

## **Unity Resolution**

*Submitted to the Nebraska Democratic Party by the Nebraska State Party Officers and DNC Members: Chair Jane Kleeb, First Associate Chair Frank LaMere, Second Associate Chair Tom Tilden, DNC Committeewoman Patty Zieg, DNC Committeeman Ron Kaminski.*

Whereas the 2016 Presidential election revealed deep divisions within the Democratic Party;

And whereas the election of the Republican President and his disastrous activities and politics demands a unified Democratic response;

And whereas the 2018 elections have become critical for our Country and Party;

And whereas the Democratic National Convention unanimously adopted the resolution creating the Unity Reform Commission and its mandate to recommend changes that will strengthen our party for the elections ahead and years to come;

And whereas unity was reached by the URC and real reforms have been proposed;

And whereas the recommendations are common sense as well as vital which make primaries and caucuses more open and accessible, reduce the unpledged super delegates' role in the presidential nominating process, create more openness and transparency in the processes of the DNC including financial decisions;

And whereas the recommendations of the Unity Commission Report have been endorsed by DNC chairman Tom Perez, DNC Deputy Chair Keith Ellison, and many others;

Therefore, the Democratic National Committee Members from Nebraska sign the "Unity Letter" (attached);

And Therefore we the delegates of the 2018 Nebraska Democratic State

Convention also sign the Unity Letter and do hereby call on all DNC members to vote for adoption of the recommendations of the Unity Commission.

### **Unity Letter**

We, the undersigned Members of Congress, join Chair Tom Perez and Deputy Chair Keith Ellison in supporting the recommendations of the Unity Reform Commission. The proposed recommendations were adopted by the full body which was comprised of 21 members appointed by Secretary Clinton, Senator Sanders and Chairman Perez.

Unity was reached and real reforms have been proposed--both are critical for the success of our Party. As Democratic Members of Congress we call on the Rules and Bylaws Committee as well as the full DNC to adopt the report in full.

Included in the recommendations are common sense as well as vital reforms such as:

- Make primaries and caucuses more open and accessible through opportunities like same-day registration.
- Reduce the number of unpledged or super delegates by at least 60% on the first ballot during the presidential as proposed by the Unity Reform Commission.
- Additionally, we support and agree with a current DNC Rules and Bylaws Committee proposal that a vote by unpledged delegates be eliminated during the first ballot, as is currently being discussed by the DNC.
- Create more openness and transparency in processes within the DNC including financial decisions.
- As the introduction of the Unity Reform report clearly states, Democrats must support voting rights, inclusion and transparency inside our party as we continue to champion voting rights in our nation and oppose Republican voter suppression.

*o Link to report:*

[http://s3.amazonaws.com/uploads.democrats.org/URC\\_Report\\_FINAL.pdf](http://s3.amazonaws.com/uploads.democrats.org/URC_Report_FINAL.pdf)

We are proud to stand with the members of the Unity Reform Commission and call on all DNC members to do the same and vote for adoption of the recommendations.

## **De-escalation of Nuclear Threats Resolution**

**Whereas the United States is a signatory to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons.**

**Whereas the United States is a signatory to the TREATY BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION ON MEASURES FOR THE FURTHER REDUCTION AND LIMITATION OF STRATEGIC OFFENSIVE ARMS, also referred to as “New Start.”**

**Whereas the reduction and eventual elimination of nuclear weapons is a treaty obligation for all signatories of the treaty on nuclear proliferation.**

**Whereas it is an accepted fact that the threat of nuclear war poses a danger to all Nebraskans.**

**Whereas Donald J. Trump has written, “The United States must greatly strengthen and expand its nuclear capability...” December 22, 2016 which is dangerous and alarming shift in the United States foreign policy.**

**Whereas it is the first duty of our government to protect its citizens.**

**We resolve to call upon all elected officials to de-escalate the threat of nuclear war. We also affirm that it is the stated policy of our nation and in the best interest of all nations to move towards a world free of nuclear weapons.**

**Submitted by Robert Way**

## DREAMER Resolution

A RESOLUTION relating to Nebraska's support for allowing undocumented immigrants who were brought to the United States as minors to continue to legally live, work, and study in the country that has become their home.

WHEREAS, in June of 2012, President Barack Obama implemented the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals ("DACA") program, which allows undocumented immigrants who were brought to the United States as minors ("DREAMERS") to receive a renewable two-year period of deferred action from deportation along with eligibility for a work permit; and

WHEREAS, President Donald Trump has ordered that the DACA program be rescinded, with a phase out of the program in six months and has asked Congress to pass a law during that six-month period to replace it; and

WHEREAS, DREAMERS residing in Nebraska and in our Nation, are now living with the uncertainty of whether the DACA program will survive the Trump Administration's termination of the program, thereby threatening them with the threat of immediate deportation; and

WHEREAS, many Dreamers arrived in this country as infants or young children and bear no responsibility for the actions that brought them to this country and must not face the possibility of deportation; and

WHEREAS, DREAMERS face an uncertainty of possible deportation which is exacting a tremendous toll, both physically and psychologically, on the DREAMERS/DACA recipients, their U.S. citizen families, neighbors, and friends; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Nebraska Democratic Party to respectfully request that Congress adopt Federal legislation to settle the DACA crisis by creating a pathway to citizenship for DREAMERS and release all of America's DREAMERS from the threat of deportation.

Introduced by

**Shirl Mora James**

Shirl Mora James

&

**Zachary Mora James**

Zachary Mora James

## ASYLEE IMMIGRANT FAMILY Resolution

A RESOLUTION relating to Nebraska's support for allowing Asylee Immigrant Families, who are fleeing violence and/or torture, and seeking asylum in the United States must not be separated during immigration processing. The Family Units must be kept together even in the detention processing. Furthermore, the Asylee parent should not be charged with a crime for entry into the U.S. while seeking an Asylum.

WHEREAS, The Trump administration has ordered the U.S. Asylum 'Catch and Release' policy be changed to a "Zero Tolerance" policy in which Asylee parents are criminally prosecuted for their entry into the U.S. and their children are taken from them and placed in foster care.

WHEREAS, many ASYLEE IMMIGRANT FAMILIES arriving in this country are fleeing violence and bear no responsibility for the actions that brought them to this country and must not face the possibility of deportation; and

WHEREAS, ASYLEE IMMIGRANT FAMILIES face an uncertainty of possible deportation and/or death if returned to their home countries which is exacting a tremendous toll, both physically and psychologically, on these FAMILIES and their U.S. citizen families; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Nebraska Democratic Party respectfully request that Congress adopt Federal legislation to settle the ASYLEE IMMIGRANT FAMILIES crisis by keeping family units together, process them and release them with their upcoming immigration court appointments and protect them from the threat of deportation until they have their day in court.

Introduced by

**Shirl Mora James**

Shirl Mora James

## **Medicaid Expansion Resolution**

Whereas, the Nebraska Democratic Party favors making health care available to as many Nebraskans as possible; and

Whereas, the Federal Government has made available funding for Nebraska, and other states to expand Medicaid coverage to individuals who do not qualify for Medicaid, Medicare, or able to afford individual coverage without assistance; and

Whereas, 33 states have expanded Medicaid coverage using Nebraskan's federal tax dollars to cover their expansion of Medicaid services to their population; and

Whereas, Rural Nebraska hospitals will suffer financial hardships and face closing their doors;

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Nebraska Democratic Party encourage all voters to sign the Medicaid Initiative Petition and request the Legislature and Governor pass a Medicaid expansion program to benefit Nebraskans who don't have health insurance, Medicare or Medicaid, and to benefit Nebraska hospitals.

Submitted by Angela Thomas, Chair, Red Willow County Democrats

## Oglala Lakota Nation Restoration Resolution

Whereas, the Nebraska Democratic Party (NDP) has long stood in solidarity with the NE Tribes and with the Oglala Lakota Nation, and

Whereas, the NDP has demonstrated their support of the First Nations through the passage of numerous resolutions addressing the illegal sale of alcohol flowing from Whiteclay, NE onto the dry Pine Ridge Reservation in South Dakota, not the least of which is the Lexie LaMere resolution presented at the 2012 State Convention, and

Whereas, the issuance of licenses allowing the sale of alcohol from NE to people on Pine Ridge who have no legal place to consume it has contributed to high rates of poverty, rampant lawlessness, numerous unsolved murders and suspicious deaths and the unparalleled incidence of alcohol addiction and fetal alcohol syndrome among the Oglala Lakota people, and

Whereas, the State of NE had long known of the concerns expressed about Whiteclay by many Nebraskans and those in our Party but had turned a blind eye and continued to send revenues south into our state while exporting the death, destruction, and misery north onto Pine Ridge, and

Whereas, the Liquor Control Commission voted 3-0 on April 19, 2017 to deny the re-issuance of four liquor licenses at Whiteclay, and

Whereas, the Nebraska Supreme Court upheld the decision of the Liquor Control Commission by a vote of 7-0 on September 29, 2017, and

Whereas, the Whiteclay liquor licenses are gone but the suffering and the devastation caused by 113 years of NE complicity in the sale of alcohol onto Pine Ridge by NE, will be felt for generations requiring a concerted effort by Nebraska and the federal government to restore and to mitigate the damage.

Therefore, Be It Resolved, that the work to restore and to give back to the Oglala Lakota Nation some of what we have taken from them must begin immediately with the establishment of a cold case unit to investigate countless murders in and around Sheridan County that are clearly attributable to the illegalities that were allowed to continue by Nebraska law enforcement and public officials, and

Be It Further Resolved, that the NDP calls upon the Governor, the Nebraska Attorney General, the US Attorney, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and the Department of Justice to acknowledge that some people in Sheridan County, NE have gotten away with murder and that extensive investigations must begin if Nebraska is to bring them to justice and to ensure that all Nebraska citizens are served and protected.

Brought by Frank LaMere

1<sup>st</sup> Associate Chair, NDP

## Lynn Redding Resolution

Whereas, Lynn Redding has been a steadfast advocate, campaign worker, candidate, party leader, and friend, and she has made more calls than almost anyone else in this Party, and

Whereas, she has acted as an energizer for our Party, willing to help any and everyone around her, always with a smile, on whatever is needed, and

Whereas, Lynn Redding embodies the values, the ideals, and the drive at the core of the Nebraska Democratic Party,

Therefore, Be It Resolved, that this Body names Lynn Redding as the Honorary Heart and Soul of the Nebraska Democratic Party, and we ask the Body in her honor, to gather Medicaid expansion signatures.

Brought by Brodey Weber LD 21

Seconded by Edison McDonald LD 25