

The following resolution was adopted by the Democratic National Committee at its meeting on August 24, 2019, in San Francisco, CA.

Submitted by:

Michelle Deatrick, Michigan

Bill Owen, Tennessee

Lavora Barnes, Chair, Michigan

Jane Fleming Kleebe, Chair, Nebraska

Charles Rodriguez, Chair, Puerto Rico

Tina Podlowski, Chair, Washington

Larry Cohen, At-Large/Maryland

Earl D. Fowlkes, Jr., At-Large/District of Columbia

Jim Zogby, At-Large/District of Columbia

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Steven K. Alari, California

Mary Ellen Early, California

Sandra Lowe, California

Christine Pelosi, California

Susie Shannon, California

Michael Kapp, California

Howard Chou, Vice Chair, Colorado

John Eastwood, Democrats Abroad

Adrienne George, Democrats Abroad

Martha McDevitt-Pugh, Dems Abroad

Kenneth Sherman, Dems Abroad

Gary Hooser, Hawaii

Chris Reeves, Kansas

Mark LaChey, Vice Chair, Michigan

Alexander Goff, Nevada

Allison Stephens, Nevada

Elly Zaragoza, Minnesota

Tanya Shively, Oregon

Matt Keating, Oregon

Martha Fuller Clark, New Hampshire

David Green, Vice Chair, Washington

Sharon Mast, Washington

Khary Penebaker, Wisconsin

Becca Dolen, California

Winston Apple, Missouri

Persephone Dakopolos,
Missouri

Patricia Zieg, Nebraska

Curtis Wylde, Missouri

Alan Clendenin, Florida

Sheikh Rahman, Georgia

Karen Carter Peterson, DNC
Vice Chair/Louisiana

Tim Jerman, Vermont

Tonio Burgos, New Jersey

Briana Cartwright, Young
Democrats of

America/Florida

Melahat Rafiel, California

Jeri Shepherd, Colorado

Wayne Goodwin, Chair,
North Carolina

Bart Dame, Hawaii

Luis Heredia, Arizona

Paula Herbert, Michigan

Jess Maldonado, Vice Chair,
Idaho

Megan Green, Missouri

Jane Kleebe, Chair, Nebraska

Terry Tucker, Colorado

Sheila Selkregg, Alaska

Edward Wesley, Alaska

Nikema Williams, Chair,
Georgia

Resolution Establishing the DNC Environmental and Climate Crisis Council

WHEREAS, the right of current and future generations to a liveable planet is a human right; and

WHEREAS, the climate crisis poses an existential threat to our planet, to our nation, and to all people—and is the paramount issue of our time; and

WHEREAS, scientific evidence is clear that in America and across the world, the health, safety and lives of millions are threatened by the increasing frequency and severity of disasters directly related to the human-caused climate crisis, including wildfire, flooding, drought, disease, pollution, record-breaking heat waves, hurricanes, tornadoes, and more; and

WHEREAS, the climate crisis destroys productivity and jobs, and as the latest federal Climate Assessment states, will damage and disrupt the American economy across a wide spectrum of sectors, with resultant losses of millions of jobs and, in some sectors, of hundreds of billions of dollars annually, by 2100; and

WHEREAS, the failure to protect our environment and to address the climate crisis is a racial, social, and economic issue, with disproportionate impacts on people of lower income and people of color, and internationally on underdeveloped countries;^[1] and

WHEREAS, all environmental issues including the climate crisis are intergenerational justice issues, with profound permanent implications not only for us, but for future generations, whose water, land, air, soil, and biodiverse planet we hold in trust; and

WHEREAS, environmental issues including the climate crisis pose great challenges and also great opportunities, with the potential for millions of new, good-paying union jobs in this country alone; and

WHEREAS, the Democratic Party's 2018 Charter & Bylaws states a commitment to a fair society in which a healthy environment is possible for all;^[2] and

WHEREAS, the 2016 Democratic Party Platform calls for protecting our environment and tackling the climate challenge, creating millions of good-paying middle class jobs, reducing greenhouse gas emissions, securing environmental and climate justice, upholding the Paris Agreement, and ensuring that Democrats taking the lead on climate issues have the resources they need; and

WHEREAS, the DNC has previously established effective councils and committees for Poverty, Small Businesses, and Rural Communities; and

WHEREAS, the DNC has no formal or informal organizational structure that addresses this preeminent challenge of our era;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the DNC establish an Environmental and Climate Crisis Council which shall enable members of the Democratic National Committee as well as members of the wider Democratic community to discuss, deliberate, support, and further our Democratic commitment to protecting the environment; to uphold and pursue environmental and intergenerational justice; to make policy recommendations to the DNC—these policy recommendations to be in alignment with the purposes and goals of the Council as articulated in this Resolution and in the Bylaws; and to address the climate crisis.

[1] <https://nca2018.globalchange.gov/>

[2] <https://democrats.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/10/DNC-Charter-Bylaws-8.25.18-with-Amendments.pdf>