SD59 DFL Resolutions Committee Report

Approved March 2, 2024

Policy Action Resolution Categories

- Education
- Taxes
- Public Safety
- Labor & Training
- Childcare
- Public Transit
- Media & Internet
- Seniors

- Housing
- Gaza & Israel
- Immigration
- Government & Elections
- Environment
- Social Justice
- Health Care

Resolutions #1 - #5

Education

Academic Freedom

All publicly-supported state colleges and universities, including the University of Minnesota, respect the tradition of academic freedom and never silence or censor curricula, lectures, or campus organizations, based simply on the possible unpopularity of ideas of on political pressure from financial donors.

Descendant of Slaves Parent Advisory Comm.

Minnesota school districts with ten or more students of slave descent must establish a Parent Advisory Committee. These committees serve in an advisory role and help ensure that student descendents of enslaved Americans receive culturally-relevant and equitable opportunities.

Civic and Financial Education in Schools

Civic education and financial literacy shall be essential components of school curriculum, starting early and throughout school years. Curricula should be age-appropriate, including citizenship, government structures, democratic principles, community involvement, and civic life. Financial literacy shall include economic concepts, budgeting, savings, banking, consumer education, with age-appropriate curricula.

Truancy Study with Crime Victims

Promote school truancy study to discover connections for students who have experiences as victims of crime, so that we can develop effective truancy reduction programs.

Inflation-Adjusted Educator Pay Raises

With the high inflation of the last three years, support pay raises for educators of 15-30%.

Resolutions #6 - #8

Taxes

Increase and Expand State Revenue

Support policies that protect the revenues available for public investment and oppose any tax cuts benefiting primarily the wealthiest Minnesotans or any tax cut that would substantially impede the state's ability to fund goods and services.

Reverse Massive Transfer of Wealth

Support economic, tax, labor, and related policies that stops or reverses the transfer of wealth from the broader population to the highest wealth individuals.

Tax Freeze for Income-Limited Retirees

Support tax relief for income-limited Minnesota retirees on fixed incomes by freezing their property taxes on their primary residence when reach age 65.

Resolutions #9 - #12

Public Safety

Restorative Caring Minnesota

Support a shift from transactional (hierarchical, top-down, domination systems) to restorative culture (relational, partnership, caring society) by providing restorative services, with a goal of increasing skills for a holistic and sustainable transition towards a restorative culture.

Law Enforcement Liability Insurance

Require that state and local law enforcement carry liability insurance, and pay for liability insurance individually.

Consumer Fraud Restitution Fund

Support the creation of a Consumer Fraud Restitution Fund at the state level. This fund will provide victims of fraud a chance at financial recovery with proceeds from legal action against perpetrators of fraud.

Support for Gun Violence Victims

Support establishment of liaisons at the local level to connect victims of gun violence with holistic support and resources.

Resolutions #13 - #17

Labor & Training

Four-Day Working Week

Support a new standard four-day, 32-hour working week. Implement a pilot program with the State of Minnesota for a '100-80-100' model where workers earn full 100% pay, work 80% of hours, as long as 100% of prior work responsibilities are completed.

Guaranteed Living Wage

Support a living wage as a minimum compensations for Minnesota workers. A living wage shall be determined by the local cost of living, so that households can afford essentials like housing, food, health care, transportation, and education.

Right to Disconnect from Work

Support the right of workers to disconnect from work to live full, dignified lives.

Access to Affordable Child Care

Support increasing the supply of affordable child care and preschool options, especially in Greater Minnesota.

We Make the Future Agenda

Support the Unidos 'We Make the Future Agenda' that advances a comprehensive strategy for working families, including: green job training opportunities, wage replacement program for workers regardless of immigration status, and prioritization of community health care over profit.

Public Transit

Expansion of Public Transit

Support expanding light rail transit and bus rapid transit to provide reliable, affordable, and convenient public transportation.

Media & Internet

Strengthen Internet Broadband Worker Safety

Support raising standards for Internet broadband installation, including use of skilled, well-trained workers to ensure worker and community safety and to protect the integrity of existing public and utility infrastructure.

Resolutions #20 - #21

Seniors

Aging in Place

Support state programs and funding to help seniors age in place, coordinating with community-based nonprofits for individualized care based on individual seniors' needs for services in their home.

Guaranteed Basic Income for Seniors

Support financial aid to qualifying low-income seniors in Minnesota to reduce poverty. Financial aid qualifies as non-taxable income for beneficiaries.

Resolutions #22 - #28

Housing

Community Welfare over For-Profit Housing

Support a requirement that Minnesota tax revenue spent on housing programs should prioritize permanent affordability for residents.

Support a ban on private equity firms from acquiring rental properties in Minnesota.

Restore Federal Housing Financing

Support the federal government meet the need to develop new public housing in Minnesota and across the country to address the affordable housing crisis.

Support the State of Minnesota leading public housing development and selling state bonds to finance public housing construction, preservation, and reinvestment.

End Exploitation on Publicly-Financed Housing

Support investments in housing and ensure all public financing projects include high labor standards, greater levels of transparency, and project owner accountability.

Revitalizing Commercial Real Estate

Support converting vacant commercial properties to residential housing or urban manufacturing and innovation tech hubs.

Strengthen Renter Protections

Support reforms to renter screening, lower barriers to find housing, support landlord-renter communication, and increase access to housing and protections for tenants facing displacement.

Humane Encampment Response

Support a humane encampment response that recognizes homelessness at a public health crisis.

Greater Minnesota Housing Shortage

Support legislation to address the shortage of available housing, both affordable and market-rate, in Greater Minnesota.

Resolutions #29 - #32

Gaza & Israel

Ceasefire Now

- Support the Biden administration ending US military and financial aid to Israel.
- Support an immediate and permanent ceasefire of hostilities.
- Support restarting and increasing funding to the United Nations Refugee Works Agency (UNRWA) to provide humanitarian aid.

Divest from Human Rights Violations

Support the Minnesota State Board of Investment (SBI) divesting from companies that violate international human rights laws or US laws prohibiting human rights violations.

Support divesting from companies based in countries that have also perpetrated violations of international and US human rights laws.

Repeal Minnesota Anti-Boycott Laws

Affirm the commitment to the freedom of speech and association protected by the First Amendment to the US Constitution.

Support the repeal of anti-boycott, laws (Minn. Stat. 3.226 and 16C.053).

Israel's Right to Exist

- Support Israel's right to self-preservation.
- Support Israel in its opposition to Hamas.
- Stand with innocent Palestinian residents of Gaza, who have experienced high casualties.
- Oppose the rise in hate crimes against people of all faiths.
- Support the right of the Palestinian people to self-determination with a two-state solution of a sovereign Palestine and sovereign Israel.

Immigration

North STAR Act

Support the passage of the North STAR Act (HF 3459), with lead author Rep. Sandra Feist, to protect immigrant neighbors and keep communities whole by limiting state and local government participation in federal civil immigration enforcement efforts.

Resolutions #34 - #39

Government & Elections

Right to Repair

Support Right to Repair laws that protect consumers from manufacturers that restrict the ability of third-party and self-repair of agricultural equipment and other technology that is purchased.

Ranked Choice Voting

Support the use of ranked choice voting in all elections in Minnesota at the federal, state, and local level.

Election Day Holiday

Support Election Day being recognized as a state and federal holiday.

Term Limits

Support term limits for elected leaders at the state and federal levels of government.

Overturn Citizens United

Support overturning or passing legislation to cancel the Citizens United Supreme Court ruling that allowed unlimited spending in political campaigns.

Affirm that Citizens United is corrupting post parties of government.

Aid to Ukraine

Support the Ukrainian people in their fight against Putin's invasion of their sovereign, independent country.

Support restoring Congressionally-authorized funding for military and humanitarian aid to Ukraine to support the people of Ukraine.

Partner with our European and NATO allies to support Ukraine and counter Putin.

Resolutions #40 - #57

Environment

Regenerative Farming & Regional Food Systems

Support regional food systems and regenerative farming practices.

Support infrastructure for small and mid-sized farms in both rural and urban communities to create regional food systems that support regenerative farming.

Support nutritious foods for all communities, investment in small business, and marketing of specialty crops.

Bottle Recycling Refunds (SF 3260 / HF 3200)

Support SF 3260 / HF 3200 introduced by Rep. Sydney Jordan and Sen. Kelly Morrison who requires beverage producers to refund bottles returned to the manufacturer and recycled. This includes plastic, metal, and glass.

E-Waste Collections (SF 3940 / HF 3566)

Support SF 3940 / HF 3566 to provide free collection of electronic waste for all Minnesotans that will recycle precious metals and keep this waste out of the landfill, where it can pollute the environment.

Training for Green Energy Jobs

Support job opportunities for low-income Minnesotans at the intersection of environmental justice and workforce development.

Support bridging the gap in employment opportunities and promoting economic empowerment.

Environmental Protection

Support protecting state and federal environmental laws and protections regarding administrative permitting.

Reduce Unsafe Pesticides

Support reducing or eliminating the use of unsafe pesticides such as glyphosate, neonicotinoids, and chlorpyrifos in agriculture and on recreational land or lawn.

Support regulations that plants sold include disclosure if they have been treated with these chemicals.

Ban Toxins in Plastic Packaging

Support banning toxic chemicals commonly found in plastic packaging. Many are known to be cancer-causing or other toxins.

Get the Lead Out

Support requiring non-toxic ammunition in hunting and shooting sports.

Support requiring non-toxic fishing gear, such as sinkers.

Ban Organic Recycling in Waste Streams

Support requiring organic recycling, such as food scraps, to not be including in waste streams, such as landfills or incinerators.

Support regulations of food service establishments to reduce the stream of organics being sent to the waste stream.

Automatic Solar Permitting

Support the 'Solar APP+' bill to provide financial incentives for local jurisdictions to expand solar by expanding permitting using Solar APP+, a collaborative effort between the National Renewable Energy Laboratory, local authorities, and the solar industry to develop standardized plan review software that can run compliance checks and process building permit approvals for eligible rooftop solar systems.

Utility Accountability

Support the Utility Accountability Bill to protect energy consumers from paying inappropriate expenses that should be paid by the utility. These expenses include political campaigning, lobbying, membership in trade associations, marketing, and event sponsorships.

Support capping utility executive compensation.

Sustainable Investing

Support the Minnesota State Board of Investment (SBI) to consider a wide range of factors and risks, including climate and social factors, when making investment decisions.

Prove It First

Support passage of Prove It First legislation, that would require proposed copper-nickel sulfide mines in Minnesota to prove that such mines can be operated safely in our water-rich environment.

Recognition of Manoomin · Psin Rights

Support recognizing that Manoomin (Ojibwe) · Psin (Dakota) · wild rice (English) is sacred and central to the culture and health of Indigenous Peoples in Minnesota.

Support protections for Manoomin · Psin from climate change, invasive species, pollution, and destructive development.

Oppose Minnesota Fossil Pipeline Projects

Support banning construction of new fossil fuel pipelines in Minnesota.

Net-Zero Emissions Homes

Support investment in an equitable transition to net-zero climate pollution emission homes in Minnesota by 2050.

Idling Motor Vehicles

Support preventing excess idling of city streets and residential areas by motor vehicles, including cars, buses, and trucks to reduce asthma and other public health and climate issues.

Stop Bottling Our Water

Support limiting the total volume of bottled water produced by beverage companies.

Support prioritization of locally-owned beverage companies towards the limit.

Resolutions #58 - #59

Social Justice

Minnesota Equal Rights Amendment

Support the prioritization of the Minnesota Equal Rights Amendment so that it appears on the November 2024 general election ballot.

Protect Trans Youth

- Support protecting trans youth's access to life-saving health care.
- Support trans people's right to use the bathroom of their identity.
- Support trans youth and trans people's right to be free from bullying in school and throughout their lives.

Health Care

Coverage for Gender-Affirming Health Care

Support health insurance coverage of gender-affirming health care.

Coverage for Reproductive Health Care

Support health insurance coverage of reproductive health care, including contraception, over-the-counter birth control, vasectomy, anesthesia for Intrauterine Device (IUD) services, In Vitro Fertilization (IVF), and other fertility treatments.

Coverage for Breast Cancer Health Care

Support health insurance coverage of 3D mammograms for cancer detection and reconstructive surgery for breast cancer patients.

Coverage for HIV Prevention Health Care

Support health insurance coverage of PrEP and PEP, medications to prevent HIV. PrEP is for pre-exposure and prevents infection. PEP is for post-exposure and used within 72 hours after possible exposure to HIV.

Coverage for Abortion Health Care

Support equitable access to the full spectrum of pregnancy care, including abortion health care.

Strengthening Medicare

Support Medicare as a public health plan, and oppose any efforts to privatize coverage.

Support expanding Medicare to include vision, dental, hearing, and other health care coverage only available through Advantage plans.

Support reducing waste, fraud, and abuse by private Advantage plans that funnel taxpayer funding for health care to corporate profits.

Universal, Single-Payer Health Care

Support a patient-centered health care model by passing the Minnesota Health Plan, authored by Sen. John Marty at the state level and the Medicare for All Act by Congresswoman Pramila Jayapal at the federal level.

Public Mental Health Care Option

Support a public provider option for mental health care to provide equitable mental health services for all residents with public funding to develop robust programs and patient capacity.

Minnesotacare for All

Support a state public health insurance option 'Minnesotacare for All' to guarantee access to health insurance for all Minnesotans at zero cost.

Safe Staffing for Nurses

Support safe staffing legislation that sets a maximum number of patients a nurse can cover at any time.

Support access to mental health and professional development resources that keep Minnesota nurses at the bedside.

Medical Assistance Choice in Providers

Support access for Medical Assistance (Medicaid in Minnesota) patients to choose their own health care providers.

Support eliminating discrimination of patients with public health insurance.

Direct Payment for Public Health Insurance

Support ending contracts with private, for-profit Managed Care Organizations (MCOs) for operations of Medical Assistance (Medicaid in Minnesota), MinnesotaCare, Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP), and other public health insurance programs.

Support the Minnesota Department of Human Services developing in-house capacity to manage these public health insurance programs.

End-of-Life Option Act (HF 1930)

Support the End-of-Life Option Act (HF 1930), with lead author Rep. Mike Freiberg, that would provide an end-of-life option for terminally ill adults with a prognosis of six months or less

Congratulations!

