

Democratic Party Endorsements & Resolutions

Prop #	Description	Position
19	Changes California Law to Legalize Marijuana and Allow It to Be Regulated and Taxed. Allows a person 21 years old or older to possess, cultivate, or transport marijuana for personal use. Permits local governments to regulate and tax commercial production and sale of marijuana to people 21 years old or older. Prohibits people from possessing marijuana on school grounds, using it in public, smoking it while minors are present, or providing it to anyone under 21 years old. Maintains current prohibitions against driving while impaired.	NEUTRAL
20	Redistricting of Congressional Districts. Removes elected representatives from the process of establishing congressional districts and transfers that authority to the recently authorized 14-member redistricting commission. Redistricting commission is comprised of five Democrats, five Republicans, and four voters registered with neither party. Requires that any newly proposed district lines be approved by nine commissioners including three Democrats, three Republicans, and three from neither party.	NO
21	Establishes \$18 annual vehicle license surcharge to help fund state parks and wildlife programs and grants free admission to all state parks to surcharged vehicles. Establishes an \$18 annual state vehicle license surcharge and grants free admission to all state parks to surcharged vehicles. Requires deposit of surcharge revenue in a new trust fund. Requires that trust funds be used solely to operate, maintain and repair the state park system, and to protect wildlife and natural resources. Exempts commercial vehicles, trailers and trailer coaches from the surcharge. Requires annual independent audit and review by citizen's oversight committee.	YES
22	Prohibits the State from Taking Funds Used for Transportation or Local Government Projects and Services. Prohibits the State from shifting, taking, borrowing, or restricting the use of tax revenues dedicated by law to fund local government services, community redevelopment projects, or transportation projects and services. Prohibits the State from delaying the distribution of tax revenues for these purposes even when the Governor deems it necessary due to a severe state fiscal hardship.	NO
23	Suspends Air Pollution Control Laws Requiring Major Polluters to Report and Reduce Greenhouse Gas Emissions That Cause Global Warming Until Unemployment Drops Below Specified Level for Full Year. Suspends State laws requiring reduced greenhouse gas emissions that cause global warming, until California's unemployment rate drops to 5.5 percent or less for four consecutive quarters. Requires State to abandon implementation of comprehensive greenhouse-gas-reduction program that includes increased renewable energy and cleaner fuel requirements, and mandatory emission reporting and fee requirements for major polluters such as power plants and oil refineries, until suspension is lifted.	NO
24	Repeals Recent Legislation That Would Allow Businesses to Carry Back Losses, Share Tax Credits, and Use a Sales-Based Income Calculation. Repeals recent legislation that would allow businesses to shift operating losses to prior tax years and that would extend the period permitted to shift operating losses to future tax years. Repeals recent legislation that would allow corporations to share tax credits with affiliated corporations. Repeals recent legislation that would allow multistate businesses to use a sales-based income calculation, rather than a combination property-, payroll- and sales-based income calculation.	YES
25	Changes Legislative Vote Requirement to Pass a Budget from Two-Thirds to a Simple Majority. Retains Two-Thirds Vote Requirement for Taxes. Changes the legislative vote requirement necessary to pass the state budget from two-thirds to a simple majority. Provides that if the Legislature fails to pass a budget bill by June 15, all members of the Legislature will permanently forfeit any reimbursement for salary and expenses for every day until the day the Legislature passes a budget bill.	YES
26	Increases Legislative Vote Requirement to Two-Thirds for State Levies and Charges. Imposes Additional Requirement for Voters to Approve Local Levies and Charges with Limited Exceptions. Increases legislative vote requirement to two-thirds for state levies and charges, with limited exceptions, and for certain taxes currently subject to majority vote. Changes Constitution to require voters to approve, either by two-thirds or majority, local levies and charges with limited exceptions.	NO
27	Eliminates State Commission on Redistricting. Consolidates Authority for Redistricting with Elected Representatives. Eliminates 14-member redistricting commission selected from applicant pool picked by government auditors. Consolidates authority for establishing state Assembly, Senate, and Board of Equalization district boundaries with elected state representatives responsible for drawing congressional districts. Reduces budget, and imposes limit on amount Legislature may spend, for redistricting. Provides that voters will have the authority to reject district boundary maps approved by the Legislature. Requires populations of all districts for the same office to be exactly the same.	YES

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SDL09.03

Restoration of HIV/AIDS Funding

WHEREAS, Governor Schwarzenegger shocked the HIV/AIDS community by using his veto to cut millions of dollars from the budget eliminating services, medications, home care, educational programs, testing, counseling and preventive services; and

WHEREAS, this has had, and is having, a life threatening effect on those afflicted with HIV/AIDS;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party strongly request that these dollars be restored and that there further be a strong request that HIV/AIDS funding be protected from further cuts.

Authors/Sponsors: Elle Kurpiewski, AD 80; Dan Perdios; AD 80

10-07.02

Ensure More Equitable Sentences

WHEREAS, under the California Penal Code, felonies can be either straight felonies, meaning they cannot be charged or reduced to misdemeanors or the felonies are wobblers, which are crimes that can be charged either as a felony or a misdemeanor; and

WHEREAS, the criminal justice system should have proportionate sentences; and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT, public safety can be better served by increasing the punishment for crimes against victims and decreasing the punishment for non-violent offenders.

Submitted by: Michael Breeden, AD 27; Adopted by Santa Cruz Democratic Central Committee, 6/9/2010

SDL09.06

350 PPM Global Climate Goal

WHEREAS, global climate change endangers the foundation of human civilization by specifically threatening large scale farming, livestock production, fisheries and other wild animal food sources, traditional water supplies, and human habitable zones, due to radical changes in weather conditions and sea level; and

WHEREAS, leading atmospheric scientists, such as James E. Hansen of the NASA Goddard Institute for Space Studies, believe we can prevent the worst effects of global climate change by reducing the concentration of carbon dioxide in our atmosphere to 350 parts per million (PPM); and

WHEREAS, current atmospheric concentration of carbon dioxide is 387 PPM and increasing, the need to rapidly reverse this trend is critical, and will require worldwide recognition of the goal 350 PPM;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party recognizes the goal of reducing the atmospheric concentration of carbon dioxide to 350 PPM; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party is committed to reaching the goal of 350 PPM, and will forward this resolution to our California U.S. Senators, California Democratic Congressional Delegation, the head of the Environmental Protection Agency, and President Barack Obama.

Authors/Sponsors: Tony Hale, Treasurer, Environmental Caucus; Co-Sponsored by Luke Breit, Chair, Environmental Caucus; Debra Broner, Vice Chair Environmental Caucus; adopted by the Beach Cities Democratic Club.

10-07.04

Support Goodwin Liu's Confirmation to the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals

WHEREAS, Goodwin Liu is currently the Associate Dean and Professor of Law at the University of California, Berkeley, has practiced private law and clerked on the United States Supreme Court, was educated at Stanford University, Yale Law School and Oxford University as a Rhodes Scholar, and is widely acknowledged by legal peers for his intellectual brilliance as evidenced by the highest possible rating given to him by the American Bar Association; and

WHEREAS, if confirmed, Goodwin Liu would be the nation's only active Asian-American federal appeals judge serving out of 210 total seats, and would greatly enhance the possibility of the first Asian-American appointment to the United States Supreme Court in the future; and

WHEREAS, the partisan attempt by the Republican Party to mischaracterize Goodwin Liu's record and derail his historic nomination is also an attempt to handicap President Barack Obama's ability to appoint a qualified replacement of his choice for retiring Supreme Court Justice John Paul Stevens;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that in the interest of promoting intellectual brilliance and diversity in the highest courts of our land, the California Democratic Party urges the Senate Judiciary Committee and United States Senate to fairly and expeditiously confirm President Barack Obama's well-qualified appointment of Goodwin Liu to the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit.

Submitted by: Clark Lee, Adopted by: CDP Asian Pacific Islander Caucus Organization, 4/17/10

Authors: Jay Chen AD58, Clark Lee AD60, Mike Fong AD45

10-07.05

Oppose Arizona's Anti-Immigrant Bill

WHEREAS, on April 23, 2010, Arizona Governor Jan Brewer signed Senate Bill 1070, which authorizes local law enforcement to demand proof of legal immigration status from any person suspected of a crime; and

WHEREAS, Senate Bill 1070, which violates human and constitutional rights including equal protection, will encourage racial profiling, create a climate of fear and persecution, and lead to under-reporting of crime and an increase of criminal activity; and

WHEREAS, the Platform of the California Democratic Party calls on Democrats to oppose racial profiling and xenophobic conduct that polarizes communities, and to condemn actions that keep undocumented immigrants in the shadows of our society;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party denounces the enactment of Senate Bill 1070, urges its immediate repeal, and encourages local governments in California to formally oppose it; and

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party commends President Obama's Department of Justice for taking the necessary legal action to overturn Arizona's unconstitutional state law.

Adopted by San Diego County Democratic Central Committee, May 18, 2010;
Endorsed by Fresno County Democratic Central Committee Organization

10-07.06e

Countermanding Citizens United vs. Federal Elections Commission

WHEREAS, the protections afforded by the First Amendment to the United States Constitution to the people of our nation are fundamental to our democracy and while corporations make important contributions to our society, corporations, as legally created economic entities, do not share all of the same rights and privileges as natural persons, such as the right to vote and the right to seek public office, and yet they have special advantages not enjoyed by natural persons, such as limited liability, perpetual life, and favorable treatment of assets, that allows them to spend prodigious sums on campaign messages that have little or no correlation with the beliefs held by natural persons; and

WHEREAS, since 1907 Congress has placed special limitations on campaign spending by corporations, the Supreme Court in the 1982 unanimous *FEC v. NRWC* case wrote that congressional adjustment of federal election laws to account for the unique economic and legal attributes of corporations should be given deference by the courts and that in order to prevent corruption and the appearance of corruption the Court said "there is no reason why it may not ... be accomplished by treating...corporations, and similar organizations differently from individuals," and in a 2002 bi-partisan effort to limit contributions to election campaigns, Congress passed the Campaign Reform Act of 2002; and

WHEREAS, in a radical rejection of well-settled law, the current Supreme Court by a 5-4 decision in the *Citizens United v. FEC* case, overturned the 2002 Campaign Reform Act and opened the floodgates to a massive spending spree by corporations, necessitating response from Congress, which has a duty to protect democracy and guard against potentially detrimental effects of unbridled corporate spending;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party calls upon the Congress to use all means within its power to reform federal campaign laws so that we have a level playing field with laws that have reasonable spending limits and reporting requirements for small as well as large contributors, and send to the states for ratification a constitutional amendment to restore the power of Congress and state legislatures to safeguard democracy by placing appropriate limits on the ability of corporations to influence the outcome of elections through political contributions and other expenditures, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution be transmitted to all members of the California Democratic Congressional Delegation.

Submitted by the Resolutions Committee; co-sponsored by the San Diego County Party and the LA County Party

10-07.08

Support Clean Truck Program

WHEREAS, in 2008 the Port of Los Angeles and Long Beach established a Clean Truck Program based on a concession model and a progressive elimination of older, dirty trucks allowed on Port property in order to reduce air pollution; and

WHEREAS, the Port of Los Angeles plan also enacted an employee driver provision which greatly increased the effectiveness of the Clean Truck Program by incorporating stronger labor and safety standards; and

WHEREAS, enforcement of significant elements of this award winning program have been undermined or blocked altogether through continuous litigation by industry interests,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party urge federal representatives to support legislative changes necessary to the Federal Motor Carrier Act to enable local governments to enforce proper environmental, labor and safety standards for trucking interests; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party express their endorsement of the Clean Truck Program with the employee driver provision and communicate said endorsement in writing to State and Federal government representatives, government agencies, and port authorities.

Sponsor: Progressive Democratic Club Organization 6/13/2010

10-07.09b

Infrastructure Funding and Economic Recovery

WHEREAS, the California and National economies are experiencing a Depression-like status regarding jobs and working families' survival, and the opportunity exists to enhance society by accelerated funding of transportation and infrastructure projects by incorporating federal lines of credit put out by the Safe Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU) and Transportation Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (TIFIA), where local and regional tax increments have passed to pay for such projects; and

WHEREAS, Los Angeles Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa has worked to pass Measure R, which calls for forty billion dollars in transportation projects over the next thirty years to be paid for by local sales taxes, and working with Senator Boxer and Transportation Secretary Ray LaHood, in a program called "30/10" seek this to be the prototype for a national example of local government repaying the federal dollars with a dedicated revenue stream; and

WHEREAS, every billion dollars of construction funds create 47,000 jobs and when spent on local transportation development reduces greenhouse gasses, increases mobility and livability for communities, and the expedited funding could accelerate a national recovery without increased federal debt;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party calls upon the California Congressional Delegation to support funding this concept and encourage all local governments to apply for these funds where a proven dedicated revenue stream for repayment exists.

Submitted by the Resolutions Committee; co-sponsored by Dante Atkins (AD 42)

10-07.14

Condemning Voter Registration Fraud

WHEREAS, the constitutional right to register to vote with the political party of one's choice has been a cornerstone of Democracy and a privilege of every American citizen, and it is a felony to deny the right to register to vote for the political party of one's choice, or to change a voter's party of choice without the voter's knowledge and approval; and

WHEREAS, some countless California voters have had their party switched without their knowledge or approval by unscrupulous contractors who were paid as much as \$15 "bounties;" and

WHEREAS, voter registration fraud should be investigated and prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party finds the practice of switching a voter's registered party to be un-American, unconstitutional, and felonious, and calls upon local, state and federal law enforcement to vigorously investigate and prosecute the individual, corporation, organization, and political perpetrators of this voter registration fraud, and, if convicted, to demand they be sentenced to the maximum penalty allowed by law; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party send a copy of this resolution to Secretary of State Debra Bowen, Attorney General Edmund G. Brown Jr. and each county's registrar of voters.

Passed by LACDP Resolution Committee 7/7/09 and LACDP 07/14/09

10-07.15

Remove Cuba From the List of State Sponsors of Terrorism

WHEREAS, The United States' list of State Sponsors of Terrorism should be reserved for countries that actually provide critical support to non-state terrorist groups and provide support for acts of international terrorism; and

WHEREAS, Cuba has never supported or performed any acts of terrorism against the US or any other country, and furthermore Cuba fully cooperates with the international efforts and has ratified all 12 United Nations counter terrorism conventions and has domestic laws that allow the government to track, block or seize terrorists' assets, and according to the latest State Terrorism report there is no evidence of terrorist related money laundering or terrorist financing activities in Cuba, and in fact Cuba has been a victim of terrorism;

WHEREAS, Under the Obama's Administration several agreements have been signed with Cuba including unlimited travel and remittance for Cuban Americans and Drug interdiction and counter narcotics efforts and migration issues are bilaterally discussed;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic State Party strongly recommends that President Obama's and the 111th Congress of the United States remove Cuba from the List of State Sponsors of Terrorism; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Californian State Democratic Party send this Resolution to President Obama and the California Congressional Delegation.

Presented by: Regina Carey, Delegate to Democratic Central Committee of Marin

10-07.21L

Support the NAACP and SCLC/LA in Condemning Extremist Racist Elements Within the Tea Party Movement

WHEREAS, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) and the Southern Christian Leadership Conference of Los Angeles (SCLC/LA) have repudiated extremists elements within the Tea Party Movement and called upon the Tea Party Leaders to condemn those within their ranks who use racist epithets and anti-gay slurs in their signs, slogans, actions and speeches; and

WHEREAS, these extremist Tea Party members have displayed signs and placards at Tea Party rallies with the most vile, antagonistic racial and anti-gay defamatory language and images (i.e. the use of the N-word, anti-Semitic references, homophobic slurs and use of the term slavery); and

WHEREAS, some members of the Tea Party leadership have been reluctant to denounce these member;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party joins with the NAACP and SCLC/LA in condemning the extremist elements within the Tea Party Movement; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the CDP calls on political parties and candidates for public office to reject and condemn the hateful, inaccurate, racist and inflammatory statements of extremists in the Tea Party and urges them to engage in civil debate about real issues.

Presented by Reginald Byron Jones-Sawyer, Sr, Secretary of the California Democratic Party and Darren Parker, Chair of the African-American Caucus