

MINUTES
NCDP STATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
SATURDAY, AUGUST 7, 2021

State Party Chair Dr. Bobbie Richardson called the Socio meeting to order at 10:00AM.

NCDP Parliamentarian Sybil Mann read the Statement of Inclusion.

The SEC Members joined in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance which was dedicated to future Democrats across the state.

The Salute to the North Carolina flag was rendered.

State Representative Carla Cunningham asked SEC Members to think about the 13,500 North Carolinians who have died from COVID-19 and the one million North Carolinians who have been sickened by COVID-19 as she led a Moment of Silence and a Moment of Reflection.

Jeff Rose, President of the State Association of County Chairs, explained the Instructions and Guidelines by which the meeting will be conducted.

Secretary Melvin Williams gave the following Quorum Report:

Current number of SEC Members – 609

Number needed for a Quorum – 244

Number of SEC Members present – 405

Therefore, a Quorum was declared.

Christina Davis-McCoy made a motion to approve the Rules of the Day. Brenda Pollard seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Nazim Uddin made a motion to require that 25% of SEC Members must agree to pull a resolution for debate. Henry Jarrett seconded his motion.

Matt Hughes spoke in favor of Nazim's amendment. David Dixon said he wants to amend the wording of a Resolution.

Keith Thomson said we should call it something besides a "Consent Agenda."

Doug Auer said that it only takes one SEC Member to object to cause a resolution to be pulled.

Matt Hughes stated that since 2018 more than one person 2 is required to pull a resolution.

Elizabeth Goodwin called for the question. State Chair Richardson stated that if this motion does not pass, it would take only one person to pull a resolution for debate.

Ryan Jenkins called for a vote on Nazim's amendment to require 25% of the SEC to pull a resolution.

The SEC voted for the amendment by a vote of Yes - 394, No - 22.

Bob Hyman said that Amendment 8 which is numbered 12.01 should be numbered 13.01.

A SEC Member who did not say their name clearly stated that ad hominem attacks should be banned from this meeting. Chair Richardson stated that no ad hominem attacks will be allowed during this meeting.

The SEC then voted to adopt the Rules of the Day by a vote of 387-3.

Chair Richardson encouraged everyone to buy Democratic swag from the www.NCDP.org web site.

Cliff Moone made a motion to adopt the minutes of the February 27, 2021 SEC meeting. Ray McKinnon seconded the motion. Bob Hyman said that the Disability Issues Caucus should be removed from those auxiliaries that the February 27th meeting accepted without objections. This change was made.

The motion to approve the minutes of the February 27th SEC meeting was passed by a vote of 334-1.

OFFICER REPORTS

The following State Party Officers made reports on what they have done since they were elected on February 27, 2021:

**State Chair Bobbie Richardson Secretary Melvin Williams
First Vice Chair Floyd McKissick County Chair Assn Pres Jeff Rose
Second Vice Chair Matt Hughes Treasurer Anna Tilghman
Third Vice Chair Shannon Auer**

During her report State Chair Richardson promoted the Legislative Reception on September 21 and the Unity Dinner on October 16. She also announced that a SEC meeting will be held in October of 2021.

Matt Hughes stated that he and his committee will begin working on the NCDP Platform which will be presented at that October meeting.

The meeting moved to consideration of Resolutions. Resolution and Platform Committee Chair Matt Hughes stated that he would pull from the Resolutions report the following Resolutions:

- Resolution entitled "A Resolution To Equitably Align Sustaining Fund Requirements With A Precinct's Democratic Voter Demographic."**
- Resolution for Reform of Workers Compensation**
- Resolution Supporting Palestinian Human Rights**
- Resolution on Runaway Inequality**
- Resolution on "For the People Act"**

Josh "Fox" Brown spoke in favor of pulling the Workers Compensation Resolution on page 69 and substituting an entirely new Resolution on Workmen's Compensation. A vote on pulling this Resolution was passed by a vote of 294 – 26.

Bob Hyman raised a Point of Order which was not stated clearly. Rich Elkin raised a Point of Order. His Point was that the Substitute Resolution needed to be read out loud in its entirety because some SEC Members could not see the screen.

Doug Berger read the entire Substitute Resolution aloud to the SEC. The SEC then approved the Substitute Resolution by a vote of 305 – 15.

The entire text of the Workmen's Compensation Resolution as passed begins on the next page.

Resolution calling for Reform of Workers Compensation in North Carolina

Whereas, North Carolina's Workers compensation program is intended to provide critical medical and income support to workers injured or made sick on the job; and

Whereas, workers compensation programs across the United States only cover an average of about 21% of the overall financial cost of workplace injuries and illnesses through workers compensation programs, with remaining costs of workplace injuries borne primarily by the injured workers, their families, and taxpayer-supported components of the social safety net; and

Whereas, North Carolina's Workers Compensation program only provides for a maximum of 2/3 of lost wages, without considering inflation; and

Whereas, only a fraction of injured workers eligible for workers compensation ever receive any benefits through workers compensation programs, with studies indicating that less than 40% of workers who would be eligible even apply for workers compensation benefits; now therefore, be it

Resolved, that we Democrats of North Carolina call upon our State Legislature to reform our workers compensation program to:

Fully compensate 100% of lost "take home" wages, including automatic cost of living increases annually for long term injured employees

Give injured workers the right to choose their Physician and receive timely diagnosis and medical treatment, without unreasonable interference or delay from Insurance Companies or Employers

Expand the legal definition of "an injury by accident" to cover all body parts injured in the workplace in the same manner as back injuries are covered, so that injuries which occur in the normal course of Employment are not denied

Establish a rebuttable presumption that cancer contracted by individual firefighters arose out of and in the course and scope of their employment

Establish a rebuttable presumption that Covid 19 contracted by healthcare workers, food processing workers, nursing home workers and detention officers arose out of and in the course and scope of their employment

Increase the amount of compensation an injured worker can receive for permanent damage to an important organ of the body from \$20,000 to at least \$40,000 or higher, with annual adjustments for cost of living to the maximum allowable compensation

Require workers' compensation insurance carriers and their agents to notify upper tier contractors when a lower tier contractor's workers' compensation policy has been terminated

Passed by the NCDP State Executive Committee

On August 7th, 2021

Written by Joshua "Fox" Brown, Doug Berger, and Wayne Goodwin

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A vote was taken on whether to pull the Runaway Inequality Resolution on page 60. The SEC voted by 255 – 109 to pull this Resolution.

The meeting then discussed whether to pull "Resolution to Restore the First Amendment Right To Boycott To Support Palestinian Human Rights." Several SEC Members spoke on this issue including Jeff Rose, Scott Huffman, Soren Peterson, Bob Hyman, Ryan Jenkins. The SEC than voted to pull this Resolution.

Carl Newman called for the SEC to pull a Resolution entitled "A RESOLUTION TO EQUITABLY ALIGN SUSTAINING FUND REQUIREMENTS WITH A PRECINCT'S DEMOCRATIC VOTER DEMOGRAPHIC."

He said this Resolution would cut Sustaining Fund in half. He urged everyone to vote to pull it.

Carl Newman pointed out that this year 66 counties have paid 6 their Sustaining Fund in full and 12 more counties are on schedule to pay. The SEC voted to pull this Resolution by a vote of 295 – 58.

DNC Member John Verdejo asked that “A Resolution for Democratic Advocacy for DC and Puerto Rico Statehood” on page 78 be pulled. John said that the people of DC and Puerto Rico should be allowed to decide this issue for themselves.

Kevyn Creech spoke in favor of pulling this Resolution. Another SEC Member who did not say their name clearly spoke against pulling this Resolution. Sebastian Feculak spoke in favor of pulling. Toni Flamingo spoke to make sure DC was included in this Resolution.

Resolutions Chair Matt Hughes said that Members are debating the issues of the Resolutions instead of debating whether to pull them.

The SEC voted in favor of John Verdejo’s motion to pull this Resolution by a vote of 316-40.

A Quorum Call was issued. The State Chair said that Socio showed that 470 SEC Members were attending the meeting at this time. Therefore, a Quorum was declared to be present.

Ellie Klein made a motion to pull the Resolution on “Sustaining Infrastructure” because she wants to amend the title. The SEC voted to pull this Resolution by a vote of 244-93.

Angela Bridgman spoke about the Resolution Entitled “Reaffirm Transgender Rights.” The State Chair ruled that since Angela did not want this Resolution to be pulled, no more speaking could be allowed on this Resolution.

Braxton Becoats made a motion to pull the Resolution supporting passage of the “FOR THE PEOPLE ACT.” He withdrew his motion because another motion covers opposition to the filibuster.

Kevyn Creech stated that the paging in the Resolution section is unclear because the Resolutions are not numbered.

Vinod Thomas made a motion to pull another motion. The State Chair ruled that the time for pulling Resolutions was over.

An SEC Member who did not state her name clearly told the meeting that on Socio the entire SEC Packet is numbered incorrectly. 7

The SEC then voted on Matt Hughes' motion to approve the consent agenda by a vote of 323-44.

The meeting then moved to consideration of a Resolution entitled "RESOLUTION ON THE CAUSE & EFFECTS OF RUNAWAY INEQUALITY & THE NEED TO STOP IT" which was on Page 60 of the SEC Packet. This Resolution was pulled earlier in the meeting.

Leslie Cohen spoke against passage of this amendment. Matt Sandisky spoke about it.

Bob Hyman said he wanted to amend this Resolution.

David Dixon spoke about this Resolution.

It was announced that the Labor Caucus supported this Resolution. Bob Hyman said he supported it.

Wesley Knott proposed an amendment about the minimum wage. His amendment was to strike the \$15 minimum wage and add a minimum. Keith Randall proposed an amendment which stated that "the minimum wage should not be less than \$15 per hour." Josh Brown seconded this amendment.

George Greene said "This Resolution is evil."

Two SEC Members whose first names were Terrell and John spoke about this issue. Their last names were not stated clearly.

Jesse Goslen raised a Point of Order but no action was taken upon it.

Braxton Becoats moved to close debate. Nida Allam seconded his motion. The SEC voted to close debate by a vote of 285-24.

A vote was then taken on Wesley Knott's amendment to change the minimum wage to "not less than \$15 per hour." This amendment was approved by a vote of 234 - 69.

Michael Evola made a motion to amend the Resolution which had just been approved to "abolish the subminimum wage." Michael's amendment was approved by a vote of 231 - 65.

Lorna Barnett made a motion to send this entire Resolution back to the Resolutions Committee because of the confusion about it. Julia Buckner seconded her motion.

Eva Lee spoke against referring it back to committee. Kevyn Creech spoke in favor of referring it back to committee. Rich Elkin expressed his support of referring it back to committee.

Cliff Moone raised a Point of Order which was “taken under Advisement” by the State Chair.

Toni Mingo asked the SEC to please not take the Resolution back to committee. Ray McKinnon said the SEC should vote up or down on this Resolution, not refer it back to committee.

Bob Hyman said that so many amendments have been added that the Resolution had been rendered meaningless.

George Greene stated that the Resolution has become overcomplicated and it should be taken back to committee.

The SEC then voted to send the “RUNAWAY INEQUALITY” Resolution back to the Resolutions Committee by a vote of 206-118.

The meeting then moved to the RESOLUTION TO RESTORE FIRST AMENDMENT RIGHTS. Doug Auer introduced an amendment saying that this matter should be referred to the NCDP Legislative Policy Committee.

Cliff Moone spoke in favor of this motion. He said the NCDP Legislative Policy Committee will get the Resolution to the right people. Nazim asked the SEC to reject this amendment.

Deborah Hollingsworth introduced an amendment after she pointed out that the Legislative Policy Committee doesn’t meet regularly. Sybil Mann read Deborah’s amendment. It was defeated by a vote of 139 – 181.

The meeting returned to discussion of the original RESOLUTION TO RESTORE FIRST AMENDMENT RIGHTS.

Chris Hardee moved to adopt the original Resolution on Restoring First Amendment Rights. Julia Buckner seconded his motion. The motion was passed by a vote of 256 – 45.

Jesse Goslen made a motion to move the rest of the Resolutions back to the Resolutions Committee so the SEC can move to the PoO issues. Kevyn Creech seconded the motion.

Bob Hyman said the remainder of the Resolutions should be on the schedule for the October SEC meeting. Jesse Goslen said he would accept Bob Hyman's statement as a friendly amendment.

Soren Peterson spoke against Jesse's motion.

The SEC voted to approve Jesse's motion to refer all remaining Resolutions back to the Resolutions Committee by a vote of 173 – 132.

Plan of Organization Committee Chair Chris Hardee began his committee's report by presenting a motion to renew Mecklenburg County's Alternate Plan of Organization.

An unidentified Mecklenburg man spoke in favor of passage and made a motion to close debate on this motion. Kevyn Creech spoke in favor of this motion. Jane Whitley also spoke in favor of passing this motion.

The SEC voted to approve the Mecklenburg Alternate Plan of Organization by a vote of 364 – 37.

Audra Killingsworth made a motion to suspend the rules and extend the meeting until 6:00 PM. Seth Morris seconded her motion. A 2/3 majority was required to approve this motion.

The subsequent vote failed to gain a 2/3 majority and the State Chair proclaimed that the meeting was over.

Bob Hyman made a motion for the meeting to adjourn. Floyd McKissick seconded the motion which was passed by a voice vote.

**Respectfully submitted,
Melvin Williams, State Secretary
North Carolina Democratic Party**

Recommendation from the Secretary: At all future meetings, SEC Members are asked to try to state their names clearly.