

Democratic Party of Wisconsin 2011 Resolutions

Report of the P&R Committee for Consideration by Convention on June 4, 2011

RESOLUTIONS CONCERNING AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS	3
11-AGE-01: Resolution To Stop The Rollback Of Wetlands Protection (1 st and 4 th CDs, 48 words).....	3
11-AGE-02: Saving And Supporting The Viability Of Family Farms (2 nd CD, 86 words).....	3
11-AGE-03: Resolution In Support Of Family Farms And National Parity Pricing (3 rd CD, 90 words).....	3
11-AGE-04: Strong Clean Water Quality Laws (3 rd CD, 66 words).....	3
11-AGE-05: Recycling Programs Reduce Landfill Waste (1 st , 4 th and 3 rd CDs, 97 words).....	3
11-AGE-06: Oppose Sale Or Closure Of State Parks, Recreation Areas And Natural Areas (3 rd CD, 78 words)	4
11-AGE-07: Nuclear Energy Plants (6 th CD, 98 words)	4
11-AGE-08: Alternative, Renewable Energy (6 th CD, 85 words)	4
RESOLUTIONS CONCERNING JUSTICE, HUMANS CONCERNS, AND DEMOCRACY	4
11-JHD-01: Thank You Wisconsin 14 (4 th , 5 th , and 7 th CDs, 97 words).....	4
11-JHD-02: Opposing Voter Photo ID (2 nd , 3 rd , 5 th , and 7 th CDs, 92 words).....	5
11-JHD-03: Preserving Same-Day Voter Registration (2 nd CD, 100 words).....	5
11-JHD-04: Voting Rights (6 th CD, 90 words).....	5
11-JHD-05: In Support Of A Constitutional Amendment To Overturn Citizens United And Reclaim Our Democracy (1 st , 2 nd , 3 rd and 4 th CDs, 90 words)	5
11-JHD-06: Publically Funded Campaigns (7 th and 8 th CDs, 93 words).....	6
11-JHD-07: Constitutional Amendment To Redefine Corporate Free Speech (7 th CD, 96 words)	6
11-JHD-08: Removal Of Corruption From Election Process And Governance (6 th CD, 86 words).....	6
11-JHD-09: Public Funding Of Judiciary Elections (6 th CD, 82 words).....	6
11-JHD-10: Single-Payer Healthcare (1 st CD, 92 words).....	7
11-JHD-11: Oppose Privatization Of Medicare (1 st CD, 77 words).....	7
11-JHD-12: Medicare Expansion (5 th CD, 100 words)	7
11-JHD-13: Community Healthcare Centers Support (5 th CD, 99 words).....	7
11-JHD-14: PPACA Coverage Changes (5 th CD, 97 words)	8
11-JHD-15: Addition Of Unemployed And High Risk Individuals To Medicare (5 th CD, 100 words).....	8
11-JHD-16: Reduction In Health Care Costs By Reducing Co-Pays And Deductibles At Taxpayer Subsidized Health And Medical Care Facilities (5 th CD, 91 words).....	8
11-JHD-17: Supporting Single-Payer Health Care (2 nd CD, 91 words).....	8
11-JHD-18: Medicare For All (3 rd CD, 100 words)	9
11-JHD-19: Health Care (7 th CD, 89 words).....	9
11-JHD-20: Single payer health insurance (7 th CD, 88 words)	9
11-JHD-21: Resolution To Delegate Reapportionment Responsibility To The Government Accountability Board (1 st and 4 th CDs, 77 words).....	9
11-JHD-22: Resolution To Restore Funding To The Senate Minority Caucus For Legal Counsel On Reapportionment (4 th CD, 52 words).....	9
11-JHD-23: Resolution That The State Legislature Comply With The Open Meetings Law Applicable To Other Governmental Bodies (1 st and 4 th CDs, 55 words)	10
11-JHD-24: Supporting Strict Separation Of Government And Religion (2 nd CD, 97 words)	10
11-JHD-25: Separation of Church and State (6 th CD, 77 words)	10
11-JHD-26: Legalization, Regulation, and Taxation of Marijuana (8 th CD, 89 words).....	10
11-JHD-27: Domestic Partnership Benefits And Obligations (8 th CD, 78 words).....	10
11-JHD-28: Removing Nonviolent Offenders from the Prison System (8 th CD, 69 words) [Separate for discussion].....	11
11-JHD-29: Training Programs Provided By DPW (8 th CD, 94 words)	11
11-JHD-30: Recognition Of Tribal Sovereignty (8 th CD, 50 words)	11

1 **RESOLUTIONS CONCERNING FOREIGN AFFAIRS** 11

2 11-FA-01: Redirect Military Defense Spending to Peacetime Needs (6th CD, 92 words) 11

3 11-FA-02: Resolution Supporting Moving War Money To State AID (4th CD, 100 words)..... 11

4 **RESOLUTIONS CONCERNING EDUCATION, LABOR, AND ECONOMICS**..... 12

5 11-ELE-01: Resolution To Maintain An Honest And Ethical Bidding Process When Selling And Buying

6 State Property (1st and 4th CDs, 66 words)..... 12

7 11-ELE-02: Rep. Ryan’s “Roadmap” Is Wrong For America (1st and 2nd CDs, 100 words)..... 12

8 11-ELE-03: Lift Social Security Wage Cap (1st CD, 99 words) [Separate for discussion]..... 12

9 11-ELE-04: Extending Social Security and Medicare Tax to All Earned Income (8th CD, 73 words)..... 12

10 11-ELE-05: Supporting Social Security (7th CD, 76 words) 13

11 11-ELE-06: Reforming Wisconsin’s School Funding Formula (2nd CD, 98 words)..... 13

12 11-ELE-07: Support Adequate Funding For Public Education (7th CD, 95 words)..... 13

13 11-ELE-08: School Funding Reform (8th CD, 86 words)..... 13

14 11-ELE-09: School Funding (3rd CD, 100 words)..... 13

15 11-ELE-10: Public Education Funding (6th CD, 76 words)..... 14

16 11-ELE-11: Support Public Education (7th CD, 98 words) 14

17 11-ELE-12: Supporting Union Rights To Collective Bargaining (2nd and 3rd CDs, 100 words) 14

18 11-ELE-13: Resolution Supporting H.R. 870, The Humphrey-Hawkins 21st Century Full Employment And

19 Training Act (4th CD, 100 words)..... 14

20 11-ELE-14: The Right To Collective Bargaining (5th CD, 76 words)..... 14

21 11-ELE-15: Rights of Public Employees to Organize and Engage in Collective Bargaining (6th CD, 94

22 words) 15

23 11-ELE-16: Employee Free Choice Act (8th CD, 89 words)..... 15

24 11-ELE-17: Rescind Insurance Company Anti-Trust Exemptions (5th CD, 43 WORDS)..... 15

25 11-ELE-18: Federal Issue – Social Security Improvement (5th CD, 91 words) 15

26 11-ELE-19: Progressive Taxation (6th CD, 90 words) 15

27 11-ELE-20: In Support of Local Budget Control (7th CD, 90 words) 16

28 11-ELE-21: Eliminating Corporate Tax Breaks (8th CD, 96 words) 16

29

1 **RESOLUTIONS CONCERNING AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS**

2
3 **11-AGE-01: RESOLUTION TO STOP THE ROLLBACK OF WETLANDS PROTECTION (1ST AND 4TH CDs, 48 WORDS)**

4 WHEREAS, Wisconsin is nationally renowned for the protection of its natural resources including its wetlands; and,
5 WHEREAS, Governor Walker proposes rolling back provisions of wetland protection to allow developers to build on these
6 precious wetlands;
7 THEREFORE, RESOLVED, the DPW opposes Governor Walker's attempt to roll back wetland protection.
8

9 **11-AGE-02: SAVING AND SUPPORTING THE VIABILITY OF FAMILY FARMS (2ND CD, 86 WORDS)**

10 WHEREAS, agriculture continues to be a strong economic factor in Wisconsin;
11 WHEREAS, family farms are diminishing in number as mega-farms are moving to our state;
12 WHEREAS, family farms are having more difficulty earning a living wage, encouraging youth to enter farming and passing
13 on the farm to family; and,
14 WHEREAS, farmland preservation is a rising issue needing considered action by community coalitions;
15 THEREFORE, RESOLVED, the DPW supports sustainable opportunities, new training programs, partnerships and markets
16 in the state ensuring the future of Wisconsin family farms.
17

18 **11-AGE-03: RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF FAMILY FARMS AND NATIONAL PARITY PRICING (3RD CD, 90 WORDS)**

19 WHEREAS, to insure a stable and adequate food supply for the people of Wisconsin and the nation we need a strong farm
20 economy;
21 WHEREAS, a lack of parity pricing, the glut of commodities in the market and rising farm operation costs, have caused a
22 rural economic crisis; and,
23 WHEREAS, Wisconsin DNR has been granted the authority to issue a high number of General Permitted CAFO's which
24 may have serious environmental impacts;
25 THEREFORE, RESOLVED, the DPW supports national parity pricing and the return to Standard Permitting of CAFO's by the
26 DNR.
27

28 **11-AGE-04: STRONG CLEAN WATER QUALITY LAWS (3RD CD, 66 WORDS)**

29 WHEREAS, Phosphorous and other pollutants in storm water and snow melting runoff from farm fields, lawns, urban
30 streets, factories, and parking areas are a leading cause of algae growth and particulates in our streams, rivers and lakes;
31 THEREFORE, RESOLVED, that the DPW supports protecting Wisconsin streams, rivers and lakes by eliminating the repeal
32 of Wisconsin's laws to keep phosphorous and other pollutants out of our waterways.
33

34 **11-AGE-05: RECYCLING PROGRAMS REDUCE LANDFILL WASTE (1ST, 4TH AND 3RD CDs, 97 WORDS)**

35 WHEREAS, current recycling programs reduce the amount of waste that ends up in our state landfills; this minimizes the
36 demand for more landfills and the need to consume more virgin resources like trees, minerals, and fossil fuels. Recycling
37 limits expenses to property tax payers and harm to the environment; and,
38 WHEREAS, Recycling programs keep 1.69 million tons of material out of Wisconsin landfills, it supports 97,000 jobs and
39 contributes \$5.4 billion in economic activity in our state;
40 THEREFORE, RESOLVED, the DPW supports legislation restoring Wisconsin's statewide recycling program and fund local
41 municipal recycling programs at previous levels.
42

1 **11-AGE-06: OPPOSE SALE OR CLOSURE OF STATE PARKS, RECREATION AREAS AND NATURAL AREAS (3RD CD, 78 WORDS)**

2 WHEREAS, Wisconsin's state parks, state recreation areas and state natural areas preserve valuable natural areas and
3 wildlife habitat, protect water quality and fisheries, and expand opportunities for outdoor recreation; and,
4 WHEREAS, Wisconsin's state parks, state recreation areas and state natural areas enhance Wisconsin's tourism industry
5 and are a permanent and lasting investment in Wisconsin's future;
6 THEREFORE, RESOLVED, the DPW is opposed to sale, leasing, privatization or closure of Wisconsin's state parks, state
7 recreation areas and state natural areas.

9 **11-AGE-07: NUCLEAR ENERGY PLANTS (6TH CD, 98 WORDS)**

10 WHEREAS, the earthquake and tsunami in Japan compromised several of the country's nuclear reactors;
11 WHEREAS, the US has 104 nuclear reactors (2 plants with 3 reactors located in Wisconsin), 12 of those reactors located
12 in areas known to be susceptible to earthquakes; and,
13 WHEREAS, a system for the safe storage of spent fuel has not been designed and/or made available;
14 THEREFORE, RESOLVED, that DPW supports inspection and evaluation of existing nuclear reactors and a moratorium on
15 construction of new reactors until the issues of spent fuel and safe operation are resolved, while moving to a
16 decentralized electricity system.

18 **11-AGE-08: ALTERNATIVE, RENEWABLE ENERGY (6TH CD, 85 WORDS)**

19 WHEREAS, the national security of the country depends on safe, efficient, and renewable sources of energy not controlled
20 by foreign interests and less vulnerable to terrorist attack;
21 WHEREAS, carbon-based fuels, which contribute to global warming, increase in cost as supplies diminish; and,
22 WHEREAS, development of alternative energy technologies will create jobs and strengthen our economy;
23 THEREFORE, RESOLVED, that the DPW supports research and development of alternative, renewable energy sources and
24 distributed generation technologies that preserve the environment and our health and decentralize our power supply.

27 **RESOLUTIONS CONCERNING JUSTICE, HUMANS CONCERNS, AND DEMOCRACY**

29 **11-JHD-01: THANK YOU WISCONSIN 14 (4TH, 5TH, AND 7TH CDS, 97 WORDS)**

30 WHEREAS, Governor Walker mounted an assault on working families to concentrate power in the hands of wealthy
31 ideologues;
32 WHEREAS, collective bargaining is a fundamental right recognized in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights;
33 WHEREAS, the Republicans did not campaign on this assault on public unions; and,
34 WHEREAS, by temporarily leaving the state, 14 courageous Democratic Senators gave the public the opportunity to read
35 the bills, voice their opposition, and expose this extremist agenda;
36 THEREFORE, RESOLVED, the DPW says "Thank You Senators Carpenter, Coggs, Cullen, Erpenbach, Hansen, Holperin,
37 Jauch, Larson, Lassa, Miller, Risser, Taylor, Vinehout, Wirch and Keep Up the Good Work!"
38

1 **11-JHD-02: OPPOSING VOTER PHOTO ID (2ND, 3RD, 5TH, AND 7TH CDS, 92 WORDS)**

2 WHEREAS, the UN High Court declared that "elections shall be by universal and equal suffrage, be held by secret vote, or
3 by equivalent free voting procedures;"

4 WHEREAS, voting is crucial to the functioning of our democracy;

5 WHEREAS, Republicans have pushed a photo ID requirement at the polls in response to unsubstantiated claims of
6 widespread voter fraud; and,

7 WHEREAS, requiring photographic identification disenfranchises seniors, minorities, students, and others and
8 unnecessarily adds to election costs;

9 THEREFORE, RESOLVED, that the DPW oppose the requirement for voter photo ID and challenge its enactment in the
10 courts.

11

12 **11-JHD-03: PRESERVING SAME-DAY VOTER REGISTRATION (2ND CD, 100 WORDS)**

13 WHEREAS, Wisconsin has had same-day voter registration for 35 years without significant problems;

14 WHEREAS, voting is the most critical act of citizens in our representative system of government;

15 WHEREAS, voter registration should not be an impediment to voting but only as a remedy against fraud with its burden
16 on administrators rather than voters; and,

17 WHEREAS, same-day voter registration has contributed significantly to Wisconsin's proud record among the states of
18 having one of the highest percentages of citizens voting;

19 THEREFORE, RESOLVED, the DPW supports preserving Wisconsin's progressive same-day voter registration system along
20 with other efforts to increase citizen participation in voting.

21

22 **11-JHD-04: VOTING RIGHTS (6TH CD, 90 WORDS)**

23 WHEREAS, a democratic republic depends on an unfettered Right to Vote for its citizenry;

24 WHEREAS, disenfranchising any segment of a citizenry will weaken a democracy from within; and,

25 WHEREAS, DPW has had a long-standing history of supporting legislation that curtails the disenfranchisement of voters;

26 THEREFORE, RESOLVED, that DPW opposes measures that would restrict the right and access to voting such as: photo
27 IDs; elimination of same day registration; and elimination of early voting;

28 FURTHER RESOLVED, that the DPW continues to support measures to grant voting rights for non-incarcerated felons.

29

30 **11-JHD-05: IN SUPPORT OF A CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT TO OVERTURN CITIZENS UNITED AND RECLAIM OUR**
31 **DEMOCRACY (1ST, 2ND, 3RD AND 4TH CDS, 90 WORDS)**

32 WHEREAS, the U.S. Supreme Court has granted corporations the status of persons and equated money with speech,
33 although these ideas are mentioned nowhere in the Constitution; and,

34 WHEREAS, in Citizens United vs. FEC the court decided that limiting corporate electoral spending violates the "free speech
35 rights" of corporate "persons";

36 THEREFORE, RESOLVED, the DPW calls for amending the U.S. Constitution to make clear that corporations are not
37 persons and money is not speech;

38 FURTHER RESOLVED, the DPW will advocate for integration of this position into the national platform of the Democratic
39 Party.

40

1 **11-JHD-06: PUBLICALLY FUNDED CAMPAIGNS (7TH AND 8TH CDS, 93 WORDS)**

2 WHEREAS, the U.S. Supreme Court ruling in Citizens United vs. the F.E.C. opened the floodgates for corporate financed
3 elections;

4 WHEREAS, huge sums of money from corporations shaped the outcome of the 2010 midterm and Wisconsin judicial
5 elections;

6 WHEREAS, Wisconsin legislative scandals and judicial campaigns show that corruption has infiltrated our state capitol;
7 and,

8 WHEREAS, the interests of Wisconsin citizens are not served by shadowy corporate funding sources;

9 THEREFORE, RESOLVED, the DPW supports the restoration of Wisconsin clean progressive government by passing
10 legislation which provides public funding for all Legislative, Judicial, and Executive campaigns.

11

12 **11-JHD-07: CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT TO REDEFINE CORPORATE FREE SPEECH (7TH CD, 96 WORDS)**

13 WHEREAS, the U.S. Supreme Court ruling extending free speech rights to corporations in Citizens United vs. FEC has
14 allowed corporations to overwhelm our democratic process in opposition to the best interests of the American people;

15 WHEREAS, the first Amendment granting free speech rights as a basic human right was not intended to include non-
16 human corporations; and,

17 WHEREAS, the Citizens United decision has lead to a small number of mega-corporations gaining disproportionate
18 influence on elected officials;

19 THEREFORE, RESOLVED, that the DPW support a Constitutional amendment to limit free speech rights to natural persons
20 and to exclude corporations.

21

22 **11-JHD-08: REMOVAL OF CORRUPTION FROM ELECTION PROCESS AND GOVERNANCE (6TH CD, 86 WORDS)**

23 WHEREAS, the Citizens United vs. Federal Election Commission Supreme Court decision to allow for unlimited and
24 undisclosed corporate funding of campaign advertising equates money with the right to free speech;

25 WHEREAS, this decision gives foreign interest an undesirable voice in our electoral process;

26 WHEREAS, this decision compromises fairness in the campaign finance system; and,

27 WHEREAS, this country has been corrupted by large campaign contributions from single sources;

28 THEREFORE, RESOLVED, the DPW supports legislation that provides transparency and a financially equal playing field for
29 all political candidates.

30

31 **11-JHD-09: PUBLIC FUNDING OF JUDICIARY ELECTIONS (6TH CD, 82 WORDS)**

32 WHEREAS, a fair and impartial Judicial Branch of government is an essential component of a democracy;

33 WHEREAS, large campaign contributions may compromise the ability of a judiciary to render decisions in a fair and
34 impartial manner; and,

35 WHEREAS, the Citizens United vs. Federal Election Commission Supreme Court decision may corrupt the judiciary;

36 THEREFORE, RESOLVED, the DPW continues to support the public funding of Supreme Court and other judicial elections
37 and legislation that will prevent the compromise and corruption of the election process.

38

1 **11-JHD-10: SINGLE-PAYER HEALTHCARE (1ST CD, 92 WORDS)**

2 WHEREAS, Healthcare remains a serious problem for all citizens as costs continue to increase, and accessibility decreases;
3 and,

4 WHEREAS, Federal health insurance reform legislation (PPACA), inadequate in total, opened the door to further
5 development of universal healthcare policy and legislation;

6 THEREFORE, RESOLVED, the DPW shall maintain its historical support for universal access to affordable healthcare,
7 preferably through a single-payer system;

8 FURTHER RESOLVED, the DPW will continue to advocate for single-payer healthcare at the federal and state level; and all
9 reforms that move toward comprehensive, guaranteed, affordable healthcare accessible to all U.S. citizens.

10

11 **11-JHD-11: OPPOSE PRIVATIZATION OF MEDICARE (1ST CD, 77 WORDS)**

12 WHEREAS, The Medicare and Medicaid programs were signed into law on July 30, 1965 and have been widely popular
13 and successful;

14 WHEREAS, Medicare is financed by payroll taxes and the Self-Employment Contributions Act of 1954 and is not causing
15 the Federal budget deficit; and,

16 WHEREAS, privatizing Medicare would divert the money that pays for elder health care into the hands of private, for-profit
17 corporations;

18 THEREFORE RESOLVED, the DPW opposes any form of privatization of Medicare or Medicaid.

19

20 **11-JHD-12: MEDICARE EXPANSION (5TH CD, 100 WORDS)**

21 WHEREAS, expanding Medicare coverage for everyone ages 18 through 30 will reduce business costs, benefit young
22 people's health and benefit the American economy;

23 WHEREAS, it's costly for businesses to provide medical coverage for new young hires' due to a history of short
24 employment stays;

25 WHEREAS, there is usually a waiting period for new hires medical coverage;

26 WHEREAS, young citizens do not earn enough to purchase health insurance; and,

27 WHEREAS, Medicare needs younger healthier members;

28 THEREFORE, RESOLVED, the DPW supports Medicare coverage be expanded to everyone ages 18 through 30 for any first
29 two years of continuous employment with any employer.

30

31 **11-JHD-13: COMMUNITY HEALTHCARE CENTERS SUPPORT (5TH CD, 99 WORDS)**

32 WHEREAS, healthcare costs in Wisconsin are not affordable nor easily accessible for a large portion of citizens;

33 WHEREAS, the cost of healthcare is 55% less at "Health Resources and Services Administration" "Community Healthcare
34 Centers" than private doctors' offices;

35 WHEREAS, hospital Emergency Departments are used too often for primary care at a seven times greater cost than a
36 CHC; and,

37 WHEREAS, CHCs are located in proximity to the most at need citizens of Wisconsin and are open late evenings and
38 Saturdays unlike doctors' offices;

39 THEREFORE, RESOLVED, the DPW make extreme efforts to support all aspects of Community Healthcare Center systems.

40

1 **11-JHD-14: PPACA COVERAGE CHANGES (5TH CD, 97 WORDS)**

2 WHEREAS, PPACA subsidizes the purchase of private healthcare insurance for low income people;
3 WHEREAS, PPACA subsidizes purchasing private healthcare insurance for high health risk people;
4 WHEREAS, unemployed workers cannot afford to pay premiums for private insurance;
5 WHEREAS, the ability of people to buy-in to Medicare will reduce PPACA subsidizing costs;
6 WHEREAS, if PPACA subsidizing monies were used to provide Medicare rather than private insurance it will save billions of
7 tax dollars; and,
8 WHEREAS, Medicare costs are at least 25% less than private insurance;
9 THEREFORE, RESOLVED, DPW advocates that a public Medicare purchase option be added to PPACA.

10
11 **11-JHD-15: ADDITION OF UNEMPLOYED AND HIGH RISK INDIVIDUALS TO MEDICARE (5TH CD, 100 WORDS)**

12 WHEREAS, the PPACA is not sufficient;
13 WHEREAS, COBRA coverage is costly for unemployed people and Medicare costs would be lower if people could be
14 covered by Medicare earlier if younger individuals were covered by Medicare;
15 WHEREAS, Medicare Part 'D' is not as cost efficient as Medicare and too costly for many seniors and people with
16 disabilities; and,
17 WHEREAS, private insurance coverage of high risk people will be subsidized by tax dollars;
18 THEREFORE, RESOLVED, DPW advocates that unemployed people from 50 to 64, Part 'D', and high risk people of all ages
19 be covered by Medicare with sliding scale premium schedules.

20
21 **11-JHD-16: REDUCTION IN HEALTH CARE COSTS BY REDUCING CO-PAYS AND DEDUCTIBLES AT TAXPAYER SUBSIDIZED**
22 **HEALTH AND MEDICAL CARE FACILITIES (5TH CD, 91 WORDS)**

23 WHEREAS, Community Healthcare Centers reduce medical costs and can increase operating revenues, while reducing
24 taxpayer funding;
25 WHEREAS, all people employed by a governing entity have private insurance company healthcare coverage subsidized by
26 taxpayer funding; and,
27 WHEREAS, "Health Resources and Services Administration" "Community Healthcare Centers" are heavily subsidized by
28 taxpayer funding;
29 THEREFORE, RESOLVED, that the DPW advocates co-pays and deductibles for government employees receiving care paid
30 by private insurance, at Community Healthcare Centers be waived to increase care paid by tax supported private
31 insurance, at taxpayer subsidized health and medical care facilities.

32
33 **11-JHD-17: SUPPORTING SINGLE-PAYER HEALTH CARE (2ND CD, 91 WORDS)**

34 WHEREAS, U.S. health care is ranked 37th in the world, including 33rd in infant mortality and 36th in life expectancy, at
35 twice the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development cost;
36 WHEREAS, 1 in 7 Americans are uninsured, vulnerable;
37 WHEREAS, fee-for-service health care generates huge profits, enlarged with each claim rejected; and
38 WHEREAS, health care demand is independent of market forces and therefore fundamentally different than consumer
39 goods, and should not be subject to laissez faire capitalism;
40 THEREFORE, RESOLVED, the DPW asserts that national single-payer health care is the long-term cost-effective solution.
41

1 **11-JHD-18: MEDICARE FOR ALL (3RD CD, 100 WORDS)**

2 WHEREAS, the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act was signed into law by President Barack Obama on March 23,
3 2010;

4 WHEREAS, the law provides nearly universal health care coverage for all Americans by 2014; and,

5 WHEREAS, although the law achieves goals sought for by many Americans for decades, it does so by requiring many
6 citizens to buy insurance from for-profit companies which continues the practice of gaining a profit from the misfortune of
7 the sick;

8 THEREFORE, RESOLVED, the DPW supports adopting Medicare For All, a not-for-profit national delivery system that
9 includes medical care, preventive care, dental care and prescription drugs.

10

11 **11-JHD-19: HEALTH CARE (7TH CD, 89 WORDS)**

12 WHEREAS, 20% of Wisconsinites receive medical assistance through Badger Care/Medicare;

13 WHEREAS, those without health insurance use the most costly means for receiving medical care and often can't pay the
14 bill;

15 WHEREAS, countries with universal health care coverage have better outcomes for much less money than the United
16 States; and,

17 WHEREAS, the largest cause of bankruptcy is medical costs and countries with universal medical care do not have
18 bankruptcy due to medical costs;

19 THEREFORE, RESOLVED, that the DPW support the continued availability of Badger Care and the Affordable Care Act.

20

21 **11-JHD-20: SINGLE PAYER HEALTH INSURANCE (7TH CD, 88 WORDS)**

22 WHEREAS, there already exists several very good studies and recommendations in Wisconsin regarding single payer
23 health insurance which will greatly reduce health care costs, improve clarity and speed of payment and reduce confusion,
24 anxiety and reticence to seek health care; and,

25 WHEREAS, 59% of physicians, 558 union organizations and a majority of the American people support single payer;

26 THEREFORE, RESOLVED, that the DPW call on Congress to recognize healthcare as a human right and pass HR676 so
27 that all Americans have access to the quality healthcare they deserve.

28

29 **11-JHD-21: RESOLUTION TO DELEGATE REAPPORTIONMENT RESPONSIBILITY TO THE GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY**
30 **BOARD (1ST AND 4TH CDS, 77 WORDS)**

31 WHEREAS, the Wisconsin Constitution requires the legislature to reapportion itself each decade;

32 WHEREAS, for the last three decades reapportionment was resolved by the courts;

33 WHEREAS, DPW's platform calls for the creation of a non-partisan reapportionment commission; and,

34 WHEREAS, the only way to fairly reapportion Wisconsin's legislative districts is to delegate advisory status to an
35 independent body;

36 THEREFORE RESOLVED, the legislature delegate the reapportionment responsibility to the Government Accountability
37 Board so they can develop a fair non-partisan plan.

38

39 **11-JHD-22: RESOLUTION TO RESTORE FUNDING TO THE SENATE MINORITY CAUCUS FOR LEGAL COUNSEL ON**
40 **REAPPORTIONMENT (4TH CD, 52 WORDS)**

41 WHEREAS, the Republican controlled Senate Committee on Organization revoked funding to the Democratic Caucus for
42 legal counsel on reapportionment; and,

43 WHEREAS, the Senate Democrats provided such funding for both caucuses when they were in the majority;

44 THEREFORE, RESOLVED, the DPW demands that funding for legal counsel be restored to the Senate Democrats.

45

1 **11-JHD-23: RESOLUTION THAT THE STATE LEGISLATURE COMPLY WITH THE OPEN MEETINGS LAW APPLICABLE TO OTHER**
2 **GOVERNMENTAL BODIES (1ST AND 4TH CDS, 55 WORDS)**

3 WHEREAS, the Republicans are attempting to use technical provisions in the Open Meetings law to exempt the Legislature
4 from compliance with that law as it applies to other governmental bodies;

5 THEREFORE, RESOLVED, legislation be enacted to require the Legislature to comply with the Open Meetings Law as it is
6 currently applied to other governmental bodies.

7
8 **11-JHD-24: SUPPORTING STRICT SEPARATION OF GOVERNMENT AND RELIGION (2ND CD, 97 WORDS)**

9 WHEREAS, the US Constitution's Bill of Rights, in the First Amendment, binding on all governmental entities in the nation,
10 provides "no law shall be made respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof";

11 WHEREAS, these religion-related prohibitions of the Bill of Rights require governments' non-support of and neutrality with
12 regard to religions; and

13 WHEREAS, in so requiring, the prohibitions protect individuals and religions from religion-favoring governmental
14 discrimination and interference and governments from religion-based tampering;

15 THEREFORE, RESOLVED, the DPW demands that all governmental entities adhere strictly to the religion-related
16 prohibitions of the Bill of Rights.

17
18 **11-JHD-25: SEPARATION OF CHURCH AND STATE (6TH CD, 77 WORDS)**

19 WHEREAS, the founding fathers of the US were wise to recognize the adverse effects of religious tyranny on a nation;
20 and,

21 WHEREAS, the founding fathers created a secular government to prevent religious tyranny;

22 THEREFORE, RESOLVED, that the DPW supports a secular government, void of faith-based initiatives such as vouchers
23 for parochial education of its children;

24 FURTHER RESOLVED, that those religious groups that involve themselves in endorsing political candidates and/or political
25 parties be restricted from enjoying tax-free status.

26
27 **11-JHD-26: LEGALIZATION, REGULATION, AND TAXATION OF MARIJUANA (8TH CD, 89 WORDS)**

28 WHEREAS, present drug laws have failed to limit availability or use of marijuana and have produced large prison
29 populations, a vast underground economy, and staggering financial and social costs;

30 WHEREAS, alcohol and tobacco laws demonstrate that effective regulation and taxation are possible and effective; and,

31 WHEREAS, thirteen states have made medicinal use of marijuana legal;

32 THEREFORE, RESOLVED, that the DPW supports legalized use and distribution of marijuana, with taxation and regulation
33 similar to tobacco and alcohol, and that the revenue be used to fund drug education and treatment programs.

34
35 **11-JHD-27: DOMESTIC PARTNERSHIP BENEFITS AND OBLIGATIONS (8TH CD, 78 WORDS)**

36 WHEREAS, the Democratic Party of Wisconsin strives to end discrimination against our gay, lesbian, bisexual, and
37 transgender neighbors, friends, and family and to realize a nation that achieves fundamental fairness and equality for all;
38 and,

39 WHEREAS, same sex domestic partnerships are not sufficiently recognized as deserving of the same protection, benefits
40 and obligations as heterosexual domestic partners and married couples;

41 THEREFORE, RESOLVED, that the DPW work with state and national leadership to end discriminatory practices towards
42 non-traditional families.

1 **11-JHD-28: REMOVING NONVIOLENT OFFENDERS FROM THE PRISON SYSTEM (8TH CD, 69 WORDS) [SEPARATE FOR**
2 **DISCUSSION]**

3 WHEREAS, the USA incarcerates more people than any other developed country;

4 WHEREAS, the cost of incarceration is roughly \$30,000 per person per year;

5 WHEREAS, many are imprisoned for nonviolent offenses such as the possession of marijuana; and,

6 WHEREAS, imprisonment for such offenses serves neither the individual nor society;

7 THEREFORE, RESOLVED, that the DPW supports alternative ways of reforming nonviolent illegal behavior through
8 education, treatment, victim compensation, and/or military service.

9
10 **11-JHD-29: TRAINING PROGRAMS PROVIDED BY DPW (8TH CD, 94 WORDS)**

11 WHEREAS, the training and education programs provided by the DPW to its members are inadequate to ensure that
12 Democratic Party members and volunteers have the knowledge and skills necessary to be as effective as they can be as
13 Party administrators, campaigners and election organizers; and,

14 WHEREAS, that professional organization of the DPW is concentrated in Madison between elections to the detriment of
15 the out-state organization;

16 THEREFORE, RESOLVED, that the DPW shall organize a comprehensive program of membership training at the local level,
17 and maintain permanent offices within each congressional district to support county parties.

18
19 **11-JHD-30: RECOGNITION OF TRIBAL SOVEREIGNTY (8TH CD, 50 WORDS)**

20 WHEREAS, within the 8th Congressional District there are 7 tribal nations;

21 WHEREAS, the DPW has an American Indian Caucus; and,

22 WHEREAS, the American Indian vote has been a swing vote for electing Democrats within the 8th CD and throughout
23 Wisconsin;

24 THEREFORE, RESOLVED, that the DPW recognizes and supports Tribal sovereignty.

25
26
27 **RESOLUTIONS CONCERNING FOREIGN AFFAIRS**

28
29 **11-FA-01: REDIRECT MILITARY DEFENSE SPENDING TO PEACETIME NEEDS (6TH CD, 92 WORDS)**

30 WHEREAS, according to the American Friends Service Committee, the United States spent \$1,107,446,000,000 on the
31 military last year, and this amounts to \$2.1 million spent every single minute; and,

32 WHEREAS our national priorities must shift to direct some of that taxpayer money to programs to benefit the needs of
33 average Americans and to a peacetime economy;

34 THEREFORE, RESOLVED, that the DPW calls for an end to our involvement in the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, and asks
35 for a redirection of military spending to programs providing peacetime solutions to our economic problems.

36
37 **11-FA-02: RESOLUTION SUPPORTING MOVING WAR MONEY TO STATE AID (4TH CD, 100 WORDS)**

38 WHEREAS, states are running budget deficits because of the lingering effects of the Great Recession which decreased tax
39 revenues and increased expenditures;

40 WHEREAS, the sum of all the state budget deficits is approximately \$130 billion;

41 WHEREAS, the authorized war spending in Afghanistan and Iraq in 2011 is \$160 billion;

42 THEREFORE, RESOLVED, the DPW supports ending these wars and moving the money to the states to close their deficits;

43 FURTHER RESOLVED, the DPW supports Peace Action's national campaign to petition President Obama to end the
44 Afghanistan War before 2014 and advising him that he diminishes his support by continuing this war.

1 **RESOLUTIONS CONCERNING EDUCATION, LABOR, AND ECONOMICS**
2

3 **11-ELE-01: RESOLUTION TO MAINTAIN AN HONEST AND ETHICAL BIDDING PROCESS WHEN SELLING AND BUYING STATE**
4 **PROPERTY (1ST AND 4TH CDS, 66 WORDS)**

5 WHEREAS, Wisconsin has a long tradition of clean and honest government where the sales (purchases) of state property
6 go to the highest (lowest) qualified bidder; and,

7 WHEREAS, Governor Walker proposed the selling of state owned power plants in a no bid process;

8 THEREFORE, RESOLVED, the DPW opposes the selling or buying of state "real property" unless the transaction is
9 awarded to the highest (lowest) qualified bidder.

10
11 **11-ELE-02: REP. RYAN'S "ROADMAP" IS WRONG FOR AMERICA (1ST AND 2ND CDS, 100 WORDS)**

12 WHEREAS, Representative Paul Ryan's "Roadmap for America's Future" is replete with exaggeration, misapprehension
13 and simplification;

14 WHEREAS, the "Roadmap" hides historical 30 year Supply-Side economic decline in key areas such as national debt and
15 U.S. median earnings;

16 WHEREAS, the "Roadmap" projects 70 years into the future despite CBO insistence that projections beyond 10 years are
17 statistically untrustworthy; and,

18 WHEREAS, the "Roadmap" proposes reductions for the vulnerable (inadequate vouchers) while the wealthiest "share the
19 burden" by having their income tax rate reduced from 35 percent to 25 percent;

20 THEREFORE, RESOLVED, the DPW chastises the Roadmap as one-sided, misleading, and wrong for America.
21

22 **11-ELE-03: LIFT SOCIAL SECURITY WAGE CAP (1ST CD, 99 WORDS) [SEPARATE FOR DISCUSSION]**

23 WHEREAS, the Social Security Trust Fund balance (\$2.6 trillion) will pay all benefits for 25 years;

24 WHEREAS, 1982 crisis projections showed the SSTF empty by 1983, thus leading to 1983 revisions making the SSTF
25 solvent for 50 years;

26 WHEREAS, current Social Security taxes are regressive, stopping at incomes above \$106,000;

27 WHEREAS, Social Security is a national insurance program, not a private retirement account; and,

28 WHEREAS, privatizing trillions of Social Security dollars to cash-saturated Wall Street primarily benefits the wealthiest;

29 THEREFORE, RESOLVED, there is no Social Security crisis;

30 FURTHER RESOLVED, the DPW advocates fully lifted income cap with capped benefits.
31

32 **11-ELE-04: EXTENDING SOCIAL SECURITY AND MEDICARE TAX TO ALL EARNED INCOME (8TH CD, 73 WORDS)**

33 WHEREAS, Social Security has successfully provided a minimum retirement income indexed to inflation and Medicare an
34 effective safety net for the aged and handicapped; and,

35 WHEREAS, previous adjustments in taxes to cover these programs failed to account for the huge gap that has developed
36 between the top 10% of earners and the rest;

37 THEREFORE, RESOLVED, that the DPW supports a policy whereby all earned income be subject to Social Security and
38 Medicare taxation.
39

1 **11-ELE-05: SUPPORTING SOCIAL SECURITY (7TH CD, 76 WORDS)**

2 WHEREAS, Social Security is one of the most successful social programs and is presently financially viable;
3 WHEREAS, Social Security is a benefit that retirees, survivors and the disabled rely upon;
4 WHEREAS, Social Security is the principal income for 2/3 of retirees, and for 1/3 represents their only income; and,
5 WHEREAS, privatization would weaken, if not terminate, Social Security;
6 THEREFORE, RESOLVED, the DPW opposes privatization of Social Security, and any changes that would reduce benefits
7 to beneficiaries.

9 **11-ELE-06: REFORMING WISCONSIN'S SCHOOL FUNDING FORMULA (2ND CD, 98 WORDS)**

10 WHEREAS, Wisconsin schools continue to have funding problems because of the lack of funding offered by the state;
11 WHEREAS, this causes school districts to cut schools, staff, services, course offerings, and equipment, and;
12 WHEREAS, current school funding is designed to control state property taxes and not to adequately fund schools;
13 THEREFORE, RESOLVED, the DPW supports enacting a school finance system based on the actual cost of educating
14 students in Wisconsin with sufficient resources to satisfy state and federal mandates and the cost must be financed by a
15 fair tax structure not reliant on property taxes as the basis.

17 **11-ELE-07: SUPPORT ADEQUATE FUNDING FOR PUBLIC EDUCATION (7TH CD, 95 WORDS)**

18 WHEREAS, government by the people depends upon a literate citizenry for, as Thomas Jefferson advocated, an educated
19 and informed citizenry;
20 WHEREAS, fundamental understanding of ALL areas of knowledge (physical, biological, and behavioral sciences, cultural,
21 etc.) is imperative; and,
22 WHEREAS, in 2010 Wisconsin ranked second in the nation in SAT scores and scholastic competence resulting in a high
23 percentage of students acquiring jobs and entering well paid productive careers;
24 THEREFORE, RESOLVED, that the DPW urge rejection of Governor Walker's budget cutting proposals and support
25 adequate funding to continue our state's tradition of quality public educational opportunities.

27 **11-ELE-08: SCHOOL FUNDING REFORM (8TH CD, 86 WORDS)**

28 WHEREAS, the current funding formula results in an annual statewide shortfall of necessary funds for staff, services and
29 equipment;
30 WHEREAS, it penalizes districts for factors unrelated to education; and,
31 WHEREAS, it seeks to control property taxes rather than to ensure the highest quality of public education;
32 THEREFORE, RESOLVED, that the DPW supports school finance legislation that funds the actual cost of excellent public
33 education at a level sufficient to satisfy all state and federal mandates and to prepare students for both higher education
34 and civic responsibility.

36 **11-ELE-09: SCHOOL FUNDING (3RD CD, 100 WORDS)**

37 WHEREAS, the Governor proposes expansion of the Milwaukee Voucher program;
38 WHEREAS, voucher school test scores are lower than public school scores;
39 WHEREAS, the Governor proposes eliminating the income eligibility requirement to receive state-funded tuition payments
40 allowing everyone, including the very wealthy, to receive receive taxpayer funded tuition vouchers;
41 WHEREAS, the Governor proposes Public Schools cut spending by 5.5% while proposing \$30 million more for the private
42 schools in Milwaukee;
43 THEREFORE, RESOLVED, DPW opposes expansion of statewide charter school programs and the Milwaukee Voucher
44 Program and advocates state funding for these programs be cut by the same percentage as public schools.

1 **11-ELE-10: PUBLIC EDUCATION FUNDING (6TH CD, 76 WORDS)**

2 WHEREAS, a healthy and vibrant public education system is vital for a progressive and forward moving nation;
3 WHEREAS, the use of public funds for religious schools breaches the law that constitutionally separates church and state;
4 and,
5 WHEREAS, the diversion of public monies to finance private and/or religious schools reduces the ability of the public
6 education system to provide quality education to children;
7 THEREFORE, RESOLVED, the DPW is opposed to public funding of private and/or religious schools.

8
9 **11-ELE-11: SUPPORT PUBLIC EDUCATION (7TH CD, 98 WORDS)**

10 WHEREAS, state and federal budgets have targeted public education with drastic reductions;
11 WHEREAS, the Republican agenda is to privatize education through private school vouchers, and creating Charter
12 schools; and,
13 WHEREAS, Charter and private schools lack the high standards that govern public schools, do not require professional
14 teaching staff, hire and fire at will, and can dump failing and special needs students onto public schools;
15 THEREFORE, RESOLVED, that the DPW advocates reduction of private school vouchers and chartered schools and instead
16 encourage reinvestment in public schools and the return of collective bargaining rights for educators and other public
17 employees.

18
19 **11-ELE-12: SUPPORTING UNION RIGHTS TO COLLECTIVE BARGAINING (2ND AND 3RD CDS, 100 WORDS)**

20 WHEREAS, the right of unionized workers to collectively bargain with an employer was hard-won, and began decades of
21 improving work conditions for unionized workers;
22 WHEREAS, the improvement in working conditions for unionized workers has improved working conditions for all workers
23 through regulation and economic pressure on employers; and
24 WHEREAS, without the institutionalized presence of advocates for workers, many employers will use workers to enrich
25 themselves regardless of the costs to workers;
26 THEREFORE, RESOLVED, the DPW supports the rights of unionized workers in the public and private sector to collectively
27 bargain with employers about wages and all aspects of working conditions.

28
29 **11-ELE-13: RESOLUTION SUPPORTING H.R. 870, THE HUMPHREY-HAWKINS 21ST CENTURY FULL EMPLOYMENT AND
30 TRAINING ACT (4TH CD, 100 WORDS)**

31 WHEREAS, a just society provides full employment, with a job for every individual who desires work;
32 WHEREAS, the U.S. economy has never fully achieved this goal; and,
33 WHEREAS, the AFL-CIO jobs agenda calls upon the government to directly fund job creation "if the private sector can't or
34 won't provide the needed jobs";
35 THEREFORE, RESOLVED, the DPW supports H.R. 870, The Humphrey-Hawkins 21st Century Full Employment and
36 Training Act, which places a tax on Wall Street financial transactions in order to create a trust fund to be used to publicly
37 fund jobs when the unemployment rate is less than full employment.

38
39 **11-ELE-14: THE RIGHT TO COLLECTIVE BARGAINING (5TH CD, 76 WORDS)**

40 WHEREAS, the USA ratified the UN General Assembly's International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR) in
41 1992;
42 WHEREAS, Article 22 of the ICCPR mandates freedom of association and guarantees the right to belong to trade unions
43 and specifically mentions the right to collective bargaining; and,
44 WHEREAS, Governor Walker's and the Republican Party's 2011 Budget Repair Bill denies public sector workers the full
45 right of collective bargaining;
46 THEREFORE, RESOLVED, that all collective bargaining rights be restored.

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30
31
32
33
34
35
36
37
38
39
40
41

11-ELE-15: RIGHTS OF PUBLIC EMPLOYEES TO ORGANIZE AND ENGAGE IN COLLECTIVE BARGAINING (6TH CD, 94 WORDS)

WHEREAS, recent activity of the State Legislature and the Governor have abrogated the rights of public employees in Wisconsin from engaging in collective bargaining; and,

WHEREAS, the Democratic Party of Wisconsin supports the right of public employees in all jurisdictions of the State of Wisconsin to engage in collective bargaining with their employers concerning grievances, labor disputes, wages, hours or conditions of employment;

THEREFORE, RESOLVED, that the DPW supports the full restoration of all public employee statutory rights that were removed from state law with the passage of the Budget Repair Bill (Act 10).

11-ELE-16: EMPLOYEE FREE CHOICE ACT (8TH CD, 89 WORDS)

WHEREAS, Republican administrations seek to reduce the capacity of workers to bargain collectively;

WHEREAS, the decline in worker rights, job security, safety, and income has led to record inequality and loss of wellbeing, adversely affecting our whole society; and,

WHEREAS, collective bargaining still provides the best way to ensure that jobs and benefits count as essential products of economic growth;

THEREFORE, RESOLVED, that the DPW supports the right of organized labor in both the public and private spheres to bargain collectively as proposed by the Employee Free Choice Act.

11-ELE-17: RESCIND INSURANCE COMPANY ANTI-TRUST EXEMPTIONS (5TH CD, 43 WORDS)

WHEREAS, private insurance companies violate anti-trust statutes that other businesses are subject to; and,

WHEREAS, private insurance companies are exempt from legal action for not complying with anti-trust practices by federal statutes;

THEREFORE, RESOLVED, that the private insurance industry anti-trust exemptions be rescinded.

11-ELE-18: FEDERAL ISSUE – SOCIAL SECURITY IMPROVEMENT (5TH CD, 91 WORDS)

WHEREAS, the American economy needs spending stimulation to create jobs;

WHEREAS, removing the cap from Social Security contributions will help keep Social Security robust; and,

WHEREAS, increasing the retirement age reduces the number of available American job slots;

THEREFORE, RESOLVED, that Congress take action to; leave current FICA payroll deductions at 4.2% so lower income workers have more money to spend stimulating the American economy; remove the cap from FICA payroll contributions to further fund the Social Security system; and reduce the retirement age to 65 to increase American job slots.

11-ELE-19: PROGRESSIVE TAXATION (6TH CD, 90 WORDS)

WHEREAS, the disparity in income in the US has become extreme and unacceptable;

WHEREAS, this disparity of income moves the United States from a democratic nation to a plutocracy with 85% of the wealth owned by a mere 20% of the people; and,

WHEREAS, dramatic tax relief has been granted to the wealthy at the expense of the middle and lower classes;

THEREFORE, RESOLVED, that DPW supports a return to progressive taxation whereby those who own the wealth in this country pay a fair portion of the costs of government.

1 **11-ELE-20: IN SUPPORT OF LOCAL BUDGET CONTROL (7TH CD, 90 WORDS)**

2 WHEREAS; our current governor and legislature was elected on an anti-state mandate platform;

3 WHEREAS; the budget proposed by Gov. Walker would mandate either zero growth or cuts in tax levies for all levels of
4 local government;

5 WHEREAS, this mandate is a violation of local governments right to determine their budgetary needs; and,

6 WHEREAS, this mandate would cripple local government's ability to respond to changing needs in their community;

7 THEREFORE, RESOLVED, the DPW supports local decision making on budget issues and lifting the levy mandates for all
8 units of local governments.
9

10 **11-ELE-21: ELIMINATING CORPORATE TAX BREAKS (8TH CD, 96 WORDS)**

11 WHEREAS, since the present governor has addressed state fiscal challenges by cutting important programs and services
12 such as Senior and Badger Care, Earned Income Tax Credit, transit aid, public education and freezing Family Care
13 funding; and,

14 WHEREAS, the governor's increased tax breaks for the wealthy and corporations only exacerbates the deficit resulting in
15 critical program cuts that are needed to pay for these breaks;

16 THEREFORE, RESOLVED, that the Wisconsin Legislature should amend the governor's budget by eliminating tax breaks
17 for corporations and wealthy residents and develop initiatives that increase revenues to meet the state's budget
18 requirements.