

Our Minnesota Future Full Precinct Caucus Resolutions Packet

Purpose: The purpose of this packet is to assemble in one document, all the precinct caucus resolutions being shared via OMF resolutions and trainings. Note: all of these resolutions are both optional and revisable for organizations and their members. If you want to include additional resolutions and/or need help drafting one, please reach out to Chris Conry at chris@takeactionminnesota.org or 612-221-4852.

Table of Contents: The following resolutions are included:

- Central Resolution
- Caring Economy
 - Universal Family Care
- Climate
 - Carbon Pricing
 - Just Transition Energy Policy
- Education
 - Minnesota Miracle 2
 - Pre-K
 - K-12 Funding Formula
 - Full Service Community Schools
- Finance
 - State Bank (TBD)
 - Childhood Savings Accounts (TBD)
 - Small Business (TBD)
- Health Care
 - Single Payer
 - MinnesotaCare
 - Nonprofit Insurer Conversions
- Housing
 - Rent Stabilization
- Immigration
 - Pathway to Citizenship
 - Drivers Licenses for All
 - Protecting Immigrant Communities
- Mass Incarceration
 - Abolishing Mass Incarceration
- Voting Rights
 - Constitutional Amendment on Local Voting
 - Restore the Vote
- Workplace Standards
 - Preemption
 - Earned Sick & Safe Time
 - \$15 Minimum Wage
 - Sexual Harassment Prevention (TBD)

Our Minnesota Future Central Precinct Caucus Resolution

WHEREAS, Minnesota is state of contradictions, both prosperous and inequitable, beautiful and precarious, worthy of both our pride and concern; and

WHEREAS, the state's legacies of racial, gender, economic, and geographic inequality and injustice affect some more than others, but affect all of us in our own, often painful, ways; and

WHEREAS, a changing state needs transformed institutions that invite participation, repair harm, and center those who are impacted and have been excluded; and

WHEREAS, every Minnesotan needs the basics to survive and even more to thrive; and

WHEREAS, Minnesota should invite and provide for every person to be full participants in the political life of state, including expanded voting rights, access to government, enforceable civil rights and protections, expanded and transformed public institutions, and a commitment to building a bigger 'we, the people'; and

WHEREAS, Minnesota should provide full economic citizenship to every person in the state, ending poverty, reducing disparities, guaranteeing access to a basic standard of living, protecting the right to organize, and expanding opportunities to own our future; and

WHEREAS Minnesota has always been a diverse state with a rich and evolving culture, created by indigenous people, built by immigrants, working people, people of color, women, people of different faiths, sexual orientations, languages, incomes, ethnicities, abilities, and ages; and

WHEREAS our differences are *the* source of our strength; and

WHEREAS, all Minnesotans' live on the same land, breathe the same air, drink the same water, depend on the same biodiversity, and rely on the same climate; and

WHEREAS, our Minnesota future must be shaped by us for the benefit of those who will follow; and

BE IT RESOLVED that the _____ Party believes it is the responsibility of the people's government to deliberately promote the full political, economic, cultural, and environmental citizenship of everyone in Minnesota.

Universal Family Care Precinct Caucus Resolution

WHEREAS, only 13% of Minnesota workers have Paid Family and Medical Leave through their employers; and

WHEREAS, the cost of Childcare continues to rise, while state faces a 37% shortfall in the availability of licensed child care; and

WHEREAS, the number of Minnesotans who will need Long Term Care, those aged 65 and older, is expected to double between 2010 and 2030, while the state faces a projected shortfall of almost 60,000 direct-care workers by 2020; and

WHEREAS, existing access to affordable Paid Family & Medical Leave, Child Care, and Long Term Care is unequally distributed by race and ethnicity, geography, earnings levels, and work schedules; and

WHEREAS, building a publicly available Universal Family Care system would improve the supports available for both paid and unpaid caregivers, roles that are disproportionately filled by women; and

BE IT RESOLVED that the _____ Party supports the creation of a publicly-owned Universal Family Care system that offers paid family leave, child care, and long term care options for every Minnesotan.

Carbon Pricing Precinct Caucus Resolution

WHEREAS Minnesotans have been national leaders in creating a just transition from fossil fuels to renewable energy,

WHEREAS fossil fuel producers have the means and the responsibility to contribute to a just transition,

WHEREAS a portion of the revenue produced from a carbon tax could be shared with all Minnesota families in the form of an annual payment,

WHEREAS a portion of the revenue produced from a carbon tax could be reinvested in clean energy,

WHEREAS a portion of the revenue produced from a carbon tax could be invested to address racial, gender, geographic, and income disparities by creating new, high-paying, equitable, and accessible green jobs,

BE IT RESOLVED that the _____ Party supports the creation of a carbon pricing system where big polluters pay for their carbon emissions and the revenue is reinvested in Minnesota families and in equitable renewable energy solutions.

Just Transition Precinct Caucus Resolution

WHEREAS, Minnesota is on a path to clean energy, but still is overdependent on dirty coal, a major cause of health issues (e.g. asthma) and climate change, as coal still fuels nearly half of Minnesota's electricity.

WHEREAS, the feasibility of renewable energy has already been demonstrated with most Minnesota utilities already achieving Minnesota's renewable energy standard (25% by 2025) and solar standard (1.5% by 2020).

WHEREAS, Minnesota's clean energy industry has created more than 15,000 jobs, many with family-sustaining wages, and is one of the fastest growing sectors of our economy;

WHEREAS, energy efficiency conservation programs save Minnesota families and businesses millions of dollars each year and provide good jobs that can't be outsourced;

BE IT RESOLVED that the _____ Party supports:

- Securing at least 50% of Minnesota's electricity from wind and solar by 2030 with a goal of 100% renewables by no later than 2050.
- Planning a transition away from dirty coal by 2030 by increasing renewable energy and investment in energy efficiency to save energy and money on our energy bills;
- Ensuring a racially and economically just transition where everyone has access to the benefits of clean energy through programs and priorities to end energy poverty and allow for community solar for all.

Minnesota Miracle Precinct Caucus Resolution

BE IT RESOLVED that the _____ Party supports a new Minnesota Miracle to provide universal, public Pre-K; expand and support full-service, wrap-around community schools; increase the per-pupil funding formula; and provide free public college.

Pre-K Precinct Caucus Resolution

BE IT RESOLVED that the _____ Party supports universal, school-based pre-kindergarten, taught by licensed professionals, should be available to all Minnesota four year olds.

K-12 Funding Formula Precinct Caucus Resolution

BE IT RESOLVED that the _____ Party supports increasing Minnesota's per pupil education funding formula to create a more equitable school funding process and eliminate the disparity between property tax rich and property tax poor school districts.

Full Service Community Schools Precinct Caucus Resolution

BE IT RESOLVED that the _____ Party supports the Full Service Community Schools model, which puts social, medical and supplemental academic services and enrichment activities where they are most accessible – on the school campus - should be expanded to every community in Minnesota.

Single Payer Precinct Caucus Resolution

WHEREAS, The Affordable Care Act was a first step forward toward universal, affordable healthcare, it still leaves millions uninsured and millions more underinsured and struggling with medical bills; and

WHEREAS, recent attempts to “Repeal and Replace” the Affordable Care Act would take healthcare coverage away from millions, threaten the vulnerable patients who rely on Medicaid, and eliminate important consumer protections that stopped the most egregious abuses of the insurance industry; and

WHEREAS, Total health system costs in the United States will continue to be the highest in the world, and growing; and

WHEREAS, Avoidable pain, suffering and financial disaster caused by our healthcare system will therefore continue unless we stop treating health like a commodity and eliminate the profit-motive from our healthcare system;

BE IT RESOLVED that the _____ Party supports a universal, single payer healthcare plan that ensures access to affordable, high-quality healthcare for all regardless of age, income, employment or health status.

MinnesotaCare Precinct Caucus Resolution

WHEREAS, MinnesotaCare is our state's long-standing, nation-leading public health insurance program covering 100,000 Minnesotans; and

WHEREAS, uninsured individuals, small business owners, family farmers, and recent immigrants still struggle to find affordable, comprehensive health insurance; and

WHEREAS, over half of the funding for MinnesotaCare is provided by 2% tax on health care providers and 1% tax on nonprofit health plan companies, a tax that sunsets on January 1, 2020; and

WHEREAS, the state's bi-partisan 2015 Health Care Financing Task Force recommended the expansion of MinnesotaCare to include Minnesota residents who are not yet U.S. citizens; and

WHEREAS, giving Minnesotans of every income the option of buying-in to MinnesotaCare would double participation and stabilize the program's funding;

BE IT RESOLVED that the _____ Party supports protecting and expanding MinnesotaCare by creating a MinnesotaCare Buy-In, making noncitizens eligible for coverage, and extending the Provider Tax.

Nonprofit Insurer Conversions Precinct Caucus Resolution

WHEREAS, the 2017 Minnesota State Legislature ended the decades-long prohibition on for-profit insurers selling insurance plans in Minnesota; and

WHEREAS, their law provided no way to protect the tax-sheltered, public investments that *non-profit* insurers use to pay for health care; and

WHEREAS, in October of 2017, Medica transferred \$90 million from its Minnesota-based non-profit HMO to its Wisconsin-based for-profit insurance company,

BE IT RESOLVED that the _____ Party supports protecting Minnesota’s investments in our health care system by prohibiting the conversion of public money to private profit when non-profit insurers are converted to for-profit insurers.

Rent Stabilization Precinct Caucus Resolution

WHEREAS 45% of renters in Minnesota were cost burdened by rent, meaning they pay more than 30% of their income on rent; and

WHEREAS 28% of households statewide are renters, which means there are more than 590,000 renter households in Minnesota; and

WHEREAS 53% of households headed by a person of color are renters, which means the cost of rent disproportionately impacts our families of color; and

WHEREAS the median cost of rent statewide has risen 9% since 2000, while median income for renters has fallen 11%; and

WHEREAS minimum wage workers and people working in four of the top five most in-demand jobs in Minnesota do not earn enough to afford a two-bedroom apartment;

BE IT RESOLVED that the _____ Party supports rent stabilization laws and the repeal of the state law preempting local rent stabilization ordinances.

Pathway to Citizenship Precinct Caucus Resolution

WHEREAS we are a nation of immigrants, and we should strongly believe in an immigration system that maintains healthy and vibrant communities, while promoting respect, dignity and permanent protections; and

WHEREAS there are almost 12 million undocumented immigrants in the US and close to 90 000 undocumented Minnesotans, that are being denied basic rights and protections; and

WHEREAS the number of deportations is at a record with individuals being deported daily tragically separating thousands of families; and

WHEREAS immigrant reform must create a process respecting human dignity and family unity, including protection for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, intersex, and queer (LGBTIQ) families; and

WHEREAS the process to be created must include opportunities to law offenders that do not represent threats to national security or have been convicted of serious crimes, and WHEREAS the families vs felons narrative for immigration relief is divisive and incomplete given the relevant conversations on police accountability and racial profiling; and

WHEREAS groups as diverse coalition of public and private sectors, and a steadily growing number of religious organization in the State and across the nation that have joined in supporting the foundation of keeping families together and giving immigrant families in Minnesota and across the nation the dignity and respect that they deserve by creating a pathway to citizenship for all immigrants;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

Congress should act to create a fair, humane pathway to citizenship for almost 12 million undocumented immigrants that is broad and inclusive and not contingent upon border security measures of prospective immigrants; Comprehensive Immigration Reform is long overdue and we ask that the federal government and leadership to commit to the passage of meaningful reform.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the _____ Party supports Comprehensive Immigration Reform with a fair humane pathway to citizenship for almost 12 million undocumented immigrants.

Drivers Licenses for All Precinct Caucus Resolution

WHEREAS the safety of Minnesota’s roads is of paramount concern for everyone; and

WHEREAS it is imperative that all drivers be properly tested, licensed, and insured; and

WHEREAS access to safe and affordable private and public transportation is essential for access to education and economic opportunity as well as the daily needs of Minnesota residents; and

WHEREAS access to private forms of transportation is particularly essential to residents in rural areas of Greater Minnesota where there are unsatisfied needs of transportation available; and

WHEREAS Minnesota extended a universal right to a driver’s license to all Minnesota residents who were capable and qualified to pass a knowledge and practical driving test in this state until 2003 when the rights of some Minnesotans were revoked based on legal immigration barriers; and

WHEREAS groups as diverse as the Minnesota Chamber of Commerce, the American Civil Liberties Union, the Minnesota Agri-Growth Council, the United Commercial and Food Workers Union and a steadily growing number of religious organizations in the State have joined in voicing support for restoring an equal right to apply for a Minnesota driver’s license to all Minnesotans of driving age, and regardless of immigration status;

BE IT RESOLVED that the State of Minnesota should act now to support the addition of a valid foreign-issued passport and foreign birth certificate, translated into English, to the list of documents that will be accepted as a proof of identity on the Minnesota Driver’s License application; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the _____ Party supports restoring driving rights to undocumented Minnesotans.

Protecting Immigrant Communities Precinct Caucus Resolution

WHEREAS immigrants are our neighbors, friends, and vital members of our community; and

WHEREAS some politicians including the President of the United States have sought to sow fear and division through the scapegoating of immigrants; and

WHEREAS immigrants who face deportation proceedings are not guaranteed access to legal representation; and

WHEREAS legal representation improves the chances of successful outcome twelve-fold for immigrants facing deportation; and

WHEREAS the interest of public safety is compromised when community members fear law enforcement;

BE IT RESOLVED that the _____ Party believes that state and local governments should help fund immigrant legal resources, and all state and local government units with law enforcement responsibilities should pass strong separation policies to protect our communities and prevent the conscription of local resources for federal immigration enforcement work.

Abolishing Mass Incarceration Precinct Caucus Resolution

WHEREAS, the United States holds 5% of the world’s population yet has nearly 25% of the world’s prison population; and

WHEREAS, most states have stabilized or even decreased the rate of incarceration, Minnesota has increased the rate of incarceration even despite falling crime rates; and

WHEREAS, people of color – particularly African American and Native Americans – are locked up at a rate of 12 and 10 times that of whites in Minnesota, respectively; and

WHEREAS, probation lengths in Minnesota can stretch for decades and vary widely among judicial districts; and

WHEREAS, Minnesota has onerous conditions for individuals on supervised release, leading to a high rate of revocations and re-incarceration; and

WHEREAS, overly harsh sentencing laws and prosecutorial practices have led to an overcrowding of the state’s prisons; and

WHEREAS, the for-profit prison company CoreCivic, formerly known as Corrections Corp. of America wants to lease their long-shuttered facility to the state; and

WHEREAS, expanding prison capacity will derail the prospects for sensible and humane solutions that will increase public safety, improve public health and decrease the economic and human costs to our communities and our state; therefore

BE IT RESOLVED that the _____ Party support steps to reduce incarceration and its negative impacts through investment in alternatives to incarceration, sentencing reform, reforming probation, and supervised release policies, and reining in the excessive power of prosecutors, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the _____ Party of Minnesota supports the prohibition of for-profit incarceration facilities from operating or leasing facilities in the State of Minnesota.

Constitutional Amendment on Local Voting Precinct Caucus Resolution

WHEREAS nearly 75% of eligible voters in Minnesota voted in 2016, making our state once again, and proudly, the highest voter turnout state in the U.S.; and

WHEREAS Minnesota was founded by, built by, and is still being improved by people who immigrate to our state; and

WHEREAS Minnesota permitted noncitizen voting until 1896 when the right was taken away via a state constitutional amendment; and

WHEREAS all Minnesotans, including immigrants, deserve the chance to lead full lives as workers, parents, and citizens; and

WHEREAS immigrants pay property, sales, payroll, and other taxes and are not eligible to vote for their own representatives in our local governments; and

WHEREAS the State of Minnesota has already delegated to counties, cities, towns, townships, and school boards the administration of local elections, and

WHEREAS eleven cities in the U.S. currently permit legal noncitizen residents to vote in city or school board elections; and

BE IT RESOLVED that the _____ Party supports amending the state constitution to allow local units of government to authorize all legal residents to vote in local government elections.

Restore the Vote Precinct Caucus Resolution

WHEREAS, approximately 57,000 Minnesotans are denied the right to vote under Minnesota law due to a past felony conviction and about 47,000 of those individuals are living in the community; and

WHEREAS, since 1974, the percentage of voting age Minnesotans disenfranchised as a result of a criminal conviction has increased over 400%; and

WHEREAS, as a result of disproportionate conviction rates, disenfranchisement overwhelmingly affects communities of color – African-Americans make up roughly five percent of the Minnesota population and represent over a quarter of the total number of those disenfranchised and Native Americans, less than two percent of the population, account for more than six percent of those individuals who are disenfranchised; and

WHEREAS, involvement in civic life logically results in stronger ties to the community, and research has shown that persons with past criminal convictions are less likely to be arrested again in states that restore voting rights after release from incarceration; and

WHEREAS, a policy that permits all individuals who have served their time in jail or prison to vote reduces confusion among voters and election officials about who can vote, thereby easing election administration and reducing government costs; and

WHEREAS, thirteen states already disenfranchise only those persons who are currently incarcerated for a felony conviction, not those on probation or parole;

BE IT RESOLVED that the _____ Party supports restoring voting rights to Minnesotans convicted of a felony when they are on probation or parole.

Statewide Workplace Preemption Precinct Caucus Resolution

WHEREAS, we believe in government of, by, and for the people,

WHEREAS, statewide preemption laws are an attempt by powerful industry lobbies to use state law to prevent cities, counties, townships, and school districts from improving state & federal minimum standards,

WHEREAS, Minnesota’s statewide workplace preemption proposal is targeting progress made by low-income workers, people of color, and women who have recently won improved earned sick & safe time benefits in Minneapolis & Saint Paul and a \$15 minimum wage in Minneapolis,

BE IT RESOLVED that the _____ Party supports the rights of local governments to improve state & federal workplace standards.

Earned Sick & Safe Time Precinct Caucus Resolution

WHEREAS: No family in Minnesota should have to make the impossible choice of caring for a loved one or losing a paycheck; and

WHEREAS: 4 out of 10 working Minnesotans, nearly a million people, do not earn paid sick time for themselves or their families; and

WHEREAS: African-American, Latino, Native American, and Asian workers in Minnesota – disproportionately women -- are less likely to have access to earned sick and safe time than white workers; and

WHEREAS: Survivors of domestic violence, stalking, or sexual assault need earned safe time to recover or seek assistance without fear of losing pay or their job altogether; and

WHEREAS, Minneapolis and Saint Paul have already passed nation-leading municipal earned sick & safe time ordinances;

BE IT RESOLVED that the _____ Party
Supports the creation of a statewide earned sick & safe time law that guarantees all working Minnesotans have access to earned sick and safe time benefits that are fully paid and enforceable.

\$15 Minimum Wage Precinct Caucus Resolution

WHEREAS, in the most prosperous country on earth, no one should live in poverty; and

WHEREAS, current federal and state minimum wages too often do not allow workers to care for themselves and their families; and

WHEREAS, while Minnesota is a thriving state for many, we continue to have some of the worst economic and racial disparities in the country; and

WHEREAS, in Minnesota the poverty rate is more than three times higher for Black, Latino, Native, and Asian families than for white families, and

WHEREAS, minimum wage workers are disproportionately people of color and women, and

WHEREAS, working families in Minneapolis continue to fall behind while corporations and wealthy CEOs get richer and richer and buy influence that helps to tip the scales even further in their favor

WHEREAS, a \$15 minimum wage by 2022 would lift up tens of thousands of working people, especially women and people of color, into living wage jobs that will help our families prosper and infuse millions of dollars into our local economy

BE IT RESOLVED that the _____ Party supports a statewide \$15 minimum wage with One Fair Wage for all workers, with no Tip Penalty.