Democratic Party of Wisconsin 2026 Resolutions

Adopted by Convention on 14 June 2026 in Madison, WI

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RESOLUTIONS CONCERNING JUSTICE, HUMANS CONCERNS, AND DEMOCRACY

26-JHD-01: To Reaffirm Key Principles of the American Revolution (100 words)

WHEREAS, 2026 is the 250th anniversary of the American revolution;

WHEREAS, our republic faces both foreign and domestic threats;

WHEREAS, our government's authority comes from the people through elections and is restricted by the constitution and divided into three branches each limiting or checking the other branches;

WHEREAS, everyone is equally subject to the rule of law;

WHEREAS, everyone has rights of free speech, religion and association, due process, equal protection, and protection from self-incrimination and unreasonable searches and seizures;

WHEREAS, the constitutional amendment process enables corrections and improvements;

THEREFORE, RESOLVED, the DPW reaffirms these principles of the American Revolution.

26-JHD-02: Abolish ICE (100 words)

WHEREAS, George Washington said the "bosom of America" is open to the "oppressed and persecuted of all Nations and Religions;"

WHEREAS, America is a nation of immigrants;

WHEREAS, in 2003, the Federal Government acted out of fear and racism to establish ICE, a domestic police agency for immigration law enforcement;

WHEREAS, Trump's administration has utilized ICE as a tool of authoritarianism; and,

WHEREAS, Americans have been deported, killed, and separated from families due to decades of reckless enforcement;

THEREFORE, RESOLVED, DPW calls for the abolition of ICE;

FURTHER RESOLVED, America must adopt an easier, faster, and affordable pathway to citizenship.

26-JHD-03: Illegal ICE Activities / States Rights (82 words)

WHEREAS, ICE has abused and exceeded their authority regarding unreasonable searches and seizures;

WHEREAS, ICE has ignored the limits imposed by the 4th Amendment regarding unreasonable searches and seizures and the requirement for a judicial warrant to enter homes; and,

WHEREAS, use of "Administrative Warrants" has led to racial profiling and unlawful detentions;

THEREFORE RESOLVED: the DPW must support and promote state legislation that enacts laws limiting cooperation with ICE and challenges the agency's authority to act without state and local consent.

26-JHD-04: Support Human Rights and Abolish ICE (97 words)

WHEREAS, immigrants, including undocumented residents, are valued members of Wisconsin communities; and,

WHEREAS, current federal immigration enforcement has resulted in family separation, prolonged detention, racial profiling, and erosion of due process and judicial oversight;

THEREFORE, RESOLVED, that DPW supports abolishing ICE, ending mass deportation and private immigration detention;

FURTHER RESOLVED, Wisconsin Democrats commit to decry state and local participation in civil immigration enforcement absent judicial warrant and advancing state policies in state tuition, professional licensing, driver's licenses, legal representation, and economic protections for immigrants; and,

FINALLY RESOLVED, DPW supports investigations and prosecutions of anyone violating human rights.

26-JHD-05: RESOLUTION ON THE TREATMENT OF UNDOCUMENTED CITIZENS (100 WORDS)

WHEREAS, human dignity and respect are fundamental principles to a just and equitable society;

WHEREAS, the rights of all individuals, regardless of citizenship status, are protected under international human rights conventions and domestic laws;

WHEREAS, access to legal representation is essential for ensuring fair and impartial treatment;

THEREFORE, RESOLVED, people residing in the US regardless of citizenship shall be treated with dignity, humanity, and legal due process; have access to legal representation; should not be separated from their families; should not be imprisoned in cages or concentration camps and not deported to countries other than that where they were born.

26-JHD-06: REINFORCE THE EIGHTH AMENDMENT (100 WORDS)

WHEREAS, the Eighth Amendment ensures Americans are protected against excessive bail, fines, and cruel and unusual punishments;

WHEREAS, the definitions of 'excessive' and 'cruel and unusual' have long been debated in courtrooms;

WHEREAS, prisons often have abysmal living conditions and utilize solitary confinement as inmate punishment;

WHEREAS, current cash bail systems often disenfranchise those in poverty;

WHEREAS, the Trump Administration is targeting political enemies, empowering abusive law enforcement, attempting increased use of the death penalty, and imprisoning American citizens off-shore;

THEREFORE, RESOLVED, Federal and State Legislators should codify specific and strong prohibitions against solitary confinement, exile, and other inhumane punishments.

26-JHD-07: SUPPORTING GENDER AFFIRMING CARE FOR TRANSGENDER YOUTH (100 WORDS)

WHEREAS, gender-affirming care is recommended for transgender youth by the American Academy of Pediatricians, the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry (AACAP) and the American Psychiatric Association (APA) as evidence-based patient care;

WHEREAS, research indicates that efforts to support transgender youth in living according to their internal sense of gender is associated with better mental health and feelings of safety at school; and,

WHEREAS, research shows that the risk of suicide attempts was lower among transgender people who wanted and received gender-affirming medical care;

THEREFORE, RESOLVED, DPW urges legislators to protect access to gender-affirming medical care for Trans youths.

26-JHD-08: TRANSGENDER RIGHTS (41 WORDS)

WHEREAS, throughout our country the Republicans are stripping transgender people of their rights; and,

WHEREAS, the very right of transgender people to exist is in peril;

THEREFORE, RESOLVED, the DPW recognizes that transgender women are women and transgender men are men.

26-JHD-09: GENDER AFFIRMATION (32 WORDS)

WHEREAS, that place where we experience ourselves is inviolably private; and,

WHEREAS, a third party cannot verify what happens there;

THEREFORE, RESOLVED, that we must accept a person's stated gender as factual.

26-JHD-10: SUPPORTING CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT TO END GERRYMANDERED MAPS (100 WORDS)

WHEREAS, 72% of Wisconsinites support creation of a non-partisan method to draw legislative and congressional district maps;

WHEREAS, gerrymandered districts discourage competition and legislators are not accountable to constituents; and,

WHEREAS, the present congressional district maps violate the Wisconsin Constitution requirement to "...be in as compact form as practicable.";

THEREFORE, RESOLVED, DPW supports the permanent formation of a non-partisan redistricting commission to draw maps for Wisconsin's state legislative and congressional districts after every census.

FURTHER RESOLVED, DPW supports the governor's proposed constitutional amendment "Districts shall not provide a disproportionate advantage or disadvantage to any political party. Partisan gerrymandering is prohibited."

26-JHD-11: PROPORTIONAL REPRESENTATION IN WISCONSIN (86 WORDS)

WHEREAS, the Campaign for Fair Maps addresses partisan gerrymandering but risks creating maps that quickly become outdated and continue to reinforce geographic political divides;

WHEREAS, district-based systems systematically leave Democrats underrepresented in rural areas and Republicans underrepresented in urban areas, distorting fair representation; and,

WHEREAS, proportional representation offers a more accurate and durable reflection of voter preferences;

THEREFORE, RESOLVED, that DPW urges State Senate and Assembly Democrats, with the State Administrative Committee, to actively consult County Parties and pursue pathways to implement proportional representation in Wisconsin.

26-JHD-12: ESTABLISH RANKED CHOICE VOTING IN WISCONSIN (100 WORDS)

WHEREAS, Ranked Choice Voting (RCV) gives voters a stronger voice by allowing them to rank candidates by preference and ensure winners receive majority votes;

WHEREAS, models of RCV have been adopted in Maine, Hawaii, and Alaska;

WHEREAS, 47 US Cities and Washington, DC, use RCV for local elections;

WHEREAS, the Democratic Party uses RCV for our own organizational elections at the State and National levels; and,

WHEREAS, voters have lost trust in our democracy and reforms like RCV can help restore trust;

THEREFORE, RESOLVED, DPW calls for Wisconsin to implement Ranked Choice Voting for all Federal, State, and Local Elections.

26-JHD-13: STATEHOOD FOR D.C. AND PUERTO RICO (98 WORDS)

WHEREAS, a guiding principle of our nation's founding was "No Taxation, Without Representation;"

WHEREAS, the population of D.C., which is larger than either Wyoming or Vermont, majority black, and majority millennial, is unrepresented in federal government thus increasing disparity and disenfranchisement;

WHEREAS, Puerto Rico, has incredibly unique needs not currently represented in the federal government and is populated by over 3.2 million disenfranchised Americans; and,

WHEREAS, majorities in both D.C. and Puerto Rico have already voted for Statehood;

THEREFORE, RESOLVED, DPW believes that Washington, D.C., and Puerto Rico, should be adopted as the nation's 51st and 52nd states.

26-JHD-14: BAN THE USE OF TEAR GAS AND RUBBER BULLETS BY DOMESTIC LAW ENFORCEMENT (100 WORDS)

WHEREAS, law enforcement has continuously responded to peaceful protests with violence, infringing on First Amendment rights;

WHEREAS, rubber bullets shot at peaceful protesters have caused severe injuries, often treated by civilian street medics;

WHEREAS, tear gas used to disperse peaceful crowds has often resulted in violence;

WHEREAS, the Red Cross concluded in 2005 that customary international law bans the use of chemical weapons in conflict, yet American police continue to use them for crowd control;

THEREFORE, RESOLVED, DPW calls for a total ban on the use of tear gas by police and banning use of rubber bullets for crowd control.

26-JHD-15: GOVERNMENT USE OF SURVEILLANCE TECHNOLOGIES (98 WORDS)

WHEREAS, surveillance, AI, and biometric technology are being weaponized by the state against people in the U.S.;

WHEREAS, facial recognition technology, automated license plate readers, and other surveillance technologies are capturing peoples' data without consent for inclusion in government databases, such as those used by ICE;

WHEREAS, the use of these technologies has resulted in wrongful arrests and other abuses; and,

WHEREAS, surveillance by the state is in direct conflict with Wisconsinites' privacy and safety;

THEREFORE, RESOLVED, DPW calls for a permanent prohibition on the use of these technologies by law enforcement and rejects surveillance of our communities.

26-JHD-16: RESOLUTION TO ABOLISH CASH BAIL IN WISCONSIN (100 WORDS)

WHEREAS, bail (of any type) is intended to be a mechanism to ensure a defendant's appearance in court, not punishment;

WHEREAS, cash bail is instead routinely used to keep defendants incarcerated while awaiting trial based on factors other than risks of flight or danger to the community;

WHEREAS, this issue disproportionately affects low-income, Black and Brown people, who are more likely to be arrested, more likely to be assigned cash bail, more often assigned a prohibitively high bail, and consequently more often subject to pre-trial detention than White people;

THEREFORE, RESOLVED, that Wisconsin should abolish its unjust cash bail system.

26-JHD-17: PROTECT AND RESTORE ACCESS TO HEALTHCARE PROVIDERS IN WISCONSIN (97 WORDS)

WHEREAS, healthcare provider service closures across Wisconsin have increased travel times for emergency care and reduced access to maternity, mental health and specialty services;

WHEREAS, federal funding cuts and declining reimbursement rates threaten the financial stability of critical access to healthcare providers; and,

WHEREAS, access to timely and affordable healthcare is essential for public safety and community well-being;

THEREFORE, RESOLVED, that the DPW support state and federal legislation to restore healthcare funding, stabilize rural hospitals, expand Medicaid reimbursement rates, and invest in sustainable modes to ensure every Wisconsin resident has reasonable geographic access to essential healthcare services.

26-JHD-18: REPEAL THE COMSTOCK ACT (97 WORDS)

WHEREAS, the Comstock Act prohibits the use of the mail and common carriers (such as UPS and FedEx) to transport all medications and obstetrical supplies used in abortion care;

WHEREAS, potential enforcement by the Trump administration of the Comstock Act would devastate access to abortion care and endangering the health and lives of pregnant people, especially those in under-resourced communities; and,

WHEREAS, medication abortion accounts for more than 60% of all abortions in the U.S.—and banning it nationwide would leave millions without access to care;

THEREFORE, RESOLVED, the DPW supports efforts to repeal the Comstock Act.

26-JHD-19: UNIVERSAL HEALTHCARE (91 WORDS)

WHEREAS, access to affordable healthcare strengthens families, businesses, and the economy;

WHEREAS, millions of Americans remain uninsured or underinsured despite paying some of the highest health costs in the world;

WHEREAS, poorer health outcomes and shorter life expectancies show the current system is failing too many people;

WHEREAS, life expectancy is 3 to 6 years longer in comparable economies, and,

WHEREAS, the US is the only developed nation without some form of universal healthcare;

THEREFORE, RESOLVED, the DPW supports the creation of a quality, affordable, universal healthcare system in the U.S.

26-JHD-20: UNIVERSAL HEALTHCARE IN WISCONSIN (79 WORDS)

WHEREAS, the people of Wisconsin deserve high-quality healthcare;

WHEREAS, the state of Wisconsin can create revenue to sustain full access to high-quality healthcare;

WHEREAS, the state should ensure the health and well-being of the people of Wisconsin; and,

WHEREAS, this should include psychiatric and mental healthcare, long-term and elder care, reproductive and gender-affirming care, disability support, dental, vision, and hearing;

THEREFORE, RESOLVED, DPW endorses the creation and funding of a robust universal healthcare program for the people of Wisconsin.

26-JHD-21: Supporting Access to Court-Appointed Counsel in Divorce and Custody Proceedings Involving Domestic Abuse or Safety Concerns (87 words)

WHEREAS, family court proceedings involving divorce and child custody are among the most complex, expensive, and emotionally charged matters in the legal system, and many litigants must represent themselves even when safety concerns are present;

THEREFORE, RESOLVED, that DPW urges expanded eligibility for court-appointed counsel in divorce and custody proceedings when a party demonstrates financial need and safety concerns involving allegations of abuse or coercive control, regardless of pending contempt or incarceration; and,

FURTHER RESOLVED, that DPW supports policies promoting court efficiency, fairness, safety, and due process.

26-JHD-22: Public Defenders (87 words)

WHEREAS, 2025 Wisconsin Assembly Bill 514 sought to increase the number of state public defenders, judges, court reporters and state public defender support staff positions in several Wisconsin counties;

WHEREAS, organizations including the State Bar of Wisconsin and the Wisconsin Counties Association supported passage of the original bill; and,

WHEREAS, 2025 AB514 was amended to remove funding for positions in Milwaukee County and it did not advance beyond committee;

THEREFORE, RESOLVED, DPW supports the passage of the original funding and additional funding for public defenders throughout Wisconsin.

26-JHD-23: Address the Dangers and Ramifications of Unregulated Artificial Intelligence (87 words)

WHEREAS, Congress has stalled on creating meaningful safeguards;

WHEREAS, unregulated AI may result in economic damage, negative impacts on public safety, health, and environmental resources;

WHEREAS, the use of AI has and may continue to take the place of workers; and,

WHEREAS, it is critical that AI information not be allowed to run itself. AI must remain under human control especially when involved in the taking of human lives;

THEREFORE, RESOLVED, that DPW stands with the critical need to immediately create AI regulations and an enforcement agency.

26-JHD-24: Stop Government Interference in the Media Broadcasting and Entertainment Industries (82 words)

WHEREAS, there has been an exodus of reputable reporters due to suppression of journalistic expression;

WHEREAS, reporters and producers are concerned that their newsroom's independence is being compromised;

WHEREAS, no elected or appointed official has the right to exert pressure through intimidation tactics or financial threats; and,

WHEREAS, the first amendment guarantees protections of the right to express views and access information without government interference;

THEREFORE, RESOLVED, the DPW opposes undue influence and intimidation to control the media, broadcasting, & entertainment industries.

26-JHD-25: EXPAND THE U.S. SUPREME COURT (89 WORDS)

WHEREAS, the Constitution does not specify the number of justices, leaving it to Congress, which last set the number at nine in 1869;

WHEREAS, increasing the Supreme Court bench to 13 seats matches the number of federal circuit courts;

WHEREAS, the population of the United States has increased significantly since 1869; and,

WHEREAS, adding four seats is the only way to restore balance to the Court;

THEREFORE, RESOLVED, the DPW supports legislation adding four seats to the Supreme Court, requiring a binding judicial ethics standard, and adding term limits.

26-JHD-26: SUPPORT OF THE MONTANA PLAN (89 WORDS)

WHEREAS, outsized political donations by corporations and Super PACs have given those with money an outsized influence in our government; which, in turn, disenfranchises individuals;

WHEREAS, three quarters of Americans support reforming the current system; and,

WHEREAS, the Wisconsin State Constitution holds the power to regulate the actions of corporations;

THEREFORE, RESOLVED, the DPW supports the Montana Plan wherein the State of Wisconsin rescinded the power of corporations to spend money on politics and require that all money spent on political donations in Wisconsin be disclosed to the public.

RESOLUTIONS CONCERNING FOREIGN AFFAIRS

26-FA-01: CONDEMNING THE USE OF THE ADDICTION CRISIS TO JUSTIFY ATTACKS AGAINST CENTRAL AND SOUTHERN AMERICAN COUNTRIES (98 WORDS)

WHEREAS, drug laws have historically been cover for foreign policy;

WHEREAS, addiction is misused to criminalize minorities;

WHEREAS, DPW supports decriminalizing addiction and regulating marijuana and natural psychedelics;

WHEREAS, the federal government promotes disinformation about drug trade: pushing racist, imperialistic agendas;

WHEREAS, Trump's regime shattered norms and threatened global stability by abducting Venezuela's President, pretending to be combating drug trafficking;

THEREFORE, RESOLVED, DPW condemns using drug trafficking as a premise to attack countries in Central and South America;

FURTHER RESOLVED, we demand action to help addicts find recovery, regulate safe markets, and increase partnership with our neighboring countries.

RESOLUTIONS CONCERNING EDUCATION, LABOR, AND ECONOMICS

26-ELE-01: Prioritize World Language, American Sign Language (ASL), and Culture Education in Public Schools (100 words)

WHEREAS, students lost many world language course offerings due to decreased public school funding;

WHEREAS, universities prefer a student to have world language education;

WHEREAS, many countries require students to learn a second language;

WHEREAS, learning about other languages and cultures opens the worldview of a student to be more well-rounded and informed;

WHEREAS, it's increasingly important to prepare the next generation to build a more unified and cooperative global community;

THEREFORE, RESOLVED, DPW calls on local school boards, as well as state and federal lawmakers, to allocate more resources to world language, ASL, and culture education in public schools.

26-ELE-02: Restore Public School Funding (99 words)

WHEREAS, Article 3, Sec. 3 of the Wisconsin Constitution requires free and equal opportunity to education for children aged 4 to 20;

WHEREAS, Article 3, Sec. 5 requires a school fund to support schools;

WHEREAS, the school funding caps imposed in the 1990s promised state funding for 2/3 of costs and 100% funding for special education; and,

WHEREAS, inflation increases for the caps ended in 2009 and state funding has not been maintained for public schools, driving a need for referenda;

THEREFORE, RESOLVED, DPW supports restoration of 2/3 funding for public schools and 100% funding for special needs education.

26-ELE-03: Urgent Implementation of Public Education Funding Reform (99 words)

WHEREAS, current public education funding remains unfair;

WHEREAS, state funding has not kept up with inflation since the 2009-11 budget;

WHEREAS, 69 Wisconsin public schools have closed in the last two years due to high costs, state-imposed revenue limits, and limited state funding;

WHEREAS, the public education funding formula needs to be made fair and equitable for all Wisconsin public schools; and,

WHEREAS, public school funding should be used exclusively for public schools;

THEREFORE, RESOLVED, that the DPW supports urgent implementation of a fair public school funding formula, including an end to subsidizing private schools through the voucher-based programs.

26-ELE-04: End Wisconsin's School Voucher Program (77 words)

WHEREAS, Wisconsin's Constitution requires the legislature to provide a free, uniform, public, sectarian free, basic education to all children in the state;

WHEREAS, private schools are not public schools;

WHEREAS, mandates for special education and other services are not required of private schools; and,

WHEREAS, many private schools are parochial;

THEREFORE, RESOLVED, the DPW shall support legislation to end the school voucher program immediately as it does not follow the state Constitution's mandate of free public instruction.

26-ELE-05: TERMINATING WISCONSIN'S PRIVATE SCHOOL CHOICE (VOUCHER) PROGRAMS (PSCP), BY REPEALING STATE STATUTES 118.60, 119.23, AND OTHER APPLICABLE STATUTES (95 WORDS)

WHEREAS, private schools participating in PSCP receive state aid payments for each eligible student attending a private school on behalf of the student's parent/guardian;

WHEREAS, PSCP diverts public tax monies to private schools:

a) 2025-'26 = $700,727,593.26 to 415 private schools,

b) 2024-'25 = $631,692,973.85 to 403 private schools;

WHEREAS, PSCP funnels tax monies to private schools not subject to federal regulations, opening a loophole to discriminate based on race, gender, religion, and sexuality;

THEREFORE RESOLVED, Wisconsin's Legislature shall repeal all state statutes that currently legitimize PSCP, thereby eliminating state aid payments to private schools.

26-ELE-06: FULLY FUNDED CHILDCARE (68 WORDS)

WHEREAS, societal changes over several decades have resulted in a greater percentage of women entering the workforce;

WHEREAS, licensed childcare providers have obtained specialized training and deserve a living wage;

WHEREAS, many parents struggle, or are unable, to afford high quality childcare; and,

WHEREAS, children are our most precious resource;

THEREFORE, RESOLVED, that the State of Wisconsin shall fully fund quality childcare from birth to full-time school attendance.

26-ELE-07: RESOLUTION CALLING FOR THE MINIMUM WAGE TO BE A LIVING WAGE (74 WORDS)

WHEREAS, a healthy US economy depends on a robust middle class;

WHEREAS, Wisconsin's Recommended Living Wage has been determined by multiple reputable sources to be roughly $21.00/hour;

WHEREAS, Wisconsin's minimum wage was set at $7.25/hour in 2009, and has not changed since; and,

WHEREAS, people struggling financially are unable to effectively contribute to a healthy US economy;

THEREFORE, RESOLVED, the DPW supports a statewide move toward a minimum wage based on a living wage.

26-ELE-08: INCREASE WAGES FOR THE MIDDLE CLASS (86 WORDS)

WHEREAS, the median wage is at the center and is critical to determining the middle-class compensation;

WHEREAS, the median/average ratio declined 17% (82% to 65%) from 1970 to 2020;

WHEREAS, the fair, equitable and normal median/average ratio is between 80% to 95%; and,

WHEREAS, increasing middle-class wages will help stimulate the economy, stabilize the Social Security Trust Fund, and bring needed revenue to lower our Federal debt;

THEREFORE, RESOLVED, DPW supports legislation using tax policy which will induce businesses to increase their median/average ratio above 80%.

26-ELE-09: Supporting Biotechnology and Biohealth Innovation (90 words)

WHEREAS, Wisconsin is home to a growing biohealth and biotechnology sector that supports high-paying jobs, medical innovation, and economic growth;

WHEREAS, investment in biotech research and development can position Wisconsin as a national leader in healthcare solutions, precision medicine, and pharmaceutical manufacturing; and,

WHEREAS, public-private partnerships, university research funding, and state-level incentives are critical to fostering innovation and keeping biotech jobs in Wisconsin;

THEREFORE, RESOLVED, DPW supports expanding state funding for biohealth innovation, strengthening workforce training in biotechnology, and fostering partnerships to attract and retain biotech businesses in the state.

26-ELE-10: Investment in Clean Energy (92 words)

WHEREAS, Wisconsin's economy can benefit from investments in renewable and alternative energy, creating high-quality, unionized jobs in manufacturing, installation, and maintenance;

WHEREAS, climate change threatens Wisconsin's agriculture, tourism, and public health, requiring immediate action to transition to sustainable energy sources; and,

WHEREAS, federal incentives through the Inflation Reduction Act provide opportunities for Wisconsin to lead in clean energy production and storage;

THEREFORE, RESOLVED, DPW supports aggressive investment in clean energy industries, job training programs for displaced workers, and policies that ensure Wisconsin becomes a national leader in renewable and alternative energy innovation.

26-ELE-11: Integrated Public Transportation and Passenger Rail in Wisconsin (96 words)

WHEREAS, Wisconsin's cities, villages, and towns are poorly connected by public transportation, with limited coordination and public awareness, restricting economic opportunity and access to employment;

WHEREAS, coordinated transit, including passenger rail, would reduce emissions, improve efficiency, and expand access to jobs, health care, and regional development; and,

WHEREAS, Wisconsin subsidizes transportation providers without requiring integration or connectivity and has missed federal funding opportunities;

THEREFORE, RESOLVED, that Democrats will support a regionally planned, integrated transportation system including passenger rail;

FURTHER RESOLVED, that WisDOT establishes a seamless travel planning and ticketing system and requires participation from subsidized providers.

26-ELE-12: Passenger Rail (83 words)

WHEREAS, Wisconsin's municipalities need a regionally planned transportation system with passenger rail connecting other modes of public transport efficiently;

WHEREAS, rail contributes 2% of greenhouse gas emissions while highway vehicles contribute 82% to the total;

WHEREAS, passenger rail promotes economic development, access to health care, and other benefits to both rural and urban areas; and,

WHEREAS, Wisconsin lags behind other states in development of such a system and has lost federal grant opportunities to other states;

THEREFORE, RESOLVED, DPW supports passenger rail funding.

26-ELE-13: INCREASE REVENUE SUFFICIENT TO PAY PROMISED SOCIAL SECURITY BENEFITS (47 WORDS)

WHEREAS, Social Security revenue is insufficient to pay promised benefits;

WHEREAS, higher paid workers above the earnings payroll cap slashes revenue to Social Security; and,

WHEREAS, the earnings cap exempts employers from paying payroll taxes on highly paid employees;

THEREFORE, RESOLVED, DPW supports eliminating the earnings cap.

26-ELE-14: REDUCE OUR NATION'S DEBT BY RE-IMPLEMENTING PROGRESSIVE TAXATION (94 WORDS)

WHEREAS, the current federal debt/GDP ratio has reached 120%, surpassing the 115% level incurred from fighting for survival during World War II;

WHEREAS, efforts continue to shield investors from taxes while shifting revenue burdens onto working individuals;

WHEREAS, tax avoidance strategies reduce vital tax revenue; and,

WHEREAS, after World War II, Congress adopted prudent tax policies that lowered the federal debt ratio from 115% to 43%;

THEREFORE, RESOLVED, DPW supports modernizing income tax policies from 1945–1965, along with measures that raise working family incomes while ensuring tax responsibility is proportionate with income levels.

26-ELE-15: LIMIT THE USE OF ANIMALS IN ANY TYPE OF RESEARCH (75 WORDS)

WHEREAS, Wisconsin is one of the states that still allows the use of animals in research;

WHEREAS, a large number of people believe that the use of animals in research is both inhumane, as well as ineffective; and,

WHEREAS, a portion of researchers have found alternative ways of researching without the use of animals;

THEREFORE, RESOLVED, DPW supports limiting the use of animals in any type of research, unless no other effective method is available.

RESOLUTIONS CONCERNING AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

26-AGE-01: OPPOSITION TO DEVELOPMENT IN SOUTHEASTERN WISCONSIN THAT POLLUTES AND MISUSES WATER AND AIR RESOURCES (99 WORDS)

WHEREAS, increased incentivization is attracting industry to Wisconsin;

WHEREAS, Microsoft has acquired large amounts of land for data center development;

WHEREAS, data centers would utilize large amounts of water/power;

WHEREAS, Wisconsin has already avoided doing enough to protect our water resources from dangerous pollutants;

WHEREAS, access to clean air and water are a natural right; and,

WHEREAS, Kenosha, Racine, and Milwaukee already have some of the highest asthma hospitalization rates in Wisconsin;

THEREFORE, RESOLVED, DPW urges local and state officials to pause and responsibly regulate developments that substantially impact water and pollute air at the expense of Wisconsin communities.

26-AGE-02: URGE THE STATE OF WISCONSIN TO EXPAND RESPONSE TO PFAS CONTAMINATION (100 WORDS)

WHEREAS, CDC data shows 95% of Americans have detectable levels of PFAS in their blood due to use in consumer and industrial products, and PFAS resistance to breaking down in the environment or the human body;

WHEREAS, a review of documents revealed companies knew by 1970 that PFAS are "highly toxic when inhaled and moderately toxic when ingested"; and,

WHEREAS, PFAS found in many Wisconsin communities affects drinking water, while cleanup costs burden residents and local governments;

THEREFORE, RESOLVED, DPW supports stronger PFAS standards, expanded testing, increased aid for affected communities, and polluter responsibility for cleanup costs and compensatory damages.

26-AGE-03: CURB THE PREVALENCE OF MICRO PLASTIC PARTICLES (99 WORDS)

WHEREAS, technical progress should protect, not endanger, human health and the environment;

WHEREAS, manufactured products are yielding micro plastic particles less than 0.05 mm in diameter that pose significant health risks;

WHEREAS, micro plastics refuse to break down chemically, continue to fragment, and persist in the environment spreading everywhere, including inside our bodies; and,

WHEREAS, remedies exist, including innovative alternate product materials, water filters, the collection of plastic debris before it fragments, and chemical processes some organisms use to digest plastic;

THEREFORE, RESOLVED, DPW supports the regulation of plastic pollution required to protect human health and our natural environment.

26-AGE-04: REGULATE AI CENTERS AND PROTECT ENVIRONMENTAL AND HUMAN RESOURCES (98 WORDS)

WHEREAS, large-scale data centers require significant electric and water resources, straining our power grids and water supplies;

WHEREAS, rapid expansion of AI infrastructure can increase energy costs for residents and small businesses; and,

WHEREAS, communities must have transparency and environmental protections when considering infrastructure projects with all levels of government having approval rights;

THEREFORE, RESOLVED, that the DPW support legislation requiring environmental impact reviews, responsible water usage standards, grid modernization investment, labor protections, and community benefit agreements for data centers operating in Wisconsin and that costs of these studies and actions be paid by the applying tech company.

26-AGE-05: RESTRICTIONS ON DATA CENTERS (89 WORDS)

WHEREAS, data centers are proliferating across Wisconsin;

WHEREAS, they are largely unregulated;

WHEREAS, their operation requires massive amounts of electricity, resulting in the delay of coal plant closures and new methane gas plants being proposed, increasing in consumer energy cost; and,

WHEREAS, they consume an enormous amount of water;

THEREFORE, RESOLVED, the DPW supports requirements that data centers must generate 100% of their electricity on-site using at least 70% renewable energy, and should utilize a combination of closed loop and free cooling systems, and require an environmental impact statement.

26-AGE-06: MAKE THE MONARCH BUTTERFLY THE STATE BUTTERFLY (90 WORDS)

WHEREAS, the monarch butterfly plays a key role in pollination of agricultural, wild, and native plants;

WHEREAS, the monarch deserves protection under state law; and,

WHEREAS, proclaiming the monarch as the Wisconsin state butterfly and protection of the monarch butterfly, the bill would place the monarch in the Wisconsin Blue Book alongside the existing state song, flower, bird, fish, insect, fossil, and fruit;

THEREFORE, RESOLVED, DPW supports proclaiming the monarch as the Wisconsin state butterfly, and shall support the passage of legislation designating the monarch butterfly as the state butterfly.

26-AGE-07: SUPPORT REAUTHORIZATION OF KNOWLES-NELSON STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM (94 WORDS)

WHEREAS, the Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Program was created in 1989 to preserve natural areas and wildlife habitat, protect water quality and fisheries, and expand outdoor recreation;

WHEREAS, the program has protected over 750,000 acres of land through $1.3 billion in investment;

WHEREAS, the program supports Wisconsin industries, specifically, forestry and outdoor recreation;

WHEREAS, over 90% of voters support continued public funding for conservation; and,

WHEREAS, it is set to expire in June 2026;

THEREFORE, RESOLVED, the DPW supports renewal of the Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Program with an amount of $100 million per year for 10 years.

26-AGE-08: SUPPORT OF GREEN ENERGY JOBS (91 WORDS)

WHEREAS, fossil fuels impose an undue burden on our environment;

WHEREAS, fossil fuel projects, tar sand pipelines, replacement and expansion of Line #5, Twin Line #66 and refinery projects extend global dependence on fossil fuels;

WHEREAS, we support green energy jobs, clean drinking water pipelines, pipeline decommissioning jobs and new opportunities to free our country of dirty energy projects; and,

WHEREAS, we demand clean water and energy resources under the public trust;

THEREFORE, RESOLVED, the DPW oppose new fossil fuel infrastructure projects; and,

FURTHER RESOLVED, the DPW supports green energy jobs.

RESOLUTIONS CONCERNING PARTY GOVERNANCE

26-PG-01: ELECT DPW OFFICERS BY ONE MEMBER ONE VOTE (99 WORDS)

WHEREAS, the DPW has a longstanding commitment to a democracy where voters have easy participation in the ballot without artificial barriers or obstructions such as a poll tax and limited polling hours; and,

WHEREAS, participation in the DPW Convention is expensive, time consuming and limits participation by those who are housebound, have childcare responsibilities or work shifts;

THEREFORE, RESOLVED, that Convention requests the Administrative Committee bring forward in 2027 Constitutional and By-Law changes to elect all state officers and CD representatives by postal/electronic ballot to enable all members to participate; all officer candidates should have free member information access.