

Democratic Party of Wisconsin 2023 Resolutions

Adopted by DPW Convention on 11 June 2023 in Green Bay, WI and cyberspace

This packet contains resolutions adopted by the assembled membership of the Democratic Party of Wisconsin on June 11, 2023 at its convention in Green Bay, WI and cyberspace. The DPW Platform and these resolutions, along with the resolutions passed in 2021 and 2022 represent the current adopted positions of the Democratic Party of Wisconsin.

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

2
3 **23-ELE-01: REPEAL THE BAN ON PROJECT LABOR AGREEMENTS (1ST CD, 100 WORDS)**

4 WHEREAS, Former Governor Scott Walker signed a law banning state government and local municipalities
5 from entering Project Labor Agreements;

6 WHEREAS, PLAs are a valuable tool for communities to supply local workforces with good opportunities
7 and compensation;

8 WHEREAS, Wisconsin has a long history of successful partnerships with labor; and,

9 WHEREAS, municipalities all around Wisconsin have major upcoming infrastructure plans which will
10 require labor to upgrade roads, sewage utilities, and even build entire new neighborhoods;

11 THEREFORE, RESOLVED, Governor Evers and the State Legislature should repeal the ban on Project
12 Labor Agreements and allow municipalities to ensure better working conditions on upcoming projects.

13
14 **23-ELE-02: RESOLUTION TO INCREASE PUBLIC EDUCATION FUNDING PER PUPIL (3RD CD, 99 WORDS)**

15 WHEREAS, a strong public education system is one of the factors that has made Wisconsin a strong state
16 with a highly educated workforce;

17 WHEREAS, the revenue limits imposed on school districts in 1994 created permanent inequities in the
18 amount of funding available for each school district;

19 WHEREAS, the current per pupil revenue limit is set at \$10,000; and,

20 WHEREAS, numerous fixes such as sparsity aid and equalization payment have not eliminated the
21 differences in per pupil student funding;

22 THEREFORE, RESOLVED, the minimum per pupil revenue limit should be raised to at least \$11,500 and
23 annually adjusted for inflation thereafter.

24
25 **23-ELE-03: DISCLOSE AMOUNT OF TAXPAYER'S DOLLARS DIVERTED FROM PUBLIC EDUCATION TO PRIVATE
26 SCHOOLS ON PROPERTY TAX BILL (3RD CD, 87 WORDS)**

27 WHEREAS, K-12 education is compulsory in Wisconsin;

28 WHEREAS, mandatory property tax-derived funds for Public Education have been diverted to Participating
29 Private Schools through Wisconsin voucher programs since 1990-91;

30 WHEREAS, total taxpayer funds diverted to private voucher-accepting schools have already exceeded
31 \$3.9 billion; and,

32 WHEREAS, taxpayers have a right to know how their taxes are used;

33 THEREFORE, RESOLVED, that DPW should demand legislation which would add a single line on property
34 tax bills indicating the amount from the taxpayer's school district that are being diverted to Private
35 Education.

36
37 **23-ELE-04: SUPPORT FOR UNIVERSAL SCHOOL MEALS (3RD CD, 83 WORDS)**

38 WHEREAS, thousands of students in Wisconsin qualify for free and reduced meals, and many more face
39 food insecurity but don't qualify;

40 WHEREAS, the USDA made school meals free during the COVID pandemic via reimbursements to school
41 districts;

42 WHEREAS, these reimbursements ended on June 30, 2022, when Congress failed to renew the plan;

1 WHEREAS, students cannot learn on empty stomachs; and,
2 WHEREAS, students should not be denied food because of their family's inability to pay;
3 THEREFORE, RESOLVED, that Wisconsin should adopt universal school meals.

4

5 **23-ELE-05: THE DEMOCRATIZATION OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE (7TH CD, 94 WORDS)**

6 WHEREAS, AI could change the history of mankind and may solve problems like global warming, plastic
7 pollution, and disease prevention;

8 WHEREAS, AI may also spread disinformation, facilitate surveillance, perpetuate stereotypes, create
9 deadly chemicals and weapons; and,

10 WHEREAS, there is no comprehensive Federal or State legislation on AI;

11 THEREFORE, RESOLVED, the DPW encourages Federal and State legislators to establish commissions to
12 study and make recommendations on the promotion, regulation of, and the profiting from AI; and,

13 FURTHER RESOLVED, all Federal and State agencies monitor the use of AI in public sectors, private
14 organizations, and industry.

15

16

17 **RESOLUTIONS CONCERNING AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS**

18

19 **23-AGE-01: ELIMINATE ANONYMOUS OBJECTION (2ND CD, 89 WORDS)**

20 WHEREAS, Wisconsinites want to preserve vast stretches of pristine land and clear waters using the
21 Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Fund to create conservation easements;

22 WHEREAS, easements create public lands that can be used for recreation by all citizens;

23 WHEREAS, a single Anonymous Objection from anyone on the Joint Finance Committee can effectively
24 stall the funding for any project; and,

25 WHEREAS, examples include the Cedar-Gorge Clay Bluffs by Lake Michigan and the Pelican River Forest
26 near Rhinelander;

27 THEREFORE, RESOLVED, the DPW endorses Governor Evers proposal to eliminate the practice of
28 Anonymous Objection.

29

30 **23-AGE-02: ENDORSEMENT FOR THE TERMINATION OF FOSSIL FUEL SUBSIDIES (2ND CD, 97 WORDS)**

31 WHEREAS, combustion of fossil fuels caused 75% of U.S. greenhouse gas emissions in 2019;

32 WHEREAS, the federal government provides at least \$20 billion per year in subsidies to fossil fuel
33 industries;

34 WHEREAS, the production of fossil fuels will decline if subsidies are discontinued;

35 WHEREAS, the elevated concentrations of atmospheric greenhouse gasses are fast becoming a major
36 injustice to current and future generations of people; and,

37 WHEREAS, fossil fuel companies are blocking climate solutions in both the public and private sectors;

38 THEREFORE, RESOLVED, the DPW endorses the termination of federal government subsidies for fossil
39 fuel production and distribution.

1 **23-AGE-03: MODERNIZE WISCONSIN LAW RELATING TO RV WASTEWATER (7TH CD, 83 WORDS)**

2 WHEREAS, Wis. Admin. Code SPS 383.41(2) requires that: "A Private On-site Water Treatment System
3 shall be designed to have sufficient capacity;

4 WHEREAS, appendix A thereof presently allows that a "campsite" will generate 30 gallons per day of
5 wastewater; and,

6 WHEREAS, this outdated section is erroneously being used by campground developers even though RV
7 manufacturers agree large RVs, like Park models, generate 100 gpd;

8 THEREFORE, RESOLVED, the DPW supports updating Appendix A of SPS 383 to agree with Park model
9 RV manufacturers that their RVs generate 100 gallons per day.

10
11 **23-AGE-04: DISCONTINUE CERTAIN HUNTING WITH DOGS (7TH CD, 69 WORDS)**

12 WHEREAS, Wisconsin laws license the hunting of bears, coyotes, and wolves with dogs;

13 WHEREAS, this practice of hunting with dogs too often causes problems with property owners when
14 hunters and their dogs trespass and cause injury to livestock; and,

15 WHEREAS, this hunting practice also too often results in serious injury/death to the hunting dogs;

16 THEREFORE, RESOLVED, the DPW supports legislation to eliminate hunting bears, coyotes, and wolves
17 with dogs.

18
19
20 **RESOLUTIONS CONCERNING JUSTICE, HUMANS CONCERNS, AND**
21 **DEMOCRACY**

22
23 **23-JHD-01: ABOLISH LEGAL SLAVERY (1ST CD, 100 WORDS)**

24 WHEREAS, Wisconsin Constitution §2 creates legal slavery "for the punishment of crime, whereof the
25 party shall have been duly convicted";

26 WHEREAS, this exception also appears in the US Constitution's Thirteenth Amendment;

27 WHEREAS, the ACLU estimates 800,000 American prisoners are forced to work for wages between 13¢ to
28 52¢ per hour;

29 WHEREAS, in November, 2022 Alabama, Oregon, Tennessee, and Vermont voted to abolish slavery in
30 their State Constitutions; and,

31 WHEREAS, creating any exception to a complete ban on slavery is racist and shameful;

32 THEREFORE, RESOLVED, the Wisconsin and United States Constitutions should be amended to
33 completely abolish slavery under all circumstances.

34
35 **23-JHD-02: ALLOW USE OF NATURAL PSYCHEDELIC MEDICINES (1ST CD, 89 WORDS)**

36 WHEREAS, Psilocybin is decriminalized in Oregon, DC, and cities within California, Massachusetts, and
37 Washington;

38 WHEREAS, Colorado has legalized dimethyltryptamine, ibogaine, mescaline, psilocybin, and psilocyn for
39 possession and supervised administration;

40 WHEREAS, these natural medicines are non-addictive and benefit individuals suffering with anxiety and
41 depression; and,

42 WHEREAS, the FDA has granted psilocybin "breakthrough treatment" status;

1 THEREFORE, RESOLVED, the State of Wisconsin should decriminalize possession and use of safe natural
2 psychedelic medicines;

3 FURTHER RESOLVED, Wisconsin should join Colorado in creating a Natural Medicine Advisory Board to
4 implement a Natural Medicine Access Program.

5

6 **23-JHD-03: ELIMINATE DRIVING SUSPENSIONS FOR NON-PAYMENT OF FINES AND FEES (1ST CD, 92**
7 **WORDS)**

8 WHEREAS, Wisconsin law currently allows drivers licenses to be suspended due to the non-payment of
9 state or municipal issued fines and fees;

10 WHEREAS, 15 other States do not suspend drivers licenses due to non-payments;

11 WHEREAS, driving suspensions force people to choose between scenarios like losing a job, risking further
12 charges and fines, or being arrested;

13 WHEREAS, law enforcement must often waste valuable time policing poverty; and,

14 WHEREAS, the criminalization of poverty is wrong;

15 THEREFORE, RESOLVED, DPW urges Wisconsin to stop suspending driving licenses of individuals for non-
16 payment of fines and fees.

17

18 **23-JHD-04: RESOLUTION ABOUT HEALTH CARE FOR ALL CITIZENS (3RD CD, 100 WORDS)**

19 WHEREAS, the recent COVID pandemic exposed and exacerbated inequities in health care resulting in
20 disparities in health outcomes and where socially/economically marginalized individuals died at a higher
21 rate than those who are insured; and,

22 WHEREAS, people from groups that are socially/economically marginalized without insurance have a
23 higher incidence of chronic illnesses, encounter structural barriers in accessing quality health care, and
24 more frequently utilize emergency care;

25 THEREFORE, RESOLVED, Congress and the President of the United States should enact into law the
26 creation of a publicly financed, non-profit, national health insurance program that would fully cover
27 medical care costs for all Americans.

28

29 **23-JHD-05: RESOLUTION ABOUT EXTREME RISK PROTECTION ORDER ACT (RED FLAG LAW) (3RD CD, 100**
30 **WORDS)**

31 WHEREAS, in Wisconsin 70% of gun deaths are suicides and in most rural counties, the gun suicide rate
32 is 2 times higher than in the most urban counties;

33 WHEREAS, in 2020, 60 women were fatally shot by an intimate partner;

34 WHEREAS, a 2022 Marquette Law School poll found that 81% of Wisconsinites support
35 implementing Red Flag laws; and,

36 WHEREAS, Wisconsin Democrats proposed a Red Flag law during the 2021-22 legislative season
37 (Assembly Bill 638);

38 THEREFORE, RESOLVED, the DPW reaffirms its support for the implementation of an Extreme Risk
39 Protection Order (Red Flag) law modeled after the 2021-22 Assembly Bill 638.

1 **23-JHD-06: REDUCING GUN VIOLENCE (3RD CD, 74 WORDS)**

2 WHEREAS, gun violence in the United States is a national epidemic;
3 WHEREAS, Republicans have been relaxing gun carry laws over the objection of law enforcement;
4 WHEREAS, gun deaths can be reduced with tighter gun laws like other industrialized nations; and,
5 WHEREAS, interpretation of the 2nd Amendment has been misconstrued by the gun lobby;
6 THEREFORE, RESOLVED, the DPW support a ban on assault rifles, high-capacity magazines, open carry
7 and that concealed carry require just cause.

8
9 **23-JHD-07: SUPPORT A NON-PARTISAN REDISTRICTING COMMISSION (3RD AND 7TH CDS, 82 WORDS)**

10 WHEREAS, 72% of Wisconsin voters agree that the Wisconsin Legislature should create a non-partisan
11 way to redraw legislative and congressional district maps across Wisconsin;
12 WHEREAS, the partisan legislature creates greater divisiveness and voter disenfranchisement;
13 WHEREAS, gerrymandered districts discourage competition and means that legislators are not
14 accountable to constituents; and,
15 WHEREAS, the present maps violate the Wisconsin Constitution requirement to "...be in as compact form
16 as practicable."
17 THEREFORE, RESOLVED, DPW supports a non-partisan redistricting commission for state legislative and
18 congressional districts in Wisconsin.

19
20 **23-JHD-08: SUPPORT THE ABORTION RIGHTS PRESERVATION ACT (3RD AND 7TH CDS, 94 WORDS)**

21 WHEREAS, Wisconsin has an 1849 law on the books that bans abortion with no exceptions for rape,
22 incest, or the health of the mother, and this law applies from conception;
23 WHEREAS, the Supreme Court overturned Roe v. Wade putting the 1849 ban into effect, endangering the
24 health and lives of pregnant persons of Wisconsin; and,
25 WHEREAS, the 1849 ban will discourage OB-GYN doctors from training or practicing in Wisconsin;
26 THEREFORE, RESOLVED, DPW supports the Abortion Rights Preservation Act previously submitted to
27 Congress; and,
28 FURTHER RESOLVED, DPW supports codifying Roe v. Wade into Federal law.

29
30 **23-JHD-09: RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF EFFORTS TO ADDRESS THE EPIDEMIC OF MISSING AND MURDERED
31 INDIGENOUS WOMEN AND PERSONS ("MMIWP") (7TH CD, 96 WORDS)**

32 WHEREAS, 84% of Indigenous women have experienced violence;
33 WHEREAS, homicide is the third leading cause of death among Indigenous women between ages 10 & 24
34 and fifth leading cause between ages 25 & 34;
35 WHEREAS, the majority of perpetrators of violence against Indigenous women are non-Native;
36 WHEREAS, Wisconsin is home to 12 First Nations, who have been subjected to genocide, colonization and
37 forced assimilation; and,
38 WHEREAS, there are unsolved missing persons and homicides in Wisconsin involving Indigenous victims;
39 THEREFORE, RESOLVED, that the DPW supports efforts of the MMIW Task Force to address the epidemic
40 of MMIWP.

1 **23-JHD-10: CHILD LABOR IN THE FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRY (8TH CD, 94 WORDS)**

2 WHEREAS, recent instances of children as young as 13 being illegally employed in slaughterhouses, some
3 of whom suffered disfiguring injuries;

4 WHEREAS, their employers were sanctioned only with administrative fines with no criminal prosecution of
5 the company or management; and,

6 WHEREAS, the ultimate corporate beneficiary of the subcontractors' work was not sanctioned in any way;

7 THEREFORE, RESOLVED, that DPW calls on Democratic Lawmakers at State and Federal level to propose
8 legislation which requires that companies are prosecuted criminally for the illegal employment of child
9 labor whether directly or through subcontractors, including prosecution of Company Directors.

10
11
12 **RESOLUTIONS CONCERNING PARTY GOVERNANCE**

13
14 **23-PG-01: CALLING UPON THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY OF WISCONSIN TO PROVIDE DIRECT FUNDING TO**
15 **EVERY COLLEGE DEMOCRATS CHAPTER WITHIN THE STATE OF WISCONSIN (3RD CD, 94 WORDS)**

16 WHEREAS, youth voter turnout in the state of Wisconsin reached record numbers in the 2022 General
17 Election, as well as the 2023 Spring Primary;

18 WHEREAS, College Democrats chapters have done significant work in building back their organizations
19 this year after the pandemic;

20 WHEREAS, this has included fundraising, with minimal assistance from DPW; and,

21 WHEREAS, county Democratic parties and organizations and their members should not have to bear the
22 brunt of supporting their College Democrats organizations;

23 THEREFORE, RESOLVED, that DPW should support College Democrats chapters within the State of
24 Wisconsin with direct funding each year.

25
26 **23-PG-02: WINNING STRATEGIES IN RURAL WISCONSIN (8TH CD, 52 WORDS)**

27 WHEREAS, rural counties present unique challenges to organizing capacity and covering far-ranging turf;
28 and,

29 WHEREAS, rural candidates are disproportionately challenged by being held to urban benchmarks;

30 THEREFORE, RESOLVED, that DPW should respond to these conditions by adopting proportional
31 benchmarks to determine financial and other state-level support for campaign activities in rural areas.