



2022 State Convention Adopted Resolutions

Adopted by the South Dakota Democratic Convention

July 9th, 2022

Resolution #1:

Support for Presidential 30x30 Directive

Author/Source Name(S): Frank Kloucek

Whereas: President Biden has issued a presidential directive that sets a voluntary goal for 30% of United States land to be in a conservation program by 2030.

Whereas: We support this concept to reduce wind and water erosion of our soils, reduce global warming, reduce CO2 emissions, and improve the health of America's environment.

Be It Resolved: We, the members of SDDP, support efforts such as 30x30 conservation practices to improve air, water, and soil quality in the United States.



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Resolution #2:

The Democratic Party of South Dakota Supports Medical Cannabis

Author/Source Name(s): Mick Niess

Whereas: South Dakota citizens passed Initiated Measure 26 with an unprecedented 70% support of voters, medical cannabis became legal in South Dakota on July 1, 2021, and yet South Dakotans still do not have access to medical cannabis; and

Whereas: There is a history of medical cannabis access interference by the South Dakota Legislature, introducing more than 30 restrictive bills in 2021/2022 that would negatively impact thousands of South Dakota citizens' health choices; and

Whereas: South Dakotans deserve the right to choose their medical treatments, including medical cannabis, without scorn, disdain, or obstruction for their lawful treatment choices and the Democratic Party of South Dakota has the responsibility to protect and expand access for the most vulnerable in an unbiased and inclusive way; and

Whereas: The positive economic impact of medical cannabis benefits all South Dakotans through increased revenues, increased job creation, and decreased government spending and every state which has legalized medical cannabis has enjoyed higher sales tax revenue; and

Whereas: Opioid related deaths in South Dakota are on the rise and studies show that states with robust medical cannabis laws have seen a 15-35 percent decrease in opioid overdose and abuse; and

Whereas: The safety of South Dakota's youth is our priority and states that have regulated medical cannabis see decreases in illegal teen use; and



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Whereas: 1 in 4 South Dakota citizens have a disability and medical cannabis has been widely recognized as beneficial for a wide variety of illnesses, conditions, and disorders; then

Be It Resolved: That the Democratic Party of South Dakota supports access to medical cannabis and strongly supports legislative and citizen efforts to increase access, affordability, and availability of medical cannabis and furthermore demands implementation of all related programs in an expeditious manner.



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Resolution #3:

In Support of Abortion Rights and Other Reproductive Rights and in Opposition to the U.S. Supreme Court Opinion in Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization

Author/Source Name(s): Pamela Cole

Whereas: The Supreme Court has revoked people's fundamental right to abortion via Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization and triggered a near-total abortion ban in South Dakota;

Whereas: Roe v. Wade properly recognized and protected people's autonomy and dignity, including their right to make their own decisions about pregnancy;

Whereas: The Dobbs' ruling and South Dakota's abortion ban deny people who can become pregnant their autonomy, dignity, and equality;

Whereas: South Dakota is a rural state, with limited access to healthcare on reservations and in small towns. Native American, rural, LGBTQ+, and other minority groups are most at risk of not receiving adequate healthcare, including comprehensive family planning resources;

Whereas: The voters of South Dakota considered and rejected two proposed abortion bans in 2006 and 2008 by a substantial margin; therefore

Be It Resolved: The South Dakota Democratic Party calls for restoring the right to self-determination and bodily autonomy by codifying Roe v. Wade in the South Dakota Constitution.



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Resolution #4:

Resolution to Oppose the Corporate Exploitation of Eminent Domain

Author/Source Name(s): Frank Kloucek

Whereas: South Dakota's current laws allow private companies to access the power of eminent domain to condemn privately owned land for projects generating private profits; and

Whereas: There are currently two proposed hazardous carbon dioxide pipeline projects on the eastern side of the state; and

Whereas: The proposed hazardous carbon dioxide pipelines threaten the health and safety of the residents and communities along their routes, as well as the health and productivity of the land; and

Whereas: On May 26, 2022 the The U.S. Department of Transportation's Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) released an announcement stating "[PHMSA] is taking steps to implement new measures to strengthen its safety oversight of carbon dioxide pipelines around the country and protect communities from dangerous pipeline failures. The new measures, as well as an enforcement action taken today are a result of PHMSA's investigation into a CO2 pipeline failure in Satartia, Mississippi in 2020 that resulted in local evacuations and caused almost 50 people to seek medical attention (PHMSA 05-22)"; and

Whereas: Private profits should not be prioritized above the safety, interests, and rights of South Dakota residents, and that the power of eminent domain should not be accessible to private companies; now, therefore, be it



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Be It Resolved: That the South Dakota Democratic Party:

1. Encourage legislation that seeks to reform the process by which the power of eminent domain is accessed for projects within the state;
2. Condemn and oppose any efforts to intimidate local elected officials from exercising their duty to protect the safety of their constituents through the reasonable application of moratoriums and ordinances related to hazardous carbon dioxide pipelines, which PHMSA has indicated are poorly regulated;
3. Stand in solidarity with the South Dakota residents and communities being negatively affected by the proposed projects.



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Resolution #5:

Adopt the South Dakota Democratic Party Land Acknowledgement

Author/Source Name(s): Kameron Nelson

Whereas: We, as members of the South Dakota Democratic Party, acknowledge the land we occupy across South Dakota is the ancestral, traditional, and contemporary lands of the Očeti Šakówin (oh-CHEH-tee shaw-KOH-we), meaning Seven Council Fires, which is the proper name for the people referred to as the Sioux Nation.

Whereas: We honor all Native communities, relatives, two-spirit, and elders of this continent and recognize that our state was built on Indigenous homelands. And, the bands of the Seven Council Fires is based on kinship, location and dialects: Santee-Dakota, Yankton-Nakota, and Teton-Lakota.

Whereas: We pay our respects and acknowledgement to the millions of Indigenous people throughout history who have protected our lands, waters, and animals.

Whereas: Land acknowledgement is only one small part of supporting Indigenous communities, it is merely a starting point. We hope our land acknowledgement statement will inspire others to stand with us in solidarity with Tribal nations.

Be It Resolved: That the South Dakota Democratic Party acknowledges the sovereignty of the nine federally recognized Tribal Nations in South Dakota; Cheyenne River, Crow Creek, Flandreau Santee, Lower Brule, Oglala, Rosebud, Sisseton-Wahpeton, Standing Rock and Yankton Sioux Tribes.



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Resolution #6:

Adopt a Formal Stance on LGBTQ+ Rights in South Dakota

Author/Source Name(s): Kameron Nelson

Whereas: In 2022, more than 11 million Americans openly identify as LGBTQ+ or Two-Spirit, including over 30,000 South Dakotans.

Whereas: According to the Center for American Progress, one quarter of LGBTQ+ and Two-Spirit individuals still experience discrimination in some form every year and more than one third of LGBTQ+ and Two-Spirit high school and college students continue to experience discrimination that negatively affects their ability to learn and to feel accepted.

Whereas: The friends, family members, supporters, and members of the LGBTQ+ and Two-Spirit community know their own hopes, their own dreams, and their own voices cannot be silenced by hatred and bigotry.

Whereas: Repeated policy attacks against LGBTQ+ and Two-Spirit South Dakotans are appalling and discriminatory.

Be It Resolved: That the South Dakota Democratic Party openly affirm the LGBTQ+ and Two-Spirit communities in South Dakota and the nine Tribal Nations that share that geography.

Be It Further Resolved: That the SDDP shall pursue policies that strengthen and support inclusive education standards including Title IX protections, access to affirming healthcare and mental health resources, access to housing, military service, parental rights, and adoption rights for LGBTQ+ and Two-Spirit people.



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Resolution #7:

Adopt a Formal Position in Support of Medicaid Expansion in South Dakota

Author/Source Name(s): Kameron Nelson, Pamela Cole

Whereas: This year, an estimated 5,370 South Dakotans will hear the words, "You have cancer.", and

Whereas: Health care coverage could be the difference between a Stage I cancer diagnosis and a Stage IV diagnosis - a matter of life and death, and

Whereas: Medicaid Expansion would allow an estimated 42,500 South Dakotans to receive necessary medical care and access to life-saving cancer screenings, and

Whereas: Expanding Medicaid is estimated to return more than \$1.3 billion of South Dakota's tax dollars from Washington, D.C., and

Whereas: South Dakota is among only 12 states that have yet to expand full Medicaid coverage to low income adults and families up to 138% above poverty level, and

Whereas: Passage of two complementary 2022 ballot measures to expand Medicaid—Amendment D and Initiated Measure 28—will guarantee access to affordable health care for over 42,500 South Dakotans; therefore,

Be It Resolved: That the South Dakota Democratic Party support the expansion of Medicaid services in South Dakota by passage of both Amendment D and Initiated Measure 28.