

Resolution on Ending School Suspensions of 4, 5, 6, and 7 Year Old Children in New Hanover County Schools

WHEREAS, during the 2018-2019 school year, there were 2,910 out-of-school suspensions in the New Hanover County Schools and Black students were 7.9 times more likely than White students to receive a suspension; and

WHEREAS, there were 887 out-of-school suspensions in the New Hanover County elementary schools during the 2018-2019 school year and

1. Kindergarten, 1st grade, and 2nd grade students made up 40% of those suspensions and
2. Black students represented 61% of the suspensions, even though they made up only 18% of the elementary school population; therefore be it

RESOLVED, Precinct Fp04 calls for the end of out-of-school suspensions of 4, 5, 6, and 7-year-old children, except for offenses that endanger the health and safety of others, such as the possession of weapons or drugs or a violent assault and urges the New Hanover Democratic Party to adopt this resolution and present it to the New Hanover County Board of Education.

I certify that this resolution was presented and voted on at the Fp04 Annual Meeting held on Sunday, February 6, that began at 3pm. It passed and all who cast votes were in favor of this resolution.

Barbara Avery Garrow, Chair

Precinct Fp04

IN SUPPORT OF A STATEWIDE PROCESS FOR CITIZEN BALLOT
INITIATIVES AND REFERENDUMS

WHEREAS the process of ballot initiatives and referendums, also commonly known as ballot measures, propositions or ballot questions, allows citizens to place legislation or legislation recently passed by a legislature, on a ballot for a popular vote; and

WHEREAS the process known as ballot initiatives and referendums allows citizens to vote directly on legislation, and is, therefore, a form of direct democracy; and

WHEREAS North Carolina is one of twenty-four states that currently does not have a statewide citizen ballot initiatives and referendums process which allows its citizens to place legislation. or legislation recently passed by a legislature. on a ballot for a popular vote; and

WHEREAS beginning in 1917 the North Carolina State Legislature has permitted local citizen ballot initiatives and referendums in North Carolina's largest cities, including Charlotte, Durham, Greensboro, Raleigh, Wilmington, and Winston-Salem; and

WHEREAS notable local initiatives include a 1997 measure, sponsored by civil rights activists in Charlotte, that changed city council elections from at-large representation to district representation, and a 1982 measure in Wilmington that changed the zoning laws to prohibit construction of a planned coal storage facility;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the New Hanover County Democratic Party (NHCDP) strongly urges the North Carolina State Legislature to provide a statewide process for citizen ballot initiatives and referendums. similar to processes already provided to North Carolina's largest jurisdictions so that all North Carolina citizens have the ability to place legislation, or legislation recently passed by a legislature, on a statewide ballot for a popular vote; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that upon passage of this resolution by the annual New Hanover County Democratic Party Convention, it will be forwarded to the appropriate North Carolina Congressional District Democratic Party Convention for consideration.

Signed. Marlene W. Barney

Marlene W. Barney
Precinct Chair. FP07 Precinct, NHCDP

Date 02/19/2022

A Resolution to Support FDA-Approved Vaccinations

Whereas, the divide in opposition to vaccinations is seemingly a political one; and

Whereas, several Republican held state legislatures are moving to put in place opposition to all vaccines, including those currently required for admission to primary school. (Forty-four states have a religious exemption for vaccines. Five states already allow philosophical objections to vaccines. <https://www.ncsl.org/research/health/school-immunization-exemption-state-laws.aspx>); and

Whereas, the health and safety of all Americans, particularly children, depend on keeping a vaccination requirement for admission to primary school; therefore be it

Resolved, we, the H 05 precinct, will work to support FDA approved vaccinations for a host of preventable diseases including but not limited to SARS-CoV2 (COVID 19) and the usual childhood vaccinations for the health and benefit of all citizens; and be it further

Resolved that we stand in support of vaccinations, and to follow the North Carolina State Legislative proceedings in regards to vaccine mandates.

Submitted by H 05 Democratic Precinct, New Hanover County, North Carolina
Electronically signed by Kathryn Bailey, Chair, H 05 Precinct 02/18/2022

RESOLUTION SUPPORTING Maintaining and Expanding the Basic Pillar of Democracy, Voting

Whereas, North Carolina ranked 17th (71.48%) in Voting Eligible Population (VEP) participation in the 2020 Federal Election. North Carolina should set the goal to be at 80% Voting Eligible Population (VEP) participation state.

Whereas, research shows DEMOCRACY, freedom, populous cohesion & tolerance and America's global security thrives as the governed state's population participates, North Carolina must attempt to lead the country in this patriotic endeavor.

Be it therefore resolved, that the New Hanover County Democratic Party strongly supports *increased and equitable* voting participation that includes appropriate full-funding of secure systems, processes, facilities and personnel; making the process as convenient as possible for all eligible North Carolina voters; and assuring that constraints on eligibility are only implemented on non-USA citizens.

Be it further resolved, that the NC Democratic Party strongly support HR-1 and The John Lewis Voting Rights Bill currently circulating in the US Congress; and

Be it further resolved that the NC Democratic Party's work to increase Voting access for eligible citizens residing in North Carolina as a public good.

Adopted by NHC Precinct H08 on Feb 7th, 2022

Susanne Werner, Chair

Submitted by: Shelia R. Johnson, Ho8

Reference:

World Population Review, [Voter Turnout by State 2021 \(worldpopulationreview.com\)](https://worldpopulationreview.com)

RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF AN ECONOMIC BILL OF RIGHTS

Whereas, in his 1944 State of the Union Address, President Franklin D. Roosevelt proposed an Economic Bill of Rights, stating that “we have come to a clear realization of the fact that true individual freedom cannot exist without economic security”; and

Whereas, such a Bill of Rights has yet to be established, in whole or part, over the ensuing 78 years; and

Whereas, “A review of more than 190 programs of particular importance to people with low and moderate incomes finds that 130 programs—or two-thirds—lost ground in 2021 compared with 2010 with one-third of those programs receiving cuts of 20% or more, when taking inflation into account”; and

Whereas, the components of such a Bill of Rights are, for the most part, overwhelmingly favored by the American people; and

Whereas, a part of the astronomical wealth accumulated by a tiny percent of Americans could be utilized to fund this Economic Bill of Rights through progressive taxation on their income and wealth;

Be it therefore resolved, that the NHCDP will work for the passage and funding of a 21st Century Economic Bill of Rights to include for every American:

- the right to a job with a living wage, paid sick and family leave and at least two weeks of paid vacation.
- the right to organize and bargain collectively.
- the right to quality healthcare with no out-of-pocket cost.
- the right to affordable housing.
- the right to free public education through 4 years of college or trade school.
- the right to a clean and safe environment.
- the right to a secure retirement.

Adopted by Precinct M03 on February 12, 2022

And Adopted by Precinct W25 on February 17, 2022

RESOLUTION SUPPORTING PUBLIC EDUCATION & OUR TEACHERS

Whereas, our public schools are under attack from political forces whose goal is to privatize education so that our public tax dollars can become another source of private profit; and

Whereas, the expansion of private and charter schools in North Carolina has already contributed to increased segregation of schools and the denial of a quality education to students from marginalized communities; and

Whereas, there is no evidence that the expansion of private and charter schools under the rubric of “school choice” improves educational outcomes, particularly for children of color; and

Whereas, our public schools are also under attack by white supremacist groups whose goals are to restrict teaching about racism, both past and present, to ban books about the diversity of cultures in our society and limit students’ exposure to information about struggles for equality by the Black, LGBTQ and other marginalized communities; and

Whereas, these same forces have continually used disruption and distortion to sow distrust in our schools; and

Whereas, the North Carolina General Assembly has failed, time and again, to implement the court rulings in the Leandro Case, first handed down by the NC Supreme Court in 1997, that North Carolina has a constitutional obligation to ensure all children have access to a sound basic education and that the Legislature must provide funds necessary for the implementation of Leandro; therefore

Be it resolved, that the New Hanover County Democratic Party affirms its unwavering support of public schools and public-school teachers and staff; and

Be it further resolved, that the NHCDP actively oppose any efforts to ban books or restrict teaching about racism and the concept of equity; and

Be it further resolved, that the NHCDP support efforts of the NHCS system to promote diversity, inclusion and equity in our schools against the threats of rightwing extremists; and

Be it further resolved, that the NHCDP and the NCDP advocate for the immediate implementation of the Leandro Plan; and

Be it further resolved, that the NC and NHC Democratic Parties oppose any expansion of the Opportunity Scholarship Program or any other use of tax payer monies for private schools; and

Be it further resolved, that the New Hanover Democratic Party supports the right of teachers and all public sector workers to organize and bargain for better pay, benefits and safety protections; and

Be it further resolved, that the NC and NHC Democratic Parties will fight to prioritize the use of pandemic relief funds and NC state rainy day funds to compensate teachers and other school staff for their continuing efforts to provide the best possible education for our children during and after the pandemic.

Adopted by Precinct M03

And Adopted by Precinct W25 on February 17, 2022

Resolution: Saving Democracy in Our Time

WHEREAS, We the Citizens of the M04 Precinct in New Hanover County are distressed at the direction in public affairs in recent times. Many wrongs have been perpetrated by an irresponsible leadership foisted upon the nation by a Republican minority, promoted through surreptitious campaign money by entrenched sources of wealth, and encouraged by the Republican leaders within the State of North Carolina. We are distressed and outraged that wrongs such as these have been encouraged and supported by the voters and elected officials of our state; and

WHEREAS: The Republican minority has repudiated government of the people, while promoting surreptitious schemes of a restricted franchise, of gerrymandered voter districts to select their constituencies, of intimidations and manipulations aimed at people of color and other minorities, while perpetuating outright falsehood in attempts to defraud voters of their rights to participate in the electoral process; and

WHEREAS: They have fostered schemes of privatization to turn public institutions, such as schools and hospitals, into agencies for the furtherance of private wealth; and

WHEREAS: They have enhanced the wealth of special interest groups while limiting upward financial mobility of the American worker; and

WHEREAS: They continue to promote every type of air and water pollution, and encourage limitless commercial and suburban growth to the destruction of animal and plant habitats while contributing to the loss of nature's diversity; and

WHEREAS: They have in the meantime fostered a false and corrupt manner of patriotism, promoting an ultra-nationalism in disregard of the legitimate purposes of government, with deliberate and calculated exploitation of racial and religious differences, in rejection of national duties and obligations, in scorn for the United Nations, for world community and the just devices for the public good; and

WHEREAS: Inspired by corrupt associations of privilege and private wealth, they have embraced the methods of extremists and of extremist groups, igniting the destructive fires of racial and religious violence, while promoting the indiscriminate sale of weapons and flagrant use and abuse of weapons, permitting and encouraging weapons of war to be purposefully put on display for the terror of the populace at public demonstrations by violently inclined groups, and to the detriment of the public safety; and

WHEREAS: They have assaulted the constitution and the rule of law by numerous means, abandoning established precedents in scornful repudiation of the founders of the republic, fostering a deliberate disrespect for democracy itself, refusing to abide by the results of an election, while exalting the authority of a president over the rights of the people; and

WHEREAS: They have assaulted the constitutionally guaranteed powers of the Congress of the United States as a just assembly of the people's representatives, undermining its credibility through perversions of a money-lobby to enhance the interests of the privileged few at the expense of the people; and

WHEREAS: They have waged an assault upon the laws pertaining to elections and upon the Constitution itself, removing checks on the authority of a president while maintaining his alliances with a foreign despotism, encouraging his assaults upon the nation's capital and its legally installed representatives in their just offices, encouraging the corrupt who would foster a tyranny to defy the subpoenas of the U.S. Congress, undermining its role as an investigative agency of the American people, while diminishing the devices of impeachment that were designed by the founders as a check upon the abuses of power by a corrupt executive, enabling his lieutenants to evade prosecution for their crimes, while promoting a corrupt and unconstitutional doctrine of executive privilege -- a device that has been that of every cruel and oppressive dictatorship the world over from the beginning of civilization; and

WHEREAS: They have allowed religious groups to influence their policies regarding women's access to those providing reproductive health services, including annual screening for cancer, birth control, and abortion; therefore

BE IT RESOLVED that we the democratic-minded Citizens of the M04 Precinct of New Hanover call upon our fellow citizens to recognize the threat to democracy in our time, and to respond to the crisis and the challenge that it poses; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that we support the efforts of Governor Cooper and others to establish an independent redistricting commission in the State of North Carolina; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that we call upon all Citizens of North Carolina to join in the renewal of democracy in the United States, to refrain from contributing further to those devices which would enable the establishment of a tyranny or dictatorship within the United States; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that we call upon all Citizens of North Carolina to join in the expression of a legitimate patriotism that will not deny the liberty or the sustenance of the people and will encourage the renewal of representative democracy as a reflection of the safety, common interest and well-being of the American people.

Approved by the M04 Democratic Precinct Committee, on Feb. 12, 2022 John L. Godwin, Chair.

Resolution Condemning Attacks on LGBTQ North Carolinians

Whereas, a state leader has referred to homosexuality as filth; and

Whereas, a state leader has referred to LGBTQ folks as serving no purpose; and

Whereas, research has shown that such attacks lead to increased suicide rates among LGBTQ youth; therefore

Be it resolved, that the New Hanover Democratic Party strongly condemns attacks on LGBTQ North Carolinians; and

Be it further resolved, that the New Hanover Democratic Party strongly supports LGBTQ North Carolinians as a vital asset to our county and state's population; and

Be it further resolved, that the North Carolina Democratic Party strongly condemns attacks on LGBTQ North Carolinians.

Matthew Bigham, W26 Precinct Chair

February 5, 2022

We had a unanimous 8 votes in favor of passing the Resolution and sending it to the New Hanover Democratic Party

And adopted by Precinct W25 on February 17, 2022

RESOLUTION CALLING FOR RENEWED EFFORTS TO DESEGREGATE SCHOOLS

WHEREAS, the NC Constitution states that "The people have a right to the privilege of education, and it is the duty of the State to guard and maintain that right." (Article I Section 15); and

WHEREAS, the US Supreme Court has ruled that segregated schools are inherently unequal, and

WHEREAS, schools in North Carolina have become increasingly segregated by race and parent income since the 1980s, denying an equal opportunity for education to poor and minority students, and

WHEREAS, clear evidence exists that all students benefit academically from attending diverse schools,

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the NC Democratic Party supports efforts to insure ethnic and economic diversity in all schools in our state.