

# **Report of the Resolutions Committee for the 2023 NCGOP State Convention**

#### To: NC Republican Party Convention 2023

Political resolutions are developed with input from county parties after review, debate & negotiation. As a result, resolution language may differ after the reconciliation process. The goal is to have a rigorous process to expedite decisions on the convention floor. Please understand that hard debates have already been thoroughly considered in committee.

Resolutions are a critical tool that communicates vision, values, & priorities with the intention to influence, mobilize support, or shape public opinion. Issues or topics that are formally presented for convention consideration are filtered through various criteria.

Resolutions must first pass the applicability test and priority is given to state issues. Local & national topics may be forwarded to other appropriate venues.

Resolutions must also pass a relevance & timeliness test. A proposed resolution may not be actionable or is already addressed in the party platform, rules, or legislation. The issue must be relevant, timely, & actionable to achieve optimal impact.

Controversial resolutions are important but are especially challenging as they generate strong emotions with opposing viewpoints. The division often overshadows the issue. Well-crafted resolutions are clear, concise, focused & based on a well-defined set of ideas that unify the party. Polarizing issues lack consensus & easily divide the party.

As divisive resolutions tend to be difficult to implement, they are best crafted with broader language in committee to reconcile differences or rejected until a consensus is achieved. The committee strives to make these hard decisions to produce a product acceptable to the convention in hopes delegates understand the committee has weighed all sides of the issues heavily.

In short, the committee strives to resolve these challenges of applicability, relevance, and/or controversy in committee. Understand that the resolutions that emerge have been thoroughly vetted through this process in order to respect the delegates time & consideration on the convention floor.

The committee reviewed 44 Resolutions originating from 16 different counties covering 27 thematic issues. Nine were reconciled into 2 different resolutions. Two were referred to the RNC. Twenty were either rejected, tabled or referred to staff. Seven were forwarded to the platform committee. Six were accepted in either original or reconciled form.

These resolutions have been carefully debated & selected. Differences were given equal consideration and reconciled in committee to provide delegates with a product felt to be acceptable by the convention floor.

The 15-member committee hereby submits these resolutions for consideration.

Respectfully,

Phillip Stephens, Chairman NC Resolutions Committee

### **RESOLUTION HONORING THE LIFE OF DR. ADA FISHER**

WHEREAS, Dr. Ada Fisher was born on October 21, 1947 in Durham, North Carolina to Reverend Dr. Miles Mark Fisher and Ada Virginia Foster Fisher;

WHEREAS, Dr. Fisher served as North Carolina's National Committeewoman for more than a decade, from 2008 to 2020, and was involved with the Republican Party of North Carolina for over 40 years;

WHEREAS, Dr. Fisher worked on the Republican presidential campaigns of George W. Bush, John McCain, Mitt Romney, and Donald Trump and in 2016 served as a delegate to the Republican National Convention where she made the formal announcement that North Carolina's 29 delegate votes would go to Donald Trump;

WHEREAS, Dr. Fisher helped lead the North Carolina Black Advisory Board, which was a community outreach effort of the RNC and NCGOP and pursued an engagement strategy inclusive of age, gender, and race to significantly grow the party in North Carolina;

WHEREAS, Dr. Fisher graduated from Hillside High School in Durham with honors and earned her Bachelor of Science degree in biology from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro (UNCG) in 1970, where she was the first black alumna to receive an M.D. from that university;

WHEREAS, Dr. Fisher then attended the University of Wisconsin's School of Medicine and Public Health and in 1975 was the first black female to graduate there and went on to pursue a residency in family medicine at the University of Rochester;

WHEREAS, In 1981, Dr. Fisher earned her Master's in Public Health (MPH) from Johns Hopkins University School of Hygiene and Public Health, which transitioned her to the clinical side of medicine where she conducted research and developed policy to meet the needs of the populations she served;

WHEREAS, Dr. Fisher was a prolific writer and authored many publications including *Common* Sense Conservative Prescriptions; Preparations to Survive A Terrorist Attack Citizens Advisory; "A Short History of African Americans in the North Carolina Republican Party," as well as a frequent contributor to the Carolina Times as "Spectacles: A Closer Look," was a guest columnist for the Salisbury Post, and is credited with 12 professional medical articles;

WHEREAS, Dr. Ada Fisher is survived by her sons Shevin Michael Fisher and Charles Malvern Fisher and her two grandchildren, Promise Markita Lucille Fisher and DeShawn Master Fisher; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Fisher is survived by her siblings Mrs. Florida F. Parker, Dr. Miles M. Fisher, Mr. Christopher T. Fisher, sister-in-law Mrs. Janice J. Fisher, and a host of nieces, nephews, and cousins; therefore, be it

*RESOLVED*, That the North Carolina Republican Party mourns the death of Dr. Ada Fisher and honors her lifetime of accomplishments and contributions to the Republican Party and North Carolina.

#### **ENVIRONMENTAL, SOCIAL & GOVERNANCE (ESG) Resolution**

WHEREAS, we believe in a free and open marketplace functioning in fairness to not only family farms, ranches, and smaller independent agribusiness operations, but, also, in all businesses, small and large, and the individual functioning in North Carolina, and

WHEREAS, we believe at times it is necessary to enforce reasonable regulations to maintain a fair and open global marketplace, there needs to be limits to those regulations, and

WHEREAS, Environmental Social and Governance (ESG) is another government overreach and it infringes on the personal property rights of individuals, family farmers, their farming operations, and all businesses, small and large. It is not based on sound science, but instead based on social agendas, and

WHEREAS, the SEC has released a notice to use ESG as a mechanism to investigate the climate-related disclosures. This notice is said to affect not just the corporations invested in by stockholders, but, also, any business that the particular corporation receives products from. This could lead to individuals, small family farms, and businesses, large or small, incurring massive costs complying to rules and for reporting requirements to the company they do business with, and

WHEREAS, ESG is being implemented in the financial industry in some of the world's largest firms. This could lead to individuals, family farms, and businesses, small or large, being disproportionately affected by losing the ability to receive loans for operation costs, incurring massive expenses in following these ESG rules, and, as a result, be unable to stay profitable and thus dissolve; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the North Carolina Republican Party believes Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) is not based on sound science and we reject its use in any form to control the individual, the already highly regulated production agriculture industry, the business community, both small and large, and their ability to finance operations or produce the food and products our state, the nation and the world needs; and

RESOLVED, that the North Carolina Republican Party urges our state legislature and our U.S. Congress to pass legislation barring institutions from using ESG as a tool to pick winners and losers, without regard to sound Science.

Original Submission: Guilford County

### Party Platform Accountability Resolution

WHEREAS, the North Carolina Republican Party is comprised of Republican volunteers from across the state;

WHEREAS, a committee of volunteers examines the core values of the Republican Party and places these into written form in our Party Platform and align it with the Republican National Committee's Party Platform;

WHEREAS, the volunteers spend exhaustive hours of unpaid time drafting and debating the Party Platform;

WHEREAS, the Party Platform is presented before and voted upon by hundreds of local Republican Party leaders as a consensus document of what the party stands for as a collection of dearly held beliefs and political ideals;

WHEREAS, these state volunteers are included in the active part of the party that organizes, fundraises, campaigns, devote hundreds of hours individually and thousands of hours collectively and commit their finances, honor, and reputations towards electing Republican candidates; and

- WHEREAS, Republican voters have an expectation that their candidates will adhere to the Party platform, therefore, be it RESOLVED, that the North Carolina Republican Party,
  - 1. Aims to hold our National, State, and Local elected officials accountable to the values expressed in the Party Platform when making public comments, releasing press briefings, campaigning, or dealing with legislation.
  - 2. Intends to remind those officials who fail in this regard by formal expression of disapproval, showing them exactly why their public comments press releases, campaigns, or legislation does not align with said platform
  - 3. Will pursue other methods of expression of disapproval such as seeking an audience with such official for the purpose of addressing an issue, withdrawal of support, material or immaterial, formal censure, and exclusion from party membership depending on the severity of the deviance from the Party Platform.

Originally submitted & reconciled: Granville, Henderson, New Hanover, Orange, Person, Scotland, & Union Counties

### **Ranked Choice Voting Resolution**

WHEREAS, The North Carolina Republican Party is committed to upholding the values of liberty, equality, and opportunity for all, and promoting the encouragement of broad participation in Republican Party activities;

WHEREAS, North Carolina has a long history of conducting elections in a fair and transparent manner that upholds the integrity of our fragile democracy;

WHEREAS, The use of ranked-choice voting and similar methods has the proven potential to undermine voter trust and confidence in our election systems, resulting in voter suppression and disenfranchisement;

WHEREAS, Ranked-Choice voting often leads to additional tabulation delays and costly technology that burden taxpayers and unelected bureaucrats;

WHEREAS, The North Carolina Republican Party believes in the importance of preserving the historic political party system and ensuring that elections are conducted in a manner that is accessible and easily understood by all voters of North Carolina; and

WHEREAS, The North Carolina Republican Party believes that ranked choice voting and similar schemes do not align with these values and principles and only undermine elections as a whole; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the North Carolina Republican Party rejects the use of ranked-choice voting and similar methods in all localities and levels of government in North Carolina;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the North Carolina Republican Party urges Congress, the State Legislature, and voters to oppose the implementation of ranked-choice voting and similar methods, and instead support the use of proven election systems that have served our nation for centuries.

Originally submitted: NCGOP

### **Non-Citizen Voting Resolution**

WHEREAS, The right to vote is a fundamental cornerstone of our constitutional republic, and the free, fair, and accurate administration of elections is essential to ensuring the integrity of our republican system;

WHEREAS, The United States Constitution and federal law explicitly grant the right to vote in federal elections only to of age U.S. citizens;

WHEREAS, Allowing non-citizens to vote in North Carolina elections would undermine the integrity of our democratic process and violate the principle of one-person, one-vote;

WHEREAS, voting is universally accepted as a privilege reserved for citizens of that nation,

WHEREAS, North Carolina has over 130 colleges and universities educating in and out of state students;

WHEREAS, Out of state college students, who do not permanently reside in North Carolina, should not vote in North Carolina elections;

WHEREAS, Granting non-citizens the right to vote in elections would dilute the voting power of citizens and undermine the principle of representative government; and

WHEREAS, The North Carolina Republican Party supports policies that ensure fair and transparent elections under the United States Constitution and promote the interests of North Carolina citizens; therefore, be it;

RESOLVED, That the North Carolina Republican Party affirms its commitment to the principle of one-person, one-vote, and supports the exclusive right of U.S. citizens to vote in elections; and

RESOLVED, That the North Carolina Republican Party opposes any efforts to allow nonresidents/non-citizens to vote in elections in North Carolina, and urges Congress, the State Legislature, and voters of this state to take all necessary steps to ensure that our democratic process is protected.

Originally submitted & reconciled: Guilford & NCGOP

## Possession & Distribution of Sexually Explicit Material in Schools Resolution

WHEREAS, School districts across North Carolina have denied the existence of sexually explicit materials in their school Curriculum,

WHEREAS, pornographic material is already blocked on school computers but not in school libraries,

WHEREAS, Federal Law under 18 U.S.C. 2251 - 2260 outlines prohibited activity related to material constituting and containing child pornography as certain illicit material is not protected by the first amendment and that offenders can be prosecuted under state child pornography laws in addition to federal law,

WHEREAS, specific examples of sexually explicit books found in some N.C. schools have included "Gender Queer", "Lawn Boy", and "George"; seem to meet the accepted definition of pornography, and

WHEREAS there continues to be public demand that effective action be taken to remove all age inappropriate sexually explicit materials from all N.C. schools: therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the North Carolina Republican party supports continuing efforts to eradicate age inappropriate sexually explicit materials from N.C. Schools.

Original Submission: Durham County