

SPARC Resolutions – Submitted to SCC

Fall SCC Meeting October 13, 2018

Civil Rights

1) Resolution Title: Collecting LGBTQ Data

Author/Submitting Organization: Justin Garoutte

WHEREAS: According to New Mexico Senate Joint Memorial 1 of the 52nd Legislature in the First Session of 2015, to understand the health inequities, discrimination, and challenges faced by lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) people, it is essential to collect sexual orientation and gender identity data, along with behavior and attraction information

WHEREAS: The National Academy of Medicine (formerly known as the Institute of Medicine), produced a report in 2011, entitled *The Health of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender People: Building a Foundation for Better Understanding*, that concluded current available data is insufficient to understand the correlations between sexual orientation and gender identity and other demographic variables like race and ethnicity, and LGBT people in the United States face health inequities not faced by straight and cisgender persons and are also underserved

WHEREAS: According to the New Mexico Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS), as of 2014, an estimated 47,439 New Mexican adults identify as lesbian, gay, or bisexual (LGB); as of 2012, there was a much higher prevalence of smoking, heavy drinking, binge drinking, asthma, and disability among LGB adults, compared to straight adults; regarding mental health, the 2011 NM BRFSS shows bisexual adults are more than twice as likely, and in some cases more than three times as likely, to experience anxiety, depression, suicidal ideation, and attempt suicide, with lesbian and gay adults also being more likely to have these experiences than straight adults.

WHEREAS: According to the LGBT Data Inclusion Act of 2016, the “collection of data and demographic information is critical to the government’s understanding of various communities, as well as the efficacy of services and programs aimed at addressing communities’ needs.”

WHEREAS: The New Mexico Department of Health explains in their 2016 report entitled *Health Inequities by Sexual Orientation among New Mexican Adults, 2011-2014*, ensuring standard demographic variables are always collected and include information relevant to sexual and gender minority communities is a key step to improving LGBT health

WHEREAS: According to the June 2018 report entitled *Addressing the Health Needs of Sex and Gender Minorities in New Mexico*, the first recommendation made is to "include sexual orientation and gender identity demographic questions at every level of data collection throughout New Mexico State Government"; this report was supported by the New Mexico Department of Health, the Aging and Long-Term Services Department of New Mexico, the Behavioral Health Services Division of New Mexico, Equality New Mexico, the Transgender Resource Center of New Mexico, the Scholars Strategy Network, the New Mexico Community AIDS Partnership, Fierce Pride, the University of New Mexico, and the Pacific Institute for Research and Evaluation.

BE IT RESOLVED: That the Democratic Party of New Mexico and all of its members shall work towards and advocate for the inclusion of sexual orientation and gender identity as standard demographic variables in the 2020 Census and all other relevant national, state, and local surveys.

SOURCES:

<https://www.nmlegis.gov/Legislation/Legislation?chamber=S&legType=JM&legNo=1&year=15>

<http://www.nationalacademies.org/hmd/Reports/2011/The-Health-of-Lesbian-Gay-Bisexual-and-Transgender-People.aspx>

http://nmtupac.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/07/Health-Inequities-by-Sexual-Orientation-among-New-Mexican-Adults-2011-2014_062317.pdf

<https://www.apa.org/advocacy/health-disparities/lgbt-data-inclusion.pdf>

http://nmtupac.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/07/Health-Inequities-by-Sexual-Orientation-among-New-Mexican-Adults-2011-2014_062317.pdf

<https://nmhealth.org/publication/view/report/4514/>

2) Resolution Title: Defining Racism in our Workplace Laws to prevent income inequality and to increase access to legal protections for people of color.

Author/Submitting Organization: Gina Dennis

WHEREAS: The Federal Civil Rights Act and New Mexico laws fail to define what racism is in the workplace including: (1) the failure to define discriminatory behaviors and adverse treatment, whereby people of color receive fewer work hours than their white counterparts based on race; (2) the failure to define discriminatory behaviors and adverse treatment, whereby people of color receive a larger workload than their white counterparts without proportionately higher pay because of race; (3) the failure to define discriminatory behaviors and adverse treatment, whereby people of color receive less desirable work hours and/or work schedules than their white counterparts based on race; and (4) the failure to define discriminatory behaviors and adverse treatment, whereby people of color are paid less than their white counterparts based on race.

WHEREAS: Because the Federal Civil Rights Act and New Mexico laws fail to define racism in the workplace, including the failure to define discriminatory behaviors and adverse treatment, people of color do not have access to the appropriate legal protections that allow for a reasonable way to prove that racism has occurred in the workplace, and without that access, then people of color are subjected to income inequality in New Mexico.

BE IT RESOLVED: New Mexico laws need to define what racism is in the workplace, including definitions of discriminatory behaviors and adverse treatment.

SOURCES: <http://www.epi.org/publication/black-white-wage-gaps-expand-with-rising-wage-inequality/>

<http://money.cnn.com/2016/09/20/news/economy/black-white-wage-gap/index.html>

https://www.huffingtonpost.com/entry/racial-wage-gap_us_57e05f86e4b0071a6e091153

Criminal Justice Reform

1) Resolution Title: Legalizing Recreational Cannabis Use in New Mexico

Author/Submitting Organization: Selinda Guerrero

WHEREAS: The modern legal use of recreational cannabis (marijuana) began in Colorado (2012) and Washington State (2014) and now totals to 8 states, plus another 30 states with medical marijuana usage, and 13 states that have decriminalized personal use of marijuana.

WHEREAS: While at the federal level, marijuana remains classified as a Schedule I substance under the Controlled Substances Act, in 2009, the Obama Administration memoed federal prosecutors encouraging them not to prosecute people who distribute marijuana for medical purposes in accordance with state law; and the current Department of Justice has not yet issued a complete statement about policy changes.

WHEREAS: The U.S. now has years of recreational use of marijuana in Colorado, Washington, and Oregon with data indicating the following: teen marijuana use is unchanged, marijuana arrests have plummeted with 50% to 98% reductions in arrests, little impact on traffic fatality rates has been measured; and states with medical marijuana use have seen fewer opioid deaths with 20% lower rate of opioid deaths in the laws' first year, 24% in the third, and 33% in the sixth.

BE IT RESOLVED:

The New Mexico State Legislature should legalize recreational cannabis (marijuana) use in New Mexico.

Elections, Ethics, & Democracy

1) Resolution Title: Campaign Finance Reform

Author/Submitting Organization: Nina Courtney

WHEREAS We believe in a government that represents the people of New Mexico, not just a handful of powerful and wealthy special interests who operate in the shadows.

WHEREAS We believe that corporations are not people and that money is not speech.

WHEREAS We believe that previous laws regulating political practices in New Mexico have suffered from inadequate enforcement.

BE IT RESOLVED

We will fight the culture of corruption and will promote honest leadership and open government in New Mexico by working for comprehensive campaign finance reform. We will:

- Support a constitutional amendment to overturn the U.S. Supreme Court's decisions in Citizens United and Buckley v. Valeo.
- Support the Independent Ethics Commission Amendment to the State Constitution.
- Require full disclosure of all independent expenditures in political and issue campaigns
- Support public financing of elections

- Keep corporate money out of politics
- Require full disclosure of funding sources for political advertisements
- Adopt strict Forfeiture of Office and Forfeiture of Pension penalties for willful violators
- Use modern technology for real-time disclosure of hard money campaign contributions and expenditures.

2) Resolution Title: Election Reform

Author/Submitting Organization: Nina Courtney, Ward 5A Delegate Democratic Party of Santa Fe County

WHEREAS Our current election system discourages participation and results in lower voter turnout. Only 62% of eligible voters in New Mexico cast ballots in the 2016 General Election and only 5% turned out in 2017 local elections.

WHEREAS Exercise of the right to vote is fundamental to the existence of a healthy and strong democracy.

WHEREAS Low voter turnout promotes political polarization and damages fundamental democratic values in our government. High voter turnout increases diversity in electoral participation across all age groups and more accurately represents the will of the people.

BE IT RESOLVED:

The Democratic Party of New Mexico will protect the right to vote from all attacks. We will:

- Demand public ownership of all election processes, software and equipment
- Support and defend voting rights for all
- End gerrymandering by creating an Independent Redistricting Commission
- Require that every vote be counted
- Repeal all voting disenfranchisement laws
- Fight against discriminatory voter ID laws
- Work to consolidate local, nonpartisan elections into one election
- Promote early voting in all elections
- Encourage voting registration with driver license applications
- Support mail-in ballots
- Increase voter participation by expanding voting hours and days
- Investigate and vigorously prosecute any and all forms of voter intimidation
- Adopt the National Popular Vote Interstate Compact for Electoral College Reform
- Provide convenient polling sites in all Tribal Communities
- Support rank choice voting to make democracy more fair and functional

3) Resolution Title: Prohibit the Disenfranchisement of Voters

Author/Submitting Organization: Selinda Guerrero

WHEREAS Felon voting bans and criminal conviction voting disenfranchisement laws expanded across the U.S. following the 15th Amendment (1870) which today prevent as many as 6 million American citizens from voting with Black disenfranchisement rates four times that of all other Americans.

WHEREAS Voting rights are retained while incarcerated for a felony conviction in Maine and Vermont which keeps voting rights in place; and California is considering a constitutional amendment to retain voting rights (2017).

WHEREAS While New Mexico Code 31-13-1 provides for voting rights restoration upon completion of sentence, including prison, parole, and probation, nearly all former felons who have paid their entire debt to society have found it nearly impossible to get their voting rights restored

BE IT RESOLVED The Democratic Party of New Mexico should uphold the right to vote as fundamental to our democracy and protect the rights of all U.S. citizens residing in New Mexico to participate in the democratic process.

BE IT RESOLVED The New Mexico State Legislature should enact legislation following the example of Maine and Vermont laws to allow for voting rights retention even when 'behind the walls'.

SOURCES:

<https://www.nytimes.com/2014/11/19/opinion/the-racist-origins-of-felon-disenfranchisement.html?emc=eta1& r=1>

<https://www.aclu.org/issues/voting-rights/voter-restoration/felony-disenfranchisement-laws-map>

<https://www.brennancenter.org/issues/restoring-voting-rights>

<http://www.nonprofitvote.org/voting-in-your-state/special-circumstances/voting-as-an-ex-offender/>

<https://www.nytimes.com/2014/11/19/opinion/the-racist-origins-of-felon-disenfranchisement.html?emc=eta1& r=1>

<https://www.oag.ca.gov/system/files/initiatives/pdfs/17-0023%20%28Voting%20Rights%29.pdf>

<http://www.bernco.gov/clerk/restoration-of-voter-rights-post-felony.aspx>

[http://www.sos.state.nm.us/Legislation And Resources/NM Administrative Code Rules.aspx](http://www.sos.state.nm.us/Legislation%20And%20Resources/NM%20Administrative%20Code%20Rules.aspx)

4) Resolution Title: Regulating Money in Politics

Author/Submitting Organization: Kathryn Monaco

WHEREAS A central tenant of a good Democracy is open, transparent and accessible government processes for all citizens;

WHEREAS corporate lobbying, gifts and perks to government and elected officials unfairly impact the people's access to their elected and appointed officials, and dilute their ability to hold said elected and appointed officials accountable and provide an unfair advantage to said corporations;

WHEREAS the Supreme Court case of Citizens United v. Federal Election Commission has further undermined the ability of citizens to have their voice heard in the legislative and electoral processes that govern their lives;

BE IT RESOLVED We support stronger laws that curb and reduce the influence of money in our political process; and

BE IT RESOLVED We support laws that require transparent reporting of corporate efforts to influence electoral and legislative processes.

5) Resolution Title: Rating Agencies and the Laws of Fraud

Author/Submitting Organization: Tony Davis

WHEREAS the 'Great Recession' of 2007-9 has been the deepest on record since the Great Depression, of the 1930's, at least in terms of job losses [1], and may be considered partly the result of risky behavior on the part of Wall Street banks and

WHEREAS certain ratings agencies were paid by financial institutions to give favorable ratings to certain securities [2,3] whose risks should have been apparent and turned out to be (to use a technical term) 'toxic sludge', [4], and

WHEREAS in making investments, investors, retirement funds, and the financial industry in general have relied on particular ratings agencies such as Standard and Poors to provide an independent and accurate assessment of the risks of a particular investment, and

WHEREAS these same ratings agencies have been considered not subject to the laws on fraud, but rather their ratings are merely 'opinions' (and as such, are protected free speech), [5]

BE IT RESOLVED that financial ratings agencies must avoid conflicts of interest and engage only in independent ratings of entities where they have no interest themselves.

BE IT RESOLVED That ratings agencies must not be immune to being prosecuted for fraud.

SOURCES:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Great_Recession

<http://www.washingtonsblog.com/2009/09/credit-rating-agencies-took-bribes-for-higher-ratings.html>

<http://www.washingtonsblog.com/2009/09/senior-moodys-executives-theres-a-culture-of-covering-up-improper-ratings.html>

https://ftalphaville.ft.com/2010/06/02/249806/everyone-v-the-rating-agencies/?ft_site=falcon&desktop=true

<https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2011-11-23/are-rating-firms-getting-a-free-pass>

6) Resolution Title: Voice Vote Limitation

Author/Submitting Organization: Tony Davis

WHEREAS it is in the public's interest to know how their representatives vote on their behalf on all bills that significantly impact the public's welfare and finances in all matters that are not purely symbolic, and

WHEREAS the various legislative bodies may have rules that allow 'voice votes' where votes are not recorded and the public may not then know how their representatives have voted [1], and

WHEREAS such procedures go against all principles of openness and accountability in a republic.

BE IT RESOLVED By the Democratic Party of New Mexico that accountability be improved by eliminating voice votes in all legislative bodies on bills that involve budgetary issues or those that have any financial impact on taxpayers

7) Resolution Title: Vote by Mail

Author/Submitting Organization: Valencia County Democrats, Precinct 6 Eduardo L. Rodriguez

WHEREAS Vote-by-mail, a balloting system that has been **successfully implemented** in Washington (1993), Oregon (1995), Colorado (2013), California (partial in 2018), and introduced in more than 20 other states, **consistently increases voter participation** -- especially among rural populations (for example: in Washington state, voter participation increased by 34% from 2000 to 2006; by 2007, 36 of 39 WA counties were using vote-by-mail with great success); and

WHEREAS Vote-by-mail systems **help older voters and voters with disabilities to participate** (because lack of transportation, lack of mobility, or personal financial restrictions can be insurmountable obstacles for these voters when they are limited to participating in traditional in-person voting at polling places); and

WHEREAS Vote-by-mail systems **promote an informed citizenry and improve voter accountability** (by providing each voter with voting information to read and research at home for an extended "voting period") and **prevent** the kinds of **voter fraud** seen with current voting technology; and

WHEREAS Implementing a vote-by-mail system will **improve New Mexico rural voter participation.**

BE IT RESOLVED that the DPNM will promote and advocate for investing sufficient state resources to establish a universal vote-by-mail system for all New Mexico voters.

Sources:

- <http://www.ncsl.org/research/elections-and-campaigns/all-mail-elections.aspx>
- <https://www.sos.wa.gov/documentvault/WashingtonStatesVotebyMailExperienceOctober2007-2066.pdf>
- <http://upr.org/post/cache-county-clerk-mail-ballots-increase-voting-numbers>
- <https://www.congress.gov/115/bills/s1231/BILLS-115s1231is.pdf> (Paragraph 2)
- <https://www.congress.gov/115/bills/s1231/BILLS-115s1231is.pdf> (Paragraph 5)
- <https://www.congress.gov/115/bills/hr946/BILLS-115hr946ih.pdf> (115th Congress H.R.946)
- <http://www.worldcat.org/title/changing-the-way-colorado-votes-a-study-of-selected-reforms/oclc/712796031>
- [http://www.ncsl.org/research/elections-and-campaigns/states-and-election-reform-the-canvass-july-2014.aspx#All-Mail Elections](http://www.ncsl.org/research/elections-and-campaigns/states-and-election-reform-the-canvass-july-2014.aspx#All-Mail%20Elections)
- <https://voterschoice.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/08/UCDavisCCEPCVEBrief1.pdf>
- <http://www.sfchronicle.com/politics/article/Voting-by-mail-taking-over-from-polling-places-in-6365494.php>
- https://www.washingtonpost.com/blogs/govbeat/wp/2014/12/16/the-pros-and-cons-of-all-mail-elections-as-told-by-two-republican-secretaries-of-state/?utm_term=.b4c291b6a01c
- <http://www.yesmagazine.org/peace-justice/national-vote-by-mail-could-add-millions-of-votes-in-2018-20170127>
- <http://www.mercurynews.com/2017/05/03/opinion-voting-by-mail-in-santa-clara-county-can-save-money-increase-turnout-and-speed-up-results/>
- http://www.ncsl.org/Documents/legismgt/elect/Canvass_Oct_2014_No_52.pdf
- <https://washingtonmonthly.com/magazine/janfeb-2016/vote-from-home-save-your-country/>
- <https://washingtonmonthly.com/2016/01/11/why-everyone-should-vote-by-mail/>

Economy

1) Resolution Title: New Revenue Streams

Author/Submitting Organization: Jeremy Sment

WHEREAS the low corporate tax rate has not resulted in any new businesses relocating to NM in over 10 years, tax cuts have failed to stimulate the economy and have not resulted in increased revenues for the state, and NM is beholden to oil and gas rents and royalties to contribute about 15-25% of the annual general fund but a \$1 drop in the price of oil amounts to a \$9.5M drop in revenue and a 10 cent drop in natural gas prices results in a \$6.5M deficit resulting in emergency cuts to public services including education and public safety.

WHEREAS loss of tax revenues has caused a structural deficit whereby the state of NM does not have enough revenue to pay for the vital functions of the state including the criminal justice system and the public schools and yet common sense revenue generating proposals passed the legislature in the 2017 session with bipartisan support were vetoed by Republican governor Susana Martinez forcing the burden of budget cuts onto state programs and employee pensions.

WHEREAS opportunities to generate new sources of revenue from cannabis, hemp have stalled in legislative committees.

BE IT RESOLVED we will continue to fight for fair, common-sense revenue streams to stabilize the state budget and hedge against market volatility in the oil and gas sector including the opportunities that passed the legislature but were vetoed in 2017:

- A fair permit fee from mostly out of state truckers who cause wear on our roads that must be repaired by NM capital outlays
- Increasing revenues from federal Medicaid matches by taxing non-profit hospitals who would be reimbursed 3:1 without affecting New Mexican pocket books
- Creating an even playing field for local NM businesses to compete with out of state companies by requiring sales tax be paid on online purchases
- Aligning our state car excise tax more closely with neighboring states while still maintaining a competitive advantage
- Revising the proposed gas tax to a sliding scale gasoline tax offers economic relief to motorists by diminishing when gas prices are high and stabilizing critical state functions by increasing when gas prices are low

BE IT RESOLVED we will continue to fight for fair, common-sense revenue streams to stabilize the state budget and hedge against market volatility by removing legal barriers to economic development of cannabis and hemp including:

- Legalizing industrial hemp and using the revenue streams from the sales and expand on research bills HB144/SB6 that were vetoed in 2017
- Generating state revenues on legal cannabis sales and use the revenue streams and expand on the HB89 that was stopped in committee

SOURCES:

<http://scholarship.richmond.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1056&context=spcs-faculty-publications>
<http://scholarship.richmond.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1056&context=spcs-faculty-publications>

https://www.nmlegis.gov/Entity/LFC/Documents/Finance_Facts/finance%20facts%20oil%20and%20gas%20revenue.pdf

<https://www.jeremysment.com/podcast>

<https://www.usnews.com/news/best-states/new-mexico/articles/2017-05-24/new-mexico-lawmakers-confront-budget-crisis-governor>

<https://www.abqjournal.com/947896/bill-to-legalize-marijuana-stalls-in-committee.html>

<https://www.usnews.com/news/best-states/new-mexico/articles/2017-03-08/new-mexico-governor-vetoes-industrial-hemp-bill>

<http://norml.org/news/2017/03/16/new-mexico-governor-vetoes-hemp-research-bills>

<https://www.abqjournal.com/958510/bill-to-legalize-recreational-marijuana-use-fizzles-in-house-committee.html>

2) Resolution Title: Re-Instate Glass-Steagall

Author/Submitting Organization: Tony Davis

WHEREAS the 'Great Recession' of 2007-9 has been the deepest on record since the Great Depression, of the 1930's, at least in terms of job losses [1], and continues to affect Americans, and

WHEREAS the banking industry has traditionally been subject to close regulation as citizens entrust their money to banks, and

WHEREAS the Gramm-Leach-Bliley Act's repeal of the affiliation restrictions of the Glass-Steagall Act in 1999, has been stated as an important cause of the 'Great Recession' [2], and

BE IT RESOLVED that the Democratic Party of New Mexico support re-instatement of the Glass-Steagall provisions of the Banking Act of 1933, and that these provisions be strictly interpreted and enforced.

SOURCES:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Great_Recession

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Glass%E2%80%93Steagall_legislation

<https://economix.blogs.nytimes.com/2009/06/08/canadas-way-how-our-northern-neighbors-do-banking/?mcubz=0>

3) Resolution Title: Removing Barriers to Work for Long-Term Unemployed and Homeless

Author/Submitting Organization: Jeremy Sment

WHEREAS homeless people face significant and multiple barriers to employment including mental physical health, substance abuse, history of incarceration, transportation, lack of skills, lack of references, and lack of education.

WHEREAS the long-term unemployed face significant barriers to employment including education level, age, experience, instability, mental and physical health, market displacement, lack of skills, and difficulty in service providers to locate and identify the population.

BE IT RESOLVED we support a state program that incentivizes hiring of and removes institutional barriers for qualified people who have been unemployed long-term and/or homeless.

SOURCES: Long, David.. Employment and Income Supports for Homeless People. National Symposium on Homelessness Research. 2007
<https://assets.rockefellerfoundation.org/app/uploads/20130528215222/Long-Term-Unemployment.pdf>

Education

1) Resolution Title: After School STEM Programs

Author/Submitting Organization: Jeremy Sment

WHEREAS the fastest growing economic sectors demand a labor force skilled in science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM).

WHEREAS businesses that would bring high-paying technology jobs weigh the skill level of the labor force when considering whether or not to locate in NM.

WHEREAS the time demands on the classroom do not provide sufficient resources to ensure all students reach their full potential in STEM

BE IT RESOLVED we support new revenue streams that fund intensive STEM immersion programs after school.

Energy/Environment/Agriculture

1) Resolution Title: Curbing Methane Release from Oil, Gas, and Coal Operations

Author/Submitting Organization: Ivan Pfeifer

WHEREAS Methane is a major contributor to atmospheric warming

WHEREAS San Juan County, New Mexico, has the largest methane plume in the United States

BE IT RESOLVED that the Democratic Party of New Mexico recommends that severe penalties and remedies be enacted into law and scrupulously enforced to cause those operating oil, gas, and coal extraction, storage, and transmission facilities to comply with State, EPA, and scientific guidelines and regulations.

SOURCES:

<https://www.epa.gov/ghgemissions/overview-greenhouse-gases>

https://www.washingtonpost.com/national/health-science/delaware-sized-gas-plume-over-west-illustrates-the-cost-of-leaking-methane/2014/12/29/d34c3e6e-8d1f-11e4-a085-34e9b9f09a58_story.html?utm_term=.957b08d29f6a

2) Resolution Title: Energy/Environment Resolution

Author/Submitting Organization: Jeremy Sment

WHEREAS wind and solar energy producers have spent over \$1.2 Billion in New Mexico to construct, equip, operate, and maintain 31 generation facilities

WHEREAS wind and solar energy producers have supported 11,771 full and part time jobs with \$611 million in employee compensation and \$1.6 billion in economic activity statewide

WHEREAS economic impacts from renewable energy producers have generated \$74.6 million in state and local tax revenue

WHEREAS New Mexico is a net exporter of electrical energy bringing out-of-state revenue into the state with every Watt of energy produced

WHEREAS the opportunity to become the mecca in an emerging market only presents once in several generations and New Mexico is falling behind AZ, NV, and CA despite having equally abundant solar and labor resources

BE IT RESOLVED the democratic party will not allow the state of New Mexico to squander thousands of jobs and the most significant opportunity for generating revenue and economic development by standing on the sidelines of the Global renewable energy revolution.

BE IT RESOLVED the democrats will fight to fund key transmission infrastructure projects to connect the sun resources of southern New Mexico to the grid through direct state funding, bond guarantees, power purchase agreement mandates, out of state energy sales, and private venture investments.

BE IT RESOLVED the democratic party will fight to fund the key transmission infrastructure projects to connect the wind resources of Eastern New Mexico to the national grid

BE IT RESOLVED the democratic party will fight to retrain workers in the old energy economy to build the wind and solar installations of the new energy economy

BE IT RESOLVED the democratic party will fight to fund research in smart grid technology, energy conservation, and renewable energy storage and distribution at the public state universities in Portales, Ruidoso, Roswell, Santa Fe, Las Vegas, Socorro, Las Cruces, Alamogordo, Carlsbad, Grants, Espanola, Albuquerque, Gallup, Los Alamos, Rio Rancho, Taos, Los Lunas, and Silver City.

SOURCES: https://www.eia.gov/electricity/monthly/epm_table_grapher.php?t=epmt_1_17_a
<http://familybusinessesforaffordableenergy.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/03/EconImpactStudy-022817-1.pdf>

3) Resolution Title: Incentivize Solar, Wind, and other Renewable Energy Production in NM

Author/Submitting Organization: Karen Bentrup

WHEREAS Increasing power generation capacity with renewable energy production infrastructure is now cheaper and more profitable than fossil fuel energy production with the price of solar power already hitting the 50-cents a watt threshold.

WHEREAS Albuquerque is the 11th sunniest city in the nation and New Mexico has almost 340 days of sunshine making the state ideal for solar energy production.

WHEREAS According to the federal Office of Energy Efficiency & Renewable Energy, New Mexico is tapping only 0.4% of its wind energy production potential and has abundant wind for renewable energy production.

WHEREAS The negative impacts of extracting and burning fossil fuels on the health of individuals (especially lower income Americans and people of color, pregnant women and children), the public health expenditures, and environmental devastations are clearly demonstrated; including birth defects, cancers, asthma, blood/nervous/respiratory disorders, eroding air quality, acid rain & sea acidification, atmospheric mercury, and ground and aquifer drinking water contamination, to name a few.

BE IT RESOLVED The New Mexico Legislature should require that all future expansions of energy production in the state be “all-source” requests for proposals.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED The New Mexico State Legislature should incentivize renewable energy production and renewable energy jobs and training.

SOURCES:

<https://www.lazard.com/media/450337/lazard-levelized-cost-of-energy-version-110.pdf>

https://environmentnewmexico.org/programs/nme/100-renewable-energy?_ga=2.126173829.98419332.1512487495-1848239614.1509645288

<https://energy.gov/eere/office-energy-efficiency-renewable-energy>

<https://www.abqjournal.com/973670/eastern-nm-to-get-huge-new-wind-farm.html>

<https://energy.gov/eere/wind/articles/wind-energy-continues-rapid-growth>

<https://www.cleanenergyauthority.com/solar-energy-resources/top-ten-solar-states>

<https://www1.ncdc.noaa.gov/pub/data/ccd-data/pctposrank.txt>

<https://www.abqjournal.com/1074079/wind-power-could-secure-new-mexicos-future-ex-we-must-move-quickly-and-decisively-to-keep-these-opportunities-at-home.html>

<http://www.wipp.energy.gov/science/energy/windpower.htm>

<https://www.theatlantic.com/business/archive/2015/08/coins-externalities-medical-air-quality-financial-environmental/401075/>

<https://www.nrdc.org/media/2014/141216>

4) Resolution Title: Keep Public Lands Public

Author/Submitting Organization: Dave Parsons/Judy Calman/Tony Davis/Ernest Sturdevant

WHEREAS Public lands provide numerous benefits to New Mexicans and all Americans including habitat for wildlife, watershed protection, recreation opportunities, economic benefits to local communities, and carbon sinks to combat climate change; and

WHEREAS Public lands are protected through federal laws, regulations, and policies administered through various agencies such as the Bureau of Land Management, US Fish and Wildlife Service, and US Forest Service, and many of these protections and regulations do not apply to state and private lands; and

WHEREAS Elected officials backed by ALEC and other special interest groups continue to introduce bills at local, state, and federal levels, which attempt to take public lands away from federal jurisdiction and cede them to state and/or private control, which would destroy their values and is contrary to the public trust doctrine

BE IT RESOLVED The Democratic Party of New Mexico opposes all attempts to take federal public lands and cede them to state or private ownership.

5) Resolution Title: Reform the NM Game Commission

Author/Submitting Organization: Dave Parsons/Judy Calman

WHEREAS: The New Mexico Game Commission serves as the public trustee of approximately 1200 species of birds, mammals, fish, reptiles, and amphibians that make their homes in the State of New Mexico, and is entrusted with the authority to ensure the conservation of New Mexico's diverse wildlife, their required habitats, and the complex ecosystems which are necessary for their survival and continued existence for the enjoyment of current and future generations of New Mexico citizens including the small minority (4.3%) who hunt and the much larger number (34.7%) who enjoy wildlife viewing; and

WHEREAS The Governor-appointed Game Commission tends to over-represent the interests of hunting and ranching and largely under-represent the interests of wildlife watching and species conservation often allowing the politics of minority special interests to override majority interests even when the advice of credible scientists supports the majority view, and tends to concern itself mostly with managing about 40 species, including some that are not native to the state, for trophies, sport, consumption, or the fur market while largely ignoring the vast biological heritage of New Mexico; and

WHEREAS Most citizens of New Mexico who care deeply about all of the wildlife that grace our state, which aids in enticing visitors and businesses to come to the Land of Enchantment, have nowhere to go but to the New Mexico Game Commission to plead for the conservation of the rich biological diversity and vibrant and diverse ecosystems of this beautiful state.

BE IT RESOLVED That the Democratic Party of New Mexico supports reform of the New Mexico Game Commission to ensure that it appropriately represents the full public's interest in wildlife conservation and management and follows a democratic process to fulfill its Public Trust responsibilities for the conservation of all wildlife of New Mexico and the ecosystems that support them for the benefit and enjoyment of all current and future citizens of New Mexico.

SOURCES:

Decker, D. et al. 2015. Governance Principles for Wildlife Conservation in the 21st Century. Conservation Letters. Available on request.

National Survey of Fishing, Hunting, and Wildlife-Associated Recreation 2011

<http://www.census.gov/prod/2013pubs/fhw11-nm.pdf>

Biota Information System of New Mexico :<http://www.bison-m.org>

New Mexico Department of Game and Fish: 2016–2017 New Mexico HUNTING

http://www.wildlife.state.nm.us/download/publications/rib/2016/hunting/2016_17-New-Mexico-Hunting-Rules-And-Info.pdf

New Mexico Department of Game and Fish: 2016–2017 New Mexico FISHING

http://www.wildlife.state.nm.us/download/publications/rib/2015/fishing/2015_2016-New-Mexico-Fishing-Rules-And-Info.pdf

Letter from Kevin Bixby, Executive Director, Southwest Environmental Center and Mary Katherine Ray, Wildlife Chair, Rio Grande Chapter of Sierra Club to Senator Linda Lopez, Chair, New Mexico Senate Rules Committee. Re: Concerns about conduct of New Mexico Game Commission. February 9, 2016. Available on request.

6) Resolution Title: Safe Growing Practices

Author/Submitting Organization: Judy Rosenstein

WHEREAS the main ingredient of most herbicides is glyphosate, which has been determined to be a probable human carcinogen by the World Health Organization and at least one Court in the United States, and has been linked in numerous scientific studies to cancers, particularly lymphomas, as well as kidney and liver diseases, significantly increased risk of brain cancer and other serious diseases, and

WHEREAS Neonicotinoids, the main ingredient of most insecticides have a detrimental and often fatal effect on bees and butterflies which are necessary for the pollination of many plants grown for human consumption and have been shown to appear in said food products thereby harming humans, and

WHEREAS numerous nations and Courts have banned or severely limited the use of glyphosate and neonicotinoids because of their detrimental effect on human health and agriculture,

Resolved Clauses (up to two), may be used to direct what actions the Party should take:

BE IT RESOLVED that glyphosate and neonicotinoids must be banned from use by any state and local governmental agencies with authority to use herbicides or insecticides for any reason, and

BE IT RESOLVED that said governmental agencies be required to produce and disseminate public service announcements about the dangers of glyphosate and neonicotinoids to human and pollinator health in an effort to halt or significantly limit their use.

Labor

1) Resolution Title: Distance learning Initiative to Reduce Poverty and Increase Employment

Author/Submitting Organization: Janet Yagoda Shagam, PhD

WHEREAS with 20% of the population living in poverty, ranks New Mexico 50 th for the number of people living below the poverty line (\$24,250 for a family of four).

WHEREAS with 22% of the people living in rural New Mexico in poverty, places New Mexico as having highest rate of rural poverty in the United States.

WHEREAS in New Mexico, with an unemployment rate of 6.8%, places New Mexico 51st in the nation (includes Washington DC) for unemployment.

BE IT RESOLVED there be sufficient distance learning opportunities for people living throughout the state to receive the education and training they need for economically sustainable employment in the communities where they live.

BE IT RESOLVED that people who live in rural New Mexico receive the transportation, internet, and interactive online media they need to access and take advantage of distant learning opportunities.

Sources: (<http://www.bizjournals.com/albuquerque/news/2016/12/09/rural-nm-has-the-highest-poverty-rate-among-all.html>)

<https://talkpoverty.org/state-year-report/new-mexico-2016-report/>)

(<https://www.bls.gov/web/laus/laumstrk.htm>)

Public Safety

1) Resolution Title: End Civil Asset Forfeiture

Author/Submitting Organization: Tony Davis

WHEREAS: The 4th Amendment of the U.S. Constitution assures us all “to be secure in [our] persons, houses, papers, and effects, against unreasonable searches and seizures.” [1]

WHEREAS Certain law enforcement officers have taken assets from innocent persons whom they have suspected of involvement with crime or illegal activity without necessarily having any evidence or without charging the owners with wrongdoing. [2] This includes invasive bodily searches with minimal probable cause of a crime. [3]

WHEREAS The current U.S. Attorney General has rolled back a series of Obama-era curbs on the practice and revived the Justice Department’s Equitable Sharing Program, a [controversial process](#) through which state and local police agencies can seize assets, then transfer those seizures to federal control. In doing so, local agencies can skirt some state-level regulations limiting forfeitures. [4]

BE IT RESOLVED That the DPNM, while supporting law enforcement methods to defund organized crime and take back ill-gotten gains, decries any un-Constitutional power to seize cash and property from Americans without first bringing criminal charges against them. And that the DPNM support the training of law enforcement officers in the 4th Amendment rights of citizens

BE IT RESOLVED That law enforcement be thoroughly trained in citizens 4th Amendment rights and adhere to proper arrest procedures.

SOURCES:

https://www.law.cornell.edu/constitution/fourth_amendment

<http://www.zerohedge.com/news/2014-11-01/warning-avoid-corrupt-third-world-country-all-costs>

<http://www.nydailynews.com/news/national/cops-probed-n-m-man-anus-8-times-traffic-stop-job-report-article-1.1815078>

2) Resolution Title: New Mexicans Support A Ban On Assault Weapons

Author/Submitting Organization: Don Dionne

WHEREAS Assault weapons including semi-automatic firearms with high capacity magazines are weapons of war.

WHEREAS United States House Resolution 5087 - Assault Weapons Ban of 2018 calling for a ban on the sale, transfer, production, and importation of 205 specific semi-automatic firearms reinstates and strengthens controls placed on assault weapons by the now defunct Public Law No: 103-322 - Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994.

WHEREAS No legislation banning the sale, transfer, production, and importation of assault weapons including semi-automatic firearms and high capacity ammunition magazines currently exists in the State of New Mexico and no related legislation was put before the New Mexico State Legislature in 2017 or 2018.

WHEREAS More than 210,000 students have experienced gun violence at school since Columbine. 147 of the 162 students, coaches, and teachers killed in mass killings occurring at schools since 1982 were killed by semi-automatic firearms.

BE IT RESOLVED The Democratic Party of New Mexico supports the authorization of a strengthened federal assault weapons ban.

BE IT RESOLVED The Democratic Party of New Mexico calls for a ban on the sale, transfer, production, and importation of assault weapons including semi-automatic firearms and high capacity ammunition magazines in the State of New Mexico.

Technology

1) Resolution Title: Advance Broadband for All New Mexicans

Author/Submitting Organization: Santa Fe CPARC

WHEREAS 68% of New Mexicans do not currently have access to the Internet through high-speed broadband services; the status of Internet access at present discriminates against persons living outside of metro areas or on tribal lands, as well as against persons in lower-income households.

Sixty-one percent (61%) of New Mexicans living in rural areas lack access to advanced telecommunications including Internet.

WHEREAS Access to the Internet using high-speed broadband throughout the state is essential for assuring that economic advancement is available to all New Mexicans and for promoting the state's overall economic development

WHEREAS There is documentation internationally that increasing internet access on reducing poverty in non-metro areas.

BE IT RESOLVED: The Democratic Party of New Mexico supports all efforts of the state to expand high-speed broadband to all state residents, including legislation removing administrative or regulatory barriers, funding for infrastructure, and promotion of public-private partnerships where those are in the best interests of the public

Women

1) Resolution Title: Equal Pay for Equal Work in New Mexico

Author/Submitting Organization: Sylvia Ramos

WHEREAS: Nationally, the median annual pay for full time, year-round work is \$40,742 for a woman and \$51,212 for a man. Though, on average, women earn 80% of what men earn for equivalent work, the figures vary by state (64% in WY, 85% in NM, 89% in NY); by race/ethnicity (Black women – 63%, American Indian women – 57%, Latinas – 54%); and by age, with older women ages 55 to 64 years paid, on average, 74% of what men are paid.

WHEREAS The wage gap exists within occupations, regardless of industry, and regardless of education, level of training, experience or performance. Furthermore, as a field becomes dominated by women, the average wage drops for all employees. Research shows that, when all possible contributing factors are screened out, at least 38% of the wage gap is due solely to gender discrimination and bias.

WHEREAS Nationally, on average, a woman employed full time in the U.S. loses \$10, 470 each year, and the combined loss for American women is more than \$840Billion every year, all due to the wage gap.

WHEREAS The pay gap impacts the lives and well-being of women across the age spectrum – it affects their ability to support themselves and their families; have discretionary income to further academic, civic, and social pursuits; invest and save for the future; and retire after a lifetime of work with income adequate to meet their basic human needs. The poverty rate for women age 65 years and older is 10.6% compared to men at 7.6%.

WHEREAS As outlined in Title VII of the Civil Rights Act, the collection and analysis of accurate employment data, including worksite practices, wages and employee demographics, is essential to developing, instituting and enforcing pay equity policies, regulations and laws.

BE IT RESOLVED That the Democratic Party will work with the NM Legislature to develop and pass legislation to ensure that New Mexico will require employment data collection and reporting by all state agencies as well as by companies doing business with the State

BE IT RESOLVED The Democratic Party will work with the NM State Legislature to propose and pass laws that ensure gender pay equity for state employees as well as for the employees of private companies that receive State of New Mexico contracts.

SOURCES: National Partnership for Women and Families. Fact Sheet: America's Women and the Wage Gap, April 2017.

<http://www.nationalpartnership.org/research-library/workplace-fairness/fair-pay/americas-women-and-the-wage-gap.pdf>

U.S. Census Bureau. (2016).

<http://www.aauw.org/research/the-simple-truth-about-the-gender-pay-gap/>

<https://www.nytimes.com/2016/03/20/upshot/as-women-take-over-a-male-dominated-field-the-pay-drops.html>

<http://www.aauw.org/research/the-simple-truth-about-the-gender-pay-gap/>

<https://www.census.gov/newsroom/press-releases/2017/income-poverty.html>

[http://dbm.maryland.gov/eo/Documents/Fair Practices Professionals/RecordKeepRequirements.pdf](http://dbm.maryland.gov/eo/Documents/Fair_Practices_Professionals/RecordKeepRequirements.pdf)

https://www.nwlc.org/sites/default/files/pdfs/final_nwlc_equal_pay_report.pdf

2) Resolution Title: Removal of the Deadline for Ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment

Author/Submitting Organization: Sylvia Ramos

WHEREAS: Equal rights for women are not specifically included in the United States Constitution; and an amendment that would guarantee rights for women that are equal to those of men would provide a fundamental legal remedy against all cases of discrimination based on gender.

WHEREAS A deadline for ratification, included in the original amendment, though not in the binding text of the document itself, was later extended by another congress for an additional three years, thus establishing the precedent that congress has the power to do so and, therefore resolutions have been introduced in Congress to Remove the Deadline for Ratification.

WHEREAS Current legal argument contends that U.S. Congress has the power to maintain the legal viability of the ERA's existing state ratifications. The time limit on ERA ratification is open to change, as Congress demonstrated in extending the original deadline, and precedent with the 14th and 15th Amendments shows that rescissions (legislative votes retracting ratifications) are not accepted as valid. Therefore, Congress may be able to accept state ratifications that occur after 1982 and keep the existing 36 ratifications alive.

BE IT RESOLVED: The New Mexico State Legislature calls upon the New Mexico Congressional delegation in Washington, D.C., to co-sponsor resolutions and vote for legislation that would remove the deadline for ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment, so that efforts can proceed to get ratification by the necessary additional two states so that, finally, the guarantee of equal rights for women and men in the U.S. will become the law of the land.

SOURCES: HM7 ERA Ratification Deadline, Gail Chasey, 2013 at

<https://www.nmlegis.gov/Legislation/Legislation?Chamber=H&LegType=M&LegNo=7&year=13>

SM7 ERA Ratification Deadline, Jacob Candelaria, 2013 at

<https://www.nmlegis.gov/Legislation/Legislation?Chamber=S&LegType=M&LegNo=7&year=13>

"The Equal Rights Amendment: Why the ERA Remains Legally Viable and Properly Before the States" by Allison Held *et al.* in the Spring 1997 issue of *William & Mary Journal of Women and the Law*.

<http://www.equalrightsamendment.org/faq.htm#q5>

3) Resolution Title: Support Ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment

Author/Submitting Organization: Sylvia Ramos

WHEREAS American women have been waiting 230 years to be included in the US Constitution and 94 years for ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment, written in 1923 by Alice Paul, passed by Congress in 1972 and sent to the 50 states where it failed to be ratified

WHEREAS The modified text of the Equal Rights Amendment submitted to the House of Representatives 113th Congress reads:

Section 1: Women shall have equal rights in the United States and every place subject to its jurisdiction. Equality of rights under the law shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of sex.

Section 2: Congress and the several States shall have the power to enforce, by appropriate legislation, the provisions of this article.

Section 3: This amendment shall take effect two years after the date of ratification.

WHEREAS The State of New Mexico ratified the Equal Rights Amendment in 1973; and to date, 36 of the required 38 states have also ratified the ERA.

BE IT RESOLVED: The New Mexico State Legislature calls upon the New Mexico Congressional delegation in Washington, D.C., to co-sponsor resolutions and vote for legislation that would ratify the Equal Rights Amendment, so that the guarantee of equal rights for women and men in the United States will become the law of the land.

4) Resolution Title: Uphold Article II, Section 18 of the New Mexico Constitution: Equality of Rights

Author/Submitting Organization: Sylvia Ramos

WHEREAS The New Mexico State Constitution states, “No person shall be deprived of life, liberty or property without due process of law; nor shall any person be denied equal protection of the laws. Equality of rights under law shall not be denied on account of the sex of any person.”

WHEREAS women in New Mexico, on average, still do not enjoy “equality of rights”, as they are still subject to unequal pay, gender-based violence, lack of reasonable accommodations during pregnancy, no paid family leave, and ongoing assaults on reproductive rights, among other disparities.

BE IT RESOLVED: The Democratic Party will work with the NM Legislature to ensure that laws are not passed in NM that weaken or do away with the guarantee enshrined in the NM Constitution that New Mexico women have “equality of rights.”

BE IT RESOLVED The Democratic Party will ensure that NM Courts uphold the “equality of rights” enshrined in Article II, Section 18 of the NM State Constitution.

SOURCES: *New Mexico Constitution, Article II, §18 (1973)*

<http://www.nationalpartnership.org/research-library/workplace-fairness/fair-pay/4-2016-nm-wage-gap.pdf>

<https://women.unm.edu/resources/New-Mexico-Domestic-Violence-Benchbook.pdf>

<http://www.swwomenslaw.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/08/Pregnant-Workers-Rights-in-New-Mexico-Fact-Sheet.pdf>

<http://www.newmexicopbs.org/productions/newmexicoinfofocus/tag/paid-sick-leave/>

<http://www.swwomenslaw.org/our-programs/reproductive-health-and-rights/>

<http://progressnownm.org/2017/02/09/3-bills-aim-to-protect-reproductive-rights-in-nm/>

<http://nmrcrc.org/where-do-i-find/emergency-contraception/>

5) Resolution Title: Freedom for Religious Beliefs on Medical Care

Author/Submitting Organization: Felice Garcia

WHEREAS: Constitutional rights are universal regardless of race creed, gender, religion, national origin, sexual orientation, gender identity, physical ability, or age.

WHEREAS Historically, the Democratic Party has stood for the principle that civil rights are sacrosanct,;

BE IT RESOLVED: Religious freedom should not impact civil rights. We support a woman's right to choose whether to terminate a pregnancy, and we support legislation that prohibits the withholding of essential medical services and medication, even when provided in the private sector, based upon the religious beliefs of any individual employee or the employee's employer.