

A Resolution recognizing the need to combat the ongoing national opioid crisis as a top priority for YDA's  
Issue Advocacy team

Sponsored by: Ryan Terrell (FL), Hannah Wroblewski (NE), Christopher Clevenger (OH), Travis Scott (KY), Celia Morgan (TX), Patrick Jordan (NY)

WHEREAS, an unprecedented drug abuse and opioid epidemic is ravaging communities across the United States, with an estimated 64,000 people dying each year from overdoses; and

WHEREAS, millions of patients suffering from addiction, which should be treated as a disease, are unable to access the care they need due to extreme shortages of providers, beds, funding and treatment options; and

WHEREAS, bad actors in the pharmaceutical industry are generating astonishing profits from addictive prescription drugs, which are marketed as non-addictive by major pharmaceutical companies and distributed by companies that have failed to identify or combat opioid abuse; and

WHEREAS, communities and employers throughout America lack the resources needed to combat this public health crisis, while the Trump administration is worsening the problem by reviving the failed policies of prior wars on drugs, including mandatory sentencing and criminalization, which adversely affect communities of color; and

WHEREAS, these policies are exacerbating racial and economic inequities across the country and diverting resources needed for prevention and treatment; and

WHEREAS, the Young Democrats of America have a duty to hold the Trump Administration and the Republican-controlled congress accountable for the lack of proper action to combat this crisis; and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, The Young Democrats of America recognizes the ongoing national opioid crisis as an urgent threat to our country and shall include it as a top priority on all future YDA Issue Advocacy initiatives.

THEREFORE BE IT ALSO RESOLVED, The Young Democrats of America instructs the Issue Advocacy Director and any relevant board members and administrative officers to provide updates to the national committee at each national committee meeting or national committee call outlining what steps the organization is taking to combat the opioid crisis.

A resolution recognizing the contributions of the #metoo movement in reducing the culture of sexual abuse and harassment in the United States

Sponsored by: Hannah Wroblewski (NE)

'WHEREAS, the #metoo movement has brought together survivors of sexual abuse and harassment from all over the United States to enlighten our society about the ways that powerful individuals have abused their positions of trust to prey on those around them;

FURTHER WHEREAS, too many witnesses and authority figures responsible for combating abuse have aided and protected abusers while retaliating against survivors and their allies, not just out of bigotry, but by a desire to curry favor with the abusers and to avoid exposure of wrongdoing within their institutions;

FURTHER WHEREAS, the Democratic Party has sadly also been discovered to be infected with this scourge;

FURTHER WHEREAS many of the survivors were victimized when they were youths;

FURTHER WHEREAS, it has become clear that the survivors who have come forward have demonstrated incredible courage in the face of overwhelming intimidation and abuse;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the National Committee of the Young Democrats of America that YDA expresses its appreciation to the brave individuals who have had the courage to speak out against these injustices and our compassion towards all victims of discrimination, sexual abuse and harassment;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, YDA commits itself to creating an America free from all forms of sexual predation and harassment;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that YDA pledges to work towards the care of survivors;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that YDA calls for the end of the culture of careerism and lack of solidarity that has buried the suffering of too countless survivors under the guise of protecting institutions and patrons from just punishment at expense of victims safety, well-being and futures;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that The Young Democrats of America instructs the board of directors and administrative officers to provide updates to the national committee at each national committee meeting or national committee call outlining what steps the organization is taking to reduce the culture of sexual harassment and abuse within the organization.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that YDA calls upon all branches and components of YDA and the Democratic Party to cleanse themselves of sexual abuse, harassment, and those who would shield it for personal gain or to cover for their institutions.'

## Resolution in Support of the Dreamers

Sponsored by: Danielle Glover (CO), Kristina Fox (RI), Daniel Sims (AR), Igor Tregub (CA), Carrie McFadden (CA), Cindy Monzon (CA), Tazbir Alam (NY), Laura Thien (DE), Gabi Medina (PR), Jen House (OH)

WHEREAS According to data from U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, 800,000 young individuals who came to the United States as children have received Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) since program creation [1]; and “Each day that Congress delays acting on the Dream Act from now [November 9, 2017] until March 5, 2018, approximately 122 people (per day) will lose their Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) protection” [2]; and recognizing that without action from Congress, DACA recipients and young individuals are at risk of deportation and separation from their families and homes; and

WHEREAS Bipartisan support for a Dream Act provides opportunities for Dreamers, “DHS (Department of Homeland Security) shall cancel the removal of, and adjust to the status of an alien lawfully admitted for permanent residence on a conditional basis, an alien who was granted Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) status unless the alien has engaged in conduct that would make the alien ineligible for DACA” [3]; and

WHEREAS The Democratic National Committee platform calls for “defend[ing] and implement[ing] President Obama’s Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals and Deferred Action for Parents of Americans executive actions to help DREAMers, parents of citizens, and lawful permanent residents avoid deportation ... and promot[ing] naturalization to help the millions of people who are eligible for citizenship take that last step.”

BE IT RESOLVED that the Young Democrats of America (YDA) support the cancellation of deportation of young individuals and allow permanent residency status to all DACA recipients and young individuals who meet the proposed eligibility requirements (arrived younger than 18 and/or previously lived in the United States for four consecutive years prior to the bill without a criminal history);

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be transmitted to Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer and U.S. Congress Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi.

Authored by Kathryn Larowe and Crystal Araujo. Co-authored by Igor Tregub.

Footnotes:

[1] “Key facts about unauthorized immigrants enrolled in DACA,” article,

<http://www.pewresearch.org/facttank/2017/09/25/key-facts-about-unauthorized-immigrants-enrolled-in-daca/>

[2] “Thousands of DACA Recipients Are Already Losing Their Protection From Deportation,” article,

<https://www.americanprogress.org/issues/immigration/news/2017/11/09/442502/thousands-daca-recipients-alreadylosing-protection-deportation/>

[3] S. 1615 - Dream Act of 2017, Senate Bill, <https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/senate-bill/161>

[4] “Save DACA,” press release, <https://www.cadem.org/news/press-releases/2017/save-daca>

[5] “CDP Chair Eric C. Bauman Statement on DACA,” press release,

<https://www.cadem.org/news/press-releases/2017/cdp-chair-eric-c-bauman-statement-on-daca>

### Resolution on Higher Education Student Debt Crisis

Sponsored by: Danielle Glover (CO), Kristina Fox (RI), Daniel Sims (AR), Igor Tregub (CA), Carrie McFadden (CA), Cindy Monzon (CA), Tazbir Alam (NY), Laura Thien (DE), Gabi Medina (PR), Jen House (OH)

WHEREAS The Federal Reserve Bank of New York's Center for Microeconomic Data third quarterly report of 2017, found student loan debt reached 1.36 trillion dollars in the United States, surpassing the auto loans and credit card debt [1]; and only mortgage debt was greater [2]; and according to Consumer Reports, "42 million Americans bear \$1.36 trillion in student debt that's altering lives, relationships and even retirement"[3]; and

WHEREAS The Democratic National Committee (DNC) platform supports, "[E]very student should be able to go to college debt-free. . . As we make college affordable for future students, we will not forget about the millions of borrowers with unsustainable levels of student debt, who need help right now" [4]; and "[W]e believe that making college more affordable is more important than the federal government making billions of dollars in profit off those loans" [5]; and Democrats are unified in their strong belief that every student should be able to go to college debt-free, and working families should not have to pay any tuition to go to public colleges and universities [6]; and

WHEREAS The DNC platform further recognizes student debt as "crushing" and believes in "making debt-free college a reality." [7]

BE IT RESOLVED that the Young Democrats of America (YDA) hereby recognize student loan debt as an economic crisis mainly affecting young people pursuing higher education to become contributing members of society and acknowledge that both current and future students should be afforded every opportunity to obtain an education without the burden of crippling debt.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that YDA calls with urgency on the DNC and United States Congress to take the necessary steps to free current and future generations of young people from education debt.

Authored by Crystal Araujo (CA). Co-Authored by Igor Tregub.

#### Footnotes:

[1] "Total Household Debt Increases, Delinquency Rates of Several Debt Types Continue Rising," press release, <https://www.newyorkfed.org/newsevents/news/research/2017/rp171114>

[2] Ibid.

[3] "Student Debt Lives on Hold," article, <https://www.consumerreports.org/student-loan-debt-crisis/lives-on-hold/>

[4] Democratic National Committee, website, <https://www.democrats.org/party-platform#affordable-education>

[5] Ibid.

[6] Ibid.

[7] Ibid.

A resolution recognizing the contributions of the #metoo movement in reducing the culture of sexual abuse and harassment in the United States, and a resolution to support extending temporary status of Nepalese citizens in the United States after the 24th of June, 2018

Sponsored by: Harry Bhandari (MD), Elisa Gusto (PA), Kimberly McCollum (PA), John Keller (IL), Bonnie Billing (UT), Scott Urbanoski (MI), Derek Camp (IN), Quentin Wathum-Ocama (OH), Justin Meyers (CA), Josie Ellison (WA), William Northrup (VT), Tishan Weerasooriya (MD), Tia Hopkins (MD)

WHEREAS, on saturday, April 25, 2015 a 7.9-magnitude earthquake struck the country of Nepa, causing over 8,500 deaths and 190,000 injuries, and displacing nearly 500,000 people from their home; and

WHEREAS, as in 2017 due to rainfall in different parts of the country approximately 100,000 people in 31 districts have been affected by the floods and landslides in 2017. According to the Nepal Red Cross Initial Rapid Assessment (IRA) reports received from the affected districts as of 13 August 2017, a total of 27,861 families (139,00 people) have been affected , of which 6,247 families (48,350 people) are displaced. Some 2,964 houses are completely destroyed and 8,344 are partially damaged; and

WHEREAS, As of August, 2017, Initial Rapid Assessment (IRA) have been completed in 24 districts. A total of 1.7 million people are reported to be affected, of whom nearly 461,00 people, or 91,400 families, have been displaced from their homes. According to data from the Nepal Food Security Monitoring System, more than 50 villages remain inaccessible by road; and

WHEREAS, 11,000 Nepalese citizens on visitor visas and 8,000 Nepalese students and their dependents who may not be able to return home in a timely manner, and approximately 3,000 Nepalese citizens current subject to removal proceedings in the United States; and

WHEREAS, the Secretary of Homeland Security is empowered to RENEW a foreign country for Temporary Protected Status due to the conditions in the country that temporarily prevent the country's nations from returning safely, or in certain circumstances where the country is unable to handle the return of it's nationals adequately; and

WHEREAS, the UNITED STATE CONSTITUTION supports "Humanizing and dignifying immigration laws [to] reunite families and allow immigrants to seek work, a better life for their families, and a commitment to the United States,";and

WHEREAS, the "Nepal Temporary Protected Status Act of 2015", which expressed the sense of Congress in regard to Temporary Protected Status for Nepal was GRANTED BY THE PRESIDENT'S EXECUTIVE ACTION on JUNE 24, 2015 ; and

WHEREAS, the "Nepal Temporary Protected Status Act of 2015", WILL BE EXPIRING ON June 24th, 2018.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Young Democrats of America National Committee, which met in session on the 21st of January 2018 in New York City, calls upon the Secretary of Homeland Security AND WHITE HOUSE to extend Nepal Temporary Protected Status AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that copies of this resolution be transmitted to the White House, the Secretary of Homeland Security, the Secretary of State, and the Embassy of Nepal in Washington, D.C.