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2021 DPCA Annual Global Meeting (May 14-16) Resolutions Adopted, Deferred, or Withdrawn

All not adopted or withdrawn as of May 16 were deferred to a later DPCA meeting

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7 #1

8 **To Rename the Historic Edmund Pettus Bridge**
9 **for Congressman John R. Lewis**

10 **ADOPTED**

11 *Proposed by: Ken Sherman (DA Canada, DNC Member); Steve Nardi (DA Canada, Chair);*
12 *Lissette Wright (DA Canada, International Treasurer); Sue Alksnis (DA Canada, DPCA*
13 *Voting Rep, Global Progressive Caucus Co-Chair); Christina Skovsgaard (Chair, DA*
14 *Norway); and unanimously approved by Democrats Abroad Canada Board*
15 *Co-sponsors: listed below*

16
17 **Whereas** the Edmund Pettus Bridge in Selma, Alabama was the site of “Bloody Sunday”
18 on March 7, 1965, when more than 600 nonviolent protesters attempted to march from
19 Selma to Montgomery to affirm the right of African Americans to vote; and

20
21 **Whereas** these protestors, led by the late John R. Lewis (deceased July 17, 2020) of the
22 Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee and Hosea Williams of the Southern
23 Christian Leadership Conference, were attacked by Alabama state troopers and other
24 deputies armed with billy clubs, tear gas, and cattle prods; and

25
26 **Whereas** John R. Lewis served for over 33 years in the U.S. House of Representatives,
27 where he was respected as the “conscience of Congress”; and

28
29 **Whereas**, for many years, Congressman Lewis led annual marches across the Edmund
30 Pettus Bridge to celebrate the passage of the 1965 Voting Rights Act and to bring
31 attention to the need for continued civil rights progress in the U.S.; and

32
33 **Whereas** the Bridge has become a symbol of the power of nonviolent direct action, or, in
34 the words of Congressman Lewis, “good trouble”, for social change; and

35
36 **Whereas** the Bridge is still named for a man who, though later elected to the U.S. Senate,
37 supported slavery, was a Confederate general, and served as Grand Dragon of the
38 Alabama Ku Klux Klan;

39
40 **Therefore Be It Resolved** that Democrats Abroad calls upon the City of Selma, the State
41 of Alabama, and the U.S. National Park Service *to rename the historic Edmund Pettus*
42 *Bridge the “John R. Lewis Bridge”* to memorialize the life of Congressman John Lewis
43 and the 1960s civil rights movement; and

44
45 **Be It Resolved** that this renaming effort be a global DA initiative and that Democrats
46 Abroad advocate for this name change where it would be most helpful, including during
47 our next DC Door-knock with Members of Congress and contacting the City of Selma
48 and the U.S. National Park Service;

49
50 **Be It Further Resolved** that Democrats Abroad designate July 17, 2021 as “John Lewis
51 Global Voting Rights Day” on the anniversary of the Congressman’s death; and

52
53

54 **Be It Finally Resolved** that Country Committees / Chapters of Democrats Abroad on
55 Saturday, July 17 sponsor a global “votercade” of actions (from picnics, phone banking,
56 letter writing, press events; and rallies at a local bridge) to promote the passage of
57 legislation: H.R.1 For the People Act, H.R.4 John Lewis Voting Rights Advancement
58 Act, George Floyd Justice and Policing Act and the DC Admission Act.

59

60 *Co-sponsors: Austin Allaire (DPCA Voting Rep, DA UK); Onélica Andrade (Vice Chair, DA*
61 *Belgium); Kim Antonsen (Chair, DA Panama); Kenton E. Barnes (Chair, DA Germany); John*
62 *Baumlin (Chair, DA Japan); Kendra Borgen (Chair, DA Netherlands); Julia Bryan (DPCA*
63 *International Chair, DA Czech Republic); Maya Buchanan (DPCA Voting Rep, DA UK); Angela*
64 *Fobbs (DPCA Voting Rep, DA Germany); Matthew Goldman (DPCA Voting Rep, DA Belgium);*
65 *Tre' Shawn L. Griffin-Noordermeer (DPCA Voting Rep, DA Netherlands); Daniel James (Chair,*
66 *DA Spain); Adrienne Johnson (DPCA Voting Rep, DA UK); Antar Keith (DPCA Voting Rep, DA*
67 *Germany); Candice Kerestan (DPCA Voting Rep, DA Germany); Inge Kjemtrup (DPCA Voting*
68 *Rep, DA UK); Aaron Kruse (DNC Member, DA China); Anya Leonhard (DPCA Voting Rep, DA*
69 *Germany); John Lindsay (DPCA Voting Rep, DA UK); Wen-Wen Lindroth (Chair, DA UK);*
70 *Larry Pihl (DPCA Voting Rep, DA Mexico); Stephanie Randall (DPCA Voting Rep, DA UK);*
71 *John Reardon (Chair, DA Argentina); Laura Rostowfske Reilly (DPCA Voting Rep, DA Spain);*
72 *Jonathan Roth (Chair, DA Norway); Caroline Ruchonnet (DPCA Voting Rep, DA UK); Chesney*
73 *McKinley Severance (Chair, DA Denmark); Rajib Sengupta (Vice Chair, DA India); Suma*
74 *Shamanna (Chair, DA India); Ada Shen (DPCA Voting Rep, DA France); Joe Smallhoover*
75 *(International Counsel, DA France); Katie Solon (DNC Member, DA Germany); Monica*
76 *Tanouye (DPCA Voting Rep, DA UK); Kathryn Tullos (Vice Chair, DA Spain); Josh Van der*
77 *Ploeg (DPCA Voting Rep, DA UK); Christine Valverde (Chair, DA New Zealand); Elizabeth*
78 *Voss (Vice Chair DA Switzerland); Erin Watson (Chair 2019-2021, DA South Korea); Quaide*
79 *Williams (DPCA Voting Rep, DA Germany); Tasia Campbell (DPCA Voting Rep, DA UK).*

80

81

82 #2

83 **Applauding Congressman Jamie Raskin**
84 **and House Impeachment Managers**

85 **ADOPTED**

86 *Proposed by: Ada Shen (DA France, DPCA Voting Rep); Joe Smallhoover (DA France,*
87 *International Council, DNC Member); and Connie Borde (DA France, DPCA Voting*
88 *Rep)*

89 *Based on Resolution #1 of the DA France Executive Committee, January 14, 2021*

90 *Co-sponsors: listed below*

91
92 **Whereas**, prior to being elected to the U.S. House of Representatives, Jamie Raskin
93 (Democrat, Maryland’s 8th district) was a leading scholar and professor of constitutional
94 law at American University’s Washington College of Law; and

95
96 **Whereas**, while on a sabbatical year in 2003-2004, then-Professor Raskin lived with his
97 family in Paris, was an active member of Democrats Abroad France, and was elected a
98 member of the Democrats Abroad delegation to the 2004 Democratic National
99 Convention in Boston; and

100
101 **Whereas**, since joining Congress in January 2017, by virtue of his grasp of constitutional
102 law, his fine political acumen, his devotion to the rule of law, and his profoundly
103 progressive politics, Representative Raskin has in two terms risen to become a leading
104 Democratic light in Congress, as well as a leading supporter of Democrats Abroad and
105 friend to the community of Americans abroad; and

106
107 **Whereas** Representative Raskin, his wife Sarah, and their family tragically lost their son
108 Tommy on December 31, 2020; and

109
110 **Whereas**, on January 6, 2021, one day after their son’s funeral, Representative Raskin
111 nevertheless rose in Congress resolutely opposing outrageous attempts by Republican
112 members of Congress to overturn the legitimate result of the U.S. presidential election,
113 poignantly arguing that his fellow Members of Congress each took an “oath to recognize
114 the will of the people”, noting further “the 2020 election is over. The people have spoken.
115 Biden is President;” and

116
117 **Whereas** minutes later a mob of insurrectionists, incited by then-President Donald
118 Trump, stormed the Capitol and threatened the lives and safety of Members of Congress,
119 the Vice President, the Speaker of the House, the Vice President-elect, their staffs,
120 security forces, and others in the Capitol that day in a violent riot that resulted in the loss
121 of five lives, including three police officers, and injuring over one hundred; and

122
123 **Whereas** Representative Raskin authored a resolution calling on Vice President Mike
124 Pence to invoke the 25th Amendment and remove then-President Trump, and helped
125 draft articles of impeachment charging then-President Trump with incitement of
126 insurrection; and

127

128 **Whereas** on January 12, 2021, Representative Raskin led the House of Representatives
129 to successfully charge Donald Trump with incitement of insurrection, the most serious
130 charge ever leveled at a sitting President by Congress, passed with a bipartisan vote of
131 232-197, making Trump the only President in U.S. history to be impeached twice; and
132

133 **Whereas** from February 9 to February 13, 2021, Representative Raskin acted admirably
134 as Lead Manager for the U.S. House of Representatives in the Senate impeachment trial
135 of then-President Trump;
136

137 **Therefore Be It Resolved** that the members and leaders of Democrat Abroad around the
138 world express their profoundest condolences to Representative Raskin, his wife Sarah,
139 and their family, on the tragic loss of their beloved son Tommy, may his memory be a
140 blessing; and
141

142 **Be It Further Resolved** that Democrats Abroad lauds Representative Jamie Raskin, as
143 Lead House Impeachment Manager, for his patriotic and principled defense of the rule of
144 law, of the United States Constitution, and of fair, open, and transparent democracy; and
145 for his resolute leadership in opposition to forces of tyranny, despotism, and
146 obscurantism that threaten the functioning of the United States government; and
147

148 **Be It Further Resolved** that Democrats Abroad applauds and extends our profound
149 gratitude to the other House Impeachment Managers:

- 150 • Joaquin Castro of Texas' 20th District
- 151 • David Cicilline of Rhode Island's 1st District
- 152 • Madeleine Dean of Pennsylvania's 4th District
- 153 • Diana DeGette of Colorado's 1st District
- 154 • Ted Lieu of California's 33rd District
- 155 • Joe Neguse of Colorado's 2nd District
- 156 • Stacey Plaskett of Virgin Islands' At-Large District
- 157 • Eric Swalwell of California's 15th District

158 and the Members of the House and Senate who rose to speak and vote on behalf of our
159 country and people, to defend truth, democracy, and the institutions of our Republic.
160

161 *Co-sponsors: Theresa Morelli-Fornari (DPCA Voting Rep, DA Italy); Katie Solon (DNC*
162 *Member, DA Germany); Suma Shamanna (Chair, DA India); Rajib Sengupta (Vice Chair, DA*
163 *India); Juanita (Anny) Schrader (DPCA Voting Rep, DA Mexico); Max Dunitz (DPCA Voting*
164 *Rep, DA France); Emily Lines (Vice Chair, DA Germany); Kenton Barnes (Chair, DA Germany);*
165 *Angela Fobbs (DPCA Voting Rep, DA Germany); Shari Temple (DPCA Voting Rep, DA*
166 *Germany); Vincienzo Cabrera (DPCA Voting Rep, DA Germany); Danielle Follett (First Vice*
167 *Chair, DA France); Joshua Van der Ploeg (DPCA Voting Rep, DA UK); Martha McDevitt-Pugh*
168 *(DNC Member, DA Netherlands); Candice Kerestan (DPCA Voting Rep, DA Germany); Heather*
169 *Stone (Executive Vice Chair, DA Israel); Chris Reilly (DPCA Voting Rep, DA Spain); Laura*
170 *Rostowske Reilly (DPCA Voting Rep, DA Spain); Laura Messenger (DPCA Voting Rep 2019-*
171 *2021, DA UK); Robert Scott (DPCA Voting Rep, DA Germany); Brooke Scott (DPCA Voting*
172 *Rep, DA Canada); Angie Vachio (Vice Chair, DA Costa Rica); Carol Grose (DPCA Voting Rep,*
173 *DA UK); Monica Tanouye (DPCA Voting Rep, DA UK); Salli Swartz (DPCA Voting Rep 2019-*
174 *2021, DA France); Kendra Borgen (Chair, DA Netherlands); Susan Alksnis (DPCA Voting Rep,*
175 *DA Canada); Kathryn Edson (DPCA Voting Rep 2019-2021, DA Switzerland); Austin Allaire*
176 *(DPCA Voting Rep, DA UK); David Shallenberger (Chair, DA Ecuador); Denise Roig (DPCA*

177 *Voting Rep, DA Canada); Adrienne Johnson (DPCA Voting Rep, DA UK); Ellie Wallis (Vice*
178 *Chair, DA Ecuador); Merrill Oates (Chair, DA Hungary); Reno Domenico (Chair, DA Ukraine);*
179 *Gena Brumitt (DPCA Voting Rep, DA Canada); Carmelan Polce (DPCA Voting Rep, DA*
180 *Australia); Kim Antonsen (Chair, DA Panama); David Mivasair (DPCA Voting Rep, DA*
181 *Canada); Elizabeth Jenkins (DPCA Voting Rep, DA China); Christine Valverde (Chair, DA New*
182 *Zealand); Vanessa Moore (Chair, DA Lion City-Singapore); Ángela-Jo Touza-Medina (DPCA*
183 *Voting Rep, DA Spain); Tasia Campbell (DPCA Voting Rep, DA UK); Angela Fobbs (DPCA*
184 *Voting Rep, DA Germany); Michael March (DPCA Voting Rep, DA Thailand); Matthew*
185 *Goldman (DPCA Voting Rep, DA Belgium); Jerry Zellhoefer (DPCA Voting Rep, DA France);*
186 *Juan Cerda (DPCA Voting Rep, DA France); Quaide Williams (DPCA Voting Rep, DA*
187 *Germany); Natalie Bachiri (Chair, DA Luxembourg); Lissette Wright (International Treasurer,*
188 *DA Canada); Steve Nardi (Chair, DA Canada); Aaron Kruse (DNC Member, DA China); Inge*
189 *Kjemtrup (DCPA Voting Rep, DA UK); Maya Buchanan (DPCA Voting Rep, DA UK).*

190
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194 #3

195 **In Support of Development of a DA messaging platform**
196 **for engaging members in Congressional outreach**
197 **in support of DA issues-advocacy initiatives**

198

199 *Proposed by: Carmelan Polce (DA Australia, DPCA Voting Rep; DA Taxation Task Force Chair)*

200 *Co-sponsors: listed below*

201

202 **Whereas** Democrats Abroad has greatly expanded its advocacy work promoting reforms
203 related to issues affecting Americans abroad and of importance to Democrats Abroad;
204 and

205

206 **Whereas** DA advocacy initiatives routinely feature outreach to U.S. federal and state
207 lawmakers and regulators; and

208

209 **Whereas** state of the art issues-advocacy programs provide activists with platforms that
210 facilitate messaging to elected representatives by: identifying the activist’s
211 representative(s); providing sample message language; and sending the message to the
212 activist’s representatives(s) via their official website, campaign website, or social media
213 pages; and

214

215 **Whereas** DA issues-advocacy coordinators would benefit from data indicating which
216 elected representatives are receiving messages from DA issues-activists, helping them to
217 target representatives for further or follow-up outreach; and

218

219 **Whereas** DA issues-advocacy coordinators would benefit from data, with GDPR
220 compliance, identifying campaign supporters, helping them to target activists for further
221 or follow-up communication; and

222

223 **Whereas** DA’s Taxation Task Force has learned from at least 10 years of committed
224 advocacy in support of tax reforms to eliminate double taxation; remove barriers to
225 banking, saving, and investing; and simplify filing from abroad; that reform will happen
226 when enough Americans abroad reach out to their elected representatives and demand it;
227 and

228

229 **Whereas votes** from abroad reach politicians for the most part only once every 2 years,
230 but **voices** from abroad can reach elected representatives – or candidates for office –
231 continuously and with focus; and

232

233 **Whereas** DA is blessed with volunteers who can set up and maintain a messaging
234 platform, but there will be origination and on-going maintenance costs that will consume
235 organizational funds; and

236

237 **Whereas** DA can access “white label” systems (“off the shelf” web-creation products
238 with functions already in place and ready to be customized) that would facilitate the

239 development of VoicesFromAbroad.org without the need to start from first principles;
240 and
241
242 **Whereas** DA advocacy teams with any area of focus could make use of the platform; and
243
244 **Whereas** the success of the Democratic Party in driving legislative and regulatory reform
245 is critical to the fate of the nation and the success of the Party in maintaining the support
246 of the U.S. electorate; and
247
248 **Whereas** the substantial growth of DA caucus and other issues-advocacy teams has
249 created the need for some overarching member-engagement infrastructure and
250 congressional-outreach architecture in order to efficiently facilitate member participation
251 in our campaigns as well as to sensibly coordinate the campaign activities of the issues-
252 advocacy teams;
253
254 **Therefore Be It Resolved** that Democrats Abroad supports the establishment of an ad
255 hoc committee to study the establishment of a messaging tool for DA advocacy teams to
256 engage activists to communicate with those holding elected office or running for elected
257 office about law or regulatory reforms; and
258
259 **Be It Further Resolved** that Democrats Abroad shall allocate resources in 2021 in
260 support of the work of the ad hoc committee and for reviewing and actioning the
261 recommendations of the committee.
262
263 *Co-sponsors: Joe Smallhoover (DA France, DNC Member, International Counsel); Rebecca*
264 *Lammers (DA UK, DPCA Voting Rep); Angela Fobbs (DA Germany, DPCA Voting Rep);*
265 *Annamarie Mattson (DA France, DPCA Voting Rep 2019-2021); Nathalie Bachiri (DA*
266 *Luxembourg, Chair); Allesandro Marra (DA Italy, DPCA Voting Rep); Martha McDevitt-Pugh*
267 *(DA Netherlands, DNC Member); Tre-Shawn Griffin (DA Netherlands, DPCA Voting Rep).*
268

269 #4

270 **In Support of Democrats Abroad Joining the RBT Coalition**

271

272 *Proposed by: Carmelan Polce (DA Australia, DPCA Voting Rep; DA Tax Task Force Chair)*

273 *Co-sponsors: listed below*

274

275 **Whereas** Democrats Abroad (DA) has invested heavily in advocacy in support of tax-
276 and financial-account-reporting relief for bona fide Americans abroad; and

277

278 **Whereas** DA is committed to Residency Based Taxation (RBT) as a policy reform that
279 would eliminate double taxation of income; remove barriers to saving and investing; and
280 greatly simplify tax-filing from abroad; and

281

282 **Whereas** arguments in support of this reform will have greater impact on lawmakers the
283 greater the number of individuals and organizations presenting them; and

284

285 **Whereas** DA has worked in collaboration or in parallel with many other organizations
286 representing Americans abroad; and

287

288 **Whereas**, in the area of tax advocacy, DA has a strong working relationship with
289 American Citizens Abroad (ACA); and

290

291 **Whereas** ACA is leading the establishment of an RBT Coalition to demonstrate broad
292 support for RBT [see proposal document below]; and

293

294 **Whereas** the DA Taxation Task Force Chair and members who have worked with ACA
295 are persuaded that ACA will be faithful to the terms and conditions outlined in the
296 proposal document and will guard against “mission creep”;

297

298 **Therefore Be It Resolved** that DA shall become a member of the RBT Coalition; and

299

300 **Be It Further Resolved** that DA reserves the right to withdraw from the Coalition should
301 it stray from what is profiled in the proposal document or for any other reason.

302

303 *Co-sponsors: Joe Smallhoover (DA France, DNC Member, International Counsel); Nathalie*
304 *Bachiri (DA Luxembourg, Chair); Allesandro Marra (DA Italy, DPCA Voting Rep); Tre-Shawn*
305 *Griffin (DA Netherlands, DPCA Voting Rep); Rebecca Lammers (DA UK, DPCA Voting Rep);*
306 *Ken Sherman (DA Canada, DNC Member, DPCA Voting Rep).*

307

308

309

309 **Talking Paper**

310

310 **Coalition for Residency-Based Taxation**

311 These are preliminary thoughts about creation of a coalition supporting enactment of residency-
312 based taxation – what it might look like, some elements that might be addressed, and some
313 things that might best be avoided. (The coalition is herein referred to as “RBT Coalition”).

314

315 I. What It Will Look Like

316 A. Overview

317 The RBT Coalition will be an informal group of organizations that openly support enactment of
318 residency-based taxation (RBT) in lieu of citizenship-based taxation (CBT).

319 The RBT Coalition will present widely-accepted arguments in favor of residency-based taxation. It
320 will assemble information about RBT and make this information available to the public and to
321 governments, including the U.S. government. It will also disseminate this information to the news
322 media.

323 It will be “informal” in that it will not be an association of any type or a separately organized entity.
324 Consequently, it will not file for any form of tax-exempt status with the IRS or be required to make
325 any tax filings. It will not advocate for enactment of a specific piece of legislation, such as, a
326 congressional bill or resolution, or a particular action by the legislative, executive or judicial
327 branch of the U.S. government. It will not conduct itself in a manner which would require it or any
328 entity or individual associated with it to have to register as a lobbyist. In no manner will it
329 participate in, or intervene in (including the publication and distribution of statements), any
330 campaign on behalf of or in opposition to any candidate for public office. It will not collect monies.
331 It would not, directly or indirectly, give any gift or pay for the travel of any member or employee of
332 Congress. Any contributions, donations, or the like will not be made through the Coalition.

333 The RBT Coalition will not have officers or directors or spokesmen/spokeswomen.

334 Any action taken on behalf of the Coalition will require unanimous consent of all its participating
335 organizations, indicated in writing.

336 It will hold meetings when two or more participants call for meeting and a majority of participants
337 agrees, whether or not they wish to attend. Meetings may be “in person” or “virtual”, with notice to
338 all participants.

339 The records of the Coalition will be maintained and shared as agreed by the participating
340 organizations. “Records” could include minutes of meetings and correspondence.

341 B. Composition – at outset and evolving over time
342 At the outset, the RBT Coalition will be comprised of a group of participating organizations drawn
343 from different segments of the expat community.

- 344 1. Organizations representing Americans abroad – individuals and businesses. Examples
345 are American Citizens Abroad, AARO, FAWCO, Democrats Abroad, Republicans
346 Overseas, the US Chamber of Commerce (including sub-groups and similar groups, such
347 as, business councils).
- 348 2. Social and Business groups of Americans. Examples: American Clubs, American-
349 foreign trade associations, American overseas business associations.
- 350 3. Policy oriented groups and so called “think tanks”
- 351 4. Service providers that cater in some measure to expats. These individual service
352 providers include:
 - 353 (a) Different segments of the broadly-defined tax return preparation services community.
354 Within this population are return preparers – large, medium-sized, and small
 - 355 (b) Investment advisers and asset managers that are focused on the expat community.
356 This population ranges from medium-sized firms to offices or “shops” within large
357 organizations.
 - 358 (c) Legal advisors. This includes some individuals and small firms but more often
359 “practices” within larger firms.
 - 360 (d) Software providers and other tech-oriented groups. This is a small, specialist
361 population.
 - 362 (e) Relocation agencies and similar organizations.
 - 363 (f) Large public accounting firms and economic consultancies.
 - 364 (g) Elements to be addressed

365 C. What is it expected to do?
366 Its focus will be entirely on replacing citizenship-based taxation with RBT. The principal
367 arguments in favor, such as, tax fairness and efficiency, will be agreed to by all participants.

- 368 D. How formal a structure?
369 There will be no formal structure, such as, a management committee or a committee of advisors.
370 There will be a list of participants with contact information. All participants will sign an agreed
371 expression of support for adoption of RBT in place of CBT.
- 372 E. Governance
373 No formal governance. No one participant or individual will be authorized to act on behalf of or
374 speak for the coalition. Members must unanimously agree on any actions, such as, signing a
375 letter to Congress. No one can sign on behalf of individual members. Individual members must
376 separately sign anything with their name on it.
- 377 F. How to proceed.
378 Start with a small group and build from there. The population of participants can be expected to
379 grow with signs of progress on the legislative front.
- 380 II. Things To Be Avoided
381 A. Anything that looks like a proposal.
382 B. Anything that could be characterized as lobbying.
383 C. Anything that is politically partisan.
384 D. Anything that is or appears to be self-promotional.
385
386

387 #5

388 **In Support of Urgent Federal Tax Filing Relief for Americans Abroad**
389 **in the American Jobs Plan (infrastructure legislation) and American**
390 **Families Plan**

391 **ADOPTED as amended**

392 *Proposed by: Carmelan Polce (DA Australia DPCA Voting Rep; DA Taxation Task Force Chair)*

393 *Co-sponsors: listed below*

394

395 **Whereas** Democrats Abroad celebrates the policy successes that the Biden White House
396 and Democrat-controlled Congress have had, as well as forthcoming legislative
397 opportunities to improve the lives of all Americans, we also recognize the pressure that
398 federal government spending programs are going to place on current and future taxpayers;
399 and

400

401 **Whereas** DA supports the Biden Administration’s aim of raising additional federal
402 government revenue from those wealthy Americans and U.S. corporations not paying
403 their fair share, including its pledge not to raise taxes on those making under \$400,000
404 per annum; and

405

406 **Whereas** DA recognizes the actions of Congress in likewise pursuing policies that treat
407 low-income Americans differently from high-income Americans, as evidenced by
408 income-based eligibility criteria for pandemic aid and negotiations to create an exemption
409 for low-income Americans from the state-and-local tax (SALT) cap; and

410

411 **Whereas** DA reaffirms its belief that misperceptions about Americans abroad have
412 resulted in tax policies that cause personal and financial harm to them via double taxation
413 of many forms of income; by creating material barriers to banking, saving, and investing;
414 and, due to inordinate complexity, by forcing ordinary middle-class Americans abroad to
415 engage expensive tax preparers able to contend with the convergence of two (and
416 sometimes more) tax jurisdictions; and

417

418 **Whereas** DA supports a change from the current system of Citizenship Based Taxation
419 to Residency Based Taxation because it would sweep away most of the tax code
420 injustices that place an unfair burden on Americans abroad;

421

422 **Whereas** DA continues to collaborate with or work in parallel to other Americans abroad
423 organizations advocating for Residency Based Taxation;

424

425 **Whereas** DA research and analysis indicate that most Americans abroad live in countries
426 with an overall tax burden higher than the U.S., and they go to a great deal of trouble and
427 expense to file tax returns with end result that they owe no U.S. tax; and

428

429 **Whereas** the Biden Administration and Democrats in Congress have promised sweeping
430 reforms to international taxation as a part of the American Jobs Plan, which enables DA
431 to present urgent reforms to address the GOP’s Global Intangible Low-Taxed Income

432 (GILTI) tax which has devastated many Americans abroad who own small-to-medium-
433 size businesses registered abroad; and

434

435 **Whereas** the focus of Congress on raising tax revenue from those with the greatest
436 ability to pay, especially those who are currently not paying their fair share, provides DA
437 with an opportunity to present tax reforms for Americans abroad which benefit working-
438 class Americans and have no negative revenue impact; and

439

440 **Whereas** the Biden Administration and Democrats in Congress have promised new
441 social programs with targeted support for families as part of the American Families Plan,
442 which is expected to pass during the 117th Congress, enabling DA to present reforms that
443 would provide filing relief for American families abroad;

444

445 **Therefore Be It Resolved** that in 2021 DA shall continue to advocate for a change from
446 Citizenship Based to Residency Based Taxation on an optional basis as the most
447 comprehensive reform for resolving grave tax-policy injustices;¹ and

448

449 **Be It Further Resolved** that DA supports the work of the Taxation Task Force to
450 advance tax-filing relief for Americans Abroad as part of the American Jobs Plan
451 currently being considered in Congress and the American Families Plan which is
452 expected to follow it; and

453

454 **Be It Further Resolved** that DA shall present to Congress a proposal to exempt from
455 GILTI taxes Section 911 bona fide Americans abroad whose income is less than
456 \$400,000 per annum; and

457

458 **Be It Further Resolved** that DA shall present to Congress a proposal to exempt from
459 U.S. tax filing Section 911 bona fide Americans abroad who are compliant with their
460 financial-account-reporting obligations and who owe no U.S. tax; and

461

462 **Be It Further Resolved** that DA shall present to Congress proposals to reform FBAR to
463 index the reporting threshold for inflation; to create a filing threshold for Section 911
464 bona fide Americans abroad that is five (5) times higher than the indexed threshold; to
465 eliminate FBAR and FATCA filing-duplication; to redress the enormously out-of-
466 proportion penalties for non-willful neglect to file FBAR reports; and to reinstate the
467 option to paper-file the FBAR.

468

469 *Co-sponsors: Ada Shen (DA France, DPCA Voting Rep); Joe Smallhoover (DA France,*
470 *International Counsel, DNC Member); Nathalie Bachiri (DA Luxembourg, Chair); Aaron Kruse*
471 *(DA Singapore, DNC Member); Bill Borden (DA Sweden, DPCA Voting Rep); Allesandro*
472 *Marra (DA Italy, DPCA Voting Rep); Rebecca Lammers (DA UK DPCA Voting Rep); Tre-*
473 *Shawn Griffin (DA Netherlands, DPCA Voting Rep).*

474

¹ The phrase “on an optional basis” was added by amendment.

475 #6

476 **Honoring Patrick Werner, founder of Democrats Abroad Nicaragua**

477 **ADOPTED**

478 *Proposed by: John Chudy (DA Guatemala, Vice Chair)*

479 *Co-sponsors: Co-sponsors: Lissette Wright, (DA Canada, International Treasurer); Kathy*

480 *Rothschild, (DA Costa Rica, RVC Americas); Ken Sherman, (DA Canada, DNC*

481 *Member); Steve Nardi, (DA Canada, Chair 2019-2021)*

482

483 **Whereas** Patrick Werner, the courageous founder of Democrats Abroad Nicaragua, who
484 with great commitment and the guidance of the Americas Regional Vice Chair, Kathy
485 Rothschild, brought the Country Committee into being in 2017; and

486

487 **Whereas** Patrick Werner labored to keep Democrats Abroad vital and functioning for
488 resident American Democrats; and

489

490 **Whereas** Patrick Werner’s several decades in Nicaragua revealed an eclectic range of
491 interests, from identifying and cataloging 600 species of orchids native to Nicaragua to
492 raising horses and collecting a miscellany of historical horse gear; from writing about
493 Central American history to panning for gold in long-abandoned mines; from running a
494 university to founding a Country Committee of Democrats Abroad; and

495

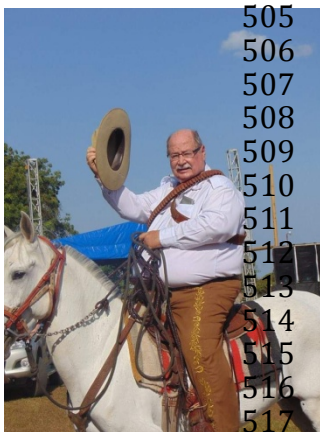
496 **Whereas** the sudden death of Patrick Werner on November 30, 2019, surprised and
497 shocked his family and friends, and fellow Democrats in the Americas Region;

498

499 **Therefore Be It Resolved** that Democrats Abroad expresses its sadness at Patrick
500 Werner’s passing away and extends sincerest condolences to his widow, Doña María
501 Zeledón de Werner, whom he fondly called “Chilo,” to their two children Shirley and
502 Stuart, and to all members of Democrats Abroad Nicaragua.

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522 #7

523 **On Strengthening Democratic Institutions in the U.S.**

524

525 *Proposed by: Kee Evans (DA Guatemala, Chair)*

526 *Author: Vincent S. D'Agati (DA Guatemala)*

527 *Co-sponsor: John Chudy, (DA Guatemala, Vice Chair)*

528

529 **Whereas** Democrats Abroad is pleased that the House of Representatives will be
530 investigating events that brought about the insurrection at the U.S. Capitol on January 6,
531 2021 which sought to disrupt our democratic institutions; and

532

533 **Whereas** over the past decade many historians, consumer advocates, economists, and
534 journalists such as Ralph Nader, Thomas L. Friedman, Nancy Maclean, Garry Kasparov,
535 and James Wiggins, have researched and analyzed the complex root causes of the
536 deterioration of our democratic form of government; and

537

538 **Whereas** leaders in the House and Senate have yet to assimilate this information and
539 develop a comprehensive strategy to address these complex causes effectively; and

540

541 **Whereas** DA believes that the nation would be well served if a Presidential Advisory
542 Commission were formed to develop such a strategy;

543

544 **Therefore Be It Resolved** that Democrats Abroad encourages the Biden Administration
545 to appoint a Presidential Advisory Commission made up of leading national political
546 thinkers and public policy intellectuals including those cited above, along with
547 Representatives and Senators, to develop a strategy to address the root causes weakening
548 our democratic institutions; and

549

550 **Be It Further Resolved** that DA shall mobilize its members to urge their elected
551 representatives, candidates for office, the Democratic Party as a whole, and members of
552 the public to support the creation of such a Commission.

553

554 #8

555 **On Polarization of the Electorate**

556

557 *Proposed by: Kee Evans (DA Guatemala, Chair)*

558 *Author: Mary Lou Ridinger (DA Guatemala)*

559 *Co-sponsor: John Chudy (DA Guatemala, Vice Chair)*

560

561 **Whereas** Democrats Abroad is concerned about the polarization of the U.S. electorate
562 and believes that steps should be taken to bring about better communication among
563 voters to strengthen our democracy; and

564

565 **Whereas** recent studies show that 38% of Americans do not prefer democracy as their
566 form of government; and

567

568 **Whereas** democracy should be promoted from the bottom up and not from the top down,
569 the teaching of civics should come with an economic incentive offered at the community
570 level to encourage participation; and

571

572 **Whereas** the USA was founded during the Age of Enlightenment and the founders
573 believed that, through science, the people could be led to value reason; and

574

575 **Whereas** polarization begets more polarization in a negative feedback loop; and

576

577 **Whereas** many Trump voters – who seem hindered by reality-distortion syndrome, don't
578 believe in science, and are receiving most of their news and forming their political
579 opinions through religious leaders or conspiracy theories promoted on social media or
580 through organizations promoting racial hatred – might benefit from civics education with
581 an economic incentive of future employment in local infrastructure projects;

582

583 **Therefore Be It Resolved** that Democrats Abroad supports establishment of a joint task
584 force between the U.S. Departments of Education and Labor to promote and teach civics
585 through community job-training programs.

586

587

588 #9

On Central American Immigration in 2021

589

590

591 *Proposed by: John Chudy (DA Guatemala, Vice Chair)*

592 *Co-sponsor: Kee Evans (DA Guatemala, Chair)*

593

594 **Whereas** the Trump Administration over its four years implemented nearly 400 anti-
595 immigrant measures ranging from the mild of simply raising the costs of visa applications
596 to the inhumane such as its Zero Tolerance policy that separated 2,700 children from
597 their parents, leaving over 540 children in detention centers with no trace of their
598 parents;² and

599

600 **Whereas** the majority of irregular migrants currently arriving at the U.S. southern border
601 originate from Central America, mainly from the Northern Triangle countries of El
602 Salvador, Honduras, and Guatemala;³ and

603

604 **Whereas** these countries together accounted for 71% (607,774) of all apprehensions at
605 the U.S.-Mexico border in 2019, far outnumbering those from Mexico (166,458);⁴ and

606

607 **Whereas** despite high deportations – for example, a record of 105,000 returned to
608 Guatemala in 2019, and over 43,000 in 2020 – the majority of deportees intend to return
609 to the USA because of growing poverty and pressing need;⁵ and

610

611 **Whereas** Hurricanes Eta and Iota in November 2020 directly affected over four million
612 people in Northern Triangle countries, with more than 200,000 families negatively
613 impacted by crop losses, with tens of thousands of climate refugees created in Honduras,
614 and with 133,000 in Guatemala displaced and housed in shelters with no home to return
615 to, many of them intending to migrate north;^{6,7} and

616

617 **Whereas** economic decline due to COVID-19, plus the added trauma of Hurricanes Eta
618 and Iota, has devastated formal employment, hitting Northern Triangle countries hardest,⁸
619 and

620

² Editorial Board, *“Trump’s Overhaul of Immigration is Worse Than You Think,”* New York Times, October 10, 2020

³ Capps, R., Meissner, D., Ruiz Soto, A.G., Bolter, J., Pierce, S., *“From Central America to Crisis: Changing Trends and Policies Reshaping U.S.-Mexico Border Enforcement,”* Migration Policy Institute, August 2019, pps. 1-2

⁴ Pew Research Center, November 1, 2019, *What’s Happening at the US-Mexico Border in Five Charts*

⁵ Jorge Ramos, *“The Perpetual Crisis at the Border and What We Can Do About It,”* New York Times, April 2, 2021

⁶ Prensa Libre, Guatemala, *Más de 133 mil pasarán navidad en albergues (More than 133,000 will spend Christmas in shelters),* December 24, 2020

⁷ Nicole Narea, *“Migrants are Heading North Because Central America Never Recovered from Last Year’s Hurricanes,”* Vox, March 22, 2021

⁸ Press Release, *“Preliminary Overview of the Economies of Latin America and the Caribbean,”* Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, December 16, 2020

621 **Whereas** in Guatemala alone 60% of the working population has been forced into
622 informal economic activities, and the number of children suffering from acute
623 malnutrition has risen to 25,000 compared with 15,300 in 2019;⁹ and
624

625 **Whereas** the decades-old phenomenon of Central American children forced out of homes
626 and communities has evolved from migrating to the streets of Northern Triangle capitals
627 to eventually migrating to the USA as unaccompanied minors, such as the 18,000
628 children who arrived at the U.S. southern border between October 2020 and March
629 2021;¹⁰ and
630

631 **Whereas** the Biden Administration is familiar with the historical profile of Northern
632 Triangle countries, including persistent poverty coupled with recent worsening of
633 prospects for people in the region due to the pandemic and hurricanes;^{11,12} and
634

635 **Whereas** the 2020 Democratic Party Platform calls for the U.S. to work with our regional
636 and international partners to address the root causes of migration in the Americas:
637 violence and insecurity, lack of educational and economic opportunity, and
638 environmental degradation;
639

640 **Therefore Be It Resolved** that Democrats Abroad expresses its support to the House
641 Committee on Foreign Affairs, the House Caucus on Central America, the Senate
642 Committee on Foreign Affairs and its sub-committee for the Western Hemisphere, and
643 the Biden Administration through Vice President Harris’s portfolio on the Northern
644 Triangle, for actions that include:

645 (1) Creating a family reunification committee that would allow deported family members
646 to return to the USA while their family members are being located;
647 (2) Passing the U.S. Citizenship Act of 2021;
648 (3) Creating and leading a regional effort, engaging both regional governments and civil
649 groups, to strengthen Northern Triangle governance, democratic institutions, general
650 security, and the fight against corruption and impunity;
651 (5) Raising awareness of street children and structuring appropriate responses throughout
652 the Northern Triangle region; and
653 (6) Ending the Trump era Migrant Protection Protocols (MPP) and replacing them with a
654 streamlined process to allow entry of asylum seekers into the U.S.
655

6 Kevin Seif, *“The Reason Many Guatemalans are Coming to the Border? A Profound Hunger Crisis,”* Washington Post, April 1, 2021

¹⁰ Julia Ainsley, *“Record Number of Unaccompanied Children Crossed the Border in March,”* NBC News, April 2, 2021

¹¹ Dan Restrepo, *Central Americans Are Fleeing Bad Governments,* Foreign Affairs, March 5, 2021

¹² Naomi Roht-Arriaza, *“To Combat Central America’s Bad Governance, Biden Can’t Just Throw Money at the Problem,”* Just Security, March 29, 2021

656 #10

In Support of the PRO Act

ADOPTED

659 *Proposed by: Jerry Zellhoefer (DA France, DPCA Voting Rep)*

660 *Co-author: Penny Schantz (DA France)*

661 *Co-sponsors: listed below*

662

663 **Whereas**, as union membership has drastically declined, inequality has skyrocketed;

664

665 **Whereas** the most significant worker empowerment legislation since the Great
666 Depression – the Protecting the Right to Organize (PRO) Act – will:

- 667 • Empower workers to exercise freedom to organize and bargain;
- 668 • Ensure that workers can reach a first contract quickly after a union is recognized;
- 669 • End employers’ practice of punishing striking workers by hiring permanent
670 replacements;
- 671 • Hold corporations accountable by strengthening the National Labor Relations Board
672 and allowing it to penalize employers who retaliate against working people for
673 supporting a union or collective bargaining;
- 674 • Repeal so-called “right to work” laws – divisive and racist laws created during the
675 Jim Crow era – that lead to lower wages, fewer benefits, and more dangerous
676 workplaces; and
- 677 • Create pathways for workers to form unions, without fear, in newer industries such as
678 Big Tech; and

679

680 **Whereas** the proposed PRO Act is more than labor-law reform, it is also civil rights
681 legislation, because:

- 682 • A union contract is the single best tool for closing racial and gender wage-gaps and
683 for ensuring dignity and due process for workers; and
- 684 • Expanding collective bargaining will increase protections for women, people of color,
685 immigrants, and the LGBTQ community in areas where laws fall short;

686

687 **Whereas** the U.S. House of Representatives passed the PRO Act in 2020, but an anti-
688 worker majority blocked it in the Senate; and

689

690 **Whereas** President Biden has pledged to sign the PRO Act into law;

691

692 **Therefore Be It Resolved** that Democrats Abroad shall prioritize passage of the PRO
693 Act and shall:

- 694 • inform members of action they can take to support passage of the PRO Act, including
695 sending letters to the editor of newspapers in their home states; and
- 696 • urge country committees to organize phone- and text-banking to contact Senators to
697 support the PRO Act.

698

699 *Co-sponsors: Ada Shen (DA France, DPCA Voting Rep); Jonathan Holler (DA France, Chair);*

700 *Dani Follette (DA France, First Vice Chair); Camille Canter (DA France, DPCA Voting Rep);*

701 *Jim Christiansen (DA France, DPCA Voting Rep); Max Dunitz (DA France, DPCA Voting Rep);*

702 *Joe Smallhoover (DA France, DNC Member); Drew Lombardi (DA France, DPCA Voting Rep);*

703 *Susan Alksnis (DA Canada, DPCA Voting Rep); Kent Getsinger (DA Australia, DPCA Voting*
704 *Rep); Reno Domenico (DA Ukraine, Acting Chair); Natalie Bachiri (DA Luxembourg, Chair);*
705 *David Mivasair (DA Canada, DPCA Voting Rep); David Brauer (DA Japan, DPCA Voting Rep);*
706 *Antar Keith (DA Germany, DPCA Voting Rep); John Lindsay (DA UK, DPCA Voting Rep);*
707 *Michael Macy (DA UK, DPCA Voting Rep); Angela-Jo Touza-Medina (DA Spain, DPCA Voting*
708 *Rep); Kim Antonsen (DA Panama, Chair); Anya Leonhard (DA Germany, DPCA Voting Rep);*
709 *Candice Kerestan (DA Germany, DPCA Voting Rep); Vincienzo Cabrera (DA Germany, DPCA*
710 *Voting Rep); Josh Van der Ploeg (DA UK, DPCA Voting Rep); Aaron Kruse (DA China, DNC*
711 *Member); Daniel James (DA Spain, Chair); Katie Solon (DA Germany, DNC Member);*
712 *Connie Borde (DPCA Voting Rep France); Marjorie Bernstein (DPCA Voting Rep. France),*
713 *Brooke Burns (DA France); Salli Swartz (DA, France); Kendra Borgen (DPCA Voting Rep*
714 *Netherlands); Lissette Wright (International Treasurer, DA Canada); Antar Keith (DPCA Voting*
715 *Rep, Germany).*
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722 #11

723 **In Support of H.R. 40 and the Commission to Study U.S. Reparations**

724 **ADOPTED**

725 *Proposed by: Antar Keith (DA Germany, DPCA Voting Rep)*

726 *Co-sponsors: listed below*

727

728 **Whereas** the act of reparations is not a transfer of wealth from one person to another, nor
729 is it an assignment of blame to any one individual; and

730

731 **Whereas** reparations are a national obligation to acknowledge past wrongs and how they
732 still impact Americans, as well as an attempt to redress said wrongs through atonement
733 and provision of closure for the trauma they have wrought;¹³ and

734

735 **Whereas** the obligation to redress belongs to the state – not to any individual – and must
736 not be limited to mere *restitution*, i.e., the restoration of an aggrieved party to a condition
737 before injustice occurred; but must include *atonement*, i.e., when a culpable institution
738 meets conditions of forgiveness acceptable to the aggrieved;¹⁴ and

739

740 **Whereas** H.R. 40 – the Commission to Study and Develop Reparation Proposals for
741 African-Americans Act, a bill originally introduced in 1989 and most recently advanced
742 by the House Judiciary Committee on April 15, 2021 – offers an opportunity to begin
743 researching how the U.S. government could fulfill one of its oldest obligations; and

744

745 **Whereas** H.R. 40 seeks to study not only how Black Americans have suffered under
746 racialized terror, but also how a national apology and redress for slavery, as well as for *de*
747 *jure* and *de facto* racial and economic discrimination, could reverse their effects on
748 Americans today;¹⁵ and

749

750 **Whereas** such effects stunt Black American foundational wealth, economic security, and
751 political engagement, and are inherently tied: to historic anti-Black paradigms beginning
752 with the 1619 arrival of African slaves to what would become the United States;¹⁶ to

¹³ Pres. Biden also offers support for studying reparations: <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-usa-biden-slavery-idUSKBN2AH2K9>

¹⁴ Darity, William A. "Introduction." *From Here to Equality: Reparations for Black Americans in the 21st Century*, The University of North Carolina Press, 2020, pp. 12–13.

¹⁵ Following emancipation, policies were enacted to ensure Black survival in America, but each form of redress was denied or redirected to non-Blacks, thereby exacerbating existing socio-economic inequities. For example, the District of Columbia Compensated Emancipation Act (1862) provided reparations to white former slave-owners for each slave freed. Denying proper reparations to the formerly enslaved initiated a series of socio-economic calamities which continue to plague Black America to this day.

¹⁶ The Emancipation Proclamation ended U.S. involvement in the trade of slaves, but did not end slavery as an institution. The 13th Amendment (1865) outlawed slavery but not as a form of punishment. Black people were not made legal citizens until the ratification of the 14th Amendment and could not vote until the 15th Amendment in 1868. Despite these reforms, many states imposed their own restrictive measures to prevent Black American voting.

753 denial of property ownership;¹⁷ and to laws which coerced Black Americans into slave-
754 like working conditions;¹⁸ and
755
756 **Whereas** post-Civil War white supremacist ideology inspired both terrorism¹⁹ and
757 discriminatory policies,²⁰ with many levels of government passing and weaponizing Jim
758 Crow laws which calcified the low-socioeconomic status of most Black Americans for
759 generations; and
760
761 **Whereas** Jim Crow laws banned Black Americans from “white-designated” areas and
762 occupations, from voting and political representation, from scholastic endeavors, from
763 medical care, and from criminal justice, and left Black Americans at a heavy
764 disadvantage;²¹ and
765
766 **Whereas** contemporary Black disenfranchisement is maintained by systems of predatory
767 policing; mass incarceration (exacerbated by legal provisions such as the “three-strikes
768 law” and disproportionate sentencing); and institutional racism; tracing a direct
769 continuum with past forms of discrimination; and
770
771 **Whereas** both major national political parties have, for too long, delayed a sound
772 resolution to the economic crises facing Black America, which impacts communal health,
773 education, and security;²² and
774
775 **Whereas** Black Americans are aggrieved at the impunity with which unarmed Black men
776 and women have been killed by an increasingly militarized police force; and
777
778 **Whereas** there has been no acknowledgement of the direct linkages between modern
779 police brutality and the Slave Patrol origins of U.S. policing; and
780
781 **Whereas** the Summer 2020 Black Lives Matter protests in reaction to George Floyd’s
782 death showed that many Black Americans can no longer tolerate systemic racism and
783 discrimination; and

¹⁷ The Homestead Acts in 1862-66 encouraged Black land ownership, but systemic racism prevented Blacks from taking advantage of these laws. White Americans capitalized on them instead, gaining land ownership and foundational wealth.

¹⁸ The Black Codes, (1865-1866), created a post-Civil War intersection between labor and incarceration, and ultimately facilitated forms of de facto slavery (e.g., sharecropping).

¹⁹ High-profile attacks included the Red Summer of 1919; the 1920 Election Day massacre of Ocoee, Florida’s Black residents; and the 1921 race riots and devastation perpetrated against the Greenwood district, or “Black Wallstreet” area, of Tulsa, Oklahoma, among many others throughout the country.

²⁰ Institutional obstacles to voting pre-Civil Rights Act (1868-1964) included police intimidation, poll taxes, and arbitrary literacy tests. Obstacles in the post-Civil Rights Act era (1964-present) include felon disenfranchisement, draconian voter ID laws, gerrymandering, reduction of polling sites and voting hours, as well as the reduction and denial of both early voting and voting by mail. The filibuster tactic (1837-present) continues to pose a threat to civil rights to this very day.

²¹ Redlining (1934 – 1968) was the systematic denial of services and goods (e.g., housing) by private and public sectors.

²² Black Americans currently total 74.5 million, but median Black wealth remains at zero. This wealth gap has a deleterious effect on housing, healthcare, education, and environmental safety (such as in Flint, Michigan’s water infrastructure).

784
785 **Whereas** 12% of Black American men, having lost faith in the Democratic Party,
786 dangerously swung to Donald Trump in the 2020 election, granting Republicans the
787 highest proportion of minority voters since Nixon;²³ and
788
789 **Whereas** political scientists concur that voters do not turn out unless they feel included,
790 listened to, and excited; and
791
792 **Whereas** it then becomes vital for DA to heal a significant psychosocial wound for Black
793 Americans, the most loyal Democratic voting bloc since the 1960s; and
794
795 **Whereas** it is integral that DA directly address Black Americans' unresolved demand for
796 just repair and redress before the Republican Party offers its own illegitimate version,
797 which could appear attractive due to lack of any alternative;²⁴ and
798
799 **Whereas** reparations prove to be not only a moral imperative, but also a politically
800 strategic and vital one; and
801
802 **Whereas** there exist multiple examples of reparations throughout U.S. history^{25,26,27} and
803 world history^{28,29} that take into account an acknowledgement of wrongdoing, offer
804 provision of redress recognized as legitimate by the victims of those wrongs and their
805 descendants, and provide examples of closure, where both the culpable institutions and
806 aggrieved parties come to an agreement; and
807
808 **Whereas** fulfilling the national obligation of U.S. Reparations will expand Black civic
809 engagement and increase voter enfranchisement;
810

²³ A troubling and growing trend, 12% of Black men voted for Trump in 2020:

<https://www.theatlantic.com/culture/archive/2020/11/why-black-men-and-women-vote-so-differently/617134/>

²⁴ Certain conservative pundits are already weighing the merits of a GOP-backed Reparations program.

https://www.realclearpolitics.com/articles/2021/03/29/could_gop_support_for_reparations_save_america_145488.html#

²⁵ The Civil Liberties Act of 1988 granted reparations to Japanese Americans forced into internment during WWII.

²⁶ In 2019, Georgetown University, a Jesuit educational institution founded and created through chattel slave labor, began financing scholarships for Black Americans who are descendants of people held as slaves by the institution. In 2018 and 2019, faith institutions such as the Religious of the Sacred Heart, Virginia Theological Seminary, and Princeton Theological Seminary initiated slavery reparation programs.

²⁷ In 2021, Evanston, Illinois, became the first US city to formalize a reparations program, which will finance its disbursements through a system of private donorship and tax revenue from the city's own legalized marijuana economy.

²⁸ There are numerous examples of reparation initiatives in history, such as the German disbursements to the State of Israel (1952) for atrocities committed during WWII and German disbursements to Holocaust survivors.

²⁹ The most recent reparations policy of the German government to Israel (1998) includes a strong focus on memory, responsibility, and the future. It is this iteration that provides a strong example for the U.S. to follow because it fully encompasses acknowledgement of wrongs committed, redress as determined by the aggrieved, and closure as agreed upon by all parties.

811 **Therefore Be It Resolved** that the Democrats Abroad Executive Committee is dedicated
812 to getting the resources sufficient to support H.R. 40 with an effective global campaign to
813 reach all members to inform them about the bill, why it is significant, and how to
814 advocate for its passage through the House and the Senate; and

815
816 **Be It Further Resolved** that, by July 1st, 2021, the DA Executive Committee shall form
817 a global team responsible for Reparations Advocacy, which shall meet regularly and file
818 a short progress report to the DPCA about their reparations advocacy annually; and

819
820 **Be It Further Resolved** that DA shall continue advocacy for all further Reparation bills
821 consistent with this resolution's aims of guaranteeing reparations to Black Americans
822 providing acknowledgement, redress through restitution and atonement, and closure.

823
824 *Special thanks to Kaitlyn Kennedy (DA Germany)*

825 **Co-sponsors:** *Julia Bryan (International Chair, DA Czechia); Will Bakker (EMEA Regional Vice*
826 *Chair, DA Luxembourg); Adrienne George (DNC Member, DA Sweden); Joe Smallhoover*
827 *(International Counsel, DNC Member, DA France); Adrienne Johnson (DPCA Voting Rep, DA*
828 *UK); Kenneth Sherman (DNC Member, DA Canada); Katie Solon (DNC Member, DA Germany);*
829 *Aaron Kruse (DNC Member, DA China); Lissette Wright (International Treasurer, DA Canada);*
830 *Candice Kerestan (DPCA Voting Rep, DA Germany); Angela Fobbs (DPCA Voting Rep, DA*
831 *Germany, Global Black Caucus Chair); Cory Lemke (Vice Chair, DA South Korea, Global AAPI*
832 *Caucus Co-Chair); Heather Stone (Executive Vice Chair, DA Israel); Quaide Williams (DPCA*
833 *Voting Rep, DA Germany); Matt LeMieux (DPCA Voting Re., DA Germany); Vincienzo Cabrera*
834 *(DPCA Voting Rep, DA Germany); Kenton Barnes (Chair, DA Germany); Max Dunitz (DPCA*
835 *Voting Rep, DA France); Drew Lombardi (Second Vice Chair, DA France); Ada Shen (DPCA*
836 *Voting Rep, DA France); Emily Lines (Vice Chair, DA Germany); Layne Mostyn (Vice Chair, DA*
837 *Australia); Shari Temple (DPCA Voting Rep, DA Germany); Sue Alksnis (DPCA Voting Rep, DA*
838 *Canada); David Mivasair (DPCA Voting Rep, DA Canada); Susan Brennan (DPCA Voting Rep,*
839 *DA Canada); Steve Nardi (Chair 2019-2021, DA Canada); Kent Getsinger (DPCA Voting Rep,*
840 *DA Australia); Juanita (Anny) Schrader (DPCA Voting Rep, DA Mexico); Quyen Nguyen (Chair,*
841 *DA Colombia); Austin Allaire (DPCA Voting Re., DA UK); Jen Rakow-Stepper (DPCA Voting*
842 *Rep, DA Austria); Beth Landry, (DPCA Voting Rep, DA Sweden); David Shallenberger (Chair,*
843 *DA Ecuador); Tre'Shawn Griffin (DPCA Voting Re., DA Netherlands); Matthew Goldman*
844 *(DPCA Voting Re., DA Belgium); Reno Domenico (Acting Country Chair, DA Ukraine); Suma*
845 *Shamanna (Chair, DA India); Rajib Sengupta (Vice Chair, DA India); Justin Underwood (Chair,*
846 *DA Australia); Josh Van der Ploeg (DPCA Voting Rep, DA UK); Laura Rostowske Reilly*
847 *(DPCA Voting Re., DA Spain); Chesney McKinley Severance (Chair, DA Denmark); John*
848 *Lindsay (DPCA Voting Rep, DA UK); Maya Buchanan (DPCA Voting Rep, DA UK); Inge*
849 *Kjemtrup (DPCA Voting Rep, DA UK); Andres Espineira (Vice Chair, DA Portugal); Kristi*
850 *Holmes Espineira (Chair, DA Portugal); Kendra Borgen (Chair, DA Netherlands); Marilyn Ball*
851 *Brown (Vice Chair, DA Hungary); Robert Scott (DPCA Voting Rep, DA Germany); Natalie*
852 *Bachiri (Chair, DA Luxembourg); Daniel James (Chair, DA Spain); Jim Mercereau (DPCA*
853 *Voting Re., DA Spain); Kathryn Tullos (Vice Chair, DA Spain); Ángela-Jo Touza-Medina (DPCA*
854 *Voting Rep, DA Spain); Marjorie Bernstein (DPCA Voting Rep, DA France); Christina*
855 *Skovsgaard (Chair, DA Norway); Ridah Sabouni (Chair, DA UAE); Susan Vaillant (former*
856 *chair, DA-Strasbourg).*

857

858 #12

859 **In Support of Statehood for Puerto Rico**
860 **amended then withdrawn**

861 *Proposed by: Kendra Borgen (DA Netherlands, Chair)*

862 *Author: Orlando Vidal (DA United Arab Emirates, Legal Counsel; DNC Member 2016-*
863 *2020).*

864 *Co-sponsors: listed below*

865

866 **Whereas** Puerto Rico has been an unincorporated territory of the United States since the
867 Spanish American War of 1898; and

868

869 **Whereas** Congress granted U.S. citizenship to the people of Puerto Rico 104 years ago in
870 1917; and

871

872 **Whereas** federal law applies supremely and with full force and effect in Puerto Rico; and

873

874 **Whereas** the U.S. citizens of Puerto Rico have the right to elect their territorial
875 government but have no right to vote for President, Vice President, Representatives, or
876 Senators, and are only represented in Congress by a non-voting member called “Resident
877 Commissioner”; and

878

879 **Whereas** the U.S. citizens of Puerto Rico are consistently discriminated against in many
880 federal programs; and

881

882 **Whereas** there are currently approximately 3.1 million American citizens residing in
883 Puerto Rico; and

884

885 **Whereas** Puerto Rico has recently experienced a dramatic reduction in its population (by
886 almost 900,000) as many have left for the mainland U.S. in search of better economic
887 opportunities and equal citizenship rights; and

888

889 **Whereas** in the most recent plebiscites (in 2012, 2017, and 2020) the people of Puerto
890 Rico chose statehood as their preferred status;³⁰ and

891

892 **Whereas** only statehood would extend equality of citizenship, including full
893 representation, to our citizens in Puerto Rico; and

894

895 **Whereas** in 2017 the Democratic National Committee approved a Resolution
896 cosponsored by the Puerto Rico delegation, the entire delegation of Democrats Abroad
897 DNC Members, and others supporting statehood for Puerto Rico; and

898

899 **Whereas** also in 2017 the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People
900 (NAACP) approved a Resolution in support of statehood for Puerto Rico; and

901

³⁰ The word “overwhelmingly” was deleted before the word “chose”.

902 **Whereas** the League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC) has also and
903 repeatedly called on Congress to admit Puerto Rico as an equal State of our Union; and

904
905 **Whereas** the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights – the principal autonomous
906 organ of the Organization of American States (OAS), whose mission is to promote and
907 protect human rights in the American hemisphere – is currently considering a class action
908 comprising all U.S. citizens residing in Puerto Rico asserting that in denying them the
909 right to vote for President, Vice President, and Senators and Representatives in Congress,
910 the United States is in violation of the American Declaration of the Rights and Duties of
911 Man and of the Inter-American Democratic Charter; and

912
913 **Whereas** Democrats Abroad stands for the right of all citizens to vote regardless of their
914 place of residency; and

915
916 **Whereas** Democrats Abroad’s platform does not currently include any provision
917 supporting statehood for Puerto Rico;

918
919 **Therefore Be It Resolved** that Democrats Abroad fully supports statehood for Puerto
920 Rico if and only if the majority of Puerto Rican voters have chosen the option of
921 statehood in a congressionally sponsored referendum from among a slate of political
922 status options and accompanying transition plans including statehood, independence, free
923 association and other possible options, which will be determined by a constitutional
924 convention on Puerto Rico’s political status created to prepare the referendum, whose
925 delegates will have been elected by the voters of Puerto Rico, as called for in the Puerto
926 Rico Self-Determination Act of 2021,³¹ and

927
928 **Be It Further Resolved** we recommend that the 2024 Democrats Abroad platform
929 include a plank supporting statehood for Puerto Rico; and

930
931 **Be It Further Resolved** that DA shall include statehood for Puerto Rico among the
932 important issues on which it advocates, and shall lobby Congress and the Administration
933 to respond to the democratic will of the people of Puerto Rico and bring about statehood
934 for Puerto Rico as soon as possible.

935
936 *Co-sponsors: Onélica Andrade (Vice Chair, DA Belgium); Willem Bakker (EMEA*
937 *Regional Vice Chair, DA Luxembourg); John Baumlín (Chair, DA Japan); Moshe*
938 *Chertoff (DPCA Voting Representative, DA Israel); Gregory Dolezal (Chair, DA*
939 *Vietnam); Reno Domenico (Chair, DA Ukraine); Matthew Eugene Goldman (DPCA*
940 *Voting Rep, DA Belgium); Lord Tre’Shawn L. Griffin-Noordermeer (DPCA Voting Rep,*
941 *DA Netherlands; Co-Chair, Global LGBTQ+ Caucus); Daniel James (Chair, DA Spain);*
942 *Geneva Louise Jones (Vice Chair, DA United Arab Emirates); Alicia Kauffman (DPCA*
943 *Voting Rep, DA United Arab Emirates); Candice Kerestan (DPCA Voting Rep, DA*
944 *Germany); Sam Khunaizi (Chair, DA United Arab Emirates); Aaron Kruse (DNC*
945 *Member, DA China); James Mercereau (DPCA Voting Rep, DA Spain); Laura*
946 *Rostowfske Reilly (DPCA Voting Rep, DA Spain); LeeAnn Sandler (DPCA Voting Rep,*

³¹ Everything after “statehood for Puerto Rico” was added by amendment.

947 *DA Israel); Rajib Sengupta (Vice Chair, DA India); Katie Solon (DNC Member, DA*
948 *Germany); Heather Stone (Vice Chair, DA Israel); Ángela-Jo Touza-Medina (DCPA*
949 *Voting Rep, DA Spain); Kathryn Tullos (Vice Chair, DA Spain); Quaide Williams (DPCA*
950 *Voting Rep, DA Germany); Lissette Wright (International Treasurer, DA Canada); Ada*
951 *Shen (DPCA Voting Rep, DA France); additional support from the DA Hispanic Caucus*
952 *Steering Committee.*

953 #13

954 **To (1) Expand the Travel Fund to Include Stipends for Members**
955 **Interested in Attending DNC, ASDC, and DA Regional Meetings;**
956 **and (2) for Other Purposes**

957

958 *Proposed by: Sue Alksnis (DA Canada, DPCA Voting Rep); John Baumlin (DA Japan, Chair);*
959 *David Mivasair (DA Canada, DPCA Voting Rep)*

960 *Author: Orlando Vidal (DA United Arab Emirates)*

961 *Co-sponsors: listed below*

962

963 **Whereas** in March of 2014, during DPCA's Global Meeting in Washington, D.C.,
964 Democrats Abroad resolved to establish a Travel Fund and Committee to grant stipends
965 pre-approved by the International Chair, in consultation with the International Treasurer
966 and the rest of DPCA's Executive Committee, to active and deserving members who
967 wish to participate in DPCA global meetings in person, but who otherwise could not
968 afford to attend; and

969

970 **Whereas** thereafter the Travel Fund and Committee were established and, since then, the
971 Committee has awarded stipends of up to \$500 each to 27 active and deserving members
972 to attend DPCA global meetings in person; and

973

974 **Whereas** both the Democratic National Committee (DNC) and the Association of State
975 Democratic Party Committees (ASDC) hold several meetings on an annual basis in
976 various parts of the United States; and

977

978 **Whereas** the International Chair, Vice Chair, and DA's DNC delegation attend these
979 meetings on a regular basis; and

980

981 **Whereas** currently the Travel Fund Committee is not authorized to award stipends to
982 active and deserving members who wish to attend DNC, ASDC, or DA Regional
983 meetings; and

984

985 **Whereas** it is in the best interest of Democrats Abroad to:

986 (1) improve the transparency of and increase access to both the DNC and the ASDC;

987 (2) improve the understanding and increase the knowledge of our members in the
988 important role DA plays in these institutions;

989 (3) allow for greater participation of our members who, by attending these meetings,
990 could actively assist our delegations in the important business being transacted there;

991 (4) further opportunities for accountability by our DA elected and appointed leaders;

992 (5) improve attendance at Regional meetings;

993 (6) increase participation of members who are younger, working-class, or from otherwise
994 under-represented communities; and

995 (7) facilitate the gaining by our members of experience and the development of
996 relationships that could, in turn, be helpful in the future to DA as these members
997 themselves and others may wish later to stand for elected and appointed positions
998 within DA;

999

1000 **Therefore Be It Resolved** that the Travel Fund is hereby expanded to include stipends
1001 for active and deserving members to also attend DNC, ASDC, and DA Regional
1002 meetings (excluded from qualifying for these stipends are the International Chair and
1003 Vice Chair who may otherwise benefit from pre-approved DA-budgeted funds to
1004 subsidize their DA-related travel expenses); and
1005

1006 **Be It Further Resolved** that the Travel Fund Committee design and implement a
1007 transparent mechanism to request and process such applications; and
1008

1009 **Be It Further Resolved** that, in the further interests of transparency and accountability,
1010 all recipients of Travel Fund stipends shall submit a report to the Travel Fund Committee
1011 within 30 days of attendance at any meeting for which the stipend was awarded,
1012 describing the business transacted at the event and the recipient's individual
1013 contribution(s) to the success of the meeting. The Travel Fund Committee shall make
1014 those reports publicly available on the Travel Fund page of DA's website; and
1015

1016 **Be It Further Resolved** that DA DNC Members, in particular, and all Travel Fund
1017 recipients, generally, are strongly encouraged to actively pursue fundraising opportunities
1018 that will increase the resources available in the Travel Fund.
1019

1020 *Co-sponsors: Onélica Andrade (Vice Chair, DA Belgium); Kendra Borgen (Chair, DA*
1021 *Netherlands); Lord Tre'Shawn L. Griffin-Noordermeer (DPCA Voting Rep, DA*
1022 *Netherlands; Co-Chair, Global LGBTQ+ Caucus); Geneva Louise Jones (Vice Chair,*
1023 *DA United Arab Emirates); Alicia Kauffman (DPCA Voting Rep, DA United Arab*
1024 *Emirates); Sam Khunaizi (Chair, DA United Arab Emirates);); Diego Rivas (DPCA*
1025 *Voting Rep, DA Germany); and Lissette Wright (International Treasurer, DA Canada).*
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#14

To Keep the Pershing Hall Collections and the Time Capsule in France

*Proposed by: Anna Marie Mattson, Co-Chair of DA France Veterans and Military Families
Caucus and DA France DPCA Voting Rep*

Co-sponsors: Max Dunitz, Drew Lombardi, and Dani Follett, DPCA Voting Reps, DA France

Whereas in 1928 the American Legion Building at 49 rue Pierre Charron, Paris 75008 France – known as Pershing Hall – was purchased by the Legionnaires of Paris Post 1, as The American Legion Building, Paris, Inc., to serve as a gathering place and recreation center for U.S. veterans, U.S. civic organizations, and other American groups in France, and as a monument and memorial to the World War I American Expeditionary Forces (AEF) commanded by General John Pershing; and

Whereas, when the project began experiencing financial difficulties in 1936, the U.S. Government drew on profits accrued in a fund – initiated by soldiers who had purchased the World War I newspaper *Stars and Stripes* – to settle the mortgage and outstanding construction costs, thus avoiding foreclosure, and establishing a memorial fund to defray costs of building maintenance without using any U.S. taxpayer money; and

Whereas the building was the home and headquarters of the American Legion inaugural unit Paris Post 1, Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 605, and various French-American associations until all were evicted in 1993; and

Whereas the historic artwork, furnishings, and documents comprising the cultural heritage in Pershing Hall were seized by the U.S. government in 1993; and

Whereas a small portion of the artifacts in the building – according to a 1991 inventory – have recently been found, after apparently being left abandoned in storage at French national museums for almost three decades; and

Whereas in 2019 the historic Chateau Thierry stone, and the time-capsule containing historic documents and artifacts commemorating the inauguration of the building and belonging to Paris Post 1 of the American Legion, were extracted from Pershing Hall by the American Battlefield Monuments Commission (ABMC) during renovations and remain in its custody; and

Whereas the remains of this rich historic and cultural heritage risk being exported across international borders by the ABMC, raising grave concerns that WW I and II veterans in France will lose more of their history and culture; and

Whereas the Paris Post of the American Legion has requested our help in keeping these valuable treasures in France;

Therefore Be It Resolved that Democrats Abroad urges the House Veterans Affairs Committee of the U.S. Congress to call upon the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) and the American Battlefield Monuments Commission (ABMC) to assure that its collection, as well as the time-capsule and its contents, remain in France and be stored,

1076 restored, and displayed as part of the cultural and historical patrimony of, and serve as a
1077 memorial to, the Americans who fought in World War I and World War II, serving as
1078 well as a pilgrimage site for their descendants, as was the intent of U.S. lawmakers.

1079 #15

1080 **Covid-19 Vaccinations for U.S. Veterans, Caregivers**
1081 **and their Families Abroad**

1082 **ADOPTED**

1083 *Proposed by: Anna Marie Mattson (DA France, DPCA Voting Rep and Co-Chair of DA France*
1084 *Veterans and Military Families Caucus)*

1085 *Author: Marie-Louise Ferguson (Co-chair of DA France Veterans and Military Families Caucus)*

1086 *Co-sponsors: Drew Lombardi, Max Dunitz, and Dani Follett (DA France, DPCA Voting Reps)*

1087

1088 **Whereas** Democrats Abroad honors the men and women of our armed forces and
1089 believes strongly that their service deserves our deepest gratitude and respect; and

1090

1091 **Whereas** many service members who retire or separate from the armed forces reside
1092 overseas; and

1093

1094 **Whereas** an increasing number of young veterans now use the Post-9/11 GI Bill to study
1095 abroad; and

1096

1097 **Whereas** Democrats Abroad advocates for expanding access to healthcare and other
1098 services provided by the U.S. Dept. of Veterans Affairs for any veteran who lives abroad;
1099 and

1100

1101 **Whereas** President Biden has signed H.R.1276 (the SAVE LIVES Act) into law,
1102 expanding VA legal authority to provide COVID-19 vaccinations to all U.S. veterans –
1103 regardless of their VA healthcare-enrollment status – as well as their households,
1104 including spouses and other family members, caregivers, and other beneficiaries; and

1105

1106 **Whereas** veterans living abroad are not being vaccinated unless they are military retirees
1107 (TRICARE), and then only in the few countries that have U.S. military hospitals or VA
1108 facilities;

1109

1110 **Therefore Be It Resolved** that Democrats Abroad urges Congress to provide the
1111 Secretary of Veterans Affairs with the means to expand the provisions of the Foreign
1112 Medical Program and, in conjunction with the U.S. Dept. of Defense, to implement a
1113 vaccination program and pandemic-response policy so that all U.S. veterans abroad –
1114 regardless of their retirement status – and their households, including spouses, other
1115 family members, caregivers, and other beneficiaries, have access to vaccinations at
1116 military hospitals.

1117

1118 #16

In Support of Medicare Portability:

ADOPTED

1119
1120 *Proposed by: Heather Stone (DA Israel, Executive Vice Chair); LeeAnn Sandler (DA Israel,*
1121 *DPCA Voting Rep)*

1122
1123 *Authors: Heather Stone and Orlando Vidal (DA United Arab Emirates, Legal Counsel)*

1124 *Co-sponsors: listed below*

1125

1126 **Whereas** working Americans are obliged to pay into the Medicare system but cannot
1127 benefit from the system if they subsequently reside abroad; and

1128

1129 **Whereas** Americans residing abroad receiving Social Security benefits suffer Medicare
1130 deductions from such benefits even though they cannot benefit from Medicare; and

1131

1132 **Whereas** the U.S. Congress recently authorized and gave appropriations to the Centers
1133 for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMMS)³² to undertake a feasibility study on
1134 reducing its expenses by allowing Americans to obtain Medicare-equivalent services
1135 abroad while maintaining the level of services provided and allowing those Americans to
1136 reside abroad where they may reunite with family; and

1137

1138 **Whereas** the DPCA mandated the creation of a Medicare Portability Task Force in 2015,
1139 and the reasons for doing so continue to be urgent and important (see the adopted
1140 resolution incorporated here as an appendix), but no such task force ever engaged in
1141 actions, research, or reports to the DPCA or the members of DA;

1142

1143 **Therefore Be It Resolved** that the DPCA shall support legislation and regulations to
1144 allow Americans living abroad, or considering moving abroad, to benefit from the U.S.
1145 Medicare system into which they have paid; and

1146

1147 **Be It Further Resolved** that the DPCA shall support legislation and regulations to
1148 protect Americans living abroad from suffering economic penalties regarding the U.S.
1149 Medicare system; and

1150

1151 **Be It Further Resolved** that the DPCA shall support the conduct of an international
1152 Medicare portability feasibility study to measure the reduction of costs on the Centers for
1153 Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMMS) and encourage family reunification for
1154 families abroad; and

1155

1156 **Be It Further Resolved** that the DPCA shall encourage country committees where the
1157 Medicare portability feasibility study will take place to support the study; and

1158

³² “Creative Ideas to Lower Health Care Costs.—The Committee encourages CMS to develop creative projects to lower the cost of care among older populations, including projects that could leverage international collaborations. CMS is directed to provide a progress update on these efforts in the fiscal year 2022 CJ.” p.141 Senate LHHS Approp 116th Congress. This needs to be reintroduced in Congress to gain support from both houses.

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Be It Further Resolved that the DPCA shall create a Medicare Portability Task Force to monitor such legislation and regulations and bring the interests of Democrats Abroad before the relevant committees and regulators, working under the direction of the DPCA Executive Committee and reporting quarterly to the DPCA on its activities.

Co-sponsors: Julia Bryan (International Chair, DA Czech Republic); Angela Fobbs (DPCA Voting Rep, DA Germany); David Mivasair (DPCA Voting Rep, DA Canada); Kendra Borgen (Chair, DA Netherlands); David Wenk (Vice Chair 2019-2021, DA United Kingdom); Quaide Williams (DPCA Voting Rep, DA Germany); Antar Keith (DPCA Voting Rep, DA Germany); Rachel Eugster (DPCA Voting Rep, DA Canada); Will Bakker (RVC-EMEA, DA Luxembourg); Onelica Andrade (Vice Chair, DA Belgium); Katie Solon (DNC Member, DA Germany); Candice Kerestan (DPCA Voting Rep, DA Germany); Sam Khunaizi (Chair, DA United Arab Emirates); Rajib Sengupta (Vice Chair, DA India); Meredith Wheeler (DPCA Voting Rep, DA France); Angela-Jo Touza-Medina (DPCA Voting Rep DA Spain); Reno Domenico (Acting Chair, DA Ukraine); Josh Van der Ploeg (DPCA Voting Rep, DA United Kingdom); David Shallenberger (Chair, DA Ecuador); Alicia Kauffman (DPCA Voting Rep, DA United Arab Emirates); Angie Vachio (Vice Chair, DA Costa Rica); Lissette Wright (International Treasurer, DA Canada); Austin Allaire (DPCA Voting Rep, DA United Kingdom); Ada Shen (DPCA Voting Rep, DA France); Matthew Goldman (DPCA Voting Rep, DA Belgium); Beth Landry (DPCA Voting Rep, DA Sweden); Kenneth Sherman (DNC Member, DA Canada); Carmelan Polce (DPCA Voting Rep, DA Australia); Kim Antonsen (Chair, DA Panama); Jimmy Colon (Vice Chair, DA Colombia); Natalie Bachiri (Chair, DA Luxembourg); Aaron Kruse (DNC Member, DA China); Ridah Sabouni (Chair 2019-2021, DA United Arab Emirates).

1187 #17

1188 **In Support of Reactivation of the Atrocities Prevention Board**

1189

1190 *Proposed by: Sue Alksnis (DA Canada, DPCA Voting Rep)*

1191 *Authors: Carol Adamson (DA Sweden); Eero Carroll (DA Sweden); Salli Swartz (DA France)*

1192 *Co-sponsors: listed below*

1193

1194 **Whereas:**

- 1195 ● preventing massive human rights violations including genocide is a national security
1196 interest which should be central for all governments, because it is an imperative moral
1197 necessity; and
- 1198 ● timely prevention can reduce human suffering and reduce the need for more onerous
1199 policy measures once violence has broken out; and
- 1200 ● there are no mechanisms that ensure enforcement of the UN Convention on the
1201 Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide (1948); and
- 1202 ● the cross-departmental working group Atrocities Prevention Board (APB) that was
1203 founded in 2012 in response to a directive from President Obama (PSD-10) and chaired
1204 at the National Security Council, while not formally abolished, has only met
1205 sporadically since 2016; and
- 1206 ● the U.S. Department of State has previously supported the APB's work to identify
1207 countries at risk, to monitor crisis situations under development, and to coordinate
1208 regional and functional bureaus to follow up on risks and develop and disseminate
1209 knowledge of analytical methods that work to predict and prevent genocide; and
- 1210 ● because the APB lacked dedicated resources (also during the term of its first
1211 chairwoman, Samantha Power), it was unable to make significant contributions to
1212 prevent or assuage civil conflicts in Syria, Iraq, and South Sudan; yet
- 1213 ● because the APB was credited with preventing escalating post-election violence in
1214 Burundi in 2015, and earlier also brought attention to evolving conflicts in Nigeria and
1215 the Central African Republic, with the U.S. ultimately co-providing (together with the
1216 UN) peacekeeping and conflict mediation assistance in the latter case;

1217

1218 **Therefore be it resolved:**

- 1219 ● that Democrats Abroad supports reactivation of the Atrocities Prevention Board (APB),
1220 with the same kind of interdepartmental organization and structure that it was founded
1221 with in 2012, with sufficient dedicated resources to accomplish its mandate to
1222 coordinate a “whole of government” approach to preventing mass atrocities and
1223 genocide; and
- 1224 ● that Democrats Abroad's International Chair shall constitute a Genocide Prevention
1225 Task Force to mobilize our members to urge their elected representatives, candidates
1226 for office, the Democratic Party as a whole, the Biden-Harris administration, and
1227 members of the public to support the reactivation of the APB; and
- 1228 ● that Democrats Abroad shall advocate the reactivation of the APB by all other
1229 reasonable means, including informing the government agencies that had been
1230 members of the APB since its foundation in 2012; and

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Be it further resolved:

- that Democrats Abroad shall urge policymakers to assure that the APB be chaired at the National Security Council and led from the White House, and include highly placed representatives, at least at the assistant secretary level, of involved departments or agencies, including the Departments of State, Defense, Treasury, Justice, and Homeland Security, with civil-society organizations as either full or observing members; and
- that the APB should also include representation from the military leadership in Joint Staff, USAID, the United States' UN delegation, the office of the National Security Director, the CIA, and the Vice-presidential staff; and
- that the APB should be tasked with conducting regular meetings in order to formulate and execute comprehensive and effective preventive programs against massive human rights violations and atrocities; and
- that the APB should develop early warning systems, which are crucial to prevention, and make use of the latest developments in statistical modeling within the social sciences, as well as more traditional analytic techniques and shared intelligence; and
- that the APB should place greater emphasis on developing common understanding amongst the participating parties of what the prevention of genocide and massive human rights violations actually entails, developing a shared training curriculum for employees of appropriate U.S. Agencies and Departments, and developing concrete plans for preemptive action in all cases of escalating violence worldwide; and
- that the APB should play a more proactive role in strengthening contacts in the international research and activist community dedicated to genocide and atrocity prevention, such as outreach to NGOs and a published annual report of its activities.

Co-sponsors: Ed Ungar (DPCA Voting Rep, DA Canada); Bill Borden (DPCA Voting Rep, DA Sweden); Rajib Sengupta (Vice Chair, DA India); Dave Brauer (DPCA Voting Rep, DA Japan); Ángela-Jo Touza-Medina (DPCA Voting Rep, DA Spain); Anya Leonhard (DPCA Voting Rep, DA Germany); Daniel James (Chair, DA Spain); Kathryn Tullos (Vice Chair, DA Spain); David Hoyt (DPCA Voting Rep, DA Canada); Marilyn Ball Brown (Vice Chair, DA Hungary); David Mivasair (DPCA Voting Rep, DA Canada); Anny Schrader (DPCA Voting Rep, Mexico); Reno Domenico (Acting Chair, DA Ukraine); Aaron Kruse (DNC Member, DA China); Quaide Williams (DPCA Voting Rep, Germany); Bruce Murray (DPCA Voting Rep 2019-2021, DA Austria); Katie Solon (DNC Member, DA Germany).

1269 #18

1270 **To Relieve the Financial and Administrative Burdens**
1271 **of the Present U.S. Tax- and Financial-Reporting Systems**
1272 **for Americans Abroad, while Ensuring that the Ultra-Rich**
1273 **Pay Their Fair Share of Taxes No Matter Where They Reside**

1274

1275 *Proposed by: Ed Ungar (DA Canada, DPCA Voting Rep)*

1276 *Co-sponsors: Sue Alksnis and Marnelle Dragila (DA Canada, DPCA Voting Reps; Dave Brauer*

1277 *(DA Japan, DPCA Voting Rep)*

1278

1279 **Whereas** the Democrats Abroad Taxation Task Force does an excellent job raising
1280 awareness in Congress and among other decision-makers about U.S. taxation burdens on
1281 Americans living abroad, collecting data on their experiences, and engaging them in
1282 contacting their members of Congress to explain need for relief; and

1283

1284 **Whereas** it is beholden on us to make sure that DA is putting forward policy that most
1285 effectively implements our aims and values; and

1286

1287 **Whereas** Democrats do not accept Republicans' basic belief that – to paraphrase the late
1288 Harvard macroeconomist John Kenneth Galbraith – the rich don't have enough money,
1289 and the poor have too much; and

1290

1291 **Whereas** shopping for tax shelters is a significant problem for governments around the
1292 world, so that simply eliminating the citizenship basis for taxation would allow ultra-rich
1293 Americans to avail themselves of residency in some Caribbean mansion (or similar tax
1294 shelter) and evade paying their fair share; and

1295

1296 **Whereas** current wealth-tax proposals put forward by Democratic members of Congress
1297 would not require Americans to pay a single penny on wealth below either fifty or
1298 seventy-five million dollars; and

1299

1300 **Whereas**, according to the Wharton Business School, holding the ultra-rich accountable
1301 via such a wealth tax could provide the U.S. government 2.7 trillion dollars over ten years
1302 from the wealthiest fraction of 1% of Americans. and other credible estimates are higher,
1303 up to 3.5 to 4 trillion; and

1304

1305 **Whereas** the ultra-rich should be blocked from using residence outside the USA to evade
1306 and avoid paying their fair share of U.S. taxes including income tax; and

1307

1308 **Whereas** the American public, in polls, consistently and overwhelmingly support a
1309 wealth tax and increased income taxes on the rich; and

1310

1311 **Whereas** the present system of tax for Americans living abroad rarely collects enough
1312 from each person to cover the expense of processing our tax returns, so that we have in
1313 effect a foreign accountants' income and job-enhancement program;

1314

1315 **Therefore Be It Resolved** that DA shall support measures to relieve well over 90% of
1316 Americans living abroad from the needless burden and expense of reporting income in
1317 two jurisdictions as well as measures to deny the ultra-rich the privilege of sovereignty-
1318 shopping to avoid their fair share of taxation (in other words, the 90+% would have de
1319 facto residence-based taxation while the ultra-rich would have both de facto and de jure
1320 citizen-based taxation); and

1321

1322 **Be It Further Resolved** that in order to simplify the process of income tax reporting in
1323 multiple jurisdictions and reduce the burden on Americans abroad, DA endorses:

- 1324 • Introducing a very simplified, one-paragraph tax return for Americans abroad in the
1325 case where they do not owe any tax; and
- 1326 • Raising the Foreign Earned Income Exclusion from the current \$108,700 to \$400,000
1327 indexed to inflation; and
- 1328 • Introducing compatible reforms with regard to financial-asset reporting (FATCA and
1329 FBAR); and
- 1330 • Enacting capital gains tax relief for U.S. citizens upon sale of their primary residence
1331 abroad, thus resolving the present inequity resulting from the fact that they are not
1332 eligible for tax relief under the mortgage interest deduction; and
- 1333 • Combining these measures with a globally-assessed wealth tax on assets over 50 or 75
1334 million dollars.

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1338 #19

1339 **Supporting H.R. 2590 Prohibiting Use of U.S. Military Foreign Aid**
1340 **for Detention of Children**

1341

1342 *Proposed by: Rabbi David Mivasair (DA Canada, DPCA Voting Rep); Sam Khunaizi (DA UAE,*
1343 *Chair); Ridah Sabouni (DA UAE, Chair 2019-2021)*

1344 *Co-sponsors: listed below*

1345

1346 **Whereas** Democrats Abroad values human rights, equality, and democracy for all
1347 people; and

1348

1349 **Whereas** DA recognizes the importance of upholding U.S. law in all regards concerning
1350 the use of American military foreign aid, and Congress must ensure that American
1351 taxpayer dollars never support military detention or abuse of children; and

1352

1353 **Whereas** the Israeli government receives billions of dollars annually in assistance from
1354 the U.S., far more than any other country,³³ and

1355

1356 **Whereas** since 2000 an estimated 10,000 Palestinian children have been detained by
1357 Israeli security forces and prosecuted in Israeli military courts;³⁴ and

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1359 **Whereas** independent monitors such as Human Rights Watch have documented that
1360 these children are subject to abuse and, in some cases, torture, specifically citing the use
1361 of chokeholds, beatings, and coercive interrogation of children aged 11 to 15;³⁵ and

1362

1363 **Whereas** the UN Children’s Fund (UNICEF) also found that Palestinian children are
1364 frequently held for extended periods without access to either parents or attorneys, and
1365 both the U.S. State Department and the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child have
1366 raised serious concerns about the mistreatment of Palestinian children in Israeli military
1367 custody;³⁶ and

1368

1369 **Whereas** U.S. Rep. Betty McCollum (MN-04) has introduced H.R. 2590, the *Defending*
1370 *the Human Rights of Palestinian Children and Families Living Under Israeli Military*
1371 *Occupation Act*, prohibiting Israel from using U.S. taxpayer dollars in the abuse or ill-
1372 treatment of Palestinian children in Israeli military detention or in Israel’s seizure and
1373 destruction of Palestinian property and homes or unilateral annexation of Palestinian
1374 territory in violation of international humanitarian law;³⁷ and

1375

³³ Source: Congressional Research Service. “U.S. Foreign Aid to Israel”. November 16, 2020.

<https://crsreports.congress.gov/product/details?prodcode=RL33222>

³⁴ Source: <https://mccollum.house.gov/palestinianchildrensrightrights>

³⁵ Source: <https://www.hrw.org/news/2016/04/11/palestine-israeli-police-abusing-detained-children>

³⁶ Source:

https://www.unicef.org/oPt/UNICEF_oPt_Children_in_Israeli_Military_Detention_Observations_and_Recommendations_-_6_March_2013.pdf

³⁷ Source: <https://mccollum.house.gov/media/press-releases/mccollum-introduces-historic-legislation-defending-human-rights-palestinian>, https://www.congressfeed.com/bill_talk/HR2590.

1376 **Whereas** thirteen other Democratic members of Congress have signed as co-sponsors of
1377 H.R. 2590;³⁸

1378
1379 **Therefore be it resolved** that Democrats Abroad supports H.R. 2590, shall inform
1380 members of Congress of our support, and shall encourage DA members to urge their own
1381 members of Congress and candidates for federal office to support it and similar
1382 legislation to assure that U.S. foreign military aid is not used to violate the human rights
1383 of children.

1384
1385 *Co-sponsors: Sue Alksnis (DPCA Voting Rep, DA Canada); Onelica Andrade (Vice Chair, DA*
1386 *Belgium); Natalie Bachiri (Chair, DA Luxembourg); Saba Brevli (Vice Chair 2019-2021, DA*
1387 *UAE), Susan Brennan (DPCA Voting Rep, DA Canada); Reno Domenico (Acting Chair, DA*
1388 *Ukraine); Tim Ellis (DPCA Voting Rep, DA Canada); Matthew Goldman; (DPCA Voting Rep,*
1389 *DA Belgium); Tre' Shawn L. Griffin-Noordermeer (DPCA Voting Rep, DA Netherlands); Geneva*
1390 *Jones (Vice Chair, DA UAE); Alicia Kauffman (DPCA Voting Rep, DA UAE); Bruce Murray*
1391 *(DPCA Voting Rep 2019-2021, DA Austria); Denise Roig (DPCA Voting Rep, DA Canada);*
1392 *Rajib Sengupta; (Vice Chair, DA India); Ken Sherman (DNC Member, DA Canada); Angela-Jo*
1393 *Touza-Medina (DPCA Voting Rep, DA Spain); Lissette Wright (International Treasurer, DA*
1394 *Canada).*

1395

1396 RESOURCES

1397 CNN: [Israeli troops detained a 9-year-old Palestinian at school. 'becoming normal',](#)
1398 [locals say](#)

1399 Haaretz: ['Endless Trip to Hell': Israel Jails Hundreds of Palestinian Boys a Year. These](#)
1400 [Are Their Testimonies](#)

1401 VOX: [Arresting children here is becoming normal](#)

1402 B'Tselem: [Unprotected: The Detention of Palestinian Teenagers in East Jerusalem](#)

1403 The Times of Israel: [US aid should serve security purposes only -- The US is justified in](#)
1404 [ensuring that its aid bolsters American values and not the occupation and unjustified](#)
1405 [actions against Palestinians.](#)

1406 Haaretz: [America's Unconditional Love for Israel Must End -- America needs an open,](#)
1407 [honest discussion about why it still funnels billions of U.S. taxpayers' dollars to Israel, a](#)
1408 [wealthy, developed country that routinely violates human rights on a massive scale, with](#)
1409 [no questions asked](#)

1410 [Full text of H.R. 2590](#) [McCollum webpage re H.R. 2590](#)

1411 **Congressional Co-sponsors:** Bobby L. Rush (IL-01), Danny K. Davis (IL-07), Andre Carson (IN-07),
1412 Marie Newman (IL-03), Ilhan Omar (MN-05), Mark Pocan (WI-02), Raúl Grijalva (AZ-03), Rashida Tlaib
1413 (MI-13), Ayanna Pressley (MA-07), Cori Bush (MO-01), Jamaal Bowman (NY-16), Alexandria Ocasio-
1414 Cortez (NY-14), Jesús "Chuy" García (IL-04)

1415 **Endorsing Organizations:** Adalah Justice Project, Al-Haq, Americans for Peace Now, American-Arab
1416 Anti-Discrimination Committee, American Friends Service Committee, American Muslims for Palestine,
1417 Arab American Institute, Arab Resource & Organizing Center, Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies,
1418 Center for Constitutional Rights, Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), Christian Jewish Allies for a Just
1419 Peace in Israel/Palestine, Churches for Middle East Peace, Church of the Brethren – Office of
1420 Peacebuilding and Policy, Coalition of Palestinian American Organizations, CODEPINK, Council on
1421 American-Islamic Relations, DAARNA, Dallas Palestine Coalition, Defense for Children International –

³⁸ Source: <https://mccollum.house.gov/media/press-releases/mccollum-introduces-historic-legislation-defending-human-rights-palestinian>

1422 Palestine, Democracy for the Arab World Now, Detention Watch Network, Disciples Israel Palestine
1423 Network, DSA BDS and Palestine Solidarity Working Group, The Episcopal Church, Evangelical Lutheran
1424 Church in America, Eyewitness Palestine, Freedom Forward, Friends Committee on National Legislation,
1425 Friends of Sabeel – Colorado, Friends of Sabeel North America, Good Citizens Of DFW, Grassroots
1426 Global Justice Alliance, IfNotNow, Institute for Policy Studies – New Internationalism Project, Israel
1427 Palestine Mission Network of the Presbyterian Church (USA), J Street, The Jerusalem Fund, Jewish Voice
1428 for Peace Action, Jews for Racial & Economic Justice, Justice Democrats, MADRE, Massachusetts Peace
1429 Action, Middle East Children’s Alliance, Movement for Black Lives, MPower Action Fund, National
1430 Council of Churches USA, National Lawyers Guild, National Union of Palestinian Youth, New Generation
1431 for Palestine, NGP Action, Norwegian Refugee Council, Palestine American League, Palestinian Christian
1432 Alliance for Peace, Palestine Legal, Peace Action, Presbyterian Church (USA), Progressive Democrats of
1433 America, Rachel Corrie Foundation for Peace and Justice, Rebuilding Alliance, Reconstructionist
1434 Rabbinical Association, Reformed Church in America, ReThinking Foreign Policy, Sacramento Democrats
1435 for Justice in Palestine, Sacramento Regional Coalition for Palestinian Rights, Tree of Life Educational
1436 Fund, U.S. Palestinian Community Network, Unitarian Universalists for Justice in the Middle East, United
1437 Church of Christ, United Church of Christ Palestine Israel Network, United Methodists for Kairos
1438 Response, United We Dream Network, U.S. Campaign for Palestinian Rights, U.S. Palestinian Council,
1439 Veterans For Peace, Virginia Coalition for Human Rights, War Resisters League, Win Without War,
1440 Working Families Party
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1444 #20

To Condition Military Aid to Israel

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1447

Proposed by: Ridah Sabouni (DA UAE, Chair 2019-2021) and Rabbi David Mivasair (DA Canada, DPCA Voting Rep)

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1449

Co-sponsors: listed below

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1451

Whereas the 2020 DA Platform states that “America is safest and at its most prosperous when it acts abroad in accordance with its values, when it stands as a leader among allies;”³⁹ and

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Whereas the U.S. provides more military aid to the government of Israel than to any other country, including 38 billion dollars over the next decade, and more than 146 billion dollars since 1948;⁴⁰ and

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Whereas, through its veto power in the UN Security Council, the U.S. provides Israel with more diplomatic protection than any other country, blocking resolutions seeking to hold it accountable for alleged violations of international law and human rights;⁴¹ and

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Whereas a 2018 University of Maryland public-opinion poll found that 56% of Democrats support imposing serious measures, including sanctions, against Israel if it refused to end settlement expansion in the occupied Palestinian territories;⁴² and

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1467

Whereas Senator Bernie Sanders stated in 2019 that “At a time when we spend \$3.8 billion on military aid to Israel, we have the right to say to the Israeli government that the United States of America and our taxpayers and our people believe in human rights, we believe in democracy, we will not accept authoritarianism or racism, and we demand that the Israeli government sit down with the Palestinian people and negotiate an agreement that works for all parties... I would use the leverage, \$3.8 billion is a lot of money, and we cannot give it carte blanche to the Israeli government or to any government at all, we have the right to demand respect for human rights and democracy;”⁴³ and

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Whereas President Jimmy Carter, the current and first-ever Honorary Chair of Democrats Abroad, stated in his 2006 book “Palestine: Peace not Apartheid” that “The bottom line is this: Peace will come to Israel and the Middle East only when the Israeli government is willing to comply with international law, with the Roadmap for Peace, with official American policy, with the wishes of a majority of its own citizens – and honor its own previous commitments – by accepting its legal borders. All Arab neighbors must pledge to honor Israel’s right to live in peace under these conditions. The United

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³⁹ Source: <https://www.democratsabroad.org/platform>

⁴⁰ Source: Congressional Research Service. “U.S. Foreign Aid to Israel”. November 16, 2020. <https://crsreports.congress.gov/product/details?prodcode=RL33222>

⁴¹ Source: Jewish Virtual Library. U.N. Security Council: U.S. Vetoes of Resolutions Critical to Israel (1972 - Present). <https://www.jewishvirtuallibrary.org/u-s-vetoes-of-un-security-council-resolutions-critical-to-israel>

⁴² Source: <https://foreignpolicy.com/2018/12/11/americans-are-increasingly-critical-of-israel/>

⁴³ Source: <https://thehill.com/homenews/campaign/467772-sanders-floats-leveraging-aid-to-israel-to-push-for-policy-changes>

1483 States is squandering international prestige and goodwill, and intensifying global anti-
1484 American terrorism, by unofficially condoning or abetting the Israeli confiscation and
1485 colonization of Palestinian territories;”⁴⁴ and

1486
1487 **Whereas** numerous human rights organizations around the world, including Human
1488 Rights Watch and Amnesty International, have concluded that the government of Israel
1489 commits war crimes and gross human rights violations against Palestinian civilians,
1490 including the use of torture, extra-judicial killings, and the indiscriminate bombing of
1491 residential areas, which has led to the deaths of hundreds of children;⁴⁵ and

1492
1493 **Whereas** the U.S. State Department’s Human Rights Report has cited evidence that
1494 “Israeli security services continued to abuse, and in some cases torture, minors whom
1495 they frequently arrested on suspicion of stone-throwing to coerce confessions. Tactics
1496 included beatings, long-term handcuffing, threats, intimidation, and solitary
1497 confinement;”⁴⁶ and

1498
1499 **Whereas** numerous American Jewish groups including Jewish Voice for Peace and
1500 IfNotNow have called for conditioning U.S. military aid on Israel ending its occupation
1501 of the West Bank, the Gaza Strip, and East Jerusalem;⁴⁷ and

1502
1503 **Whereas** U.S. Rep. Betty McCollum (MN-04) has introduced H.R. 2590, the *Defending*
1504 *the Human Rights of Palestinian Children and Families Living Under Israeli Military*
1505 *Occupation Act*, prohibiting Israel from using U.S. taxpayer dollars in the abuse or ill-
1506 treatment of Palestinian children in Israeli military detention or in Israel’s seizure and
1507 destruction of Palestinian property and homes or unilateral annexation of Palestinian
1508 territory in violation of international humanitarian law;⁴⁸ and

1509
1510 **Whereas** the “Leahy Laws” – two statutory provisions which apply to the Dept. of
1511 Defense and Dept. of State – prohibit the U.S. Government from funding units of foreign
1512 security forces where there is credible information implicating them in the commission of
1513 gross violations of human rights (GVHR), specifically stating that “the U.S. government
1514 considers torture, extrajudicial killing, enforced disappearance, and rape under cover of
1515 law as GVHRs;”⁴⁹

⁴⁴ Source: Jimmy Carter, “Palestine: Peace not Apartheid”. <https://www.goodreads.com/work/quotes/455407-palestine-peace-not-apartheid>.

⁴⁵ Source: Human Rights Watch (<https://www.hrw.org/middle-east/north-africa/israel/palestine>), Amnesty International (<https://www.amnesty.org/en/countries/middle-east-and-north-africa/israel-and-occupied-palestinian-territories/report-israel-and-occupied-palestinian-territories/>).

⁴⁶ Source: U.S. Department of State, 2013 Human Rights Reports: Israel and The Occupied Territories - The Occupied Territories. <https://2009-2017.state.gov/j/drl/rls/hrrpt/2013/nea/220358.htm>.

⁴⁷ Source: <https://www.ifnotnowmovement.org/press-release-ifnotnow-welcomes-letter-calling-to-withhold-military-funding-if-israel-annexes>, <https://jewishvoiceforpeace.org/jewish-voice-for-peace-on-peace-u-s-military-aid-and-israel-2004/>

⁴⁸ Source: <https://mccollum.house.gov/media/press-releases/mccollum-introduces-historic-legislation-defending-human-rights-palestinian>, https://www.congressfeed.com/bill_talk/HR2590, <https://mccollum.house.gov/palestinianchildrensrights>.

⁴⁹ Source: U.S. Department of State, About the Leahy Law (Fact Sheet) <https://www.state.gov/key-topics-bureau-of-democracy-human-rights-and-labor/human-rights/leahy-law-fact-sheet/>.

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Therefore Be It Resolved that Democrats Abroad shall advocate, through Congress and the Administration, for American tax dollar-funded military aid to the State of Israel to be conditioned on Israeli compliance with international law, UN resolutions, and respect for human rights; and

Be It Further Resolved that DA shall advocate, through Congress and the Administration for application of the Leahy Laws to the State of Israel; and

Be It Further Resolved that DA supports H.R. 2590, shall inform members of Congress of our support, and shall encourage DA members to contact their Congressional representatives and candidates for federal offices to support it and similar legislative proposals.

Co-sponsors: Susan Alksnis (DPCA Voting Rep, DA Canada), Susan Brennan (DPCA Voting Rep, DA Canada), Saba Brevli (Vice Chair 2019-2021, DA UAE), Tim Ellis (DPCA Voting Rep, DA Canada), Geneva Jones (Vice Chair, DA UAE), Sam Khunaizi (Chair, DA UAE), Bruce Murray (DPCA Voting Rep 2019-2021, DA Austria), Denise Roig (DPCA Voting Rep, DA Canada), and Rajib Sengupta (Vice Chair, DA India).

1536 #21

1537 **To Condemn Recent Anti-Transgender Legislation**
1538 **and to Support Passage of the Equality Act**

1539 **ADOPTED as amended**

1540 *Proposed by: Austin Allaire (DA UK, DPCA Voting Rep) and Brian Westley (DA UK, Non-voting*
1541 *DPCA Rep)*

1542 *Co-sponsors: listed below*

1543

1544 **Whereas** 16 anti-LGBTQ laws have been enacted since the beginning of 2021; and

1545

1546 **Whereas** recent legislation passed in the state of Arkansas serves as a case study of the
1547 perils of such laws; and

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1549 **Whereas**, on April 2, 2021, Republicans in the Arkansas General Assembly voted to
1550 override Governor Asa Hutchinson’s veto to enact the Save Adolescents From
1551 Experimentation (SAFE) Act; and

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1553 **Whereas** this law bans gender-confirming surgery for anyone under 18 and prohibits
1554 doctors from providing transgender youth with puberty blockers or hormone therapy; and

1555

1556 **Whereas** this law makes Arkansas the first state to ban this type of vital medical care for
1557 transgender individuals; and

1558

1559 **Whereas** this law is opposed by the American Medical Association, American
1560 Psychological Association, American Academy of Pediatrics, and the American Civil
1561 Liberties Union (ACLU); and

1562

1563 **Whereas**, according to research from The Trevor Project, denying gender-affirming
1564 healthcare has the potential to cause adverse effects, including depression and suicidal
1565 ideation, among transgender youth; and

1566

1567 **Whereas** Mississippi has become the first state to enact a law excluding transgender
1568 women and girls from playing sports; and

1569

1570 **Whereas** 31 states have introduced more than 100 pieces of legislation targeting the
1571 transgender community in the United States this year alone; and

1572

1573 **Whereas** anti-transgender legislation passed at the state level would be superseded by the
1574 passage of a federal expansion of civil rights protections in the form of the Equality Act;
1575 and

1576

1577 **Whereas** the Equality Act would protect LGBTQ+ people from discrimination in
1578 employment, housing, credit, jury service, and federally-funded programs such as those
1579 for health and education, as well as in public places and spaces;

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1581 **Therefore Be It Resolved** that Democrats Abroad calls upon the State of Arkansas to
1582 repeal its discriminatory anti-transgender law; and

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Be It Further Resolved that DA condemns any and all anti-LGBTQ+ legislation in the United States; and

Be It Further Resolved that Democrats Abroad supports passage of the Equality Act and will mobilize the global membership to contact their Senators to ask them to support the Equality Act and emphasize the need for filibuster reform.⁵⁰

Co-sponsors: Brett McHargue (Vice Chair, DA UK); Joshua Van der Ploeg, (DPCA Voting Rep, DA UK); Fred Sprague (DPCA Voting Rep, DA UK); Nicole Belanger Satullo (DPCA Voting Rep, DA UK); Susan Alksnis (DPCA Voting Rep, DA Canada; Global Progressive Caucus Co-chair); David Mivasair (DPCA Voting Rep, DA Canada); Daniel James (Chair, DA Spain); Max Dunitz (DPCA Voting Rep, DA France); Antar Keith (DPCA Voting Rep, DA Germany); Tre' Shawn L. Griffin-Noordermeer (DPCA Voting Rep, DA Netherlands; Global LGBTQ+ Caucus Co-Chair); Cory J. Lemke (Chair, DA Republic of Korea; Global AAPI Caucus Co-Chair); Beth Landry (DPCA Voting Rep, DA Sweden); Juan Cerda (DPCA Voting Rep, DA France); John Lindsay (DPCA Voting Rep, DA UK); Wen-Wen Lindroth (Chair, DA UK); Joann Short (DPCA Voting Rep, DA Republic of Korea); Martha McDevitt-Pugh (DNC Member, Global LGBTQ+ Caucus Co-Chair, DA Netherlands); Candice Kerestan (DPCA Voting Rep, DA Germany); Monica Tanouye (DPCA Voting Rep, DA UK); Natalie Bachiri (Chair, DA Luxembourg); Caroline Rouchonnet (DPCA Voting Rep, DA UK); Stephanie Randall (DPCA Voting Rep, DA UK); Steve Nardi (Chair 2019-2021, DA Canada); Aaron Kruse (DNC Member, DA China); Jim Mercereau (DPCA Voting Rep, DA Spain); Hope Bradberry (DPCA Voting Rep, DA Mexico); Katie Solon (DNC Member, DA Germany).

⁵⁰ “and encourages our members to support it as well” was amended to read “and will mobilize the global membership to contact their Senators to ask them to support the Equality Act and emphasize the need for filibuster reform.”

1611 #22

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1616 *Proposed by: Chris Reilly (DPCA Voting Rep, DA Spain)*

1617 *Co-sponsors: listed below*

1618

1619 **Whereas** the relentless dissemination of fictions and lies by traditional and new-economy

1620 media companies, in return for profit and influence for the disproportionate benefit of a

1621 tiny group of unelected and unaccountable founders & directors, must be regulated and

1622 curtailed; and

1623

1624 **Whereas** conscious propagation of outright lies and disinformation must have significant

1625 penalties for owners and directors of said media companies; and

1626

1627 **Whereas** the ability of unelected and unaccountable individuals to influence the

1628 outcomes of democratic elections through deliberate targeted manipulation of facts,

1629 information, and fictional messages, aka “fake news”, must end;

1630

1631 **Therefore Be It Resolved** that Democrats Abroad supports measures to hold individual

1632 founders/owners/directors personally responsible for permitting use of their technology

1633 platforms and algorithms to amplify and disseminate lies, disinformation, and

1634 misinformation and/or to incite unlawful behavior; and

1635

1636 **Be It Further Resolved** that measures considered shall include enhanced government

1637 oversight; independent corporate advisory boards; algorithmic transparency; robust

1638 regulation relating to privacy, antitrust, and ownership; and restoration of the Fairness

1639 Doctrine.

1640

1641 *Co-sponsors: Katie Solon (DNC Member, DA Germany); Julia Bryan (Global Chair, DA Czech*

1642 *Rep); Maya Buchanan (DPCA Voting Rep, DA UK); Daniel James (Chair, DA Spain); Jim*

1643 *Mercereau (DPCA Voting Rep, DA Spain); Candice Kerestan (DPCA Voting Rep, DA Germany);*

1644 *Angela-Jo Touza-Mendoza (DPCA Voting Rep, DA Spain); Lissette Wright (International*

1645 *Treasurer, DA Canada); Laura Rowstofske-Reilly (DPCA Voter Rep, DA Spain); Natali Bachiri*

1646 *(Chair, DA Luxembourg); Angela Fobbs (DPCA Voting Rep, DA Germany); Dana Rawls (DA*

1647 *Australia, Global Black Caucus Cochair).*

1648

1649 References:

1650 Possible legislation>

1651 [https://www.axios.com/democrats-strike-back-at-big-tech-menu-c962b61d-1c1c-48cd-bc67-](https://www.axios.com/democrats-strike-back-at-big-tech-menu-c962b61d-1c1c-48cd-bc67-c5a52ea8bad6.html)

1652 [c5a52ea8bad6.html](https://www.axios.com/democrats-strike-back-at-big-tech-menu-c962b61d-1c1c-48cd-bc67-c5a52ea8bad6.html)

1653 Facebook – Role in Jan 6th and Covid misinformation>

1654 [https://www.forbes.com/sites/thomasbrewster/2021/02/07/sheryl-sandberg-downplayed-](https://www.forbes.com/sites/thomasbrewster/2021/02/07/sheryl-sandberg-downplayed-facebook-role-in-the-capitol-hill-siege-justice-department-files-tell-a-very-different-story/?sh=6fa411f510b3)

1655 [facebook-role-in-the-capitol-hill-siege-justice-department-files-tell-a-very-different-](https://www.forbes.com/sites/thomasbrewster/2021/02/07/sheryl-sandberg-downplayed-facebook-role-in-the-capitol-hill-siege-justice-department-files-tell-a-very-different-story/?sh=6fa411f510b3)

1656 [story/?sh=6fa411f510b3](https://www.forbes.com/sites/thomasbrewster/2021/02/07/sheryl-sandberg-downplayed-facebook-role-in-the-capitol-hill-siege-justice-department-files-tell-a-very-different-story/?sh=6fa411f510b3)

1657 [https://www.theguardian.com/technology/2021/apr/11/facebook-still-too-slow-to-act-on-groups-](https://www.theguardian.com/technology/2021/apr/11/facebook-still-too-slow-to-act-on-groups-profiting-from-covid-conspiracy-theories)

1658 [profiting-from-covid-conspiracy-theories](https://www.theguardian.com/technology/2021/apr/11/facebook-still-too-slow-to-act-on-groups-profiting-from-covid-conspiracy-theories)

1659 Stop Hate For Profit Campaign> <https://www.stopateforprofit.org>

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1661 #23

1662 **In Support of Non-Citizen Service Members, their Families,**
1663 **Deported Veterans, and H.R. 1182:**
1664 **the Veterans Deportation Prevention and Reform Act**

1665 **ADOPTED**

1666 *Proposed by: Erin Watson, DA ROK, Chair 2019-2021; Global VMF Caucus Co-Chair)*

1667 *Author: Anthony "Mike" Nitz (DA Vietnam)*

1668 *Co-sponsors: listed below*

1669

1670 **Whereas** more than 44,000 immigrants joined the U.S. Armed Forces during 2013-2018
1671 with the promise of citizenship for themselves and their families; and

1672

1673 **Whereas** the Government Accountability Office (GAO) reported in 2019 that, during the
1674 same period, Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) targeted approximately 250
1675 veterans for removal from the country and ordered 115 of them removed; and

1676

1677 **Whereas** the GAO report noted that some non-citizen veterans may have been ordered
1678 removed despite ICE policies meant to give them special consideration; and

1679

1680 **Whereas** ICE has no policy for identifying and documenting all veterans it encounters,
1681 so the actual number targeted and removed is possibly much higher; and

1682

1683 **Whereas** policy changes made by the Dept. of Defense (DoD) and U.S. Citizenship and
1684 Immigration Services (USCIS) made naturalization for service members and their
1685 families more difficult; for example: 1) recruits were no longer eligible for naturalization
1686 during basic training; 2) non-citizen service members' children born at duty stations
1687 abroad were no longer considered residents and thus no longer gained automatic
1688 citizenship; and 3) service members' non-citizen children who lived with them at duty
1689 stations abroad were no longer considered U.S. residents, and thus no longer gained
1690 residency time towards citizenship; and

1691

1692 **Whereas** Rep. Mark Takano (D, CA-41) has introduced HR 1182, the "*Veteran*
1693 *Deportation Prevention and Reform Act*", which would: 1) require ICE to properly
1694 identify service members, veterans, and covered family members during removal
1695 proceedings; 2) establish best practices and require annual training for ICE personnel on
1696 maintaining proper data both on veterans in removal proceedings and on those who have
1697 been removed; 3) create a streamlined program for citizenship through military service
1698 such that a) any eligible non-citizen who serves on active duty in the U.S. Armed Forces,
1699 and their spouse and minor children, shall be naturalized if they submit an application,
1700 and b) recruiters shall receive thorough training on these provisions, including points of
1701 contact within the Dept. of Homeland Security for resolving emergency situations; and 4)
1702 create a program for the return of eligible deported veterans, and adjust the immigration
1703 status of non-citizen veterans to non-citizen lawfully admitted for permanent residence;
1704 and

1705

1706 **Whereas** the DA 2020 Platform states: 1) “We fully support the members of our armed
1707 forces, whose service and dedication deserve our deepest respect and gratitude, as do the
1708 contributions and sacrifices of their families;” 2) “Families belong together; reunited
1709 families create stable communities. Immigration policy that separates family members
1710 creates trauma, compromising mental health, and prevents immigrants from building a
1711 stable life in the U.S.,” and 3) “Immigrants must be granted the American citizenship that
1712 was promised them in return for military service; we condemn their unjustified
1713 deportation, and we condemn denying citizenship rights to dependents of U.S. personnel
1714 deployed abroad;” and

1715
1716 **Whereas** codification into law of a streamlined path to naturalization for non-citizen
1717 service members and their spouses and children regardless of duty location would prevent
1718 the political “ping pong” of USCIS policies when the White House changes parties and
1719 would: 1) prevent separation of military families, as became necessary for non-citizen
1720 children to earn residency time; and 2) right the wrong of the U.S. Government not
1721 fulfilling its citizenship promises to non-citizen service members and their families; and
1722

1723 **Whereas** allowing for the return of eligible deported veterans and changing the
1724 immigration status of non-citizen veterans to non-citizen lawfully admitted for permanent
1725 residence would: 1) prevent the deportation of veterans outside of the most egregious
1726 cases, and 2) right the wrong of the U.S. Government deporting veterans for non-violent
1727 infractions;

1728
1729 **Therefore Be It Resolved** that Democrats Abroad supports: a streamlined path to
1730 naturalization for service members and their families that does not punish being stationed
1731 abroad; the return of most deported veterans to the United States; and the adjustment of
1732 immigration status of non-citizen veterans to non-citizen lawfully admitted for permanent
1733 residence; and

1734
1735 **Be It Further Resolved** that DA shall create a task force for supporting the passage of
1736 H.R. 1182, the Veteran Deportation Prevention and Reform Act.

1737
1738 *Co-sponsors: Susan Alksnis (DA Canada, DPCA Voting Rep; Global Progressive Caucus Co-*
1739 *Chair); Kim Antonsen (DA Panama, Chair); Natalie Bachiri (DA Luxembourg, Chair); Kenton*
1740 *Barnes (DA Germany, Chair); Kendra Borgen (DA NL, Chair); John Baumlin (DA Japan,*
1741 *Chair); Greg Dolezal (DA Vietnam, Chair); Reno Domenico (DA Ukraine, Acting Chair); Max*
1742 *Dunitz (DA France, DPCA Voting Rep); Kee Evans (DA Guatemala, Chair); Angela Fobbs (DA*
1743 *Germany, DPCA Voting Rep; Global Black Caucus Chair); Jose Miguel Madrigal (DA Costa*
1744 *Rica, DPCA Voting Rep); Antar Keith (DA Germany, DPCA Voting Rep); Candice Kerestan (DA*
1745 *Germany, DPCA Voting Rep); Cory Lemke (DA South Korea, Chair; Global AAPI Caucus Co-*
1746 *Chair); Anya Leonhard (DA Germany, DPCA Voting Rep); Emily Lines (DA Germany, Vice*
1747 *Chair; Global AAPI Caucus Co-Chair); David Mivasair (DA Canada, DPCA Voting Rep); Steve*
1748 *Nardi (DA Canada, Chair 2019-2021); Quyen Nguyen (DA Columbia, Chair); Laura Rostowfske*
1749 *Reilly (DA Spain, DPCA Voting Rep); LeeAnn Sandler (DA Israel, DPCA Voting Rep); Robert*
1750 *Scott (DA Germany, DPCA Voting Rep); Ada Shen (DA France, DPCA Voting Rep); Joann Short*
1751 *(DA ROK, DPCA Voting Rep); Christine Valverde (DA New Zealand, Chair); Meredith Wheeler*
1752 *(DA France, DPCA Voting Rep); Quaide Williams (DA Germany, DPCA Voting Rep; EMEA*

1753 Deputy RVC); Katie Solon (DA Germany, DNC Member); Amerika Grewal (DA Fiji; Global
1754 Hispanic Caucus Chair; A/P Deputy RVC).

1755
1756

Sources

- 1757 1: [Government Accountability Office Report on Immigration Enforcement, June 2019](#)
1758 2: [USCIS Policy Manual memos](#)
1759 3: [Policy change updating residency definitions for children of US service members stationed](#)
1760 [overseas](#)
1761 4: [INA 320](#)
1762 5: [INA 322](#)
1763 6: [Text of HR 1182](#)

1764

Appendix and Amplifying Information

1765

Terminology

- 1766 ○ GAO: Government Accountability Office
1767 ○ ICE: U.S. Immigration and Citizenship Enforcement
1768 ○ DoD: Department of Defense
1769 ○ USCIS: U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services
1770 ○ MEPS: Military Entrance Processing Station
1771 ○ MAVNI: Military Accessions Vital to National Interest (a category of recruit)
1772 ○ Removal: Deportation
1773 ○ Naturalization: Admittance of a foreign national to citizenship of the United States
1774 ○ Veteran: A person who has served as a member of the Armed Forces who was discharged
1775 or released under conditions other than dishonorable.
1776 ○ Covered family member: The non-citizen spouse or non-citizen minor child of a member of
1777 the Armed Forces or a veteran.
1778 ○ Eligible veterans (for return to the U.S.): A non-citizen veteran who was not deported,
1779 determined inadmissible, or deportable because of a conviction for a crime of violence or a
1780 crime that endangers the national security of the United States for which the veteran has
1781 served a term of imprisonment of at least 5 years. Eligibility waivers are defined under
1782 Section 11(c)(e)(2).
1783 ○ Crime of violence: An offense that is not a purely political offense and for which a term of
1784 imprisonment of at least 5 years has been served.
1785 ○ Aggravated felony: A term used to describe a category of offenses carrying particularly
1786 harsh immigration consequences for non-citizens convicted of such crimes. An aggravated
1787 felony does not require the crime to be “aggravated” or a “felony” to qualify. Instead, an
1788 “aggravated felony” is an offense that Congress sees fit to label as such and today includes
1789 many nonviolent and potentially minor offenses. Definition from the American
1790 Immigration Council.

1791

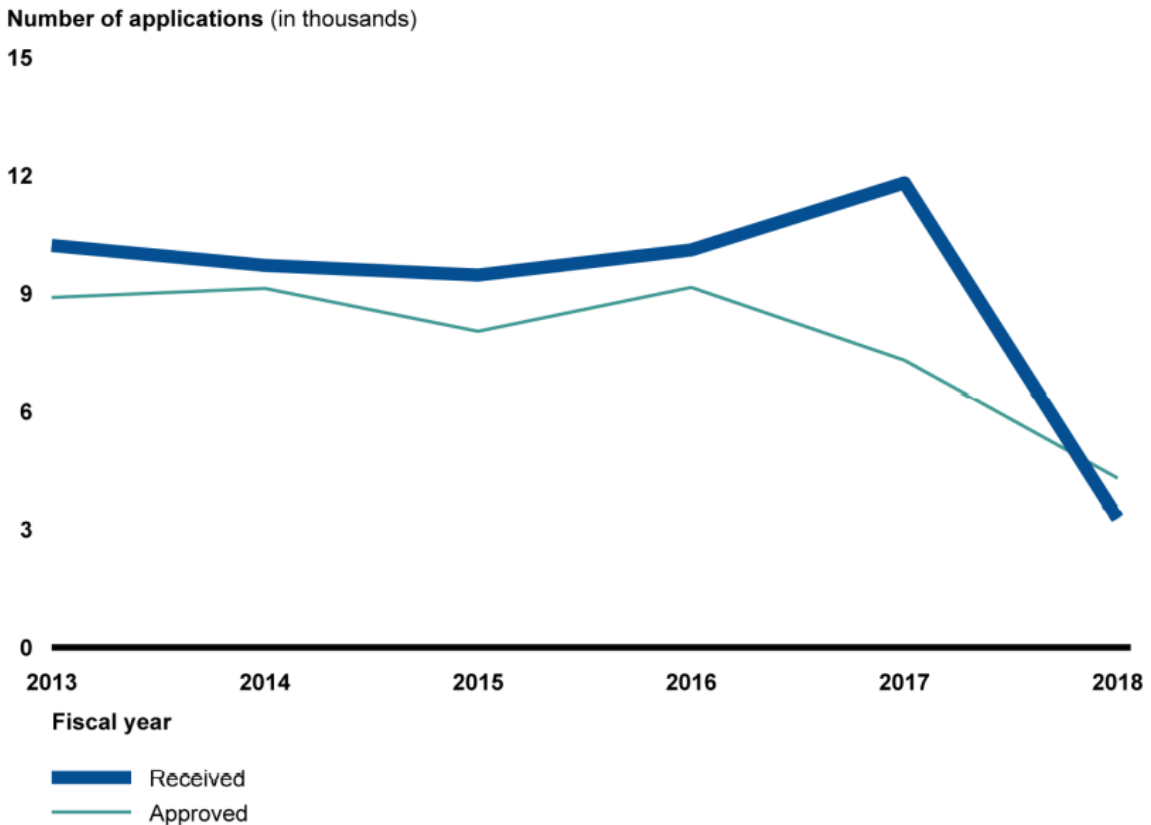
Why Does This Matter?

- 1792
1793 ■ According to the 2018-19 report¹ published by the Government Accountability Office
1794 (GAO), more than 44,000 non-citizens enlisted or were appointed in the U.S. military
1795 between 2013 and 2018. It found that:
1796 ■ U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) does not consistently adhere to its
1797 policies for handling cases of potentially removable veterans and does not consistently
1798 identify and track such veterans, defined as:
1799 ■ At a minimum, considering the veteran’s overall criminal history, evidence of
1800 rehabilitation, family and financial ties to the United States, employment history, health,

1801 community service, duty status (active or reserve), assignment to a war zone, number of
1802 years in service, and decorations awarded.

- 1803 ▪ Because ICE did not consistently follow its own procedures, some veterans who were
1804 deported may not have received the level of review and approval that ICE has determined
1805 is appropriate for cases involving veterans.
- 1806 ▪ ICE has not developed a policy to identify and document all veterans it encounters.
- 1807 ▪ ICE does not maintain complete electronic data on veterans who have been placed in
1808 removal proceedings or removed.
- 1809 ▪ Available data indicated that approximately 250 veterans were placed in removal
1810 proceedings or removed from the United States from fiscal years 2013 through 2018, but
1811 that:
- 1812 ▪ The information available was limited in scope and incomplete such that there could be
1813 many more veterans who were placed in removal proceedings or removed between 2013
1814 and 2018.
- 1815 ▪ By the end of fiscal year 2018, about 115 of these 250 veterans had been ordered removed
1816 from the United States and 92 of those 115 had been removed.
- 1817 ▪ The six most common countries of nationality for veterans targeted for deportation were
1818 Mexico (40), Jamaica (30), El Salvador (about 10), Trinidad and Tobago (about 10),
1819 Germany (about 10), and Guatemala (about 10).
- 1820 ▪ For the 87 deported veterans whose ICE files identified criminal charges, 48 of those
1821 charges were drug or theft-related convictions that were likely non-violent in nature.
- 1822 ▪ While U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) and the Department of Defense
1823 (DoD) have policies facilitating the naturalization of noncitizen service members and
1824 veterans, the number of service members applying for naturalization has decreased, such
1825 that:
- 1826 ▪ The number of non-citizen service members who applied for naturalization decreased by
1827 72% between fiscal years 2017 and 2018 from 11,812 applications in fiscal year 2017 to
1828 just 3,291 applications in fiscal year 2018.

Figure 2: Military Naturalization Applications U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) Received and Approved, Fiscal Years 2013 through 2018



Source: GAO analysis of U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) data. | GAO-19-416

Note: According to USCIS officials, the number of applications approved in 2018 exceeded the number of applications submitted because USCIS was processing applications submitted in prior fiscal years.

- 1829 ■
- 1830 ■ A series of changes to USCIS and DoD policy made applications for naturalization more
- 1831 burdensome for some service members and may have caused some of the decrease in
- 1832 naturalization applications, namely:
- 1833 ■ In July 2017, USCIS determined that completion of DoD background checks that were
- 1834 implemented in 2016 were relevant to MAVNI recruits' eligibility for naturalization and
- 1835 thus began requiring said recruits to complete all required DoD background checks before
- 1836 USCIS would interview them for military naturalization.
- 1837 ■ In October 2017, the DoD increased the time non-citizens must serve before their
- 1838 honorable service will be certified for naturalization purposes to completion of security
- 1839 screening, basic training, and 180 days of service. Before, recruits were typically able to
- 1840 naturalize during basic training.
- 1841 ■ In January 2018, USCIS ended its policy of allowing naturalization of new enlistees at
- 1842 basic training sites because the October 2017 changes to DoD policy made new recruits no
- 1843 longer eligible for naturalization.
- 1844 ■ USCIS's processing time for military naturalizations increased from an average of 5.4
- 1845 months in fiscal year 2017 to 12.5 months in fiscal year 2018.

- 1846 ▪ While deportation alone does not affect VA benefits and services eligibility, veterans living
- 1847 abroad are eligible for fewer benefits and services than those living in the United States,
- 1848 namely:
- 1849 ▪ Veterans living abroad are not eligible to receive comprehensive health care, but instead
- 1850 may only receive reimbursement for treatment of service-connected conditions.
- 1851 ▪ Veterans living abroad may only utilize education benefits at VA-approved higher
- 1852 education programs where the veteran will earn a standard college degree or its equivalent.
- 1853 In the states, veterans are able to use education benefits for apprenticeships and other job
- 1854 training opportunities as well.
- 1855 ▪ Veterans living abroad are not as broadly eligible for vocational rehabilitation and
- 1856 employment services such as a plan for extended evaluation due to the need for medical
- 1857 referrals and intensive case management requirements that must take place within the
- 1858 United States.
- 1859 ▪ Veterans are only eligible for VA home loans in the United States or its territories or
- 1860 possessions.
- 1861 ▪ Veterans removed from the United States and barred from returning are unable to attend
- 1862 hearings to appeal a VA disability rating decision because these hearings are conducted
- 1863 exclusively within the United States.
- 1864 ○ USCIS memos² from August 28th, 2019 and October 29th, 2019 updated the requirements
- 1865 for residency in statutory provisions related to citizenship, such that:
- 1866 ▪ Non-citizen service members who adopt or have children while serving abroad would no
- 1867 longer have their children be eligible for automatic citizenship and instead must apply for
- 1868 citizenship for their children.
- 1869 ▪ Non-citizen children³ of service members do not qualify as residing within the United
- 1870 States while living with parents stationed abroad for the purpose of naturalization under
- 1871 INA 320⁴.
- 1872 ▪ Non-citizen children of service members may still apply for naturalization under INA 322⁵,
- 1873 but they must reside with a U.S. citizen parent who has resided within the United States for
- 1874 at least 5 years to be eligible. Non-citizen service members cannot apply for citizenship for
- 1875 their children via this method, and service members who already have teenage children
- 1876 when they join would be unable to apply while stationed abroad.
- 1877

1878 **What Primary Things Does the “Veteran Deportation Prevention and Reform Act”**

1879 **Accomplish?**

- 1880 ○ Requires ICE to properly identify whether an individual is a service member, veteran, or
- 1881 covered family member during removal proceedings.
- 1882 ○ Requires annual training for ICE on maintaining proper data on veterans in removal
- 1883 proceedings, veterans who have been removed, and establishing best practices for
- 1884 addressing issues related to the removal of veterans.
- 1885 ○ Initiates a study and subsequent report on non-citizen veterans removed from the United
- 1886 States.
- 1887 ○ Creates a Military Family Immigration Advisory Committee to provide recommendations
- 1888 to the Secretary of Homeland Security and the Attorney General on the exercise of
- 1889 prosecutorial discretion in cases involving removal proceedings of service members,
- 1890 veterans, and covered family members.
- 1891 ○ Requires that a list of countries that refuse to repatriate nationals who have enlisted or been
- 1892 appointed in the U.S. Armed Forces be compiled and updated annually.
- 1893 ○ Creates a program of citizenship through military service, such that:

- 1894 ▪ Any individual non-citizen who serves on active duty in the Armed Forces and the non-
- 1895 citizen spouse and non-citizen minor child of said service member shall be naturalized if
- 1896 they apply for naturalization and are not otherwise ineligible for citizenship, and
- 1897 ▪ All recruiters in the Armed Forces receive training regarding the steps for citizenship for
- 1898 non-citizen service members, limitations on the path to citizenship for family members of
- 1899 said service members, and points of contact within the Department of Homeland Security
- 1900 to resolve emergency immigration-related situations for these families.
- 1901 ○ Ensures that each MEPS has an employee of USCIS or appropriate service member trained
- 1902 in pertinent immigration laws whose responsibility will be to inform non-citizen recruits of
- 1903 the process for naturalization.
- 1904 ○ Creates a program for the return of eligible veterans removed from the United States and
- 1905 adjustment of immigration status for non-citizen veterans to that of a non-citizen lawfully
- 1906 admitted for permanent residence, and
- 1907 ○ Establishes a new definition of good moral character for applications of citizenship from
- 1908 veterans who served honorably that would no longer exclude veterans solely on the
- 1909 grounds of conviction of an aggravated felony.

1910

1911 **More Reading**

- 1912 ○ [Article](#) on automatic citizenship for children of non-citizen troops abroad
- 1913 ○ [Article](#) on Trump administration policies that opened the doors for non-citizen service
- 1914 members, their families, and veterans to be deported
- 1915 ○ [Article](#) on policy changes that led to Military Accessions Vital to National Interest
- 1916 (MAVNI) recruits being “weeded out”
- 1917 ○ [Article](#) on deported veterans

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#24

Supporting S.1520 the Military Justice Improvement and Increasing Prevention Act to Protect Military Women & Men from Sexual Harassment & Assault

ADOPTED

Proposed by: Erin Watson (DA ROK, Chair 2019-2021), Constance Borde (DA France, DPCA Voting Rep) and (Author) Marnie Delaney (DA France, Global Women's Caucus Violence Against Women team lead)

Co-sponsors: listed below

Whereas for decades the U.S. military has been plagued by sexual assault, harassment, and victim retribution if reported; and

Whereas the DA Platform already supports protecting sexual assault survivors and removing prosecutions from the chain of command; and

Whereas the rate of sexual assault and rape of female service members increased by 50% from 2016 to 2018;⁽¹⁾ and

Whereas it is estimated that 7500 male service members were sexually assaulted or raped in 2018;⁽²⁾ and

Whereas estimates of sexual assault at military service academies have increased by 50% since 2014;⁽³⁾ and

Whereas male LGBTQ+ service members experience an elevated risk of sexual and stalking victimization;⁽⁵⁾ and

Whereas 59% of women who reported a penetrative sexual assault were assaulted by someone with a higher rank than them, including 24% by someone in their chain of command;⁽⁶⁾ and

Whereas 76% of military victims in 2018 did not report the assault to military authorities;⁽⁷⁾ and

Whereas, although there are no estimates of the number of civilians sexually assaulted by military members, about 20% of all reports made to the military are by civilians, meaning there are likely thousands of civilians who are victims of military sexual assault;⁽⁸⁾ and

Whereas the Department of Defense announced a record number of reported sexual assaults against service members in 2019, of 5,699 reports only 363 (6.4%) were tried by courts martial, resulting in only 138 (2.4%) convictions;⁽⁹⁾ and

Whereas military women who report sexual assault are twelve times as likely to experience retaliation than to see their attacker convicted;⁽¹⁰⁾ and

1970 **Whereas** exposure to sexual assault doubled the odds that a service member would leave
1971 the military within 28 months;⁽¹¹⁾ and

1972
1973 **Whereas** we can appreciate and commend attempts made via hundreds of internal and
1974 legislative mandates, recommendations, and personnel requirements, nevertheless they
1975 have not reduced the rate of sexual assault or increased the justice delivered to survivors;
1976 and

1977
1978 **Whereas** the women and men who bravely serve our country deserve a workplace free
1979 from sexual harassment, abuse, and violence; and

1980
1981 **Whereas** the most critical reform reflected in Senator Kirsten Gillibrand’s proposed
1982 Military Justice Improvement and Increasing Prevention Act (S.1520), would be to
1983 empower independent military prosecutors, rather than commanders, with the authority to
1984 make prosecutorial decisions for serious criminal accusations including rape, murder,
1985 sexual assault, and domestic abuse (while leaving uniquely military crimes in the hands
1986 of commanders); and

1987
1988 **Whereas** empowering independent military prosecutors would free commanders of
1989 conflicting responsibilities, improve their ability to maintain good order and discipline,
1990 prevent sexual harassment, strengthen national security, and better enable the military to
1991 recruit, retain, and promote the nation’s best and brightest; and

1992
1993 **Whereas** a substantial number of DA’s members are veterans or active service military,
1994 their families or others working to support the military abroad; and

1995
1996 **Whereas** good order and the effective working of the military justice system have a
1997 direct impact on the health and safety of these members; and

1998
1999 **Whereas** the Military Justice Improvement and Increasing Prevention Act would provide
2000 a fundamental solution to the long-standing inadequacy of the current system for
2001 addressing cases of sexual violence;

2002
2003 **Therefore Be It Resolved** that Democrats Abroad supports and urges swift passage of
2004 S.1520 – the Military Justice Improvement and Increasing Prevention Act – or similar
2005 legislation.

2006
2007

2008 (1) (2) (3) (5) (6) (7) (8) (9) Statistics from the 2016-2019 DoD SAPRO Reports and their
2009 appendices/annexes <https://www.sapr.mil/reports>

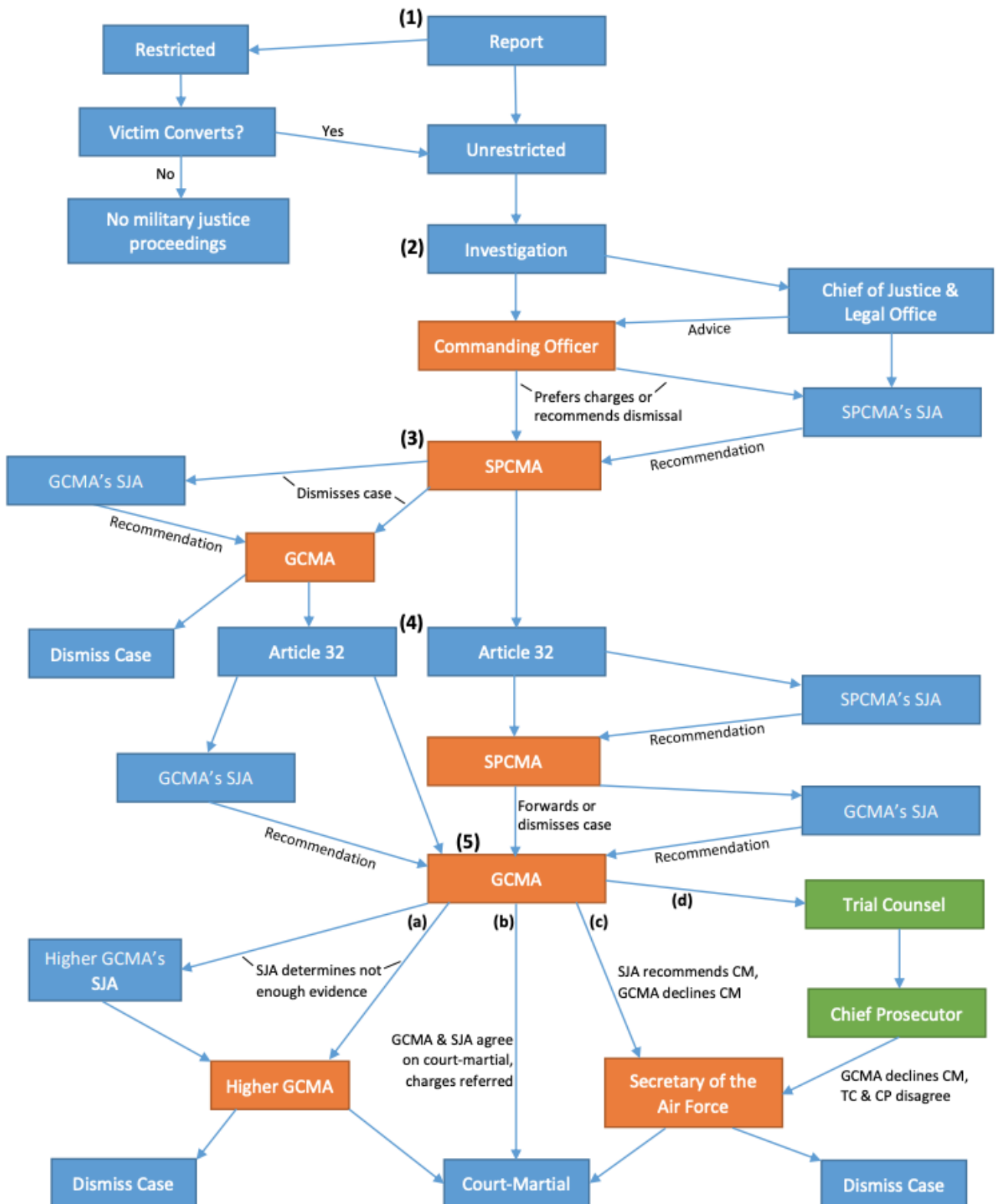
2010 (10) Human Rights Watch Study (2015) Embattled Retaliation Against Sexual Assault Survivors
2011 in the U.S. Military: [https://www.protectourdefenders.com/press-release-protect-our-defenders-](https://www.protectourdefenders.com/press-release-protect-our-defenders-and-human-rights-watch-release-report-on-retaliation-of-military-sexual-assault-survivors/)
2012 [and-human-rights-watch-release-report-on-retaliation-of-military-sexual-assault-survivors/](https://www.protectourdefenders.com/press-release-protect-our-defenders-and-human-rights-watch-release-report-on-retaliation-of-military-sexual-assault-survivors/)

2013 (11) Rand Corporation Military Workplace Study 2014 Andrew R. Morral et.al. “Effects of
2014 Sexual Assault and Sexual Harassment on Separation from the U.S. Military

2015

2016 Co-sponsors: Martha McDevitt-Pugh (DA Netherlands, DNC Member; Global LGBTQ+ Caucus
2017 Co-Chair); Tre' Shawn L. Griffin-Noordermeer (DA Netherlands, DPCA Voting Rep; Global
2018 LGBTQ+ Caucus Co-Chair); Denise Roig, (DA Canada, DPCA Voting Rep); Meredith Wheeler
2019 (DA France, DPCA Voting Rep); Katie Solon (DA Germany, DNC Member); Will Bakker (DA
2020 Luxembourg, Regional Vice Chair EMEA); Anna Marie Mattson (DA France, DPCA Voting Rep
2021 2019-2021); Susan Fitoussi, (DA France, DPCA Voting Rep Alternate); Rajib Sengupta (DA
2022 India, Vice Chair); Cory Lemke (DA ROK, Vice Chair; Global AAPI Caucus Co-Chair); Shari
2023 Temple (DA Germany, DPCA Voting Rep; Interim Global Secretary); Christina Skovsgaard (DA
2024 Norway, Vice Chair); Max Dunitz (DA France, DPCA Voting Rep); Candice Kerestan (DA
2025 Germany, DPCA Voting Rep); Robert J. Petrusa (DA Canada, DPCA Voting Rep); Antar Keith
2026 (DA Germany, DPCA Voting Rep); Patrick Cranley (DA China, Vice Chair); Kathryn Tullos (DA
2027 Spain, Vice Chair); Emily Lines (DA Germany, Vice Chair; Global AAPI Caucus Co-Chair);
2028 Aaron Kruse (DA China, DNC Member); Matthew Goldman (DA Belgium, DPCA Voting Rep);
2029 Ken Sherman (DA Canada, DNC Member); Dani Follett (DA France, First Vice Chair); Robert
2030 Scott (DA Germany, DPCA Voting Rep); Kee Adams Evans (DA Guatemala, Chair); Vanessa
2031 Moore (DA Singapore, Chair); Steve Nardi (DA Canada, Chair 2019-2021); Natalie Bachiri (DA
2032 Luxembourg, Chair); Connie Borde, (DA France, DPCA Voting Rep); and the Global Women's
2033 Caucus Steering Committee (Ann Hesse, Chair); the Global Black Caucus Steering
2034 Committee (Angela Fobbs, Chair).
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Current Command-Based Military Justice Process Air Force - Penetrative Sexual Assaults



2044 #26

Advocating Against Prison Gerrymandering

ADOPTED

2045
2046
2047 *Proposed by: Maya Buchanan (DA UK, DPCA Voting Rep); Adrienne Johnson (DA UK, DPCA*
2048 *Voting Rep); Wen-Wen Lindroth (DA UK, Chair); Julia Bryan (DA CZ, DA Global*
2049 *Chair)*

2050 *Co-sponsors: listed below*

2051

2052 **Whereas** the 2020 DA Platform recognized that prison gerrymandering is an unfair
2053 practice damaging to the communities and districts from which prisoners come, in terms
2054 of both democratic representation and the deprivation in under-served communities of
2055 vital resources; and

2056

2057 **Whereas** prison gerrymandering is especially salient as we approach the once-every-ten-
2058 years redistricting process; and

2059

2060 **Whereas** prison gerrymandering compounds negative consequences for felons, who
2061 often struggle to be re-enfranchised after completing their sentences and in communities
2062 where there's often too little local funding for re-entry support;

2063

2064 **Whereas** prison gerrymandering compounds the negative impacts of Congressional
2065 gerrymandering;

2066

2067 **Therefore Be It Resolved** that, consistent with H.R. 1, the *For The People Act*, passed so
2068 far by the House of Representatives, Democrats Abroad urges both the Census Bureau
2069 and State government agencies to count prisoners at their last residence before
2070 incarceration.

2071

2072 *Co-sponsors: Chris Reilly (DA Spain, DPCA Voting Rep), Meredith Wheeler (DA*
2073 *France, DPCA Voting Rep), Steve Nardi (DA Canada, 2019-2021 Chair), Josh Van der Ploeg*
2074 *(DA UK, DPCA Voting Rep), Aaron Kruse (DA Singapore, DNC Member),*
2075 *Caroline Ruchonnet (DA UK, DPCA Voting Rep), Jim Christiansen (DA France, DPCA*
2076 *Voting Rep), David Mivasair (DA Canada, DPCA Voting Rep), Stephanie Randall (DA*
2077 *UK, DPCA Voting Rep), John Lindsay (DA UK, DPCA Voting Rep), Austin Allaire*
2078 *(DA UK, DPCA Voting Rep), Martha McDevitt-Pugh (DA Netherlands, DNC Member),*
2079 *Natalie Bachiri (DA Luxembourg, Chair), Kim Antonsen (DA Panama, Chair), Kendra*
2080 *Borgen (DA Netherlands, Chair), Heather Stone (DA Israel, Executive Vice Chair), Ellie*
2081 *Wallis (DA Ecuador, Vice Chair), Angie Vachio (DA Costa Rica, Vice Chair), Ada Shen*
2082 *(DA France, DPCA Voting Rep), Max Dunitz (DA France, DPCA Voting Rep), Rajib Sengupta*
2083 *(DA India, Vice Chair), Tre' Shawn L. Griffin-Noordermeer (DA Netherlands, DPCA Voting*
2084 *Rep), Christine Valverde (DA New Zealand, Chairperson); Katie Solon (DA Germany, DNC*
2085 *Member), Kathryn Tullos (DA Spain, Vice Chair); Antar Keith (DA Germany, DPCA Voting*
2086 *Rep); Bill Borden (DA Sweden, DPCA Voting Rep).*

2087

2088 **What is Prison Gerrymandering?** <https://www.prisonersofthecensus.org/impact.html>

2089 **State legislation** <https://www.prisonersofthecensus.org/legislation.html#pending>

2090 **Other recent articles:**

2091 <https://www.nytimes.com/2021/04/11/opinion/prison-gerrymandering-census.html>

2092 [https://www.pbs.org/newshour/economy/the-u-s-spends-billions-to-lock-people-up-but-](https://www.pbs.org/newshour/economy/the-u-s-spends-billions-to-lock-people-up-but-very-little-to-help-them-once-theyre-released)

2093 [very-little-to-help-them-once-theyre-released](https://www.pbs.org/newshour/economy/the-u-s-spends-billions-to-lock-people-up-but-very-little-to-help-them-once-theyre-released)

2094

2095 **H.R. 1, Section 2701 (g)(1) provides:** “Effective beginning with the 2020 decennial

2096 census of population, in taking any tabulation of total population by States under

2097 subsection (a) for purposes of the apportionment of Representatives in Congress among

2098 the several States, the Secretary shall, with respect to an individual incarcerated in a

2099 State, Federal, county, or municipal correctional center as of the date on which such

2100 census is taken, attribute such individual to such individual’s last place of residence

2101 before incarceration.

2102 [https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-](https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-bill/1/text#tocH1A2DB57FE627439BAF8FCDA7D46EA01A)

2103 [bill/1/text#tocH1A2DB57FE627439BAF8FCDA7D46EA01A](https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-bill/1/text#tocH1A2DB57FE627439BAF8FCDA7D46EA01A)

2104

2105 Information and action from the NAACP: [https://www.naacpldf.org/case-issue/prison-](https://www.naacpldf.org/case-issue/prison-basedgerrymandering-reform/)

2106 [basedgerrymandering-reform/](https://www.naacpldf.org/case-issue/prison-basedgerrymandering-reform/)

2107

2108 Solutions to be enacted at the State level:

2109 <https://www.prisonersofthecensus.org/solutions.html>

2110

2111 A key court case: [https://www.brennancenter.org/legal-work/national-association-](https://www.brennancenter.org/legal-work/national-association-advancementcolored-people-et-al-v-merrill-et-al)

2112 [advancementcolored-people-et-al-v-merrill-et-al](https://www.brennancenter.org/legal-work/national-association-advancementcolored-people-et-al-v-merrill-et-al)

2113

2114 Case studies and analyses: <https://harvardpolitics.com/united-states/48325/>

2115

2116 The Census and prisoners:

2117 2010 [https://www.pewsocialtrends.org/2010/02/11/counting-prisoners-in-the-2010-](https://www.pewsocialtrends.org/2010/02/11/counting-prisoners-in-the-2010-census/)

2118 [census/](https://www.pewsocialtrends.org/2010/02/11/counting-prisoners-in-the-2010-census/) 2018 [https://www2.census.gov/programs-surveys/decennial/2020/program-](https://www2.census.gov/programs-surveys/decennial/2020/program-management/memoseries/2020-memo-2018_04.pdf)

2119 [management/memoseries/2020-memo-2018_04.pdf](https://www2.census.gov/programs-surveys/decennial/2020/program-management/memoseries/2020-memo-2018_04.pdf)

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2121 _____

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2124 [1] During 1992 -1994, 83 of 138 new prisons were built in rural areas.:

2125 <https://harvardpolitics.com/united-states/48325>

2126

2127 [2] Time served in state prison, 2016: <https://www.bjs.gov/content/pub/pdf/tssp16.pdf> and in

2128 federal prison, 2015:

2129 [https://www.pewtrusts.org/~media/assets/2015/11/prison_time_surges_for_federal_inma-](https://www.pewtrusts.org/~media/assets/2015/11/prison_time_surges_for_federal_inmates.pdf)

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2134 **Briefing Notes Prison gerrymandering:**

2135 Supplementary information in support of the Resolution to campaign against prison

2136 gerrymandering

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2138 **I. Definitions and the issues at stake:**

2139 Prison gerrymandering occurs when the Census Bureau counts prisoners as residents of
2140 the prisons where they are incarcerated rather than at their pre-incarceration addresses
2141 and State legislatures use this Census data to draw their district maps.

2142 These practices artificially inflate the voting power of the districts where prisons are
2143 located, skewing district maps. In all but two states (Maine and Vermont), prisoners are
2144 not allowed to vote. A significant number of correctional facilities are located in
2145 comparatively rural areas that are largely Republican and predominantly white, while
2146 prisoners tend to hail from urban, often Democratic communities, and are
2147 disproportionately minorities.

2148 It is wrong to count prisoners as residents of communities whose demographic makeup
2149 differs from the inmates' home communities. Inflating the power of residents in districts
2150 with prisons violates the constitutional principle of "one person, one vote."

2151

2152 **II. Impacts**

2153 **A. Unequal voting power at the state and local level between districts housing prisons and**
2154 **those without prisons**

2155 Districts with prisons receive enhanced representation. The relatively small populations
2156 of rural cities and towns mean that the placement of a single prison can have a significant
2157 impact on their population.

2158 In many rural counties and city governments, substantial portions of individual districts
2159 consist of incarcerated people, not actual residents. For example, after the 2010 Census it
2160 was found that in Calhoun County in Florida, 48% of the people in District 4 were
2161 incarcerated at the Calhoun Correctional Institute, so residents of District 4 wielded
2162 almost twice as much voting weight as people elsewhere in the county, state, and country
2163 [1]. Since these prisoners cannot vote elected officials do not have to be accountable to
2164 them.

2165 Using prisons to enhance votes in individual districts within one region cumulatively
2166 gives the whole region additional representation.

2167 **B. Impacts for voting and resources in the districts where prisoners permanently reside:**

2168 Prison gerrymandering damages the communities and districts where prisoners and their
2169 families reside, both in terms of democratic representation and in terms of deprivation of
2170 already under-served communities of vital resources, because the Census is also used as a
2171 basis for the allocation of federal resources for services such as healthcare, education, etc.
2172 Prison populations are often disproportionately non-white, so prison gerrymandering
2173 results in voting discrimination on the basis of race or color. While the average prison
2174 sentence for an African American male convicted of a felony is 3.5 years (20% higher
2175 than the national average), the impact on the community and district where the prisoners
2176 lived pre-incarceration is cumulative [2].

2177 **C. Legal bases for opposing to prison gerrymandering**

2178 Prison gerrymandering violates the Constitutional guarantee of "one person one vote."

2179 The Supreme Court of the United States has held that voting districts should contain
2180 roughly equal numbers of people to ensure the 14th Amendment guarantee of equal rights
2181 for all, and "one person, one vote."

2182 Prison gerrymandering also violates Section 2 of the Voting Rights Act, which provides
2183 that minority voters must have an equal opportunity to elect candidates of their choice,
2184 which can't be achieved if the voting power of the majority is inflated by prison
2185 gerrymandering.

2186

2187 III. Why DA should take a stand

2188 Prison gerrymandering, alongside other forms of gerrymandering and voter suppression,
2189 shifts power to conservative, rural areas, giving Republicans an unfair advantage [3], and
2190 perpetuates a historical pattern of disenfranchisement of black voters and other people of
2191 color. In addition, it has pernicious effects on state elections, which enable Republicans
2192 to control the voting process and continue a vicious cycle of voter suppression and
2193 disenfranchisement.

2194 The citizens and communities most harmed by prison gerrymandering, gerrymandering in
2195 general, and voter suppression (urban communities of color, young people, poor people,
2196 women, and progressive whites) comprise a large portion of our Democratic base.

2197 Democrats cannot win without the full participation of these voters.

2198 Increasingly, Democratic leaders, citizens, constituents, lawmakers, and candidates are
2199 taking a stand and concerted action to protect voters' rights. These actions respond to the
2200 extreme gerrymandering since 2010, and to widespread voter suppression, which surged
2201 after the gutting of the Voting Rights Act by the Supreme Court in 2013 [4].

2202 Disenfranchisement harms all U.S. citizens, including our own families and friends at
2203 home.

2204 If a key purpose in Democrats Abroad is to get out the vote and create Democratic wins,
2205 then we should be at the forefront of taking a stand and using our voice and powers to
2206 combat any and all forms of gerrymandering, to encourage our elected leaders and
2207 candidates to do the same and to stand with those who are working to eradicate voter
2208 suppression.

2209 We have our once-every-10-year opportunity to support a change in the way that
2210 prisoner's residency is counted at the state level, before the 2021 redistricting process.

2211 Democrats and Democrats Abroad have a moral and strategic imperative to take a stand
2212 when our right to vote and our democracy is compromised, and to help make real the
2213 promise that every vote matters.

2214

2215 IV. Solutions:

2216 A. Urge that the Census Bureau stops counting prisoners as residents of the district where
2217 the prison or jail where they are incarcerated is located.

2218 While we appreciate the need to maintain the integrity, reliability, and validity (in
2219 statistical terms) of the definition of residency for the purpose of the Census (as distinct
2220 from definitions used for voting
2221 rights, legal and tax purposes), prisoners are in a unique situation. They are not voluntary
2222 residents, are prohibited from interaction with the community and making use of local
2223 resources where they are incarcerated, and generally do not plan to remain in the
2224 community
2225 [5].

2226 A precedent exists for the Census treating a group as ‘exceptional’: e.g. counting U.S.
2227 military and federal U.S. government civilian employees based abroad at their ‘pre-
2228 deployment home’ addresses.
2229 Moreover, the current Census practice of counting prisoners as residing in prisons is in
2230 defiance of “most state constitutions and statutes, which explicitly state that incarceration
2231 does not change a residence.”[6]
2232 Comparisons are often drawn with the ways the Census Bureau counts prisoners, college
2233 students studying away from home (counted at their college residences) and U.S. military
2234 and civilian employees deployed abroad. However, the treatment of residency for these
2235 students or abroad U.S. employees does not have the potential to violate Section 2 of the
2236 Voting Rights Act which the treatment of prisoners’ residency demonstrably does.
2237 As noted below (Section B), the Census Bureau has agreed to offer breakdowns of
2238 prisoner populations for the 2020 census, to enable states to make their own adjustments
2239 during the redistricting process in
2240 order to create fair, nonpartisan maps. This is an important first step in combatting prison
2241 gerrymandering.
2242 Nevertheless, we urge that the Census Bureau stop treating prisoners’ residency as
2243 prison-based, since their ‘residency’ is exceptional.
2244 B. Urge that individual States agree not to include prison gerrymandering within their
2245 borders.
2246 Federal court decisions have made clear that states need not use Census figures to create
2247 districts [8].
2248 States can correct the Census data by creating a state-level census that collects the home
2249 addresses of people in prison and then adjusts the U.S. Census counts prior to
2250 redistricting.
2251 Legislation, in part modeled after how Kansas changes where the U.S. Census counts
2252 students and the military, has already passed in California, Delaware, Maryland, Nevada,
2253 New York, and Washington [7].
2254 According to Pew Research, “all states will for the first time [in the 2020 census], receive
2255 breakdowns of prisoner populations in early 2021 for redistricting purposes. This data
2256 will allow states to take federal prison populations out of their redistricting equation.” [8]
2257
2258 Citations:
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2261 [2] Study estimates U.S. population with felony convictions.
2262 <https://news.uga.edu/total-uspopulation- with-felony-convictions/>
2263 [3] How the rural-urban divide is putting Democrats at a disadvantage.
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2268 [5] Final 2020 Census Residence Criteria and Residence Situations (April 2018)
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2270 <u>censusresidence- criteria-and-residence-situations</u></p></div><div data-bbox=)

2271 [6] The Problem <https://www.prisonersofthecensus.org/impact.html> [7] Solutions
2272 <https://www.prisonersofthecensus.org/solutions.html>
2273 [7] Solutions <https://www.prisonersofthecensus.org/solutions>
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2279 Prison gerrymandering: further information and sources
2280 What is Prison Gerrymandering? <https://www.prisonersofthecensus.org/impact.html>
2281 State legislation
2282 <https://www.prisonersofthecensus.org/legislation.html#pending>
2283 Impact on democracy at the state level: 37 states analyzed
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2285 Estimates of U.S. population with felony convictions
2286 <https://news.uga.edu/total-us-populationwith-felony-convictions/>
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