2019 Project for Awesome.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Young Democrats of America call upon its President, Joshua Harris-Till, to rename his dog “Manhole” as a fitting tribute to the work done by the Vlogbrothers: John and Hank Green; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Young Democrats of America encourages its members to participate in the 2019 Project for Awesome; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that the Young Democrats of America do not forget to be awesome.

**RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND AGAINST THE TRUMP
ADMINISTRATION IN RELATION TO AUTOMOBILE FUEL EFFICIENCY STANDARDS**
Authored by Igor Tregub, CA; Environmental Caucus Chair

Whereas In August 2018, the Environmental Protection Agency and National Highway Traffic Safety Administration proposed freezing fuel efficiency requirements at 2020 levels through 2026, a watering down of Obama-era rules adopted in 2012 that called for a fleetwide fuel efficiency average of 46.7 miles per gallon (mpg) by 2026, with average annual increases of nearly 5%, compared with 37 mpg by 2026 under the Trump administration's preferred option[1]; and

Whereas in October 2019, General Motors, Toyota Motor Corporation, Fiat Chrysler Automobiles, and other major automakers (including Hyundai Motor Corporation, Mazda, Nissan Motor Corporation, and Kia Motors Corporation sought to intervene on the side of the Trump administration in two additional legal challenges to its efforts to bar California from setting tailpipe emissions standards that exceed the proposed Trump rule, while automakers such as Ford Motor Corporation, Honda Motor Corporation, BMW AG and Volkswagen AG which announced a voluntary deal with California in July on emissions rules, are not intervening on the administration's side[2]; and

Whereas Recognizing that consumers broadly support prioritizing the environment, with a Pew Research Center survey showed that a majority of U.S. adults (56%) say protecting the environment should be a top priority for the president and Congress[3] and that climate change is among the most pressing existential threats of our time, in September 2019, California and 22 other states and environmental groups challenged in the U.S. District Court in Washington the administration's determination that California cannot set vehicle emission standards and zero-emission vehicle mandates[4].

Be It Resolved, that the Young Democrats of America (YDA) support the right of states to set more stringent fuel efficiency standards than the weakened proposal under the Trump Administration; and

Be It Further Resolved, that YDA communicate to its membership the list of automakers who have chosen to stand with Trump against the environment, as well as those automakers who have agreed to the more stringent automobile fuel efficiency standards in California and several other states.

[1]
<https://www.reuters.com/article/us-autos-emissions-california/several-automakers-back-trump-in-two-other-california-vehicle-emissions-suits-idUSKBN1XB33K>

[2] *Ibid.*

[3]

<https://www.reuters.com/article/us-autos-emissions/california-four-automakers-defy-trump-agree-to-tighten-emissions-rules-idUSKCN1UK1OD>

[4]

<https://www.reuters.com/article/us-autos-emissions-california/several-automakers-back-trump-in-two-other-california-vehicle-emissions-suits-idUSKBN1XB33K>

RESOLUTION HONORING THE MEMORY OF INAUGURAL EPA DIRECTOR WILLIAM RUCKELSHAUS

Authored by Igor Tregub, CA; Environmental Caucus Chair

Whereas William Ruckelshaus, who served as the nation’s first-ever administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and later quit the Justice Department rather than obey President Richard Nixon’s order to fire the independent special Watergate prosecutor, passed away on November 27, 2019 at age 87[1]; and

Whereas Mr. Ruckelshause twice served as the EPA chief with distinction: first, from its founding in 1970 through 1973, and then again from 1983 to early 1985 following the resignation of Anne Gorsuch amid a scandal over mismanagement of the Superfund program – and was responsible for banning DDT and instituting the nation’s first clean air standards, but is perhaps most famously known as the Deputy Attorney General who resigned rather than carrying out Nixon’s order to fire special prosecutor Archibald Cox in what became known as the “Saturday Night Massacre”[2]; and

Whereas though a lifelong Republican), he was greatly respected across both sides of the aisle and in 2015 was awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom by President Obama; and becoming gravely concerned about the potential impact of what a Trump Administration could mean for the agency he helped start – which unfortunately became reality upon his election – in 2016 he endorsed Democratic nominee Hillary Clinton for President.[3]

Be It Resolved, that the Young Democrats of America (YDA) honors the memory and legacy of William Ruckelshaus, an accomplished administrator and, even more importantly, a man of great integrity for whom party affiliation could never trump a commitment to the values that we all hold dear.

[1]

<https://www.reuters.com/article/us-autos-emissions-california/several-automakers-back-trump-in-two-oth-er-california-vehicle-emissions-suits-idUSKBN1XB33K>

[2] *Ibid.*

[3] *Ibid.*

A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES BRINGING ARTICLES OF IMPEACHMENT AGAINST THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES.

Proposed by: Eric Marquez

WHEREAS, the United States Constitution gives the House of Representatives the sole power of impeachment, and

WHEREAS, the Article II, Section 4 of the Constitution provides that the President “shall be removed from office on impeachment for, and conviction of, treason, bribery, or other high crimes and misdemeanors,” and

WHEREAS, on July 10 of this year, Ukrainian defense official Oleksandr Danyliuk with aide to the President of Ukraine Andriy Yermak met with Ambassador Gordon Sondland, Special Envoy to Ukraine Kurt Volker, Energy Secretary Rick Perry and White House national security adviser John Bolton in Washington D.C., where Ambassador Sondland requested specific investigations in exchange for a meeting between Trump and Zelensky.

WHEREAS, on July 18 of this year, on President Donald Trump’s order, military assistance funds allocated to Ukraine by the Congress were withheld by the State Department, and

WHEREAS, on July 25 of this year, in preparation for a telephone call between President Trump and the President of Ukraine, Volodymyr Zelensky, Volker again expresses the importance of Zelensky saying Ukraine will launch investigations, texting Yermak, "Heard from White House-assuming President Z convinces trump he will investigate / 'get to the bottom of what happened' in 2016, we will nail down date for visit to Washington," and

WHEREAS, on the aforementioned phone call, after President Zelensky inquired into the status of the military assistance funds, President Trump did state “I would like you to do us a favor though because our country has been through a lot and Ukraine knows a lot about it,” later adding “The other thing, there's a lot of talk about Biden's son, that Biden stopped the prosecution and a lot of people want to find out about that...” and

WHEREAS, immediately after that telephone call National Security Council attorney John Eisenberg transferred the rough transcript of the call to a classified server that is reserved for sensitive national security information, and

WHEREAS, on July 26 of this year, after overhearing a phone call between President Trump and Ambassador Sondland, Sondland told State Department employee William Taylor that Trump doesn't care about Ukraine as a country and that he just wants the investigations, and

WHEREAS, Ambassador Sondland has testified under oath that President Trump sought from President Zelensky an announcement of investigations into Hunter Biden and Ukraine's involvement in the US's 2016 Presidential election, in exchange for the release of military aide and a prestigious visit to the White House, and

WHEREAS, the White House has ordered all Executive Branch personnel to ignore lawful subpoenas issued by committees investigating this matter in the House of Representatives, and to not otherwise cooperate with the Congressional investigation,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Young Democrats of America whole heartedly supports the passage of articles of impeachment in the House of Representatives against President Donald J. Trump

Resolution 19-06

A resolution supporting municipal policies preventing local law enforcement from performing Federal immigration enforcement

Whereas municipal governments have an obligation to foster trust and community in their jurisdictions;

Whereas it is not within the purview nor mandate of a municipal government to enforce federal immigration law or seek the detention, transfer, or deportation of community residents for immigration purposes, nor should municipal resources be expended toward that end;

Whereas “hold requests,” “notification requests,” “transfer requests,” and “administrative warrants” are administrative instruments authorized by federal immigration officials, not judicial officers, and are not based on a finding of probable cause for an alleged criminal law violation;

Whereas Appendix A contains a sample TRUST Act as enacted in Orlando, Florida, incorporated herein by reference;

THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED that the Young Democrats of America encourage all municipal governments to enact Ordinances, Resolutions, Policies, or Orders that would bar municipal law enforcement officers and agencies from detaining, arresting, or extending detention of individuals solely on the basis of a hold request, transfer request, or administrative warrant;

LET IT BE FURTHER RESOLVED that within 30 days of enacting this resolution, the Board of the Young Democrats of America shall transmit both the full text of the resolution and Appendix A via email to the leadership of the Democratic National Committee and the Board of Directors of the Democratic Municipal Officials.

APPENDIX A

A sample TRUST Act, as enacted in Orlando, Florida

PURPOSE.

The purpose of this ORLANDO TRUST Policy and Order is to increase public confidence in Orlando Law Enforcement by providing guidelines associated with federal immigration enforcement, arrests, and detentions.

TRUST POLICY.

It is not within the purview nor mandate of the City to enforce federal immigration law or seek the detention, transfer or deportation of Orlando residents for immigration purposes, nor should City resources be expended toward that end. Under no circumstances shall a person be contacted, detained, or arrested by Orlando Law Enforcement based on immigration status, whether known or unknown.

The City of Orlando will equally enforce the law and serve the public without consideration of immigration status. Citizenship, immigration status, lack of immigration documentation, national origin, race, and ethnicity shall have no bearing on an individual's treatment by Orlando Law Enforcement (including but not limited to classification status, eligibility for work programs, eligibility for alternative to incarceration programs, right to release on bail), or on decisions to initiate stops, make arrests, or extend the length of custody.

1. DEFINITIONS

“Federal immigration authority” means any officer, employee, or person otherwise paid by or acting as an agent of United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement, Customs and Border Protection, or any division thereof, or any other officer, employee, or person otherwise paid by or acting as an agent of the United States Department of Homeland Security who is charged with immigration enforcement.

“Hold request,” often called “ICE holds” or “immigration detainers”, means a request by federal immigration officials, including but not limited to those using federal form I-247D, to local Law Enforcement to voluntarily maintain custody of an individual currently in its custody beyond the time he or she would otherwise be eligible for release in order to facilitate transfer to ICE and includes, but is not limited to, Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Form I-247D.

“Notification request” means a request by federal immigration officials that a local law enforcement agency inform ICE of the release date and time in advance of the public of an individual in its custody and includes, but is not limited to, DHS Form I-247N.

“Transfer request” means a request by federal immigration officials that a local law enforcement agency facilitate the transfer of an individual in its custody to ICE, and includes, but is not limited to, DHS Form I-247X.

“Administrative warrant” means a warrant, notice to appear, removal order, warrant of deportation, or other ICE custody document (I-200, I-203, I-205 or another listed in the National

Crime Information Database (NCIC)) issued by a federal immigration official, not a judicial officer, and not based on a finding of probable cause for an alleged criminal law violation.

“Released from local custody” means an individual may be released from the custody of a Law Enforcement agency because any of the following conditions has occurred:

- (a) All criminal charges against the individual have been dropped or dismissed;
- (b) The individual has been acquitted of all criminal charges filed against him or her;
- (c) The individual has served the time required for his or her sentence;
- (d) The individual has posted a bail or bond, or has been released on their own recognizance;
- (e) The individual has been referred to pre-trial diversion services;
- (f) The individual has been sentenced to an alternative to incarceration, including a rehabilitation facility;
- (g) The individual is otherwise eligible for release under state or local law.

2. ORDER

a.) Hold requests, transfer requests, and administrative warrants. Unless federal immigration authorities demonstrates a criminal warrant signed by a judge and based on probable cause, no officer or employee of a City of Orlando Law Enforcement agency shall arrest or detain an individual solely on the basis of a hold request, transfer request, or administrative warrant. This provision prohibits extending length of custody by **any** amount of time once an individual is released from local custody.

b.) Notification requests. No officer or employee of a City of Orlando Law Enforcement agency shall respond to **any** notification request seeking information about an individual’s incarceration status, length of detention, home address, work address, personal information, hearing information, or pending release.

c.) Access to records, facilities, or individuals in custody. Unless federal immigration authorities presents a criminal warrant signed by a judge and based on probable cause, no officer or employee of a City of Orlando Law Enforcement agency shall allow federal immigration agents access to or use of facilities, records/databases, computers, booking lists, or individuals in custody either in person or via telephone or videoconference.

d.) Individuals subject to federal immigration authority requests. Any individual who is the subject of an immigration hold, transfer request, notification request, administrative warrant or contact with ICE, where Orlando Law Enforcement acquiesces to the ICE request, shall be promptly provided with a copy of the ICE request and any other documentation pertaining to their case that is presented to the Law Enforcement agency. In addition, if Orlando Law Enforcement decides to provide federal immigration authorities with access to an individual in custody pursuant to provision (c), Orlando Law Enforcement shall provide the individual with a written consent form in his or her preferred language that explains the purpose of the interview, that the interview is voluntary, and that he or she may decline to be interviewed or may choose to be interviewed only with his or her attorney present. Also, eligibility and release on bail or for diversion programs shall not be denied based in part or in whole on an immigration hold request, transfer request, notification request, or administrative warrant.

e.) U Visa Certification. In furtherance of the US Victims of Trafficking and Violence Prevention Act, City of Orlando Law Enforcement shall consider and sign a U Visa certification request if an individual is (i.) the victim of a qualifying crime, and (ii.) have been, are being, or will likely be helpful in the investigation/prosecution of that crime.

3. COMPLAINTS

Allegations of violations of the present TRUST policy and order shall be filed with the Orlando Office of the Mayor.

4. REPORTING

Beginning on XXXXXXXXXXX 1, 2017 and on every other month thereafter, the Orlando Police Chief shall submit a report, with the information detailed below, to the Clerk of the City of Orlando, forward to the Mayor of the City of Orlando, docket said report, and include the docket on the agenda of the next-occurring meeting of the Orlando City Council.

- (a) The total number hold, transfer, administrative warrant, and notification requests lodged with City Law Enforcement officials, organized by the reason(s) given for the request;
- (b) The total number of individuals detained pursuant to Section 2(d), if any;
- (c) The total number of individuals transferred to ICE custody, if any; and
- (d) The total reimbursements received from the federal government pursuant to any granted hold, transfer, administrative warrant, or notification request, organized by case.

A RESOLUTION THANKING THE YOUNG DEMOCRATS OF ALABAMA FOR HOSTING THE NATIONAL COMMITTEE MEETING

Sponsors: *Joshua Harris-Till (OK), Carrie McFadden (CA), Quentin Ocama (MN), Tazbir Alam (NY), Rebecca Pinn (MA), Dunixi Guereca (CA), Jen House (OH), Emma Craig (NE), Wesley Beggs (FL), Seamus Campbell (NY), Briana Cartwright (FL), Charles Myers (WI), Igor Tregub (CA), Sache Primeaux-Shaw (OK), Lauren Tussey (KY), Sam Hudis (NY), Ben Cohen (KS), Rob Sembarski (MI), Jamarr Brown (TX), Genevieve Mina (AK), Nick Truog (WI), Shasha Luks-Morgan (UT), Andrew Goldston (NY), Rachel Paule (GA), Clayton Brown (KY), Tasneem Al-Michael (OK)*

Whereas: the Alabama Young Democrats and the Birmingham Young Democrats have held a successful national meeting of the Young Democrats of America in Birmingham, Alabama from December 6 to December 9th, 2019;

Whereas: the southern hospitality, congeniality, and professionalism, exhibited by both the Alabama Young Democrats and the Birmingham Young Democrats was unparalleled in carrying out the planning, organization and implementation of a successful national conference;

Whereas: many state and local elected officials took time out of their extremely busy schedules to address our membership;

Whereas: the Young Democrats of America recognizes the efforts that many individuals within the Alabama Young Democrats, the Birmingham Young Democrats and the Alabama Democratic Party took to support this national meeting;

Whereas: the Young Democrats of America especially recognizes the efforts of YDBHM the host committee co- chairs Josh Coleman and Terri Chapman;

Now therefore it be resolved: the Young Democrats of America offers heartfelt thanks and appreciation to the Alabama Young Democrats and Birmingham Young Democrats for their hospitality, dedicated and outstanding service in making this a productive and enjoyable event for all attendees of this national meeting.