

Resolution on keeping our Party Platform free of expressions of religious belief

Whereas: the Democratic Party must always endeavor to uphold our democratic principles as laid out in the Constitution of the United States;

whereas: the principles of religious freedom and separation of church and state guaranteed by the First Amendment have been severely challenged by political forces on the right of the political spectrum in recent years;

whereas: the Democratic Party should go out of its way to be impartial and exemplary in its avoidance of observing any particular set of religious beliefs;

whereas: it is important for the self-image and the public profile of our party clearly to represent our basic principles in our Platform;

whereas: we as a party need to avoid having an embarrassing floor fight on such a sensitive issue at our national convention as was the case in 2012;

Thus be it resolved: that for the 2016 DNC the Platform Committee be explicitly charged with finding a way to represent in our Platform the fact that we as a party respect all religious and philosophical beliefs that conform to the democratic principles of the United States Constitution, but that we as a party do not endorse any particular such belief systems;

Furthermore be it resolved: that the Platform Committee be charged with finding adequate expressions of the sincerity and universal importance of our political goals and principles without invoking any particular religious beliefs or concepts.