

Democratic Party of Wisconsin 2013 Resolutions

Adopted by Convention on June 8, 2013 in Oconomowoc, WI

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1 **RESOLUTIONS CONCERNING EDUCATION, LABOR, AND ECONOMICS**

2
3 **13-ELE-01: SUPPORT JOBS FOR WORKING PEOPLE (100 WORDS)**

4 WHEREAS, most of the recovery that has taken place since the collapse of the economy thus far has benefited the top
5 1%, not the 99%;

6 THEREFORE, RESOLVED, the DPW endorses the proposal for a Full Employment and Training Trust Fund (with unspent
7 earmarks placed into that fund) to use for the direct creation of jobs through the revitalization of infrastructure and public
8 works and public service initiatives; the expansion of home health care, providing decent jobs and affordable long-term
9 services for seniors and the disabled; fund childcare, education, environment; and the reintroduction of H.R. 676, a
10 Medicare for All system.

11
12 **13-ELE-02: SUPPORT FINANCIAL SECURITY FOR WORKING PEOPLE (91 WORDS)**

13 WHEREAS, growing movements are demanding measures to stimulate job growth and training, cut the military budget
14 (which has doubled in the last 12 years) to fund job creation, and increase taxing of the financial sector to meet public
15 needs;

16 THEREFORE, RESOLVED, the DPW endorses legislation of a small tax on financial transactions, the reduction of the
17 Pentagon budget and redirecting those funds to create family sustaining jobs, the elimination of tax breaks to employers
18 who ship jobs overseas and the creation of incentives to insource jobs back to the United States.

19
20 **13-ELE-03: INCREASE MINIMUM WAGE (72 WORDS)**

21 WHEREAS, hardworking Americans at minimum wage jobs deserve a living wage to reduce poverty;

22 WHEREAS, big corporate lobbyists have been successful in keeping a low minimum wage for our nation; and,

23 WHEREAS, President Barack Obama has declared his commitment to raising the minimum wage;

24 THEREFORE, RESOLVED, DPW will work to support efforts to raise the minimum wage to a living wage, indexed to
25 inflation, so that working families can live with dignity.

26
27 **13-ELE-04: MINIMUM WAGE (60 WORDS)**

28 WHEREAS, wages among workers have been declining for decades;

29 WHEREAS, the wage differential between general labor and the managerial level employees has reached unprecedented
30 disparities; and,

31 WHEREAS, the minimum wage must be adjusted to reflect and coincide with the current cost of living;

32 THEREFORE, RESOLVED, that the DPW defends and supports an increase in the minimum wage for Wisconsin's
33 workforce.

34
35 **13-ELE-05: JUST CAUSE FOR ALL EMPLOYEES (79 WORDS)**

36 WHEREAS, workers and employees are the lifeblood of a thriving economy;

37 WHEREAS, employees need protection from discrimination, persecution, and wrongful dismissal;

38 WHEREAS, employers need protection from litigation resulting from wrongful discipline; and,

39 WHEREAS, employment is of great value to both the employer and the employee and, therefore, neither should have that
40 employment placed in unnecessary jeopardy;

41 THEREFORE, RESOLVED, the DPW supports that no employee who has completed a probationary period shall be
42 disciplined, suspended, or discharged without just cause.

1 **13-ELE-06: REINSTATEMENT OF 2009 EQUAL PAY ENFORCEMENT ACT (81 WORDS)**

2 WHEREAS, the 2009 Equal Pay Enforcement Act empowered working women of Wisconsin to sue employers paying them
3 less than men for equal work;

4 WHEREAS, the 2011 repeal of that act by the Republican controlled state legislature diminished the rights of women and
5 adversely affected their lawful interests; and,

6 WHEREAS, providing equal protection under the law for all employees would improve Wisconsin's employment climate;

7 THEREFORE, RESOLVED, that the DPW initiate and support immediate reinstatement of the Equal Pay Enforcement Act of
8 2009.

9

10 **13-ELE-07: SUPPORTING HOUSE RESOLUTION 630 AND SENATE BILL 316 TO PROTECT THE UNITED STATES POSTAL**
11 **SERVICE (100 WORDS)**

12 WHEREAS, the Postmaster General has proposed cutting mail delivery and service standards;

13 WHEREAS, USPS provides 500,000 middle-class jobs, 200,000 of which could be lost if delivery and service standards are
14 reduced, further impeding job growth;

15 WHEREAS, the primary cause of postal fiscal problems is legislation, PAEA 2006, mandating a \$5-1/2 billion annual
16 payment to prefund retiree health care benefits;

17 WHEREAS, no other business or government agency in the country shares this obligation;

18 THEREFORE, RESOLVED, the DPW supports House Resolution 630 and Senate Bill 316, eliminating the retiree health care
19 benefit prefunding obligation, and continuing 6-day mail delivery and service standards.

20

21 **13-ELE-08: REQUEST MILLER-COORS BREWING COMPANY END AFFILIATION WITH ALEC (80 WORDS)**

22 WHEREAS, the Miller Brewing Company has provided Wisconsin with a positive social, economic and cheerful environment
23 for over a century;

24 WHEREAS, the Miller Brewing company has recently merged with the Adolph Coors Brewing Company, thereby forming
25 Miller-Coors; and,

26 WHEREAS, the Adolph Coors Brewing Company, besides being notoriously anti-union, is a large contributor and member
27 of ALEC;

28 THEREFORE, RESOLVED, the DPW requests that Miller-Coors withdraw its affiliation with ALEC;

29 FURTHER RESOLVED, the DPW communicates this resolution to Miller-Coors and the media.

30

31 **13-ELE-09: SUPPORTING SINGLE PAYER HEALTH CARE (97 WORDS)**

32 WHEREAS, access to affordable health care is not available to all Americans;

33 WHEREAS, the costs of healthcare have risen while the effectiveness has declined; and,

34 WHEREAS, the use of private insurance companies as middlemen is not as cost effective or efficient as Medicare;

35 THEREFORE, RESOLVED, the DPW is committed to establishing a single payer system charged with administering
36 payments to providers with incentives for healthy outcomes, a system which measures the effectiveness of: treatments,
37 procedures, drugs and promotion of healthy life choices; and using the government's bargaining power to control drug,
38 medical supplies and hospital service costs.

39

1 **13-ELE-10: SUPPORTING BADGERCARE (MEDICAID) EXPANSION (65 WORDS)**

2 WHEREAS, the Affordable Care Act makes additional funds for Medicaid expansion available to the states;
3 WHEREAS, each state's government must choose whether to accept and implement Medicaid expansion; and,
4 WHEREAS, affordable, accessible, and quality healthcare is a basic need, and every citizen should have healthcare;
5 THEREFORE, RESOLVED, the DPW supports BadgerCare (Medicaid) expansion and implementation in Wisconsin, including
6 acceptance of federal funds for the same.

7
8 **13-ELE-11: OPPOSING TAX AND MEDICARE PREMIUM INCREASES AND PENSION CUTS WHILE CALLING FOR PROGRAM OF**
9 **IMPROVED SOCIAL SECURITY BENEFITS AND SINGLE-PAYER HEALTH CARE (88 WORDS)**

10 WHEREAS, the number of retirees living in or near poverty will triple to nearly 30% in coming years because more than
11 half of Baby Boomers have NO private sector pensions; and,
12 WHEREAS, there are proposals for decreasing Social Security, Federal and military pensions and disability benefits while
13 raising Medicare premiums and increasing Federal taxes on mostly middle income Americans;
14 THEREFORE, RESOLVED, the DPW opposes such cuts and tax increases and calls for increasing Social Security benefits by
15 lifting the SS caps, negotiating drug costs and implementing single-payer healthcare.

16
17 **13-ELE-12: OPPOSITION TO SOCIAL SECURITY CUTS (93 WORDS)**

18 WHEREAS, the President may propose cuts to Social Security benefits for seniors, veterans and people with disabilities;
19 WHEREAS, the proposal includes "chained" CPI – a discredited way of calculating annual cost-of-living increases that does
20 not keep up with actual costs;
21 WHEREAS, middle class seniors would be required to pay higher Medicare premiums; and,
22 WHEREAS, people who are barely making it will be squeezed even tighter although corporations and the wealthiest 2%
23 are not paying their fair share of taxes;
24 THEREFORE, RESOLVED, that the DPW oppose all cuts to Medicare, Medicaid and Social Security benefits.

25
26 **13-ELE-13: FREEDOM AND TRANSPARENCY IN HEALTH INSURANCE MARKETPLACES (93 WORDS)**

27 WHEREAS, all citizens must be free, at all times, to choose their own health insurance plans, doctors, pharmacies and
28 hospitals, and free to seek care from any willing provider who accepts the terms of their insurance coverage; and,
29 WHEREAS, all prices for all healthcare products and services offered to the public must always be openly disclosed,
30 including on the Internet, such that the lowest prices accepted as payment in full are always transparent;
31 THEREFORE, RESOLVED, every healthcare facility must treat patients equally, and at the same price for the same service
32 or product.

33
34 **13-ELE-14: SOCIAL SECURITY TAX (98 WORDS)**

35 WHEREAS, the contribution of tax to Social Security ceases once \$113,700 of income per calendar year is reached;
36 WHEREAS, contributions historically based on a set income have not taken into account inflation or the increase in life
37 expectancy; and,
38 WHEREAS, the generation currently utilizing Social Security have paved the way for us and this country;
39 THEREFORE, RESOLVED, the DPW must support implementing Social Security tax on all earned income;
40 FURTHER RESOLVED, the DPW should state openly and proudly the obligation to support those who paved the way for us
41 in this country, making it what it is today.

1 **13-ELE-15: SAYING NO TO TAX CREDITS THAT UNDERMINE PUBLIC SCHOOLS AND BENEFIT PRIVATE SCHOOLS (100**
2 **WORDS)**

3 WHEREAS, Wisconsin's schools are in dire need of funds;

4 WHEREAS, the state has a continuing structural deficit that is only being worsened by the Republicans; and,

5 WHEREAS, the Joint Finance Committee adopted the "Kaufert-Grothman Tuition Tax Deduction", which creates an income
6 tax deduction for private school tuition paid for up to \$4,000 per pupil enrolled in grades K-8, and up to \$10,000 per pupil
7 enrolled in grades 9-12 beginning in 2014, thus advancing the Republican push to move students out of our public
8 schools;

9 THEREFORE, RESOLVED, the DPW condemns this attack upon our public schools and our state's financial health.

10
11 **13-ELE-16: OPPOSING PUBLIC FUNDING OF VOUCHER SCHOOLS (77 WORDS)**

12 WHEREAS, private schools should be financed by people who chose to use them;

13 WHEREAS, private schools are not adequately regulated by any governmental agency;

14 WHEREAS, there are no studies indicating private schools have improved test scores, rate of graduation, or job
15 placement; and,

16 WHEREAS, private school vouchers siphon critical funds from public schools;

17 THEREFORE, RESOLVED, that the DPW go on record in opposition of any and all school vouchers and non-public charter
18 schools financed with public money.

19
20 **13-ELE-17: OPPOSITION TO ELECTRICITY FREEDOM ACT (69 WORDS)**

21 WHEREAS, there is a Republican state bill that has been proposed, the "Electricity Freedom Act", an ALEC inspired
22 legislation which is dangerous to future "green jobs"; and,

23 WHEREAS, this bill is a David Koch funded bill supported by "Americans for Prosperity" which seeks to use a "study" that
24 falsely claims that Wisconsin's renewable standards lead to higher energy costs;

25 THEREFORE, RESOLVED, that the DPW opposes the Electricity Freedom Act.

26
27 **13-ELE-18: STATE SALES TAX (47 WORDS)**

28 WHEREAS, inequalities exist in total taxes paid as a share of total income; and,

29 WHEREAS, a shift from income tax to higher sales tax would disproportionately impact working class families;

30 THEREFORE, RESOLVED, that the DPW oppose any effort to shift taxes from income tax to sales tax.

31
32 **13-ELE-19: BARGAINING RIGHTS OF EMPLOYEES (100 WORDS)**

33 WHEREAS, the right to form unions is recognized by the UN;

34 WHEREAS, the passage of Act 10 has eroded the rights of public employees in Wisconsin to engage in collective
35 bargaining;

36 THEREFORE, RESOLVED, that the DPW supports the full restoration of all public employee statutory rights removed from
37 law with the passage of Act 10;

38 FURTHER RESOLVED, that the DPW supports an amendment to the Constitution of the State of Wisconsin to create a
39 "Labor Bill of Rights" that guarantees all employees, both public and private, the right to form a union and the right to
40 engage in collective bargaining.

1 **13-ELE-20: HONOR SENATOR LAUTENBERG BY REINTRODUCING HIS "21ST CENTURY WPA JOB CREATION" LEGISLATION**
2 **(90 WORDS)**

3 WHEREAS, Senator Frank R. Lautenberg (D-NJ), the great progressive who made important contributions to our public
4 health, our environment and public transit, recently passed away;

5 WHEREAS, Senator Lautenberg sponsored the 21st Century WPA Job Creation Legislation in 2011 with the support of
6 several other senators; and,

7 WHEREAS, this legislation would be fully paid for by a surtax on the extremely wealthy and fund jobs for the unemployed
8 in the public and private sectors;

9 THEREFORE, RESOLVED, the DPW urges both houses of Congress to reintroduce this legislation and speedily pass it.

10
11
12 **RESOLUTIONS CONCERNING AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS**

13
14 **13-AGE-01: SUPPORT RESPONSIBLE MINING LEGISLATION (88 WORDS)**

15 WHEREAS, Wisconsin has a beautiful environment with clean air, water, and other natural resources;

16 WHEREAS, many of Wisconsin's natural resources are not renewable if destroyed or contaminated;

17 WHEREAS, protection of our ground and surface water is a state public trust responsibility; and,

18 WHEREAS, new mining methods have been developed that could potentially endanger those natural resources that factor
19 in to Wisconsin's quality of life;

20 THEREFORE, RESOLVED, the DPW will not support modifications to legislation for existing mines or creation of new mines
21 that may jeopardize Wisconsin's natural resources.

22
23 **13-AGE-02: CITIZEN PROTECTIONS FROM INDUSTRIAL FRAC SAND MINING (82 WORDS)**

24 WHEREAS, there is a massive land grab by the Wisconsin sand mining industry;

25 WHEREAS, frac sand mines, processing plants, and transportation facilities generate huge clouds of silica dust, which
26 causes health hazards, while putting drinking water at risk; and,

27 WHEREAS, many citizens and communities have serious concerns about industrial frac sand mining adversely affecting
28 their health, safety and general welfare;

29 THEREFORE, RESOLVED, the DPW supports state legislation to protect property owners, buyers, and neighbors with
30 required permits and strong public health protections.

31
32 **13-AGE-03: NATIVE AMERICAN RIGHTS AS RELATED TO MINING (85 WORDS)**

33 WHEREAS, the Wisconsin State Senate and Wisconsin State Assembly passed on straight party line votes mining bill SB1;

34 WHEREAS, Governor Scott Walker signed SB1 despite the opposition of a majority of Wisconsin citizens; and,

35 WHEREAS, neither the Governor nor the committee chairs consulted with Native American Leaders as required by the
36 treaties of 1837, 1842, and 1854, in violation of the tribes' Constitutional rights;

37 THEREFORE, RESOLVED, that the DPW support the Wisconsin Native tribes in their fight to prevent construction of the
38 Gogebic Taconite Mine.

39
40 **13-AGE-04: MINING BILL (79 WORDS)**

41 WHEREAS, the Mining Bill recently passed by the Wisconsin Legislature fails to protect Wisconsin jobs, local government
42 interests, the environment and ignores the sovereignty of our Native American brothers and sisters; and,

43 WHEREAS, the bill was passed with votes of legislators who voted against their constituents' wishes;

44 THEREFORE, RESOLVED, that the DPW opposes this legislation and any startup construction until it is amended to include
45 the interests of all affected by the building of any mine in this state.

1 **13-AGE-05: SUPPORTING VIABILITY OF FAMILY FARMS (89 WORDS)**

2 WHEREAS, agriculture continues to be a strong economic factor in Wisconsin;

3 WHEREAS, family farms are diminishing in number just as mega-farms are growing in number;

4 WHEREAS, family farmers are having difficulty earning a living wage, encouraging youth to enter farming and passing the
5 farm to family; and,

6 WHEREAS, farmland preservation is an issue needing persistent action by community coalitions;

7 THEREFORE, RESOLVED, the DPW supports sustainable opportunities, partnerships and markets in Wisconsin to ensure
8 the future of family farms where local owners do at least 51% of the operational labor.
9

10
11 **RESOLUTIONS CONCERNING JUSTICE, HUMANS CONCERNS, AND DEMOCRACY**

12
13 **13-JHD-01: ENACT COMPREHENSIVE IMMIGRATION REFORM (90 WORDS)**

14 WHEREAS, the progressive traditions of the State of Wisconsin were established through the hard work of immigrants;

15 WHEREAS, the contributions of immigrants are critical to the health of our economy and society; and,

16 WHEREAS, we believe our immigration system should reflect our shared values of freedom, opportunity, compassion, and
17 respect for human rights;

18 THEREFORE, RESOLVED, the DPW urges the 113th Congress to enact comprehensive immigration reform that provides a
19 reasonable path to citizenship and social integration for workers, family members of U.S. residents, and young people
20 raised in this country.
21

22 **13-JHD-02: SUPPORTING REASONABLE GUN SAFETY (78 WORDS)**

23 WHEREAS, guns took the lives of 31,076 Americans in homicides, suicides and unintentional shootings in 2010; and,

24 WHEREAS, 435 Wisconsinites took their own lives or had their lives taken from the use of firearms in 2011;

25 THEREFORE, RESOLVED, the DPW supports common sense and reasonable measures to ensure gun safety, including, but
26 not limited to background checks on all gun sales, banning the sale of assault weapons to the general public and limits on
27 the size of magazines.
28

29 **13-JHD-03: GUN CONTROL (87 WORDS)**

30 WHEREAS, gun violence continues to be a national occurrence that annually causes injury and death to thousands of
31 citizens through individual and mass shootings;

32 WHEREAS, easy access to assault weapons, hand guns and large capacity magazines promote gun violence and threaten
33 public safety; and,

34 WHEREAS, a lack of effective background checks increase the potential for gun violence;

35 THEREFORE, RESOLVED, the DPW supports control of access to assault weapons, hand guns and large capacity
36 magazines and further supports an effective national universal background check for those purchasing guns.
37

38 **13-JHD-04: OPPOSITION TO ASSEMBLY BILL 225 (AB225) (89 WORDS)**

39 WHEREAS, AB225 is an omnibus bill that, among other measures, reinstates voter ID, bans early voting on weekends,
40 mandates the destruction of votes if a poll book is missing signatures, expands lobbyist influence, and entrenches
41 corporate spending on elections;

42 WHEREAS, AB225 is being fast-tracked through the legislature, providing little opportunity for public scrutiny; and,

43 WHEREAS, AB225 undermines the democratic traditions of Wisconsin government to promote an extremist ideology;

44 THEREFORE, RESOLVED, the DPW opposes AB225, and if it passes, will work to undo its damaging effects on Wisconsin's
45 democratic system.

1 **13-JHD-05: OPPOSING THE INCREASE AND/OR ELIMINATION OF LIMITS ON CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTIONS IN WISCONSIN**
2 **(97 WORDS)**

3 WHEREAS, Wisconsin has a long history of placing common-sense limits on campaign spending, including a law dating
4 back to 1905 prohibiting corporate treasury funds from being spent on elections; and,

5 WHEREAS, the State Legislature is currently considering sweeping changes to campaign finance laws, including the
6 doubling of campaign contribution limits, the elimination of the \$10,000 annual limit on all contributions by an individual,
7 and the greenlighting of corporate treasury donations to political parties;

8 THEREFORE, RESOLVED, the DPW strongly opposes any legislation that would raise or eliminate campaign contribution
9 limits, and/or permit corporate treasury contributions to political parties.

10
11 **13-JHD-06: MOVE TO AMEND RESOLUTION (100 WORDS)**

12 WHEREAS, the recent Citizens United v. the Federal Election Commission Supreme Court decision that rolled back the
13 legal limits on spending in the electoral process creates an unequal playing field in electoral politics and forces elected
14 officials to divert their attention from the advocacy of their constituents;

15 THEREFORE, RESOLVED the DPW condemns the U.S. Supreme Court's ruling in Citizens United and supports amending
16 the Constitution to firmly establish that money is not speech, and that human beings, not corporations, unions or other
17 artificial entities, are persons entitled to constitutional rights; thank Representative Pocan for co-sponsoring the Move to
18 Amend resolution.

19
20 **13-JHD-07: OVERTURN CITIZENS UNITED (96 WORDS)**

21 WHEREAS, corporations are not and have never been human beings, and therefore are rightfully subservient to human
22 beings and governments as our legal creations; and,

23 WHEREAS, large corporations' profits and survival are often in direct conflict with the essential needs and rights of human
24 beings;

25 THEREFORE, RESOLVED, that the DPW hereby calls on our legislators and elected officials to call for an amendment to
26 the Constitution of the United States to abolish corporate person hood and return our democracy, our elections, our
27 communities to America's human persons and to thus claim our sovereign right to self-governance.

28
29 **13-JHD-08: CONCERNING THE 2013-14 REPUBLICAN CONTROLLED LEGISLATURE (100 WORDS)**

30 WHEREAS, the 2013-14 Republican controlled Wisconsin Legislature is one of the most reactionary in history; and,

31 WHEREAS, the 2013-14 Republican controlled Wisconsin Legislature has continued its attack on the middle class,
32 including but not limited to destroying unions, diverting public school funding to private schools, continuing its war on
33 women, denying voting rights, creating danger to the environment, rejecting Medicaid funding, encroaching on local
34 control and drastically reducing support of public transportation;

35 THEREFORE, RESOLVED, that DPW requests that the 2013-14 Wisconsin Legislature adjourn sine die (without a day)
36 effectively ending the current session until the first Monday in January 2015.

37
38 **13-JHD-09: ENCOURAGING MAXIMUM PARTICIPATION IN GUBERNATORIAL ELECTIONS (78 WORDS)**

39 WHEREAS, the United States and Wisconsin Constitutions created a democracy in order to give citizens a voice in
40 choosing their elected officials;

41 WHEREAS, past gubernatorial elections have generally displayed a lower voter participation rate than in presidential
42 elections; and,

43 WHEREAS, the current gubernatorial elections are held in the midterm of the U.S. presidential elections;

44 THEREFORE, RESOLVED, the DPW encourages realignment of the Wisconsin gubernatorial election cycle to match that of
45 the U.S. presidential elections to maximize voter participation.

1 **13-JHD-10: OPPOSE THE CONCENTRATION OF POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC POWER IN THE MILWAUKEE COUNTY EXECUTIVE**
2 **(87 WORDS)**

3 WHEREAS, state legislation was enacted regarding the Milwaukee County Board which will reduce the democratic rights
4 and representation of Milwaukee County citizens;

5 WHEREAS, this legislation concentrates power in the County Executive and reduces the power of the County Board; and,

6 WHEREAS, we are not opposed to actions which increase efficiency but we are opposed to actions which reduce
7 democracy;

8 THEREFORE, RESOLVED, the DPW opposes Act 14, which increases the power of the Milwaukee County Executive and
9 reduces the democratic power of the County Board and county citizens.

10
11 **13-JHD-11: OPPOSITION TO ACT 14 (71 WORDS)**

12 WHEREAS, it has been a tradition in our great progressive state that local control is the best means for who runs
13 government at the local level; and,

14 WHEREAS, any changes to local government should come either from those on that local governing board or the people
15 who live within that governing board's authority;

16 THEREFORE, RESOLVED, that the DPW urges the repeal of Act 14, a law that takes away local control.

17
18 **13-JHD-12: VIRTUAL ELIMINATION OF LOCAL CONTROL OVER LANDLORD/TENANT LAW IN ASSEMBLY BILL 183 (AB183)**
19 **(100 WORDS)**

20 WHEREAS, policy decisions governing landlord/tenant relations should be made by representative bodies closest to the
21 needs and interests of the people;

22 WHEREAS, landlord/tenant laws affect more than the contract between two individuals, landlord/tenant laws affect the
23 character of the city and help direct the appropriate use of public resources; and,

24 WHEREAS, the legislature is continuing what it started in 2011 by further pre-empting local control and eliminating tenant
25 rights;

26 THEREFORE, RESOLVED, the DPW supports the right of municipalities to enact local ordinances that serve to promote
27 public health, well-being and quality of life within their jurisdictions and strenuously opposes AB183.

28
29 **13-JHD-13: OPPOSE ELECTORAL COLLEGE VOTE APPORTIONMENT BY CD (94 WORDS)**

30 WHEREAS, The United States Constitution grants states the option of apportioning its presidential electoral votes by
31 winner-take-all or by congressional districts;

32 WHEREAS, only Nebraska and Maine apportion their electoral votes by a combination of winner-take-all and congressional
33 districts;

34 WHEREAS, the Republican-controlled Wisconsin Legislature is considering a proposal that would apportion this state's
35 electoral votes by a combination of winner-take-all and Congressional District; and,

36 WHEREAS, the Republican controlled Legislature's proposal is purely designed to rig the presidential election;

37 THEREFORE, RESOLVED, the DPW opposes changing the state's current electoral vote apportionment to a CD based
38 apportionment.

39
40 **13-JHD-14: SUPPORTING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF NON-PARTISAN REDISTRICTING (81 WORDS)**

41 WHEREAS, allowing any political party to control the redistricting process subverts democracy and fairness; and,

42 WHEREAS, the current Wisconsin district maps were created in a secretive, dishonest process that was later found to be
43 illegal, with further sanctions pending due to obstruction of discovery;

44 THEREFORE, RESOLVED, the DPW calls upon all Democratic candidates for office in 2014 to demand that redistricting be
45 performed openly by a non-partisan commission, with the redistricting completed during the next applicable session of
46 the State Legislature.

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13-JHD-15: NON-PARTISAN LEGISLATIVE RE-DISTRICTING SYSTEM (82 WORDS)

WHEREAS, Wisconsin's current process for redrawing legislative district boundaries invites abuse, as evidenced by a history of legislators drawing the lines to protect incumbents and create "safe" districts; and,

WHEREAS, the practice of gerrymandering is used in designing current state legislative districts that allow political parties that receive less than 50% of the statewide vote to control greater than 60% of the legislative seats;

THEREFORE, RESOLVED, that the DPW demands legislation that implements a non-partisan system of redistricting independent of the legislature.

13-JHD-16: OPPOSING LIMITING THE RIGHT TO RECALL (96 WORDS)

WHEREAS, the Wisconsin Legislature is considering limiting the reasons for a recall to the filing of criminal charges;

WHEREAS, criminal charges are a much higher burden of proof than negligence, incompetence, or deception of the public; and,

WHEREAS, elected officials should always be held accountable to the public, even in years where there are not regularly scheduled elections;

THEREFORE, RESOLVED, the DPW opposes any legislation that would limit the current rights of the people of the State of Wisconsin to recall an elected official or in any way restrict the procedure to conduct such a recall.

13-JHD-17: PRESERVE VOTING RIGHTS (93 WORDS)

WHEREAS, voting is a fundamental citizen right, guaranteed by U.S. and Wisconsin Constitutions, that must be protected; and,

WHEREAS, Wisconsin election laws must assure citizens the maximum opportunity for registration, voting at the polls, and absentee voting;

WHEREAS, it is necessary to protect the right to vote from the relentless, shameful attacks on voting rights by Republicans intending to erode voting rights by various voter suppression methods, including photo ID requirements;

THEREFORE, RESOLVED, that the DPW aggressively resist attempts at suppressing the vote and uphold and preserve the strongest possible voting rights laws.

13-JHD-18: OPPOSE REDUCING HOURS OF VOTER REGISTRATION (98 WORDS)

WHEREAS, municipal election commissions and clerks have the option of extending their hours to provide as many citizens as possible the opportunity to register to vote;

WHEREAS, the Republican controlled Wisconsin Legislature is proposing to restrict voter registration to "normal" daytime hours while most people are at work; and,

WHEREAS, such legislation is purely designed to disenfranchise citizens who have limited opportunities to register to vote;

THEREFORE, RESOLVED, the DPW opposes legislation that would deny municipal election commissions and clerks the option of extending their hours for the purpose of providing citizens the opportunity to register to vote.

13-JHD-19: UNIVERSAL VOTING RIGHTS (99 WORDS)

WHEREAS, voting rights vary dramatically across the country, with restrictions on felons who have served their terms, on early voting, with an inadequate number of voting booths, and attempts to require voter IDs; and,

WHEREAS, the Republican Party has restricted voting to create and perpetuate an advantage for themselves;

THEREFORE, RESOLVED, that the DPW supports universal suffrage for all citizens who have reached the age of 18 and who are not incarcerated or under judicially imposed supervision, allowing early and same day registration, paper ballots, ample voting personnel and booths to reduce waiting to no more than 30 minutes.

1 **13-JHD-20: SUPPORT OF SAME DAY VOTER REGISTRATION (92 WORDS)**

2 WHEREAS, for more than a century the State of Wisconsin has cultivated a proud tradition favoring public participation in
3 the electoral process, as demonstrated by the fact that Wisconsin’s voter turnout was third in the nation in the last six
4 general elections; and,

5 WHEREAS, Wisconsin is one of the most politically active states and its citizens consider it a civic duty to express their
6 opinions at the ballot box and regard the right to vote as a sacred trust;

7 THEREFORE, RESOLVED, that the DPW continues its support for same day voter registration.

8

9 **13-JHD-21: PROMOTING FREEDOM OF CHOICE (71 WORDS)**

10 WHEREAS, social issues that invade the private lives of individuals have no place in the political arena;

11 WHEREAS, a woman should have universal access to health care options affecting her future; and,

12 WHEREAS, the DPW strives to eliminate discrimination in all its forms and contexts;

13 THEREFORE, RESOLVED, that the DPW supports the right of women to make their own health care decisions and the
14 right of everyone to full contraceptive information.

15

16 **13-JHD-22: MENTAL HEALTH CARE (75 WORDS)**

17 WHEREAS, limited availability of quality, affordable mental health care in the United States results in countless people in
18 need of such service being denied access to a full course of treatment; and,

19 WHEREAS, this lack of critical assistance wastes much human potential, and occasionally leads to incidents of mass
20 violence;

21 THEREFORE, RESOLVED, the DPW recommends focusing government and health care institutions on identification,
22 intervention and full treatment for those people struggling with mental health issues.

23

24 **13-JHD-23: DEATH WITH DIGNITY ENACTED IN VERMONT: LET’S WHOLEHEARTEDLY SUPPORT IT IN WISCONSIN (89**
25 **WORDS)**

26 WHEREAS, on May 20, 2013, the State of Vermont through its State Legislature enacted and the Governor signed a law
27 recognizing that a terminally ill person could self-administer a medication that hastened her or his death. Vermont joins 3
28 other states with such laws; and,

29 WHEREAS, the basic purpose of death with dignity laws is to give dying persons the right to end their suffering, if they so
30 choose. It gives them a choice;

31 THEREFORE, RESOLVED, the DPW wholeheartedly supports the enactment of Death With Dignity legislation in Wisconsin.

32

33 **13-JHD-24: USE OF DRONES FOR SURVEILLANCE ONLY (68 WORDS)**

34 WHEREAS, the use of drones for killing suspected criminals and destruction of property is illegal and immoral;

35 WHEREAS, many innocent adults and children are killed and injured by drones; and,

36 WHEREAS, suspects’ rights to a fair trial need to be respected;

37 THEREFORE, RESOLVED, that the DPW urge the U.S. Congress to enact a law that prohibits the use of armed drones in
38 both the U.S. and foreign countries.

39

1 **13-JHD-25: CALL FOR AN END TO PRIVATE PRISONS (91 WORDS)**

2 WHEREAS, the United States has 5% of the world's population but 25% of the world's prisoners;

3 WHEREAS, there is a movement to privatize our prison system;

4 WHEREAS, corporations owning and/or operating prisons lobby our legislators to keep present laws or develop new laws
5 which will assure prisons are full and generate profits; and,

6 WHEREAS, our laws should be developed by determining what is good public policy;

7 THEREFORE, RESOLVED, that the DPW supports requiring that all prisoners at all governmental levels will be housed in
8 prisons which are publicly owned and operated.

9

10 **13-JHD-26: BOUNTY HUNTERS BELONG IN FICTION (86 WORDS)**

11 WHEREAS, in 1979, after enduring corruption relating to the existence of bail bonding companies, Wisconsin banned
12 them from the state;

13 WHEREAS, on June 5, 2013 the Joint Finance Committee voted to once again allow bail bonding companies to operate in
14 the state; and,

15 WHEREAS, not surprisingly, the law is supported by the American Bail Coalition, a prominent member of the American
16 Legislative Exchange Council;

17 THEREFORE, RESOLVED, the DPW joins law enforcement and the judiciary throughout the state in opposing the return of
18 bounty hunters to Wisconsin.

19

20 **13-JHD-27: CONGRATULATE REPRESENTATIVES GWEN MOORE AND MARK POCAN FOR SUPPORTING THE 'BACK TO WORK
21 BUDGET' OF THE CONGRESSIONAL PROGRESSIVE CAUCUS (100 WORDS)**

22 WHEREAS, several budgets were submitted by Congress but the budget most consistent with our Platform was the
23 budget of the Congressional Progressive Caucus; and,

24 WHEREAS, the CPC budget reestablishes more progressive taxes including increased taxes on the super wealthy,
25 including increased Medicare contributions; taxes capital gains as ordinary income; provides millions of jobs by increasing
26 needed public spending and increasing aid to states; addresses climate change with a carbon tax, and reduces bloated
27 Pentagon spending;

28 THEREFORE, RESOLVED, the DPW thanks Representatives Moore and Pocan for supporting this budget and requests the
29 DPW meet with Representative Kind to secure his support.

30

31 **13-JHD-28: CONGRATULATE CONGRESSWOMAN GWEN MOORE FOR HER SPONSORSHIP AND PROMOTION OF AN IMPROVED
32 AND REAUTHORIZED "VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN ACT" (80 WORDS)**

33 WHEREAS, Congresswoman Gwen Moore sponsored and tirelessly promoted the reauthorization and improvement of the
34 Violence Against Women Act which was subsequently passed into law;

35 WHEREAS, this legislation extended protections for the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender community, Native
36 American women and undocumented immigrants; and,

37 WHEREAS, this legislation is an example which demonstrates that women in congress are leading the way to a safer and
38 more just world;

39 THEREFORE, RESOLVED, the DPW heartily congratulates Congresswoman Gwen Moore for her outstanding work.

40

1 **RESOLUTIONS CONCERNING FOREIGN AFFAIRS**

2
3 **13-FA-01: OPPOSE ATTACK ON IRAN (99 WORDS)**

4 WHEREAS, war is always a failure of mankind;

5 WHEREAS, the DPW platform states "preemptive war without direct threat to our country is fraudulent, illegal and
6 disastrous";

7 WHEREAS, attacking Iran to prevent them from obtaining a nuclear weapon is preemptive war; and,

8 WHEREAS, there are non-violent paths to addressing nuclear threats including negotiation, establishing a nuclear
9 weapons free zone in the Middle East which includes Israel, containment, and ending nuclear hypocrisy where nuclear
10 powers keep their weapons but those who seek them are threatened with aggression;

11 THEREFORE, RESOLVED, the DPW opposes an attack on Iran by us or our allies.