

2025 Resolutions Omnibus Package

2025 Orange County Democratic Party Resolutions Omnibus Package

Resolutions follow the format template provided by the North Carolina Democratic Party. Resolutions will be referred to by Resolution number vs. Delegate Packet page numbers.

Resolution 1: Resolution of the Orange County Democratic Party Expressing No Confidence in National Congressional Leadership

WHEREAS, the current leadership of the national Democratic Party has led us into today's dangerous political situation of a President willfully and deliberately violating the Constitution of the United States, supported and enabled by his party's control of both the Senate and the House of Representatives; and,

WHEREAS, the current congressional leadership of the Democratic Party has proven manifestly incapable or unwilling to oppose President Trump and his regime as they dismantle our national government and violate the Constitution of the United States;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, The Orange County Democratic Party has no confidence in the Democratic Party leadership in the U.S. Congress; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Orange County Democratic Party urges the present congressional leadership of the Democratic Party to step aside and give way to a new generation of leadership.

Resolution 2: Resolution to place term limits on DNC members

WHEREAS the North Carolina Democratic Party has been represented by a similar group of people year after year on the Democratic National Committee;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED That the North Carolina Democratic Party rules be amended to limit our elected Democratic National Committee members to no more than four (4) terms of service.

Resolution 3: Resolution to elect state party officers after the election of new State Executive Committee members and county officers

WHEREAS, the North Carolina Democratic Party currently conducts its elections of state party officers before the election of new State Executive Committee members, county officers, and congressional district officers, which ensures that our state party officers represent the democratic party as it was two years prior rather than its current membership;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the North Carolina Democratic Party rules be amended such that our state party officers be elected after the election of SEC members, county officers, and congressional district officers of that same calendar year.

Resolution 4: Resolution to make the Democratic National Committee bylaws public information

WHEREAS the Democratic National Committee currently does not make its bylaws public;

WHEREAS the Democratic Party is supposed to be a party of the people;

WHEREAS hiding the bylaws creates undue difficulty for people attempting to involve themselves in the party;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Democratic National Committee be required to keep its latest bylaws public and published on its website, <https://democrats.org/>.

Resolution 5: A Resolution Calling for all those representing the Democratic party to call out illegal actions on the part of the current administration.

WHEREAS, the current administration is undermining rights granted to American citizens by our Constitution and Bill of Rights, and

WHEREAS, Congressional Republicans have largely remained silent, failing to protest these actions and defend our rights, and

WHEREAS, not enough elected Democrats have spoken out loudly against this assault;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Orange County Democratic Party calls upon our elected officials at all levels of government to publicly, loudly, and repeatedly call the administration to account and support all citizen actions such as rallies that do so.

Resolution 6: A Resolution Advising the OCDP and NCDP to become highly proficient in social media

Whereas, social media is now the primary source of information for many people, and the 2024 national Republican campaign used social media much more effectively with swing voters than did the 2024 national Democratic campaign.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the OCDP and NCDP at all levels must become highly proficient in using social media with swing voters, focusing on the issues that matter the most to them.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the OCDP and NCDP employ dedicated social media experts to develop and maintain comprehensive and proactive social media outreach

Resolution 7: Resolution to Support Workers and Working Families in North Carolina

WHEREAS North Carolina's minimum wage has remained at \$7.25 an hour since 2009, which was the last time the federal minimum wage was increased, while 30 states and the District of Columbia have increased their minimum wage above \$7.25 to adjust for inflation; and

WHEREAS preemption laws in North Carolina prevent cities and towns from requiring employers to pay a minimum wage above the state minimum of \$7.25, even though many employers do so voluntarily; and

WHEREAS the NC Center for Justice reports that North Carolina's maximum unemployment insurance benefit of \$350 per week, for up to 12 weeks, ranks in the bottom five states for its stinginess, putting many jobless workers and their families at risk; and

WHEREAS North Carolina repealed its refundable state Earned Income Tax Credit in 2014, and never restored it, at a time when 29 states and the District of Columbia offer an EITC to build on the success of the federal credit to lift lower-wage workers and working families out of poverty while providing significant income, educational, and health benefits to its recipients and their children; and

WHEREAS there is no law in North Carolina requiring private employers to provide paid sick leave to employees when 18 states and the District of Columbia recognize that every worker will at some point needs time off to attend to their own health needs or those of a family member; and

WHEREAS for the fourth year in a row, North Carolina ranks as the worst state (#50) in the country for working people, according to Oxfam's Best and Worst States to Work in the US; and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the North Carolina Democratic Party prioritize passage of the Economic Security Act, H.B. 339, an all-encompassing bill supporting common sense policies for working families in North Carolina including raising the minimum wage to \$22/hour by 2026, paid sick leave, equal pay for equal work regardless of sex, family medical leave, and restoration of the earned income tax credit and child tax credit; and that the state party will work with the newly formed North Carolina Progressive House Caucus to mobilize bipartisan support for this bill at the county and precinct level.

Resolution 8: Resolution To End the For-Profit Cash Bail System

WHEREAS, more than 70% of defendants detained in North Carolina's jails are classified as nonviolent minimum security, and

WHEREAS, all but five North Carolina counties require secure bonds on approximately 60% of the defendants, while the top-10 counties require secure bonds of more than 80% of all misdemeanants arrested; and

WHEREAS, North Carolina statutes expressly state a referred condition of release is either release on a written promise to appear, release upon execution of an unsecured bond, or placement in the custody of an individual or organization that agrees to supervise the individual; and

WHEREAS, requiring bond is no assurance of public safety; and

WHEREAS, \$14 billion is spent each year on incarcerating defendants who are supposed to be presumed innocent; and

WHEREAS, in North Carolina, 86% of the people incarcerated in jails have not been convicted; and

WHEREAS, the cash bail system is known to be racially discriminatory: people of color are more likely to be assigned bail and have bail set on average \$10,000 higher than white defendants; people of color who cannot afford the bail amount are more likely to receive jail time and are sentenced to three times the length of those who make bail; and

WHEREAS, the bail industry has successfully insulated itself from failure-to-appear fiscal liability, and their insurance companies, in some cases, have had no payouts for 17 years;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the North Carolina General Assembly enact legislation authorizing a statewide comprehensive study of the costs and the inexcusable discrimination of the for-profit cash bail system in North Carolina, a detailed analysis of the legislation that protects the bond industry from financial loss, and the experience of those counties in North Carolina and other states nationally that have eliminated for-profit cash bail.

Resolution 9: Resolution for Elected Officials to Reaffirm their Commitment to the US Constitution

WHEREAS, The U.S. Constitution, adopted in 1788 by a majority of the original colonies, has been the guiding design for the operation and functioning of the US government, and

WHEREAS, The U.S. Constitution establishes the primacy of the rule of law in reaction to the one-man rule of King George, and established individual rights with the amendment of the Bill of Rights in 1791, and

WHEREAS, Every citizen of the United States owes allegiance to the US Constitution and not to any individual, and

WHEREAS, Every elected official, and occupant of federal and state offices (including the military, law enforcement, and first responders) swears allegiance to the U.S. Constitution by taking a public oath, and

WHEREAS, The U.S. Constitution is under threat by authoritarian forces seeking public office,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Democratic Party leadership requires all current Democratic office holders and candidates to publicly renew their oath of fealty to the U.S. Constitution and to call on all officeholders, regardless of party, to renew their oaths to the U.S. Constitution.

Resolution 10: Resolution Calling for the Re-Opening of the United States Agency for International Development (USAID)

WHEREAS, US foreign assistance directly benefits all Americans through: Building alliances and partnerships that enhance national security, expanding markets for US goods and services, and strengthening health systems abroad to prevent infectious diseases, and

WHEREAS, the current administration's harmful and immoral blanket stop work order on foreign assistance funding and dismantling of USAID has: ceased the life-saving work of thousands of dedicated development professionals, causing avoidable death and harm whose impacts will be felt for many years, ended university-based public health collaborations that prevent infectious diseases, jeopardized national security, economic stability, and government efficiency, and led international collaborators to seek other partners – including U.S. competitors and adversaries; and

WHEREAS, the Executive Order on “Reevaluating and Realigning United States Foreign Aid” is in violation of the Antideficiency Act and the Impoundment Control Act because US foreign assistance funding is Congressionally appropriated on behalf of American taxpayers, including North Carolinians, and

WHEREAS, North Carolina is home to more than 900 organizations working in international health and development supporting over 170,000 jobs and generating more than \$31 billion in our economy each year, and

WHEREAS, the shuttering of USAID has forced hundreds of furloughs and layoffs, crushed the hopes of students preparing for careers in global health, prevented millions in payments owed to NC-based contractors and implementing partners, inhibited global innovation harnessed from NC-based firms;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the North Carolina Democratic Party stands in solidarity with affected workers and organizations, demanding:

- Reversal of project terminations and re-opening of USAID
- Protection for jobs tied to global development contracts
- Payment by the US Treasury of outstanding invoices to NC organizations and businesses for services already rendered under foreign assistance contracts.

Resolution 11: Resolution of the Orange County Democratic Party Supporting Ethical Holiday Season Spending in 2025

WHEREAS, recent federal actions and executive decisions have raised widespread concern about threats to constitutional norms, democratic institutions, and the fair functioning of government; and,

WHEREAS, actions such as the dismantling of public service programs, the marginalization of federal agencies, and the undermining of checks and balances have provoked grassroots protest and concern across the political spectrum; and,

WHEREAS, economic action—including targeted boycotts and conscious consumerism—has historically played a powerful role in expressing democratic dissent and promoting accountability, and,

WHEREAS, supporting small and locally owned businesses during the holiday season helps strengthen communities and aligns with our Party's values of economic justice, sustainability, and community empowerment,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Orange County Democratic Party encourages all members and allies to consider shifting their 2025 holiday spending toward small, local businesses and away from large national retailers whose corporate practices do not reflect democratic values; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Party will support educational and outreach efforts to promote local holiday markets, small business directories, and ethical consumption practices as part of a broader commitment to democratic resilience and community strength.

Resolution 12: A Resolution in Support of Workers' Rights and Coordinated Labor Action

WHEREAS, growing income inequality and political disenfranchisement driven by the undue influence of money in politics—amplified by the Supreme Court's Citizens United decision—pose a serious threat to American democracy; and

WHEREAS, recent events such as the successful strike by West Virginia teachers and labor action during the 2019 federal government shutdown have demonstrated the power of organized labor to influence policy and protect public services; and

WHEREAS, Sean Fain, President of the United Auto Workers, has proposed a coordinated effort to align major labor union contracts to expire in April 2028 in preparation for a potential General Strike on May 1st, 2028, as a strategic assertion of worker power has called for labor organizations to synchronize their contracts to expire April 30th 2028 and enact a General Strike on May 1st 2028; and

WHEREAS, The American labor force is a constituency of approximately 170 million people; and

WHEREAS, the Democratic Party supports the right of all workers to organize, engage in collective bargaining, and participate in lawful protest, consistent with our core values and national platform; and

WHEREAS, the Party also supports the development of community-based economic alternatives and fair labor practices as promoted in grassroots organizing efforts ; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the North Carolina Democratic Party affirms its support for organized labor and the principle that workers have the right to advocate for fair treatment, safe conditions, and democratic participation in economic life; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Party will work in solidarity with labor organizations to raise awareness, counter misinformation, support legislative advocacy for worker rights, and promote local economies and ethical business practices that align with Democratic values; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that the Party encourages dialogue, planning, and educational events in the lead-up to potential national labor actions to ensure that any such efforts are coordinated, lawful, and rooted in broad-based support from the working people they aim to serve.

Resolution 13: Resolution in Support of Science for North Carolina's Economy

WHEREAS, the Triangle region and North Carolina at large benefit significantly from federal medical research funding, particularly through the National Institutes of Health (NIH), which supports major institutions including UNC-Chapel Hill, Duke University, and NC State

WHEREAS, the proposed changes to NIH policy—including a cap on indirect cost reimbursements—could reduce grant funding by hundreds of millions of dollars, with potential losses estimated by Duke University at over \$5 billion in economic activity and more than 25,000 jobs statewide; and

WHEREAS, reduced federal research investment would significantly impact North Carolina's public and private sectors, weaken its global reputation as a center of

scientific excellence, and result in a substantial loss of intellectual capital and workforce talent;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the North Carolina Democratic Party urges the North Carolina General Assembly to authorize an independent, non-partisan study to assess the projected economic and budgetary impacts of federal research funding reductions over the next three years; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the North Carolina Democratic Party will actively promote transparency and accountability by reporting on the positions of North Carolina's state legislators and Congressional delegation—regardless of party—regarding robust public investment in science, research, and higher education; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a bipartisan public commission be convened to develop strategies to mitigate potential losses, support affected sectors, and sustain North Carolina's leadership in biomedical research, innovation, and global scientific engagement; and,

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that the North Carolina Democratic Party reaffirms its commitment to science-driven policy, innovation-led economic growth, and educational excellence, recognizing these as core values for the future health, prosperity, and leadership of our state.

Resolution 14: Resolution to Support Unpaid Caregivers in North Carolina

WHEREAS, unpaid caregivers, including family members and friends, play a vital role in supporting individuals with disabilities, chronic illnesses, and aging-related needs, often providing care at great personal and financial cost; and

WHEREAS, the contributions of unpaid caregivers are essential to the well-being of their loved ones and the overall health care system, yet they often face financial, emotional, and physical strain without adequate support; and

WHEREAS, unpaid caregivers are frequently forced to reduce work hours or leave their jobs entirely, facing a loss of income and long-term financial instability; and

WHEREAS, many unpaid caregivers lack access to affordable respite care, training, and other resources that could alleviate their burdens and improve the quality of care they provide; and

WHEREAS, the Democratic Party of North Carolina believes in supporting all individuals who contribute to the health and well-being of our communities, including unpaid caregivers, and recognizes their critical role in our society.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Democratic Party of North Carolina advocates for policies and programs that provide financial support, resources, and respite care to

unpaid caregivers, ensuring they have the tools and assistance they need to continue providing care without sacrificing their own financial and emotional well-being.

Resolution 15: Resolution to Increase Teacher Pay in North Carolina

WHEREAS, North Carolina teachers are dedicated professionals who provide critical education to students, often going above and beyond their duties to ensure success; and

WHEREAS, North Carolina teachers are among the lowest-paid in the nation, leading to high turnover rates, teacher shortages, and challenges in recruiting new educators; and

WHEREAS, many teachers are forced to spend their own money to fund classroom supplies, further highlighting the underinvestment in the teaching profession; and

WHEREAS, it is essential to fairly compensate teachers to ensure the stability of our educational system and attract the best talent to our classrooms.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Democratic Party of North Carolina calls for an immediate and sustained increase in teacher pay to at least the national average of \$66,000 to recognize their hard work, support retention, and enhance the quality of education for all students.

Resolution 16: Resolution to invest in North Carolina's workforce through free community college

WHEREAS North Carolina's future economy depends on the preparedness of its workforce, to meet the needs of a technologically advanced society,

WHEREAS people need programs that provide the training necessary to create a better future for themselves and their families.

WHEREAS one of the most significant barriers that NC residents face in securing training are financial, and current state and federal grants do not provide enough support for them to access the needed education,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the NC Democratic Party work towards securing funding for waivers for tuition and registration fees to attend community college programs.

Resolution 17: Resolution in Support of Science for North Carolina's Economy

WHEREAS, the Triangle region and North Carolina at large benefit significantly from federal medical research funding, particularly through the National Institutes of Health (NIH), which supports major institutions including UNC-Chapel Hill, Duke University, and NC State

WHEREAS, the proposed changes to NIH policy—including a cap on indirect cost reimbursements—could reduce grant funding by hundreds of millions of dollars, with potential losses estimated by Duke University at over \$5 billion in economic activity and more than 25,000 jobs statewide; and

WHEREAS, reduced federal research investment would significantly impact North Carolina's public and private sectors, weaken its global reputation as a center of scientific excellence, and result in a substantial loss of intellectual capital and workforce talent;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the North Carolina Democratic Party urges the North Carolina General Assembly to authorize an independent, non-partisan study to assess the projected economic and budgetary impacts of federal research funding reductions over the next three years; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the North Carolina Democratic Party will actively promote transparency and accountability by reporting on the positions of North Carolina's state legislators and Congressional delegation—regardless of party—regarding robust public investment in science, research, and higher education; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a bipartisan public commission be convened to develop strategies to mitigate potential losses, support affected sectors, and sustain North Carolina's leadership in biomedical research, innovation, and global scientific engagement; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that the North Carolina Democratic Party reaffirms its commitment to science-driven policy, innovation-led economic growth, and educational excellence, recognizing these as core values for the future health, prosperity, and leadership of our state.

Resolution 18: A Resolution for the Adoption of Rank Choice Voting for the election of President and Vice President of the United States of America by the voters of North Carolina, and to allow Counties to implement rank-choice voting in local elections.

WHEREAS: Rank Choice Voting enables voters to express support for minority issue candidates as well as to express discontent with majority party platforms and candidates, and

WHEREAS: Rank Choice Voting assures the electorate that the selected candidates winning election are the undisputed winners of majority vote and represent the true consensus of support by the electorate, and

WHEREAS: Rank Choice Voting for Presidential candidates removes the motivation for promoting “spoiler” campaigns that subvert the outcome of national elections.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That North Carolina adopts the method of Ranked

Choice Voting for the election of President and Vice President of the United States in National Elections.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That North Carolina allows individual counties to implement rank-choice voting in local elections.

Resolution 19: Resolution to Address Shifting Voting Patterns of Young Male Voters

WHEREAS, the 2024 election revealed a concerning shift in voting patterns among young male voters ages 18–24, with exit polls showing Donald Trump receiving 56% of their vote—up 15 percentage points from 2020; and

WHEREAS, polling among young Latino men indicates a significant decline in favorable views toward the Democratic Party, with only 4 in 10 expressing support; and

WHEREAS, youth voting expert John Della Volpe has noted that many young men, particularly those raised during the Trump era, feel that the Democratic Party does not speak to their concerns and have increasingly disaffiliated from the party; and

WHEREAS, Della Volpe and others warn that the political right has effectively engaged young men online and on campuses, often using cultural and identity-based appeals to draw them toward extremism; and

WHEREAS, scholars like Richard Reeves (author of *Of Boys and Men*) argue that American society has failed to adequately address the distinct educational, economic, and emotional needs of boys and men, and that this is contributing to a broader crisis in male identity and engagement; and

WHEREAS, public health data show that men are disproportionately affected by "deaths of despair"—including suicide and substance abuse—with suicide rates among men ages 25–34 rising nearly 30% since 2010; and

WHEREAS, gender equity should be approached not as a zero-sum game, but as a shared commitment to pragmatic policies that benefit all people, regardless of gender;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the North Carolina Democratic Party will engage in long-term strategic planning to better understand and address the concerns of young male voters, including outreach to grassroots leaders in education, workforce development, public health, religion, and youth advocacy organizations; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Party advocate for state-level policies designed to improve educational and economic outcomes for boys and young men, including efforts to reduce dropout rates, increase access to mental health services, and support pathways to employment and higher education; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the North Carolina Democratic Party convene a working group—including representatives from the newly formed Democratic Men of North Carolina, the Democratic Women of North Carolina, and other key stakeholders—to develop a plan for engagement, messaging, and policy alignment around the issues impacting young male voters; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that the Party commit to ongoing dialogue, reflection, and collaboration in order to build a Democratic movement that speaks to the needs, aspirations, and identities of all North Carolinians—men and women alike.